

CONGRATULATIONS to all our jubilarians!

Golden Jubilees

16 June



*Sr Dominica
Meagher*



22 August

Sr Maisie Hayden

Sr Rosemary Lenehan

Sr Mary Murray

Sr Judith Penkert



Diamond Jubilees

28 June



*Sr Freda
McGrath*



22 August

Sr Sheila Morgan

Sr Bernadette Madden



Platinum Jubilees

12 September

Sr Evelyn O'Reilly

Sr Teresina O'Byrne



WW2 VE day celebration – Arrowsmith House

Two members of the team had spent some time planning and gathering together objects and pictures to remember VE day in 1945. These included memories of household items, ladies' dresses, coins, ration books and rent books as well as memorabilia from the war. There was even a section containing pictures from Seafeld as it was back then.

All of the Sisters in Arrowsmith House were entertained by staff dressing up as a 1940's lady and a land girl, listening to some big band tunes and being treated to a delicious stew.

Sisters from both Arrowsmith House and Seafeld spent the afternoon sharing memories and enjoying a "different" kind of day.

I would like to thank Anne-Marie and Melissa for their hard work bringing the day together, and Mandy, our cook, for keeping the menu tied into the theme.

The next adventure for Arrowsmith House will be a visit to Seafeld (Sacred Heart Catholic College) to see if we are allowed to use the main staircase, among other things.



Sarah Smith RGN, RMN
Home Manager



Celebrations

Sisters **Thérèse English** and **Betty Comerford** celebrated 75 years of Religious profession in the RSHM at Madonna House on 28 April. The Eucharistic celebration was followed by a beautiful meal with the community.

Fr Raymond Dempsey C.C. paid tribute to Thérèse and Betty in his homily:

'The line from the Acts of the Apostles strikes me very much as we gather here to celebrate the Jubilee of Religious Profession for you, Sisters Thérèse and Betty, today. It speaks about Barnabas who was sent to the Church in Antioch urging them "to remain faithful to the Lord with heartfelt devotion".'

What we celebrate here today is your remaining faithful to the Lord over 75 years of your religious life and allowing yourself to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that you could carry out the mission and the ministry that he has given to you 75 years ago and 1940 is not today or yesterday.



For some it is a figure they may never reach in their age – never mind in their commitment to a particular way of life... We stand in awe of and salute you, Sr Thérèse and Sr Betty, for an outstanding commitment to the Church and to the Lord himself.

*We give thanks todaya few days after celebrating Good Shepherd Sunday that you heard the voice of the Good Shepherd in your heart and that you not only heard it but responded to it. Jesus reminds us that "the sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, I know them and they follow me". You came to know the Lord deep in your hearts and you followed him to many different ministries and to many different places over those many years. Of course your own founder Fr Gailhac had a great devotion to Jesus the Good Shepherd and chose for the motto of your Institute those lines and that spirit from John 10:10 **"that all may have life"**. Through the faithful living out of your religious vows both of you, Thérèse and Betty, have striven to bring that fullness of life to people wherever you have found yourselves and you have encouraged all people to see that they are called to the fullness of life. You carry on that mission today here in Madonna house with your prayer and intercession for the needs of your Congregation, for the needs of the Church and for the needs of all God's people. We thank you for your faithfulness. We thank God who has called you and who has helped you to be faithful.'*
(selected from the homily)

CONGRATULATIONS
Thérèse and Betty!

Jubilee Sœur Marie-Jean - 9th May 2015

9 May 2015 was a much anticipated day of celebration – the day of the platinum jubilee of Sister Marie-Jean Barthes : 70 years of religious life. The celebration took place in the Mother House. At mass in the choir of the chapel (the round chapel) the crowd gathered: RSHM living in France and a few from the PEN, Marie-Jean's family, past pupils and friends. The auxiliary bishop Monsieur Claude Azema presided, accompanied by a few priests. The choir of her parish participated.



After the mass, the cocktail was served outdoors by a group of competent friends and was followed by a meal. There were about sixty people present for the meal. We could all appreciate the excellent food served and the service before enjoying the entertainment produced by the RSHM present.

All of the participants deeply appreciated the day and Marie-Jean could thank the Lord for so many blessings. The following day the 10th of May after mass in the parish, la Dèveze, the Sisters provided cocktails to celebrate her 70 years of religious life with the parishioners.

Sr Marie-Paule Petit

Check out the province website: www.rshm-nep.org for an interview with Sr Marie-Jean on local radio in Béziers. Look at the list on the left hand side of the page under **News and Views**.

It is the first item. Enjoy!



CONGRATULATIONS MARIE-JEAN!

**Sr Regina King
acknowledged in
Corduff Parish,
Dublin**

In the Year of Consecrated Life - a special celebration of the work of three congregations: The Trinitarians, the Pallotines and the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary – present in the parish for over 30 years in the person of Sr Regina King – was held in Corduff parish.

[From the homily given by Fr Liam](#)

We welcome today Sr Regina's community, family members and friends as we publicly acknowledge her contribution to the life of this parish and community...

Pope Francis has set aside this year to highlight Consecrated/Religious Life. Of course I will argue that we are ALL consecrated in Baptism but it is also important to recognise the diversity of Religious/Consecrated Life and today especially to publicly thank Regina for her dedication and service to this community, to the parish and to the Church.



Pope John Paul II in his work on Vita Consecrata stressed the importance of 'Being' as opposed to 'Doing'. Yet if one examines briefly some of the many, many things that Sr Regina has been involved in, and with, during her time here she may be accused of ignoring or disobeying the Pope.



Resource Centre, development groups, childcare minding, community development projects, Brownies, the Jesus Hour, Senior Citizens, Art Group, sewing co-op, Rainbows, Anam Charadis, annual retreat to Wales, St Vincent de Paul, Parish Choir, Parish Pastoral Council – it is an exhausting list in itself.

But Sr Regina's 'Doing' is part of who she is – it is part and parcel of her 'Being'. She ENABLES others, EMPOWERS them.

In that way she brings alive her Faith and her Congregation's Motto: 'that all may have life' but Regina completes it with the next phrase 'and have it to the full'.

We thank you today for your service, for your creativity, for your insightfulness, for your life of prayer. We thank you for what you 'DO' and will continue to 'DO' but most importantly we thank you for 'WHO YOU ARE'



Tuesday 12th May meant a joyful coming together for those of us in the Millenium Group who managed to get to Noddfa. All day there was great activity in the front hall as all were warmly welcomed in the usual hospitable way. Some had travelled by air, some by sea, others by train and car. It was an exciting re-union. The presence of two Sunflowers (Ursula and Barbara) added an extra flavour!

After a welcome and delightful meal we met together, were welcomed by Bernadette who outlined for us the interesting time-table for Wednesday. As usual the arrival of the trolley of goodies brought the day to a happy ending.



The Cosmic Walk was the theme for Wednesday. Barbara presented this to us as 'a meditative walk and symbolic re-enactment that helps us enter into the mystery of the unfolding of the universe, our sacred story'. We had two very interesting and thought provoking sessions. For most of it we were gathered in chapel around a presentation, on the floor, the various stages marked with illustrations and candles.



The journey dating back to 13.7 billion years ago was accompanied by interesting readings and hymns. For two of the sessions we went out of doors. Judging by the sharing and the aside remarks everyone found this a most rewarding time. We continued in the evening with a prayerful reflection celebrating the wonders of creation. We concluded by reciting a Cosmic Blessing. I quote the final phrase of this; *"May the wisdom of the Universe inspire you with a sense of your true place in the sacred web of life."*



Thursday began with a time of prayer led by Mary Dunne. The theme was '*God calls us to a Journey in Faith*'. We looked at the workings of God in the history of his people, part of our



Cosmic Walk. We reflected on our individual journeys and our response to the call to Consecrated Life. We ended this time of prayer with the singing of the Magnificat during which Bernadette danced so gracefully and prayerfully.

After the coffee break Mary Jo shared with us her experience of attending a session at the United Nations. This was most enlightening and brought us up to date with S.H.M. involvement in this great work.

The morning ended with a sharing re the visit of the General Council next year. Various suggestions were brought forward and Ursula noted them and will bring them to the Provincial Council meeting.

During the celebration of Mass in the evening we focused on the fact that for some this year is a time of Jubilee Celebrations; two Platinum, three Diamond and one Golden. This was marked with a solemn renewal of vows by the whole group.

An appetizing meal brought our time together to an end. We presented the Jubilarians with gifts, and wished them well for their celebrations with communities and families.

Another Millenium session came to an end. Next year we will meet with others during the meeting of the General Council, so we decided our next special time together will be 2017!!

BEREAVEMENTS

Our sympathies are with

The **Sisters of the Fazakerly community** on the death of **Sr Monica Gribbin** 23 April aged 83 years and in the 62nd year of her religious profession.

Sr Virginia Mullane (Choma) whose brother Jim died on 10 April.

Sr Christiane Marie Bousquet whose brother Alain died on 27 April.

The **sisters of the EAP** on the death of **Sr Noel Loughlin** May 20 in Tarrytown, NY. Noel was 89 years and in the 59th year of her Religious Profession.

May they rest in peace.



£3,000 has been sent from the NEP to help relief work in Nepal.



*We hope all of you
will have a good break
and a refreshing rest
over the summer period*

Ursula
Bernadette
Ellen

Kathleen
Mary
Rae

hello
SUMMER