



# DELHI DISHA

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PROVINCE NEWS LETTER September-October 2017

## From the Provincial's Desk...

### Seminars:

- Sr. Alice will attend the Integral Training for Early Formators from November 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December at NRC, Delhi

### Request for Prayers

#### For those who are ill:

- Sr. Camilla's sister, Mariamma 92, who is quite poorly

#### For those who have gone for their eternal reward:

- Sr. Annette's mother, Aley 98, on 13<sup>th</sup> October

## News and events From our communities

### From the hills of Ramnee...

The month of September calls us to honour



Mother Mary, St. Mother Theresa and all the

Teachers who are our guides and lights for the way. The students organized a meaningful prayer service during which they thanked the good Lord for the gift of teachers and implored God to bless them abundantly. With a few out-door games like basketball, badminton and handball they tested the interest of their teachers, of course an enjoyable time for all. 8<sup>th</sup> September was a memorable day for Ramneites as we celebrated Ramnee Day. The prayer assembly was beautifully prepared. Dances, tableau, salad dressing, flower arrangement, Rangoli, documentary on the relevance of Mary Ward in present times were some of the exciting events for children where they vied with one another in showcasing their talents.

On 15<sup>th</sup> September our school organized a symposium for the senior students of various schools of Nainital, Haldwani and Rudrapur. Experts from ICTRC - Institute of Counsellor Training Research and Consultancy enlightened students on various



issues including career counselling.

Our Basketball team won the Runners Up Trophy in the inter school Basket Ball tournament organized by Nainital Gymkhana and District Sports Association (DSA) on 17<sup>th</sup> September. They organized

various games and our students took part in all and brought many trophies. St. Mary's students were declared as the best team. This year they participated in the Diocesan Basketball tournament held in Bareilly and returned with the Winner's trophy and great appreciation. Congratulations to the team and thanks to Mr. Harish Joshi, the basketball coach and Ms. Pritika Tewari for all their assistance to the teams A and B. God bless you all!!

Ganga, Krishna, Narmada, Kaveri – many of our great rivers are depleting fast. If we do not act now, the legacy we hand over to the next generation will be one of conflict and deprivation. These rivers nurtured and nourished us for thousands of years. This is the time we nurture and nourish them back to health. Mr. A.S. Nayal IAS (Director ATI Nainital) motivated the students to do their bit in saving our rivers.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> September Sr. Nirmala left for Bangalore to attend the renewal programme cum retreat with the other jubilarians from COIN. On the same day Sr. Deepa reached Sr. Juliana to Allahabad Nazareth Hospital for her Nurses' Training.

Mrs. Erika and Sr. Joseline were welcomed to our community on 24<sup>th</sup> and they spent a few days visiting the two schools and the places around. Thank you, Mrs. Erika for your lively and happy presence. We appreciate your generous reaching out to the under-privileged! She was happy to be present for the special Assembly conducted by the students.



An assembly was conducted by class 9A on 'ORANGE DAY' wishing safety and security to all women/girls in the world. They motivated all the students to have the

courage to raise their voices against any kind of violence or abuse towards women/girls, be it domestic, at work place, in school or anywhere else. One of the main reasons of increase in crimes against women is that they keep tolerating and don't take any action due to lack of awareness, illiteracy and social stigma attached to it. As empowered women we must act upon any crime/violence against us – a call given by class IX A to the whole school.

The Ramnee family was happy to welcome all the participants of **CJ fest 2017** which was held here from 29<sup>th</sup> September - 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017. The C.J. fest started with bonfire on 29<sup>th</sup> September, putting all the participants into a happy mood. The theme for the CJ fest was "India of my Dream. Arise, Awake and Stop not, until the goal is reached".

Sr. Pratima CJ, the Provincial of Delhi Province, inaugurated the event by lighting



the lamp and declaring the event open. The resource persons, Fr. Ashok Masih, a vibrant priest from Bareilly Diocese and Mr. Anish Mattoo from Jammu, kept the children spell bound and lively with their talks, music and various activities. The entertainment on 30<sup>th</sup> was extraordinary! The students from St. Mary's Mauranipur, Nirmala Jhansi, St. Anthony's Jeolikote, Nirmala Nainital, St. Francis Jhansi, St. Mary's Mayur Vihar, Delhi, St. Joseph's Puranpur, and St. Mary's Nainital enjoyed their stay in Ramnee. This was an unforgettable meeting with new faces, a time of learning together as one CJ family. Undoubtedly the 102 participants have taken back something worth

remembering and living. They returned home with a great desire and determination to contribute their mite in nation building. All the participants pledged to be responsible and reliable citizens of India. All of them were given a memento each. They felt that the time was too short and suggested that the CJ fest could be for three days.

Congratulations to Kritika Trivedi of class XI. The postal department of India had conducted an All India Letter Writing competition on the theme;



“DEAR BAPU, YOU INSPIRE ME.” Kritika bagged the second position in all India level. She was given a Cheque of ` 25,000/- and to and fro flight ticket to Gujarat. She says: ‘it was a

proud moment for me to be in Sabarmati Ashram representing the school and Uttarakand State’. In her letter she wrote, “... I am inspired by the quality of honesty in Gandhiji who said, **‘mine may today be a voice in the wilderness, but it will be heard when all the other voices are silenced, if it is the voice of Truth’.**” During the postal week on 10<sup>th</sup> October Nainital honoured her and she received a cheque of ` 5,000/- Her sister Aditi Trivedi who is also a student of Ramnee, secured first position in the State and she too was awarded with a cheque of ` 10,000/- congratulations to both of you Kritika and Aditi. We are proud of you!!

On 4<sup>th</sup> the feast of St. Francis was celebrated solemnly at St. Francis’ Home and our community participated very actively. In the

month of October, devoted to the Holy Rosary, the community planned to pray the rosary in the homes of our co-workers. In the absence of Sr. Deepa, Sr. Tarsicia attended the Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting which was held in Suchetana on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

On 13<sup>th</sup> our Nirmala School, Nainital had their P.T display. The students did well and all appreciated it very much. Ms. Sarita



Arya, the chief guest, praised the staff and students for their

wonderful performance. The culmination was the human map of India with the coming in of Mahatma Gandhi in the centre.

On 14<sup>th</sup> our compound was filled with tiny tots in all colours along with their parents to complete the formalities for admission to prep. The Art and SUPW exhibition was beautifully arranged on 17<sup>th</sup> for the parents as it was the day for our boarders to go home for Diwali. The parents of the boarders had an orientation on the theme ‘social Media and its effects’. They enjoyed the Bharatnatyam and Kathak dances performed by the students who regularly attend the classical dance classes in the school. By 2.00 p. m. all the boarders except three left for their Diwali holidays. Happy Diwali!!!

Srs. Caroline and Seema joined the Jeolikote community for their annual retreat and the community made use of the holidays to visit the teachers’ and co-workers’ families to wish them ‘Happy Diwali’. On 20<sup>th</sup> we spent the day in recollection conducted by Sr. Merlin who spoke on the women in the Bible and the courageous women of our time, beginning with Mary Ward, with a

soul searching question, 'what can and could we do at present as consecrated and Mary Ward women?'

CRI meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> in S.M.C. Nainital. Mr. Sandeep, our computer teacher took a session on social media. Sr. Deepa, the president of CRI- Bareilly Diocese was the resource person for the rest of the time. 32 religious were present. The meeting concluded with the Holy Eucharist.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Mission Sunday three of us – Srs. Tarsicia, Deepa and Merlin- along with Mrs. S. Taragi visited an informal library in the village called SEEM near Ranikhet run by a dedicated couple, Mr and Mrs Shah, for the children of the area. It was very inspiring to see how these two help children to read, write, draw and work with computer. They are contributing their mite



to the development of those children in the village. We were inspired to help them with short stories and stationary through our Friends of Mary Ward. The importance of the day – Mission Sunday - came into reality.

Kindly pray for the soul of Sr. Catherine M.O.P. who passed away suddenly on 25<sup>th</sup> with a massive heart attack. Some of us visited the sisters in Bhowali to express our condolence and many of us attended the funeral service on 27<sup>th</sup>. Please keep Mr. Peter, brother of Sr. Antoinette, in your prayers as he is seriously ill.

On 27<sup>th</sup> October, Friends of Mary Ward interacted with the students of Nirmala School during recess. The FMW students shared some food items with them and enjoyed their company. It was a time of knowing, understanding and sharing which enriched both the groups and the FMW returned to the class rooms with the feeling of: 'sharing is caring.'

The special devotion to the Holy Rosary was concluded on 31<sup>st</sup> at our Grotto with all the families of our catholic co-workers.

## Nirmala, Jhansi

On 7<sup>th</sup> August, Raksha Bandhan Day, early in the morning Rev. Bishop Peter Parapullil blessed the newly modified kitchen of Krist Jyoti. On the same day Rev. Fr. John SDB, our Chaplain celebrated his birth day. So we had a concelebrated Mass along with our Bishop and the two Salesian priests which was followed by cutting of the cake and a special breakfast so lovingly prepared by Sr. Alice and the candidates. We made the 'Raksha Bhandan Day' special by visiting the prison and tying the rakhee to the inmates. We conducted a short prayer service and our students put up a cultural programme for them. On 19<sup>th</sup> August we were invited by Mr. Jude, our neighbor for his mother's months mind. Some of us participated in the Rosary followed by dinner. On 27<sup>th</sup> August Sr. Vinita was invited to address the youth on marriage preparation with reference to the Scripture.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of September Srs. Mary, Doreen and Alice went to Delhi to attend the superiors' and principals' meeting. In the train Sr. Mary fell ill as her sugar level dropped drastically. Immediately the doctors were called in. Thank God, she recovered soon. On 10<sup>th</sup> the Bible logos quiz was held in our diocese. The boarders, candidates and Srs. Alice and Shanti participated in it. On 15<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the birth day of Sr. Alice.

The whole community participated in the Holy Mass which was held in Krist Jyoti. The SFC and Nirmala community appreciated the High tea and PAYASAM prepared by Sr. Alice. On 16<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Caroline of SFC gave an inspiring talk to the teachers on 'The Friends of Mary Ward' and encouraged our teachers to become part of it. She also shared her experience in Yorkshire, Bar Convent, Mulwith etc. On 17<sup>th</sup> our students had diocesan level catechism examination.

We were happy to welcome Sr. Joseline and Ms. Erica, a German friend of ours. On 20<sup>th</sup> they were taken to Mauranipur by Srs. Vinita and Alice. On the same day Sr. Anita went to Secunderabad for a programme on Self-Counselling and returned on 28<sup>th</sup>. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Sr. Salesia and Sr. Christine were with us. Sr. Mary joined Sr. Salesia and proceeded to Bangalore for their golden jubilee preparation. The Bible festival was held on 24<sup>th</sup> in CKC Academy from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00pm. Children and parishioners from most of the parishes and mission stations took part in it with great zeal and enthusiasm and our Cathedral Parish stood 3<sup>rd</sup> in overall performance. Congratulations to Sr. Shanti for taking keen interest in preparing the youth.

Rev. Fr. Anasthasius Kulmi's months mind was celebrated in the shrine on 25<sup>th</sup>. The whole community had an outing to Raksa mission on the birth day of Rev. Fr. David James. On the 28<sup>th</sup> Sr. Jyotika and eight of our students left for Nainital to participate in the CJ fest and returned on 2<sup>nd</sup> October with enriched experience. All of them shared their beautiful experience with the entire school during the assembly. On the same day Sr. Shanti accompanied the youth of Jhansi diocese to Jaipur for the regional youth convention along with Frs. Ambrose and Marceline and returned on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. On 1<sup>st</sup> October the whole school and community were shocked to receive the sad

news that Vishakha, a student of Class 12 died of blood cancer. She was the first student who had given her name to go for the CJ fest to Nainital. Another sad news that awaited us on 3<sup>rd</sup> was the demise of Ritu Pal of class XI who died of cancer of the Uterus from which she had been suffering for the past six months.



Vishakha Cl: 12

Ritu Pal Cl: 11

The school paid tribute to both the students and prayed for their souls and for the bereaved families. The whole school had been praying for their recovery, but God had other plans.

On 4<sup>th</sup> October we participated in the retirement ceremony of Mr. Surender Massey, the husband of Anita Massey one of our retired teachers. On 6<sup>th</sup> Srs. Patricia, Vinita and Doreen came back after the retreat spiritually enriched. The retreat master Fr. Mathew Padayatti SJ paid a short visit to us. On 7<sup>th</sup> we were happy to welcome the relatives of Sr. Vincy on their way back home after her golden jubilee celebration. Sr. Patricia was too happy to take them around. They appreciated the hospitality of sisters. The community was happy to have Sr. Renata with us for a day. Sr. Patricia is delighted and honored to take spoken English classes for the children of DIOS. The students of classes XI and XII had a picnic to Kanpur on 13<sup>th</sup> accompanied by Sr. Doreen and the respective teachers. They had a wonderful time in the water park and reached back safe and sound at 2 a.m.

St. John's parish celebrated the centenary of the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. We participated in the Rosary, Holy Mass and procession. A large number of people and sisters expressed their devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. On 15<sup>th</sup> the Cathedral Parish had the first Holy Communion of 10 children and Confirmation of 16 children. On the same day Sr. Mary too returned from Bangalore after the retreat and seminar. On 16<sup>th</sup> 'Fame India contest' was held in Jhansi and Poornima of class XII was crowned as 'Fame India 2017' and was awarded with a certificate, memento and voucher of Rs.25000/- with which she can participate in the Fame India Contest 2018. It will be held in North East.

On 19<sup>th</sup> all of us went to the Shrine for the flag hoisting that marks the beginning of the novena to St. Jude. Most of us were able to attend the Novena and Holy Mass daily in the Shrine of St. Jude and we prayed for all. Our candidates had three days retreat from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> which was directed by Fr. Ambrose, the assistant parish priest of the Cathedral. On 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mission Sunday was celebrated and a 'MELA' was organized in the Shrine premises. All the religious congregations and institutions of the locality and the youth of our diocese were asked to participate. It was a great success. The Novena Mass on 25<sup>th</sup> was conducted by our community with Sr. Jyotika as our Choir Mistress. On the same day Sr. Shanti was



awarded by our bishop, Rs.5000/- for standing 1<sup>st</sup> in her category for the Bible Logos Quiz.

Congratulations Shanti for your

hard work! Our bishop had generously announced a cash award of Rs.30,000/- for every catholic student who obtains the highest percentage in his/her Board Exam. So on 27<sup>th</sup> Mary Magdalene of class XII (2017 Batch) was awarded Rs. 30,000/- for

standing 1<sup>st</sup> in U P Board exam by Archbishop Anil Couto, during the cultural programme at the Shrine. Our students put up a welcome dance. All appreciated it.



Archbishop Anil Joseph Couto, of Delhi was the main celebrant for the Feast of St. Jude. Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were Rt. Rev. Peter Parappullil, Bishop of Jhansi, Rt. Rev. Thomas Thennatt, Bishop of Gwalior, Rt. Rev. Joseph Kaithatara Bishop Emeritus of Gwalior, and a large number of priests from the diocese of Jhansi and Gwalior. The shrine campus was crowded with the devotees of St. Jude who came from far and near. The celebrations of the day was concluded with a solemn candle light procession, culminating in the special prayer for healing and blessing of the Blessed Sacrament.

### St. Anthony'S -Jeolikote

Srs. Lucy, Damian and Deepika left for Delhi for the meeting of superiors and principals on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Sr. Rekha gave us a big surprise by presenting us with some special delicacies she lovingly prepared and we had an enjoyable Onam celebration. With great enthusiasm we celebrated the Teacher's Day on 4<sup>th</sup> September, beginning with the Holy Mass during which we prayed for all the teachers of our country. Our boarders, under the guidance of Sr. Lorna, added to the beautiful celebration by their melodious singing. Rev. Fr. Uday inspired the teachers with his sermon and deepened their awareness to love the students irrespective of their status, behaviour and

ability. In the school the students gave a surprise by their lively dances, humorous



jokes and skits. The Teachers, in their turn appreciated the students for their efforts and tokens of love.

On 8<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the birthday of our beloved Mother Mary and the feast day of Sr. Pratibha with a Holy Mass in the evening. All the parishioners offered fresh flowers to Our Lady at the end of the Mass and offered ourselves to our Blessed Mother entrusting our Parish and the families to her protection.

On 9<sup>th</sup> all our Catholic students appeared for the Diocesan catechism exam and on the following day 35 people including the catholic boarders, parishioners and teachers went to **St. Teresa's** Kathgodam, to take part in the Logos Bible Quiz. Within a week we received the results. Two of our parishioners, Mrs. Renu Bernard and Priya of Class IX are chosen for the National Logos Bible Quiz which will be held at Hartman College, Bareilly.

On 12<sup>th</sup> Srs. Seema and Deepika attended the meeting of Association of Catholic Educational Institutions at Varanasi. The main theme of the meeting was **PRIDE – Personal Responsibility In Developing Education**. On 15<sup>th</sup> we were very happy to meet Fr. Johny SDB who returned to Jeolikote after his long treatment in Kerala. We really rejoice with him and thank God for he is healed fully after his terrible accident in March this year.

Mrs. Erika along with Sr. Joseline gave us a surprise visit and spent few hours with us. She was very much impressed with our students, specially the students of English Medium. The KG and Junior students sang and recited poems in English, so she praised our teachers and children for their hard work. Yes our students have really improved and are doing well.

The senior students of Classes X – XII had a seminar by Fr. Bosco, on the theme 'Motivation'. They gained much for their personal life from the talks and video clippings. On 23<sup>rd</sup> we celebrated Fr. Bosco's 11<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary and prayed for him during the Holy Mass offered by him. Ours was the first Parish where he began his active priestly life. Our parishioners still remember him with much gratitude and our boarders look out for his visit and Holy Mass now and then. On 26<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Sr. Damian's feast beginning with the Holy Mass. Thw students wished her with their delightful programme. Sisters and a few teachers from Nainital came over to wish sister.

On 28<sup>th</sup> we received the sad news of the untimely passing away of Mohammad Hassan of class VI of Dengue.

Fr. Roman instructed our catholic families how to conduct BCC meetings effectively. BCC meetings are conducted regularly in the families to bring in unity and help them imbibe the Gospel Values.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was celebrated as Swach



Bharat Day. Our entire school - students and teachers - cleaned the whole campus and the adjacent

road leading to the school right up to the

main road. In honour of the Father of the Nation, we also held a special prayer service.

The month of October started with the great feast of St. Teresa. Few of us went to Kathgodam to attend the feast. The month of the Holy Rosary found us attending the family rosary daily. On 13<sup>th</sup> Sr. Augustine went to her old school Nirmala, Nainital for the PT display along with Srs. Laura and Deepika. They came back happy but tired. On the same day our parish priest met with an accident while he was returning from Bana. St. Michael protected him from serious injuries even after his vehicle turned over thrice. Now he is hale and hearty and believes strongly in Mother Mary's protection.

On 17<sup>th</sup> evening, eight from our community, two from Nainital and one from Rudrapur decided to spend a week in prayer under the guidance of Fr. Jose Kuriakose S.J. On 21<sup>st</sup> morning he got the sad news that his mother passed away. So he had to go home for the last rites of his mother. With the help of priests from our neighbourhood, we completed our spiritual journey.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> Sr. Sherly got the sad news that her uncle went for his eternal reward. May his soul rest in peace.

We concluded the month of the Rosary



reciting Rosary walking from the parish grotto to the church grotto, asking our

Mother to intercede for us and bless us and all of you, dear sisters.

## Jesu Bhawan

On 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September we had the superiors and principals meeting. The teachers who attended the Conference of the Friends of Mary Ward in England and the Loreto Education conference in South Africa were specially invited for this meeting. They shared their experiences and expressed much interest in building our school communities in the spirit of Mary Ward. They along with all our superiors and principals drew up Action plans which were time bound. This is the first time that we invited our lay collaborators for such meeting. They will join us for similar meetings in the future to share with us the follow up of the action plan.

On 9<sup>th</sup> evening we spent two hours praying with 'Good Shepherd' prayer group. On 12<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Aswati Emmanuel one of our candidates, to our community. She stayed with us for a month and joined the Krist Jyoti community on 5<sup>th</sup> October.

On 16<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Erika arrived from Germany, Mainz to meet all her old friends and students whom she had taught in Nainital. Sr. Joseline accompanied her to the Jhansi region and Nainital as the guardian angel in all her journeys. To mark her visit and as an



expression of her love for the underprivileged Ms. Erika planted a mango sapling in our garden. She left for

Bangalore to join her husband and the group who were on a tour to the Southern part of India.

Thanks to the efforts of Sr. Pratima, Jesu Bhawan got a face lift as it now bears a refreshingly green look. The House – doors and windows specially, exposed to the direct rays of the sun and rain, had faded is given a better look in the midst of a semi forest.

On her way back home Sr. Annette came for her eye check up in AIIMS and Sr. Pratima accompanied her to the doctor. Sr. Cynthia from Patna finally got the visa to go to the US to join Sr. Cecilia O'Dwyer IBVM at the IBVM UN NGO. We were happy to have her with us for a few days. Our visitors always bring us much joy and happiness.

From 13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October ten of us spent time with the Lord counting all the blessings in our lives under the guidance of Rev.Fr. Ceasar S.J. We were happy to have Sr. Maria who reached on time to give a helping hand to Sr. Pratima and our girls. Meanwhile our parish had a three day spiritual renewal under the guidance of Fr. Francis V.C and team from Faridabad Charismatic retreat centre.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> Sr. Rinalda, Akansha and Sadhana joined Sr. Pratima to Jhajjar. It was an enjoyable outing for our girls. Sr. Camilla spent a month with her ailing sister looking after her in the hospital. She returned home with the satisfaction of having taken care of her sister. Though she has not improved much, doctors advised them to take her home. Kindly keep her in your prayers.

On 29<sup>th</sup> we had a preparatory meeting of the core group in view of the forthcoming province gathering. On 31<sup>st</sup> we welcomed Sr. Antonette from Nepal, who was on her way to Jeolikote to meet her ailing brother - Mr. Peter. Let us keep Peterji in our prayers.

## S.F.C. JHANSI

October is a month all of us look forward to, the feast of St. Jude Thaddeus, the Patron of hopeless cases, being the main attraction. Pilgrims from far and wide flock to the shrine of St Jude to take part in the novena as a preparation for the feast and to get healing and to receive other special favours through the intercession of St. Jude. The morning and evening services were devotional and inspiring. Pilgrims were seen in the Shrine at any time of the day lost in prayer. Amazing is their faith in St. Jude.

The Liturgy was organized by different institutions for both morning and evening services .Our turn came on 25<sup>th</sup> October and under the leadership of Sr. Amita we conducted a meaningful and beautiful ceremony. Our Bishop expressed his appreciation especially for the singing. We also had an opportunity to serve dinner to the pilgrims on the 24<sup>th</sup> and were privileged to put up an “Item”, for the cultural programme in honour of His Grace, Arch Bishop Anil Couto of Delhi.

October was also filled with various programmes and co- Curricular activities such as story writing competition (Classes VI – XII), PACT Exam by Amar Ujala, Poem writing competition (Classes VI – XII), English Olympiad (Classes II – XII) etc.



Our girls made their presence felt during the CJ Fest at Nainital and came home energetic and enthusiastic to do their best in every field.

Few of our students took part in the Athletic meet at Greater Noida. Though they did not

bag any prize, they came back enriched by their experiences and the lessons they learnt from the mistakes they made.

Under the guidance of Miss Shweta Singh and Miss Manju Pandey, our girls took part in the “B - World”, Commerce Fest at Agra



and bagged the first runners up Shield. Congratulations! Well Done girls! We are proud of you.

October also saw the Parents' Day



Celebrations of classes V (7<sup>th</sup> Oct.), classes IV (14<sup>th</sup> Oct.) and Classes III (31<sup>st</sup>) October. The audience was full of praise for their enthralling performance. Yes, “We all have it within us to be great and to excel”. Kudos to Sr. Shalini who was behind the grand success of the programmes!

At the community level, 14 of us had our annual retreat from 28th September to 6th October. The Spiritual journey, under the direction of Fr. Mathew Padayatil S.J. was very fruitful. It gave us the strength we need to be serene and gentle and to face life calmly and gently in all the events of life –

in disappointments, the thoughtlessness of others, and betrayals by friends...

During the Diwali Holidays four of us had an outing to Khajuraho that is famous for its temples. They were delighted to see the cult images – the monuments built by the Chandela kings, who ruled over a thousand years ago. They enjoyed every bit of the time spent there and returned home refreshed and renewed in body and spirit.

Sr. Jessy attended ASISC – Annual Conference and Annual General Body Meeting of the Heads of ICSE Schools in Varanasi from 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October. It was a much needed meeting which gave lots of information on administration of schools.

‘Friends of Mary Ward’ had a meeting recently during which they decided to help our Mary Ward School Children both in cash and kind. Accordingly a few of them visited the school, interacted with the children and gave some financial help. Thank you FMW for your generosity!

The Senior School (Classes VI up) is busy getting ready for the P.T. display scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Sr. Vijaya thanks all our sisters who have been praying for her recovery. She is much better now. She moves about in the house with the support of a stick. She attends Holy Mass and goes to the refectory for all the meals. Please continue to pray for her.

As the month of October gives way to November our prayer is, may St. Jude obtain for us the healing and other graces we need!

Sr. Vijaya CJ

**AMDG**