

Cluny Sisters Celebrate 150 Years in Peru (Continued)

of France as well as the French portion of the Basque Country settled in Peru during the 1800s. At a request from the French welfare society in Peru, the sisters first took responsibility for the French Asylum, a medical facility for families of French origin who needed care and support.

Soon this Asylum became the “House of Health” clinic, open to all. The sisters also extended their outreach by founding a school in Lima. For almost a century the sisters were responsible for the administration, and ministered in all the services of this clinic. Students rapidly increased in number at the school, which was appreciated by both French and Peruvian families for the excellent study methods taught by the sisters. Over the past 150 years, the number of Peruvian sisters and the ministries have continued to grow.

Today, they form ten communities responsible for a vast variety of ministries: three schools (nursery through secondary); a health care clinic with an alternative medicine center; social action networks that include creches (children 0-3 years); boarding for women who come to Lima to study; two canteens/soup kitchens

for students and sick or abandoned seniors; home visiting; accommodation for those who come to Lima for medical treatment; a spirituality center for retreats and for Christian, spiritual and human development groups; catechesis and sacramental preparation; and celebration of the Word in the absence of priests.

Guided by our Cluny missionary spirit, the sisters responded to a request to found a community in Cuba in San Miguel de los Baños in 1997. Subsequently, a second community was founded in 2001 in Colon, Cuba. The five sisters in these two communities are involved in pastoral ministry. They are responsible for two canteens/soup kitchens for poor elderly people and home visits to families, catechesis and preparation for the reception of the sacraments, and celebration of the Word in the absence of priests.

The words of Anne-Marie Javouhey resound in the heart of her daughters: “Be courageous, serve God with joy and generosity ... Be of our time so as to win it for Jesus Christ ... I want to be wherever there is good to be done! ... May God be glorified ... in everything and always His Holy Will.”



Adding to the joy of the celebrations, on July 20 Sisters Doris, Gloria, Yely and Ofelia pronounced their perpetual vows. We join our sisters of the Province of Peru/Cuba in rejoicing and giving thanks for their commitments.

The four sisters are pictured here with Sisters Maria Virginia (past Provincial) and Sister Miriam (current Provincial).



To learn more about Cluny Sisters in Peru and Cuba, please visit:
<https://www.clunyperucuba.org.pe>

To contact the sisters, go to the website, and click on “contacto” to send a message.
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