



ALL-TO-ALL

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

SISTERSFORCHRISTIANCOMMUNITY

INTERNATIONALCOMMUNICATION

Volume 55 Issue 4

www.sfccinternational.org

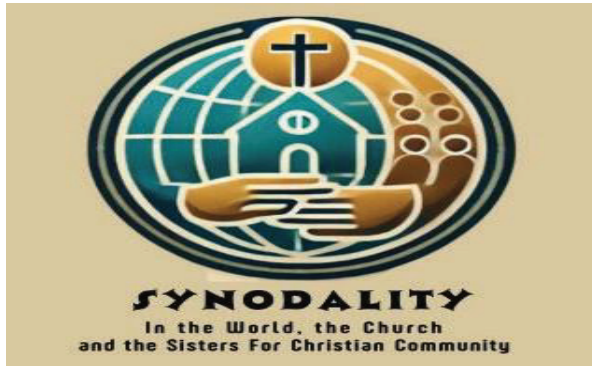
April-May 2025

WELCOME to the SFCC
International Assembly 2026 Manila,
Philippines

CHOICE #2

CABUGAO/ VIGAN, ILOCOS SUR

Contact: Virginia Azcueta (hometown)



TOUR DAYS AFTER ASSEMBLY
January 18-20, 2026 CHOICE
#1- Manila Region Contact:
Precious Gamier

Lawas Seaside Resort BATANGAS



<https://www.tripadvisor.com>

Cost: P10,000 (\$173.00) for transportation,
Tony's House and meals.



Pug-os Beach of...
Facebook



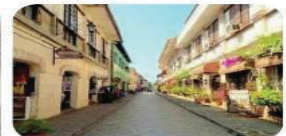
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Tripadvisor



Historic City of Vigan...
UNESCO World Her...



Top 13 Vigan City...
Guide to the Philip...

Cost: transportation P2400 (\$41.00 per person)

Cordillera Beach Resort P2500 (\$43.00 for two). If you are interested, you will need to book your departure from Ninoy International Airport on January 21, 2026 afternoon or evening.

Virtual Registration

Use the same Registration Form just check **VIRTUAL** and send form to Bernadette Mendez - burnarc@yahoo.com



**ASSEMBLY PAYMENTS:**

All payments both for Virtual and Pius XII rooms, meals and Registration Fees must be wired to BDO Cagayan de Oro
 BDO Swift Code: BNORPHMM Account Name: Sr. Florida J. Cadenas Account Number: 002840553712

After you send a wire transfer- you need to email Florida Cadenas – cadenasflorida@yahoo.com so she can verify the sender in the bank deposit and confirmation of deposit will be sent to you.

ASSEMBLY SCHOLARSHIP

The Finance Committee has been receiving application letters from the Philippines, Africa, India for assistance in registration fee, room and meals. We appeal for generous donations made to Sr. Virgie Mission Fund Inc. a tax-exempt non-profit Charity.

Address: 17434 W. Hickory Ln.
 Grayslake, IL 60030 USA

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We signed a contract with The Redpants Gourmet for Catering on January 14-18 breakfast and paid a booking fee of P20,000. 50% will be required in June when we know the number of participants.

Pius XII Hall and rooms requires a 50% deposit on January 3, 2026.

Full payments must be done during the Registration on January 13 starting at 3:00 pm. Assembly Committees continue to meet monthly in zoom as we prepare for the 2026 Assembly.



MABUHAY!

Submitted by: Virgie Azcueta,
 Finance Committee

ICC Report

During the past few months, as we have assumed our role as International Communications Coordinators, we are reminded of *Dilexit Nos*, Pope Francis' encyclical on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Francis reminds us that *the HEART is the center of the human person. It is the "locus of sincerity" that reflects our "true intentions," the "naked truth about ourselves" that encompasses who we really are.*

Reading the articles in ATA and the communications in the various technological platforms, we see the "naked truth" of the Sisters for Christian Community in both their professional lives and their outreach to sisters (and others) needing prayer support. I remember seeing this in person at the 2019 Assembly in the Philippines, when the sisters showed us pictures as they explained their various ministries.

Our hearts are created by Love and for love. Such love is demonstrated first and foremost not in emotions, intentions, theological explanations, or even prayers, but rather "by concrete actions".

One of the areas of SFCC life we, as ICCs, have worked on during our first year is strengthening communication within the community.

The All-to-All continues to be a key resource for hearing from our sisters and learning what is happening around the SFCC world. As we grow globally, we encourage every region to send short articles and pictures to the ATA so we can get to know you.

God continues to bless our community with new members, especially in Africa.



As of last count in Africa, there are 68 affirmed members with 18 in the Becoming Process. [I gathered these numbers from our website.] The RCCs in Zambia, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia are now able to facilitate new members in the Becoming Process. We thank Sr. Virgie for her untiring work in establishing SFCC in this part of the world.



Submitted by Kass Collins ICC



Regional Reports



March 18-20, 2025, we gathered for our annual gathering at Amy John Resort, owned by Bonaventure D'Souza., brother of Sr. Olive D'Souza SFCC

It was unfortunate Shital could not join us, as she is recuperating from the Shoulder surgery. We discussed on various ATA Issues and also discern the possibilities of all four of us attending Philippines Assembly 2026

Submitted by Margaret Gonsalves RCC



REGION

Kentucky and Ohio

Koinonia (KY, IN, OH plus) gathers via zoom the first Friday evening of every month. In February, Rachel Richards, Fran Smith, Patsy Guyton, Mary Jo Meadow, Carmen Gillick, and Debbie Clingsmith came together with Patsy as facilitator.

Jeanne Tighe and Becky Ijeoma weren't able to be with us. Carmen gave an update on Sally Soules who was in hospice at that time and died later in the month.

Fran blessed us with the opening prayer. Our spiritual question was *"What helps you handle stress and hard times."* We gained wisdom from one another. Next, we discussed the power point that each of us had watched on Authority in SFCC with its emphasis on each person having a voice and each voice being of importance. Every other month we do this as part of facilitating the Becoming Process with Debbie.

In the next month Debbie has a phone call with one of the members about the community, power point, and whatever either of them finds useful. Then we shared about our lives with an emphasis on where we experienced blessing. We concluded with confirming roles for our next zoom, sharing prayer intentions, and a sending forth in prayer by Rachel.

Sally Soules, SFCC was buried in Michigan on Tuesday, February 11 am at 11:30 am. We were united in prayer for and with her from our various locations.

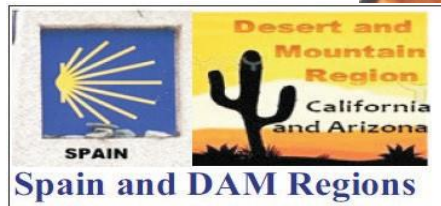
**SISTERSFORCHRISTIANCOMMUNITY**

We gathered on March 7 with Lucy Comer and Mary Ann Wachtel joining us. After introductions about ourselves and ministry we followed our usual format with Carmen facilitating and Patsy leading us in a prayerful prayer of Anima Christi. Our spiritual sharing was *"What are you drawn to this Lent..."* insightful sharing followed. We next shared about our lives with an emphasis on how we experienced help.

Community updates followed with the sharing of prayer intentions.

Mary Jo led us in prayer taken from Hildegard of Bingen emphasizing God's presence in and through nature. We are truly grateful for many blessings in the midst of life's challenges.

Submitted by Carmen Gillick,
SFCC



summary of an assigned chapter. Topics

A family emergency kept Magda and Carmen from participating in the February 8 meeting. Present were DAM Region members Fran Campbell, Suzanne Dunn, Jeannette Love, Rose Miles and Pat Mitchell.

We began with a guided centering meditation facilitated by Suzanne. We focused on: Let not the wailing of the world block our hearing.

Pat Mitchell Led us in our discussion of Hannah Ritchie's *Not the*

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Pat Mitchell Led us in our discussion of Hannah Ritchie's *Not the End of the World, How We can be the First Generation to Build a Sustainable Planet*. Each presented a Ocean Plastics, Overfishing the World's Oceans, Deforestation, Biodiversity, and Climate Change. Ritchie is a data scientist and her primary message is that progress has been made already in each of the major environmental dangers facing the world and human society. Ritchie also emphasizes that progress means positive things have been achieved; while there is still more work to be accomplished and that it must be done soon.

Community business: Jeannette was affirmed as our next RCC. A big thank you to Rose who has served as an able RCC the past several years.

Suzanne guided a closing 4-part meditation focusing on hope within difficult times. The meditation was taken from *The Spirit Wheel* by Steven Charleston, an indigenous elder.

Submitted by Fran Campbell





THE MIDWEST REGION

Although the Midwest Region meets only every six months, it is always a very emotional and a joyful time for us all to gather. We not only greeted each other with huge hugs, but sat and shared how each of us has been doing these last six months.

Before our meeting started we thanked Mary Ann Wachtel (our facilitator) for organizing the agenda, as well as the time for our meeting. We also again thanked Mary Ann Wachtel, who is a resident at Veronica House at the Sarah Community in Saint Louis, Missouri for organizing the meeting room as well as other accommodations in order to enhance a comfortable meeting. Sisters who attended the meeting were: Darlene Boyd, Colleen Calhoun, Cecelia Ann Loomer, Joann Mazzocchio, Elizabeth Miller, Joann Kuchler, and Mary Ann. Those who could not attend the meeting were Pearl Johnson and Laurinda Mayer.

Once our meeting began, Mary Ann led us in a beautiful prayer service which depicted the celebration of Catholic Sisters Week. Our opening song was I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light located in the Song Book, page 523. Mary Ann then requested all to take turns doing the Readings. Cecelia Loomer read the opening prayer and the rest of took turns doing the second reading from Timothy 1:3-7.

After our wonderful time of sharing; it was time for lunch and again it we continued our sharing segment. However once lunch and

sharing were over, we finally had a chance to get down to business. Mary Ann spoke about two very interesting books she found on Amazon, the first is titled: Hidden Mercy by Michael O’Laughlin which depicts the life of our beloved deceased Sister Carol A. Baltosiewich who pioneered in addressing and administering to the Aids crisis in our country. This book along with a letter from Pope Francis concerning Carol’s timeless work with Aids patients will be on display in our SFCC’s Archives. Another key point discussed during the meeting was that second book Mary Ann found on Amazon in which she mentioned a great tool for reading and reflection was by author Matthew Fox. When Mary Ann mentioned Matthew Fox, many of us recognized his writings. The book is titled: Original Blessings-Trump & the Magay-Movement as the Anti-Christ.

The last key component in our meeting concerns when someone as an interest in our Community; what initial steps must be taken to fulfill those requirements. Even though many of us in the Midwest Region have been affiliated with SFCC for quite awhile it was a good idea to refresh those steps. This particular item was part of our agenda and therefore Mary Ann read from an updated book on those steps that go along with the becoming process. There was a brief discussion concerning those steps as well as when the autobiography should be administered.

Before we adjourned to our homes, we discussed when our next meeting date will be, and if all goes well, we decided by consensus it would be October 18th. We then finished with two prayers by Joyce Rupp titled: From the Star in my Heart, and My Journey to Wisdom. We then reflected and shared what it means to be a Sister. Our closing song was titled: The



**SISTERSFORCHRISTIANCOMMUNITY**

Summons located in the Song Book page 391. After the song was over, we all gave hugs and said our sad goodbyes and wished all a safe journey home.

Submitted by: Joann Mazzocchio

**SOUTH NIGERIA REGION**

Region members met December 10 -14 2024. At the Pastoral Centre Uyo in Akawa Ibom State. In attendance were: Gertrude Bassey (RCC.), Mary Modupe Balogun, Onemena Oghenejode, Theresa Maiyamma, Stella Ifeyinwa Chibuoke, Nneka Gertrude Okoro, Sara Abraham Kyiba, and Ngozi Monye. (Inquirer)

Opening prayer by Gertrude Bassey; "GRATITUDE TO GOD" as the theme of our reflection. We reflected on the theme and shared what we were grateful for individually. Gertrude gave a comprehensive reflection on gratitude and encouraged us to remain ever grateful to God in all things. The session closed at 7.pm, to reconvene the next day at 9:30 am. Next day, we reflected on CALL TO BIRTH A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF THE REIGN OF GOD. This was a Power Point prepared by Fran Campbell on the SFCC mission statement found in the Profile; but presented by Mary Balogun on her behalf.

Onemena Oghenejode presented: "TRUE SELF AND FALSE SELF", followed by small groups discussion to larger group. Theresa Maiyamma presented on "HUMILITY THE MOTHER OF ALL VIRTUES", followed by reflection and sharing.

The regions discerned to have two regions

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for the purpose of growth, development, shared responsibility, as well as active participation. We are happy to name the New Regions and their members.

South Nigeria Region: Onemena. A. Oghenejode, as (RCC), Mary Modupe Balogun, Nneka Gertrude Okoro, and Gert Bassey.

Lillianna Kopp Region- Members are: Theresa Maiyamma, RCC, Stella Ifeyinwa Chibuoke, Sarah Abraham Kyiba, and Gert Bassey.



new affirmed: Nneka Okoro (left) and Sarah Abraham

The Region meeting ended with Affirmation of Nneka Gertrude and Sarah Abraham that was officiated by the Bishop of UYO Diocese,



Bishop John Ebebe Ayah.



Submitted by Gert Bassey





The sisters in the WEB Region gathered via Zoom on the feast of St. Josephine Bakhita which is the International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking. This was the focus of our prayer discussion. Several sisters have been very involved in raising awareness of Human Trafficking. Virgie told us of the sisters in Kenya whose ministries are to victims of trafficking and of the danger that Philippinas face if contracted to work in other countries. Janet recommended the app, *Trafficking Cam*, that is directed to uncovering victims in hotel rooms; she also suggested asking the hotel management if they signed the Code of Conduct. Trafficked victims are often too scared to leave their situations to seek help. Lynn recommended the documentary, *Born into Brothels*, that won an Oscar 20 years ago but is still relevant today; it can be found on YouTube. Roberta explained the difference between open and closed work permits: open means workers can move to other employment if their situation is an abusive one; under closed permits that is not possible. We shared a bit about the current crisis in the immigrant communities.

Loretta's parish has two congregations; one is Latino with their own liturgies and activities. The parish has declared all church property a safe place. Two of our Inquirers, Patience and Alice, signed their Affiliation Covenants and were affirmed by the region's Alleluia. On March 8, we celebrated International Women's Day and the beginning of the Lenten Season. Our discussion centered around the question: How creative will I be in interpreting the Lenten practices of Fasting, Prayer and

Almsgiving amid the suffering and chaos that surrounds us?

Among the practices suggested were:

- ❖ Lent this year feels like Cosmic Sadness and it calls for increased prayer, for caring for those around us, asking what we can do for them.
- ❖ Engage in Network's program, *Fasting from Billionaires*.
 - Call our congressional members to express our concerns. Join People's Union National boycott to protest stores that have discontinued DEI.
 - Contribute to organizations that support Democracy.
 - List the people who have helped us become who we are and thank them.
 - Meditate on nature, moving from church to the Cosmic Christ.
 - Renew International is promoting a six-week Lenten program called *Journey of Hope* with recommended actions.
 - Watch less news and social media; seek journalism that speaks truth.
 - Watch local, national and international news to get a wider perspective.
 - As alms, donate fresh produce to food pantries

In light of Pope Francis' recent illness, we responded to the question: What aspects of Francis' tenure have been most meaningful to me? Pope Francis was recognized for his courage in speaking truth to power, for his humility and apologies to people wronged by the church, for his focus on Vatican II

and shifting the emphasis from law to the human person.

The question arose concerning payment for the 2026 assembly. Will there be a source in the U.S. to collect funds and send them to the assembly team? The region followed up on the question later and contacted Deb Murphy who agreed to assume that role.

Notice will be posted in the April ATA.

Submitted by Alma O'Brien RCC





There were times when my hospital colleagues and Ward In charge discouraged me by saying, “why do you have to study at this age?” But with the strong moral support, prayers and encouragement from my SFCC community and friends I overcame the hardships. Juggling with my ongoing education, working full time as a staff nurse, severe financial crises and caring for my bedridden father I managed to come up with flying colours with my Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing with 70%.

Submitted by Rexilla Raymond SFCC



*May this joyful season
of Easter fill your heart
with renewed hope, love,
and peace.*

Remember
Issue-5: June-July 2025 is
the Last Chance to Submit
proposal or recommendation
For Manila Assembly January
2026





Obituary



Sally Soules
Life: 1941-2025
SFCC: 1978-2025

Our sister, Sally Soules “*went Home to the Lord VERY PEACEFULLY on February 3, 2025, at 1:00 am.*” Sister Jean Bodart also writes, “*She literally just slept her way into Heaven. Sally had a lifelong love for angels, and I can imagine the Lord bringing her home surrounded by her angels.*” All who knew and loved Sally can imagine the same.

Sally was born and raised in Michigan where she attended Catholic schools. She worked in the Accident and Health Claim department of an insurance company after high school, and in 1968 joined the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, remaining with them for 9 years, when she left and joined SFCC. In the spirit of SFCC, Sally said she “*needed more freedom to move where the Spirit of God called.*”

She devoted her life to pastoral care and lived her favorite passage from Micah: “*This is all the Lord asks of you: to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God.*” Sister Jean notes “*Sally really lived that in her pastoral ministry, even with strangers in the grocery store oy Dunkin’ Donuts.*” Her initial contact with SFCC was Angelita Fenker, SFCC. Sally was an active member of the Koinonia Region for many years until she went with the splinter region, Anawim, in 2013. We mourn with members of both SFCC regions who suffer the loss of Sally in their lives.

Blessed Be Sally Soules and the gift she is to our sisterhood.

Submitted by Karol Jackowski, Archivist

Blessed Easter to All



REMEMBER

ISSUE 5: June-July
2025 is the
LAST CHANCE
to submit
proposal or
recommendation
for Manila Assembly
January 2026

Address change

Sister Ameline, Theriot, Rm# D-2 Saint Agnes nursing home 606 Latiolais Dr. Breaux Bridge LA 70517	Marlene McDonnell 5300 Grand Meadow Dr. #112 Asbury IA 52002 563-690-7184
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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2026 ASSEMBLY

I recommend, with modifications from the Assembly floor, if any, that the registration fee for future Assemblies include the cost of an outside technology contractor to ensure that sisters joining the Assembly virtually have steady access.

Rationale: There are local companies in the US, EU, Africa and Philippines that have the correct updated equipment, will set up and monitor for reasonable fees for conferences such as ours. Those organizing future Assemblies need to include this as part of their planning and budgeting process.

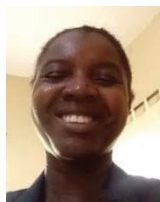
Submitted by Kass Collins, SFCC in consultation with the DAM region.

I recommend, with modifications from the Assembly floor, if any, that regions hold interregional meetings at least once a year.

Rationale: As we look to the future, the annual Assembly will be held in countries that prohibit some of the sisters from attending due to age, the cost of travel and, in some cases, the cost of room and board. Our sisters in Africa and the Philippines have realized the need to meet face-to-face and currently hold annual interregional meetings which allows them to foster/strengthen the sense of community.

Submitted by Kass Collins, SFCC

INQUIRERS:



Philomena Chukwuyelum Onyekweli
South Africa Region
Born on 16th June 1982

Philomena Chukwuyelum Onyekweli joined the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus in 2013 and in 2022 she left the congregation because of the difficulty and challenge of her time.

Philomena Chukwuyelum Onyekweli Guiding principles in life is striving to please God in all that she does. She holds Bachelor of Arts degree in Education in Christian Religious studies, Diploma in Public Administration and Diploma in Customer Relationship Management. She is currently teaching in Capuchin Nursery and Primary School Enugu, Enugu state Nigeria. Freedom to serve God in all ways and witness God even without uniform are her attraction points to SFCC way of life.

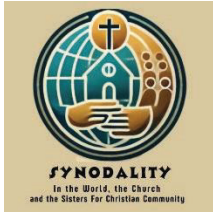


Veronica Thiga
St. Rita Region. -Kenya Born on 1/2/1957 Gatitu parish

Veronica Thiga joined Assumption sisters of Nairobi in 1979 and left in 2014 because she had interest in a boy child which was not a priority to her congregation. Veronica Thiga guiding principles in life is prayer, trust in God and service Veronica Thiga holds certificates in community Development and Agriculture. She is currently in Rehabilitation center for the boy child at Thika landless.

Veronica was attracted to SFCC because there is a freedom to serve God in all ways and witness God even without uniform **Submitted by the SFCC Africa Archivist**



**SYNODALITY: IN THE WORLD, CHURCH, SFCC****INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY - January 14 to 17, 2026
PIUS XII CATHOLIC CENTER**

Location: 1175 United Nations Ave. Paco, Manila 1007 piuscatholiccenter@gmail.com +63-28356-2232

(Please check where appropriate)

☐**Registration Fee - P2800 or \$50.00****REGISTRATION & PAYMENTS-January 13, 2026, 3:00 PM****ACCOMODATIONS PER NIGHT- Friendship Hall 1, Friendship Hall 2**☐

Standard - Double P1050 or \$18.00

Total _____ FH 1☐De Luxe- Double P1100 or \$19, Triple P1400.00 or \$24.00 **Total** _____ FH 1☐

Suite – Single/Double P1500 or \$26.00

Total _____ FH 2☐

Suite – Triple Ph1900 or \$33.00

Total _____ FH 2

Specify Room mates _____, _____

MEALS: Check : Vegetarian ____ Food Allergy (specify) _____

☐Per day Breakfast P200 (\$4.50) Snacks P150 (\$2.70) Lunch P280 (\$5) Supper Ph280 (\$5) **Total** _____☐**Interested in 3 DAYS TOUR- check () BATANGAS, () ILOCOS SUR, () DAVAO**☐**VIRTUAL REGISTRATION – P2800.00 or \$50.00- send form to burnarc@yahoo.com****For VIRTUAL and PIUS XII payments send to Account Name: Sr. Florida J. Cadenas – BDO Account
002840553712 BDO - Swift Code BNORPHMM- BDO CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, PHILIPPINES**

NAME (First) _____ Middle _____ Last _____

ADDRESS (Street) _____ P.O. Box _____

City/Town/County _____ Country _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____ SFCC Region _____

Arrival Date _____ Airline FL _____ Departure Date _____ Airline FL _____

COMMITMENT SERVICE☐

Affirmation

☐

Affiliation Covenant

☐

Jubilarian (25/50/60/70)

SEND SCANNED COMPLETED FORM TO srvirgie@gmail.com



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605 S Main St. Marine City MICHIGAN 48039



Send Information for next issue to atasfcc@yahoo.com no later than **May 30th, 2025**

