Globalization and the Challenge of Social Inclusion



"when man loses his humanity, it results in a throw-away attitude"

Catholic News Agency, July 2014

MOSAIC II, 2014

Globalization and its Challenges to SMIC



At the General Chapter of 2010, SMIC adopted three DECLARATIONS to put into practice during these 6 years. One of the Declarations is entitled: **Globalization and Challenge of Social Inclusion.** In committing ourselves to respond to it, we accepted the task to "educate ourselves and others to these (positive and negative) effects and to network with groups working in each country to advance globalization in a positive way."

These next two issues of MOSAIC are dedicated to enhancing our understanding of globalization and to relating the stories of our Sisters who are involved in

practicing positive ways to include persons most vulnerable of being "left out" of the benefits that globalization is able to produce.

We encourage you to submit your experience so that together we can be strengthened in our participation to live out this challenge.

Why are we hearing so much about globalization?

In the last 20 years, globalization has brought about dramatic development in the world: contraction of time and space, resulting in the growing interdependence of peoples of diverse nations and cultures.

There is much to be said about the effects of globalization in both its positive and negative pressures on the world of "haves and have-nots."

We know that because of globalization there has been a tearing down of borders, uniting a divided humanity especially through instantaneous communication via TV, internet and social media. In its best form, globalization is capable of eliminating poverty and securing world peace to produce a more united and fraternal world. The cultural effect of a global access of media raises up true sacrificial generosity as was recently reported when numbers of medical personnel volunteered to attend infected Ebola victims in Africa, this being only one example of caring beyond one's borders. On the other hand, media is also able to destroy one's unique cultural values and living options in pressuring people to dress, act and think western (globalization is primarily a western imposition of culture).



Economically, goods that are unavailable to a geographic area are able to be accessible to most countries making health, education and work possible. Yet, although true, reducing the gap between what is available and what is practically accessible still depends on strong ethical foundations of providers to make available goods to those unable to afford and purchase such goods.

Politically, there is a stronger awareness about what is happening in the countries of the world to bring about pressure on governments to provide for the human rights of its citizens. Networking organizations of humanitarian concerns promote social progress to raise living standards and human rights and are able to place economic restraints when countries fail to maintain international peace and security. The negative effect is an imposition on a government to choose a certain way of leading: democratic, western style, when implementing such a reasonable form of leadership compromises the safety of its citizens.

In general, the greatest deficit of globalization, is that it supports a built-in process of exclusion that widens the gap between the rich and the poor by its "one size fits all" approach allowing its existing power to impose a common and uniform economic system, political ideology, philosophical outlook, cultural value-system and "religious" mentality.

The Papal challenge

In a reflection by Fr. Dave Schwinghamer, MM: Pope Francis addresses the "globalization of indifference" published in the November-December 2013 News Notes. Below we have excerpts of the document and are told of the influence over the years of several of our popes.

During the closing decades of the 20th century the Catholic Church's perspective on globalization reflected two important contributions by very different popes. On January 1, 1972 in his World Day of Peace message, Paul VI declared: "If you want peace, work for justice." This clear call to expand the Church's understanding of its social commitment helped many Catholic organizations



realize that action on behalf of justice was a constitutive part of preaching the Gospel. In 1974 the Church held a global synod on the theme of Justice in the World. The fruits of that Synod are still being harvested.

During his long pontificate Pope John Paul II was a strong advocate of "the globalization of solidarity." He openly called for a new international system of values based on solidarity as opposed to a system of values that had competition as its backbone. In a message written for the 17th General Assembly of Caritas

International, John Paul II called for a radical change in the concept of solidarity at the global level. For the aging pope, globalization had become the obligatory horizon of all politics in every nation. But according to John Paul II for solidarity to become a global reality, peoples of all regions of the world must be taken into account.

Pope Francis has moved beyond the perspectives of his predecessors in regard to globalization. His visit to the island of Lampedusa (2013) helped lay open a dark side of globalization that is not talked about enough today. This ugly side of globalization flows from both the effects of the new communication technologies on our human personality and from the consumer culture that accompanies globalization. While addressing those who had survived the sinking of their little fishing boat, Francis spoke of what he called a culture of comfort that makes us live in a bubble that insulates us from human misery and can cause us to fall into indifference on a global scale.

The challenge of globalization for us SMIC is truly an opportunity "through our experience of faith to respond to the call of God in the present time". (Declaration) May we turn this challenge into grace.

CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY



Rome, Italy, Jul 15, 2014 / 10:58 pm (CNA).-

Pope Francis had lunch with participants in an international economics seminar on Saturday, saying their efforts to bring the human being to the very center of the economy avoids a "throwaway culture."

The Pope addressed reductionist views of mankind, saying that "this is the strongest

time of anthropological reductionism." (Reductionism is a procedure or theory that reduces complex data and phenomena to simple terms, Miriam Webster Dictionary)

"It happens to man what happens to wine when it is transformed into brandy: it passes through an organizational still. It is not wine anymore. It is another thing. Perhaps more useful, more qualified... but it is not wine!" the Pope said July 12.

He continued: "it is the same for man: man passes through this still and he ends up – seriously speaking! – losing his humanity. He becomes a tool of the system... the social system, the economic system... a system where imbalances dominate!"

Pope Francis stressed that when man "loses his humanity," it results in "a throwaway attitude."

"What is not needed, it is thrown away, since man is not at the center (of things)." When something else is at this center, "man is at this other thing's service," the Pope warned.

His words came during the international seminar, "The Global Common Good: Towards a more inclusive economy," held at the Vatican July 11-12.

The seminar was organized by the Second Section of the State Secretariat, which deals with international and diplomatic matters, as well as by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

The seminar took motivation from a working research paper drafted by the economists Luigino Bruni, Stefano Zamagni, André Habish and Leonardo Becchetti. The paper focused on three main reductionisms of the global economy: that which see the human person as an economic agent driven primarily by self-interest and egoism; that which sees the subjects of economic

activity, both private and public enterprise, as always oriented toward the production of goods and the maximization of profits; and that which considers "value" merely as a flow of goods and services.

The Pope praised the seminar for its studies and reflections, as well as its refusal to let the human person be "thrown away."

"Children are thrown away, because the birth rate, at least here in Europe, is very well known; old people are thrown away, because they are not useful. And now a whole generation of young people is being thrown away, and this is very grave," the pontiff said.

He mentioned that there are 75 million unemployed young people under 25 years old. He described their generation as the "neither-nor" generation, since "they neither study, since they have no opportunity to do it; nor do they work, because there is no job for them."

"This is another waste. What else will be thrown away? Let's stop in time, please!"

SMIC Response to the Challenges

New Mission of St. Joseph Hospital – Infant Daycare and Childcare Resource Center

By, Sheng Kung Hospital

Taiwan is among the world's lowest birth rate countries. The "fewer-children in family" phenomenon indicates the future population reduces and would have a large impact on society, family, education, economic development, and so on. In order to ease the negative impact brought about by the changes of the population structure, the government departments have proposed a number of approaches to promote childbirth, such as opening public infant daycare centers and childcare resource centers to reduce the burden of the families in bearing children.





Our Sheng Kung Hospital (Former St. Joseph Hospital) with the mission motor: "service, joy, Humanity" responds to this needs, undertakes a new mission commissioned by the Kaohsiung City Government's Bureau of Social Affairs, established an infant daycare center and a childcare resource center in Xsiaogang District, Kaohsiung City.

This is the first one in Kaohsiung City hosted by medical institutions. To perform this task, Sr. Annuntiata Young, the administrator of the Hospital, together with Sr. Johanna Wu, Supervisor of our Lo Jen Kindergartens, have investigated and visited from Northern to Southern Taiwan for nine months, and finally, on February 27, 2014, the "Xiaogang, Kaohsiung City public Daycare Center and Childcare Resource Center" was officially opened to the local community.

The whole preparation was done by the Hospital, Kindergarten and Day-Care Center teams. The combination of both medical and nursing resources ensured a "child-centered, healthy and happy" growth of the infant and young children.

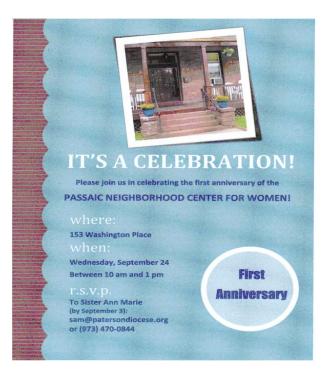
For the SMICs, this public daycare center and childcare resources center for Xiaogang community provide services to enhance parenting effectiveness and strengthen family education function. It serves not only 0 to 6 year old infants and their parents, but also offers the community a platform for the health and educational advisory for all the family members. This would be a tremendous service to witness the love of God.





US Sisters in Collaboration

The Passaic Neighborhood Women's Center is a collaborative endeavor of the religious communities in the Paterson Diocese together with the Paterson diocese itself. After several years of preparation, the doors opened on September 24, 2014 as a welcoming place for the women of the area to drop by, share their needs and help develop programs to meet these needs. Up to this point, more than 1000 women have passed through its doors to talk, share stories, experience some respite; classes in quilting, computer, and of course, English as a second language have been provided as a result. This summer vegetable gardening took off in the back yard with the women sharing the fruit of their labor.



Sister Roseli Oliveira was active in developing the décor for the center prior to its opening and before she returned to her home province. Sisters Janice, Eleanor and Margaret have been involved in various aspects of this center, from planning, office receptionist, presence in the children's room and ESL.

Other Mission Activities

By Sr. Jane Abeln, smic

Our New Jersey SMICs are continuing to share the great needs of our newest mission, Angola.

Our fundraiser on June 22 filled the hall at Our Lady of the Angels parish with participants. Seventeen people attended from St. Christopher parish, Parsippany, where Sister Pat and I live. We were happy when some of these adults and children won the baskets, and some desire to keep involved with us. All appreciated hearing Sr. Janice's short talk using slides, especially about St. Anthony School in Tamba village where each year US SMICs fund a special need—lab-coat uniforms and flip-flops, chairs and desks for the two new classrooms, and medical fund to help students and their parents in emergencies.







The Paterson diocese again gave our Congregation two parishes for the annual mission talks, in which we focus on our Angola mission. On the first weekend of August, Sr. Eleanor Goekler felt happy with the response of the pastor and parishioners at Holy Cross Church in Wayne. On the next weekend, I felt grateful for the response at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Boonton. We displayed a board with enlarged photos of our Sisters in their ministry to smiling children in humble surroundings that illustrated our point that we are enabling people to have a better present and future through education, health care, and growth in their faith in spite of past devastation and present difficulties. Other Missions

This year I participated in several days of two Mission Immersion weeks in Newark, NJ. Mark Mattheiss (a fellow graduate of the Certificate in Catholic Evangelization program) began these when he realized that Newark (like Paterson and Jersey City) is a real place needing missionaries who do good and share "the reason for our hope, Jesus Christ." In January, on the first of my two days, we visited "Ladies' Rest," praying, eating, and sharing with homeless women. After an overnight heavy snowfall, guys shoveled the driveway and around our cars as we made our way to Mother Teresa's soup kitchen, donating chicken and chopping vegetables to fill many aluminum pans with foods for the noontime prayer and meal. We saw grateful faces as we served those without jobs and money their first and second helpings. That afternoon, we ministered in a nursing home.

My second Mission Immersion began on a Wednesday evening when I found the participating young and older men and women in the parking lot serving a meal to any residents of that Vailsburg section of Newark who came through the gates. Two of the cooks were women who once worked in our Holy Family Residence in West Paterson; later they said that the food they bought would never have served so many but somehow held out—was it a miracle of multiplication? Some people stayed for the lively prayer meeting that continued outdoors. On the following day, we went to two beach areas both for enjoying one another and praying with people who spoke with us. I was especially impressed by an evangelical minister who with his teams regularly come to the Seaside Heights boardwalk to reach out to anyone who wants to talk about Jesus or have prayer.

Another area which I agree is the Civil Rights issue of our time is the "right to choose" abortion. The Morris County Right to Life group this year joined the national effort called "Forty Days for Life," in which pro-lifers pray peacefully before a place where abortions are done and counseled for. On each day of Lent, leader Steve Perkowski, expanded MCRTL coverage to all hours that the Planned Parenthood in Morristown was open. More than fifty new people got



involved, some in groups and some who took multiple hours each week. I rarely had more than one hour, each Friday 2-3 PM, but I joined several times for special vigils. We heard from one young woman grateful for not having an abortion because of the people

praying there, and a couple who went to the nearby Women's Choice Center for assistance in having the baby.

MISSION IN ANGOLA

Sister Mirna Dias Santos, SMIC.

On June 20th I arrived at the Katepa Mission in Malanje. Since then I have experienced the mission where Sisters Eulina, Lúcia e Nelisia work.

The catechetical work developed here is interesting. I observe how thirsty the people are for God reflected in the Sunday worship celebrations that are given life during the Liturgy.

I am ready to collaborate in the missionary work in the villages through the formation of catechists, family visits, celebrations and for whatever else is needed. In the parish I am involved in the Childhood Missionary Group which has as an objective "Children evangelizing children".





Another missionary activity which I am already doing is at the St. Anthony School assigned to the SMICs since 2010, which is located a distance of 15 km from Katepa. We have 300 children who though poor, daily experiencing cold weather go to study and are receptive in wanting to learn everything that is offered whether taught in the classroom or during play time.

I am enjoying the experience because I have already contributed with the mission even though being here such a short time. I am grateful for being able to collaborate in the Kingdom of God in this Country of great need.



Sister Mirna with visiting Sisters from the Congregational Common Formation Program (Srs. Imelda, Dilecta, Aparecida, Lucivane).

The entire formation group spent 1 week in Angola to have an experience of the mission.

Other News around the Congregation

In Manila,

Sr. Regina continues to bring joy to families in assisting in the process of a rendering fertile God's family through acupuncture and other natural methods.



In Tacloban,

Rebuilding Homes and Hearts: New Life and New Activity in Sacred Heart School (SHS) after Typhoon Yolanda

Sr. Josephine Liu, SMIC

Super Typhoon Yolanda (international name Haiyan) broke the Philippines. The "perfect storm," as it was referred to, shattered scientific records as it stretched 600 kilometers in diameter and carried a wind speed of 255 kph at its peak. It took over 7,000 lives and directly affected 10 million people in 51 cities and 41 provinces. Therefore, Yolanda affected the peoples in Tacloban city. It is easy to see how the Typhoon broke our houses and school, but one would need to dig a little deeper to see how it broke the people's spirit------the spirit that has always been lauded for its resilience.







Sacred Heart School, Tacloban

repainted stairway

newly painted preschool department

Home was in where the Typhoon was

The typhoon erased all houses in Tacloban city, where we learned to love the sea as a little girl, and crushed the buildings of SHS, where we had been working in St Clare community of SMIC for seventeen years.

Time slowed down after the typhoon. It was all our sisters, friends, and fellow Filipinos could talk about. Where do we start? What can we do? We didn't experience the catastrophic impacts of another Yolanda?

Weeks passed, but the images of devastation still seemed unreal. Tacloban people dealt with their disbelief and sadness by moving into action. We received funds, greetings and caring words from SMIC sisters and friends. We sisters decided to organize relief efforts; we listened and shared with survivors; we assisted and sent foods to the survivors. Thus, we sisters started our work from love and charity.

Project on Rebuilding Homes

Almost eight months after Yolanda, we have received financial help and a lot of prayers and greetings from the communities of SMIC in the world that supported us to stand up for rehabilitation, rebuilding school and houses with God's grace and strength. We have already repaired and painted the old buildings of St. Clare community and Sacred Heart School (SHS). The damaged buildings were totally cleared and new ones are expected to be rebuilt in the near future.

Project on Rebuilding Hearts

The new school year 2014-2015 in SHS started June, 2014. There are around six hundred students enrolled on all levels, while we had around seven hundred students

before Yolanda. Of course, we are also surprised and be happy with this number----six hundred students. But the mode and attitude of the students was not quite stable, because they suffered greatly by devastation of Yolanda.

In Tacloban city, also known as ground zero, a number of businesses remain closed and electricity is not yet back. Families composed of the parents and children, moved into a stuffy tent because their house was washed away. The news often highlighted people in Tacloban attacking trucks, breaking into malls and banks, and grabbing anything they could get their hands on: televisions, dumbbells, canned goods, bottled water etc.

"We didn't have anything to eat for two days. We were wearing the same wet clothes for three days. We didn't have a choice," one lady explained in the local language while wiping away her tears.

To this day, all students have not yet recovered emotionally, physically and financially. They easily fight and get hurt each other. Some time they cried because they lost their parent, brothers and sisters. Sometime they easily get mad and make noisy because they want to release their pain..... Anyway, they cannot concentrated on their studying.

However, the project on rebuilding hearts have been started. We offered some activities on what the students should do and not do and tried to find the method to help all students. After that, many students tried their best to practice these activities and more children could start to concentrate on their studying with charming smiles.

Now just present to you one of these activities as the following:

Activity: Consoling the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

This school wide activity of the Religion and Values Education Department (RVED) will guide the students in CONSOLING THE WOUNDED SACRED HEART of JESUS, and in doing so, also console the twin of Jesus' Heart, the IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY.

Whenever a person commits evil, a nail pierces the Heart of Jesus. As brothers and sisters of Jesus, we can console the Sacred Heart by performing Good Deeds.



For this Activity, a red Heart pierced by nails representing the Wounded Sacred Heart of Jesus. Whenever a student performs a Good Deed, the student shall remove a nail from the Heart and put in the box for his/her section. At the end of each week, nails in the boxes will be counted to see which section pulls the most number of nails from the Heart of Jesus.

Dear sisters, after you read the above, please also include our wonderful students in your prayers. They are so lovely but very naughty, noisy.... The teachers, even the experienced teachers do not know how to make them calm down in the classroom. But we know that they are very happy now.

Thank you again and May the SMIC missionaries present the kingdom of God on earth.

Profession and Anniversary Celebrations

August 15, 2014 - Golden Jubilee Celebration in Muenster Sister Ancilla Geishauser

We celebrated the golden Jubilee of Sister Ancilla in our Lourdeskloster Chapel in the afternoon. Her family from Bavaria with her sister, sister- in- law, nieces and nephews

with their families came the day before. This never happened before as the way from the South of Germany to the North is

quite long.

The feast started at 3 p.m. in our chapel with the Eucharistic celebration. The main celebrant was pastor Bernhard Luebbering who knows Sr. Ancilla well. Our Franciscan friend Professor Udo Schmaelzle assisted



him. The small quire of our sisters was supported by Eva Marias professional voice and the organist of our parish. Pastor Luebbering found the right words for this great feast and also about Sr. Ancillas way to help people in need and collect signatures against torture and other cruelties. It became quite humoristic when he told about her eagerness to get signatures. She does not mind to go to the pub next door or other places, where she mostly accepted – if not, she goes further and does not give up. The laughter of the community told that all understood. Sister Andrea added after the sermon some words in a very humorous way and thanked her that she does not give up to help in the great needs of the world – even we do not always like it. She also harvested a lot of laughter.

The celebration was followed by the reception. In addition to her family, many other people e.g. friends from Meckenheim where she worked for many years in the kindergarten and in other groups; neighbors and personal friends and members of her prayer group followed. Finally all got a place in our different prepared rooms. The gorgeous homemade cakes, baked by our employees, were much praised. The family also prepared some nice and humorous stakes?). For us it was a little difficult to follow the Bavarian dialect and got some translation help, but we laughed a lot.

In between time, protest lists against the law of blasphemy were signed to free Asia Bibi who was sentenced to death five years ago in Pakistan. The overall echo of this day was: "It was a great feast!"





US Province: Golden Anniversary of Sister Jean Amore

by, Sr. Jane SMIC



Sister Jean Amore's Golden Jubilee Mass was celebrated on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15th at 3 PM, at St. Bonaventure Church, where Jean has been ministering as pastoral associate to the senior parishioners and contact person to the OFM Holy Name Province's Office of Peace, Justice, and Integrity of Creation. Sr. Eleanor Goekler welcomed all, including all of Jean's living younger brothers and sisters with their spouses and some of their children from Illinois.

Fr. Dan Grigassy, OFM, a former pastor, was the main celebrant, with concelebrants including Fr. Steven DeWitt, OFM and Fr. Frank McHugh, OFM, now the parish pastor and associate, together with Fr. Frank Agresti from nearby





Some Family members

Our Lady of Pompeii parish where Jean is also active, Fr. Edwin Robinson, OFM, Chaplain at Cabrini Nursing Home where Jean served, and Fr. Mark Binder, a priest friend from Missouri during her SMIC journey.

St. Bon's Music Ministers, Brian Borowski and Marlene O'Connell, led the beautiful praise, service, and Marian music, with Jean's sister, Frances, singing the Ave Maria as Communion Meditation. Jean's sister Peg Stevens did the Revelation reading, and her nephew Bill Vavrik the 1st Corinthians reading.

Deacon Ron Williams, Sr. Jean's brother-in-law, read the Visitation Gospel until the Magnificat, which Sr. Jean then proclaimed. Deacon Ron's homily focused on the Blessed Mother's parents as forming who Mary became, and Sr. Jean's parents, Bob and Mary Amore, forming her character and vocation by their strong family values, service to the Church, and respect for religious. With Deacon Ron on the altar was Joe Balough, St. Bon's deacon, who read the intercessions. The Offertory gifts were presented by two parishioners to whom Jean is a Eucharistic minister.

Sr. Judine Jacobs of the SMIC US Leadership Team recognized the renewal of Jean's vows, after which all

SMIC Sisters and Associates sang our *Tota Pulchra*.

At the reception in the parish's Bishop Manning Hall, Sisters including visiting Asian Provincial Sr. Benedicta Kuo and the Chinese Sister-students who just finished their retreat together, SMIC Associates, Jean's family, some St. Bon's parishioners, and other invited guests all enjoyed the display of photos of Jean's family and missionary life including her teaching and prison ministry in Texas, her leadership and ministries in New Jersey, and her program coordination of Franciscan Mission Service in Washington, DC that took her to our missions in Brazil, Taiwan, Germany, the Philippines, and Namibia. We could write messages on the reproduced photo cards at each table as we celebrated together this multi-layered feast, giving thanks with Sr. Jean for the 50 years of her SMIC vocation.



US Province Celebrates 75 years - Sr. Genevieve Eaton, and 60 years - Sr. Bethany Maak



The SMIC Community along with family, friends and caretakers from the McAuley Health Care Facility in Watchung, NJ gathered together to celebrate the Anniversaries of Profession of Sisters Genevieve and Bethany. Fr. Richard Rento, a long time friend of the US Province, presided at the liturgy, and Sr. Marcia Huber gave the reflection homily. Sr. Judine Jacobs in attendance represented the Leadership Team.

Following the Liturgy, a luncheon was held at the nursing facility where much conversation about the past journey of life enlivened the meaning of the occasion.

Wishing you many more years of joy to add to your faithful passage on this earth!





Religious Profession of First and Final Vows in the Manila Region:

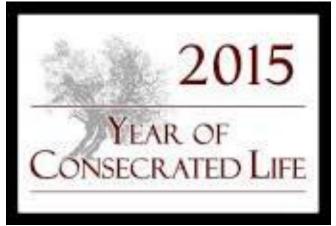
What a wonderful blessing for the Congregation and for each of the five Sisters who recently professed vows, to have committed themselves to following the Gospel in the footsteps of Jesus, the Christ. Grace strengthens the heart and spirit to believe that such a commitment is possible and that it will continue to feed our desire and actions toward making the world a better place for everyone.







The Lord does marvels in me. Holy is His Name!



"It's a great time to grow and deepen the faith. Part of this is driven by the hope and the certainty that consecrated life will never disappear from the Church." Says Cardinal João Braz De Aviz, Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, held a press conference on Friday to announce the upcoming Year of Consecrated Life.

At the press conference, Cardinal Braz de Aviz told journalists that Pope Francis had announced the

Year of Consecrated life to take place in the context of the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, Cardinal Braz de Aviz said, "We believe that the Council has been a breath of the Spirit not only for the whole Church but, perhaps especially, for the consecrated life. We are also convinced that in these 50 years consecrated life has undertaken a fruitful journey of renewal — not free, certainly, of difficulties and hardships — in the commitment to follow what the Council asked of the consecrated: fidelity to the Lord, to the Church, to their own charism and to the people of today.

For this reason, he said, the first objective of the Year of Consecrated Life would be to "make A grateful remembrance of the recent past."

With this positive outlook on the past, he continued, "we want to 'embrace the future with hope'—this is the second objective

Some details are still being sorted out, but the Congregation for Consecrated Life hopes the **Pope will kick things off on November 2014** and conclude one year later. The goals will include reflecting on the unique role religious men and women have in the Church. Everything from their charisms to their challenges.



Are you following what has and is happening with the Congregational Common Formation? Do you know the history of the SMIC provinces? See what is new! Check out:

www.missionarysistersofic.org