Mission Statement

*Drawn like Cornelia by the Spirit of the Holy Child Jesus, we wish to become more closely united with God through the events of daily life, endeavouring to act justly and joyfully in making known the reality of the Incarnation.*

*Be yourself but make that self just what Our Lord wants it to be. C.C.*

Sharing in a diverse mission
In ‘meeting the wants of age’ and with renewed commitment to the poor and excluded, the SHCJ have diversified their mission in many countries and especially in the developing world. Increasingly, the Associates share in this work of prayer, communication and practical support.

For further information

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The Society of the Holy Child Jesus

In 1846, Cornelia Connelly, in the very special circumstances of her life, responded to God’s call by founding the Society of the Holy Child Jesus. This Society of religious women was to give a particular expression to God’s compassion as understood by Cornelia as she contemplated the mystery of the Incarnation.

European Province Associates

Today many people throughout the world have come to recognise this charism and feel drawn to share in the spirituality of Cornelia and the Society of the Holy Child Jesus in the context of their own lives.

“For this is our mission: to help others to believe that God lives and acts in them and in our world, and to rejoice in his presence.”

SHCJ Constitutions Paragraph 4

“My connectedness with the Society means continuity with my past, with a people, a community, and individuals who continually evoke, draw out and renew in me a sense of vocation to life, its mystery and its twists and turns. It means being in touch with people who want to listen, share and explore at a deeper level the purpose and meaning of our lives.”

An Associate

“The Cornelia window at Mayfield

“Meeting the Wants of the Age”

Cornelia Connelly

The European province of the Society has a diverse network of Associates: past pupils, colleagues, friends, former members. They are people of varying ages, interests and nationality. They meet regularly for prayer, workshops and retreats and participate in a variety of programmes for personal and spiritual development. They hope to build up friendship, support and partnership in response to the needs of the world around them. For those who choose, there is an opportunity to make a yearly commitment to live by a simple set of spiritual guidelines.