



*Celebrating 2018 as the
300th Anniversary of the Birth of our
Foundress, Nano Nagle
in Ballygriffin, Ireland.*

Our official NL Launch of our 300th Anniversary celebrations took place at our Motherhouse in St. John's on Christmas Eve, 2017, joining hearts with Presentation People around the world.



Our Launch was marked by a special Prayer,
during which we had the unveiling of the 300th Anniversary banner
created by Sisters Elizabeth Kennedy, Marie Furey and Marilyn Doyle.



At the time of the unveiling, Marilyn shared the very moving story of the banner's creation with all its unfolding symbolism.



This beautiful 8 ½ foot banner, lovingly hand stitched in fabric, creates a vision of Nano Nagle in her present reality as her spirit moves us in to the future. The historical Nano is often represented in somber dark colours. The new life, eternal Nano, represented here is clothed in the shimmering white of spirit and life. The cosmic background cradles Nano, seeping in to form her flowing head covering. She tenderly holds out to reaching hands one piece of the vast universe – the blue planet earth. When spirit touches spirit, eager hands accept.

The followers of Nano from across the globe, of different skin colour, hair style and head dress, release that one spirit unto the present ailing planet. There are no facial features on the figures represented because our faces form these features. We give face to Nano's spirit in this time.

The golden one, with receptive hands, is touched by Nano as she accepts the challenges of the earth today. Her other hand holds Nano's light and warmth.

The white one, with stardust on her gown, with reaching hands accepts the ever-changing cry of the poor on the earth, expanding in this generation to embrace not only the cry of the people made poor, but the cry of all living creatures and the very earth, sea and sky united.

The one in blue is answering the cries from our planet. She is pouring out her heart's spiritual treasure (represented by the golden strands from an open heart), unto a hurting planet.

As the logo on the banner indicates, we give thanks for Nano Nagle's birth 300 years ago in Ireland. We also rejoice as Nano's spirit is reborn in each new generation. Nano's followers give new life in fresh face and form to her spirit as one generation flows into the next through the past 300 years into the present time and on into the mysterious future.

At the same celebration copies of our 300th Anniversary Calendar compiled by Sister Paula Delahunty and Sister Roisin Gannon of our NL Province were presented to our Sisters and Associates, with copies also for those Sisters and Associates unable to attend the celebration.

Presented, too, were copies of the Praying our Journey prayer resource booklet prepared by the Nano Nagle Commission whose members were Sister Betty Rae Lee of our NL Province of Union, Sister Veronica Casey of New Zealand, and Sister Anne Lyons of the Irish Province, and Ms. Margaret Rosair, an Associate with the India Province.



More celebrations would follow throughout the year, including the planning of a two-week Pilgrimage to Ireland in August to retrace Nano's footsteps as well as celebrate her legacy, while also visiting sites integral to our Irish History and our history as Presentation Sisters. While honouring the role the Nagle family played in supporting her through the years, integral to the pilgrimage would also be exploring the maternal side of Nano's family history with a special stop in Thurles and a guided drive through the surrounding area.

