



# ALL-TO-ALL

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

SISTERS FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

Volume 53 Issue 4

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THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

Assembly News

Unity in diversity refers to peace and harmony in and among people of diverse cultural, religious beliefs, social statutes and other demographic differences. It is a process of people coming together to work for a better society, despite their individual differences; it is a concept of unity without uniformity and diversity without fragmentation that shifts from unity based on mere tolerance of physical, cultural, linguistic, social, religious, political ideological and psychological differences towards a more complex unity based on an understanding. Intellectual understanding is respecting our differences. It being able to accept our differences, respect and support each other and live by understanding the true meaning of the strength we have in our combined differences.

Unity in diversity maintains peace and

prosperity, efficiency of work even in bad situations and promotes spirit of sisterhood. It is an instrument in resolving problems, when there is acceptance, tolerance, respect and understanding of each individual cultural background. It enhances coordination, relationships, teamwork, quality work, productivity and life style. Not only that but also it benefits human growth in life. If everyone thinks, looks, feels in the same way, there would not be any growth.

Unity in diversity is important for a community because it is very easy to disintegrate with different views and ideologies. Working with different people gives greater exposure and makes one a happier person, as it gives power, strength and courage which is important for survival. Unity in diversity has a biblical sense, such as Paul preached to the Athenians populations, “from one man, God made every nation of the human race that they should inhabit the whole race.” (Acts 17:26) It is within this context of unity that humanity diversity appears.

In John 17:11-19, Jesus gives us his vision for diversity as he prays that the hearts of those who follow him will be as one as he is with the Father.

Our charism is also in line with unity in diversity. In founding SFCC, Lillanna Kopp came up with vision and mission that states

our community spirituality, commitments, values, life style is summed up by the prayer of Jesus, "that all may be one." We are different but one in the Lord as urged by the gospel values. Let us strive that which unites us not divides us.

Columba Thadey, SFCC, RCC Dar es Salaam Region

### 2023 INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

To those who have not sent their registration form, we urge you to do it by April 15th.

Name of your airline, arrival date and time at the Kenyatta International Airport is needed for the organized pick up by sisters in Nairobi. Those who are traveling by bus, your arrival date and time is also needed for coordinating directions to the Clergy Home or to the Little Sisters of the Poor. Please note **arrival date is July 12<sup>th</sup>**. Early arrivals can be a time to rest from long travels.

If you have not sent your Registration fees and venue/meals payments, please pay in Kenya shillings at the scheduled Registration on July 12, 2023. Medical Emergency Forms will be completed at the Registration.

Kenya online visa is required for entering the country with your vaccine card. Remember to dress warmly. It will be winter in Nairobi.

For further questions you may contact- Vivianne Akinyi at whatsapp +254-724-933-264 or at

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Virginia Azcueta at [svirgie@gmail.com](mailto:svirgie@gmail.com), messenger or whatsapp +63-917-882-8683

(Registration form may be found at back of ATA)



## Recommendations

The Florida Region met via Zoom on Tuesday evening, March 28 (Jill Bond, Joan Gabbin, Loretta Morgan, Mary Steves, Phyllis Superfisky) to continue to refine the recommendations which we submitted in the Dec.-Jan. *All to All*. We were excited since this was our first Zoom meeting in quite some time, and we remain very invested in contributing to support the importance of communication for our unique community structure. Our goal was to refine the recommendations in a format to be presented at the business meeting at Assembly 2023.

### Recommendation #1: Communication Sources

**That there be one dedicated communication site dedicated to sharing SFCC updates so that every SFCC has access and the ability to remain informed on community happenings, process, and other pertinent information about developments within and/or affecting SFCC.**

#### RATIONALE:

- knowing and understanding developing issues was one of the most noted community issues at Assembly 2022
- our unique structure has always called for optimizing communication
- collegiality and connectedness in our community needs a common clearly designated communication site to which every SFCC has access in addition to the *All to All* publications
- using developing technology to stay connected is already widespread... having one designated avenue for all does not

preclude the use of other sites of choice; rather, it would assure ongoing updates on developing issues or trends between publications of *All to All*, thus better serving all of us in a timely manner  
 -each Region/member would accept responsibility for mentoring/informing those who might not be able to access the dedicated line

### **Recommendation #2: Communication Coordinators (Networking)**

**That we initiate a new role of National Communications Coordinator in locations as appropriate or needed to optimize communication and support connections in community.**

#### **RATIONALE:**

-our unique structure calls for optimizing communication  
 -at the inception of our community we had an ICC who kept communication going between and among seven Regions; as we grew, we expanded to have two ICCs, and most recently three. Today we have 38 Regions in 21 different nations; we feel it is time to consider this in our flow of communication. Having National Communication Coordinators from the regions would establish a practical link (a conduit) to communicate between the ICCs and the sisters.  
 -this linkage would address the elderring of many of our American sisters as well as our expanding international growth  
 -as we update the Viewbook focusing on our flow of communication seems vital to that process

Clarifiers  
 Florida Region

**FROM UK**—(Presented by Roz Frampton at the Request of Ruah UK Region. Please read Regional Report from Ruah UK for additional information—Pages 19-20).

#### ***Preamble***

At SFCC's core is the desire 'that all may be one' and we value different backgrounds and cultures without allowing geographical boundaries to divide us – unity without uniformity, different expressions, same essence. One of the benefits that has come out of the pandemic has been the increased facility of online communication, which has enabled our virtual community to grow closer.

*Recommendations, including support for recommendations previously provided by others.*

I recommend that the website is the one, central media source for key information. This facilitates efficient and effective communication across regions. Alternative methods of communication should remain for those who cannot access websites or electronic communication, such as email, telephone trees and face to face communication.

I recommend that this website should be a new version, easy to update and allow various types of software to be uploaded (eg PowerPoint presentations, etc). I suggest that the first of February, June and October are identified for regions to check the accuracy of website data and to provide updates where required to reduce data being outdated. (June ensures the Assembly has updated information, with two equally spaced dates during the year.) Whilst the main website is centrally maintained (thank you), named people should be enabled to upload information to specific areas of the website, relevant to their country or agreed areas of focus. The 'ATA' should be placed on this website for the majority, and just

continue to be sent out, as now, to those who cannot access the website.

I recommend that regions link up with regions in other continents at least once each year to build global community. (See the 'organisational examples' sheet designed to provide an even spread across all countries. Regions within each group would need to liaise so that people within all regions were included. It is noted that SFCC accepts personal choice and all would be free to choose not to participate.) This enables the building of unity and global community as SFCC expands, which decreases the risk of gaps growing over time based on geographical boundaries. I recommend that ICCs divide responsibilities within continents, rather than by continent (e.g. two ICCs would each liaise with two regions in one continent with four regions). I recommend that this is also a good time to review our structure to consider whether any alterations would be beneficial as we move forward (eg names, region sizes, website layout, etc) and the accompanying sheets may assist with this process.

*Roz Frampton, with the support of Ruah UK Region.*

*(See pages 20-21 for Regional Report)*

### **SFCC Organisational Option Examples**

There may be value in SFCC linking with other regions in more than one way. Whilst people link within regions, countries, and have 'ad hoc' gatherings, there could be value in linking across countries (similar to different countries/towns being 'twinned'). Two examples are provided below, which show how cross-fertilisation could occur, whilst maintaining two, similar sized groups, each of which could link with one ICC (if two ICC). Each group could be subdivided, whilst including different countries and regions. This way, each ICC links across countries/continents, rather than emphasising geographical differences and potentially growing further apart over the years. This way also enables ICC members to share expertise across boundaries, enhancing cultural awareness, which can increase across countries and within countries, so we learn from each other, even if we express our calling in different ways within our own cultures.

### **Example 1**

Continent	Number of people	Cumulative numbers		Continent	Number of people	Cumulative numbers
North America	188	112		Africa	75	75
				Asia	47	122
				Europe	22	144
				Oceania	4	148
				South America	2	150
				SFCC at large	3	153

Example 2

Regions/ countries	Number of people	Cumulative numbers		Regions	Number of people	Cumulative numbers
Hawaii	2	2		Kenya	36	36
Mexico	2	4		Florida	20	56
El Salvador	1	5		Great Lakes	12	68
Guatemala	1	6		Koinonea	7	75
Canada	5	11		India	6	81
Nigeria	13	24		Calungsod	13	94
Tanzania	13	37		UK (excl NI)	8	102
Uganda	4	41		Australia	1	103
Zambia	4	45		At large	2	105
Ghana	2	47		Maranatha	6	111
Anawim	6	53		Marinyet	15	126
Gulf South	11	64		Sophia Circle	22	148
Great Plains	7	71		WEB	19	167
Desert & Mountain	6	77		Namaste	3	170
Eagle	2	79		Southern	12	182
East Central	5	84		California		
Jubilee	6	90				
San Lorenzo de Manila	16	106				
Benelux (Blgm,Neth, Lx, It)	9	115				
Portugal	1	116				
Spain	2	118				
Ireland (incl NI)	2	120				
New Zealand	1	121				
At large	1	122				
Midwest	10	132				
Michigan	6	138				
Minnesota	1	139				
North California	2	141				
Pacific Northwest	6	147				
Rocky Mountains	5	152				
South Central	12	164				
Sunbelt	7	171				
Yesu Marie	12	183				

**SFCC - overview (+ 3 people at large)****(Taken from website information (Region member listing) on 19/2/23)****AFRICA**

Country	Number of People	Number of Regions	Region/Affirmed	Affiliates	Inquirers
Ghana	2	0	0	0	2
Kenya	38	4	Bakhita 4	4	1
			Emmanuel 5	0	2
			Lillanna 2	4	1
			St Rita 4	7	2
Nigeria	13	1	8 (on course in Belgium 1)	3	2
Tanzania	13	3	Amani 4	3	0
			Furaha 3	1	0
			Dar Es Salaam 2	0	0
Uganda	4	1	4	0	0
Zambia	2	1	2	0	0

**ASIA**

Country	Number of People	Number of Regions	Region/Affirmed	Affiliates	Inquirers
India	6	1	2	1	3
Philippines	42	3	Calungsod 11	1	1
			Manila, San Lorenzo de Manila 13	2	1
			Yesu Marie 8	3	2

**EUROPE**

Country	Number of People	Number of Regions	Region/Affirmed	Affiliates	Inquirers
Belgium	9 (8+1)	1	Benelux 0 (from Nigeria 1)	0	2
Netherlands			1	4 Permanent	0
Luxembourg			0		0
Italy			0		1
Portugal	1	1	1	0	0
Spain	2	1	2	0	0
UK (excluding N Ireland)	8	1	Ruah 4	4	0

## N AMERICA

Country	Number of People	Number of Regions	Region/Affirmed	Affiliates	Inquirers
Canada	6	2	British Columbia 1	0	0
			Northern Lights 5 (Alberta)	0	0
El Salvador ( <i>Central America</i> )	1	Link with 'Web'	1	0	0
Guatemala ( <i>Central America</i> )	1		1	0	0
United States	82	10	Anawim 6 (non-geographical, virtual)	0	0
			Desert and Mountain 6 (Arizona, Nevada, Californian Desert)	0	0
			Eagle 2 (Wisconsin)	0	0
			East Central 5 (Pennsylvania, W Virginia)	1	0
			Florida 19	0	0
			Great Lakes 12 (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa)	0	0
			Great Plains 7 (Nebraska, N and S Dakota, Montana)	0	0
				0	0

			Gulf South 11 (Louisiana)	0	0
			Jubilee (non- geographical, virtual) 6	0	0
			Koinonea 7 (Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)	0	0
			Maranatha 6 (Wisconsin)	0	0
			Marinyct 15 (Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut	0	0
			Midwest 10 (Missouri, Kansas)	0	0
			Michigan 6	0	0
			Minnesota 1	0	2
			Namaste 3 (Wisconsin)	2	1
			Pacific Northwest 6 (Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, Canada)	0	0
				0	0

**SISTERS FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY      INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION**

			Rocky Mountains 5 (Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah)  Sophia Circle 22 (New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania)  South Central 12 (New Mexico, Texas)  Southern California 12  Sunbelt 7 (Alabama, Georgia, N and S Carolina)  WEB 19 (Central America + 2) (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia)	0	1
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### OCEANIA

Country	Number of People	Number of Regions	Region/Affirmed	Affiliates	Inquirers
Australia	1	1	Pacific	1	0
New Zealand	1			1	0
				2	0
Hawaii	2				0

### S AMERICA

Country	Number of People	Number of Regions	Region/Affirmed	Affiliates	Inquirers
Mexico	2	1	2	0	0

**Number of people ranges per region at 19/2/23**

Affirmed: 1 – 22

Affiliates: 0 – 7

Inquirers: 0 – 3

**More Affiliates and/or Inquirers than Affirmed in regions at 19/2/23**

Bakhita, Kenya

Lillanna, Kenya

St Rita, Kenya

India

Benelux (including 4 Permanent Affiliates)

**Further Information and Actions**

I was later made aware of 3 Inquirers (1 Belgium, 2 Netherlands), 2 Permanent Affiliates (Netherlands), and 12 SFCC Friends (2 Germany, 10 Netherlands) but have not included them in the table above as other areas may also have further updates and I needed to have the same cut-off date.

I was informed that there are 9 Affirmed members in the ‘Sunbelt’ region but only 7 are listed so I have only identified 7.

I was informed that ‘WEB’ has 23 Affirmed (I think including 2 from Central America) and 3 Affiliates but, again, only 19+2 (21) Affirmed and 1 Inquirer are identified, so I have recorded the ‘Region’ figures.

I was informed that ‘South Central’ has 11 Affirmed members and 1 Affiliate but as the ‘Region Member and RCC Listing’ page on the website has 12 Affirmed, 2 Affiliate and 1 Inquirer, I have used the website figures.

It may be helpful for everyone to check that their own region’s details are correct, so that information can be updated where appropriate.

I noticed that ‘Pacific Northwest’ region included Canada, although no one from Canada appeared to link with the ‘Pacific Northwest’ region. As Canada had its own regions, I wondered if this was still accurate?

I wasn’t sure if ‘Rhode Island New York’ was one or two areas.

**Frances Smith only one in Mexico – links with Koinonia.**

# ICC Report

As we, **as a community**, are preparing for the International Assembly and the affirmation of a new ICC team, it is evident that **there are many gifts to be received at this time.**

**The reality of being international in membership and scope** can widen the perspective of what is a just human reality, and also what is the gift in the diversity of human reality. This gift invites us to respond internationally, in our local settings and in relationship to one another.

**This international reality also can widen our perspectives in regard to God's activity in the here and now and who God is with and for us without casting away the gifts from other time periods.**

For example, the assembly in Nairobi will have liturgies each day planned by Sisters from different African countries with different cultures. This obviously has the possibility to widen our understanding of God's presence in new ways.

In addition, the international dimension of the community invites us to **ponder more deeply what it means that "all may be one"**. Oneness, obviously, can have great diversity with gifts from this diversity. It also can be an invitation to developing deeper understanding of oneness along with the skills to help it take place

**We obviously live in both exciting and demanding times.** May the Spirit guide us to receive the gifts of this time and be empowered to respond with love to the needs of the times in which we live. **Come Holy Spirit....fill us, guide us and empower us.**



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



## SFCC WEBSITE REQUEST

Since 2015, when the current website was created, the annual distribution from the ATA has provided enough funds to cover the annual costs of maintaining the site.

Since 2020 the website has become the primary point of first contact for new Inquirers. 95% of all new Inquirers have been connected with a local SFCC region through the website.

The website is also used as part of the Becoming Process mentoring, referring Inquirers and Affiliates to past Assembly documents and presentations, SFCC articles that appear in *Global Sisters Report*, and Lillanna Kopp's *Sudden Spring*. Now, the website needs redesign and major updating to meet present and future needs.

The website needs more space or bandwidth. The current website cannot accommodate any additional content, such as articles or additions to the community directory. Needed also are a multi-language translation tool, social media tools, such as YouTube, video, livestream, and a chat board. A priority is a strong security tool that protects the Member Section, especially the online member directory.

Unfortunately, current website is no longer able to support our specific needs as an international religious community. A move to a different web host and updated design platform is imperative. Without these changes, the current website will grow increasingly less functional.

During the past several months, Fran Campbell, Rose Miles and Pat Mitchell have been investigating design platforms, web host companies, as well as communicating with web designers who work with religious communities. As a result, we report to you that the estimated cost to move the website and redesign it is \$4500

For all the reasons above, the Website Team requests a one time gift of \$5000 from the ATA reserve fund. This would be a gift, not a loan. The ATA Team has responded that giving the \$5000 to the website will not impact the production and mailing of the ATA newsletter.

Please discuss in your region the release of emergency funds for the website. Send your comments to the ATA. Community approval of the funds will be determined at this year's assembly in Kenya.



*Submitted by Fran Campbell, Rose Miles and Pat Mitchell*



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**Bakhita  
Region,  
Kenya**

It was a joyful day when members of Bakhita Region convened at Mwangaza Jesuit Centre on February 11 2023 after rescheduling their meeting twice in order to

allow sisters to travel home and join family members for Christmas. The following sisters attended the February meeting; Nancy Onger (affirmed), Jacqueline Kiio (affirmed), Tabitha Kariuki (affiliate), Felister Mukui (affiliate) Eunice Anyango (affiliate), Jane Kimathi (affiliate) and Winnie Achieng (inquirer). There were also three apologies from Christine Mugure, Milcah Ngolo and Agnes Likung.

We started the meeting by introduction and sharing of past and current experiences and it was heart-wrenching to hear what some sisters went through in their former congregations and events that led them to make hard decisions to leave the place they had called home for many years. St. Paul's letter to the Romans 8:28 tells us that "all things work for the good of those who love him, who have been called to his purpose". These words of St Paul to the Romans kept resonating among us throughout our sharings and have been a source of inspiration and strength for many sisters.

Our next agenda was on policies and this was suggested by one member. We realised that we needed written guidelines to help us plan and manage our gatherings especially on frequency of meetings, quorum, who will be chairing and writing minutes etc. The draft document is almost ready and will be availed to members for approval in our next meeting.

We also looked closely at the forthcoming international assembly and we all agreed to start preparing for presentations for the social evenings.

In March 11 2023, Bakhita Region met again at the same venue and as usual we spent the morning hours in prayer and personal reflection. The affirmed sisters carried along the viewbook since our agenda that day was on **Becoming Process**. The Kenyan sisters have been keen on making sure that new affiliates complete the minimum 1 year

period set aside for affiliates in the becoming process and that they complete all the requirements as stated in the viewbook before affirmation. In light of this, members read through and deliberated on the becoming process from the viewbook. Although the viewbook clearly states that the length of the affiliation stage will differ according to affiliates background, needs and circumstances, we were all in agreement that affiliates who will not have completed the process in July will not be eligible for affirmation. The roles of mentors in this stage were also emphasised and all affiliates shared that they were getting along well with their mentors.

Still on the becoming process, affiliates were informed that they will be required to attach two recommendation letters from people who know them well and these people comprise of spiritual directors, supervisors from their work place, parish priests or moderators of small Christian community. We also went through the inquiry stage and topics to be covered in this stage.

The region picked Felister Mukui (affiliate) as their secretary for a period of 1 year. She will be taking minutes during our meetings and sending to members one week to our meetings. We also reviewed the draft policy document and requested the secretary to make the recommended amendments. Our next meeting will be in April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 at Mwangaza Jesuit Centre.

*Submitted by Jacqueline Kiia*

*(Photo on next page)*



*From left to right: Winnie Achieng, Eunice Anyango, Jacqueline Kii, Jane Kimathi, Felister Mukui and Tabitha Kariuki*

### **LILLANNA REGION**

Minutes of the meeting held physically on 28th January 2023 at Jamaa hospital at 2pm. The members present were; Maureen Pangale, Jacinta Mbatha, Mary Wangeci, Florence Mulwa, Philomena Edel Bahati and Vivianne Akinyi. Absent with apologies were, Damaris Muthusi and Jennifer Mwendu. Agenda of the meeting were; Wellbeing of members, the becoming process, Suggestions of any activity to be presented during the international Assembly and Retreat/Recollection.

Our physical meeting started at 2pm with a word of prayer by our affiliate Sr. Jacinta Mbatha. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Sr. Maureen Pangale and confirmed as true recording by all the sisters present at the physical meeting. Each sister briefly described her background, challenges they face each day and how they embrace SFCC both in their lifestyle and at their various mission.

The major issue highlighted was to live an amicable life together and to be united as women of prayer, hope and faith by supporting each other in any way we can.

We discussed a bit of the becoming process to create awareness for the sisters to fully understand what it entails, several questions arose especially on issues such as when sister becomes sick, what will happen? The sisters were encouraged to understand the fourth vow of self-supporting, they were encouraged to embrace planning and saving for their future so that they are in a position to embrace any calamity that may arise in their lives.

The affiliates requested if they can be affirmed in July during the International Assembly, even though they will not be one-year-old. This was to be communicated after consultations.

Our inquirer also requested if she can become an affiliate and the answer was to be communicated after consultation.

Another question arose which was whether a sister can join diocesan groups in her parish and the answer was yes if a sister wish. The sisters also requested for prayers in all their plans.

The sisters agreed that they will come up with different ideas on a performance to be done during the International Assembly. This will be discussed in the next meeting. Recollection/Retreat here the Sisters agreed to go for a recollection on 1st April, 2023. The venue and time will be discussed in the next meeting. The members agreed that the next meeting will be virtual and it will be held on 4th March, 2023 at 5pm. There being no any other business, the meeting ended at 5pm after having a cup of tea and mandazi prepared by our host Jacinta Mbatha and Edel Bahati. Thereafter Jacinta Mbatha closed with a word of prayer.

*Submitted by Vivianne Akinyi.*

*(Photo on next page)*



(Left to Right: Vivianne Akinyi, Maureen Pang'ale, Edel Bahati, Jacinta Mbatha, Mary Wangeci and Florence Mulwa)

### ST. RITA REPORT

St. Rita region had Recollection Day on 24th & 25th March 2023 Members Present were as follow: -

1. Sr Marta Nyaga RCC
2. Sr. Christine Chesiror
3. Sr. Pauline Mwangi
4. Sr. Rose Clare
5. Theresa Musembi
6. Rachel Njagi
7. Rosemary Irima
8. Margret Aringo

The sisters arrived on the 24th evening and after refreshing up and having a cup of tea, they had social sharing of their different experiences. After supper, the sisters met to make the plans for the year, which included the activities and responsibilities during the International Assembly, home visitation for at least two sisters per year.

On the Saturday after breakfast, the sisters had recollection guided by Father Meshack. The Theme of reflection was **consecrated life in the Spirit of Synodality** which is anchored in the word of God and prayer.

### The word of God

The reflection centered on the following points.

1. The word helps us understand right from wrong as we face choices every day of our life
2. The word of God teaches us meaning of obedience, to live of
3. We need God's word to guide our steps (light/lamb) for our steps in every place we go.

### Prayer

Prayer is a way of attuning ourselves to the idea of God. Connecting with God who is always available to listens and loves us. He concluded by saying that we should remember that people can easily see what we do on the outside, but are unable to see the struggles we undergo on the inside. Therefore, we need happiness to bridge this dichotomy. Happiness is the means to accomplish everything. The tool for happiness is being calm (still), reduce vibration and act lovingly which means vibrating with control. After the reflection, the sisters had the opportunity to go for confession, which was followed by mass, where Rosemary Irima Njiru made her Affiliation covenant. After mass, the sisters had lunch, small celebration for Rosemary and at 3:00pm the sisters left at their own pleasure.

*Submitted by Sr. Marta Nyaga RCC*





### **NIGERIA REGION – NOV 26 – DEC 3.**

The Nigeria Region converged at Bishop James Moynagh Pastoral Center, Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State for retreat and regional meeting; the region is expected to be present to enjoy the graceful moment with the Lord and one another. The Affirmed Sisters Antoinette Onemena, Mary Balogun, Rose Bako, Gertrude Bassey, arrived on Nov 26 for planning meeting. While Theresa Maiyamma, Agwom Akare Lucy, Bernadette Sampson, Nantap Tani Dafur, arrived on Nov 27 evening and Gloria Agada arrived on November 28 for three days retreat to pray together as a region, and for the affiliates to prepare for Affirmation. The Nigeria Region clocks one-year-old in December. This was a great and remarkable anniversary. The Region paused to give thanks to God and all who contributed for the takeoff of this great region. Thank you, Fran Campbell, and Virgie Azcueta. We are blessed with 6 Affirmed, 3 Affiliates, and 2 Inquiries. This is a sign of brighter future. A special thanks goes to Fran Campbell, who stands firmly with the young Region to encourage her growth. We thank all our mentors and their commitment.



The theme of our meeting this year was “You Are the Light of the WORLD” presented by Gertrude Bassey, SFCC. Other presentations included Sr. Thea Bowman’s Video Clip, “Decision Making Within Associations of Lay Faithful in the Local Church (Can. 328)”, by Mary Balogun, SFCC, and “The New Religious Life”, Lillianna Kopp’s vision and dream by Gertrude Bassey SFCC. Self-forgiveness by Gertrude Bassey SFCC. On Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> the Nigeria Region joyfully honored the invitation of the Diocese of Uyo, Most Rev. John Ebebe Ayah, presented in his office for a brief meeting. The bishop welcomed the Region with open arms. He encouraged the region to have a project, for skill acquisition for the young boys and girls. He assured that he will intimated the Catholic Bishop Conference of Nigeria (CBCN) about the presence of the Sisters For Christian Community in the country. Commitment Liturgy of 2 and Affiliation Covenant of 3. The Celebration went well. Evening together was fun, traditional dancing, cutting of cake, assorted drinks. Business Meeting: The Region discussed on the need of short-term goals and long-term goals. The short-term goal includes the purchase of the land and the long-term goal to initiate a project to help the young adults who are out of school. We discussed about attending the international conference in Nairobi, Kenya.



*Submitted by Gertrude Bassey, Nigeria Region RCC (Editor’s apology for omission from last issue).*

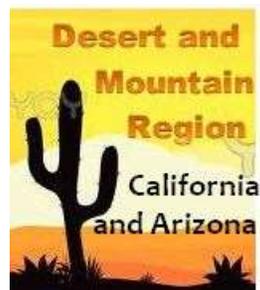
Affirmation and Affiliation celebration. From the left: Onemena Antoinette, Nantap Dafur, Okoro Nneka Gertrude, Bernadette Sampson, Mary Balogun, Gertrude Bassey, Rose Bako, Agwom Akare Lucy, Theresa Maiyamma, Pauline Famoriyo, Gloria Agada



*SFCC with Bishop of Uyo front office: From the right: Agwom Akare Lucy, Gloria Agada, Nantap Dafur, Onemena Antoinette, Rose Bako, Okoro Nneka Gertrude, Most Rev. John Ebebe Ayah, Gertrude Bassey, Mary Balogun, Theresa Maiyamma, Bernadette Sampson, and Pauline Famoriyo*



*Two Aaffirmed SFCC and Three New Affiliates (A) celebration.  
Left: Gloria Agada, SFCC, Bernadette Sampson (A), Theresa Maiyamma, SFCC, Nantap Dafur (A), and Agwom Akare Lucy (A).*



## DAM AND SPAIN Regions



*from top left to right: Magda Bennasar, Fran Campbell, Suzanne Dunn, Jeannette Love, Rose Miles, Pat*

*Mitchell, Pat Mullen and Carmen Notario Suzanne Dunn, Jeannette Love, Rose Miles Pat Mitchell and Pat Mullen joined Fran Campbell at her home February 9-12. February 10 was community day spent exploring the desert trails at the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument.*

*February 11 Magda Bennasar (Spain) and Carmen Notario (Spain) joined the gathering through Zoom. Carmen shared that she will begin writing articles in Spanish for *Global Sisters Report*.*

*Opening prayer on interconnectedness of all creation (adapted from *Prayers for Progressive Christians*, Michael Morwood)*

was led by Pat Mitchell.

We followed with discussion about the two groups which have volunteered to serve as the next ICC team. We are especially encouraged by the team that includes a member from the Philippines (Asia) and Africa, thus reflecting the full international nature of SFCC presently.

From here we turned to our shared spiritual reading: *Church of the Wild*. Author, Victoria Loorz, served as pastor of what she calls “indoor churches” for several years before embarking on a new sacred work. It was an experiment to develop spiritual practices of communal conversation with the natural world that includes Taize chanting, meditation and interpersonal sharing. It is a reconnection of nature and spirit, church and wild, a love embodied by Jesus in the Gospels.

Suzanne facilitated a deep sharing among us as we pondered secret and magical places that prompted our first prayer as children.

We spoke about what upsets us when we see what’s happen to the natural world. And we took another look at wilderness where it is mentioned in Isaiah 40:3 “A voice cries out, ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert the highway for our God.’

At this point, Magda and Carmen left the gathering because it was 9 pm in Spain!

After lunch break, Jeannette focused us on the social justice topic as developed in *See No Stranger* (Valerie Kaur). This was our final session exploring Kaur’s program to reimagine a better world. We looked at the process of deep meditative breathing that creates space in our body, mind and spirit in order to think, feel and see differently. We each reflected on where the deepest wisdom resides in our body, as well as the initial source of that wisdom.

Conscious breathing takes us through the transition where we catch a glimpse of what emerges into the space we have opened up. It is there we experience the joy of what can be: of charting the certain path towards a society where equality, justice and tolerance prevail. A society where we see no stranger.

We ended our reflection with the possibility of a new path for each of us. Our next social justice topic: what gives us hope in the midst of national and global violent negativity? Pat Mullen led us in the closing prayer, which took inspiration from Valerie Kaur’s address at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

*Submitted by Fran Campbell*



### **February Zoom meeting**

Present on the phone or on zoom were Carmen Gillick, Fran Smith, Patsy Guyton, Rachel Richards, Marie Seaman, and Kathleen Terlau. Trying to connect but not successful was Jeanne Tighe. Rachel and Patsy respectively had the opening and closing prayers.

Each person shared something about her life. Marie’s radiation therapy is making her very weak. She also took a bad fall due to an icy street. Patsy and Kathleen are struggling with their knees. Rachel shared that she has opened her home for prayer meetings. Kathleen loves sharing with the other residents, her scooter helping her get around. Fran was assured prayers for safety as the gangs continue to fight in the area.

Carmen helped us focus on the question of what we would like to see happen at the Kenyan assembly and what the focus should be.

Communication and understanding different cultures was mentioned as vital in order to form community. Africa seems to be at the forefront of our moving forward as a community, so finding ways to communicate and getting to know each other is vital. That all may be one is the goal.

### March Zoom Regional meeting

Five of us were able to connect for the meeting: Carmen Gillick, Patsy Guyton, Rachel Richards, Marie Seaman and Fran Smith. Kathleen Terlau and Jeanne Tighe couldn't be present. Those present shared something about their present life situation and the blessings they had received.

Marie was sitting in the dark using a flashlight, as the wind and rains had left thousands without power. She has had to make some important decisions about what cancer therapy to have at this time.

Patsy has found the danielfest diet a good one for her.

Rachel is dealing with health problems and recently needed to call EMT for help when she fell.

Carmen is pleased to have more people for spiritual direction. She appreciated a New Testament course at which she was able to assist. She had also been praying for more peer friends and that prayer was answered. Fran said the area was still plagued with cartel fighting and problems with the drug fentanyl. The high school had to close one day when three girls were selling the drug at the school. Fran misses having peers to visit in person.

There was a short discussion about how to list our region. It was suggested that just calling us Koinonia seemed sufficient.

Finding a time when all of us could meet took some doing, as we are in different time zones. Next meeting is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>. In April, all will connect by email, phone, or send a card.



*Submitted by Fran Smith*



### Report from Ruah UK Region

We meet at least once a month on

Zoom. Meetings so far in 2023 have been attended by our four affirmed members: Agnes Miller, Roz Frampton, Mary McCullough and Stephanie Hartas, and by our four affiliates: Onyinye Uwakwe, Esther Iheme, Patricia Irogementi and Lilian Ehidiemhen.

During recent meetings we have completed the SFCC PowerPoints which we had been sharing with our Inquirers who are now Affiliates.

We discussed the Recommendations put forward by the Florida Region. We are all in favour of all 3 parts of Recommendation 1 but wish to add that if the chosen media is a website then it should be updated, able to take PowerPoints and that each region could have their own area for news etc..

Regarding Recommendation 2, all agreed with Point 1: calling forth 2 ICCs who are steeped in the history and process of the community.

Opinions differed about Point 2: calling forth NCCs from the Philippines and Africa and perhaps for other large areas. Most were

in agreement with having NCCs. Some thought it should just be for areas that needed them, and others thought there should be equality of structure throughout the whole of SFCC. One person remained unconvinced that they were needed or useful. It was generally felt that the roles of NCCs and RCCs were not clear, especially in how they relate to each other.

Regarding Point 3: ICC and NCC to work in tandem to optimise the flow of communication, we would like further clarification on how ICC, NCC and RCC would work together. Some think that NCC would be a very helpful role for large geographical areas where there is a lot of development. In Africa, having a person to help RCCs with introducing and mentoring Inquirers seems to have worked very well. One person questioned how it would help communication to add another layer into the mix.

We are all in agreement with Points 4 and 5: to begin the process of clarifying the roles and the resources needed. We noted that the Assembly will see the start of this process rather than the resolution.

We look forward to the Florida region refining their recommendations and the ensuing exploration.

Roz Frampton from our Region shared with us her recommendation, which she is putting forward in this ATA. We acknowledged the enormous amount of work Roz has put into this and most support it while others have reservations. As she has done all the background work, we agreed that she should submit it as her personal Recommendation rather than from the Region.

We had a very refreshing meeting reflecting on and sharing what the SFCC Mission Statement means to us. In our most recent meeting, which was planned and facilitated by our Affiliates, we were invited to reflect on, and share, how we, as SFCC,

live out the Gospel Values – another uplifting experience.

Unfortunately, Agnes Miller was unable to attend this latest meeting. Two weeks ago, the day after her ninety-first birthday, she fell as she walked to church. She has broken her clavicle and is now in residential care until she is well enough to look after herself and return home.

Lilian Ehidiamhen was unable to attend the last meeting as she was participating in the 2023 Catholic Social Tradition Conference in Indiana, where she gave a presentation titled 'From Just War to Conflict Prevention'.



We send Easter Blessings to all SFCCs around the world. May the joy and hope of Christ's resurrection be with us always.

*Submitted by Stephanie Hartas*



On Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00-3:00 pm. seven members of Sophia Circle Zoomed in to welcome two new members into our sisterhood. Mary Rose Acceturro, Barbara Ayedlotte, MacCanon Brown, Ana DeLuco, Karol Jackowski, and Imma Tegete, welcomed Johanne Phillips from Montreal and Christine Ugbut from Nigeria, now living in the Bronx. By way of introducing ourselves to the new members, each sister told the story of how they found themselves at home in SFCC, followed by Johanne and Christina telling their story of

how they were led to sisterhood in SFCC. The richness in the stories revealed the divine intervention we all know in reflecting on how we were led into sisterhood with SFCC. Each of us welcomed Johanne and Christina wholeheartedly.

Equally important was our discussion about how Sophia Circle was beginning to feel broken, reflected in the soulful need we feel to find ways to pull ourselves back together again. We were losing touch with one another, missing the ties that bound us so lovingly and joyfully in the past. COVID created a distance we've never known, financial concerns have grown, and health problems make physical gathering more unlikely. In calling upon the holy spirits of all our dearly departed sisters for inspiration, several alternatives were discussed, each of which received unanimous support: getting together more often with sisters who live nearby, continuing more frequent Zoom meetings, sending cards and letters to sisters not able to attend, and who don't use e-mail. All meeting notices will now be sent via e-mail and "snail-mail."

Mary Rose provided an update on a SFCC Facebook Page, suggesting the personal stories shared today as an example of possible posts, and MacCanon proposed a future discussion of our experience of "Aging," putting it on the agenda for the next Zoom meeting. While nothing can replace the fun we had when we were all able to spend weekends in Cherry Hill NJ, we are beginning to envision new ways of holding our Circle together, relying on the hold spirit of our dearly departed sisters to show us the way.

Karol agreed to organize the next Zoom meeting and send e-mail and written notices to all members. In the end were blessed with "Deep Peace."

*Deep peace of the running wave to Us.  
Deep peace of the flowing air to Us.  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to Us.  
Deep peace of the shining stars to Us.  
Deep peace of the gentle night to Us.  
Moon and stars pour their healing light on  
Us*

*Deep peace to Us.*

Deep Peace to all of Us.  
Happy New Year Sisters.

*Submitted by  
Karol Jackowski*



## SPAIN REGION

It was 2019 when Carmen and I made our final commitment to SFCC. Since our geographical situation is not easy for frequent communication or even in order to get to know some of our new sisters, we've been wondering: how, when, what to do to meet more members of our new community?

The unexpected answer came in form of a pandemic that secluded everyone at home. The already paid Assembly with paid plane tickets and hotel was cancelled. The following year, thanks to the huge effort of a group of sisters, we, along with everyone in any corner of the world, could take part in the first online Assembly.

Our beginnings in the community were not easy. Some profound confusion with a group of lay people that began the process of belonging and eventually we weren't sure of where we were going with so little support...

We kept watching and praying and things slowly made sense again, and we were finding our place for us and for our extended community, which at the time was growing: start a community in Spanish, and look for a Region that would welcome us. And we now experience we belong to something that is not only an ideal expressed in a couple of booklets posted on a website.

The Community of Magdala was born to embrace 16 lay, former religious and religious mostly women, some more people inquiring, and the DAM Region continues to welcome the two of us regularly. They make us feel we belong. A mention to the Web Region that consistently invites us to their gatherings has been another way of feeling welcomed. Thank you sisters.

The last piece: we call it Devolution not Revolution (!)

Something was pushing from inside to contact more sisters, to get to know both groups: the very new ones emerging in Africa and the rest in States and other parts of the world.

And, one morning in prayer it came neat and clear: start a **Centering Prayer International Group** with any SFCC that longs for inter-regional communication. So we did, and it worked. And it works.

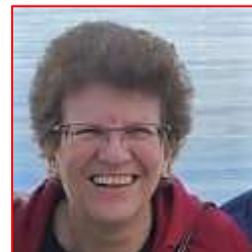
We enjoy the silent sacred time together. The silent prayer without thoughts or religious intentions creates among us an atmosphere of embracing each other, of healing our differences, of Peace.

The final sharing is simple and beautiful, to get to know each other through the sharing of what we do to arrive slowly to the sacred contemplation of who we are.

We thank you sisters for being there, for being so encouraging and present.



Carmen



Magda



Thirteen SFCCs and two affiliates joined in the WEB Zoom on Saturday, February 11, 2023. Since we had celebrated the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life on February 2, we reflected on a reading from *Callings* by John O'Donohue. The sisters and affiliates then shared how they first heard about SFCC and what attracted them to join.

Roberta Winkels recounted her serious dilemma in seeking permanent residency in Guatemala because the renewal application process has changed. The immigration office was demanding a letter from the archdiocese verifying that Roberta is a religious sister in ministry. Because SFCC is non-canonical, does not have a motherhouse, constitutions approved by Rome, etc. – all the trappings that are part of a canonically recognized religious community, the archdiocesan office denied her the letter she needed. Originally, Roberta entered Guatemala as a SSND and up until now, as a SFCC, has had no difficulty renewing her permanent

residency. We promised to support Roberta in prayer and by whatever means we could. In our meeting the following month, Roberta reported that, with the help of the Claretian Fathers, with whom she had worked for 35 years, she was able to get the letter required and was given the documents needed from the Immigration Office.

On March 11, 2023 we again gathered via Zoom and were pleased that Carmen and Magda from Spain and Roz from U.K. joined with us for a discussion of Maggie's article recently published in the NCR on "...Feminism as a breath of fresh air". Most of us agreed that, in Maggie's concept of feminism, a worldview that recognizes the equality and full humanity of all men and women and every being, we are feminists. Many of us did not want to identify with the term, feminist, because the radical element of the movement has created a negative stereotype. But in reality, it is the radical element in any movement that raises awareness of the issues. How the various nuances of feminism have influenced our lives and given us direction provided a stimulating sharing and we were all enriched by it. Before closing, we remembered Veronica Koperski, whose life impacted



many of us, and promised prayer for Kass as she anticipated hip replacement surgery on March 14. Our next Zoom gathering will be in April for Lynn's Commitment Service with her Faith Community.

*Submitted by Alma O'Brien*



## INQUIRERS



**IDDA NDESIMAMA  
KIMARIO**

### **FURAHA REGION-TANZANIA**

Born on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1978 at Rombo Mashati Kilimanjaro . Idda Ndesimama has 10 siblings. Her father is Alojce Ndesimama Kimario and her mother is Maelo Mkenda.

Idda joined the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood in 2007. After 11 years of profession, she was asked to leave the congregation by her superiors.

Idda's guiding principles in life are to serve God and preach Christ word through her mission while prayer being the pillar.

Idda holds a diploma in education and currently teaching at Moshi.



**MAGDALENA  
PATRICK**

**DAR ES SALAAM  
REGION- TANZANIA**

Born on 02/04/1969 Mwanza – Tanzania, Magdalena joined in congregation of the Daughters of Mary. After, she left because of her misunderstanding between her and her superior.

Magdalena’s guiding principle in life is God’s first and hard working.

Magdalena holds a certificate in tailoring and currently she is stitching at Hausang pre and primary school Dar es Salaam Tanzania.



**REGINA  
MEELUBARI KING**  
**NIGERIA REGION**

Born on 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 1996 at Bori, Regina has 4 siblings. Her father is King Tigidam a retired civil servant and her mother is Barine King a farmer.

Regina joined the sisters of the Sacred Mission of Christ in Nnewi Nigeria and after two years she left because the congregation didn’t have the principal, Bishop.

Regina’s guiding principle is that the will of God be done in her life.

Regina holds a Diploma on OND from Wiwa Polytechnic Bori. Currently working St. Peter’s Nursery/Primary School as a supervisor.



**ROSE MAGESSA**  
**DAR ES SALAAM  
REGION-TANZANIA**

Born on 03/10/1968 Geita – Tanzania. Rose has 8 siblings.

Rose joined at the congregation of the Daughter of Mary Tabora- Tanzania and after she left because of her health problems.

Rose’s guiding principle in life is prayer and the love for work.

Rose holds a certificate of primary education and currently working as a bursary at Hau Sung pre and primary school Dar-es Salaam Tanzania



**PAULINE  
MUTISYAIN  
EMMANUEL**  
**KENYA REGION**

Born on 17/11/1992 at Machakos County. Pauline has 7 siblings. Her father is Joseph Mutisya and her mother is Rosemary Nduku both are business people.

Pauline joined the Assumption sisters of Nairobi in 2016 and after 5 years of profession, she left the congregation because she had challenge with the community life. Pauline guiding principles in life is staying fit and healthy, being there for others and leaving according to the needs of time.

Pauline is a P1 teacher and diploma holder in competency-based curriculum, currently teaching at Pope Francis Academy in Archdiocese of Mombasa.



**GRACE  
TUNIHIMBISE  
UGANDA REGION**

Grace is 54 years old.  
Born in Kabale District.

Grace has 5 siblings. Her father is Andrew Baruhuuka and her mother is Maria Goretti.

Grace holds degree in education and currently teaching Christian religious education and history. She is also a principal at Queen of Apostles

*(AFRICAN INQUIRERS--Submitted by the Africa Archives)*



**JENNIFER EZEMA  
BENELUX REGION**

**(Revised from last edition. Revisions are bolded).**

Jennifer Ezema was born on the 29 of December, 1988 in Kaduna. Her former congregation is: Daughters of Divine Love in Enugu, Nigeria.

**Jennifer is the third of nine children**

Presently she works in a resident home (*rusthuis*) in Leuven (Belgium) as a health care giver.

Studies: Advanced Masters in Theology and Religious Studies KULeuven (completed in 2015). Doctorate in Social Psychology, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain 2016-until the present

Master in Conflict and Developmental Studies , University of Ghent, Belgium 2021- until the present.

**Her former congregation is Sisters, Home Visitors of Mary, Detroit Michigan.**



**JOHANNE PHILLIPS  
SOPHIA CIRCLE**

Born in 1964 in Quebec City. Johanne was a youth ministry agent in the Saint-Jean-Longueuil diocese. She was responsible for pastoral care in a college. She has worked in community groups and as a spiritual care worker in hospitals. She is a member of the Christian feminist collective l'autre Parole. She studied theology and completed a doctorate in religious studies. Her research focuses on religious-state relations and their impact on women's equality in the religious field. She is currently working in the health care network.



**INQUIRER  
CHRISTINA UGBUT  
SOPHIA CIRCLE**

My name is Christina Ugbut, and I live in Bayside in Queens, New York. I was born in Nigeria but have lived in the United States since November 2002. I am interested in joining the (S.F.C.C.) Sisters for Christian Communities. The self-supporting, self-governing aspect of your community are some of the forces behind my attraction to your community. I lived a consecrated life as a Handmaid of the Holy Child Jesus, a

traditional religious community, from 1978 to 2013. I have always felt the need to remain a religious, thoroughly equipped for God's work but not in a traditional religious community. I prayed for God's guidance in choosing a religious community where I could be self-supporting. After describing to a friend the kind of religious life I would love to live, she told me about the S.F.C.C., and I quickly went online to check it out. After reading about your community, I thought this was a perfect fit for my dreams.

I work with adults with mental illness at Fountain House, a nonprofit organization in the Lower West Side of Manhattan. I hold a graduate degree in Early Childhood Education/Special Education from St. John's University in New York. I am pursuing an online Ph.D. in Psychology and Mental Health at (N.C.U.) North Central University in California. I am an American citizen. Sometimes my job plus academics can keep me on my toes. My friend, Helen Popoola, S.F.C.C. at the South-Central Region, has been of tremendous help with my journey to the S.F.C.C. God bless her. I hope that this introduction helps you to know me more. It would be my joy to live out my vowed life with your admirable community.

*Sophia Region Candidates submitted by the US Archives*



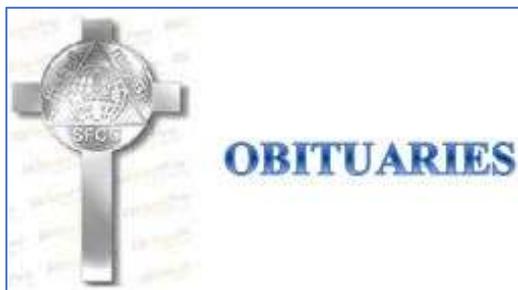
*New Affiliate in Kenya*



**ROSEMARY IRIMA NJIRU**

**ST. RITA REGION-KENYA**

Covenant of Affiliation  
25<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Welcome, Rosemary.



**JO ANN GRADY**

**LIFE: 1932 – 2023**

**SFCC: 2001-2023**

*Jo is one of a growing number of mothers and grandmothers in SFCC who enrich our sisterhood with valuable life experience and spirituality.*

Jo Ann Grady departed this life on January 2, 2023, surrounded by her extended family of children and grandchildren. Jo is one of a growing number of mothers and grandmothers in SFCC who enrich our sisterhood with valuable life experience and spirituality. While she always felt called to religious life, her first vows were to Joseph Grady in 1954, and she spent the next 42 years in marital ministry with him until his death in 1996. Throughout her life she continued her lifelong ministry to her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Jo was born in Tulsa, OK where she was first influenced by the Benedictine Sisters at Marquette School in Tulsa, and further influenced by the Leavenworth Sisters of Charity where she graduated from Saint Mary's College in 1953. After her husband's death, Jo's desire for sisterhood was re-ignited. She moved to Southern California where she worked as a bookkeeper at the Brother Benno Foundation in Oceanside. In 1999 she was accepted as an Oblate of Saint Benedict (for lay persons). She also became affiliated with SFCCs in Southern California, where she was affirmed at the Prince of Peace Abbey on September 22, 2001. In responding to the lifelong call she felt to sisterhood, Jo found traditional communities too exclusive of the family obligations she felt to her family. "SFCC welcomed both."

As Jo neared the end of her life, she moved from California back home to Kansas to be near family. She was blessed to be able to communicate with them until it was time for her to go. We join in celebrating the richness of life Jo brought into our sisterhood, and join her family in gratitude for her now being an angel at our side.

*Submitted by U.S. Archives*



**VERONICA  
KOPERSKI**

**LIFE 1940-2023**

**SFCC 1984-2023**

*Veronica loved baseball, dancing, her Polish heritage, and poetry in all its forms. Perhaps the only thing she loved more than the 1968 World Series winning Detroit Tigers however, was her family.*

Veronica passed peacefully at the age of 82 years old on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, following a cancer diagnosis. She was born in Detroit on August 7, 1940 the daughter of the late Edmund and Alexandria Koperski.

A celebrated author and academic, Veronica served for 12 ½ years as a Felician Sister in Detroit, Michigan. The SFCC Michigan Region welcomed Veronica and remained in contact with her until her passing. In time, Veronica furthered her studies and went on to obtain several advanced academic and ecumenical credentials- SFCC, Ph.D., S.T.D.; Veronica received her BA from Madonna University in Michigan, MA degrees in English Literature and Theology from the University of Notre Dame, an MA in Religious Studies, STL, PhD, and STD degrees from the Catholic University of Louvain, in Belgium. She taught undergraduate and graduate classes at Madonna University, SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, and Barry University and regularly presented papers at national and international meetings.

Her research interests included all areas of the New Testament as well as the Old Testament wisdom literature. Veronica also published a number of poems and her

collected works, writings and other papers can be found in the Sister Veronica Koperski Collection at Barry University in Miami, FL.

Veronica loved baseball, dancing, her Polish heritage, and poetry in all its forms. Perhaps the only thing she loved more than the 1968 World Series winning Detroit Tigers however, was her family.

Veronica leaves behind a large family led by her four dedicated nephews, Rick, Jon, Jason and Jeremy Gabridge, along with their spouses, families and many beloved friends. She will be remembered by fond memories of 'Aunt Ronnie', trips to Belle Isle, crazy hats and a lifelong fondness for the color purple. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Christine Gabridge. She also leaves behind the SFCC sisterhood who welcomed her, loved her, and treasure her as another angel at our side.

*Submitted by the U.S. Archives.*



### **BREAK OPEN THE TOMB**

*Lord of Easter's Promise, I live in faith of the Resurrection, but such is*

*The nature of my faith that so much of me remains entombed.  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my compassion,  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my sense of mercy,  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my humility,  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my humanity,  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my love for my Heavenly Father,  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my sense of joy,  
break open the tomb.*

*Where I've buried my willingness to forgive,  
break open the tomb.*

*Lord, in you I've found a Savior no grave can withstand.*

*Help me to roll away this stone and find the miracle of new life.*

*That I may live more fully in your saving grace. Amen.*





**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

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**(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





THAT ALL MAY BE ONE  
21 Merlini Dr., Columbia, PA 17512

Send all content for Volume 53 Issue 5 to [atasfcc@yahoo.com](mailto:atasfcc@yahoo.com) no later than **MAY 30, 2023**.