

JOURNEYING TOGETHER
TOWARDS THE 2025
GENERAL CHAPTER

ELC 2024
NEWSLETTER 3



RELIGIOUS OF
THE SACRED
HEART OF MARY

Enlarged Leadership Council Meeting 2024

Camilla Morteau

We celebrated the days of the Enlarged Leadership Council meeting in Noddfa, Wales. It was a time of much listening, reflection and prayer in preparation for the 2025 General Chapter.

Sisters Cathy Minhoto and Kathleen Kelemen began Tuesday morning (05) by reminding us that “we, Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, women whose lives are centered on Jesus Christ, are sent as disciples on mission, firm in faith, vibrant in hope, rooted in love and united in service”. The day continued with reflections related to the Extended Family, the Institute's Website and the Institute's Structures, with a view to the future.

Wednesday (6) began with a prayer prepared by Sisters Florence Muuka and Coltrida Mooya. Together the sisters prayed that we may continue to grow in Jesus life-giving mission, and during the day, the group developed the ELC 2024 commitments.



Sr. Coltrida Mooya



The meeting also provided the opportunity for beautiful reunions, such as the reunion of sister Paré Moreira, Marie-France Correau, Monica Walsh and Veronica Brand, who made a three-month international formation together in Rome and Beziers in 1979.



Sr. Paré Moreira, Sr. Marie-France Correau, Sr. Monica Walsh and Sr. Veronica Brand



Sr. Ana Luísa Pinto, Sr. Valéria Erneio and Sr. Marie-France Correau



Sr. Kathleen Kelemen and Sr. Breda Byrne



Sr. Florence Muuka and Sr. Cathy Minhoto



Closing remarks

On behalf of the Institute Leadership Team, Sister Margaret Fielding thanked the Area Leaders, Brid Long, the facilitator, translators Lory Rockenbach, Veronica Brand and Mary Jo McElroy, and the Noddfa community and staff.

Very special thanks for the very meaningful liturgies we had. These and the times of silent reflection and prayer helped us to be aware of one another and of the presence of God's Spirit among us. We have been open to the Spirit , we have worked well together, and we have arrived at good outcomes that will help us in the months ahead to prepare for the General Chapter.

As Jessie said to us, "Continue to become who you are already." We are already women of prophetic hope; we have walked together, we have risked the new, so God is saying to us continue to be who we are called to be, "women of prophetic hope, women who act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with one another and with our God". (Ir. Margaret Fielding)



*Translators Sr. Lory Rockenbach,
Sr. Mary Jo McElroy and Sr. Veronica Brand*



Sr. Margaret Fielding



Grateful for the days of deep sharing, the Leaders of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary ended the Enlarged Leadership Council Meeting singing “Christ, be our light!” in a beautiful ritual prepared by Area Leaders. Together, the sisters gave special thanks to the Institute's Leadership Team for the work they have done during their six years.

During the ceremony, the Area Leaders shared gifts with each other, symbolizing the most significant part of the ELC experience. Breda Byrne and Kathleen O'Donovan, co-leaders of the Northern Europe Area, which hosted the meeting, presented a beautiful plant, expressing the experience they had, they felt watered and nourished! Sisters Valeria Erneio, Coltrida Mooya and Florence Muuka offered music and a dance of gratitude. Sister Maria Helena Morra offered a beautiful and prayerful poem by Vinícius de Moraes. Sisters Maria Timoney, Marie-France Correau and Maria Teresa Nogueira emphasized that these were days of listening with the heart, sharing gifts, of unity and walking together. Sisters Cathy Minhoto and Kathleen Kelemen invited the group to sing “Lord I want to serve you, here I am”.

The group sees the meeting as a great blessing, feels the unity and presence of the whole Institute and is grateful for all the messages and prayers received from the Sisters, the RSHM Extended Family, collaborators and friends of the Institute.



Sr. Florence Muuka and Sr. Coltrida Mooya



Sr. Marie-France Correau





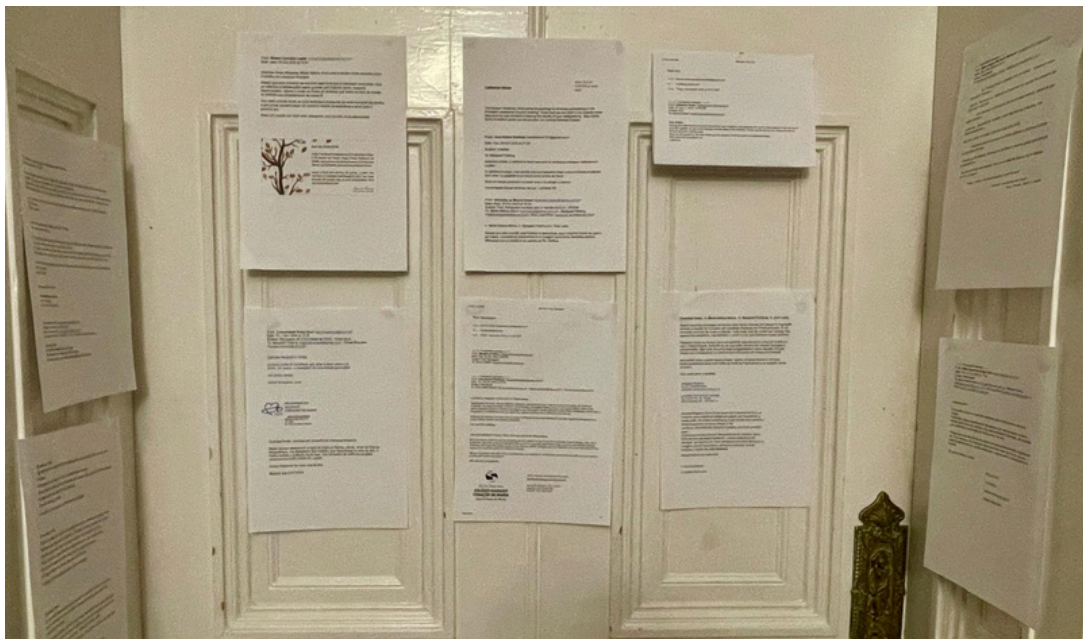
Sr. Cathy Minhoto and Sr. Margaret Fielding



Sr. Monica Walsh and Sr. Sipiwe Phiri



Sr. Breda Byrne



Some of the messages from the whole Institute





Reminders



Until November 15th - Novena in Honor of Venerable Father Jean Gailhac, in each Area.

November 16, at 5:30 pm (Rome time) - Online Prayer in Honor of Venerable Father Jean Gailhac.

The Novena booklets are available on the Institute's Website (www.rscm-rshm.org) and the Zoom link to the prayer on November 16 will be sent to everyone.

**Thank you to Ana Possas for the layout of the newsletters in English, French and Spanish and to Cecilia Brizuela for publishing the newsletters on the website.*