

# RNDM Mission Promoters Team



## UK and Ireland

# Newsletter

September 2017

*We commit ourselves to sharing our energies, time and talents for the common good and the well-being of all, promoting the Gospel values of justice, peace, integrity, and freedom (Art 39 RNDM Constitutions)*



Greetings, blessings, and gratitude from your Mission Promotion Team!

Our RNDM Constitutions (above) speak to our hearts as we experience the reality of our world today. During these weeks dedicated to “Season of Creation” (1<sup>st</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October), Christians around the world join in celebrating Creation and considering our role in protecting this shared home of ours. We are now more than ever aware of what happens when climate breakdown occurs on a global scale. As well as Hurricane Irma, we currently have two other hurricanes in the West Atlantic – Jose and Katia -, not to mention the destruction from hurricane Harvey. Forty million people are affected by floods in South Asia, an area without anywhere nearly the same infrastructure or resources to cope, as the richest country on earth. We remember the many victims and huge material loss in Bangladesh, India, and Nepal. The State of Bihar in NE India is immersed by violent floods with an estimated 24 million people affected, mostly from socially excluded and ecumenically poorest communities. Amidst a military campaign in Myanmar’s Rakhine State, the long-persecuted Muslim Rohingya minority fled for their lives, 130,000 to Bangladesh. UN estimates that 160,000 Rohingyas remain stranded without support in the impoverished region. Bangladesh with its own poverty and flooding, cannot cope with this number of migrants. Our thoughts and prayers are with our RNDM Sisters who live and work in India, Bangladesh, and Myanmar, who do what they can to support their people in the midst of this new wave of struggle. World leaders have a huge responsibility and we continue to pray that Gospel values of justice, peace, integrity, and freedom will somehow become an important part of their agenda. Let us join with others through prayer and action as we too do our part to help alleviate suffering in our world.

## Remembering with gratitude

We pay tribute to Veronica Miller, who passed away since our last Team meeting. RIP. Veronica was a valued member of our Mission Promotion Team. We are grateful for the quality of her presence, her generous giving, openness, and sheer goodness. We do miss her. To Eddie, Veronica's husband, Paul/Gemma and family, Kevin/ Debs and Veronica's many friends, we are grateful for the continued support you give us in Veronica's memory.

## Mission Promoters Team Meeting

UK & Ireland Mission promotion Team met at the beginning of September to plan for the coming year. We welcomed Rose Mary Harbinson , Edith Le Riche and Lynda and Peter Waine on to the team. Edith was unable to be present also Lynda and Peter as they are both visiting Bolivia and Peru supporting different projects. They stay with RNDMs in both Countries and we are grateful for the help they give to our mission in Latin America.

## Thank you

The Province Mission Promotion Team expressed gratitude to our many donors for your generosity, support, and prayers over the past year. A significant sum of approximately £8000 was raised in UK & Ireland, for our 2016 Christmas projects, for children with cerebral palsy in Kenya, support for the snakebite clinic in Bihar State India, help with clean drinking water in NE India, and Pre and Post Natal care in Philippines. The Sisters working in the four mission areas express their gratitude and prayer. With the numerous general donations that regularly come to us during the year, from schools, parishes, individuals and groups, we are in a position to support many needy projects in our missions in different parts of the world. Thank you very much and God bless you and your families.

We look forward to receiving the Christmas Projects for this year 2017. We will be in touch when the brochure arrives from our International Office.



## Sponsorship of Children

We are grateful to the families and groups who sponsor children for education.

### **From Myanmar**

**Julia Thel Wai** , studying in grade 4 will be having a final exam in February for the school year of 2016-2017. As she is quite a bright girl, she got a good score in her class that makes her very proud of herself and for the parents. With the support of donations for her school fees, it has been a real help for the parents who earn little. The family assure the donor of their prayers and they send deep gratitude.

### **Maria Noe Noe Sun**

Marie Noe Noe has worked very hard and done well. She will finish Primary School soon and we are happy and grateful that the sponsorship will continue for another two years, to help her get qualifications for a job. Thank you very much from the Sisters in Myanmar and from Maria Noe Noe.

### **From Bangladesh**

*Dear Friends, I am **Diba Martha Rozario**. I read in class one. I go for dance and art class. Recently I performed a dance in a program of Hindu festival. It gave me much joy. I love dance. The sisters are kind to me and I love them. Friends, I love you too. Pray for me, and thank you for your kindness in helping me to go to school.*

**Jasi** is growing fast. In October, she will finish almost four years. She is learning writing and reading alphabets, hopefully she could manage her study from next January. She will go to the school then. She likes very much to go here. She says thank you for helping her to get to school and she will try hard to learn.

**Joy** is now a tall boy. This year he is studying in class one. Joy is good about his study. However, the family is very poor. During the day he stays with us at St. Benedict's and at night goes to his mother. He says thank you for all the help.

### **Digonto**

*Thank you for all the help with my education. I have tried to work hard and to learn. I will be finishing at the end of 2017.*

### **From Kenya**

#### **Stephen Wambua Muthama writes:**

First, I thank God for the gift of life and my Mum. I am glad for the offer of sponsoring me in my education... After my father died Mum took me to a primary school where I pursued my education until class 7. I then went to a parochial school where the Priest paid my fees until class 8... Now at Secondary school I will work hard and be disciplined. Thank you for helping me. . May Almighty God bless you.

Thank you to all who have sponsored and are still sponsoring children. God bless you

## Golden Jubilee Celebration in Kenya

Just one month ago, we celebrated 50 years of RNDM presence in Kenya. As part of the Golden Jubilee celebration, the organisers invited people with whom we have been in contact over the years to share briefly their experience of how knowing the Sisters had affected their lives. Some wrote letter similar to those already quoted above. Most of these ended with words like; “I wouldn’t be here today if it wasn’t for the Sisters” and we, as Sisters, can add to that by saying “ if it wasn’t for you our donors, we couldn’t have given that help”. Thank you for your wonderful generosity in helping our Kenyan mission. Others wrote that the Sisters had taught them to live honourably, to be honest... Such expressions of appreciation are the best Jubilee gifts we could have been given.

## Date to Remember;

World Mission day – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Thank you once again for your continued help, support, and prayer. We are grateful for your partnership and do remember you, your families and friends in our prayers.

*Mary Toner, Rose Mary Harbinson, Mary Higney, Maria McMahon. Liz Hartigan*

UK & Ireland Mission Promotion Team

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If you wish to be part of our RNDM Mission - to receive the Newsletter, hear more about the life and mission of our RNDM Congregation and/or donate, please contact;

**Sister Elizabeth Hartigan, 192 High Street, Wealdstone, Middlesex HA3 7UA**

**Email: [hartiganliz8@gmail.com](mailto:hartiganliz8@gmail.com): Mobile: 07541640043**

**Websites: [www.rndm-ukireland.org](http://www.rndm-ukireland.org); [www.rndm.org](http://www.rndm.org)**

