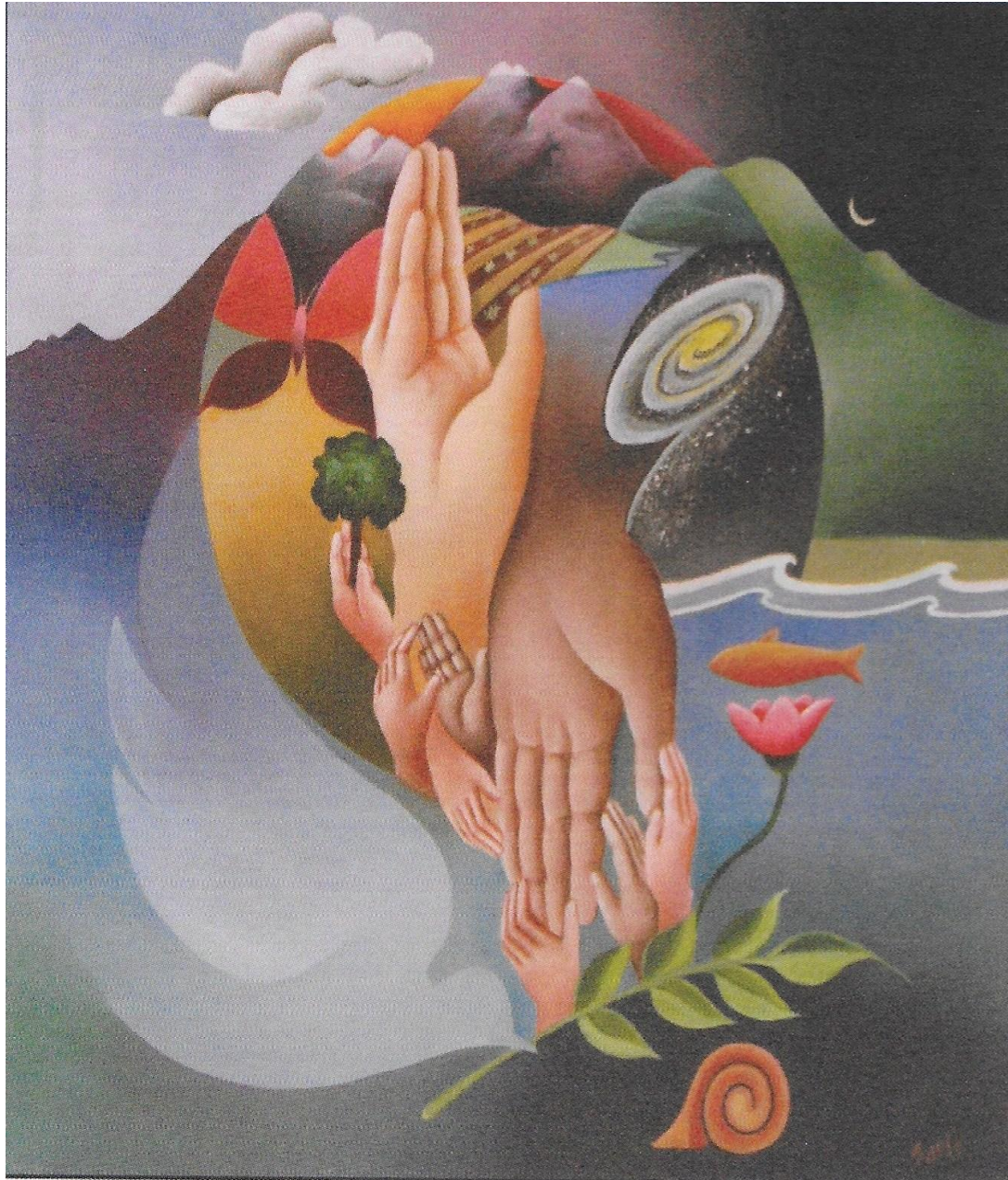


THAT ME MAY ALL BE ONE

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MOSAIC III – 2016

To our dear Sisters,

Let the STAR of JOY dance in the corners of your heart that have forgotten to sing.

Let the STAR of COURAGE grow bright in whatever requires your inner strength.

Let the STAR of GRATITUDE encourage you to be generous with your gifts

Let the STAR of LAUGHTER sparkle in your eyes and in your smile.

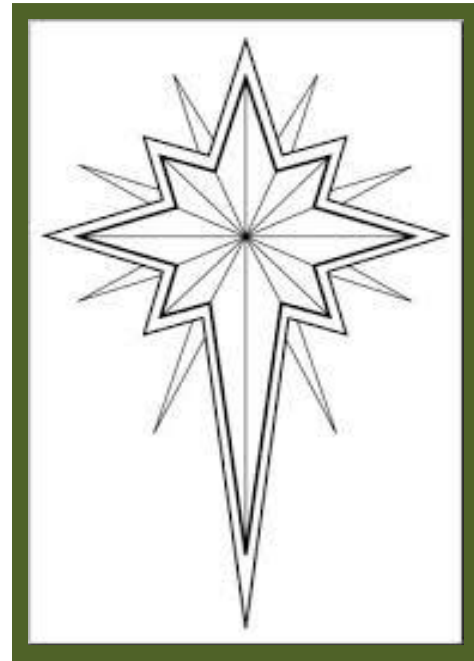
Let the STAR of KINDNESS radiate through what you think, feel and do today.

Let the STAR of OPENNESS be a wide ray of love for those who are different from you.

Let the STAR of JUSTICE lead you to speak out for change and injustices today.

Let the STAR of FAITH beam through you you say and do

Let the STAR of LOVE shine through you to all you meet this day.



Let the STAR of WONDER draw you to appreciate the beauty in and around you

Let the STAR OF CHARITY keep you balanced in tending the needs of self and others

Let the STAR of ENTHUSIASM sparkle amidst your tiredness and hurried pace

Let the STAR of PEACE be a ray of steadfast calmness and tranquility within you

(Adapted from Joyce Rupp)

From your SMIC leadership team,

Sr. Livramento Oliveira, Sr. Janice Jolin,

Sr. Gertrud Elsen, Sr. Beatrice Yang

This final MOSAIC issue from the 2010-2016 leadership team brings to you with our great joy, some of the highlights from our General Chapter.



Congratulations to our New Leadership Team Sisters Beatrix Mokwena, Beatrice Yang, Livramento Oliveira and Gizele Marinho

Many things were said about the Chapter by the participants and we want to share with you our readers the rich flavor of our time together. Here are some observations from the evaluations as well as highlights of the Chapter experience



I am LEAVING this Chapter Feeling...

overworked, committed with the directions, responsible to bring the spirit of Chapter to Sisters, more experienced & content about what was learned at the Chapter,

satisfied, grateful, happy, open, joyful, _hopeful, relaxed, lighter, joy to be a SMIC, moving from I to We celebrative, thankful, tired, excited, peaceful



Because...

Of the results, joyful time with my Sisters, the excellent hospitality, the groups worked so well together, enjoying the friendliness of the Sisters, a climate of collaboration of equals, an ambiance of unity as One



We all participate in group work, sharing, understanding on restructuring issues. All was well handled. We are growing in **unity in diversity**;

The newly elected team is capable and represents the main units of our future. We can continue this process with the decisions made in our Province. We are a strong group who can go **beyond borders**.



Chapter Highlights:



Daily Faith Sharing on the scriptural text of the day bringing this directly into the Chapter day by asking:

First sharing- from my heart.....

What feelings are in my heart as I come into one of the final days of Chapter?

Second sharing- from my prayer.....

- . What came into my prayer with today's readings
- . How can this Chapter itself be a sign to our congregation and

to the Church and world?



And,

Working Together...

in a spirit of respectful listening, sharing, coming to consensus on the best way to go forward



Daily from 8:30 through noon, and returning from 2 PM to 6 PM we were busy attending to our main tasks...listening, offering our opinions and deciding together the chapter discernment question:

Working on issues of discernment...

Give of Life, WHERE are You challenging us together as seekers of unity in diversity, to integrate our life in prayer, ministry and ecological conversion?



Not All is Work... There is Prayer

Organized by a team to help the Chapter worship flow smoothly and including our cultural flavors.





And, there is NUTRITION...



...supervised and skillfully prepared by Sr. Apollonia and our young Asian Sisters...not to mention, dishwashing and other special celebrations for birthday & feast days:





*And there is PLAY
...a most necessary time... Sometimes organized and at other times just
happening:*





A few Sisters wrote in to share with you what they personally experienced;

It was my first time I attended a Chapter. It was a grace filled and enriching time. I learn alot coming in contact with our sisters, some of whom I only knew through photos; the chapter made our coming together as one family a reality. The chapter gave me more understanding about our congregation and a clearer picture of our new model. Sr. Cecilia Negandjo

I was very curious to know the different sisters which I had only seen in photos. I have come to know them through the sharing of their ideas and opinions and their way of finding solutions. I personally experienced spiritual growth about what I need to do to enrich my vocation. Sr. Elisabeth Shuuya

We so deeply experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in our liturgies, our "base community" faith sharing, in the "consensus groups" where our concepts were so similar, in the openness of finding the best team to lead us and in their willingness to agree that it was God's call, and in so many ways where we were one family united in Jesus Christ sharing diverse cultures. In the four main languages of the Chapter, I say to God and to each Sister: Xiesie, Danke, Tangi unene, and Obrigada. Sr. Jane Abeln

For me, the experience of the General Chapter was one in which friends met, shared prayer deeply and through that experience came to experience the giftedness of one another leading to real consensus on the best direction for the congregation, both in acts and in leadership. It was blessing to have been part of this - for me - breakthrough moment for the congregation. Sr. Eleanor Goekler

*A Blessed time and fruitful ending
Until Next Chapter
2016 - 2022*



Final notes:

Special thanks to the local community! The Sisters here were extremely good hostesses.

Thanks to all who worked and helped including SMIC associates, SKGHS leaders and staff, all Sisters and Novices.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE STREET PEOPLE AND THE FIGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ANNUAL CRY FOR THE EXCLUDED



At the beginning of this year I decided that I needed to involve myself more with something so that I could give of myself more entirely, come out of myself, my world and enjoy meeting with others. I am primarily referring to the Religious brothers and sisters who in walking with God, have “bothered me” by leading me to meet those who live in. From this experience I am awakening to a new consciousness of being present among the deserted of this world: the druggies, alcoholics and marginalized.

The “Welcome House” for street people functions in the center of Fortaleza. It is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday not only to offer a place to shower and to have lunch, but to offer quality programs among which is economic solidarity – a project which sees the work world and prepares the street people to empower themselves. We have a Public Defender who comes monthly and listens to the various abuses received daily by the people and have

the assistance of three faculty members with students completing their last year of psychology.



We are a group of 16 active volunteers who are giving assistance. The group consists of lay persons and religious from three congregations . Our objective is to be a presence and a help to these people; help them in transforming the situation of exclusion to one of inclusion. Every two weeks, we have a Sister of Charity who leads group therapy. It is a time to know the people and to cry with them because of the depth and seriousness by which they share their limitations, pains, slavery of addiction, family and social exclusion. The therapy has helped improve their self esteem and to

become more confident to change. Each Friday Fr. Lino with his team prepares a day of spirituality which the people really like and actively participate in. With some participants we did a pilgrimage on the feast of St. Clare, and joined in the demonstration parade activity of the “Cry of the Excluded”. Each year a retreat is promoted and also a recreational time...all of this is of the grace of God and I am happy to be able to participate in this group learning how to love without so many preconceptions and judgments, learning to slowly, day be day lead with my impotence and learn in this “school of life”.

“ Go out in the direction of others to arrive at the human edges does not mean to run in the world without direction nor meaning. Many times it is better to diminish the rhythm caused by anxiety in order to look into the eyes and listen or renounce the urgencies in order to accompany the one who fell at the side of the road. Sometimes it is like the father of the prodigal son who continues to keep open doors so that when he returns he can enter without difficulty.” Pope Francis

A Happy New Year

2017

