



NEP PROVINCIAL CHAPTER 2013
PEN CHAPITRE PROVINCIAL 2013

Information from the Provincial Chapter Planning Team

The Planning team met our facilitators, Mary and Gabrielle, in All Hallows on 18th January, to prepare the journey towards Part 2 of the Provincial Chapter (11th – 13th October 2013). We realized that to be able to reach important decisions for the future of the Province we all need to give time to the preparation process during the coming months. There will be a separate communication to each sister with further information.

UPMINSTER: EXTRACT FROM THE BISHOP'S LETTER

“It was with great sadness that I received your letter saying that the community have decided to close the RSHM Convent in Upminster. I am sure this decision was far from easy since, as you say, the sisters have had a presence in Upminster and surrounding parishes for many decades.

It remains for me to express on my own behalf and on behalf of previous generations our huge gratitude to all the sisters who have contributed to the life of the diocese ever since they came to Upminster. We simply cannot begin to quantify all that you have given and the way in which you will have touched countless lives.

With my special thoughts and prayer for you all at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas McMahon

Bishop of Brentwood.”

A TRIBUTE TO MARGARIDA MARIA GONÇALVES: 1917-2012

Maria Lúcia Brandão, RSCM



On December 8, 2012, the Institute of the Sacred Heart of Mary celebrated the feast of the Immaculate Conception, celebrating at the same time, a very dear life for all - Margarida Maria Gonçalves' Life.

Remembering this sister of ours is like evoking an icon of consecrated life, so meaningful and so visible has Margarida Maria's life witness been in the Institute and the Church.

Her life with us has been long. Many have been the chapters of history she left us and all remember her with consideration and gratitude.

During her first years of religious life Margarida Maria graduated in Physics and Chemistry and ministered as a teacher in some of the schools in the Portuguese Province. Very early in her life she was called to serve at the Provincial and General Levels.

As General Superior, Margarida Maria assumed the leadership of UISG and contributed towards a closer relationship with the male UISG. She was invited by the Holy Father to participate in the 1971 and 1974 Synods. As a participant she helped in the implementation of the main Synod Documents, both in the Union of General Superiors in Rome and in the Institute of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary.

Margarida Maria's life was long but, in spite of advanced years, she never lost her interest and enthusiasm for the Church and the Institute. No words are enough to express her interest in the sisters she has accompanied individually, as well as many other people, mainly the alumnae. Her great passion for Jesus Christ, our Lady and our Founders made her bright, enthusiastic, committed and interested in everything regarding the Church and the Religious Life,

Margarida Maria, at 95 years of age, deserved the calm and peaceful way she left us, unexpectedly, at dawn on the feast of the Immaculate Conception.



BEREAVEMENTS

Our sympathy and prayers are with:

Sr Agnes Lyons on the death of her brother, **John Lyons**, who died on 6th January.

Sr Marguerite-Marie Lyng on the death of her brother in law, **Hugo Maguire**, who died in Clones, Ireland, on January 11th.

The Sisters of the Eastern American Province on the death of **Sr Teresa Martin** who died in Tarrytown on 5th January at the age of 94 years and in the 73rd year of her Religious Profession.



Calling all religious (in England and Wales)

Save the date: 15th May 2013

Religious lobby of Parliament

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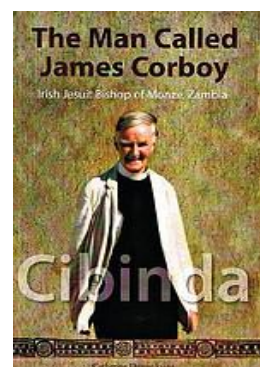
PROGRESSIO

BOOK ON BISHOP CORBOY SJ



We congratulate Catherine Dunne on the publication of the book she has written about the late James Corboy SJ, Bishop of Monze and founder of the Holy Spirit Sisters. We thank her for the work she has put into gathering the memories of Bishop Corboy, and writing the book, which will be of great value to the Holy Spirit Sisters and of interest to all RSHM who worked in Zambia.

The book was launched on Thursday 24th January in Dublin.



As we come to the end of 2012, I would like to give you some information on the work that I do for our sisters in the missions. In 2008, I was invited to work with Sr. Kathleen O’Keeffe, who was then the RSHM Liaison Officer to Miseen Cara. Miseen Cara – meaning “friends in mission” – is an Irish Organization that supports missionaries and their work in the field among the poorest of the poor. The Irish Government, through Irish Aid, provides funding to Miseen Cara for projects, the main thrust of which is to alleviate poverty and hunger, and to improve the quality of life of the poor and the marginalised in the developing world. Projects focus on women and children, gender equality, child protection, health care, education, the environment, advocacy - always with a view to sustainability. Projects are divided into two categories – Project Support Schemes (PSS) and Micro Project Support Schemes (MPSS). In 2012, we submitted 6 PSS and all were approved; 11 MPSS and 9 were approved with one eligible for re-submission in 2013. The total amount of funding received from Miseen Cara was €696,789 (\$910,250). Projects were funded for Brazil, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The RSHM work with the Diocese of Mutare Community Care Programme (DOMCCP) and the Sisters of the Holy Spirit in Zambia – our partners in mission. Projects include:

- 1. Sacred Heart Primary School Construction – DOMCCP (PSS) – Zimbabwe**
- 2. Livelihoods Promotion for HIV Affected Women and Children – DOMCCP (PSS) – Zimbabwe**
- 3. Education – Building Citizenship 2 - RSHM (PSS) – Brazil**
- 4. Community Project in NE Brazil 2 – EF SHM (PSS) – Brazil**
- 5. Chipinga Livelihoods Promotion for Support Groups of PLHIV – DOMCCP (PSS) – Zimbabwe**
- 6. St. John The Baptist Primary School Classroom Building, Odzi – DOMCCP (PSS)– Zimbabwe**
- 7. Mutare Fishery Project for Men’s Support Group – DOMCCP (MPSS) – Zimbabwe**
- 8. Light of the World Nursery RSHM (MPSS) – Brazil**
- 9. Water Installation for Health Centre, Hostel, Inhazonia RSHM (MPSS) – Mozambique**
- 10. Sustainable Farming in Mozambique – Craighhead Institute, Scotland RSHM (MPSS) – Mozambique**
- 11. Our House (Nossa Casa) – RSHM (MPSS) – Brazil**
- 12. Baby Follow-up/PMTCT – Sisters of the Holy Spirit (MPSS) – Zambia**
- 13. St. Paul’s Library and IT Centre – Tendai RSHM (MPSS) – Zimbabwe**
- 14. Knitting for Life – RSHM (MPSS to be resubmitted) – Zimbabwe**
- 15. Food and Education Programmes for OVCs – RSHM (MPSS) – Zimbabwe**
- 16. Integrated Farm Project, Odzi–DOMCCP (MPSS) – Zimbabwe**