



ALL-TO-ALL

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

SISTERS FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

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ICC REPORT

Denise Ware, Virginia Azcueta, and Carmen Gillick have offered to serve a second term as ICC Team. As of the February/March ATA no one else has volunteered to serve in this role. Since there is a pandemic, there will be no Assembly to affirm us as a team. 2021-2022 would have been the transition



year for a new team, so there is no problem on that score. However, the team would not be formally affirmed. Under the pandemic circumstances, this could happen at the 2022

Assembly. We would suggest that if there are others who wish to offer to serve by February/March 2022 then discernment could take place at that assembly. If we are affirmed we would continue.



A few regions have affirmed the team to continue which we appreciate, but this is not our formal process.

At this point, we will serve out our third year and then continue if we are formally re-affirmed at the 2022 Assembly,

Submitted by Virgie Azcueta



Amidst these tumultuous times, worldwide, amidst our tight 'lockdowns' in the Benelux Region, we are alone, 'together', in our work ('what's app', internet, zoom) thanks to the technological possibilities of our time.



In Middelburg, Zeeland, Ria Scholtes leads yoga and meditation groups, recently concentrating upon 'opening our hearts', understanding and integrating unconditional love (respect) into our daily lives.



In Aagtekerke, Zeeland, Ineke de Vlioger works night/day shifts with severely mentally retarded elders, and continues her college studies in 'loss and grief'; her guide was published in 2019.

(cont'd on next page)



In Alkmaar, Monique de Jong, teaches her college students in the field of 'giving meaning to life' ('online' as well) alongside writing her masters thesis in theology: *Spirituality and Business*.



In Louvain, Belgium, Sr. Dorothy Sokwo, from Nigeria, signed our *Covenant of Affiliation*; she hopes soon to complete her Masters in *Bioethics* at the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium.



In Egmond aan Zee, North Holland, Lien de Jong opens home and heart to those 'retreating' at the seaside, being herself a living, loving presence of the SFCC charisms just by being there.



In Egmond aan Zee, North Holland, Teresa Takken celebrated 45 years as an SFCC on 15 nov. 2020. The Eucharistic celebration and benefit concert were held in St. Agnes Church (many will recall from our Assembly in

2001) both filled to the *Corona-allowed* capacity, just before a full-blown 'lockdown' again!

It was viewed worldwide via *livestream*.

Benefits from the concert were donated to a charity project.

Teresa continues her music as well her work as Chaplain in health care facilities throughout North Holland, 'being there' for people of all ages in crisis situations resulting from Covid-measures.

There are many others throughout the *Benelux* who are 'walking with us' in

vision, attitude, deed; pre-inquirers as well, about which we will share more later.

During the past year —up until today - so many disappointments, disasters, distrust, devastation, deaths and more in this "Corona time". Each of us in the *Benelux Region* lives actively 'here & now', more aware than perhaps ever before of how vital SFCC charisms truly are: listening (giving-ear-to), loving (unconditionally) and serving (dedicating all our time and talents for the sake of peace and reconciliation, wherever we live and work). We experience time and again how these three connect, encourage and inspire us and others, across boundaries of language, age, religion, politics, culture, status, ...limitlessly!

We all greet you from our seaside with warm sisterly affection, assuring you all of our continued prayers, thoughts and connectedness.

*Submitted by Teresa (Teri)Takken,
RCC Benelux*



The zoom meeting was held courtesy of Sr. Virgie in which it included the

affirmed sisters only. The reason being the point of discussion was the creation of solidarity fund.

Members agreed to open a bank account which is cooperative bank in Kenya with three signatories, Sisters Damaris, Dolline and Vivianne voluntarily accepted to open the account in which each member will be required to contribute £60 per year. The money will be used to support a sister when she is bereaved by either of the parents. A sister will also be supported partially in case of sickness and fully if she passes on.

(cont'd on next page)



There was an agreement that we will be having physical meeting in April in which all members of Kenya region will be expected to attend.

*Submitted by Vivianne Akinyi,
SFCC-Kenya*



A new SFCC region!



The Nigeria Region was formed a few weeks ago when SFCCs Gertrude (Gert) Bassey and Francesca (FC) Ezeokonkwo stepped forward

to serve as mentors for the Inquirers and Affiliates in Nigeria. Teri Takken of the BENELUX Region is also serving as a mentor for the BP in Nigeria.

Gert will also serve as RCC for the new region. She is also a member of the Sunbelt Region in the USA.



FC is a member of the Sophia Region. Both FC and Gert will maintain membership in their respective region in the States, while also belonging to the Nigeria Region in order to help the Nigerian SFCCs to eventually take over their region in Africa.

SFCCs in Nigeria will be able to fill the region service roles when the Affiliates listed below have been affirmed for 2 years.

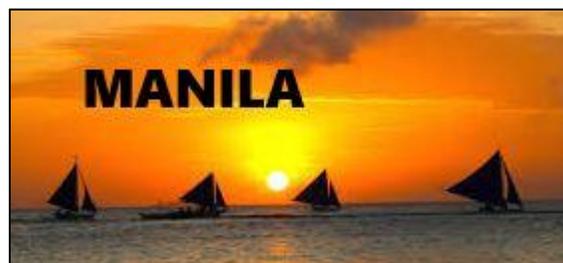
Nigerian Inquirers

Dorothy Aule
Mirian Azubuike
Patricia Babtunde
Eunice Folsade
Theresia Maiyamama
Modupe Catherine Oloruntaba
Esther Onwunali
Emanuella Mbanude
Veronica Onoja
Helen Popoola

Nigerian Affiliates

Anthonia Asue
Rose Bako
Mary Balogun
Rosemary Esogban
Onemena Onegejehda
Dorothy Sokwo

Submitted by the Archives



The SFCC Light Group met via Zoom on March 21, 2021, 10AM-11:30 AM. Present: Virgie Azcueta, Rosa Ocampo, Rosalie Guevarra, Teresa Buenaventura, Lorena Barot, Marivic Destacamento, Janeth Mapa, and Lorelei Cameros. Anne Llaga and Robelieth Tabamo cannot get thru. Absent: Marissa Gallego and Lilian Firme. Rosa led the opening prayer, that this cyberspace meeting may draw us together and that in our diversity may we lay the foundation for building bridges to cross over

to the Lord and to the sisters and brothers around us.

Light Group was formed in October 2020 to deepen the understanding of SFCC and the becoming process of Manila region's five affiliates. Since others want to join the study and sharing, mentors, inquirers and affiliates from all three regions are welcomed starting today.

Ahead of the meeting, Sr Virgie emailed us The New Nuns: Collegial Christians, Lillana Kopp's first book published in 1968 when she was still with SNJM. Sr. Virgie also shared the 1977 notes of Lillana Kopp who was already concerned about the becoming process even then, and one of the points she raised is: What if the newer members lacked the opportunity before joining us and the incentive afterward to study carefully the ecclesiological underpinnings of the SFCC experiment as found in the Vatican II documents and commentaries?

Sr. Virgie guided the group through the topics, including ecclesia, non-canonical, ecumenical, ecclesial community, collegial decision-making, etc. We shared our thoughts, feelings and questions.

She said it's very important for us to know Church history, modern and the past; that the Church is growing and the Holy Spirit is leading the Church and if we are faithful to our calling as SFCCs, we will help the Church to transform. She cited as example the habit and veil. In Africa, they said that it's the culture of the people to expect nuns wearing the habit and veil. But Sr. Virgie said that we have to start educating the people that habit does not make a nun. Next meeting is on April 18, 10am.

The closing prayer led by Rosa is that what we have learned today may help us lay the foundation of a bridge that will connect us even in virtual space, close the gaps among us, and make us one in our diversity.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths and superficial relationships, so that you will live deep in your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, exploitation of people and the earth, so that you will work for justice, equity and peace.

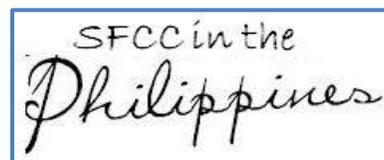
May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer, so you will reach out your hand to comfort them and change their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with foolishness to think that you can make a difference in the world, so you will do the things which others say cannot be done.

(Author unknown, published in Grace Notes, Vol 1, Issue 4, Aug/Sept 2000)



Submitted by Rosa Ocampo



On April 11, 2021 there will be inter-regional virtual meeting for the regions of Lorenzo Ruiz, Calungsod and Yesu Marie to witness and celebrate Commitment to SFCC.

Affiliates to be Affirmed are:

Janet Nunez from Lorenzo Ruiz region and **Antonia Labos** from Calungsod region. Both have finished a year and more as affiliates with their mentors,

fulfilled requirements and preparation for making their SFCC vows.

Inquirers who will make their

Affiliation Covenant are:

Mary Villanueva from San Jose, CA mentored by Nona Barairo, SFCC who is living in San Francisco, CA. Both are members of the Lorenzo Ruiz region, and **Fe Matulac** and **Rubilieth Tabamo** in the Yesu Marie region.

Submitted by Virgie Azcueta



March
12-13-
Meeting
opened
Zoom on

Friday evening. Present were Sisters Odessa, Lydia, Suzanne. Juanita, Ann P, Anne T, Leticia, Patricia, and Ginny and Mary Clare from Gulf South Region. This was our time to catch up with happenings since the last Regional in the Spring. Sister Leticia reported on her contacts by phone to the sisters of Rocky Mountain that are no longer able to attend meetings letting us know they are all doing well and appreciated the contact. Ann Burroughs in San Antonio was asked about and Leticia volunteered to write her a note to let her know we were thinking about her. All reported that they had received the vaccine and are hoping to have a face-to-face meeting in the fall.

Saturday opened with a presentation by Sister Odessa of a video of the interview by 60 Minutes regarding the “American Nuns Struggle With the Vatican for Change”. It was a reminder of the investigation of the sister by the Vatican and the positive responses of the LCWR. Sister Pat Farrel, President at the time, Sister Simone Campbell of Network plus others were featured. After the Video Odessa opened the floor for discussion asking us to consider how the questions raised at that time relate

to today and the future of SFCC in this our fiftieth year. A lively discussion followed and the following observations made:

1) As the international membership grows, ways to hold meetings and communicate with each other needs to be discussed. One suggestion was to communicate by mail or email with individuals who are written up in ATA and offer encouragement for a job well done or a note of welcome to new inquirers or affiliates as their name are published in ATA.

2) Here in US and Canada we need to discern ways to make our community more known by the general public by accepting invitations to be a speaker for organizations that show an interest

3) To remember that we are an Ecumenical Community and spread the work and life style of SFCC to other religions

4) To seriously study using communication technology for our General Assemblies so all sisters can participate from wherever they live.

A Business Meeting was held in the afternoon. No decision was made for our next regional in the Fall. We will wait and see if we can have a face-to-face meeting.

Sister Odessa reported on the mentoring program for our two affiliates. She is using the book *From Nuns to Sisters* by Marie Augusta Neal, SND de NAMUR which is about how the historical, sociocultural and theological process from early times to now have led to Nuns becoming Sisters and responding to the “option for the poor” of Vatican II. This history will then lead to the next study of Sudden Spring and Lilliana’s interpretation of religious life and the vows and her founding of SFCC. Odessa shared that she feels leading the history of religious life is a good foundation to understanding the material of SUDDEN SPRING. Sister Suzanne suggested that the Affiliate program be extended to two years.

This provoked a lot of discussion and Suzanne said she would think about writing up her reasons and presenting the idea at an Assembly.

Odessa reported that she has received an invitation from the President of the National Black Sisters Conference to represent them at a summer workshop by the NRVC TO DISCUSS THE ONGOING FORMATION OF SISTERS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES IN FORMATION WORK.



We all congratulated her on this opportunity. The meeting ended with a Prayer for Peace composed by Pope Francis.

*Submitted by
Mary Pat Morris*



Seventeen sisters in the WEB Region:

Roberta Winkels in **Guatemala**, Maggie Gonsalves in **India**, Virgie Azcueta in **IL**, Emma Flaherty, Marion McDonald, Pat McCarthy, Anne McGinn in **VA**, Loretta Primus, Pat Guarriello, Ellen Gerlach, Janet Thompson in **DE**, Kass Collins, Pat Wieczynski, Janet Pfeffer, Nancy Meskill in **MD**, Alma O'Brien, Maureen Milnamow in **PA** came together via Zoom on Saturday, February 6, 2021. This platform is enabling the region to become much more inclusive in our gatherings. Our time together was one of prayer, sharing, lament and laughter. The sisters shared their efforts, frustrations and successes in obtaining the Covid vaccine.

Neither Guatemala nor India has any firm promise of its availability soon.

Virgie shared her recent success in contacting the BFCCs in the U.S. and encouraged them to become more connected. There are Inquirers both here and in the Philippines looking for some leadership in BFCC.

Our Region affirms the decision of the current ICCs to continue for a second term. We thank them for past service and their generosity in accepting this service role for another three years.

The prayer service centered around reflections by Diarmuid O'Murchu, Ted Loder and Joan Chittister. In closing we remembered the sisters in WEB "upon whose shoulders we stand": Rosemary, Herlinda, Miriam, Theresa, Catherine/Mary, Anne, Claire, Beverly, Ann Patrick.

Our next Zoom is scheduled for April 10 to celebrate Spring, Easter and sisters in the Region observing jubilees in 2021

*Submitted by
Alma O'Brien*



Justina Landeros-Corrales

Cell phone (Esteli, Nicaragua)
+505-8653-4257

Nancy Meskill
New email: nmeskill216@gmail.com

Margaret Underwood
Magnolia Hills
1706 Washington Street
Graffon, Wisconsin 53234
Phone: 262-377-2250/Cell:-262-419-9055



Barbara Crummitt (Jubilee Region)

Who suffered a massive stroke last January, 2021. She has just returned home and needs prayer for her continued recovery.

Fran Smith (Mexico) the recent loss of her brother, Howard. We offer our loving thoughts and prayers.



INQUIRERS



**Emmanuella
Mbanude**
Nigeria Region

One of 7 siblings, Emmanuella was born in 1979 to parents who were small farmers.

In 1998, she joined Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. About her years with the congregation, Emmanuella says it was “neither a bed of roses nor a layer of thorns”.

She completed numerous assignments in education and pastoral work. Her journey with the sisters ended September 6, 2005 when she was asked to leave the congregation because, according to them, she did not have their spirit.

She returned to higher studies and, there at the university, encountered the Ad Gentes Missionaries. She eventually joined the congregation and, over the next several years, traveled and worked on behalf of the Ad Gentes Missions in Mexico and the United States.

Yet, Emmanuella was not fulfilled as a religious and sought better direction, so as to not make another mistake. She left the Ad Gentes Missionaries in December, 2018. She tried to discern alternate ways to live the consecrated life; and was about to take private vows with the local archbishop when Dorothy Sokwo (SFCC Inquirer) told her about SFCC. Emmanuella was put into contact with Virgie Azcueta and is now in the Becoming Process being mentored by FC Ezeokonkwo and Gertrude Okon Bassey) Nigeria Region)

Emmanuella’s ministry experiences include:
principal of junior high at Divine Triumph International School 2020 - present
Head teacher at Ad Gentes Missionary School in Nebraska, USA 2009-2018
Administrator for St Rita Montessori Academy 2018-2020

She is in the process of completing a graduate degree in Education. She holds BA in Biochemistry/Microbiology and diploma in Science Technology

When asked about her guiding principle, Emmanuella replies: know, love and serve God and be happy in the world to come

Submitted by the Archives



Gloria Agada
Nigeria Region

Born in 1987, Gloria is one of 10 children. She completed her education degree (biology/chemistry) at

Benue State College of Education in 2007. She accepted a teaching position at a diocesan high (secondary) school. She later earned a degree from the Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi (2016).

In 2009, Gloria joined the Sisters of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus (EHJ) and was with them for 3 years when she was told to “discern her vocation.” Gloria returned and taught at schools for the next several years operated by the EHJs.

Gloria no longer finds fulfillment with the EHJs and is hopeful to learn about SFCC.

Submitted by the Archives



Regina Tsehe
Nigeria Region

Born in 1983, Regina has 5 siblings. Her mother is a farmer and father is retired from

the Nigerian custom service.

Regina joined the St Rose of Lima Secular Sisters (SRLSS) and, after 2 years, is in the process of leaving the congregation because she is not finding personal fulfillment there.

Regina’s guiding principle in life is to be hardworking and prayerful at all times.

Regina holds a Degree in Education (biology major) (2014) and Teaching Certification. She is currently teaching.

Submitted by the Archives



Carol Kyengo
Tanzania

Born in 1982 in Kenya, Carol is from a family of 9 siblings.

Carol was with the Guardians of the Reign of the Heart of Jesus for 5 years and left because she did not believe herself to be a good fit for the type of community life required by the Guardians. She moved to Tanzania where she entered the Divine Compassion Sisters and, after only 1 year learned about SFCC. She was so excited to know there is a religious community so very like what she had been searching.

Carol holds a degree in accounting finances from Mount Kenya University. She currently works as an accountant. Carol also volunteers in an orphanage for children with disabilities.

Carol’s guiding principle in life: Be honest and trustworthy in my work

Submitted by the Archives



Esther Bura
Tanzania

Esther is 44 years old and is the 3rd born of 9 children. Esther has been supported through each stage of her life from

childhood through university.

Esther was not a member of a religious congregation; but did seek out Maryknoll after she completed her university studies (2013) and made contact. Over the next 2 years Esther met regularly with local Maryknoll sisters and was in the process of

submitting her entrance forms when her family needed her support. She returned to her village to help care for her younger sisters while her father adjusted to diabetes. Also, she received a letter from the government indicating that, despite her scholarship, she had an outstanding student loan. Her contact at Maryknoll said they could not accept her while she was still with financial debt. By the time she cleared the debt, Maryknoll said she was too old and also had developed health (back pain) problems they did not want to accept.

Esther holds a 4 yr degree in Nursing, as well as certification in Nursing. Currently employed at Ariel Glasier Pediatric AIDS health Care Institute. Previously, Esther worked at hospitals in Arusha, Tanzania and Mbulu Tanzania. She belongs to the Tanzania-Zambia Region. Her mentor for the Becoming Process is Columba Thadey.

Submitted by the Archives



**Folasade Eunice
Adenyi**
Nigeria Region

Born in Nigeria in 1973, Eunice is one of 10 children born to her parents. Eunice holds a

degree in Education and a teaching certification. She currently is teaching while also earning a degree in Theology at the Catholic Institute of West Africa, Port Harcourt Nigeria.

Eunice's experience in her former congregation was partially ill-treatment and she left as a temporary professed sister. Currently, Eunice is in the process of leaving the Daughters of Sacred Passion Congregation in order to serve God and humanity as a response to her vocation.

Eunice was referred to SFCC by other SFCCs in Nigeria. Eunice says that her guiding principle in life is being prayerful, respectful committed, perseverance, focused.

Submitted by the Archives



Potamia Mworira
Tanzania

Born in 1967, Patamia was a member of the Holy Spirit Sisters in Rauya Marangu, Moshi

Kilimanjaro Tanzania, after finishing her secondary education. Potamia was with the Holy Spirit Sisters for 5 years, leaving because she was required to further her education.

Over the next few years, Potamia earned a diploma in Early Childhood Education and certification as a Nursery and Primary School teacher.. She is currently working at Utalii College as an Early Childhood Educator.

Potamia explains "Since I left the Holy Spirit Sisters Congregation, my calling has never left me. Throughout the years I have been attending seminars with the nuns, I have joined them in many prayer sessions and I have attended retreats with them.

I first received my calling to become a nun as a small child and I have received the same calling throughout my life."

Submitted by the Archives



Lorelie Cameros
Manila region

Lorelie, born in 1989, was a temporary professed with

the Handmaids of the Risen Christ (HRC). She has found it necessary to leave the Handmaids in order to help support her family financially.

Lorelie has worked as a nanny (2012-2014) and currently is a group mother at a children's village (2014-present)

Submitted by the Archives



Lyn Davis
Sophia Circle

Lyn's early years were with a single mother and her siblings in an inner-city neighborhood with nosy but watchful and caring neighbors.

Those same years were intertwined with the Baptist and Methodist churches. As a result of her childhood, Lyn felt "led to work in social services to help girls like me."

While working in an addiction center, she met a former Catholic priest who operated a counseling center. It was through him that Lyn was made aware of her abusive childhood and trauma as an adult child of an alcoholic. Because so much of her abuse was connected to church, she left organized religion and began a search for a community to nurture her spiritual growth.

She spent time with the Carmelite nuns in Avila, Spain while she studied the writings of St Theresa. Next, Lyn enrolled in the Quaker Earlham School of Religion (Indiana) where she connected with a spiritual director. She joined the Community of the Gospel, an ecumenical community of men and women who take something similar to the OFM 3rd Order vows.

At this time, Lyn found a new spiritual director, a Felician sister, who responded to her request to find an African American community of sisters. Lyn was introduced to Odessa Stanford, sfcc who directed her to the sfcc website. It was a one-time meeting with Odessa; but Lyn had gone to the website and bookmarked it for later reading. Eventually she returned to the website and read the Profile, most of *Sudden Spring*, as well as a few of the 1995 presentations. Lyn believed that, with SFCC, she would "be in the company of women who not only chose to live a specific way in dedication to God; but were incredibly brilliant." She reached out to SFCC through the website and was quickly connected to the Sophia Circle.

Born in 1987, Lyn holds a degree in Sociology from Rutgers University and is pursuing a MA at the Earlham School of Religion. Since 2012, Lyn has run an independent Virtual Assistant practice and specializes in managing digital media communications. Formerly, Lyn was a Deaconess and served on the choir, praise dance, and social media outreach ministries. Currently, her ministry meets at the intersection of mental health, spirituality and the expressive arts. Lyn is a writer, speaker, mental health peer advocate and facilitator.

Submitted by the Archives

AFFILIATES



Angela Woodworth
Great Lakes Region

Mentors:
Nancy Gannon and
Monica Sesko
Angela signed her

Covenant of Affiliation: November 4, 2019.

(cont'd)

She will be Affirmed into full membership whenever the region gathers again.

Submitted by the Archives

AFFIRMED



Antonio Labos
was affirmed into full membership by the Calungsod Region April 11



Janet Nunez
was affirmed into full membership by the Manila Region April 11

**CORRECTION FOR PAGE 12
AFFILIATES IN LAST ISSUE OF ATA**

NEW AFFILIATES



Grace Musonda
Zambia



Margaret Mwikali
Kenya

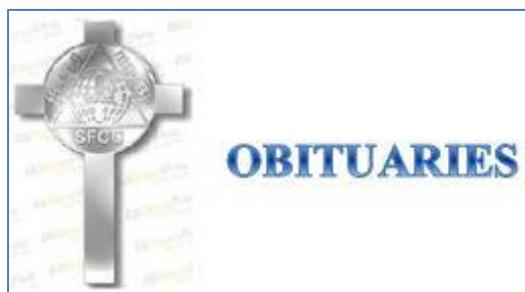


Selina Byombo
Kenya



Liliana Chacon
Mexico Region





Lorraine Castelein

1924-2021
SFCC 1983-2021

Born in Chicago and grew up in a Wisconsin small town, Lorraine worked as a

bartender in her uncle's neighborhood pub during her teen years. She entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) immediately after high school and was with the community for 41 years. Lorraine was a vowed religious for 76 years. To all who knew Lorraine, she provided an inspirational example of how to live our later years.

Lorraine's sister, Irene, who lived in the senior residence died of covid-19 a few months ago. The family plans to have a celebration of life for both Lorraine and Irene later in the year when, hopefully, friends and family can gather in person.

Lorraine earned a Bachelor's degree in Education (1955), Master's degree in Theology (1969) and Clinical Pastoral Education certification (1971). She taught all grades 1-12 and also served as school principal for 5 years. Lorraine also ministered as a hospital chaplain.

While studying for her Masters in Theology (1969), Lorraine met SFCC Jean Schuster who introduced Lorraine to SFCC.

Lorraine had been struggling with the rule-bound and extremely strict SSND life and was encouraged by what Jean had to say. Lorraine took a leave of absence 1971-72; but returned to the SSNDs until 1983 when she made a permanent exit. A few months later, Lorraine was affirmed in to SFCC.

Lorraine was an active member of the Wisconsin SFCC Region until her retirement and relocation to Arizona where she joined the Desert and Mountain (DAM) Region. Lorraine never missed region meetings. Among the DAM SFCCs, Lorraine was their beloved matriarch, who facilitated many insightful discussions on theological topics, as well as sfcc business.

At the Albuquerque (New Mexico) Assembly (1998) Lorraine volunteered to create the first ever SFCC Picture Directory. It was a project that consumed most of 2 years. In the end, each member of SFCC received her personal copy of the directory. Through the years, the directory has served as an invaluable resource for the community archives.

Lorraine always claimed that SFCC empowered her to be a free and whole person – something she never experienced with the SSND. These were the same qualities she encouraged in everyone whose life she touched.

At the Milwaukee Assembly (2014), Lorraine celebrated her 90th birthday; and shared this poem with all present. She learned it from her mother; and said it always provided a guide for her own life.

**It costs us nothing to be nice,
For kindness asks no pay or price.
And the smile that brightens
each day,**

**Is freely and gladly given away.
For the key to happy, joyful living,
Is not in getting, but in giving.**

Submitted by the Archives



Marion Hicks

1937-2021
SFCC 1976-2021

Born in Philadelphia the 2nd of 5 girls, Marion graduated from her local Catholic high school in 1955. She entered the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) in 1956.

Marion remained with the IHM for 19 years (1956-1975). She was an educator for the elementary and middle grades assigned to schools in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia 1958-1975.

In early 1976 Marion wrote: I have been in a state of unrest in the past several years because I could not find the peace or love promised in the gospels. It was not until I left the IHMs in 1975 and spent the summer months with the Sisters of Notre Dame in Norfolk, Virginia that I began to experience the love and peace and Christian concern. It was through their beautiful community life that I learned what being a sister could really mean. Signing my papers of exclauration from the IHMs was a freeing from archaic religious rules and a commitment to service to the people of God. The co-signing of the SFCC Affirmation Form on December 21, 1976 was a very joyful day in my life.

Marion was an active member of the Sunbelt Region, the WEB Region and the Sophia Circle Region.

Marion became certified as a hospital chaplain – a ministry to which she gave all her energy for the next many years. She was Chaplain at naval base in Norfolk, Virginia and also at local hospitals.

Marion served as ICC with Lucy Comer 2007-2013. Rita Yeasted recalls Marion's helpfulness in her own transition into the ICC service role

The SFCCs in the Northern Lights Region (Alberta, Canada) recall Marion's great service to our community. They remember especially that she kept nagging the region members gently to give a name to their Region. And so they think of Marion whenever Northern Lights Region appears in the ATA – a name that Marion really liked!

In addition to helping name a region, Marion saw the formation of 7 new regions during her period of service as ICC. A few years later, Marion reported that she was thankful for the time Lucy [Comer] and I served as ICCs and value the experience of contact with the larger community, which is growing in international scope. This is a sign of hope for the Church and for SFCC in this age of questioning about religious life. Marion had multiple health issues. She narrowly survived the ravages of Covid-19. It is believed that she finally succumbed to Parkinson complications. Marion passed February 17, 2021

Submitted by the Archives





full membership. The Becoming Process, which included public introduction in the ATA, as well as public announcement of signing the Covenant of Affiliation. Affirmation is public when it is announced in the ATA.



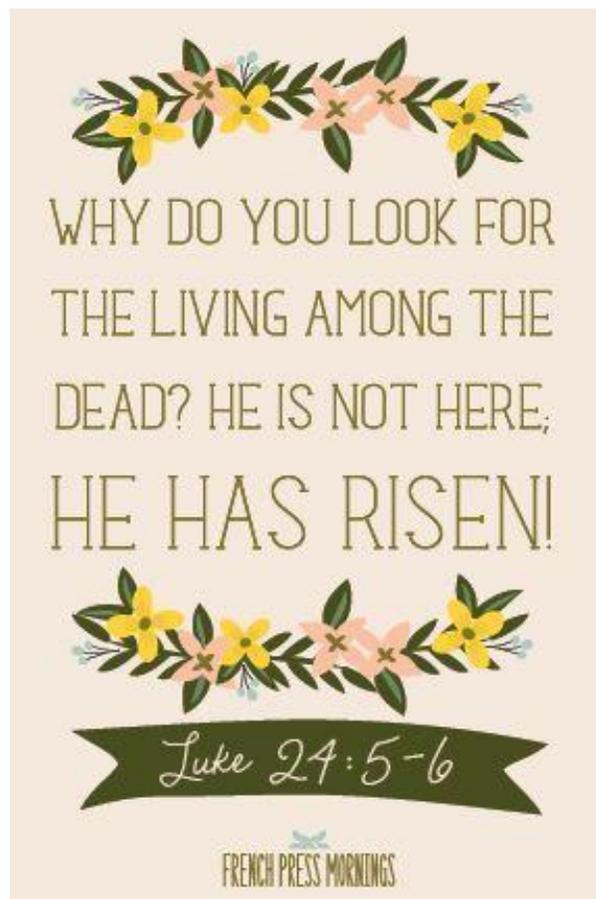
Submitted by the SFCC Archives

The 4 Vows of SFCC

I spent a week with Lillanna in her home in 1995 when she transferred the archive materials to me. During that week, she spoke very openly and directly about her convictions, as well as the "mind of the community" during the early decades. In addition to the 3 traditional evangelical vows, Lillanna most definitely regarded financial responsibility as a vow. She understood it to be the vow that separated us from traditional religious communities that pooled all their finances and, thereby, provided financially in all matters for all members. The founding members shared the same understanding. Lillanna always understood *listening, loving, and serving* to be the evangelical vows renamed in the spirit of Vatican II. The founding members shared this understanding as did members joining during the next decades. That affirmed understanding is clearly stated in the SFCC Profile.

Ritamary Bradley, who joined SFCC in 1972 always maintained that SFCC was a viable alternative to traditional religious life for women who were called to live the evangelical vows. By "viable alternative," Ritamary underscored the 4th vow of financial responsibility that set SFCC apart.

Each new SFCC declares the 4 vows in the presence of the region, which is the "official" representative of SFCC



20 YEARS AGO: WERE YOU THERE?



A group of SFCC stand in front of the Vatican in 2001 following the International Assembly that was held in Egmond aan Zee, Netherlands that year.



SISTERS FOR
CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY
THAT ALL MAY BE ONE
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Send all content for Volume 51 Issue 5 to atasfcc@yahoo.com on or before **May 30, 2021**.