

The 175th anniversary of the founding of the women's branch of Holy Cross was celebrated on Thursday, December 29, 2016 in the auditorium of Collège Régina Assumpta, in the presence of religious authorities, associates, and friends.

As planned, the celebration began with the Eucharist presided by Bishop Max Leroy Mesidor, The Archbishop of Cap-Haitien. Several Holy Cross Fathers participated.

The Mass began with the song “Soyons ce que nous devons être” (“Let Us Be What We Should Be”). The Fathers and Sisters of Holy Cross entered in procession, preceded by Mother Mary of Seven Dolours in the person of Isenoule Noël, CSC, who wore the old habit of the Sisters of Holy Cross.

Opening remarks by Sister Yanick Sylvrfadin, CSC, helped us to remember our origins, to marvel at the richness of our heritage, and to pay a well-deserved tribute to our Founder, Father Basile Antoine-Marie Moreau, our Foundress, Mother Mary of Seven Dolours, and to all of our predecessors in Holy Cross. She identified the dates of the foundation of our various ministries in Haiti where we have left indelible imprints.

Under the direction of Sister Rosmane Désir, CSC, a beautiful choir of students from Collège Régina Assumpta sang hymns to accompany the Eucharistic Celebration.

Father Eric Jasmin, Provincial of the Fathers and Brothers of Holy Cross in Haiti, exhorted us in his homily to be unafraid of the magnitude of our immense task which must continue. Like our Founder, it is only natural to count on God at all times and in every place because “Holy Cross is the work of God.” Hence, we need to place our confidence in Divine Providence which is an inexhaustible source of energy and dynamism that we need to go beyond ourselves in our religious consecration in Holy Cross. He invited us to follow the recommendations of Blessed Father Moreau who continues to ask us to tighten our ranks, to live unity in diversity in order to always remain evangelical workers and apostolic people to build Haiti of the future, and to do so together.

At the offertory, Mother Mary of Seven Dolours received a tree that will be planted in the garden of Collège Régina Assumpta. It symbolizes the growth of Holy Cross in Haiti. After this symbolic gesture, Sister Léocadie Gascoin told us about the fecundity of Holy Cross in the world.

At the end of the celebration, Monsignor Max Leroy Mesidor congratulated us for all the services rendered in Haiti, especially in Fleurenceau where he worked with several Sisters of the Holy Cross. As a sign of gratitude, he promised us a turkey, a goat, and a cake. Can you guess when we're going to receive these? – on the occasion of our 350th anniversary.

Immediately following the religious celebration, a toast was offered. During this time of exchange and friendship, we were invited to watch a PowerPoint presentation prepared by Sister Doreen Cloutier, CSC, which gave us an overview of the missions where the Sisters of Holy Cross worked from 1953 to the present.

This is how the Sisters of the Region of Haiti have emphasized the 175 years of presence of the Women of the Holy Cross.

May the Lord continue to be a source of blessing in our lives.

Dadeline Jean, CSC