



NEA NEWS & VIEWS



NOVEMBER 2024

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS

by Joyce Johnson Rouse



We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
We are stronger for their courage
We are wiser for their words
We are lifted by their longing for a fair and brighter future
We are grateful for their vision, for their toiling on this Earth

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
They are saints and they are humans, they are angels, they are friends
We can see beyond the struggles and the troubles and the challenge
When we know that by our efforts things will be better in the end

.....



We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
We are honoured by their passion for our liberty

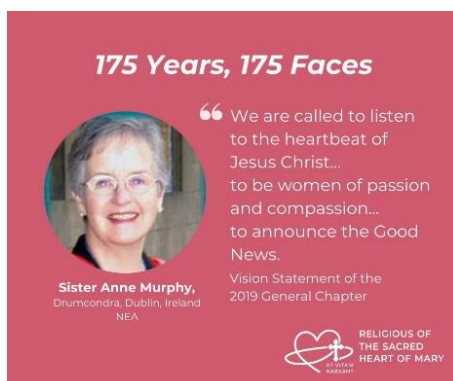
I will stand a little taller, I will work a little longer
And my shoulders will be there to hold the ones who follow me

They lift us higher than we could ever fly
Carrying our burdens away
I imagine our world if they hadn't tried
We wouldn't be so very blessed today

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
We are honoured by their passion for our liberty
I will stand a little taller, I will work a little longer
And my shoulders will be there to hold the ones who follow me.

We remember all our RSHM Sisters, colleagues, friends and members of our families who have gone before us and built the foundations on which we stand. May they all rest in peace.

NEA Sisters who featured on 175 faces during the past month



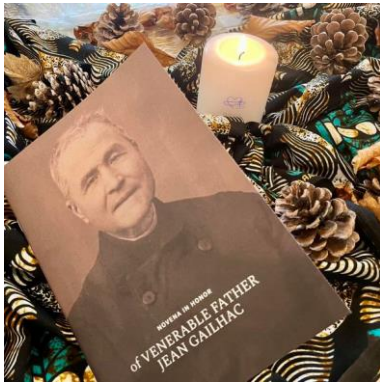
CELEBRATING A 98th Birthday



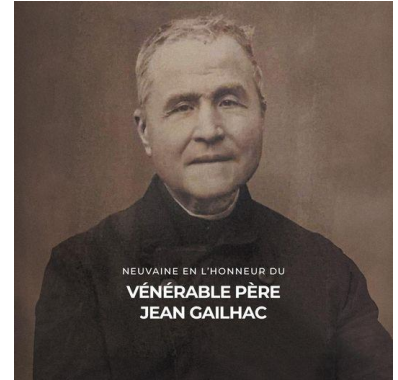
Sr Céline Murphy celebrated her 98th Birthday on 9th November. Céline had not been well recently but was in very good form on the day and enjoyed her birthday. She entertained Srs Clare and Catherine, her niece Marie and her grand-nephew Ronan. All enjoyed reminiscing as they shared a special birthday cake.



Novena in honour of Venerable Jean Gailhac



We have prayed with the Sisters, the Extended family and other associates during the Novena in Honor of Venerable Father Jean Gailhac.



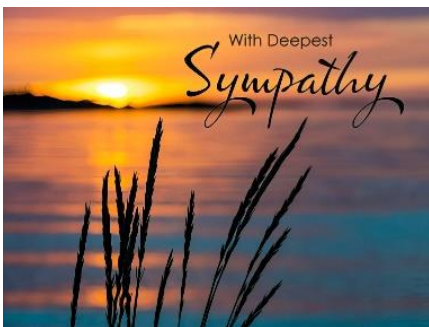
Celebrating the arrival of the first sisters in Lisburn – October 1870

We have enjoyed coming together in Lisburn to recognise this momentous event - our 154th birthday.

Mary, Maeve, Ursula and Kathleen



BEREAVEMENTS



We offer our sincere sympathy to Sr Pará on the recent deaths of two members of her family – her brother João Carlos Moreira who died on 1st November and her grandnephew, Heitor Moreira on 5th November. May João Carlos and Heitor rest in peace as we remember both of them, Pará and all the Moreira family at this very sad time.

During the month of November we continue to remember all of our RSHM Sisters who have died since the foundation of the Institute. We remember, also, the deceased members of our families, members of our Extended Family, those who have served with us in any way and all those whom we have served. We pray that all of them may now rest in peace and enjoy the blessedness of eternal life with the God who gave us life.



SOME NEWS FROM AROUND THE INSTITUTE

Meeting of the Extended Leadership Council in Noddfa

On Wednesday, October 30, the leaders of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, together in Noddfa, Wales, joyfully welcomed Dr. Jessie Rogers, a theologian specializing in the Old Testament, for a reflection on the theme of General Chapter 2025, together with the inspiring verse from Micah 6:8.

Jessie Rogers emphasized that the Religious chose one of the best-known and most powerful verses of the biblical prophets as the biblical inspiration for the Chapter. In the New Revised Standard version, it is translated like this: “... *what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*”

“...you are asked to walk confidently at God's side,” said Jessie.



Dr. Jessie Rogers and Sr Brid Long SSL (facilitator)



The full Extended Leadership Council group in Noddfa



Camilla, our Institute Director of Communications, has already sent a number of reports about the meeting and has included a variety of photographs and videos so I do not need to reproduce them here.

The Planning Group for the RSHM Chapter in 2025

The Chapter Planning Committee had days of reflection and work in a prayerful atmosphere at the Naddfa Center, a place of great peace, where care for creation is present.

The group feels blessed by the care of the community, formed by Sister Mary Jo McElroy, Sister Patrice Power and Judith Raby, the accompaniment of Sister Bríd Long and the translation of Sisters Mary Jo McElroy and Lory Inês Rockenbach. The sisters are also grateful for the prayers and involvement of the whole Institute in the journey to the Chapter.



GENERAL CHAPTER 2025



In the **fifth video** of the series regarding the General Chapter 2025, Sister Monica Walsh emphasizes that the General Chapter is a time to get to know each other better and to continue planning and discerning for the next six years.

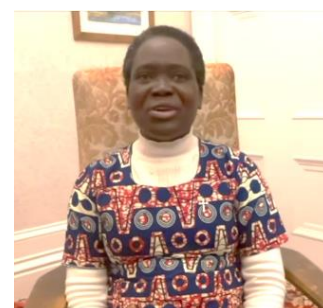


In the **sixth video** Sister Madalena Manhiça, a member of the Chapter Planning Committee, is hopeful that the Chapter will bring abundant fruit to the lives of the sisters in the Institute, so that all may have life and have it in abundance.

Over the next few weeks, on Mondays, we will happily share the words of some **Area Leaders** on the theme of the General Chapter. We are together on the way to the Ecclesial Event. *Camilla*

We start with **Sister Coltrida Mooya, Zambezi Area**, who spoke to us during the Enlarged Leadership Council Meeting 2024.

Posted on 18th November



Sister Valéria Erneio, Area of Mozambique, emphasises that the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary are women who come together to realise something new, believing in a better world.

Posted on 25th November

[**#RSHM #RSCM #CapítuloGeral2025 #GeneralChapter2025**](#)

Type in **RSCM RSHM Facebook** on Google to access these videos

Sr Barbara Bailey shared the Jubilee Song – which people might like to use.

PRAISE GOD WITH SONGS OF JUBILEE

Music : All creatures of Our God and King

Text : Beatrice McMahon RSHM

Praise God with songs of jubilee,
God of our life and history.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Life that began in Béziers,
reaches across the world today.
Let us praise God! Let us praise God!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

That all may have life, Christ has come!
Formed in his spirit, we are one.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Gracious to us in countless ways,
In ages past and present days. Let us praise You,
always praise You! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Renew our life of faith and zeal,
as trumpets sound and glad bells peal.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Fashion anew our founders' dream;
guide us in pathways unforeseen.
Let us choose life, always choose life!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Heaven and earth are one today,
as with one voice we come to pray.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
God ever ancient, ever new,
keep our hearts lifted up to you.
Let us choose life, always praise you!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



**Just a
reminder to all of you in the NEA.**

If you would like to send Christmas greetings through the News & Views please have them with me by Tuesday the 10th December. I will try to send out the next News & Views during the following week (16 – 20 December) in time for Christmas.

Thank you. *Mary*