

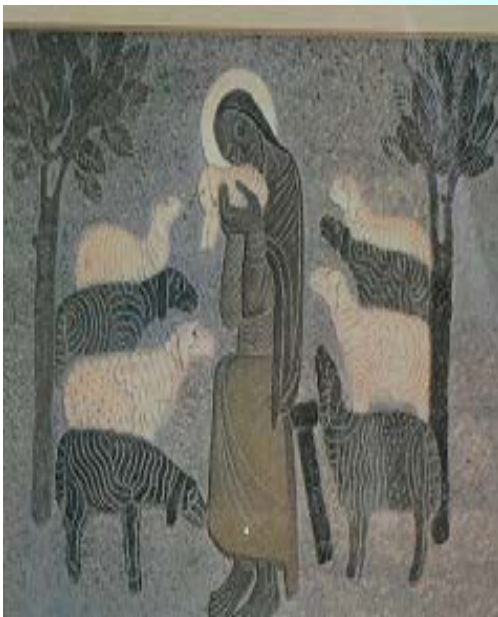
Good Shepherd Asia Pacific Partnership

Good Shepherd Place, Singapore

February 13 to 17, 2017

Saint Mary Euphrasia Pelletier will be pleased!

Her vision of growing and sustaining the mission in collaboration with the lay has bloomed to great heights in Asia – Pacific region.



The GSAPP team which is making its landmark entry into the tenth year under the able guidance of Sr. Noelene White, has grown in mutuality and equality. During the recent meeting in Good Shepherd Place, Singapore, 10 members (5 sisters and 5 lay) representing each Unit of Asia-Pacific spent a fruitful time exploring new pathways to inculcate co-responsibility in mission.

Sr. Noelene White led the group through a sacred reflective ritual on the power of vision. “Write the vision, inscribe it on tables; For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: if it comes slowly, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry”.

GSAPP Team 2017

Seated left to right:

Sr. Rasangi Fernando (Sri Lanka- Pakistan)
Maricel Sevilla (Philippines)
Sr. Noelene White (Aus- NZ)
Sr. Kevin Yin Yin (East Asia)
Sashirekha (CEIN)

Standing left to right

Sr. Luciana (Indonesia)
Dr. Jason Furtado (SW India)
Sr. Anne Dalton (Facilitator)(Aus-NZ)
Sr. Stella Rhee (North east Asia)
Gendrie Klein- Breteler (NZ)
Melina Ong (Singapore – Malaysia)



The room reverberated with the words: “*How proud we are to be part of the emerging history*”

***“Our experience of Good Shepherd draws us together.
The strength of our partnership propels us out for mission.”***

Sharing the Integration Experience at Sri Lanka:

Sr. Noelene White, Gendrie Klein-Breteler and Sashirekha along with Dr. Jason Furtado transported the team to Sri Lanka and gave them an overview of the Integration session in August 2016. This prepared the group for the Joint meeting with the Formation Team. The keen desire to explore ways of integrating and working co-responsibly emerged.

What am I called to do? Change is about being stirred. The group journeyed on the spiral and understood the urgent and continuous need to transform internally. **“We are ready to embrace chaos and search together for new ways”** echoed in the conversations.

International scenario:

As the representative of Asia-Pacific region for Partnership in the International Committee, Dr. Jason Furtado spoke about the congregational initiatives to foster fuller engagement of mission partners. *‘Think globally, act locally’* was reiterated as the challenges to understand the definition of Partnership, the different levels of partners engaged in the mission as well as economic, regional and social realities which influence the growth of partnership for mission were discussed.

Peer support to enhance Co-responsibility in Action:

Gendrie Klein – Breteler led the group to share and discuss the implementation of the co-responsibility module in each unit. Through a series of reflective questions, the group was led to share our challenges and our success stories. *“What are the roadblocks in developing Partnership/ Co-responsibility in your unit?”* *“Ask and you shall receive”*- Ideas to provide peer support to nourish co-responsibility in our Units were drawn.

The need for capacity building in those sisters and lay engaged in the formation of mission partners was felt. A recommendation to integrate with the Formation Team for this program was proposed.

Encouraging Milestones in Partnership in Asia-Pacific:

- Co-responsibility module is introduced in formation programs for sisters and lay in some units.
- In some units, lay leaders are working very zealously along with the sisters or independently to make the ministries more meaningful and vibrant.
- GS Credo has been prepared and used in orientation programs.
- Co-responsibility mandala holds a place in many offices.
- Innovative practices are used to gently build relationships in a co-responsible way.

Bind us together Lord with chords that cannot be broken... With the promise of continuing to build co-responsibility with an integrated approach, the energized GSAPP team continues to journey into its tenth year.

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