

NEWSLETTER 2

17 June 2019

Dear Sisters around the World,



Greetings once again. We have completed our second week and we continue to thank you for your prayer support.

As you know, *Formation* was one of the Mandates from the General Chapter 2017. This week we discussed the revisions to the Formation Plan that the Formation Commission worked on in 2018. The new Formation Handbook has more detailed information as well as resource material for the formators to use. We are grateful for the great work that was done prior to this week and the cooperation and input from all the formators as well as vocation directresses.

This week we also looked at the Information *From the Desk of the Secretary General* and the *Provincials' Handbook*. We had input on *The Importance and Use of Media, Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)* and *CPS Leadership*. Sr. Monica Mary Ncube, Superior General, challenged us to make our leadership, one which upholds our charism as a lived experience among us all.

On Thursday afternoon, 13 June 2019, we visited our CMM Brothers at St. Paul, Arcen. We had Mass with them followed by a time of interaction, 'high tea', tour of their place which ended with a prayer at their



cemetery. We truly appreciated their warm welcome and hospitality and enjoyed relating with all eight of retired missionaries who have served for a long time in various mission countries.

After two weeks of work, we went to the nearby town of s'Hertogenbosch, a 12th century town, to enjoy an hour long open topped boat tour on the *Binnendieze*, a system of waterways within the city walls. We admired very much the unique architecture as houses were built over the water.



After the historic boat tour we went to the Cathedral of St. John (Sint-Janskathedraal), built on a romanesque Church. The Cathedral is a classic of gothic architecture in the Netherlands, with extensive and rich decorations, and serves as the cathedral for the Bishop of the Diocese of s'Hertogenbosch to which the Motherhouse belongs.



During the restoration until 2010 twenty-five new angel statues were created. The last angel in the series holds a mobile phone and wears jeans. *"The phone has just one button,"* the sculptor said, *"It dials directly to God."* The mobile-using angel had to be first approved by the cathedral's fathers!

For our Eucharistic celebration in the Cathedral we were joined by other faithful who expressed their appreciation for our presence and singing. During his homily the celebrant, Pastor Vincent Blom, emphasized that we are *'ambassadors of Christ'* and we should therefore *"continue to represent Christ in the different countries we serve as Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood"*. Pastor Blom also expressed his appreciation for the work and presence of our Sisters in the Diocesan Seminary during many years. *"Until today,"* he concluded, *"we consider the CPS Sisters as **our** Sisters"*. In procession we moved to the Marian chapel inside the Cathedral dedicated to *Our Lady, the Sweet Mother of s'Hertogenbosch*, an important place of pilgrimage to this day, to sing to Mother Mary and asked her to intercede for us all.



We ended our day with an opportunity to tour the Saturday market in the town. On our way home we thanked the Lord for this eventful day with our evening prayer.

We hope to meet you again in our next Newsletter as we end our meeting.

Yours Sisters at the Provincials' Meeting
Heilig Bloed