

## Visitation to the Province of IRELAND, November 2015

Sr. Monica Joseph, RJM, Superior General, accompanied by Sr. Ma. Carmen Muñoz, RJM, General Councilor responsible for Europe, visited the Province of Ireland from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015.



**ireland** is a beautiful country covered by extensive lush green grasslands

where cattle graze peacefully. Water not only surrounds the Island, but the land is knit together with gently flowing rivers and lakes. The countryside evokes a peace and calmness.

Music, art and dance are rooted in the culture and life of the people. This great Celtic tradition is transmitted to the new generations from a young age in the family as well as in school.

## The Religious of JM arrived to Ireland in the year 1912.

In the year 2012 the first centenary was celebrated and a time of thanksgiving

to God was lived - a time of joy and of shared feast in the communities, apostolic works, AFJM, Parishes, and with the friends...

The Province at present has 39 religious. The seven communities are located in the cities of Dublin, Galway, Enniscrone and Crossmolina.

The Provincial Government was named on August 1, 2014 and is formed by the following religious:

Provincial Superior: Sr. Mary Mulrooney RJM - Councilors: Sr. Mary Kelly RJM (replaces the Provincial), Sr. Eileen Devaney RJM and Sr. Bernardette Hallinan RJM; Official—Bursar: Sr. Mary Barret RJM.

#### During these past years some significant events have been lived:

- The celebration of the 50 years of the foundation of the Secondary School of Salerno, Galway, (October 20, 2012), and of the Elementary School "Our Lady's Grove", Dublin, (June 5, 2014).
- The transfer of the Community of Enniscrone to a new house and the handing over of the convent to the school.
- The growth of the Secondary School of Salerno with 12 new classrooms in order to respond to the growing demands.
- The construction of the new Primary School in Dublin, inaugurated on September 1, 2012.
- The sale of the property surrounding Errew House.

The visitation to the Province has been an experience of hope and joy. We participated in the life and enjoyed the encounters with each one of the religious and with the communities. We enjoyed every moment lived in mission.

Sr. Monica RJM met with each one of the sisters.

We had meetings with the Provincial Government and with all the communities.

We also had an encounter with the group of the AFJM of

The Provincial Conference was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015, in Errew House, Dublin, with 28 religious.



#### The Mission:

Our own Schools	Primary	Secondary	Others	Students boys and girls
Jesus and Mary, Galway		1		657
Jesus and Mary, Enniscrone		1	Ed. adults	343
Jesus and Mary, Gortnor Abbey		1		593
Jesus and Mary, Dublin		1		341
Our Lady's Grove, Dublin	1			296
Scoil Ide, Galway	1			426
TOTAL	2	4		2.506

Some religious work in schools which do not belong to the Congregation and are not administered by it.

The religious carry out other works and apostolic activities which include: Diocesan Counselling; Parish pastoral ministry; prayer groups; visits to the poor, the homeless, lonely persons etc.

Some sisters give family counselling, work in marriage tribunals, help as prayer guides and give spiritual direction.

The apostolic zeal is great in the Province from its origin; many religious have dedicated and continue to dedicate their life in mission lands.

The 3 Priorities of the 36<sup>th</sup> General Chapter are very alive in our communities and schools and efforts are made to grow in them.

There is a long tradition to make the pupils aware of the care of the environment and they have been awarded with the prestigious "Green flag".

In the schools there is an environment of serenity, acceptance and family spirit.

Our pupils made us enjoy our stay with their songs, music and Irish dancing. A great variety of instruments played with precision and wonderful steps and pirouettes in the dances.

### **Through the images** we are going to share some such moments:













In behalf of the General Government, through the intercession of Mary our Mother, Saint Claudine and Blessed Dina, we ask Gods blessings upon the Province of Ireland, for each one of the religious, communities, apostolic mission, educators, pupils and families.

# Praised forever be Jesus and Mary