



### Nurturing the Present...

Following the Centre International winter break, **Rita Baum** and **Gracy Thomas** welcomed **Claudette Des Forges**, Sister of St. Joseph-Orange, California, who recently joined the Centre International staff. The staff have been busy building team relationships along with reorganizing responsibilities

and planning activities for the upcoming year. A major interest is gleaning ideas from our sisters world-wide on how we might collaborate in order to further, sustain, and extend our mission, spirituality and charism. Please email your suggestions and insights to: [centre.international@wanadoo.fr](mailto:centre.international@wanadoo.fr)



Centre International Staff 2012 (l. to r.) Sr. Gracy Thomas, SSJ-Lyon, Sr. Claudette Des Forges, CSJ-Orange, Sr. Rita Baum, SSJ-St. Augustine

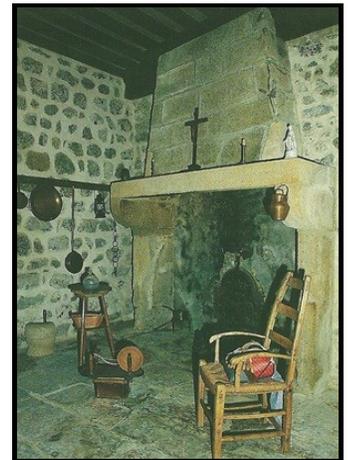
### Embracing our Past... “the kitchen”

Kitchen - a special place in countries and cultures throughout the world. Over the centuries women have spent their lives in the kitchen – preparing food to nourish the mind, body and spirit of their families, friends – and even the “uninvited guest” who may have shown up unexpectedly, and in great need.

The kitchen is the place where people naturally seem to gather, and it is often the place where people most easily share their story, their lives, and most importantly, their hearts. The relaxed ambiance of the kitchen readily invites our heart to open up in a trusting way. Imagine the Spirit at work in the simple everyday conversations that take place around our own kitchen tables today.

Marvel at the honest and deep transformations that can emerge when “two or more gather in His name!”

Imagine Jean-Pierre Médaille accompanying the dialogues that take place in our own kitchen as we really listen to one another. What would he have to say? What might he add to the conversation? How would we leave that dialogue?



First kitchen, Sisters of St. Joseph, Le Puy, France

### Springfield, Massachusetts visit

The latter part of February included a wonderful visit that **Eileen Kirk**, SSJ Associate, organized for a small group from Springfield, MA.

Eileen writes, “Having been here for the Mission Effectiveness Program in 2010, I was thrilled to be able to return in February 2012 with **Sisters Gloria Corrireau** and **Eleanor Dooley**, along with partner in mission, **Patty**

**Kuralowicz**. For each of us, it has been a journey of the soul, filled with simple grace.

We are deeply grateful for the experience and to the Centre Staff for welcoming us to the congregational home in Le Puy.”

- Eileen Kirk  
SSJ Associate

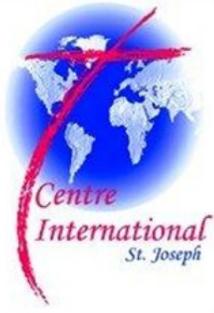


(l. to r.) Sr. Eleanor Dooley, Eileen Kirk, Sr. Gloria Corrireau and Patty Kuralowicz

#### Special points of interest:

- *New Centre Team*
- *“Kitchen Wisdom”*
- *Centre Visitors*
- *2012-2013 Programs*
- *Enrichment Opportunities*





## Initial Application Form

Dear Sisters, Associates, and Partners in Mission,

Welcome to the 2012 - 2013 Centre International Programs. Please check off any of the programs or experiences that are of interest to you, Email to [centre.international@wanadoo.fr](mailto:centre.international@wanadoo.fr) and we will gladly send you detailed information.

Descriptions of Centre International and sponsored programs and activities can be found on our web page at [www.centreinternationalssj.org](http://www.centreinternationalssj.org)

I wish to attend the following programs at the Centre. Please reserve a space and send me the complete information.

\_\_\_ On Pilgrimage In the Footsteps of Our Founders, July 11-18, 2012

\_\_\_ The Little Design, \_\_\_ August 8-15, 2012, \_\_\_ July 16-23, 2013

\_\_\_ Mission Effectiveness, September 22-29, 2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you are interested in one of the following opportunities, we will help you plan this experience:

\_\_\_ visit                      \_\_\_ guided pilgrimage

\_\_\_ retreat                    \_\_\_ sabbatical

\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_