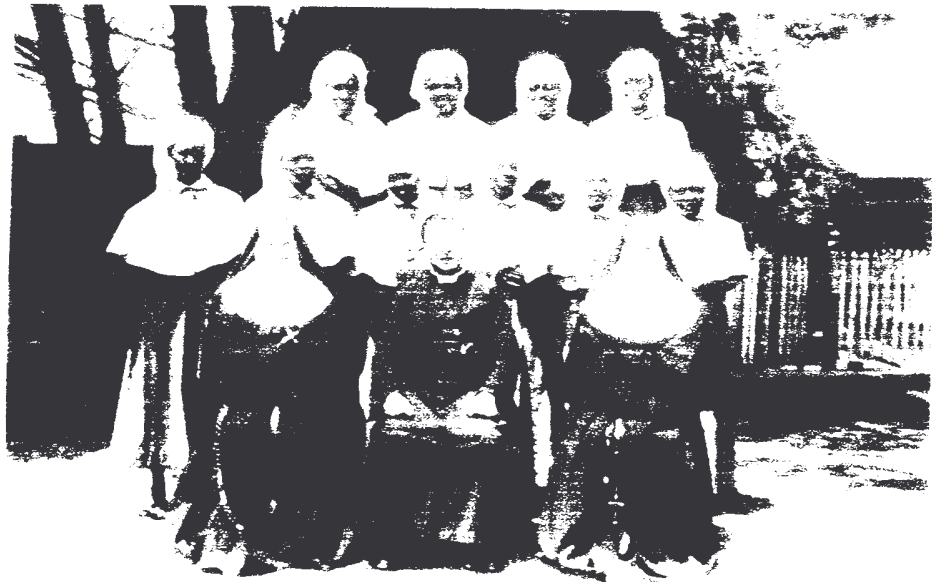




1900. The first group of women in the convent. The building was built in 1898.



1910. The nuns in their habits, standing in front of the convent.



1915. The nuns in their habits, holding lanterns.



1920. The nuns in their habits, holding lanterns.



2. 1920. The Sisters of the Holy Family, St. Mary's, St. Louis, Mo.



3. 1920. The Sisters of the Holy Family, St. Mary's, St. Louis, Mo.

12

PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE RENEWAL CHAPTER OF THE COMPANIONS OF ST ANGELA

1. In an introductory paragraph, mention could be made of the fact that the rate of change in the world, and in all walks of life, has been so rapid that societies in which religious live and work have changed almost beyond recognition. The Church must keep touch with these changes, and adapt accordingly and appropriately. St Angela herself told her first daughter over 400 years ago, that they were to keep their finger on the pulse of the Church, and change when and where necessary, but with prudence, and under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Church has asked religious to examine their way of life, their Rules and Constitutions, and in the light of Vatican II, bring their Constitutions up to date. It will be important to stress the difference between change for change sake, and serious renewal. The Church has never intended that we become so 'modernised' that there is no difference between religious and the layman. The renewal must be aimed at a deepening of the spiritual life from which will flow a richer apostolic life.
2. Now that the time has come for the election of a new major superior for the Congregation, it is right and proper that this renewal precede her taking office. It is a very serious matter that will entail earnest prayer, sincerity with God, self and each other. Naturally, direction and assistance from those with experience is necessary. The Ursulines have been asked to form a team, the members of which will work on different areas of the Constitutions that have to be revised.
3. Give the names of the team:
Co-ordinator : Sr Gemma Lawler
Members : Sisters Anselm Peace, Therese Walsh,
Mary Clonnet Dean, Anne Mayhev and
Catharine Pearson.
4. Division of work:
 - a) Study of the documents of the Church, especially Perfectae Caritatis
 - b) Writings of St Angela
 - c) Study of the Constitutions under the following headings:
 - i) Spiritual Life
 - ii) Consecration - the vows
 - iii) Community life
 - iv) Apostolate
 - v) Formation
 - vi) Government and Finance
5. Method to be followed:
 - a) Study of the existing Constitution with an eye to retaining what is good and renewing what they feel needs updating
 - b) The Ursulines responsible for any particular section will provide reading material which every sister will be expected to use
 - c) A questionnaire will accompany the reading material with a view to directing the thinking
 - d) Written feed-back will be required, but this written work will be explained beforehand.
 - e) These written exercises will be collated and summarised to be used

Constitutions
Dominic

January	23rd - 29	Spiritual Life
	30th - 5 Feb	" "
February	6th - 12	Poverty
	13th - 19	"
	20th - 26	Obedience
	27th - 5 Mar	"
March	6th - 12	Chastity
	13th - 19	Chastity
	20th - 26	Further work on the vows
	27th - 2 Apr.	Formation
April	3rd - 9	Holy Week
	10th - 16	Formation
	17th - 23	Apostolate
	24th - 30	Apostolate
May	1 - 7	Community Life
	8 - 14	Community Life
	15th - 21	Government & Finance
	22nd - 28	Government & Finance

You will notice that I have vaguely indicated 'work on documents' for the week Dec. 26th until 31st, and my reason is that we Ursulines will be having our Provincial Chapter during this time, so work will be given to them. And it has just occurred to me that I have marked them down for work during their retreat, which will mean that the section to be done at that time will be limited to one week and not two. More could possibly be done later, should that be necessary.

12. On the morning of the 14th Sr Catharine Pearson will give them the first instruction in the use of the Breviary, and then give one each day for the next two or three days, depending on the time she needs. I will also ask her to say the hours with them at least on the day when she has them together at St Mary's.

13. May I remind you that you will have to officially appoint Sr Eugene as superior of the St Mary's group as soon as you and the Archbishop think fit.

14. I thought that it might be more convenient for the commission leaders to meet the Companions in two groups when once they have got launched, for the instruction part of the work, as it will entail a lot of expensive travelling for them if they are to go to St Mary's each time. All the leaders can drive, so this facilitates things. However, plenary meetings will be held every so often at St Mary's. If you have any other ideas, I am open to them. Be assured of our earnest prayer and dedication to this work.

TEAM MEMBERS:

- Fr. Dominic Baldwin
- Sr Gemma Lawlor
- Sr Anselm Peace
- Sr Therese Walsh
- Sr Mary Clement Dean
- Sr Anne Mayhew
- Sr Catharine Pearson

DIVISION OF WORK:

- a) Study of the documents of Vatican II
- b) Writings of St Angela
- c) Spiritual Life
- d) Consecration
- e) Community Life
- f) Apostolic Life
- g) Formation
- h) Government & Finances
- i) Introduction to the new Breviary

ROSTER:

Monday, Dec. 13th	Introductory talk by Mgr A. Kelly Discussion of plan of work First talk on the use of the new Breviary followed by Evening Prayer with Sr Catharine
Tues., Dec. 14th	9.00 am Talk on the Breviary and recitation
Thurs. Dec. 23rd	of Morning Prayer with Sr Catharine 10.00 Tea followed by the talk on the Vatican Documents by Sr Mary Clement
Sun. Dec. 26th	Independent work on the Documents
Fri. Dec. 31st	
Mon. Jan. 3rd	Retreat
Jan. 9th	
Mon. Jan. 10th	Winding up work on the Documents
Jan. 11th	
Wed. Jan. 12th	Writings of St Angela
Sat. Jan. 22nd	
Sun. Jan. 23rd	Community Life
Sat. Feb. 5th	
Sun. Feb. 6th	Vows - Chastity
Sat. Feb. 19th	
Sun. Feb. 20th	Vows - Obedience
Sat. Mar. 5th	
Sun. Mar. 6th	Vows - Poverty
Sat. Mar. 19th	
Sun. Mar. 20th	Spiritual Life
Sat. Apr. 2nd	
Sun. Apr. 3rd	Holy Week
Sat. Apr. 9th	
Sun. Apr. 10th	Break
Sat. Apr. 16th	
Sun. Apr. 17th	Apostolate
Sat. Apr. 30th	

Sun. May 1st Formation
Sat. May 14th

Sun. May 15th Government & Finances
Sat. May 28th

METHOD OF WORK

- a) Study of existing Constitutions with an eye to retaining what is good, and renewing what needs updating.
- b) Team members responsible for sections will provide reading material that should be faithfully done.
- c) A questionnaire will accompany reading material to assist with the written feed-back which will be required. The written work will always be carefully prepared beforehand.
- d) When the general study has been completed, you will be asked to form commissions, together with those of the team with whom you will have been working. Each commission will be given specific section of the work to deal with and will work towards preparing chapters for the new Constitutions.

JOHANNESBURG VICARIATE

L. J. C. & M. I.

BISHOP'S HOUSE

15, EMPIRE ROAD

PARKTOWN

JOHANNESBURG

PHONE 44.7849

January 14. 1951

Mother M. Gertrude O.S.U.,
Ursuline Convent,
Brugersdorp.

Dear Mother Gertrude,

Some time ago, when your Mother Provincial was on Visitation in the Transvaal, you will remember that we had a discussion about the possibility of my being able to found a Native Diocesan Congregation of Sisters under the direction of the Ursuline Sisters. At that time, though I spoke with full consent and encouragement of Bishop O'Leary, I had not the authority which has now been confided to me as Vicar Apostolic of the Johannesburg Vicariate. Now, however, it seems to me that I should pursue the question further, so that our long-cherished ideal of having Native Sisters for the Apostolic and Missionary work in the Vicariate may be brought nearer its realisation.

It still is my ardent hope that the Ursuline Sisters will be willing to accept this most important task of laying the foundation stones for such a Native Diocesan Congregation. For this reason I feel that I should write to you in order that you might know my mind and at the same time be enabled to communicate with your own Religious Superiors.

I take the liberty to set forth some preliminary suggestions, viz.,

- i) The financial responsibility for this Native Congregation will rest with the Vicar Apostolic of the Johannesburg Vicariate who, in all financial matters, will act in close consultation with the relevant Ursuline authorities;
- ii) The House of formation for this Native Congregation will be situated in close proximity to the present Ursuline foundations - if possible, next to St. Mary's Mission;
- iii) The Ursuline Sisters selected for the work of this Foundation will remain subject to their Ursuline Superiors in all that appertains to their Religious Life and obligations; their work will also be subject

JOHANNESBURG VICARIATE

1950-1951

REVENUE

EXPENDITURE

JOHANNESBURG

1950-1951

10

S. CONGREGATIO DE PROPAGANDA
FIDE.

Vatican City,

June 18th, 1952.

Prot. N. 2349/52

Your Excellency,

I have received your petition to establish the Association of the Handmaids of St. Angela to undertake religious and Apostolic work in the field of education, catechising, nursing, formation of feminine lay Apostles in Catholic Youth activities.

This Sacred Congregation ("de Propaganda Fide") hereby grants the necessary permission to issue a Decretum Erectionis and would like to have the Constitutions as soon as possible.

With best wishes and blessings for the new religious Society,

I remain,

Yours very sincerely in Christ,

P. Card. Fumatomi Biondi, Prefect

+ Peter Costanbini
Secretary.

His Excellency
Most Reverend Bishop P. Whelan, O.M.I.,
Bishop of Johannesburg.

Ursuline Convent,
Krugersdorp,

29th May, 1954.

My Lord,

I have great pleasure in informing you that yesterday I received a letter from Our Very Reverend Mother General approving of our proposals

1. That Mother Gertrude Moran be appointed Moderator General of the Company of Saint Angela;
2. That Mother Antoinette Carroll should be in charge of the Novices.

Our Very Reverend Mother says that she approves fully of our decision. "The training of a Native Sisterhood is a most important work for any Mission, and we must consider it a grace to have been chosen for the work."

Assuring you of our fullest co-operation, and begging your blessing,

I remain,

Your Lordship's respectful and obedient child
in Christ,

Superior of the Mission.

No. of Act in Mission Register: _____

With the full approval of Our Very Reverend Mother
General, Mother Marie de St. Jean Martin, the Mission
Council of South Africa at their Meeting held at Krugers-
dorp on the 8th June, 1954 appoints Mother M. Antoinette
Carroll, as Novice Mistress for the new African Congre-
gation — Companions of St. Angela — a Diocesan Congre-
gation founded by His Lordship, Bishop W. P. Whelan, O.M.I.
on 7th August, 1954.

Signatures: M. Clare O'Connell. O.S.A.
Superior of the Mission.

Mission Secretary.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, 15 EMPIRE ROAD
 PARKTOWN · JOHANNESBURG
 TRANSVAAL · SOUTH AFRICA

PHONE
 44-7849

10 August 1954

Mother M. Gertrude O.S.U.
 Moderator General of the Diocesan Congregation
 of the Companions of Saint Angela.

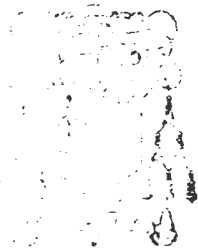
Dear Mother Gertrude:

Herewith I send you the Official Decree whereby I have canonically erected the Diocesan Congregation of the Companions of Saint Angela. Your authority as Moderator General of the little Congregation now has official canonical effect. In like manner, Mother M. Antoinette is has all the necessary canonical jurisdiction for her function as Novice Mistress in this Congregation. Though this new Congregation comes under the immediate jurisdiction of the Ordinary of the Diocese of Johannesburg, the whole ordinary administration and responsibility for the Companions of Saint Angela is now placed in your hands. It will be your function to take all practical steps to launch this little Congregation on its providential way under the special patronage of Saint Angela. All admissions to the Novitiate and to religious profession are committed to your care, acting in collaboration with the Novice Mistress. The canonical examination of candidates will, of course, be in the hands of the Ordinary of the Diocese.

Be sure that this work entrusted to your care comes to you from the hands of God, Who has permitted all human agencies to be set aside so that He might purify it and bless and prosper it for His own infinitely Wise Designs. Laus Deo Semper.

I shall always pray for you and for the little Sisters to be entrusted to your care.

Sincerely yours in J.C. et M.I.,



** W.P. Whelan O.S.U.*

+ W.P. Whelan O.S.U.,
 Archbishop and Apostolic
 Administrator of the Diocese of
 Johannesburg.

6
DECRETUM ERECTIONIS CONGREGATIONIS DIOECESANAE SUB TITULO
"COMPANIONS OF SAINT ANGELA".

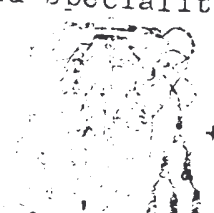
Nos, GULIELMUS PATRITIUS WHELAN O.M.I., Dei gratia et Apostolicae Sedis auctoritate, Episcopus et Administrator Apostolicus Dioeceseos Johannesburgensis, considerantes quam perutile nostrae Dioecesi fore novam Congregationem Dioecesanam pro Sororibus Indigenis, eiusque fundationem nunc opportunam iudicantes, provisione pro congrua habitatione et sustentatione sodalium facta, Sede Apostolica consultata eiusque beneplacito accepto, Sanctoque Nomine Dei invocato, potestate nostra ordinaria et virtute praesentium talem Congregationem sub titulo "Companions of Saint Angela" hic et nunc erigimus, eamque canonicè conditam et personam moralem ecclesiasticam constitutam ad tramitem Sacrorum Canonum (99-103) cum iure possidendi et bona sua administrandi sub immediata nostra iurisdictione, et in omnibus existentem ad terminos iuris communis, declaramus.

Finis seu scopus huius Congregationis erit educatio iuventutis, instructio catecumenarum, opera pro iuventute catholica, formatio feminarum pro apostolatu laicatus, visitationes paroecianae, cura aegrotantium, aliisque caritatis opera ab Ordinario ordinata.

Pro regimine huius Congregationis speciales constitutiones iuxta normas ab Apostolica Sede latas scribi fecimus.

Domus matrix Congregationis erit in Missione Sanctae Mariae, Krugersdorp. Ad officium Moderatoris Generalis, de consensu Concilii Superioris Congregationis Ordinis Ursulinae Unionis Romanae, assumpta est Mater Gertrude Moran C.S.U., et ad officium Magistrae Novitiarum assumpta est Mater Antoinette Carroll C.S.U.

Datum apud Aedibus Nostris in Johannesburg, Anno Domini 1954, die 7a mensis Augusti, praesentibus Exc.mo ac Rev.mo David O'Leary O.M.I. et Reverendo Patre Philip Marius McCarthy O.M.I. testibus ad id specialiter adhibitibus atque rogatis.



x *W.P. Whelan O.M.I.*

+ W.P. Whelan O.M.I.,
Ep. et Adm. Ap. Dioeceseos
Johannesburgensis.

Testes : 1. *D. O'Leary*
2. *P. McCarthy, O.M.I.*

Proposed Dress for the Members of the Native Diocesan Congregation

"The Companions of Saint Angela."

CANDIDATES:

Grey Frock -- School length, with elbow sleeves, white collar, and turn-up cuff.

POSTULANTS:

Blue-grey pleated frock, about two inches above ankle. Long sleeves with cuff of same material. White collar. Short white veil.

NOVICES:

Habit: Pleated tunic in blue-grey material (pattern Boarder's Gym), ankle length. Long sleeves with cuff of same material. Shoulder cape almost to waist, opening at back.

White veil attached to tight-fitting white cap -- bandeau effect.

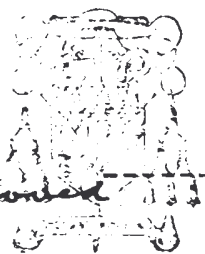
Medal of the Immaculate Conception, with SS. Angela & Ursula on reverse side, worn over cape.

Cincture and Rosary.

Black sandals.

PROFESSED:

Same as Novices. Black veil. Medal to be replaced by Crucifix at Profession.



Approved
August 7, 1954.

+ W. P. Whelan O.S.A.

----- NOVITIATE -----

TIME TABLE

Rise	4.55 a.m.
Morning Prayers and Meditation	5.20 to 6.20
Little Hours (Office of Our Lady)	(Postulants $\frac{1}{2}$ hour) 6.20
Holy Mass (followed by 20 minutes' thanksgiving) ..	6.45
Breakfast	7.45
Make beds and tidy cubicles (10 minutes)	
Instruction	8.20
(After instruction, washing up, sweep and tidy Refectory)	
Spiritual Reading (individual)	9.30
Help in Kitchen, Laundry, and sweep, dust and tidy Novitiate and Dormitory until Examen time.	
Examen	11.45
Dinner	12.
(washing up, etc. after dinner)	
Vespers and Compline X.....	1.15
Rosary	2.10
Spiritual Reading (in common)	2.30
Recreation (Tea)	Weekdays 3 to 3.30
	Sundays 3 to 4.
Matins and Lauds X.....	Weekdays 3.30
	Sundays 5.30
Study Christian Doctrine, New Testament, etc. 4 to 5.	
Evening meditation, and preparation for next day's morning meditation	5.20
Benediction (Thursday and Sunday)	6.
Supper	6.30
(Washing up. Set tables for breakfast, etc.)	
Recreation	7.30 - 8.30
Night Prayers	8.30

- Sundays: Review of week (15 minutes)
- X Holy Hour 4 to 5 p.m.
- Tuesday: Confession (between 5 and 6 p.m.)
- Friday: Chapter of Faults (end of morning instruction) X
- Monthly retreat day: Last Sunday of the month

3rd

Novices do embroidery, knitting and mending during recreation.

In summer time (when Matins and Lauds are at 5.30) Games 3.15 to 4 p.m.

Ursuline Convent,
KRUGERSDORP.

*Approved for the Novitiate of the
Companions of St Angela. The Morning
Meditation (apart from Morning Prayers)
will however be shortened to a half-hour.*

+ w/when

In order to provide for the spiritual interests of the Diocesan Congregation of the Companions of Saint Angela, now canonically erected in virtue of authorisation given by and in accordance with the directives of the Holy See, I hereby appoint the Reverend Father Jean Verot O.M.I. as Spiritual Adviser to this Congregation, represented in the persons of Mother M. Gertrude O.S.U., Moderator General, and Mother Antoinette O.S.U., Novice Mistress.

Given at Bishop's House, Johannesburg on the feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1954.



x W.P. Whelan O.M.I.

+ W.P. Whelan O.M.I.,
Archbishop, Administrator
Apostolic of the Diocese of
Johannesburg.