

M O N G O L I A

NELLIE ZARRAGA

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Church helps both children with handicaps and their parents

Ulaanbaatar (AsiaNews/UCAN) – In Mongolia, a new Catholic Centre will educate and tutor children living with mental and physical disabilities thus helping their development and integration into society. Last July 3, the Institute responsible for the new Centre moved out of the small room it was using hitherto, which had been made available by the Verbist Street Children Centre, and moved into new premises in Mongolia’s capital. The centre is managed by director **Sister Nellie Zarraga**, from the Immaculate Heart of Mary nuns, and employs four special needs teachers trained by Belgian volunteer Benedict Lecompt.

According to Sister Zarraga, “even though this so-called integration may never be achieved for these children, our goal is to assist them in their development and help them integrate into society.” Last year, the four teachers worked with three autistic children and five slow learners, she said, but “it is hard to know right now how the next school term may change.”