

# VISIT OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT TO MADAGASCAR

## from February 6th to April 4th, 2023

As we went from community to community, we experienced the joys and hopes of our sisters, as well as their challenges on this island.



### February 7, 2023: Arrival in Antananarivo

Sisters Véronique, Helena and Kathryn arrived on the same day, although those from Rome arrived in the afternoon and sister Kathryn from Chicago at midnight. The warm welcome of our sisters is the same, day and night.



## Visit of the Father Terme community

**From February 9 to 10:** We began our visit with the community of Father Terme in Amparibe (in downtown Antananarivo). Starting with this community enabled us not to have to travel right after we arrived. This house is also our base during the visit.



**Feb 11: Meeting with the Finance Team**



## At Soavimbahoaka

After these two days in Amparibe, we went to Soavimbahoaka (6 km north of the city center). We visited two communities in this house: a community of the older sisters (St. Elizabeth) and a small apostolic community (St. John).

### - St. Elisabeth Community

We started with the community of the older sisters (Saint Elizabeth): **from February 14 to 16.**





## Community St Jean, from February 17 to 18



### Feb. 20 morning: Cenacle Family



### Ambohipo from February 20 to 27

In this place 8 km east of the city center, there is a spiritual center and a house of formation.





**-Community of the Sacred Heart from February 21 to 22**



-It was with the community that animates the spiritual center that we began.

**-Maison Thérèse Couderc**

We continued with the **novitiate** (part of the house of formation) from **February 23 to 24 morning**.



- - From the **afternoon of Feb 24 to February 26**, we visited the **juniorate** (part of the Saint Thérèse Couderc house.)



The young sisters showed us the different cultures of the Island through dances





## Arrivals...

**Arrival of sister Hanitra:** We had just started visiting the community of the older sisters when Hanitra came to join us on February 14th. She was able to experience the rest of the visit in this community.



It was during our visit to the Juniorate community that **sister Susay arrived** to join us on February 24th. Finally, we are all here. Needless to say, this is a great joy for us and for our sisters!



## March 1-2: Visit of the Provincialate community



It was with the provincialate community that we ended the visit of the seven communities of Antananarivo. The provincial house is a second house in Amparibe, in the city center. The Père Terme house next door served as our base during the entire visit.



## March 4-5: Visit of the community of Antsirabe

We left Antananarivo to head south to the highlands of Madagascar. As we left the city, we began to take the green landscapes of rice fields. Our first stop was in Antsirabe, 200 km from Antananarivo. Our sisters, two postulants and Fraternity members expressed their joy in welcoming us there.



the fraternity

## March 6-7: Visit to the community of Betafo

Located 6 km from Antsirabe, this small community of four sisters welcomed us into the calm of the countryside.







### Meeting with the pre-postulants

It is here that ten young women are preparing to enter the postulancy.

We were also able to meet the fraternity.



After this visit to Betafo, Kathryn returned to Chicago and the four of us continued to the remaining communities.

### March 10-11: Visit to the community of Fianarantsoa

After the region of Antsirabe, we continued our journey south to reach Fianarantsoa, 400 km from Antananarivo.





Here, thanks to the cultivation being done by our sisters, we were able to closely observe rice growing in the rice fields that we had only been able to see from afar from the car.



Meeting with the Fraternity

### Sister Hanitra's Birthday



It is a great joy to live a time of thanksgiving with Hanitra as she celebrated her birthday in this community where she first crossed the threshold of the Cenacle in 1995.



## March 12 – Visit to Sister Hanitra’s Family in the countryside

Our rest time allowed us to travel to Hanitra's home village to meet her family. This was a moment of joy for all of us.



## March 14-15: Visit to the community of Farafangana



Our journey continued toward the coast, east of the Fianarantsoa. This small community of three sisters lives in a diocesan house. The bishop and the priests joined with our sisters in this parish community to give us a warm welcome.

Here too, the Fraternity came to meet us.





## March 18 in Soavimbahoka

After two days of travel by car back to Antananarivo, we met with the **Formation Team** of the Province on March 18<sup>th</sup>.



We also met with the **FSI** (Ignatian Spiritual Formation) team). This Inter-Congregational Ignatian formation takes place in the Upper Room of Soavimbahoka.

## March 19-23: Visit to the community of Morandava

And, after making a long round trip from Antananarivo to Farafangana, we flew to Morondova, in the west of Madagascar, where three sisters form a small community at the heart of a Catechetical Center for the Diocese.

The catechists, with their children, welcomed us when we arrived.







We went to see the first place where our sisters lived in this diocese, and we were warmly welcomed by the community of Carmelite Priests of Mary Immaculate with their students.

## March 24-27: Visit to Fort-Dauphin

Our visit to the communities on the coast of Madagascar continued. Here we are in Fort-Dauphin, in the extreme southeast of the Island of Madagascar. Four sisters live here in a diocesan house.



Meeting with the Fraternity



## **March 29 -31: Visit of Tamatave**

Finally, we visited the 14th and last community of the Province. It was a great joy to end the tour of the Island with this community of four sisters in a diocesan house, on the east coast



The Sisters also have the **fraternity group**



**After seeing all the communities of the Province, we ended with a time of sharing with the provincial team. It was also a moment to give thanks to God for all that we have experienced in this Malagasy land during these 2 months.**

**On April 4, we said “MISAOTRA and VELOMA = THANK YOU and GOODBYE”**

