

Cluny Events and Celebrations

Sister Anne Marie Liston

So far, this year has proven to be a busy one in many ways, with some real milestones and some surprises. It is an exciting one as we all begin the remote preparations for our next General Chapter.

The General Chapter, held at our mother house in Paris, might be regarded in somewhat the same importance as a national election is in the United States, without the noise, fanfare and politics! But there, the similarity ends. For us, it is an opportunity to re-examine our way of life lived in so many different countries, with different cultures and languages, and yet unified by the same desire—to follow in the footsteps of Anne-Marie Javouhey, wherever God has placed us.

Preparation begins well in advance and with the newest modes of technology there is communication and discussion, exchanges of ideas, suggestions and deliberations winging their way around the Cluny world. Here in the U.S. we plan with the help of a facilitator, Sister Constance Gilder, SSJ and a committee of sisters who work with her, to formulate the agenda and issues which will be studied at our Province Chapter in October. At the heart of all this is our desire to continue to be faithful to the missionary spirit of our foundress. Each General Chapter takes an enormous amount of work and organization on the part of those involved so we ask your prayers for all of us as we plan for May, 2018.

As we anticipate the happenings of 2018 we also celebrated our 70th year as Clunys here in the United States and Canada. Small in number we might be, but we do like celebrations! On Saturday, July 15, we had a special Mass to commemorate our 70 years. The Mass was presided by Father John McNulty, our former pastor, and we were touched by the gratitude and support of so many of the parishioners who attended.

At the end of September, we will have another milestone to rejoice in as we will be marking the 50th anniversary of three of our Sisters: Marie Cooper, Luke Parker, and Mary Patrice Watson, as they celebrate their Golden Jubilees. One hundred and fifty years of dedication to God's people!

Working for the Justice that Brings Peace

Hamilton Associates Pursue Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts

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Our Canadian associates continue to keep us informed of their work for justice, especially on the topic of Human Trafficking. In April, they attended the annual Stop Human Trafficking Conference sponsored by the Waterdown Stop Human Trafficking Committee and the School Sisters of Notre Dame. This year the title was: "The Porn Culture" and explored the issue of pornography and its link to human trafficking.

In addition to viewing the documentary film, *Over18*, which details the history of the pornography industry by Michelle Brock, cofounder of "Hope for the Sold" and a presentation by Glendyne Gerrard, Director of Defend Dignity, on porn as a public health crisis. This approach has the advantage of characterizing pornography as a health issue and represents a specific strategy to solve the problem legislatively in much the same way as the tobacco consumption was targeted. The group had the opportunity to sign a petition to the Attorney General and the Canadian Minister of Justice and are planning to develop their own responses to this evil of our present society.

They also received a positive reply from the De Groote School of Business (at McMaster University) acknowledging their correspondence concerning the obligation to serve the greater good of the community by emphasizing these values in their business ethics, practices and the distribution of equitable human resources.

Thank you, Terry Wallace, for keeping us up to date!

*I have chosen you and sent you out
to produce fruit.*
(Jesus)