



# ALL-TO-ALL

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

SISTERS FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

Volume 53 Issue 5

[www.sfccinternational.org](http://www.sfccinternational.org)

June/July 2023



## ASSEMBLY SPEAKERS

Priscilla Kyarisiima, SFCC  
Francesca Ezeokonkwo, SFCC  
Carmen Notario, SFCC and Magdalena  
Bennasar, SFCC ( Virtual )  
Fran Campbell, SFCC (Virtual)



### FRAN CAMPBELL

Jesus' prayer "that all may be one" is regarded by most scripture scholars as his farewell speech.

Fran will approach the prayer from the other direction: as Jesus' welcome speech: his welcome to a new kind of society that sheds hierarchy and division of all kinds, of a society that includes diversity within unity.

Drawing on her many years as SFCC archivist, Fran will talk about Lillanna Kopp's intention related to Jesus' prayer and that she and the early members understood that SFCC is the kind of community Jesus prayed for.

## UPDATE INFORMATION:

Make sure you have an online visa to enter Nairobi at Kenyatta International Airport.

Address of Clergy Home:

Domus Clericorum Archdiocese of Nairobi.  
P.O. Box 27043 Plot LR No. 9612 Kasarani,  
Nairobi. Email-  
[clergyhome@archdioceseofnairobi.org](mailto:clergyhome@archdioceseofnairobi.org).  
Phone no: +254-707-608-331

Those who are coming by bus from Uganda and Tanzania please plan your transportation to Clergy Home if you are coming in groups. There will be no pick up at the bus stations.

Vivianne Akinyi +254-724-933-264 can help you with letter to present at the border.

To all coming from US/ Europe: notify your bank that you will be using your credit card outside of your country.

If you have not sent your registration and accommodation at Clergy Home to Sr. Virgie Mission Fund, you can pay in US dollar during Registration on July 12. Medical Form will be filled out at Registration. Remember to bring your personal medicines.

There will be electrical sockets available for less than \$1.00 for charging your phones and laptops. Clergy Home has distilled water dispenser safe for drinking.

Weather is unusual but July is winter in Kenya. Dress warmly.

**KARIBU KENYA!**

**TO APPLY FOR VISA**

Download the App of Atly's in your phone to apply for online visa to Kenya.

**Archdiocese of Nairobi Clergy Home Welcomes SFCC Sisters for their 2023 International Assembly July 12-17**

**2023 INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**REGISTRATION: July 12, 3:00 PM**

**DAILY SCHEDULE – KENYA TIME (starting July 13)**

8:00 AM – BREAKFAST  
 8:30 AM – ORIENTATION AND WELCOME (July 13)  
 9:00 AM – PRESENTATION  
 10:30 AM – TEA BREAK  
 11:00 AM – MASS  
 12:00 PM – LUNCH/ FREE TIME  
 3:00 PM – DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET / TEA BREAK (visit of Archbishop of Nairobi one afternoon)  
 4:00 -7:00 PM- BUSINESS MEETING  
 7:00 PM – SUPPER

8:00 PM- EVENING PRAYER (NECROLOGY on July 13)  
 8:30 PM - SOCIALIZATION

**SPEAKERS- 9:00 -10:30 AM****THEME: “THAT ALL MAY BE ONE”**

1. AFRICA- Priscilla Kyarisiima, SFCC – July 13<sup>rd</sup>
2. EUROPE *VIRTUAL* – Magdalena Bennasar, SFCC and Carmen Notario, SFCC- July 14<sup>th</sup>
3. AFRICAN/AMERICAN – Francesca Ezeokonkwo, SFCC - July 15<sup>th</sup>
4. USA *VIRTUAL*- Fran Campbell, SFCC- July 16<sup>th</sup>

**LITURGY (ENGLISH MASS) – 11:00 AM- Liturgy from each African country hosting.**

	<u>Country</u>	<u>Homilist</u>
JULY 13 THURSDAY –	ZAMBIA	Bishop David Kamau, Kenya Vicar for Religious
JULY 14 FRIDAY-	UGANDA	Suzann Dunn, SFCC
JULY 15 SATURDAY-	KENYA	Rita Yeasted, SFCC
JULY 16 SUNDAY-	TANZANIA	Margaret Gonsalves, SFCC (Commitment Service/Jubilarians)
JULY 17 MONDAY-	NIGERIA	Carmen Gillick, SFCC (7:00 am Mass)*

Departure after breakfast except those extending their stay for Safari.

JULY 18 TUESDAY – OPTIONAL SAFARI /TOURS

# ICC Report

The ICC's met this May at Cherry Hill at a retreat center. We have done this each year since we were affirmed in 2018 and then when we began in 2019 after the transition year. When we gathered this time we shared regarding who in SFCC has inspired each of us; what from our previous community has been useful to us here as SFCC, and what is a hope/ desire for SFCC as this next year unfolds. Each day we began with Mass and then prayer. We also concluded the day with prayer and rotated who was responsible which gave us life-giving variety.

We spent time looking forward as to how to facilitate a good transfer to the next ICC team. We built upon the transition that Rita Yeasted, SFCC and Roberta Kardell, SFCC provided for us. We also looked ahead to possible ways of connecting during the transition year and possibly coming together at Cherry Hill...obviously time will tell. In general, we would share things that we found good to do, those that did not go so well along with why, and what are things that could be important for the future of the community. Our prayer is that the Spirit will guide the discernment and the transition.

We are looking forward to the International Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya that will be both in person and virtual. The Assembly is a really good opportunity to be enriched by the diversity and unity in the community. We will also have opportunities to expand our awareness of the diversity in the community and the world plus the gifts and challenges this brings.

Our prayer is for the guidance of the Spirit along with the gifts of joy and openness ...that all may be one.



*Submitted by ICC Team:  
Carmen Gillick, Denise Ware,  
Virgie Azcueta*

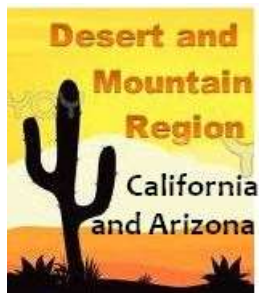


## **A NEW REGION IS BORN!**

The newly formed Coastal Bend Region met for the first

time on Saturday May 6th, in Corpus Christi Texas. Present at the meeting were: Beth Daddio, Suzanne Friedmann, Lydia Plastas and Anne Tiemann We initially were a part of South Central; but decided, because of distance and travel, we would form a new region. Lydia Plastas brought this up at the last South Central meeting and assured the members that we would also meet with the South Central region on occasion. Lydia Plastas will serve as RCC for a period of three years. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 12th and 13th.

We shared a delicious meal together and adjourned our meeting at 4pm happy with our decision to form this new region.



### DAM REGION & SPAIN

The **Dam and Spain** regions met April 22 both in person and via Zoom. Suzanne



Dunn, Jeannette Love, and Rose Miles gathered with Pat Mullen in Pat's home in Phoenix, Arizona. Magda, Fran, Pat Mitchell and Carmen participated through Zoom.

Using two 4 minute videos, Jeannette led us in a listening prayer: through the sound of the breeze, birds and water we contemplated our relation with God through nature.

Suzanne facilitated our spiritual reading reflection/discussion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of *Church of the Wild* (Victoria Loorz) to explore the ways wilderness (nature) and the Holy are connected for each of us. We reflected on our place among all earthly creation, as well as the universe and agreed we needed to be present as a "verb" (in dialog) rather than as a "noun" (dominative and exploitative). Our next shared spiritual reading is *Beyond the Pandemic: Spiritual and Ecological Challenges* (Diramuid O'Murchu)

Our social justice session proved to be inspiring and energizing as we each shared some good news happening in the world. We learned about Women Inspirit, Inc., an organization that focuses on education of young marginalized women in developing nations (**Pat Mullen**), The Technical Institute trade school operated by Marta Nyaga, SFCC (Kenya) that enables young adults in rural Kenya to earn trade certification (**Fran**), **Suzanne** introduced us to *The Optimist Newsletter* that arrives daily via email bringing a variety of positive news to start your day. **Pat Mitchell** reported about the rehabilitation of the natural food source for manatees in Florida. We learned from **Jeannette** about Anita Chitaya, a farmer in Malwai who provides practical solutions to irreversible damage created by climate change to the land and her village. **Rose** closed our session with 2 videos

demonstrating the success of vertical farming and vertical harvesting taking place in the US and Netherlands. Vertical farming is understood to be the most effective answer to the massive erosion and crop destruction resulting from the aggressive weather generated by climate change.

We discussed the several community business items that appeared in the recent ATA:

**Website Request for Special Funds:** we lend our voice to approve these funds because the website is a primary tool of communication, a hub of information both for SFCC members and persons wanting to know more about us. Updated, the site can be used effectively during International Assembly and the place of interregional communication throughout the year.

**Florida Region: (1) designate a central communication tool** (blog, chat, group email) that will post all important news going out to the full SFCC membership: We see the wisdom in this; but remind the community that internet reception is either unstable or not available for many of our members in the Philippines and across Africa. Perhaps a blog within the SFCC website would be a way of uniting us all in having the same source of information. It would be up to the designated person in each region to determine how often the news should be posted. The members who subscribe to the blog would receive news immediately in their emails. Others would access the news by logging into the website.

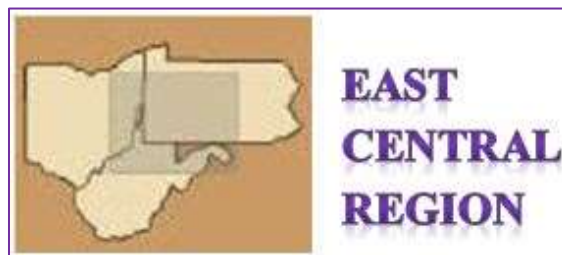
**(2) National Communication Coordinator (NCC):** We do not believe there is a need to create another international service role (NCC) for facilitating communication. The RCC does this at the local level and the ICC Team and Archives get the word out to the full membership. The RCC is always free to

ask for help at the local level. This “recommendation” requires a change of structure and, necessarily, must be designated a formal Proposal.

**Roz Frampton:** The multiple plans to change the structure and process of SFCC submitted by **Roz Frampton (Ruah/UK)** need clarity. We recommend that the website team and archivists be consulted for accuracy and clarity, as well as necessity because these proposals (not recommendation) call for a total redesign of the SFCC structure and process that would not be in alignment with the Profile or our Mission and Vision.

Rose Miles led us in a closing prayer that focused us on the spirit of American indigenous tradition’s perspective of Earth Day.

*Submitted by Fran Campbell*



Several members of the East Central Region met on April 28 to discuss topics and thoughts presented in the ATA. Members discussed the question offered to all regions in the December/January ATA-how do you see SFCC in the next five years? After reading the responses in the article, we discussed the vision of growth, recognition in the Church, retirement from professional activities, taking over the traditional congregations and beginning new apostolates. As a group, our vision is somewhat different. We see the growth of the community in Africa, the Philippines, and India but see it as a flowering of the vision of Lillanna. The rapid growth of SFCC in the United States in the early years

served as a bridge to a new way of living the vowed life, which we recognize as happening now in other countries. In five years, traditional congregations will be obsolete and those looking for a bridge will have found SFCC. SFCC will be the harbinger of what so called religious life will be in the future. It cannot be institutionalized and will be a loosely connected movement of women called by Christ to commit themselves totally to him. In five years, we would expect to see fewer members in the U.S. many beyond time and others at the wisdom age. Members will continue to build Christian community (in the broadest sense of the term Christian) in whatever place they are called to bear witness to simplicity, community, and love. We see that like SFCC in the 1970s, the recent growth of SFCC in other countries, most especially countries in Africa, are laboring something new into existence.

With great respect and humility, we would offer some thoughts from a group which includes a member from the earliest days of the community (Betty Waigand). We invite our new members to be in the time of transition, to let go of the need to be in control. To remember we/you are laboring something new into existence, so avoid the possibilities of returning to an old model. As we grow, let us remember to reflect on our roots. We were born in freedom, so we should be careful to protect that freedom especially as it relates to control by any patriarchal and hierarchical system. The desire to be recognized by bishops and priests begs the question how we see ourselves as Sisters For Christian Community.

The members further discussed the request coming from the SFCC Website for a \$5000 gift from the ATA reserve fund to be used to update the website to meet increasing needs. The members present believe this is a good use of funds sitting dormant and may be instrumental in meeting the need for a better communication system expressed in several recommendations noted in the May/June ATA.

Members sharing these thoughts include Sandra Bevec, Roberta Kardell, Betty Waigand, and Rita Yeasted.



*Submitted by Roberta Kardell*



It was a beautiful, sunny day as the Sisters from the Great Lakes Region gathered on May 27, 2023, at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville, IL, to witness and celebrate the affirmation of their newest member, Gloria McElwain. The SFCCs present were Sisters Nancy Gannon, Monica Sesko, and Mary Potthast. Absent due to health concerns were Sisters Ann Marie Cunningham and Angela Woodworth who had both been Gloria's mentors during her time as an affiliate. Sister Virgie Luchsinger could not be present as she was traveling at that time. The affirmation ceremony took place at the residence so that Sr. Mary could participate and share her wisdom with her sisters.

At the beginning of the ceremony, each sister was invited to say her name and light a small candle as a symbol of the unity that we have in Christ. A candle was lit for each sister who was absent, as well as one in

memory of Sr. Josephine Sincak and all of the SFCCs who have gone ahead of us to eternity. Sr. Monica led us in a lovely prayer service that asked for the blessing and grace of the Holy Spirit on our lives and ministries. Gloria professed her vows and affirmed her commitment to full membership as a Sister For Christian Community, and she took as a symbol of her Covenant a silver ring inscribed with the words, "I am my Beloved, and my Beloved is mine." The sisters sang the Alleluia in welcome of Sr. Gloria, and they concluded the ceremony with a blessing for Gloria's life and the future of her journey in faith. Sr. Nancy and Sr. Monica presented Sr. Gloria with an SFCC lapel pin from her mentor, Sr. Ann Marie, to wear in recognition of her commitment.

Lunch followed with a selection of delicious deli sandwiches and a vegetable platter, and the meal was topped off with a multi-layer chocolate and vanilla cake. The highlight of the luncheon was being able to spend time with each other, and particularly with Sr. Mary, who will be celebrating 101 years of life on June 6. She filled us in on how she has been sharing her faith journey with the residents and staff at St. Patrick's. All who meet her are inspired by her words and the strength that she derives from her relationship with God and the knowledge that she has gained in her years of service in her former community and during her years as an SFCC. We were treated to a short tour of the residence and Sr. Mary's room, and we departed with hugs and the assurance that we would return for another visit in the near future. It truly was a wonderful time of sharing and community, and all were thankful for the love and prayers that were lifted up by our SFCC sisters throughout the world!

*Submitted by Sr. Gloria McIelwain*



*Sr. Gloria reads her Covenant of affirmation*



*Front: Sr. Mary Potthast. Back (l to r): Sr. Nancy Gannon, Sr. Gloria McIelwain, and Sr. Monica Sesko*



#### **MINUTES OF THE LILLANA REGION MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2023**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Damaris Muthusi, Vivianne Akinyi, Mary Wangeci, Florence Mulwa and Maureen Pang'ale. **ABSENT WITH APOLOGY were:** Edel Bahati,

Jacinta Mbatha, Jenniffer Mwende and Vickie Okello.

### **Min. 1: RECOLLECTION:**

On this day, the Lillana Region Members met at Resurrection Garden Karen for a day of Recollection. Fr. Manuele from Zimbabwe currently a student at C.U.E.A, animated the half-day prayer session. We had common lunch together after which we had Mass followed by the meeting-Minutes.

### **2: READING OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Sr. Damaris read the previous Minutes.

Sr. Vivianne confirmed and Sr. Maureen seconded. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **Min 3: ACTIVITY TO PRESENT DURING THE ASSEMBLY:**

Sr. Damaris suggested that we act on the life of Lillana. Members agreed to read the life of Lillana and when we meet in our May meeting, which will be virtual, then we can practice the skit. The acting is meant to be simple, fun, and with a message. There was a request if any sister is gifted in script writing to come up with the script, which will guide the people as they act.

**SR MAUREEN** requested the RCC to issue her with a letter to seek permission for the days she will be attending the Assembly. There being no other business, Sr. Vivianne thanked the Sisters for attending the Recollection that was a way of uniting the Region and having a moment of prayer and reflection together before the start of the Holy Week. The next meeting will be on 27<sup>th</sup> May 4-5pm. The meeting ended with a word of prayer by Sr. Damaris.



*Submitted by Vivianne Akinyi*



*From left to right; Vivianne Akinyi, Maureen Pang'ale, Mary Wangechi, Damaris Muthusi and Florence Mulwa*



**The  
Maranatha  
&  
Namaste  
Regions**

had a joint meeting at Avalon Manor in Waukesha on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Present were Judith Smith, Roberta Zelhofer, Rosella Reinwand, Julie Krueger, Darlene Kanera, Deb Murphy and Elaine Beluschak. Betty Bradley was excused.

Having not been together as a group since October, we took time over coffee and muffins to share out winter stories and experiences and get caught up on each other's lives.



The first topic brought up was the Assembly in Nairobi Kenya. Members from our group have signed up for the Virtual Assembly and are looking forward to the event.

Sister Mary Rose will be the American coordinator to help us keep track of the Assembly happenings.

The two recommendations in the April-May ATA were discussed. Regarding the first recommendation, that there be one dedicated communication site dedicated to SFCC updates, we discussed the cost, our present web site and Rise Up. Money to support this web site was discussed in this group and we understand it will be further discussed at the Assembly. We would like further information on who would design this site and how will it be maintained, including any ongoing costs.

Our question regarding the second recommendation about the creation of a new National Communications Coordinator, was how would this position differ from the present ICC Role. We agree that communication is important as we grow and expand, but we believe we have this communication through our three current ICCs, the website and the ATA.

We ended with a reading of the song “Servant Song – What do You want of me Lord, I am Your song”.

Our next meeting will be July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Avalon.



*Submitted by*

*Deb Murphy and Darlene Kanera*



### **Northern California is back!**

During the 1980s and 90s this was a very active region with 12 members. After many moved out of the area, the region went dormant. Now Virgie Azcueta, Nona Barairo, and Mary Villanueva have reignited the SFCC presence in the San Francisco Bay Area and inland agricultural area. Fran Campbell will participate as a virtual guest thru Zoom. Nona will serve as RCC.

## **PHILIPPINES**



### **LORENZO RUIZ REGION UPDATES**

The region welcomed its new Affiliate, Maria Socorro Rivera fondly called Cora, during the Interregional Assembly in Cagayan de Oro. She was a former member of the Missionaries of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and has been journeying with the sisters for some time, beginning in 2020. She is a member of our virtual Prayer Group since those times. We are also awaiting for the special documents so we can affirm our Lorena Barrot one of these days. The past years we saw two of our members' transition to a better world. We also witnessed the departure of several members who have decided to take another

road in life. We thank them for sharing their life and love in our common journey as SFCCs. Likewise, we are freely letting go of our Virgie to the African continent, and Nona with Mary who will begin their “region” in the City of Angels. To Virgie, thank you for guiding the SFCCs in the Philippines. We pray for a bountiful harvest in your new region. We are further thankful for the recovery of Janet sometime last month, and Cornelia and Nona who missed the assembly in CDO. The latter two were in the hospital these past weeks.

We have resolved to improve our Solidarity Fund by placing it in a cooperative and by encouraging members to give smaller amounts if they are able, to boost our resources.



We also talked about how we will go through with our Becoming Process and the spiritual strengthening /grounding to our commitment as SFCCs. We also decided on having a regular

quarterly meeting through zoom, Messenger or Google Meet.

We are forever grateful to Sr. Fran for her big heart, leading to our participation in the Interregional Assembly.

*Submitted by Connie Jordan*

### **MINDANAO (YESU MARIE REGION)**

First:

Update for the affirmed sisters and affiliates:  
9 affirmed sisters  
2 affiliates

Second:

One of our sister in Yesu Marie was lost. It is Sister Gertrude who passed away last year.

Third:

Some of our sisters are working in Diocese, parishes and schools.

Fourth:

Our communication are only using technology like cellphone, but still having a hard time in communicating with one another, because of the poor signals in our location. But, despite our difficulties and hindrances, we are still able to connect and having regional meeting.

Fifth,

Thank God the interregional meeting was done last April 20-23, 2023. With the help of all the sisters.

Our new RCC now in Yesu Marie region in Mindanao is Shirley Gorospe. She was chosen last April 22, 2023, during our meeting.



Thank you very much especially to our ICC Sr. Virgie, together with other ICC'S, and all SFCC sisters, of course, with Sr. Fran's help.

May God bless us all.

*Submitted by: Janeth Mapa*

### **SAN PEDRO CALUNGSOD REGION**

**Regional Report  
April 24, 2023  
Apple Tree Resort  
Cagayan de Oro City**

#### **Participants:**

Isabelita Bulala, SFCC  
Alma Mangao, SFCC  
Cecilia Vale, SFCC  
Ma. Bernardita S. Mendez, SFCC

#### **Affiliates:**

Ma. Rosell Q. Ente  
Ma. Concepcion G. Pararuan

#### **Inquirer:**

Ma. Ester Suico

The members of the Calungsod Region shared their personal updates about their present status and life situation. Most of them expressed their joy and gratitude to Fran Campbell for her generosity in making the Inter Regional assembly possible for everyone through her financial support. All were happy and excited to see other sisters from the other Regions since this is the first onsite assembly that they have attended after the outbreak of COVID 19 Pandemic.

The RCC, Ma. Bernardita Mendez shared her gratitude to the group for the presence of each one in the said assembly. She also expressed her joy to Isabelita Bulala for accepting the challenge and responsibility as the new RCC for the Calungsod Region. The new Affiliates, Conception and Ma. Rosell and the Inquirer, Ma. Ester were also given the chance to share their thoughts, feelings and experience during the whole assembly. They were happy and inspired to see in person the sisters and the lifestyle of the SFCC and now they are challenged to start a new life with the community. There were four members of the Calungsod region (Erlinda Laniagao, Jesusa Ayeng, Virgilia Lepasana, Ejasmin A. Lucasan, and Josefa Arac) who were not able to attend the assembly because of their individual and personal reasons. Due to lack of time the group decided to just sit down for another onsite or virtual meeting to discuss the possible plan of activities for the region with the new RCC. It was also



announced in the group that there will be two representatives from Calungsod who will be going to Kenya comes July 12-18, 2023 to attend the SFCC International Assembly.

*Submitted by Bernadette Mendez*



*(Left to right) Ma. Rosell Ente, Ma. Ester Suico, Alma Mangao, Isabelita Bulala, Ma. Bernardita Mendez, Ma. Concepcion Pararuan*



*(Left to right) Cecilia Vale, Ma. Rosell Ente, Isabelita Bulala, Ma. Bernardita Mendez*

### **PHILIPPINES INTERREGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Apple Tree Hotel and Resort, April 22, 2023  
Time: 2:02pm

Facilitator: Virginia Azcueta,  
Recorder: Connie Jordan,  
Time Keeper: Bernadette Mendez,  
Evaluator: Shirley Gorospe

The session was opened with a prayer led by Virgie Azcueta. The attendees from the three regions were grouped into four small circles. The meeting started with exchanges of greetings and short friendly talks. Then business was called to order.

First agenda: Wearing of uniform/habit (one color, one style/cut), This proposal was presented by Tess from the Yesu Marie Region. They were given

ten minutes to talk about it. One group agreed to the proposal and to wearing the habit only on special occasions.

The two other groups had the same proposal, with or without the veil. After voting, the resolution was to wear a habit/uniform with the same color, cut/style, with or without the veil as needed.

Then each region's RCC updated the assembly about the situations in their areas. Calungsod Region is with 9 affirmed, with 3 inquirers and 2 who have gone to the Father. They had their Regional Assembly at Naval last Dec 2022 with a side trip to visit Erlinda.

The group was informed about her health status. They have their new RCC with Bing Gorospe. Yesu Marie reported that they have 9 affirmed, 2 affiliates and their new RCC is Flor. Meanwhile, Lorenzo Ruiz Region declared 9 affirmed, 3 affiliates. Two sisters have died and several members have chosen to respond to special callings. Cornelia Santos is recovering from stroke so she was not around during the assembly.

The region plans to improve their solidarity fund.

The next agenda is about the 2023 Kenya International Assembly which will be held on July 13 – 16, 2023. Two members from the Philippines will participate as part of the organizing committee. Virgie recalled the assembly experience in St. Louis, Missouri, wherein the sisters had "hybrid meetings". The same technology will be used in Kenya. Those who will want to join need to send \$75.00 for registration. Total for the entire virtual assembly is \$150.00. *(See registration form in back)*

Third agenda is the proposed hosting of the 2025 International Assembly.

Virgie and Bern suggested this in the last international assembly. Deliberation result: scheduled on July 17 – 20, 2025 with the theme: New Life, New Strength in Mission.

Fourth Agenda, The 2024 International Assembly in USA.

Next Agenda: Solidarity Fund. Each region updated the assembly about their solidarity fund, with resolutions to improve and strengthen this fund.

Sixth Agenda: Becoming Process. Meetings for the affiliates and inquirers is every second Sunday of the month. Documents will be sent to the concerned.

Seventh Agenda, 2024 Inter-regional Assembly. Decision made: Calungsod Region will be the host sometime in April of 2024. A Retreat House is the preferred venue.

The group evaluated the meeting as successful and a learning experience especially with the guidance of the 7-Step Format in Decision Making. Meeting ended with prayers and merienda for the "ever starving" sisters.

*Submitted by Connie Jordan*





On April 29, 2023 Sisters from the WEB Region, together with family and friends, gathered via Zoom to witness the Commitment Ceremony of Lynette Davis which occurred among her Quaker Community in Honolulu HI. Lynn created her service according to the format of a Quaker wedding. The service was deeply spiritual; the sharing “out of worship” filled with joy and an abundance of love for Lynn, recognizing that the day was a response to the call of the Spirit that Lynn so faithfully heeded over many years. The sisters in WEB feel privileged to have been part of Lynn’s journey and welcome Lynn into full membership in SFCC.

Esther Onwunali made her vowed commitment on May 13, 2023 via a ceremony on Zoom with the sisters in the WEB Region. The readings and hymns for the service were chosen by Esther and were very meaningful as Esther renewed the vows she had made 30 years ago in her former community, the Daughters of Divine Love in Nigeria. Esther now vowed to live them according to the Profile of the Sisters for Christian Community. We are happy to welcome Esther as a member of the WEB Region.

After Esther’s Commitment Service, we discussed the issues presented in the April ATA. All agreed that the website is critical to SFCC communication and that gifting \$5000 from the ATA reserve fund is

appropriate use of the funds, that upgrading the website would be a solution to the Florida recommendation concerning better communication. In addressing the Florida recommendation, it was noted that the rationale stated, “each Region/member would accept responsibility for mentoring/informing those who might not be able to access the dedicated line”. We strongly affirm the fact that communication is a regional duty and every member of the region, not just the RCC, is individually responsible for reaching out to the others, especially the elderly and sisters in nursing facilities. The RCC should be made aware of who and where these sisters are residing.

There was a mixed response to the second Florida recommendation. Many felt that it was not necessary to add another service role to our structure, that it is the responsibility of the RCCs to communicate with the ICCs. Caution is to avoid SFCC becoming a bureaucracy. On the other hand, as SFCC becomes more global, the role of ICC becomes more complex. The sisters who volunteer to fill the role of ICC accept the burden of the position while they may have a full life with ministry duties.



We are grateful to Kass for facilitating our Zooms and pray for successful hip surgery on June 6. Our next Zoom will be postponed until June 17, the third Saturday of June.

*Submitted by Alma O’Brien, RCC*



**INQUIRERS**



**INQUIRER  
VICTORIA OKELO  
AYOO**

**LILLANA REGION-  
KENYA**

Born on 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1982 at Kakelo in Homabay County. Victoria has 5 siblings.

Victoria joined Carmelite sisters in 2000 and she left congregation after postulancy because she wanted to continue with her studies.

Victoria guiding principle in life is to live each day at a time giving it her best and doing what she feels is right without being bothered on what the other people will say.

Victoria holds a diploma in education for children with special needs and She is currently teaching at Oyugis Primary school in homabay.

*Submitted by the Africa Archives*



**INQUIRER  
WINFRED  
ONYANGO**

**BAKHITA REGION-  
KENYA**

Born on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 1989 in Homabay County.

Winfred joined Little sisters of St Francis of Asisi in 2011 and she left congregation in 2023 due to her health problem.

Winfred's guiding principle in life is prayer and work while doing to others what she would like to be done to her.

Winfred holds a certificate in P1 and She is currently teaching at Mt. Olive Catholic school, in Sabaki, Athi-River.

*Submitted by the Africa Archives*



**INQUIRER  
MAURINE  
CHEMNUNG  
PANGALE**

**LILLANA REGION-  
KENYA**

Born on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1984 in Kitale, West Pokot County.

Maurine joined the Sisters of the Incarnate Word in 2021 and left as a junior sister due to misunderstanding among the community members.

Maurine guiding principles in her life is honesty, transparency and accountability more so working for excellence.

Maurine holds a diploma in sustainable human development, certificate in social worker and certificate in catechetics. She is currently studying in Tangaza University College. *Submitted by the Africa Archives*

## Affiliates

SFCC Philippines welcomed three new affiliates at the April 22 interregional meeting in Cagayan de Oro: Maria Socorro Rivera of the Manila Region, Maria Concepcion Pararuan and Maria Rosell Ente of Calungsod Region.



**SOCORRO RIVERA**



**CONCON PARARUAN**



**MARIA ROSELL ENTE**

*Submitted by the Asian Archives*

## Affirmed



**GLORIA  
MCIELWAIN**  
**GREAT LAKES  
REGION**

Gloria McIelwain Gloria professed her vows and affirmed her commitment to full membership as a Sister For Christian Community on May 27, 2023, at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville, IL



**LYNETTE DAVIS**  
**WEB REGION**

Lynette Davis affirmed into full vowed membership April 29, 2023 among her Quaker community in Honolulu, HI and via Zoom with family, friends and the WEB Region of which she is a member.



**ESTHER ONWUNALI**  
**WEB REGION**

Esther Onwunali affirmed into full vowed membership on May 13, 2023 via Zoom with the sisters of the WEB Region.

*Submitted by the U.S. Archives*

# Withdrawals



## SFCC WITHDRAWALS

Pauline Mwangi Muthira, SFCC in St. Rita Region in Kenya has informed us that she is withdrawing her membership in SFCC to join the Secular Institute of St. Angela in Vancouver, Canada.

*Submitted by ICC Team*

The following have withdrawn from the Becoming Process:

### In India Region:

Sijji Thomas  
Mariline Sad  
Shanga Tiggi

### In the Philippines' Pedro Calungsod Region:

Gemercia Lucero.

### In Australia:

Kaska Cygan.



Ana Deluco  
337 York Ave.  
Staten island NY 10301

Maria Dowhaniuk  
H: 760-547-1245  
E: [smdsophia77@cox.net](mailto:smdsophia77@cox.net)

Jeana is now in a Nursing Home.  
She has no phone  
Jeana Bodart  
Chapman Place  
3110 E. Coliseum Blvd.  
Apt. 301  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Claire Thomas  
P O Box 82264  
Baton Rouge, LA 79884  
C: 504-451-4463  
[elderlycareservices@gmail.com](mailto:elderlycareservices@gmail.com)



Linda Cox (Midwest Region) will undergo open heart surgery  
**R.I.P., Linda**  
**6/2/2023**

Cornelia Santos of the Manila Region is requesting prayers for her swift recovery from stroke. After staying more than two weeks in the hospital in mid-April, she is now recovering at home and taking medication for other ailments.







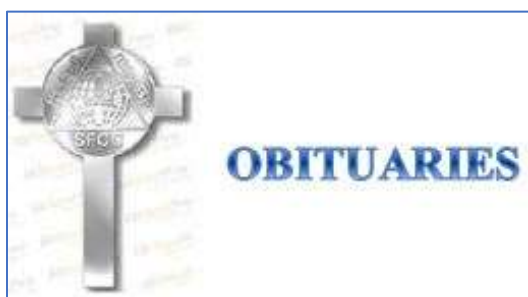
Dear sisters,  
Please pray for Sr. Maggie Smith, SFCC of the MARINYCT Region who is suffering with a "compression fracture of

**the thoracic vertebrae"** She is in her 25 day since this happened and it's been very hard on her and on Sr. Judith who's taking care of her.

Your prayers a very deeply appreciated.'

Thank you,

Marie-Paul Jaston



**SYLVIA HICKS**

**LIFE: 1943-2023**  
**SFCC: 1982-2023**

*"It feels so good to find others who share my vision of religious life, and who dare to be true to what they have found..."*

Sylvia Hicks is one of twelve children born and raised in Canada. She felt called to religious life since she was 12, to medicine since she was 10, and a call to work in Africa since she was 5. Sylvia departed this life on April 15, 2023, having all three dreams fulfilled.

Sylvia served with the Sisters of the Child Jesus for 20 years, "attracted to their spirit of joy and simplicity." She earned a medical degree both as a practitioner and as an anesthesiologist, working as a doctor in the mission of Africa, Liberia, Colombia, Mexico, and across Canada, especially the Northwest Territories. Sylvia also acquired a private pilot's license; frosting on the cake of her adventurous life.

Sylvia joined SFCC in 1982 writing: "It feels so good to find others who share my vision of religious life, and who dare to be true to what they have found. Now I can be truly responsible to the Holy Spirit and to those who cross my path in whatever way. I still feel daring, but with a lot of hope in the company of my courageous sisters, as I feel the strength of truly dedicated Church Women, and am happy to start a new chapter of my life in a new way."

In thinking lovingly of Sylvia as she departed this life in British Columbia, the land of her birth, we say "Mission Accomplished," evermore grateful for the everlasting life she gave to our SFCC sisterhood. Blessed Be Sylvia Hicks.

*Submitted by the U. S. Archives*

**DOMINGA MOSQUEDA**

**LIFE: 1929 -2019**  
**SFCC: 1994 - 2019**

*..."What matters is the intention in the heart. I am now in God's grace with the SFCCs, focusing on a compassionate spirituality in ministry." ...*

Dominga Mosqueda was born and raised in Mexico “immersed in a communitarian lifestyle where you shared with others your home and possessions.” Her religious education was provided at home where “openness and respect toward other denominations” was cultivated throughout her formative years. In 1954, Dominga entered the Ursulines of the Roman Union where she remained for 36 years, serving as a nurse’s aide, hospital chaplain, and prison chaplain. Her ministry also extended to migrant workers in Texas where she met SFCC sisters in the South Central Region, working with Nancy Brosette and Mary Ann Goudin for 10 years before being introduced to Elaine Burroughs who became her mentor in SFCC.

“I felt at home with the SFCCs,” she wrote. “Their way of life reflects what Angela Merici (foundress of the Ursulines) wanted her followers to live out – work to support yourself, living alone or with one or two others. She wanted in no way for her followers to become a canonical group. She insisted vows were vows, whether public or private. What matters is the intention in the heart. I am now in God’s grace with the SFCCs, focusing on a compassionate spirituality in ministry.”

Dominga’s sisters in the South Central Region (TX) lost touch with Dominga when her family moved her into a nursing home near them. This is the unfortunate reason we are only now hearing of her departure from this life four years ago. Even so, we remember Dominga lovingly and with gratitude for the compassionate life she loved and lived in the name of SFCC.

Blessed be our sister Dominga Mosqueda.

*Submitted by U.S. Archives*



**MARIE SEAMAN**

**LIFE: 1942 – 2023**

**SFCC: 1983-2023**

*“...I request that after my death, my friends, family, and the whole Christian Community of my sisters pray for me and rejoice with me because of the mercy and love of God, with whom I will be united for all eternity.”*

Having struggled with brain cancer the past few years, Marie Seaman departed this life on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. News of her death was deeply saddening to all who knew and loved her. Marie was a Kentucky Dominican for 22 years before joining SFCC in 1983.

In receiving a D.Min degree in 1996, Marie’s life was devoted to religious formation. In representing SFCC, Marie ministered as a liturgist, religious education teacher, and pastoral assistant in Kentucky, Illinois, Tennessee, and Colorado.

In SFCC Marie never missed an International Assembly, and was always active in the Koinonia Region. As one who felt blessed to meet Marie at the Assembly in the Netherlands, Teresa Takken writes, “I light a novena candle next to my heart for her now at the sea, so grateful for her in my life and in our community.” All who know and love Marie join in lighting a novena candle next to our hearts in memory of the love that binds us as One.

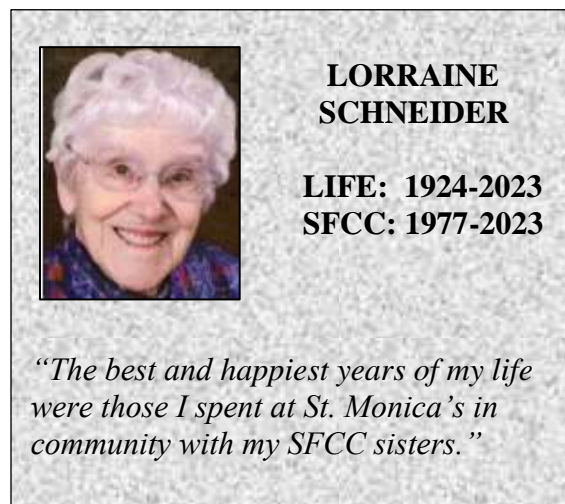
In a written statement of her beliefs written in 1983, as she entered SFCC, Marie concludes with telling us, “Finally, I request that after my death, my friends, family, and

the whole Christian Community of my sisters pray for me and rejoice with me because of the mercy and love of God, with whom I will be united for all eternity.”

We are now called to pray for her and rejoice with her and all our dearly departed sisters, waiting to welcome all of us Home.

Blessed be our sister Marie Seaman.

*Submitted by the U.S. Archives*



Lorraine Schneider, the oldest of seven children, was born and raised in Oregon. In 1941, during her junior year in high school, Lorraine entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Mary. She earned a degree in French from Maryhurst College in Portland, and taught French in area schools until 1972 when she left the Sisters of St. Mary to take care of her father.

From 1975-1993, Lorraine served as an Associate Pastor at St. Monica’s Parish in Coos Bay Oregon. In 1977, she joined SFCC and lived in community with Lillanna Kopp until 2011, always an enthusiastic member of SFCC and active in the Pacific Northwest Region. As Associate Pastor, Lorraine’s most significant contribution to the community at St. Monica’s was a sacramental ministry. She found herself

most at home in the Parish Service Center where she was available to all who called. Besides assisting in bringing sacraments to the sick and elderly, Lorraine worked with religious education coordinators, was leader of the folk group, and officiated at funeral services. Lorraine followed the call to priesthood wherever it led.

Lorraine also distinguished herself as both imaginative and creative in teaching calligraphy. At the encouragement of her colleague and pastor, Fr. John Donin, Lorraine taught calligraphy one night a week, alternating terms between Southwestern Oregon Community College and the Coos Art Museum.

In 1993, after retirement, Lorraine moved to Seattle and became an active volunteer at St. Joseph Parish. When she felt the need for additional care, she requested entrance to St. Joseph Residence in West Seattle, where she enjoyed the opportunity to keep sharing life experiences with other religious women. She departed this life on April 12, 2023 at the age of 98. In a personal statement, written in 2009, Lorraine concluded, “The best and happiest years of my life were those I spent at St. Monica’s in community with my SFCC sisters.”

Blessed be our sister Lorraine Schneider.

*Submitted by the U.S. Archives*





**KATHLEEN  
TERLAU**

**LIFE: 1932-2023**  
**SFCC: 1999-2023**

*Those who know Kathleen best recall her quiet, gentle, and upbeat presence, always kind and generous, with a wealth of intelligence and common sense. She loved to laugh and cherished the people who surrounded her.*

Kathleen Terlau, a treasured member of the Sunbelt and Koinonea regions, departed this life on May 7, 2023 in her hometown of Florence KY. Kathleen was with the Victory Noll Missionary Sisters (IN) for 46 years, leaving in 1997 to join SFCC in 1999, devoting her life as a licensed social worker working tirelessly for the marginalized in society.

For many years, Kathleen and Pat Murphy worked together with the Victory Noll sisters in California and North Carolina, specializing in ministry to the elderly. After they left Victory Noll, they joined SFCC in 1999 and continued working in their ministries. After Pat's death, Kathleen returned to her home in Florence KY where she retired in a Senior Citizens Living Complex.

Kathleen remained in touch with the Victory Noll sisters as well as her friends in SFCC. Those who know Kathleen best recall her quiet, gentle, and upbeat presence, always kind and generous, with a wealth of intelligence and common sense. She loved to laugh and cherished the people who surrounded her. When problems or tensions arose, Kathleen had the unique and rare

talent of finding something positive in what seemed altogether negative.

Former Victory Noll sister, Agnes Rapp Leistic, wrote, "Kathleen has a special place in my heart because when I had a particularly difficult first year in the missions, she encouraged me and lifted my spirit. It made all the difference to me." All who know and love Kathleen remember the endless ways in which she consistently brought joy into this world.

Blessed be our sister Kathleen Terlau.

*Submitted by the U.S. Archives*

*This issue concludes our service role as  
ATA Team.*

*It has been our privilege to serve you.*



Loretta  
Primus

Alma  
O'Brien

Debra  
Murphy

**ATA TEAM**

**Loretta Primus**

**content**

**Alma O'Brien**

**print/ mailing**

**Deb Murphy**

**subscriptions**

[atasfcc@yahoo.com](mailto:atasfcc@yahoo.com)

*The deadline for the next issue of ATA is  
September 30, 2023. With the next issue,  
we hand over the baton to*

***Our new ATA Team:***



**Margaret Gonsalves**

**content**

**Carmela Chetuchi**

**print/ mailing**

**Mary Rose Accettura**

**subscriptions**

## Archive Team



Marta Nyaga

Marta Nyaga, member of the Kenya Region, is the archivist for Africa which includes Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.



Rosa Ocampo

Rosa Ocampo, (Manila Region), will handle Asia encompassing the Philippines, India, Australia, Guam and New Zealand.



Carmen Notario

Carmen Notario (Spain Region) will take care of Europe comprising Continental Europe, England, Ireland and Scotland.



Karol Jackowski

Karol Jackowski (Sophia Circle Region) is archivist for North America, which covers Canada, Central America, Mexico and the United States. She will be our SFCC archive liaison with Avila University.



**REGISTRATION FORM**

**SFCC INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY 2023- JULY 13 TO JULY 18  
CLERGY HOME, NAIROBI KENYA**

Location: Queen of Apostles Seminary, opposite safari park hotel,  
Tel No: +254 707 608331/+254741187716

**(Please check where appropriate)**

- Registration fee at \$50.00 (KES 5500)  
**ACCOMODATIONS includes room, meals, wifi, conference hall**
- Clergy Home (single) \$42.00 (KES 5000.00 per day)
- Clergy Home (double) \$29.00 (KES 3500.00) per day.
- Little Sisters of the Poor Guest / Aspirant House for sleeping only- Donation accepted

**Meals at Clergy Home at \$21 (KES 2500) per day for non-resident**

- Check: Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Food Allergy (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- FREE DAY OPTIONAL SAFARI fee per day at \$160 (KES 19,040)  
Nairobi National Park <http://www.kws.go.ke/parks/nairobi-national-park>

**REGISTRANT INFORMATION**

NAME.....  
 ADDRESS.....  
 CITY.....STATE.....ZIP CODE.....  
 COUNTRY.....PHONE NO.....  
 EMAIL.....  
 ARRIVAL DATE .....DEPARTURE DATE .....AIR/LAND.....

**COMMITMENT SERVICE**

- Affirmation       Affiliation       Jubilarian

**Please send your scanned completed form to: [svirgie@gmail.com](mailto:svirgie@gmail.com) or [akinviviviannechristine@gmail.com](mailto:akinviviviannechristine@gmail.com)**

**Make checks payable to:**

Total (USD) payment to Sr. Virgie Mission Fund,  
 17434 W. Hickory Ln, Grayslake, IL 60030, USA  
 Total (KES) payment to Akinyi V. Christine, Cooperative Bank, Account number  
 01108014821100 swift code: 0003, Kisumu Branch-KENYA-MPESA -724933264

**VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION--2023**

**NAME:** .....

**COUNTRY** ..... **REGION** .....

**Option #1** Attend Whole Assembly **\$150**

**Option #2** Attend Business Meetings Only:  
Collegial Process, Service Role Reports **\$75**

**Email Address /**

**Mobile Number used to Login to Zoom:**

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**Make checks payable to:**

Sisters for Christian Community

**Send completed form and fee to:**

Mary Rose Accetturo, SFCC  
9418 N Green Bay Rd, APT 134  
Milwaukee, WI 53209 USA



SISTERS FOR  
CHRISTIAN  
COMMUNITY

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

21 Merlini Dr., Columbia, PA 17512

Send all content for Volume 54 Issue 1 to [atasfcc@yahoo.com](mailto:atasfcc@yahoo.com) no later than **SEPT. 30, 2023**