

INFORMATION ABOUT

SACRED HEART SISTERS CONGREGATION
SOUTH SUDAN



Bishop Sixtus Mazzoldi - Founder



Rev. Sr. Mother Annetta Rose Yunis - 1st Sister

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, also referred to as Sacred Heart Sisters (SHS), was founded in 1954 in Juba, South Sudan (then Sudan) by a Comboni Missionary Bishop Sisto Mazzoldi. It started as a Local missionary institute in Loa South Sudan, and today it has expanded to different nations (Uganda, Sudan, Kenya, South Sudan and the United States of America). It is a Congregation for Catholic Religious women, bound by the charism of Love and Compassion drawn from the pierced Heart of Jesus Christ. We are called to Live Love in Truth by serving God and neighbour, particularly the poor, marginalized and vulnerable children. We also take part in evangelization through teaching, social work and pastoral services. The Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus take the Spirituality of the Heart of Jesus as their model of life and draw their identity and Charism from it. In this Heart of Jesus, we contemplate the mystery of his Communion with the Father, the perfect obedience to his will, and the total dedication to his Kingdom.

Our Vision: Is to transform communities into God-fearing, loving, peaceful, and unified communities.

Our Mission and work: Is to witness to the love of Christ through serving and empowering the vulnerable by restoring their dignity and promoting a sustainable environment for all. We are most of all involved in education, health services, social work, pastoral work in parishes and livelihood programs in farms.

Our Motto: Is to Live, Love in Truth.

To date the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, have 121 Sisters who are trained teachers, 57 trained nurses, midwives, and laboratory technicians and 168 who offer social and pastoral services. We have 55 retired and aging nuns who are currently taken care of by the Congregation using the limited resources available to us and we are barely making it. However, despite this challenging reality, the Lord has continued to bless us with many vocations in South Sudan. Many young girls are seeking admission to our formation houses. Currently we have 25 aspirants, 28 postulants and 12 novices undergoing formation in dilapidated infrastructures. Unfortunately, we continue to turn away many more girls seeking admission to our order due to the shortage of funds and the conditions of our formation houses. Even though many religious communities around the world today are faced with similar financial constraints in sustaining the formation of their members, we the sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in South Sudan face an even worse situation due to the ongoing civil war and economic meltdown in the country. South Sudan has been at war with itself for decades destroying many essential infrastructures necessary for development. Three years ago, we even lost two of our senior members who were killed in cold blood and the situation is not getting any better.

Given the above challenges and the needs to provide a conducive environment for the formation of our aspirants, postulants and novices, we are now moving our formation house to Uganda, the neighboring country. This will require a substantial amount of funding in order to continue to provide solid formation for our candidates and open our doors to many more girls aspiring to join our congregation. The cost for forming an aspirant in our formation houses per year is \$5,000.00. This will include their boarding, feeding and cost of education. Currently, there are only three of us, Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, working in the diocese of Phoenix Arizona, whose meagre stipends go towards meeting some of these needs. Sr. Betty Benjamin Banja and I, Sr. Sophie Angela Moding, will be preaching and sharing more about these needs during this corporate mission appeal.

In closing, I take this opportunity to thank you sincerely for your generosity and for always supporting the Churches in need especially in Africa. May the Almighty God who sees what is done and given in secret and with a generous heart reward your parish and each of your families most abundantly.

Yours in Christ,
Sr. Sophie Angela Moding - Local Superior