

Bloom *From Seeds to*

Juniors Gathering in Antigua and Barbuda

Sr. Marie Eunide Voltaire, SSpS



From December 30, 2019 to January 3, 2020 in the Christmas Spirit, SSpS Srs. Evelyn Lobo, Eliane Fila, Yanet Hernandez, and I along with our Formator Sr AnnIta Walsh had the opportunity to gather and share about our Constitutions by spending time to reflect on different topics such as Spirituality, Mission and the vows. We were so grateful to Sr. Carol Welp who patiently took the time to give us some input every morning, spending the day in silence and contemplation ending each day with faith sharing and prayer. Our meeting started with an opening prayer and after the first sharing Sr. Carol asked us to choose an image and explain why we chose that image.

Sr. Carol reminded us that we are in a spiritual journey; our lives are a spiritual journey. Growing in that journey means that we are not perfect and our spirituality asks us to be fully human and live it in our relationship with God and others. Our spiritual journey is like a seed you put in the ground and give it time to grow by watering it. Of course, when the time of difficulty or dryness comes Jesus will be our source where we go to be refreshed. Our mission is to bring people closer to Jesus! Our session continued with a sharing about our vows. The essence of our vows and how we live them out is within our relationships and Mission. Through consecrated chastity, we are to give clear witness that the Lord is the central relationship of our life. Through obedience, we are to give clear evidence that we desire to know and accomplish the Lord's will. Through poverty, we are to give clear witness that we peacefully seek our identity in the Lord, not in wealth, honors, or possessions. Our motive as missionaries is to discover and strengthen the presence of Christ and the action of the spirit in the world. We ended our session as missionary disciples sending two by two, sharing our learning in a creative way.

On Sunday January 5, 2020, we concluded our gathering with an evening prayer where Sr. Yanet and Eliane renewed their vows in the chapel. I am so grateful for this meeting and the precious time that we spent together for reflection and recreation.

