



# Nano's Echo

## Newsletter of the Friends of Nano

A Spirit-led initiative of the International Congregation of Presentation Sisters (Union) which celebrates and promotes the charism of Nano Nagle in new and creative ways

SEPTEMBER 2025

**At the heart of our movement lies:**

*A partnership with the Divine*

we attend to God each day and our actions are informed by that commitment.

*A passion for the poorest*

we stand with the poorest in society.

*A covenant with creation*

honouring all of creation, we live and promote sustainable lives.

*A newsletter to connect everyone who is drawn to Nano Nagle. A sharing of ideas and a deepening understanding of Nano and her impact in our lives - locally and globally.*

Pope Leo XIV's letter for the 2025 **World Day of Prayer for Creation**, launching the **Season of Creation** and marking the tenth anniversary of **Laudato Si'**, reveals the



**Garden of Peace**  
Isaiah 32:14-18

theme selected by Pope Francis for the day as **"Seeds of Peace and Hope"** - so appropriate for us pilgrims in this Jubilee Year of Hope. The theme conjures up the image of people moving through the world in their daily lives while sowing seeds of respect, goodness and kindness for ALL of life, natural and human, *at the same time being converted into seeds themselves*, seeds that nurture peace and justice in every situation encountered in order to transform the hate and violence besieging the planet and its residents.

In his encyclical **Fratelli Tutti**, Pope Francis pursued this vision of a radically different societal, economic, and political order. While progress may seem illusive, there are beautiful projects taking root to restore the earth. Even very young inventors are creating solutions to compensate for lack of resources in the most desperate of circumstances. Courageous people on opposite sides of warring groups are building bridges of healing reconciliation. *(Click on the IPA logo.)* This kind of news does indeed spark hope in our day, just as Nano's lantern must have been a beacon of hope in Cork alleyways. Some groups have designed specific **Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation**, which encapsulate our three **Core Values**.



**The Garden of Peace symbol** for the 2025 season of Creation *(above left)* reflects what this transition could bring about. *Click on the symbol* for a **Celebration Guide** with suggested prayers and activities, from hands-on to advocacy. In addition to the ecumenical prayer this year, a new liturgical rite has been approved for a **Mass for the Care of Creation**. Around the globe, many Presentation websites offer reflections and resources to live out our core values during this Season of Creation. *(Click on each flag.)* Nano said: "The Almighty makes use of the weakest means to bring about His works" and the *smallest seeds* to sow hope and peace.



The question is: **How are we going to sprout and grow in response to the cry of the earth and humanity and create this Garden of Peace during 2025, the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saint Francis's writing of **The Canticle** of Creation?**

Karen Sacre, FON Animator



St Francis of Assisi by Jusepe de Ribera

## Covenant with Creation



John Britto

**A Covenant is a sacred relationship between two partners, making a binding promise to each other to work together for a common goal.** Covenant defines obligations and commitments.

“So God created humankind in his image. He blessed them and said be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and have a domain over every living thing that moves upon earth.....every tree with seeds in fruit... Everything that has the breath of life...” (Genesis 1:27-31)

**Thus God entrusted them with the responsibility to care for and manage it wisely.**

God also entered into Covenant with Abraham: “You shall be the ancestor of multitude of nations” (Gen. 17:4) and with Noah: “water shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh”. (Gen. 9:4)

Jesus made a new covenant: “He took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them saying this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me.....This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood”. (Luke 22:19-20)

From the time when God and Adam entered into a covenant, humankind has been entrusted with the **responsibility of taking care of and managing Earth**. But what we do? In the name of development we destroy our environment and culture in the name of civilization.

But our Creator expects us:

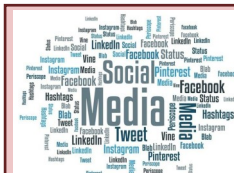
1. To appreciate the wonders of creation, take care of earth and manage the earth responsibly as stewards of creation by adopting sustainable practices, by reducing waste and preserving nature.
2. The covenant also emphasizes the need to take care of the vulnerable (including the poor) and living with love, compassion and justice to fulfil our role within God’s Divine creation.

**Of our three Core Values, I am of the opinion that Covenant with Creation, even though it was not emphasized by Nano, is the most important value because it includes the other two values in itself.**



Blackwater River, BALLYGRIFFIN,

John Britto FON (Leader of the Social Media Group)



The Social Media Group are currently working hard to set up International Friends of Nano social media accounts.

... We will let you know when we launch!

## Garden of Oneness, Zambia - Pilgrims of Hope...Walking for Peace



Image courtesy of pbvm.org website

“After walking with Martin Luther King Jr in Selma 1965, Rabbi Abraham Heschel declared when ‘I marched in Selma, my feet were praying.’

In this spirit, we had a pilgrimage in the Garden of Oneness .....

**We can truly say when we walk for peace,  
we are praying with our feet.**

“In the spirit of Jubilee 2025 ..... Early in the morning people walked from nearby outstations in prayer and song, As they arrived they found us waiting at the gate of the Graden of Oneness with our lovely Jubilee logo poster....”

See **Presentation Sisters e-news June 2025**

for the rest of the story of the **Pilgrimage of Hope in Garden**

or <https://pbvm.org/category/all-news-items/>

***There can be no peace without freedom of religion, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and respect for the views of other.*** Pope Francis, Easter 2025

## Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation by Linda Mora (and Maria Elena Padilla)

On May 24, 2025, three Presentation sisters (Patricia, Maura and Gemma), Maria Padilla, and I met the first Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation in the USA at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio, Texas. We met under a beautiful oak tree steps from the Cathedral. The pilgrims had begun their hike at Little Flower Basilica around 9 am, walked along the San Antonio River and arrived still resilient after 1 pm. We were proud to be there in support of them all. We listened to the leader speaking about this being one of the first of many more pilgrimages to come all over the nation.



Linda Mora



Maria Elena Padilla

A seasoned hiker herself, Maria Elena shared this reflection, "As I waited for the pilgrims to complete their journey, I thought of my journey on the Camino de Santiago. Walking through cobblestone streets or the long trails made me appreciate God's presence and admire the beauty of this world God created for us. Buen Camino!"

Maria is headed back to the Camino this year.

The next Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation will follow the Care for Creation Mariachi Mass at Mission San Francisco de la Espada (est.1690) and process along the San Antonio River to Mission San Juan Capistrano (est. 1731) on September 14th.

**The Laudato Si' movement lives on!**



Laudato Si' 71: "All it takes is one good person to restore hope." How will you be that good person?

**Compassionate God... We ask you to fill us with your love,  
to place in our hearts a spirit of courage, to move us to reach out to others in need.  
And lead us to play our part, so that now and in generations to come,  
all your children may share in our hope for a better world. Amen**



An invitation from the US Associates - to take a virtual pilgrimage praying and reflecting on the **Way of Creation**. **CLICK** on the image or use: **[www.presentationisters.org](http://www.presentationisters.org)**

*Enjoy the mystery of creation while enjoying these beautiful and prayerful videos.*

INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATION ASSOCIATION

# Care OF THE EARTH PRAYER SERVICE

## SAVE THE DATE

Friday, 3 October at  
2:00 PM South Africa (SAST)  
8:00 AM New York (EDT)  
1pm London (BST)

**How to join this event!**

Scan the QR code or click the link to register for the upcoming zoom event

**REGISTER HERE!**

\*Please be advised that the Zoom event may be recorded.\*

Visit our website  
[www.ipango.org](http://www.ipango.org)

Questions?  
[info@ipango.org](mailto:info@ipango.org)  
[jcglobat@ipango.org](mailto:jcglobat@ipango.org)

Join us for the  
**Care of the Earth Prayer Service**  
on Friday 3rd October

8am New York (EDT)  
1pm London Ireland (GMT+1/BST)  
2pm South Africa (SAST)

We look forward to gathering in a spirit of prayer, reflection, and unity as we honour our shared commitment to the

**Care of the Earth:**

a time to contemplate the beauty of creation,  
our responsibility as stewards,  
and the urgent call to live in harmony  
with our common home.

As **Presentation People**, we are called to  
act with justice, protect the vulnerable,  
and walk gently upon the Earth.

**When will I receive the Zoom link?** Closer to the date of the Prayer Service, you will receive an email with the Zoom link.

**What if I can't attend? Will I be able to obtain a copy of the Prayer Service?** Yes. If you're unable to join us live, we will share a link to the recording afterward so you can participate in your own time and space.

**[www.ipango.org](http://www.ipango.org)**

## Passion for the Poorest

## “Nano’s Hot Meals Opens to Serve Philippine Typhoon Victims”



Ariel Solinas

In response to the devastating impact of Typhoon Crising (Wipha), **Binalbagan Catholic College, Inc. (BCC)** launched a community-driven relief initiative dubbed “Nano’s Hot Meals”. As torrential rains and strong winds, brought by the typhoon, disrupted lives across Negros Island, BCC mobilized its



faculty, students, and volunteers to provide immediate support to affected families. Nano’s Hot Meals, named in honor of Venerable Nano Nagle, the College’s patron of compassion and service, began operations by serving hot meals and essential supplies to evacuees and residents in severely affected areas.

True to the mission of service rooted in faith, Nano’s Hot Meals is a way of showing that the BCC community stands with those



who are suffering, that even a simple meal can bring warmth, dignity, and a reminder that our brothers and sisters affected by flood are not alone. The college continued expanding its operations to reach more barangays hit by the storm. Community members and partner organizations were encouraged to support the cause through contributions of food, hygiene kits, and other basic necessities.

As the region recovers, BCC reaffirms its commitment to being a beacon of hope and solidarity in times of crisis.

**#lend a hand fill a heart** Submitted by Ariel Solinas, Parolita/Friend of Nano, International FON Communications Team

## Friends of Nano in North India

Submitted by Dhira Madan, NIP FON Coordinator

*These articles have been edited to give the essence of what we as Friends of Nano are endeavouring to achieve by our humble efforts.*

**Blood Donation Camp Organized by “Friends of Nano”.** In a significant humanitarian effort, **Friends of Nano**, Srinagar, partnered with Lal Ded Hospital to organize a blood donation camp, aiming to support local healthcare and encourage voluntary donations. Many participated in this life-saving initiative, including Mary Jarsi PBVM, principal of Presentation Convent High School (PCHSS), who emphasised the



Dhira Madan



profound impact of blood donation: “There is no greater service than saving a life. A few minutes of our time today can make the difference between hope and despair for someone in need.” **FON** helped with donor registration, provided refreshments and post donation care. Mrs Rubiya, a Senior **FON** commented, “We believe in service beyond ourselves, Every drop of blood donated today represents a promise to stand by our community in times of need.” (from a Report by Dr Aijaz Rather)

**May Love be our Lantern Flame.** As part of their community service and educational outreach program, students from (PCHSS) visited the Voluntary Medicare Society (VMS). **Friends of Nano** have played a key role in introducing students to the societal impact of disability support services, reinforcing the importance of inclusivity. The main objectives of the visit: to understand the role of VMS in providing rehabilitation, healthcare, and education to underprivileged and differently-abled individuals; to engage in interactive sessions with patients/special students and staff; to learn about the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities; to raise awareness about inclusivity and social responsibility among students; to provide essential stationery kits to support the educational needs of special students at VMS. “Witnessing their resilience in the face of such hardship has humbled us and reminded us of the true value of compassion and connection. We are proud of being **Friends of Nano**.” **Sr. Molly** on behalf of **Friends of Nano**.



In a heartwarming gesture of community service, **Friends of Nano**, Srinagar, donated a generous supply of food items to Kashmir Youth Campaign Old Age Home, a local non-governmental organisation (NGO), dedicated to serve the elderly/homeless. This initiative brought smiles to the faces of over 30 elderly residents. **FON** team members delivered the items and spent time interacting with the residents, who expressed their appreciation. Staff at the senior home also acknowledged the contribution from the **Friends of Nano**. The food dona-

tion drive reiterated the mission of the ‘Lady of Lantern’ to serve and care for the vulnerable.

(from a Report by Dr Aijaz Rather)

## Friends of Nano South India Province Gathering

28th August to 1st September 2025

Kodaikanal is a hill station in the state of Tamil Nadu: ranked as one of the top 5 places in the world for best weather and natural scenic beauty. This is where we gathered for four days at the end of August: the **Friends of Nano** South India Province; Leadership Team (outgoing and incoming); the Advisory Committee; and the Link Sisters.



Isabel Thomas



It was a synergistic experience with much sharing of inspiring stories from all four Clusters. We were warmly welcomed with Prayer. Spirits were high with enthusiasm and our hearts full with joy as we met friends old and new. Reports, presented by all the groups, were creative and unique. We were privileged to reflect upon and share insights on 'Portrait of Nano Nagle', 'Zeal in the Writing and Life of St. Paul and Nano Nagle', 'Temple Spirituality', and 'Everyday Leadership' written by Catherine Nowlan and Deirdre Raftery. In collaboration, the Presentation Sisters and Companions in Mission ( **FON members**) finalized the South India Province **Friends of Nano** Guidelines.

This Gathering has empowered and rekindled our spirits and our passion for justice, for the love of Jesus and of Nano. We will continue to pray for Nano's sainthood.

Many thanks to the local leader of Presentation Convent, Kodaikanal and the Leadership team for this spiritual, enriching, and gratifying experience. **Isabel Thomas, Friend of Nano, Coordinator of the FON Young Members Team**

## Partnership with the Divine

### Friends of Nano in Pakistan commemorate the Feast of the Sacred Heart and the Holy Spirit

The gathering of the **Friends of Nano** in June began in prayer invoking divine love and mercy followed by a reflection on the Holy Spirit and a reading from *One Step Beyond* highlighting Nano's dedication to the Sacred Heart. Sr. Gretta and Nisha challenged the participants to reflect on the needs they observe around them and ways to meaningfully involve others in **FON** initiatives.

**"Nano's legacy is not confined to the past — it lives in each one of us when we serve with love, speak with faith, and act with courage."**

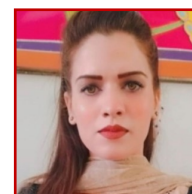
In small groups, **FON** engaged in thoughtful reflection on the love of the Sacred Heart in their lives, the calling of the Holy Spirit, and practical ideas for spreading Nano's light to ensure the movement remains vibrant and responsive to current realities in Pakistan.

Discussions were rich in insight, grounded in faith, and filled with a shared desire to serve. Members exchanged experiences and hopes, truly embodying Nano's motto:

**"Deeds not words".**

Another prayer and reflection led to a profound moment of silent gratitude and presence, followed by a hymn to the Sacred Heart. The gathering concluded with a collective re-commitment to live out Nano's vision in daily life.

Members expressed a renewed spiritual zeal to continue as **light-bearers** in their communities.



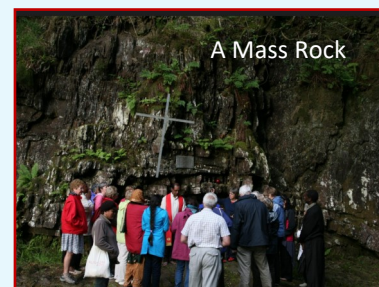
Nisha Francis



**Nisha Francis, Pakistan FON Coordinator**

## FROM the ARCHIVES: Awakening to the Mystery of God, the Mystery of Life.

In June 2011 twenty-four **Friends of Nano/Presentation Associates** travelled to Ballygriffin for an International Gathering. We arrived as strangers from the corners of the Globe: with our individual dreams and aspirations. Through the liturgies and our stories and discussions we explored, with the help of each facilitator, the spirituality of Nano: the charism of Nano. One whole day was guided by Fr Jerry, a Jesuit priest from India, as we were led from Nano's birthplace to her Baptismal font (in the local Church) and then travelled into Cork itself. Here we walked in Nano's footsteps from 'South Pres' Convent across the River Lee and past some of the tiny lanes and back streets and 'her schools'. The day was marked by Stations of Prayer and the Eucharist. We glimpsed the Penal Times by visiting a Mass Rock (a hidden spot where Catholics would gather for Mass when it was against the law).



A Mass Rock

There was much to reflect on as we considered where Nano's heart was leading us - what difference would we make by 'being in communion' as **Friends of Nano**? Each small step leads to a Movement... One such step was Nano's decision to form a Congregation so that her schools would have a future... 250 years ago - A Jubilee we will celebrate!

On our final day we celebrated a feast close to Nano's Heart: The Sacred Heart of Jesus. Our Core Values - **Passion for the Poorest**, **Partnership with the Divine**, and **Covenant with Creation** - emerged from the gathered wisdom. These guiding principles would inform our work and our development as a movement. We endeavour to give practical expression to these core values in light of



the charism of Nano through **compassion** for those most in need, **commitment** to our aims, **persevering** with our work, **courage** in the face of setbacks and difficulties, **confidence** in Divine providence, **creativity** in entering an uncharted course and devising innovative solutions, and **in communion** with our fellow **Friends of Nano** and others - all which are underpinned by the practice of **contemplation**. Filled with the Spirit we were 'set loose' singing: "Love shall be your lantern flame, guiding you beyond the known!"



While preparing this 'From the Archives' I began by looking for a Pilgrimage of Hope item and gradually this story of pilgrimage in 2011 to Ballygriffin and Cork emerged. Searching for photos was a problem as my technology has moved on but my filing system has not! Fortunately a quick WhatsApp message to Mary-Ann Greaney produced an abundance to choose from. It might have been 14 years ago but it was a Pilgrimage of Hope... we just didn't know it at the time. It led to a deeper knowledge of Nano; the Friends of Nano Guidelines and the IPLMM (International Presentation Lay Movement for Mission);

Nano's Echo; Crosswords; International Zooms of **Friends of Nano** Coordinators & Link Sisters ... and onwards...

Maria Owen. Communications Team

Click on the FON logo for archival issues of Nano's Echo (starting in 2015) and crosswords.

Next issue of Nano's Echo:  
December 2025

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Please start collecting items for the next issue. It would be great to include articles (250 words maximum) by **Friends of Nano** from whom we have not heard before... Please send colourful and good quality photographs, video links and illustrations to enhance each item - send by 1st December 2025.