

FCJnews

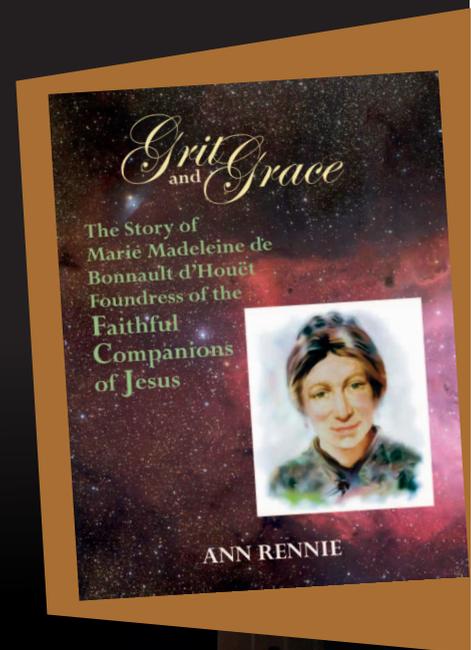
in the Province of Asia–Australia

Vol.6, no.1, May 2014

The stage is set

The story continues on page 4

The stage was set as a 19th century French drawing room for the launch of *Grit and Grace*, The Story of Marie Madeleine de Bonnault d'Houet, Foundress of the Faithful Companions of Jesus by Ann Rennie.



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FROM THE PROVINCE LEADER



Recently we had the joy of welcoming to Australia and Myanmar, Claire Sykes fcJ, our new General Superior. Before Claire's election she was Education

Officer for FCJ schools in Britain, and because she had conducted an in-depth two-year process on the FCJ Educational Ethos with the teachers, we had invited her to our bi-annual Leadership and Governance Forum for all those involved in every level of FCJ Education in Australia. Claire shared with us this process and content, and the extent of participation of the teachers, who appreciated the opportunity to work together on the vision and values inherent in a gospel-based education.

In the richness and inspiration of all that Claire shared I remember in particular that she pointed out that the choices our foundress Marie Madeleine d'Houët made two hundred years ago are affecting us today. These choices are the reason we all know each other and in some ways they have influenced who we are.

This brought to my mind a passage of our 2013 General Chapter Directions: *'Our evolving universe, so rich in mystery, beauty, chaos and diversity, pulsates with the subtle vibrancy of the Spirit of God – God who longs for intimacy and interconnected relationship.'*

We often refer to our connectedness geographically, especially through all the communications we have today, but I became more conscious of a different kind of connectedness across space and time – in values and vision. This interconnected relationship within our evolving universe unites us in God in a deeper way.

The articles in this edition of *FCJ NEWS* illustrate that we are constantly making efforts to evolve in our living out of a forever relevant charism and vision by holding Chapters and Assemblies; by welcoming a new perception of our foundress as a wife and mother; and by celebrating and remembering how we came to be here in this time and place with this gathering of people. We do this because we know we are responsible for connecting our small story to the whole story of God revealing Himself in the cosmos.

Judith Routier fcJ
Province Leader

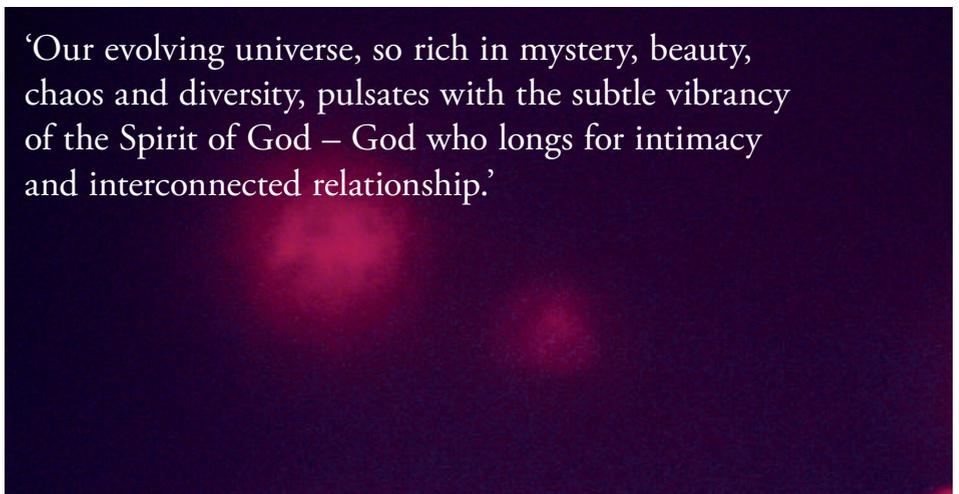
Introducing the new FCJ Leadership Team



Barbara Brown-Graham fcJ, Claire Sykes fcJ, General Superior, Patricia Binchy fcJ and Joanna Walsh fcJ



Sr Claire Sykes fcJ, new General Superior, at the blessing of the new Trade Centre at FCJ College, Benalla, with Bishop Leslie Tomlinson DD, David Leslie, Principal of FCJ College, Benalla, and Cameron Humphries, College Captain



'Our evolving universe, so rich in mystery, beauty, chaos and diversity, pulsates with the subtle vibrancy of the Spirit of God – God who longs for intimacy and interconnected relationship.'

Grit and Grace – A new telling of Marie Madeleine’s story



On the afternoon of 21 November 2013, a gathering of 150 people attended Genazzano FCJ College for the launch of the new book, *Grit and Grace*, about Marie Madeleine

d’Houët and the FCJ story in the Province of Asia–Australia. Written by current staff member and alumna Ann Rennie, this book was commissioned by the FCJ Communications Committee and Sister Judith Routier fcJ, Province Leader. The book was launched by Professor Marie Emmitt, the Dean of Education at the Australian Catholic University. MC was Sister Helen Buckley fcJ, a former deputy principal at Genazzano. Ms Pip McIlroy responded on behalf of the 16 writers who contributed reflective responses to the book.

The stage was set as a 19th century French drawing room. The French flavour was further enhanced by a beautiful song by composer Gabriel Fauré, sung by Year 10 student Claire Warrilow and accompanied on the piano by Ms Jodie Lockyer. Before this, Vanessa Tran, who has just completed her VCE, played the harp as attendees entered the Montagner Auditorium. This was particularly appropriate as Marie Madeleine herself played the harp and this instrument is now located in the FCJ Heritage Room in Paris.

Grit and Grace is a new telling of the special story of the founding of the FCJ Society by Marie Madeleine d’Houët in post-Revolution France – her call to establish a group of apostolic women dedicated to education, retreats, pastoral accompaniment and mission. The book is divided into two sections: the story of Marie Madeleine’s life and vision and the activity of the Society in the Province today, and a series of reflections on each chapter by a person active in the wider community who has understanding and affection for the FCJ charism and how it is lived out prayerfully and practically in the world today. Included with each reflection are a number of stimulus questions to enable the reader, whether an individual, a group or a class, to go more deeply into the ideas explored in each chapter.

This book aims to refresh the FCJ story for today and to remind the reader of the vital and visionary woman the Venerable Marie Madeleine Victoire de Bengy de Bonnault d’Houët was as wife, mother, widow, grandmother, daughter, sister, friend, businesswoman and foundress.

Grit and Grace goes to the core of what is done at Genazzano as an FCJ school. If Marie Madeleine were reading this today we hope she would attest to the accuracy and authenticity of a book that celebrates her life and legacy.

Ann Rennie



‘Grit and Grace is a new telling of the special story of the founding of the FCJ Society by Marie Madeleine d’Houët in post-Revolution France – her call to establish a group of apostolic women dedicated to education, retreats, pastoral accompaniment and mission.’



Helen Buckley fcJ
MC for the Launch on Thursday November 21, 2013

Launching *Grit and Grace*

(This is an abridged version of the speech by Professor Marie Emmitt to launch the book.)

Grit and Grace. What a title! So evocative of the FCJ foundress, and the challenges of working for God's mission! A book that has been written to illustrate how Marie Madeleine's way of life is relevant in today's world and how it can inspire the life of each one of us. It is the continuing story of the FCJs, and it can be our story.

Over the years I have become more and more appreciative of the richness of the gift of the charisms of our different religious congregations, and of course, their work. Many are the social action face of the Church – where Pope Francis is focusing the world's attention. For some of us, the religious institutes, with their integrity and commitment to working at the margins, have helped to sustain our faith in the Church. Their individual charisms provide us with engaging and accessible means to see and understand how to live Jesus' message. For those of us who have a special identification with the FCJs and wish the charism to live on, this book by Ann Rennie is precious.

Ann explains charism as a 'particular way of living out the witness of the Gospel and it becomes the animating impulse for the mission of glorifying God and building up the Church. Charism helps paint the particular character and identity of a religious congregation. It is a composite of its internal spiritual inheritance and its active external work in the world, a convergence of the inner and outer journey' (p. 60 – 61). This book helps us understand the nature and richness of the FCJ charism.

Many of us are just learning of the richness of the founding stories. For when our schools were filled with religious it was assumed that the charism was obvious and we would imbibe it. Often we only received a very sketchy view. However, it is different today. Two things have occurred. With Vatican II, members of religious institutes were encouraged to return to their roots, to the vision of their founders, to review why they were established and discern the relevance of their charism for today. The second factor was the decrease in the numbers of religious and the realisation that if we want the charism, the gift of the religious congregation, we need to become the knowers and enactors, and to help others to know, value and pass on the gift of charism. This book is a wonderful inspiration and resource.

The beginning of the book has a photo of the 'I Thirst' sculpture by Pauline Clayton with the annotation, 'This sculpture is a reminder to all who view it to be conscious of the "I thirst" with which we are confronted in our daily lives as we educate the young to question and challenge all

Chris Gleeson SJ, a contributor to *Grit and Grace*, Cristina Shannon, Mary Kennedy fcJ, Margaret Mary Kennedy fcJ



David Lovell, Publisher, Philippa Lovell and Professor Marie Emmitt, who launched *Grit and Grace*



that acts against right relationships and human dignity'. As an educator committed to working for a Catholic education that can address such a challenge in more powerful ways in this ever increasingly changing world, I very much appreciated this image.

'I thirst' is a core part of the FCJ story. Many of you would know that this was the touchstone of Marie Madeleine's vision in working for the poor and vulnerable.

The book has many special features: the Story/Charism, interesting photos of historical places and examples of today's story; reflections by others 'Engaging with the Story', and suggestions for student exploration. It was an interesting experience to reflect on a chapter and then read someone else's response. It certainly made for a richer engagement with the book.

Personally, I enjoyed reading a coherent history of Marie Madeleine's life and examples of her writing. Ann has brought her alive: Marie Madeleine as a young girl, daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, leader; a feminist in many ways, e.g. fighting for the right of women to lead retreats – not just clerics. A wealthy noblewoman who chose to live simply! What a model for all of us.

The explanation of the Society's mandala (p. 53 ff.) – the visual representation of the spirituality of the Society – is beautiful: Marie Madeleine's four spiritual companions – poverty, humility, obedience and gentleness – personifying the special way of being in the world that belongs to the Society. I had not appreciated 'gentleness' as being significant. This had me relating to a recent article on teaching and learning that described an art history teacher's approach. She ensures that her students have experience in modes of attentive discipline, e.g. sitting and observing an art work for a long period of time – much more is observed, in particular the connections between different aspects. Very counter-cultural in our high-speed technological world. What would gentleness mean in teaching and learning? Chris

Gleeson's response to chapter 9 further articulated the relevance of this for me. He acknowledges another writer [reflecting] on Ignatian spirituality: 'finding and being found by God in all things is really about noticing ...' (p. 144). There is this pattern of the importance of slowing things down – quietness, reflection, observation, a respite from the frenetic world of technological information overload – for us to become people who are more gentle, more aware.

In reading this book, I believe you will be impressed and appreciative of how the FCJ charism has the capacity to support the companions to live out the work of God in new ways but still remain true to Marie Madeleine's vision.

In formally launching this book I congratulate and thank all involved in the production of this beautiful book – the FCJ Communications Committee for their foresight in commissioning the book and shepherding it through to publication, to Ann the author/creator who realised the vision, and to the publisher.

I warmly recommend that you take up the invitation to go on a journey to explore the story of Marie Madeleine and her Society – yesterday, today and the future – a future that we need to be a part of if we want the story to continue to evolve.

I duly declare *Grit and Grace* launched. Long may it enrich us and be a beacon of faith and hope for all who accept the invitation to journey.

There were two further launch gatherings for *Grit and Grace*, one at FCJ College, Benalla, and another at John Paul College, formerly Stella Maris FCJ College, Frankston, thus ensuring a wide audience for *Grit and Grace*.



Author, Ann Rennie

**‘Gentleness keeps our heart
always within the boundaries
of justice, reason and love.’**

La Douceur – Gentleness

In my long and happy association with the FCJ Sisters I have seen the gift of gentleness in everything the Sisters do. I have experienced the gentleness of wise words and counsel, the gentleness of encouragement and support and have appreciated the gentle response of laughter, steadiness and good cheer when life has become busy. It is a wonderful gift to give to others. The following is an excerpt from the book.

‘It is gentleness which is the hallmark of the FCJ Sisters as they act in the world. This is particularly evident when gentleness is sometimes dismissed as weakness or timidity. In a global competition where often the most glamorous or forceful are heard, or where those with the most power, money or influence dictate public opinion, taste and moral outlook, gentleness is seen as a non-starter in the race towards success and adulation.

Gentleness, however, is one of the most beautiful of gifts. In gentleness there is room for the other, room for reflection and connection, room for growing. Gentleness does not overlook, but is attentive to the small things. It is wise and deep and offers solace. In being gentle we are at our most human and loving because we have dispensed with demands of ego and are acting out of authenticity and truth. When we are gentle with ourselves we can become gentle with others.

‘We are reminded of the gentleness of Mary’s fiat, the yes out of which all time and history has been irrevocably changed. We are reminded of her gentle request of her son at the wedding feast of Cana. We are reminded of Veronica’s gentle wiping of the face of Jesus as he struggled under the cross on his way to Calvary. We are reminded of the gentleness with which the women at the foot of the cross treated the broken body of their master as he was prepared for burial. We are reminded of the gentleness of forgiveness and mercy. We are reminded that God watches gently even over the smallest sparrow.

‘Colossians 3: 12 outlines the qualities of a holy person, a person who would do good for others, a person who lives through a certain charism: “Since God chose you to be the holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tender-hearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

‘Gentleness does not mean that we are walked over. Marie Madeleine certainly wasn’t. However, it does mean a certain control and calm, a dignity and composure when things go awry. Found in the 1880s papers of FCJ Sisters, Mère Petit and Mère de Bussy, is a response to the question: What is gentleness?

‘It is a quality which helps us keep a calm spirit, a peaceful heart and control in our words and gestures, even when the circumstances seem to call forth, or at least justify, an explosion of displeasure or anger. Gentleness keeps our heart always within the boundaries of justice, reason and love.’

(Extract from *Grit and Grace*, pp. 64–65)

Ann Rennie



Pip McIlroy

Professor Marie Emmitt, Mrs Patricia Cowling, Sister Judith Routier and Sisters of the Faithful Companions of Jesus here this evening, Genazzano alumni, current students, college staff, friends and relatives.

It is a privilege to speak to you tonight on behalf of the 16 members of our wider FCJ community who have so generously contributed their own personal reflections to Part Two of this publication.

I'd like to begin by acknowledging Ann Rennie, whose writing we have all responded to. It has been a significant experience for the contributors to reflect on Ann's words about Marie Madeleine and it is due to Ann's great efforts that we have had this opportunity. A running theme throughout the book is the necessity that exists to take the time to stop and reflect in our daily lives. Unfortunately, these opportunities can at times seem rare. Ann has provided the framework for each of us to reflect on our connection to Marie Madeleine d'Houët and the FCJ Sisters and to express the pride we feel to be part of this tradition. I thank Ann personally for this opportunity and on behalf of all the contributors, both those present here tonight and those not able to join us.

Grit and Grace Launch – Pip McIlroy's Response

My involvement in this project has led me to reflect on the importance and power of narrative, of the different ways that stories come to us, of the various narratives that we ourselves have taken part in the creation of and which ones we continue to be part of. There is nothing like a good story. Narratives inspire people, they make us feel we belong and they communicate messages not otherwise easily and authentically articulated.

The 16 contributors to *Grit and Grace* are a diverse group. Among them are teachers, principals and leaders in FCJ schools, FCJ Sisters both in Australia and abroad, Genazzano alumni and others within the broader FCJ community in Australia. We come from different places and we have different experiences, yet we all have in common one thing. We share a part of our personal narratives – our connection with the tradition of the Faithful Companions of Jesus. In my case, it is a connection I am both immensely grateful for and proud of.

We are all part of Marie Madeleine d'Houët's vision. All of us here tonight are connected to her vision and to her Sisters through a shared commitment to what she believed in and what she worked for. Reading through the reflections of the many whose words appear in this book, I feel a real sense of the community that the FCJs have built up in this country.

As a recent graduate of an FCJ school, the one whose walls we sit within this evening, I was so pleased to be asked to contribute to *Grit and Grace*. I can see from the list of contributors that I am the youngest. And so in some ways in this setting I am conscious of my youth and perhaps my lack of experience. However, I'm not surprised to be here. It is a testament to the FCJ eagerness to work with young people in meaningful ways that I have been

asked to speak this evening. My involvement is a symbol of the enduring vitality of Marie Madeleine d'Houët's vision and the life of the FCJ community and the promise of its continuation into the future. The foundress worked closely with young people, mainly those who were underprivileged. The Sisters today continue her vision by involving the young in their missionary activities and varied endeavours.

I am also not surprised to be involved tonight as we stand within walls where I was taught to be courageous and confident. Marie Madeleine d'Houët believed in the importance of education and she saw in her work with the young a means to achieve a world that is more just. I am eternally grateful for the education I received at Genazzano and the Ignatian formation I have had in the tradition of the FCJ Sisters and the Jesuits.

In Mrs Patricia Cowling's reflection, she wonders to what extent the original dreams, hopes and aspirations of the early Sisters are still reflected in the life and daily experiences of the students and staff of Genazzano today. Would that brave band of Sisters who established Genazzano back in 1889 recognise it today? This important question brings to mind Jesuit priest Gregory Boyle's articulation of our call as Christians to be always 'inching ourselves closer to creating a community of kinship such that God might recognise it'. I feel as though Marie Madeleine d'Houët's vision has the power to ensure this idea of our world continues into the future via those who have the grace to encounter the tradition of the FCJ Sisters.

Pip McIlroy
Graduate Teacher 2013

2013 FCJ General Chapter – Directions

'Courageous Re-imagining for Mission'



Chapter delegates from Province of Asia Australia
Denise Mulcahy, Marion Dooley, Barbara Brown-Graham, Beta, Afra Primadian, Paola Terroni, Clare Hand

The FCJ Society held its General Chapter in 2013 at Loyola Hall Jesuit Spirituality Centre, Liverpool from 9 October – 3 November 2013. All the members of the Society were involved in the preparation for this event, and the findings of these various meetings were distributed in each Province, so all were familiar with the material going to the Chapter, and had ownership of it.

At the Chapter itself, the report of the General Superior, along with the report of the General Bursar gave insight into the Society's story over these past years. Presentations on each of the Provinces ensured that all present had a realistic picture of the life and concerns of the people of the different countries in which the Society finds itself.

Through a skilful discernment process at the General Chapter the seeds of a Chapter Statement began to germinate. The text that resulted 'Courageous Re-imagining for Mission' gives the Society Directions for the six years preceding the next General Chapter.

The FCJ website displayed the Chapter Directions immediately after they were finalised. The text could be read, or listened to on a video presented by Sr Katherine Mary O'Flynn, the then General Superior, and Sr Claire Sykes, who since February 2014 has assumed her office as General Superior.

Many of our readers will have followed the General Chapter on the website with the regular, informative updates. Certain words of the Directions are easy to memorise, e.g. *'interconnected relationship'*, *'hope in our shadowlands'*, *'compassionate presence'*, to mention a few. You

can access the directions at http://www.fcjsisters.org/fcj_english/spirit/reimagining.html

An online resource has been set up, to which all can contribute. It is amazing how in one's every day occupations a word, a photograph, a poem, a reading, a scene, calls to mind one of the aspects of the Directions. All of us are invited to send any resource we discover to fcjsisters@gmail.com

Many of you who enjoyed commenting on the message board during the General Chapter, have an additional opportunity to share your reflections or join in on a discussion on the REFLECTION/DISCUSSION Board on the FCJ website http://www.fcjsisters.org/fcj_english/spirit/reimagining2.html.



Post-Chapter Province Assembly

Sunday 29 December 2013 – Friday 3 January 2014



FCJ Sisters, CiMs, Pilgrims, Musicians

Our Province Assembly was held in the Madeleine Centre at Genazzano FCJ College. The theme chosen – ‘Courageously Re-Imagining for Mission in the Province of Asia–Australia’ – ensured that our focus was on the General Chapter Directions 2103. Our joy on coming together as Faithful Companions of Jesus was clearly evident and, indeed, was remarked on several times by the facilitator, Jan Barnett RSJ.

We experienced a similar process to the one used at the General Chapter, and soon we found ourselves at home with the terminology of ‘base’ groups and ‘consensus’ groups. Moreover, we were enriched by this manner of going deeper into the task at hand. The daily ‘Faith Sharing’ (alternately in base or consensus group) enabled us to share deeply on the Word and our personal journey in faith.

With an overview of the General Chapter, followed by the ‘Province Presentation’ (a PowerPoint which was shown at the General Chapter) and a Province Report, we felt ourselves well informed to proceed to look at the Directions. We were delighted to receive the colourful printed copies of the Directions, and the Visual Presentation, using the ‘Prezi’ (prepared by Lynne Baron fcJ – Province of Europe), gave us new insights into the Directions.

On the Thursday we were joined by Companions in Mission (CiMs) living in Australia. Together in the morning, after ‘Faith Sharing’, we listened to a brief overview of the General Chapter, followed by an explanation of the evolution of the Directions. Each CiM received a copy of the Directions, and then all viewed the ‘Prezi’. There was energy in the conversation at tables following this presentation when we shared on how together we could courageously reimagine the Directions. In the afternoon our numbers were further augmented by those (other than CiMs) who participated in the pilgrimage in 2013, and who shared with us about this experience. Pat Fitzgerald (Province Coordinator for CiMs) gave us insights into the CiM Handbook, which was a helpful background for our conversations together on how best to interweave the lives of CiMs and FCJs as we seek to live out the Directions. The work of this day was extended on our last morning as we moved into country groups and listed possible strategies within the reality of where we find ourselves.

We used to full advantage the picturesque grounds of the college at times of reflection and at other times for relaxation together. Our Eucharistic celebrations were held in the Genazzano Chapel, and were prepared in advance by volunteers. As we had a Vigil Mass of the Holy Name on the day the CiMs were at the Assembly, they and the pilgrims celebrated with us. The liturgy included a blessing on Barbara Brown-Graham fcJ, who was about to travel

to the UK to take up her role as General Assistant to Claire Sykes fcJ (General Superior).

Our schedule over those days enabled us to have time to mingle with each other and enjoy each other’s company. Hopetoun Hall (Genazzano College Boarding House where many FCJs stayed during the Assembly) was the venue for a joy-filled New Year’s Eve celebration. A barbecue at lunchtime on New Year’s Day heralded a free afternoon. Despite intermittent rain, our spirits were not dampened in any way as we moved for cover during the meal!

The Assembly concluded its formalities at lunchtime on the Friday. We dispersed, carrying in our hearts the strength of the companionship we share both with FCJs and CiMs, but mindful that there is a sense that whilst we are on a journey with clear directions, the question lies before us: ‘Can we risk courageous re-imagining?’

Denise Mulcahy fcJ



Reflection in Nature



Year 8 Genazzano students ready for the special Eucharistic celebration

Genazzano Celebrates 125 Years with a Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral

It was with great joy that the Genazzano FCJ College community celebrated its 125th Anniversary Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Thursday 27 March. Archbishop Denis Hart and concelebrants Father Brendan Reed, College Chaplain, and Fathers Tom Renshaw SJ, Rector Xavier College, Werner Utri P.P. St Bede's North Balwyn and St Anne's East Kew led the congregation, comprising 1100 students, staff, FCJ Sisters, family, friends and alumnae in a Eucharistic thanksgiving for all that the school has been in its long and heralded contribution to Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Principal Mrs Patricia Cowling spoke of the legacy of the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, under whose vision the school was founded in 1889. The college theme for 2014 is 125 Years: Faithful to Our Charism Today and Beyond. This theme encapsulates the importance of the spiritual inheritance handed on by the Venerable Marie Madeleine d'Houët, who founded the Society in France in 1820. This special charism is to be found in the four gifts of poverty, humility, obedience and gentleness, which are the hallmarks of the Society. The strength of the FCJ charism is what the College looks to as it continues to educate young women in the Ignatian tradition – those very young women who will build the next generation of the Church and who acknowledge their debt to all those who have gone before them. Mrs Cowling reminded those present of the special link between Genazzano and St Patrick's Cathedral, both of which were designed by the Gothic revivalist architect, William Wilkinson Wardell.

In his homily, Archbishop Hart revisited the history of colonial education and the call to Europe by the Jesuits for the FCJ Sisters to educate young Catholics. The first twelve sisters arrived in 1882 and the establishment that would become Genazzano was founded in 1889 in the lush countryside of Kew. He reminded the students that they must think about who they can become. The Archbishop spoke of how young people can make the world anew if they use their gifts with integrity and in the service of others. He spoke of the enriching model of servant leadership which can be seen in the activity and demeanour of Pope Francis. The Archbishop congratulated and thanked the FCJ Sisters and their lay collaborators for their ongoing spirit of endeavour in education. He referred to the school motto, Fidelis, a reminder of being faithful to God, to others, and to oneself.

Celebration



Archbishop Denis Hart DD, Judith Routier fcJ Province Leader Mrs Patricia Cowling, Principal of the College, Elissa Servello, Anushni Fernandopulle, Celebrant and Rachael Kay

‘The strength of the FCJ charism is what the College looks to as it continues to educate young women in the Ignatian tradition – those very young women who will build the next generation of the Church and who acknowledge their debt to all those who have gone before them.’

He gently exhorted the students not to be afraid and that they should take up the challenges of the future, to live out the joy of the gospel and acclaim ‘the hope that is in you’ (1 Peter 3: 15). Sister Maureen Merlo fcJ, as local leader and resident of the Moonbria community located next to the college, read the first Prayer of Intercession.

Sister Judith Routier fcJ, Leader of the Province of Asia–Australia, responded graciously to the Archbishop. Sister Judith reminded the congregation of the importance of the continuation of Marie Madeleine d’Houët’s charism and the special collaboration with the laity to carry on her vision and mission. She echoed the Archbishop’s sentiments when she quoted the foundress who, when referring to a young girl, wrote ‘... how much I want her to become all that she could be’. Sister Judith thanked all those families over the years who had entrusted the education of their daughters, and sons, to the Sisters and lay staff. She reminded us of the love of Gen that spans the generations.

Back at school, after the great logistical exercise of bussing 1100 students into the cathedral on time for a 10.00 am. start and back again, the fun and games began. Most of the students participated in a giant zumba class, energetically exercising on the main oval. The girls sang Happy Birthday to the school and Sister Maryrose Dennehy fcJ, alumna and former principal (1978–1982), cut the 125 cake, which was later distributed to the Prep to Grade 4 children.

This day celebrated Genazzano’s significant contribution to Catholic education, life and witness in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Now for the next 125 years where the charism of Marie Madeleine d’Houët will continue to be the source and inspiration for all FCJ endeavours within education and beyond.

Ann Rennie



Thank You for Your Donations for the Flood Relief in the Philippines

Here is an account of how the donation money received by FCJ Manila for victims of the typhoon has been used or is planned to be used. A total of \$21,632 was received.

Distributed already:

- \$6,300 for immediate relief, (food, and essential supplies) in Leyte and Bobol, which had suffered an earthquake as well as the typhoon.
- \$5,510 for 11 fishing boats and nets to Palompon, Leyte. The boats will be owned by the Basic Ecclesial Community or parish groupings, so they will benefit many families.

Planned as soon as possible:

- \$4,791 to build eight houses in Ormoc, Leyte.
- \$5,031 for another 14 fishing boats for an area of need yet to be determined.



20th International AIDS Conference

The 20th International AIDS Conference is being held this year in Melbourne.

When: 20 – 25 July 2014

Where: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf, Melbourne

Register Now

Volunteer applications are now open, 1,000 required.

For all details refer to the website: www.aids2014.org or Margaret Olsen fcJ at mofcj@hotmail.com

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FCJ Missions You will find enclosed a donation envelope. Any contribution to the work of the FCJ Society's Missions is most welcome. The Sisters wish to thank all the contributors following publication of the Spring Edition.

Email address: If you have an email address please send it to the Province Office, secretary@fcjasau.org.au