

PRIEST ASSOCIATES OF THE SISTERS OF CHRIST

IN MADAGASCAR - 06 TO 09 09/2021

The Priest Associates had their first meeting in Providence House in Antsirabe, from 6th to 9th September 2021.



Being «at the service of our brothers and sisters » (Const., no 11) and «prolonged contemplation of Christ » (Const., no 57) are the two main characteristics of this new Branch of the Sisters of Christ Congregation.

Sr Helene, Sr Georgine, Fr Mark, Fr Eric, Fr Mark Emilien, the five participants in this first meeting, decided on these qualities after prolonged sharing, discussion and deep meditation on the Constitutions.



In fact, the central sentence or motto of the new Branch is drawn from number 12 of the Constitutions :

«Day after day in the place where we live, the mission leads us to experience the God who creates, liberates and reconciles.»

The group are convinced that communion of life or union with Christ, Source and Maker of unity (Gal 2,20, Const., no 57) expressed in the mission of gratitude, welcome, respect and love, are necessary, urgent and vital. This is our identity and our life.



Sister Marianne, the provincial Superior, accompanied by Sister Albertine, visited the group on 8th September, the feast of the Nativity of Our Lady. They came to water and encourage the new plant. On this occasion, the two visitors emphasised the central point of the spirituality of the Sisters of Christ which is; *«contemplation of Christ in all His mysteries, He who is the Source and Maker of unity.»*

From then on we were invited to witness as the Apostles did : *«What we have seen and heard we are telling you so that you too may be in union with us.»* (1Jn, 3). In other words, to be Priest Associates is to witness to our *«experience of God ,»* (Const. No 57) to a life of communion or union with Christ.

The Eucharist is fundamental to the spirituality of priest Associates by the fact that this *«Mystery of the Covenant is both an exchange and a sharing, sign and leaven of unity»* where Christ gives Himself to us. (Const. No. 59)

The five group members played an active part in the life of the Community of Providence in Antsirabe. They participated in the morning celebration of the Eucharist, in Vespers which was sung accompanied by guitar and violin, not forgetting the three light, shared meals each day.



At the end, the five initiators decided to:

- ◆ Publish this little report for the site of the Congregation of the Sisters of Christ
- ◆ Individually share this text with absent members
- ◆ Arrange a meeting during the Easter octave 2022, again at the Providence House in Antsirabe

Antsirabe, 10 th September 2021

Sister H  l  ne,

Sister- in-Charge, Facilatator

Sister Georgine,

Sister-in-Charge

Fr Marc Ravelonantoandro,

Rector of the Catholic University of Madagascar, Secretary, Diocese of Antananarivo

Fr Eric Fran  ois Ravolarison,

Curate in the parish of St Paul, Tamatave, Diocese of Tamatave

Fr Marc Emilien Ramiandrisoa,

Curate of the District of Faliarivo Ampitatafika, Diocese Of Antananarivo

