

2014-10

Holy Cross History Association

33rd Annual Conference

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PRESENTATION BY

SISTER MARGARET SHIELDS, CSC

Sun shines through the cracks.....

Summary of Development of Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles

- 1929, 3 April Sister Rose Bernard Gehring and Marie Estelle discuss with Bishop Legrande, csc the possibility of establishing a community of Bengali young women interested in sharing a life of prayer and service
- 1933 Highest Authority of SMRA Sisters Bishop/Archbishop of Dacca
- 1933, 5 May 8 postulants signed a promise binding for one year. Bishop Timothy Crowley gave the homile and enrolled the postulants as Associates of Mary
- 1934, 19 May First Mass in Novitiate Chapel and erection of Stations of the Cross
Sister Rose Bernard and eleven postulants in residence
- 1936, 25 March 9 more candidates
- 1937, 7 October 7 Candidates receive the Habit
- 1938, 16 August 5 year old budding community
- Sister Rose Bernard Gehring csc dies of exhaustion
- Sister Augustine Marie White csc appointed as guide
- 1939, 9 August 5 more candidates
- Each year ends with Retreat and Renewal of Promises
- 1941, 6 January set aside as date for beginning Novitiate
- 1942, 6 January 3 more candidates
- 1942, 15 August Bishop T. Crowley, csc, DD, Bishop of Dacca, approved Rules and Constitution of Associates of Mary
- 1942, 18 December Constitutions received in the hands of the Associates
- 1942, 26 December 4 "Assistants of Mary" (Community founded by the Salesian Sisters of Mary Immaculate in Mymensingh, Bengal) are sent to join the SMRA Sisters
- 1943, 6 January 4 Sisters from SSMLs Mymensingh receive the Habit and new names
- 1944, 15 July Most Reverend T. Crowley, csc, Bishop of Dacca, receives Permission from the Apostolic Delegate to the East Indies Permission to make Vows for 3 years – in preparation for pronouncing Perpetual Vows Letter No.19829/44 dated Bangalore 2 August
- 1944, 2 August Sisters who have completed 4 years of Promises receive from the Apostolic Delegate to the East Indies Permission to make Vows for 3 years – in preparation for pronouncing Perpetual Vows. Letter No. 19829/44 dated Bangalore 2 August

1944, 17 August Permission received from Bishop T. Crowley, csc, DD to make Promises for 1 year, followed by preparation for Final Profession. The community was established as a Diocesan Congregation in the same Letter from Bishop T. Crowley, csc, Bishop of Dacca

1945, 6 January 25 Sisters make Vows for 3 years and 3 Sisters for 1 year.

1945, 2 October Bishop Timothy Crowley csc, DD dies

Archbishop Lawrence L. Graner csc, DD, succeeds him

1945, 20 October SMRA Novitiate established in Letter No. 21848/45 Dt. Bangalore, 20 October from Apostolic Delegate to the East Indies, addressed to C. F. Brooks, csc, Diocesan Administrator of See of Dacca

(From 1946, January – 1952, October, the Novitiate was situated in St. Anthony's Convent, Panjora)

1952, 6 January New Chapter in SMRA history

Archbishop Graner offered the SMRA Sisters the responsibility of self-government

1952, 18 October CSC Sisters gave up responsibility for SMRA Sisters

Archbishop Graner accepted full responsibility for SMRA Sisters, appointing Sister Mary Agnes, smra, Superior, with 4 Assistants (Letter No. 413/52, dated Dacca, 18 October, 1952). Archbishop L. L. Graner, csc, DD

1952, 21 October The Novitiate was moved to Tumilia and named, Queen of the Apostles' Novitiate, and the Convent, St. Mary's Convent in Letter No. A-436/52 dated Dacca, 21 October, 1952. Archbishop L. L. Graner, csc, DD.

The following appointments were made:

- Sister M. Agnes, smra appointed Superior of St. Mary's Convent and in charge of both the Girls' Hostel and the Girls' School in Tumilia

- Sister Immaculata was in charge of the Novitiate and the Convent; - Sister Ignatius was in charge of the School and Hostel in Panjora

- Sister Carmel was in charge of the Convent and School in Rangamatia ; all ministries of these convents became the responsibility of the SMRA Sisters

1960 First General Chapter of the SMRA Community; "Mother" Agnes was **elected** the first Superior General with 4 elected Councillors

Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles At a Glance

Name of Congregation	Preritgoner Rani Mariar Shongini Shongho
Latin Name	Sociae Mariae Regina Apostolorum (S. M. R. A.)
English Name	Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles
Nickname	“Tumilia Sisters ”
Charism	The Sisters serve Christ and His Church selflessly and with joy through Mary, Queen of the Apostles. (Rule 1 : 3)
Patron of the Congregation	Mary, Queen of the Apostles
Feastday of the Congregation	Saturday following the Ascension
Visionary of the Congregation	Bishop Joseph Arma Legrande csc
Founder of the Congregation	Bishop Timothy John Crowley csc
Co-founder of the Congregation	Sister M. Rose Bernard Gehring csc
Chief Administrator of the Congregation	Archbishop of Dhaka
Appointed Superior	Sister Mary Agnes, smra (Mother Agnes)
Superior General	Sister elected by General Chapter
Dioceses in which Sisters serve	Dhaka, Mymensingh, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, and Sylhet in Bangladesh as well as Padua and Florence in Italy
Living Sisters	211
Sisters with Perpetual Vows	199
Deceased Sisters	48
Number of Religious Houses	24
Community Novitiate	Christ's Home of Meditation, Doripara, Dhaka Archdiocese
Apostolate in Italy	Padua and Florence
Apostolic fields	Teaching and Nursing
Teaching Areas	Schools and hostel supervision
Nursing	Hospitals, Dispensaries, Maternity Clinics, Hostels

Other Ministries

Social	Bottomley Home Orphanage, Jagoroni Handicraft and Sewing Centre
Youth and Children's Activities	Young Christian Students, Holy Childhood

Pastoral Work

Village visiting, Basic Christian Communities, Bishop's House,
Seminaries, Natural Family Planning, Service to elderly and disabled

Names of Institutions

Higher Middle Schools

Dhaka St. Mary's Girls' High School, Tumilia; Our Lady of Fatima Girls' High School, Comilla; Bottomley Home Girls' High School, Tejgaon; Panjora Girls' High School, Nagori; St. Joseph's High School, Dharendra; Rangamatia High School, Rangamatia; Tuital Girls' High School, Tuital; Mothbari Girls' High School, Mothbari; Solepur High School, Solepur

Mymensingh Ranikhong High School, Ranikhong

Rajshahi St. Rita's High School, Mothurapur

Middle Schools

Dhaka Pagar Catholic Shurjodoy High School, Pagar ; YMCA Jr. High School, Dhaka

Khulna St. Michael's Jr. High School, Baniarchor

Primary Schools

Dhaka Tumilia Govt. Girls' Primary School, Tumilia; Tumilia Govt. Boys' High School, Tumilia; Doripara Catholic Primary School, Doripara; Chorakhola Catholic Primary School, Chorakhola; Nagari Govt. Boys' Primary School, Nagari; Nagari Govt. Girls' Primary School, Nagari; Mathbari Govt. Primary School, Mathbari; Dharendra Govt. Girls' Primary School, Dharendra; Komlapur Catholic Primary School, Dharendra; Tejgaon Catholic Primary School, Tejgaon; St. Vincent de Paul's Primary School, Kafrul; Notre Dame Literacy Primary School, Dhaka; St. Michael's Boys' Multipurpose Primary School, Comilla; St. Anne's Nursery School, Pagar

Mymensingh Mymensingh Primary School, Mymensingh

Chittagong St. Mary's Primary School, Jamalkhan

Rajshahi St. Francis Xavier's Primary School, Foiljana

Sylhet Divine Mercy Convent, Lokhipur

Hospitals, Dispensaries, Maternity Centres where Sisters serve

Kumodini Nursing School and Hospital, Mirjapur
Almost every village that has a school, has also a Dispensary and Maternity Centre where the Sisters minister to the sick, elderly, Mothers, and children

Sun shines through the cracks.....

The Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles are the community whom the Lord blessed the Sisters of the Holy Cross to assist in birth, to nourish, and be nourished by among the People of God in Bengal, now Bangladesh. Sisters Olga Hughes, Marie Estelle O'Brien, Rose Bernard Gehring, and Rose Monica Weber were the sturdy women of faith and dreams who were the bringers of the Good News in the **third** contingent of Sisters of the Holy Cross to set out for Bengal, India.

Many are familiar with the rough beginnings of Holy Cross in Bengal. Still, "Let us cast a glance over the distance just run over....", as we were advised in the Directory of the Sisters of the Holy Cross when I was in the Novitiate....

Cardinal Franzoni, Prefect of Propaganda Fide asked Father Moreau on 15 November, 1851, ¹ whether he would be willing to send missionaries to East Bengal and hinted that the matter of the Constitutions of the Congregation would not be taken up until **after** this approval. Two whole weeks did not pass by, before an affirmative reply was enthusiastically given by our Founder, on his own behalf, but also on that of the priests and Brothers, as well as the Sisters. ² Father Moreau dreamed, even then, that Novitiates would be opened in Dhaka, as had been opened in Indiana. ³ So it came to be, that in the first group to be sent to Bengal on 27 November, 1852 were Sisters Marie de Saint-Victor, Marie de Jesus Suffering, and Marie de Saint-Vincent de Paul. Father Voisin csc, evolved into being the Superior of the priests, Brothers, and Sisters. Some of the first needs he identified in this colony of the British, were that the newcomers needed to develop abilities to understand and to speak Bangla (as the people had never heard a sermon in their own language), to understand the history, politics, and racial problems of Bengal, to visit families everywhere, even in distant villages. ⁴ After scrimping and saving, Father Moreau was able to send 2 more priests and Sister des Victoires in March of 1855. We remember that two of these three, Father Montigny and Sister des Victoires were carried away by a tidal bore which smashed their boat, just as they were nearing present day Noakhali. Then we read that Father Verite, who became superior after Father Voisin's death, sent

the Brothers and Sisters back to France, thinking only the priests were necessary, though many were begging for more Brothers and Sisters. ⁵ These were indeed days of darkness.

After the Holy See gave over Dhaka Diocese to Holy Cross in 1888, Father Michael Fallize, acting Superior of the Missions of Dhaka, Chittagong, and Akyab (part of Dhaka Diocese until 1927), sent educational requirements of the Mission, and requested Sisters from Father Sorin. Sisters Fidelis, Euphrasia, Blanche, Columba, and Paul of the Cross were sent to Akyab where Father Boeres csc wrote that they were well received. The Sisters worked with enthusiasm and zeal. By January of the following year, Father Peteers, csc, commended theirs as one of “most Catholic Schools which indeed prosper”. Sisters Marianna, Patientis, Bridget, Paula, and Adolphine were sent to Dhaka where the Holy Cross priests gave up their residence when the Sisters arrived a little early! *Their* Sisters’ school, too, was highly appreciated by the public, as well as by the Inspector of Schools! Due to sickness and death, the Sisters’ number dwindled. Mother General, unable to send reinforcements, recalled all of the Sisters after the examinations in December, 1896. (Though we read in Canon Catta’s, Mother Mary of Seven Dolors, ⁷ that Sister Augustine stayed heroically “alone” in Chittagong, in the hope that reinforcements would be sent !) Darkness again descends. We shall need to fast forward some thirty years as “the plot thickens”.

At some point in time, Father Michael Mathis, csc, had asked Mother Francis Clare, Superior General, to consider sending Sisters to the Foreign Mission Seminary in Washington DC to prepare for service in Bengal. Mother, subsequently, sent out a request for volunteers for this special work. Sisters Olga, Rose Monica, Rose Bernard, and Marie Estelle responded. With Sister Patricia Ryan as their Directress, this first group studied the Bengali language, the culture of Bengal, Journalism, and Scripture, as well as assisting in the office work of the “Bengalese”—the mission magazine for the Congregation of Holy Cross. They also took an intensive six-week course in First Aid at the Providence Hospital in Washington DC. In August, 1927, assignments were finalized and the group of Sisters, together with the Priests and Brothers of Holy Cross, set sail at 1:00 AM, 15 October, 1927 on the “S S Paris”. A glow on the horizon appears....

Shortly after their December arrival, the four pioneer csc Sisters were escorted on a “preview” of their new home by Bishop Crowley. A two storey cement building was to be the Sisters’ new home, a girls’ school, and eventually the Novitiate of the Associates of Mary. A special kindness had been extended to the newcomer Sisters in the temporary loan of two fine helpers---Mary Duthe who spoke both English and Bangla and Luvy Cross, a cook. A major improvement, engineered by Sister Olga, was indoor plumbing for convent and school buildings, in January, 1929. That same year, a tube well for fresh water was sunk, plus Bishop Legrand’s authorization for a Dispensary and a Dormitory building.

Three **weeks** after arrival, Sisters Olga and Rose Bernard went to call on the Government School Inspectress, Miss Biswas, who recommended the securing for their school, trained women teachers who would follow the government Syllabus.

Two **months** after the Sisters’ arrival in Tumilia, the first boarders arrived: Margaret and Patricia from Boxonagor; four months later, Agnes from Dharendra. When Margaret and Agnes had completed the 4th Standard (English medium), they were sent to the IBVM Sisters’ Teachers’ Training School in Kolkatta¹¹ for four years of study.

Two **years** after arrival, the Holy Cross Sisters began classes in Bangla with Mr. Dutta, a Hindu teacher from nearby Kaliganj English High School.

Archbishop Joseph Legrand, csc, Ordinary of Dacca, had already dreamed that children of the country would bring salvation. Together with Father Timothy Crowley csc, his Vicar General, he dreamed that Diocesan Religious women were needed. On 23 June, 1929, Bishop Legrand talked with Sisters Olga and Rose Bernard about the possibility of beginning a Diocesan community of Sisters. He already had his eye on 3 of the young students for whom he hoped the Holy Cross Sisters would take the responsibility of religious formation. Noticing that Sister Rose Bernard had “felt” the sorrows of the village ladies, the two bishops thought she might be the person to guide them. When Sisters Rose Bernard and Olga talked with the Bishop and asked for further details, Bishop Legrand said that any from him were unnecessary. In 1930, Bishop Crowley sent Sisters Rose

Bernard and Olga to St Anne's Convent, Morapai, Kolkatta, to "get a feel" of the diocesan community which had been established by the Loretto Sisters there. Sisters Marie Estelle and Rose Bernard were sent to Krishnagor and to Ranchi in August of 1933 where Diocesan communities had been established. Bishop Crowley, with Sister Rose Bernard's expertise, had already taken the first step. The glow on the horizon brightens....

Of the 11 students of the Sixth Standard, 8 had already answered the Lord's Call, as articulated by Bishop Crowley. Sister Rose Bernard guided a 3 day Retreat for them and on Sunday, **5 March 1933**, in the Chapel of the Sisters of the Holy Cross—with full solemnity, the Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles, was born! The Bishop himself had composed the Promises which each of the Candidates had written in her own handwriting, binding herself for a year to observe the directions of the Sister-in-Charge. The Bishop presented each with a Rosary blessed by the Pope and with a medal of the Blessed Virgin on a blue cord to be worn around the neck.

The eleventh of August brought the news from Bishop Crowley that the present brick school would be used for the **new Novitiate** and a tin roofed bamboo school would be built for the girls.

Following a 17 month postulate, 7 young women received the Holy Habit from Bishop Crowley at the High Altar of St. John the Baptist Church in Tumilia on 15 August, 1934 . Three days later a cable came from Mother Vincentia, csc Superior General, which appointed Sister Marie Estelle as Directress of Tumilia, Sister Olga, Directress of Nagari, and Sister Rose Bernard in charge of the new Indian Sisterhood, the Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles. The glow on the horizon continues to expand.

Five years later, Sister Augustine Marie (White) csc, who became the Superior after Sister Rose Bernard's death, wrote in The Bengalese 8.

"The Sisters of the Medical Mission, who conduct several Indian hospitals and do admirable work among all classes of people in India, have helped in the development of this religious society. Ten Associates of Mary are studying at their hospital in Rawalpindi, Northern India. Under the direction of these 'Medicals', the results of government examinations have proved gratifying. Every year new

recruits will go up for tests, and so be qualified to do hospital work among their people in the Dhaka District. They are to continue following the course in nursing and child welfare until the missions are well supplied with efficient nurses.

The ideal of the Associates is two-fold. As well as caring for the sick, they devote themselves to the Christian education of children in Primary and Middle Schools. Last December two pioneer members who completed the Junior Training course in Entally, Kolkatta, under the direction of the Sisters of Loretto, are now teaching in the Tumilia Girls' School. Two others, not yet trained, have been pressed into service as teachers in the lower classes, and five others left in January of this year to begin their two-year training course in Entally..."

a "fast forward" to 6 January, 1952.....

Archbishop Lawrence L. Graner, csc DD, **offers** the SMRA Sisters the responsibility of self-government.

On 18 October 1952, the Holy Cross Sisters **gave up responsibility** for the SMRA Sisters.

Archbishop Graner accepted their full responsibility, appointing Sister Mary Agnes, smra, Superior of St. Mary's Convent and in charge of both the Girls' Hostel and the Girls' School in Tumilia.

(I hope that you will take time to read the beautiful letter of thanksgiving to the Sisters of the Holy Cross written to Mother M. Rose Elizabeth by Sister Mary Immaculata, smra, first assistant to Mother Agnes, smra, on behalf of all of the Associates of Mary.)

Despite the transfer of responsibility, the beautiful fluidity between the two communities continues...

Scholarships for Bachelor's Degrees were offered in the early '60s for two of the Associates of Mary by St. Mary's, Notre Dame, IN. This was an opportunity for two Sisters to earn "foreign" degrees and become even more leaven in their High Schools. They would learn their subject matter for sure, but they would be able, too, to learn of many practical and helpful extra curricular activities, some of which might be adapted for their students. Sister Joan of Arc Spates, csc who had been in Tumilia in 1948, was at least one known person to them. Sisters George and Marie Celine, smra, were chosen for this scholastic endeavor! Sister Francelia, with whom I lived, may have been part of the planning,

I don't know. But I DO know that she was adamant that the Sisters have white wool habits with their blue bordered scapular for the cold winter months—as she felt they would not look their best in black!! She and I were part of the farewell committee, along with Mother Agnes and several of their Sisters at the old Tejgaon airport. Sisters George and Marie Celine spent a demanding four years in the United States and earned their Bachelors' degrees in Elementary Education and Social Science, respectively. As the years progressed, Sister Petra earned an MA in English in Karachi. Sister Shikha, smra, earned a Master of Science in Administration from Notre Dame University, while living at St. Mary's. Sisters Anita and Alo earned Theology degrees in Regina Mundi, Rome. Sisters Bijoya and Minoti earned degrees in Theology from Rome's Urbana University. Sister Pronoti learned Italian while in the hostel of the St. Francis de Sales Sisters, continuing on, to earn her M.D there in Italy. Sisters Orpa and Olympia earned their Medical Degrees from the Community Based Medical College in Mymensingh, Bangladesh. The light glows ever brighter.

At the initiative of Sister M. Olivette, and with the interest of the Religious Superiors of the Associates of Mary, Queen of the Apostles (SMRA); the Sisters of Our Lady, Queen of the Missions (RNDM); the Little Handmaids of the Church - the Diocesan community founded by the Canadian Sisters of Holy Cross, (LHC); The Salesian Sisters of Mary Immaculate (SSMI), the Sisters of the Holy Cross began a Juniorate Programme for Sisters ten years' professed. The Tertian Sisters lived in a special area built for them at the side of the library on the second floor of Holy Cross College. This included classroom, dormitory, and bathroom. Subjects taught were Spiritual Life, Scripture and Constitution of the Church, Applied Catechesis; Relations with Non-Christians, Liturgy, English, and Discussion techniques. The Juniorate also provided a venue for the young Sisters of different communities to get to know one another so that there would be an ease of interaction in the local church, as they grew into maturity and responsibility in ministry.

The late '60s brought forth an initiative to help single Mothers of young children. Sister Perpetua csc (who was missioned at the Orphanage at the time) knew well the need of single Mothers to feed their children, as well as to provide a "home" for them. Sister Perpetua "dreamed up" an idea for table

“place mats” made of jute material with a large flower applied on it and stitched napkins of the material of the flower. Sister also had a friend who owned a fancy shop on one of the main streets of Dhaka Town—an “outlet” for the product! Here was an effort of “self-help” for widows! Sister interested Sister Lillian, smra - who was herself adept with her fingers- in the project. Sister Michael Francis Salazar, csc, also dreamed up many other possibilities with jute. Mother Agnes, smra Superior General, gave to the Project, the name “Jagoroni” which means “Awakening”—AND the permission for Sister Lillian to “go ahead”. A new opportunity for the livelihood of needy women and their families was launched. A property, previously used by a Dutch company which was searching for oil, became available as a Centre for sales—and also a safe place, for ladies to come to learn new designs and submit their handwork for quality control.

The Holy Cross Sisters had begun a programme in Tiberias, Israel where Sisters of Asia and Africa could study the life of the Lord in the Holy Land. Among these Sisters were Sister Mary Rani, SMRA from Dhaka Diocese and Sister M. Luigina, a tribal Sister from the Diocese of Dinajpur. Both of these Sisters were on the National Team of the Christian Communities Programme of Bangladesh. This experience gave them a “feel” of the land where Jesus had walked, as well as a deepening of their knowledge of Scripture, in an experience with Religious women from Africa, as well as Asia. In September of 1990, Sister M. Teresa Corraya, smra, upon the completion of her two terms as SMRA Superior General, took advantage of her time for renewal with the CSCs in Tiberias, Israel. Because of the Gulf War, her programme was moved to Rome in January so her experience was broadened to the Eternal City. These Sisters, having had this experience were able to carry to their Sisters, and into their ministries in the Church, a better understanding of the Universal Church.

Father Michael D’Rozario, csc was the Superintendent of Schools for the Dhaka Archdiocese, previous to his being named Bishop of Khulna. Father offered the lay teachers of the Archdiocese an opportunity for an annual 3 day Retreat, held in vacation time at Holy Cross College. On completion of the Retreat, there was a 1 day workshop for all the teachers in the Archdiocese. Since Father had many calls on his time and his abilities, he asked the Holy Cross Sisters if they would help him. I was

the one whom the community “volunteered” for the “job” of visiting the Catholic primary schools in the Archdiocese. Father Michael said he would do all the “official” work with the Government Offices if I would do the practical work and tell him how everything went, when I got home on Friday afternoons. Here was a golden opportunity to acknowledge all the wonderful work that was being done in the primary schools, encourage the teachers, as well as introduce some new techniques. Sister Hildegardis’ Methods of Arithmetic was translated with the expertise and cooperation of an experienced teacher and our Holy Cross College Alumna, Cecilia Rebeiro and me. Father van den Bossche, CSC saw to the mimeographing of the book so that each teacher would have her own copy. Flash cards were fashioned with pictures from objects that played a part in Bengali children’s lives. Jute sticks were used in the teaching of the concept of “tens”. Standardized material was taken to each village so that the teachers would have an opportunity to increase their own facility with English—which was part of the Government Primary School Syllabus from class three through Matriculation Examinations at the conclusion of High School. Regular visits to the schools involved sharing life with the Sisters in the convents, or with the lay people of the villages. New friends and budding ideas over the five year period contributed to the better education of the children.

Let us again take a “fast forward”...

In the 1995 Jubilee Year Book of the SMRA Sisters we find these memories which the Sisters had held dear...

Sister Ruth remembered their dear and revered “Ma” Rose Bernard whom she had learned to love as a student, working in the garden, learning how to sew, joining in the singing around her at the organ, sometimes sucking on lozenges. Sister Ruth had watched how Sister RB had guided her class, talked with people, prayed in the chapel, stood on a stool to refurbish the paint on the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes—then she said SHE wanted to be a Sister....

Sister Marilyn remembers Father Wetzel who encouraged her from the fifth grade when she felt she had a vocation. She remembered Sister Marie Vianney who was her Novice Mistress, and the

Superior-Sister Augustine Marie, as well as Fathers Stegmeier and Goedert who had given her good advice and encouragement, and thanked God for them all.

Sister Michael remembered especially Archbishop Graner csc DD who challenged her to become a Saint!!

Sister Imelda remembers her First Confession when she was 8 years old, when after the Mass, Bishop Crowley blessed her, tapped her on the cheek, and said “Old lady”, when you grow up, are you going to join my new community of Sisters?” Not understanding, she remembers replying in the affirmative!! As she finished High School, Father Stegmeier and Sister Joan of Arc “caught” her and invited her to come the following Saturday to be an SMRA Sister. She felt as though she couldn’t “escape”— that God had His eye on her! Years later in a Holy Hour she understood-- Jesus, Himself, had asked her!

“Gently **the warm light of Jesus** coaxes us to grow in love and trust. It endorses a warm enthusiasm for life, trust in others, quickness to rally around whatever is good, noble, and worthy of faith.”
(Phil. 4:8)

NOTES

1. C. E. and T. Catta, Basil Anthony Mary Moreau, Vol I, p. 886.
2. op. cit. p. 887.
3. op.cit. p. 894.
4. op. cit. p. 908.
5. op, cit. p. 923.
6. C. E. and T. Catta, Basil Anthony Mary Moreau, Vol. II.
7. C. E. and T. Catta, Mother Mary of the Seven Dolors, p. 145.
8. The Bengalese, May, 1939, p.(7).

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Bengalese - May, 1939; p.7

The Medical Missionary - February, 1939; p. 24

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Sisters of the Holy Cross

St. Theodore's Convent, Chicago – 1921-25

Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries