



NEWS



Visitation to Germany and France (Province of EUROPE)

April 14 to 29, 2018

Sister Monica Joseph RJM, Superior General, accompanied by Sister M^a Carmen Muñoz RJM General Councilor responsible for the Region of Europe, visited the communities of Germany and France, which belong to the Province of Europe.

The Province of Europe was formed in November 2005 by the union of the Provinces of France, England and the Vice Province of Italy. Communities from 6 different countries form part of it: France, England, Italy, Germany, Lebanon and Syria, in which 5 different languages are spoken. It is a richness but at the same time it is a challenge.

The Province at present has 71 religious of perpetual vows. The average age of the Religious is 76 years.

The present Provincial Government began its mandate on June 4, 2016, for a period of time of 4 years.

The members are:

Provincial Superior	-	Sr. Helen Mary Haigh RJM
Councillor and Bursar	-	Sr. Agnès Maria Schwärzler RJM
Councillor	-	Sr. Josiane Mornal RJM
Councillor	-	Sr. Caterina Laconte RJM replaces the Provincial Superior
Official	-	Sr. Annie Demerjian RJM

We thank Sister Helen Mary and her team for the generous service that they are carrying out in the Province.

The visitation has been a fraternal experience of joy. The communities have received us with a spirit of faith and affection.

Sister Monica had an interview with each one of the religious. We had community meetings and informal encounters during which we shared news of the Congregation.

We visited the different mission fields. What great dedication!

We thank God for the desire that the religious have to give life to the Three Priorities of the 36th General Chapter.

They are intensely living the Bicentenary Year. This year the persons and the groups from different parts of the world which are going to Lyon to visit Claudine are very numerous. The community of Lyon welcomes them with joy. Within a short time the Encounter of the Young will be celebrated in Lyon and later the Symposium also. Many of the young people will also go to Paris. The community of Paris is very happy to be able to receive them and lodge them in the Foyer.

There are many persons who have said that they will go to Fourvière on October 6 to participate in the Eucharistic celebration of Thanksgiving at the end of our Bicentenary.

Germany

In Seelinsgädt, we have a community formed by four religious: Sisters Benigna Hahn (Superior), Gertrudis Minker, Eva Maria Sigfanz and Brigitta Fait.

They carry out the apostolic mission in the Residence "Claudine Thévenet" for elderly persons, which belongs to Caritas. It is a great work carried out in a family environment and with affection.

They are committed in the Parish where they collaborate in the catechesis and in the preparation and animation of the Eucharist.

These days with the community were beautiful days. Language has not been a difficulty because Sister Agnès María Schwarzler accompanied us during the days of the Visitation as interpreter. We thank her very much. The Religious are well inserted in the life of the Congregation, they are joyful and communicative. We had such a great desire to share that at the end we realized that we were speaking without the interpreter. How? We do not know, but we could understand one another.



The photo: the community with the new Bishop of Dresden-Meissen, Monsignor Heinrich Timmerevers. The Bishop celebrated the Eucharist in the Chapel of the Residence, the employees and the residents participated.

France

Communities of France:

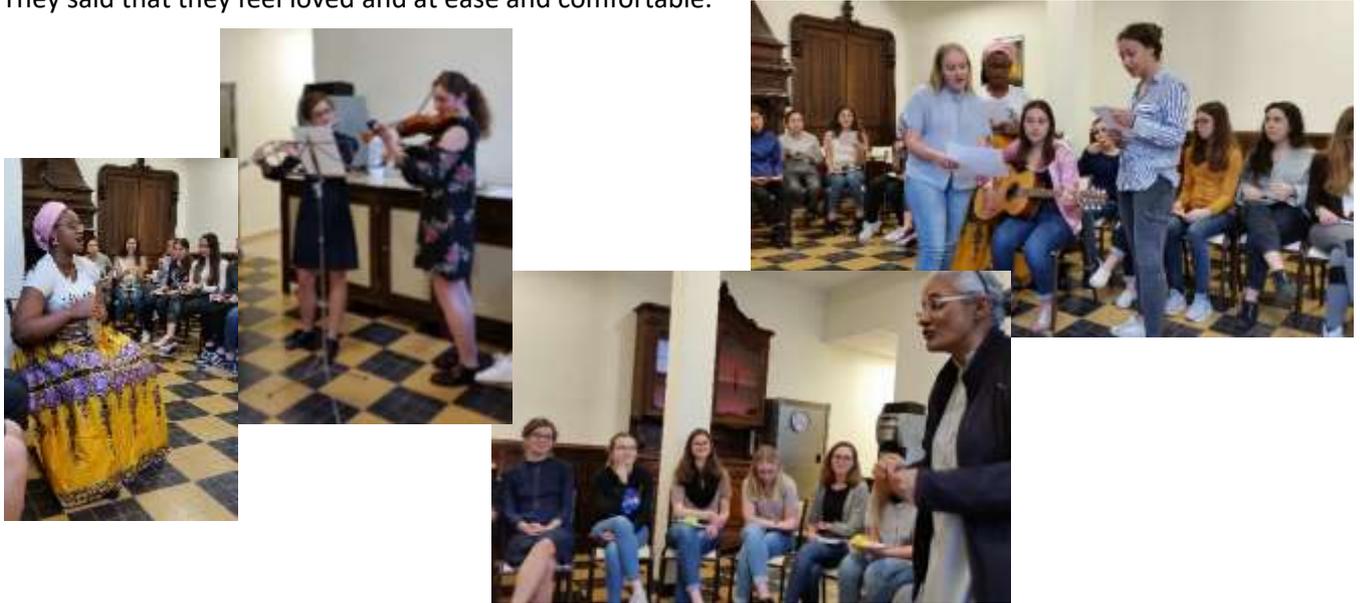
- **Lyon:** is formed by 11 religious
Sisters Aurora Trallero (Superior), Agnès-Maria Schwärzler, Josiane Mornal, François D'Assise François, Marie de L'Annonciation Munier, Philippe Delpas, Judith Mary Cuff, Claudette Lacroix, Jeanne D'arc Parmentier, Claudette Lemyre and Mechtild Pyplatz.
- **París:** formed by 4 religious
Sisters Dominique Weiss (Superior), Susan Foukx, Marie José Françoise and Katherine Medrano
- **Remiremont:** formed by 2 religious
Sisters Marie Thérèse Mouguel (Superior) and Carmen Bañares



Some elderly religious are taken care of in the Infirmary of Lyon, there they receive the care and attention they need. With their prayer and the offering of their sufferings, they fortify and support the life and the apostolate of the Congregation.

An important mission of the Community of Lyon is the welcome and reception of all those who go to the Angelique to visit Saint Claudine; they show and explain to them, with great affection, everything related with her life. The persons from different countries, who are living the experience of her Charism, are many.

In Lyon and in Paris a great apostolic work is carried out in the Foyer for Young girls. The religious take great care to give personal attention to each girl and they facilitate for them an environment of work, closeness and affection. It was a great joy to have been able to share with them their concerns, questions, desires. They said that they feel loved and at ease and comfortable.



In the Schools of Remiremont and Neufchâteau a good formation is offered to the pupils in the different fields of education.

In the year 2016, the Tutelle of the School of Neufchâteau was ceded to the Diocese. This has been a great sacrifice for all the Sisters and in a special way for the community of Neufchâteau which has carried out the mission in the school for many years.



We visited the School of Remiremont, a High School Centre of Saint Joseph and a Lycée of Secondary Education Saint Jeanne d'Arc. They have a boarding school for boys and girls. We had meetings with the Administration Team, the teachers and with several groups of pupils of different levels of education. The Centre is perceived as an environment of peace with a family spirit. The two religious of the community of Remiremont are integrated in the School and maintain a close relationship with the teachers and the personnel. They collaborate in giving some support classes and rendering service in the Library.



Several Religious from the three communities of France collaborate in the pastoral ministry in the Parishes and in some other Institutions. They teach catechism, visit the sick, are responsible for the animation of the Eucharistic celebrations and one is member of the Parish Council.

The AFJM group of Villefranche meets regularly; one religious is responsible for its animation and coordination. The love they express for Saint Claudine is noteworthy and they show great interest in the Congregation.

We met with the former Pupils of our old School of Lyon. They maintain a frequent contact with the community; they have great love for Jesus and Mary. They follow the life of the Congregation with great interest and they get involved in projects on behalf of those in greater need and contribute financially.



During the Bicentenary the **restoration of the Chapel of the Angelique** has been carried out. The work has been completed, only a few small details are missing. It is very beautiful, with much light, it is comfortable, and is handicap friendly.



Very soon, the restoration of the façade of the Chapel will begin; the present 'rosette' window will be changed for another one bearing the JM emblem. It is great joy for the Congregation to have been able to make this dream come true.

*In the name of the General Government,
through the intercession of Mary, our Mother,
of Saint Claudine and Blessed Dina,
we ask for the blessings of God for Jesus and Mary in Germany and France,
for each one of the religious, the communities,
the apostolic mission, the educators, the pupils and the families.*

Praised forever be Jesus and Mary