



DELHI DISHA

Vol.12/1

PROVINCE NEWS LETTER January - February 2018

From the Provincial's Desk...

We Remember You With Love and Affection



Dear Sr. Aloysia!

On 31st we were sad to receive the news of the sudden demise of our dear Mother Aloysia. We express our deep gratitude to the Lord for her life of total dedication and commitment being ever at the service of His people. Dear Mother Aloysia, the many of us who were trained, nurtured and empowered by your firm and able guidance will ever remember you with love and gratitude. As we pray for your eternal reward, we ask you to continue to support us with your prayers.

Seminars

- Srs. Doreen, Kanula and Deepika will attend a short Counselling course from May 23rd to June 6th, 2018 at Jesuit Spirituality Centre, Secunderabad

Request for Prayers

For those who are ill:

- Sr. Vinita's mother who is growing weaker day by day
- Sr. Georgina's mother who is quite poorly

For those who have gone for their eternal reward:

- Sr. Camilla's Sister, Mariamma, 92 on 3rd January
- Sr. Deepika's uncle, Basir Masih, 98 on 20th February
- Sr. Pratima's mother, Juliana Pinto, 82 on 24th February

News and events From our communities

S.F.C. JHANSI



2nd November was a day of jubilation for the students as the P.T. display began with



much vim and vigour. The day dawned bright and clear. There was excitement all around. The show began at 8.30 a.m. sharp. Mr. Vineet Singh – A.D.R.M. was the Chief Guest and Rt. Rev. Peter Parapullil, the Bishop of Jhansi, the guest of honour. They were received by Sr. Jessy CJ (Principal) and Sr. Reena CJ (Manager) and were led to the stadium by our N.C.C. Cadets and the school band.

The display commenced with a prayer glorifying the Almighty and asking for his special blessings. The day witnessed a series of captivating items by the students. The school band stole the show.

On 3rd November the students of Class XII went on a picnic to Gwalior. Besides their Class Teachers, Mrs. Anju Mansharamani, Miss Manju Pandey and Mr. Harish accompanied them. They visited many places of information and interest and returned home in the evening relaxed and



enriched by the various experiences. We extended a hearty welcome to Sr. Pratima on 6th November. Her presence among us and our interactions with her made us happy and joyful. She left for Mauranipur the next day accompanied by Sr. Regis and Sr. Vijaya.

The Children's day - 14th November was made memorable with a beautiful prayer

service followed by an entertainment



programme. Students were overjoyed to see their teachers singing, dancing etc. After the programme, the students were allowed to enjoy themselves with their friends and teachers.

The Students of Mary Ward School witnessed a colourful programme organized by the "Friends of Mary Ward" (Teachers).



As a token of their love the children were served snacks. They also organized various games and the winners were awarded prizes. They went home beaming with joy.

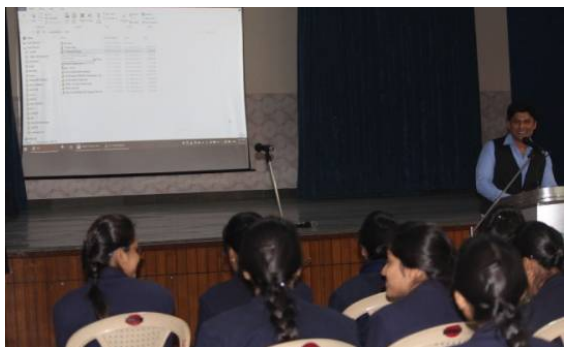
The feast day of Sisters Shalini and Amita was celebrated with enthusiasm and gaiety. Our sisters from Nirmala convent were invited to a tea party in the evening. Meeting and chatting binds the hearts together!

Parents' day celebration for classes II, I and UKG was held on 11th, 18th and 21st respectively. The enthralling performance of each class made every parent happy and proud. The Second Terminal examination

commenced on 25th November and ended on



9th December. After the exams Class XII had an orientation Programme, the resource person being Fr. Stephen Vaz. The students seemed to have gained a lot from it. They



were grateful to the Management for arranging such a beautiful programme.

The other days and events of the month, were 14th and 16th December - Maths Olympiad and 2nd round of PACT



Examination conducted by Amar Ujala.

We along with our teachers served a meal for the poor around on 18th.

20th was crammed with lots of Activities: PTM and Report Card giving, Art & Craft, Science Exhibition and Scholastic book fair.

The school witnessed Christmas Play, the celebration of the Eucharist, the teachers Christmas get together followed by lunch at Yatrik hotel on 22nd.

The members of the U.S.M sorted out the things collected during the Giving week.

As the curtain comes down on the year 2017 and as we are about to step into the new year, let us do so with the conviction that “I am only one still I am one,”

I cannot do everything but I still can do something

And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do.”

Mauranipur school coMMunity

The month of October started with Rosary in the Parish. Sr. Geetika attended the retreat in SFC on 29th October. We started with the Novena to St. Jude in preparation for the great feast of St. Jude on 28th. The entire community attended the feast day Mass except Sr. Anima. She guarded the house on that day. On Mission Sunday Fr. Kanth Raj offered the Mass. On that day we held an auction of some items and from which we collected about Rs, 1,000 for this cause. The teachers also took keen interest in it. With the co-operation of the students we collected a good sum of money.

On 30th Sr. Geetika and team prepared an orientation programme for the parents of classes 9 and 10 students on the topic “The cooperation of the parents to help the children to improve their behavioural pattern and to improve the discipline of the children

in the school". Many parents attended the program. They were very appreciative and they also gave their valuable suggestions for further improvement of the students.

On 3rd November Srs. Geetika and Anima went to Kurushektra along with the co-workers of the school and the house. They stayed in the Ashram for two days and went out for sightseeing. Their joy and happiness was unexplainable – that was their experience.

On 8th Sr. Pratima arrived along with Srs. Vijaya and Regis from SFC. Sister left the next day. On 14th the school organized a Fete to celebrate the children's day. This event took place after a long gap. So, all were excited and enthusiastic. We had games, food stalls of various items and above all the Mickey Mouse. It was a feast to the eyes to see the little ones enjoying – climbing on the Mickey Mouse and falling but not getting hurt. They thoroughly enjoyed it.

All of us attended the CRI meeting on 3rd in Jhansi – Nirmala convent. We had three Christmas Friends each - Community, school and parish. We had two days of carol singing prior to Christmas.

On 22nd the school celebrated Christmas with the students and teachers. The children staged a very beautiful Nativity Scene. It was really wonderful.

On 23rd we organized a special Christmas programme for the sweepers of the Mauranipur block. There were 25 women and our co-workers – 75 in all. The programme commenced with a short prayer. Sr. Geetika explained the meaning of Christmas and we sang a few carols for them. We conducted a few games too

followed by lunch. They did justice to it. At the end each one received a blanket. All were really happy and grateful. One of them said that this was the 1st time that such a thing had taken place in their life. This was a joined venture of Fr. Denis the parish priest and the manager and the community. Fr. Denis arranged the lunch for the people. On 31st the feast of the holy family we had the Christmas tree for the parishioners. We conducted a few games and the winners received prizes. We exchanged gifts with our Christmas friends. In the evening we had an hour of adoration in the parish church followed by Holy Mass.

Sr. Suchita

Jeolikote

We began the month of December in a joyous mood as we looked forward for the celebration of Christmas with many activities.

On 1st Srs. Deepika, Damian and Rekha went to Nainital to attend the wedding of one of our teachers, Miss Namita and assured her of our prayers. On 3rd Srs. Deepika and Sunaina went to Bazpur along with the parishioners for the feast. On 9th and 11th carol singing competition was held for the students of both English and Hindi Medium Schools. All the students did their best to outdo the rest in their houses.

On 11th one of our parishioners Mr. Ajay Manral died after a long illness. May his soul rest in peace! He was 38 and has left behind his young wife and a child.

On 16th the English Medium students had a crib making competition. Irrespective of caste, creed and religion, the cribs were prepared beautifully house - wise and they became a medium of strong Christmas

message. 18 - 20 of them joined us for the carol singing from house to house.

Thereafter the whole school resounded with the noise of students as both schools practiced and rehearsed for the forthcoming annual function. The teachers and students were seen preparing dresses and perfecting their programmes with a lot of excitement. 21st and 22nd were a big days for all of us as the English put up their programme with the variety of items giving a fitting message which was appreciated by one and all. Most of the students took part in the programme. The parents both of boarders and day scholars were present in big number. The B.E.O. was the chief guest who gave an inspiring message. He appreciated the hard work, dedication and commitment of the management in providing quality education to children and the progress made by the school.

On 22nd the Hindi Medium students put up their programme consisting of variety of items - dances, kawali, action songs, Christmas play and carols. Mrs. Geeta Bisht, the Block Officer was the chief guest. The cultural programme of both the days was appreciated by all.

On 23rd a Christmas party was organized for the staff and co-workers. A meaningful prayer meeting conducted by Sr. Deepika, singing of carols, a delicious lunch and the distribution of gifts was enjoyed by all.

The midnight Mass began with carol singing. After the Mass the people were served coffee and cake. The Church decoration and the crib were done beautifully under the guidance of Sr. Pratibha. On 25th the day began with the solemn High Mass at 9 a.m. After the Mass we greeted the parishioners with cake and coffee. The visitors kept on

coming till late in the evening to wish the sisters.

On 26th all the V.I.P.'s of the area, the officials and the pradhans were invited for a Christmas gathering. We sang carols for them and Fr. Uday, the parish priest gave the Christmas message. They enjoyed the delicacies and went home with a good feeling. The same day Sr. Deepika left for Indore with five students for the Silver Jubilee celebration of U.S.M. Sr. Sheeba left for Bangalore to prepare for her silver jubilee. Another parishioner Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Emelda's step brother, died on the same day.

On 27th Sr. Sherly went to Bijnore for a youth programme. A senior citizen's get together (Christmas tree) was organized on 29th for all the elderly people of Jeolikote. We sang Carols and conducted games for them. They looked quite sporting. After the prize distribution they were served a good meal. Sr. Damian personally went to their houses and invited them. They were very grateful as this being the 1st of a gathering in the recent years.

Sr. Lucy organized a two days residential youth camp for 25 boys and girls. Fr. John Bosco and Fr. Uday were the resource persons. They spoke on Personal development and Leadership skills. The response was very positive.

On 31st being a Sunday we had adoration and the Thanksgiving Mass to close the year 2017. We thanked God for the past year and asked for God's blessings for the coming year 2018. Bro. Abhinav and Bro. Alok from Allahabad seminary who were with us for Christmas left for Bareilly. Their presence was a great blessing to our parish.

The community spent the day in recollection and prayer as each one thanked God for the

blessings of 2017 and asked for God's protection for 2018. We wish all of you a blessed, prosperous, grace filled New Year. May the good Lord love you and keep you in his care.

We usher in the New Year with the Holy Eucharist at 8.30 a.m. As it is customary, we had a chance to spend a day with Bp. Ignatius on 2nd celebrating the Christmas spirit and sharing of gifts. The community picnic organized on 4th was of a different kind – visited 5 mission stations and indeed it was a surprise to them being one of the coldest and foggy days of the season. On 6th Sr. Laura and Sunaina left for home leave and Sr. Lorna to Rudrapur to keep company with Sr. Assunta since she was alone in the house. In the meanwhile we had community meetings on a daily basis as we had to catch up with much province assignments. The much awaited marriage of Shweta Philip took place with Mr. Samuel the brother of Mr. Victor. On 12th Sr. Sherly left for Lucknow to attend a training session arranged for youth directors. On 22nd again she left for Delhi to look after her mother who had the cataract operation at AIIMS and returned on 4th February. On 15th some of the boarders reported back and school reopened on 16th.

The Mary Ward Week was celebrated with much enthusiasm. The teachers and students



are just getting acquainted with the person of Venerable Mary Ward. On 23rd a well

prepared prayer assembly was put up by Class 9 under the supervision of Mrs. Poonam Pandey. In the evening the community sat around Mother Mary Ward and sang 'Happy Birthday' and prayed for our worldwide Congregation. It was indeed a joy to listen to the gentle 'pitter – patter' of the first winter rain, while we prayed - "A thing of beauty is joy forever". On 30th Sr. Rekha took extra pain to explain the contribution Mary Ward made to the society then, and even now.

26th January, the Republic Day was remembered in a different manner this year. Some students from Classes 3 up spent about 2 hrs making paper bags, while students from Class 9 up spent their energy, interest and time painting the school wall.



Honouring the spirit of JPIC, the students from 4 houses depicted various environmental themes under the captions "Green India Clean India", "Jal hi Jivan" "Save trees", "Save water" etc. We also engaged a professional artist to write some meaningful quotations from the Bible. Now as people pass by, they have a look at the walls.

On the occasion of the Mary Ward Week we organized a portrait painting competition and the students also memorized the maxims of Mary Ward. A student of Class 5 memorized 46 of them and said it in front of the entire gathering. Even L.K.G students did not lag behind in memorizing the maxims. A well prepared and meaningfully



conducted Eucharistic celebration on Don Bosco's feast day with SDB fathers in Sumedha brought the month to a joyful conclusion. We also had a glimpse of the rare Red - Blue moon - the lunar eclipse.

February brought us the sad news of the unexpected demise of our beloved sister, Aloysia. We prayed earnestly that the good Lord grant her eternal bliss. Each one of her novices had something good to share about her. While we attended the high Mass on 2nd our hearts were filled with gratitude and awe at all that the Lord has done in our lives all through these years of our religious lives.

Srs. Damian, Deepika and Rekha went down to Pipariya to meet Sareena, a girl who expressed the desire to join us. She has written the class XII examination and is waiting for the result. Sisters took her contact number and returned home on 4th. Srs. Laura and Sherly returned home on 7th. The former had a refreshing and enriching experience with her dear ones. The latter took care of her mother who underwent surgery for removal of cataract in her eyes.

On 7th our parish priest, Fr. Uday, went to Delhi along with other priests (a team of six) for the badminton competition which has been organized in the name of the late Bishop Allen. Though they played well luck did not favour them, so they came back with

determination to play well in the coming year. On 8th evening Mrs Indhu's (retired Nirmala School teacher, Jhansi) sisters Meena, Rani and brother Tinku gave a surprising visit to us. Indeed, they were happy to see the sisters who were known to them. We also had another visitor to our school - Mr. Jitendra Singh Butoiya - a member of Uttarakhand Education Board to explain to the students about the objectives and activities of the Red Cross Society. He urged them to engage themselves actively to bring about quality changes in their lives and be fruitful members of the society.

The Holy Childhood Day and the Day of the Sick were observed on 11th in our parish, we had an hour of adoration in the presence of the Eucharistic Lord prior to Holy Mass during which we carried the entire world especially the sick ones to the Lord. We started the Lenten season with putting ashes on our foreheads, as a sign of our determination to remove vices and evil from our hearts and fill our lives with virtues. On 19th evening Fr. Uday offered Mass in Mr. Peter's (Sr. Antonnet's brother) house at Ganja, since he is unable to come to the church. He was overwhelmed with joy for this act of love. He read the first reading too. Now he is on the road to recovery and able to help himself.

22nd was a busy day and we were both sad and happy. Sr. Deepika got the sad news that her paternal uncle expired in the morning and the funeral was held in the evening. Srs. Damian and Pratibha went with her. The Scouts and Guides celebrated the birthday of their founder, Baden Powell. Our Bishop Ignatius paid a short visit to us along with five of his German friends. They really had a relaxed time over a cup of tea, coffee and snacks. The day was concluded with Mass

and prayer for the repose of the soul of Mr. George, one of our parishioners.

The diocesan Lenten cross was brought to



our parish on 25th, we gave a warm welcome to the cross taking it into the church in procession. We had veneration of the cross and prayers, conducted by the youth, for about two hours. While we were praying we got the message from one of our villages that a seven year old girl child, Jaya, was eaten by a leopard. Her Mother and three children had gone to collect fire wood, and the youngest of them met with the tragic end. By the time we reached the site the body was taken for autopsy. It was very painful to see the picture – a very pathetic sight indeed! On 28th three leopards were found around 10.30 a.m. where we begin the way of the cross - slowly they went up to the provincial hill. A few of us witnessed this unbelievable sight.

LaLpur, rudrapur

On 2nd December Srs. Rayna and Vandana joined the Kiccha parish to attend the annual pilgrimage at Bazpur to intercede for all of us to Mother Mary.

Our Annual Function was held on 19th. The chief guest was Ms. Deepti the executive officer of the sugar factory, Kiccha. Our sisters from Nainital and Jeolikote and our



neighbouring priests and sisters joined us for the same. The students showcased their talents through singing, dancing and acting. They gave the message of the forgiving love of the Father. Parents were highly appreciative of the programme specially the skit “Prodigal Son” where the children remembered all their dialogues.

This year we were privileged to have the Christmas midnight Mass in the parish. It was a very cold and foggy evening and we took an hour to reach the parish - driving was very difficult due to lack of visibility. Sr. Rayna led the choir for the Mass.

On 29th - one of the action plans - we had the Christmas tree celebration for the



children of our colony. Around 75 of them participated. We led them to the crib and gave them the Christmas message. Various games were conducted for different age groups. The celebration ended with distribution of the Christmas gift and snacks for all of them including some parents.

On 31st we had our recollection and spent a few hours in front of the Blessed Sacrament thanking God for the graces received during

the year, asking pardon for our failures and seeking His blessings for the New Year. We anticipated our Congregation Feast on 1st January as Sr. Vandana was going to Jhansi for her annual retreat. We invited our neighbouring Priests and sisters. We had the Mass at 11.30 followed by lunch. It was indeed a good time being together.

On 6th Sr. Lorna joined our community to keep company with Sr. Assunta as Sr. Rayna went to Lucknow to attend the Province Assembly of the Loreto's. We appreciate Sr. Lorna's willingness to come down from the better weather to this severe cold and foggy weather. May God bless her for her readiness!

We reopened the school on 16th January but due to extreme cold the school remained closed till 23rd. We made use of this opportunity to visit some of the families of our students and also ours at Puranpur for a few hours on 20th. The Mary Ward Week was celebrated in the community and in the school. The little ones were given a short history of Mother Mary Ward's life and daily a few maxims were told to them. On the last day a small quiz was conducted and the winners were given prizes. We had the Mary Ward Prayer daily in the community giving us the feeling of being one and united. We do wish and pray for this unity.

We had a Deanery level recollection in preparation for Lent.

We wish all of ours a grace filled time of Lent.

Nirmal a, JhaNsi

On 3rd December the CRI meeting of Jhansi unit was hosted by us. Sr. Mary addressed

the group - 75 in all - on the theme "Amoris Leticia".

The school organized a seminar on women empowerment. The resource persons were two doctors. The girls gained much from the input sessions. On 10th we had a talk from a Dominican Priest; he enlightened us on Rosary confraternity and encouraged us to become permanent members.

On 16th, a Hindu girl from Pune was helped by Sr. Crispina to receive Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation in preparation for her marriage to a Catholic boy from our parish.

We express our gratitude to Sr. Shanti for her loving services to our community for the past one year. We reached her to Mauranipur on 17th.

We celebrated the Mary Ward Week in a befitting and creative manner. Our students under the guidance of sisters and teachers depicted scenes from the life of Mary Ward. Each day's prayer service was very inspiring and the children performed well.



On 23rd Sr. Grezal, our novice, our new bride arrived from Patna accompanied by Sr. Isabel. On 26th Sr. Pratima arrived here for the Golden Jubilee celebration of Sr. Mary

and the First Profession of Sr. Grezal. Sr. Assunta came with Sr. Pratima for the internal audit. On 27th January the school put up a meaningful prayer service and colourful cultural programme to honour Sr. Mary on her Golden Jubilee. The artistically prepared skit threw light on the story of her vocation which was appreciated by all.



29th was a joyful day for all of us as Sr. Grezal received her religious sari in the presence of her parents and relatives from the hands of Sr. Pratima our Provincial Superior.

On 30th January the Cathedral bell pealed at 5 p.m. heralding the Golden Jubilee of Sr. Mary CJ and the first profession of Sr. Grezal CJ. The Holy Eucharist was concelebrated by Rev.



Bishop Peter Parapullil along with 25 priests. The presence of a number of religious from different congregations of Jhansi, the parishioners, teachers and the dear ones of Sr. Mary and Sr. Grezal made the day more joyful. All the guests enjoyed the cake and coffee which was served in the church premises and the delicious dinner in the convent.

On 31st January Sr. Vinita was installed as the new superior of Nirmala community. We wish Sr. Vinita God's special blessings as she takes up the responsibility to animate the community. We received the sad news of the demise of our dear Mother Aloysia in

Bangalore. So Sr. Pratima left soon after the installation.

Our neighbours, the Salesian fathers celebrated the feast of their founder John Bosco on the same day. After the Holy Mass, we had the delicious dinner prepared by the Salesians. On the 2nd February the CRI organized a candle light procession followed by Mass in St. Jude's Shrine.

On 5th February the school welcomed Sr. Vinita as the new manager of the school and bid farewell to Sr. Mary and thanked her for her dedicated services for the past three years. The community expressed its gratitude to Sr. Mary and asked for God's protection over her during the Holy Eucharist. On 6th morning Sr. Mary left for Jhajjar.

Faith and Devotion

The month of January was a month of blessing through the intercession of our Lady of Fatima. The statue of Our Lady was taken to all the houses where we had rosary to express as well as evoke special devotion to Mother Mary. On 20th January the statue was brought to our convent. All the families of our Ward gathered with three priests and brother for the rosary and prayer. After the prayer all were served refreshments.

On 13th February one of our candidates, Athira underwent appendectomy in St. Jude's hospital. By the grace of God and prayers of all she recovered soon. She thanks all the sisters, for their powerful intercession.

Jhajjar

On 1st January Srs. Mary John and Remya left for Jhansi for their annual retreat, and Sr. Rinalda from the provincial house came

to keep company with Sr. Kanula for a few days.

3rd was a twin celebration of CJ and SJ and Fr. John Ari highlighted the significance of Holy name of Jesus. The emblem or monogram representing the Holy name of Jesus consists of three letters: IHS. In the Middle Ages the name of Jesus was written: IHESUS, the monogram contains the first and the last letter of the Holy Name. It was first found on a gold coin of the eighth century.

The Rothak Deanery organized the Christmas gathering at MSFS, on 6th January. Fr. John ARI. SJ and Sr. Kanula attended the function; there were around thirty participants from various communities of the Deanery.

Srs. Mary John and Remya returned on 12th refreshed and renewed after their retreat. On the same day Fr. Sebastian Jeerakassery, the Provincial of the Jesuits of Delhi province came on a visitation.

We had a special concelebrated Mass on 14th January, by Fr. Jas Elengical, the Episcopal Vicar of Haryana and Fr. Sebastian Jeerakassery. During the Mass the Episcopal Vicar announced that from hence forward the Jesuits chapel will serve as a Mass Centre – Quasi Parish - and Fr. Varkey Muthalakuzhy SJ is appointed as the priest in charge. During the Mass Abishek Samuel, one of our employee's son received his first holy communion. We were happy to have Sr. Pratima with us on this auspicious occasion; the following day both the provincials left for Delhi.

On 19th January, the Community and the school celebrated Sr. Kanula's feast.

On 30th January Mother Mary Ward was specially remembered and honoured by

the CJ's and SJ's and Loreto sisters. We had a get together at Loreto convent Delhi. We started with a prayer service in honour of Mary Ward followed by some interesting games culminating in a sumptuous dinner.

Mary Ward Week was celebrated by our little ones by reciting the Maxims of Mary



Ward which they took pains to learn by heart. They also staged role plays, dance and songs. The Children were also told a few incidents from the life of Mother Mary Ward in story form.

On 31st Sr. Mary John left for Patna to rejoice with her aunt Sr. Pauline CJ on the occasion of her golden jubilee celebration.

On 6th February, we were happy to welcome Sr. Mary on her new mission to Jhajjar. On the following day Sister was welcomed by the school with an entertainment programme. The staff together with Fr. John Ari and the sisters cut a jubilee cake and enjoyed a small tea party.

On 10th February, the school staff and



the sisters had a relaxed day strolling around in the Mughal garden enjoying the wonderful layout of an array of flowers in vivid hues.

As the academic year is coming to an end the teachers as well as the students are enthusiastically revising their lessons and getting ready for the final exam. Meanwhile registration of children for fresh admissions is in progress and we hope to get more children for the coming academic session.

Please keep our mission in your prayers and we wish you a fruitful season of Lent and happy Easter in advance.

PuranPur

On 4th December we had our annual P.T display. We were happy to have the S. P. of Philibhit, Mr Kalanidhi Naithani as the



Chief Guest and Most Rev. Bishop Ignatius D'Souza as the Guest of Honour. It was a grand success and the parents came in great numbers to witness the talent display of their wards.

The carol singing brought us close to people as we visited villages and families sharing the message of peace and joy among the Catholics, non- Catholics and Krist Bhaktas. On 25th evening we had a V.I.P gathering. It was a wonderful opportunity to share our joy of Christmas and at the same time, maintain friendly relationship with them. At the end of December we got the news of transfers of our priests according to which Fr. Naveen is appointed as a parish priest at

Bahedi and Fr. Chinnappan as the Manager of our school, Fr. Salu continues to be the Parish Priest. On 19th two of the delegates- Fr. Pius and Fr. Gregory - came to Puranpur to install Fr. Chinnappan as the Manager of the school. On 20th January we bade farewell to Fr. Naveen. We are grateful to him for all the spiritual services he rendered to us especially as our chaplain. Sr. Deepti along with the Parish priest and parishioners reached him to Bahedi.

Srs. Digna and Sanjita went to Bareilly to join the Christmas get together for the religious sisters arranged by Most Rev. Ignatius D' Souza and his team. Sr. Deepti went to Bengaluru for her silver jubilee preparation and was back after a week, refreshed after being with her batch mates.

We were happy to have Sr. Deepa with us in the 1st week of January as she came for her retreat to Puranpur. We hope that sister had a relaxing and grace-filled time with the Lord. Sr. Digna too joined her in the retreat. On 3rd we celebrated our Institute Feast. We prayed specially for our congregation during Mass and had a shared dinner with our priests here. On 20th our closest community, Rudarapur, came to visit us bringing with them lots of vegetables from their garden. Thank you, Srs. Assunta, Rayna and Vandana for your thoughtfulness.

Our school children participated in the rally organised by S.D.M. for all the local schools in Puranpur, to create awareness among



people, of the importance of making use of their right to 'vote'. Our school was awarded with a shield for preparing meaningful and creative banners. Sr. Deepti and Fr. Salu attended the educational meeting in Bareilly at Bishop's House.

The World Day of the Poor was celebrated in the school. The students and teachers took a survey to find out the needy from the neighbouring villages. 105 poor people were selected to come to school. The students contributed money and bought warm quilts, rice and dhal. The SDM of Purnapur was



invited to initiate the distribution. He appreciated the effort of the students and teachers and encouraged them to continue the good service to the poor and down trodden. The primary children contributed books and uniform to the children of our co-workers.

On 26th January various programmes were put up in the school in order to awaken the feelings of patriotism. Despite the cold, chilly weather, children came excitedly waving little flags to show their love and respect towards the Nation. In the Mary Ward Week the life history and maxims were read out during assembly. On 2nd February we celebrated the birthday of our parish priest, Fr. Salvadore D'Souza. The parishioners were given a dinner party. On 3rd Srs. Damian, Rekha and Deepika from Jeolikote came to meet one of our

prospective candidates, girl from Pipariya. They spent a night with us.

Class XII students were given a fond Farewell on 7th February.

We get many chances to visit the mission stations of our diocese and represent the C.J in the diocesan activities. We attended the blessing of the Holy family Church in Poliganj and on 11th, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes in Nausar. That gave us the opportunity to visit the family of Srs. Deepika and Martha. The journey back was indeed a delightful one as the drive was through a jungle where we could see many wild animals. We made our monthly recollection on Ash Wednesday, a day of penance and prayer. On 23rd evening Sr. Digna left for Allahabad to be with her sister, Sr. Marion who underwent a knee replacement surgery in Jagriti hospital. Sister returned on 1st March. On 25th Sr. Sanjita joined the SCC group to visit and pray for a poor boy of 21 years old in Khandepur village. Happy, as he is called, had met with a bike accident in June 2017 and has been in bed for the past 8 months. Though a lot of money has been spent on medication, he has not shown much improvement so far. Please keep him in your prayers. On 28th we heard the heart breaking news of the sad demise of Fr. Richard Lobo who was in Bahedi before Fr. Naveen. While he was on the motorbike travelling from Kathgodam to Kichha he was hit by a speeding truck. He died on the spot. May his soul rest in peace!

The final exams have begun already for the students. Our school has been serving as the centre for board exams since last year. Around 450 students from other schools will be writing exam in St. Joseph's School this year. May the good Lord bless these

children to write well without resorting to any unfair means!

Sr. Sanjita

JESU BHAWAN

The New Year dawned with the birthday of Sr. Camilla. On the same day she left for Jhansi for her annual retreat. While she was in retreat her eldest sister passed away, having lived 92 fruitful years. May her soul rest in His Peace! Sr. Camilla is comforted with the thought that she had the good fortune to look after her sister for a month while she was in the hospital.

We had two special guests - Ms. Ana and Maja - from Slovenia who came to gather first hand information about the life of our late Sr. Miriam (IBMV) who had lived and died in 1986 in Kanpur. They interviewed the sisters who had lived with Sr. Miriam in various communities. They were happy to meet Sr. Rinalda who lived with her in Kanpur community.

Jesu Bhawan being situated in a lonely place is now given a few more security enclosures as per the advice of well wishers and police.

Srs. Remya and Divya attended a vocation camp organized by the Diocese of Delhi on 21st January.

On 23rd we celebrated the birthday of Mother Mary Ward in a homely manner. Sisters from Mayur Vihar, Shahbad and our chaplains joined the small community of ours in the evening.



On 28th we got an opportunity to celebrate

the birthday of Mother Mary Ward in the parish. This was an occasion for us to speak on the life of Mary Ward and the Congregation. The Priests and the parishioners prayed for us.

On 30th morning Sr. Pratima Tudu (Patna)



renewed her vows in our chapel. In the evening we joined the Loreto sisters for Mary Ward celebration. It was a great joy for all of us to have such a gathering.

Sr. Pratima was in Jhansi for the First Profession of Sr. Grezal and the Golden Jubilee of Sr. Mary. As soon as she received the news of Sr. Aloysia's passing away, she returned to Delhi along with Sr. Isabel and both of them left for Bangalore to bid farewell to the dear departed soul.

On 2nd February the Shahbad community joined us for the morning Mass and we wished Sr. Marisha on her Silver Jubilee day. Srs. Pratima and Isabel returned from Bangalore after the funeral of Sr. Aloysia on 5th. On 8th, Sr. Camilla left for Kolkotta along with her companions for the golden

jubilee preparation and returned home on 26th.

On 24th evening Sr. Pratima received the sad news about the passing away of her dear mother. Though she managed to leave for home in the night, she reached home only by 12.30 p.m. on Sunday. The brave mother had donated her body to the medical college. May the great Soul rest in eternal peace! Sister returned to Delhi on 28th..

Province Assembly of Loreto
SiSterS – KolKata

28 – 31 December 2017

The Province Assembly of the Loreto Sisters in Kolkata was an initiation to recall and share the special favours received from God at the close of the Jubilee Year (175 years of Loreto in South Asia). Dr. Robert Moore from Ireland was our resource person. In all we were 75 – 61 Loreto sisters, 12 Loreto novices and two CJ representatives from Allahabad and Delhi Provinces.

The input sessions and the table conversations revolved around the theme – *who are we becoming as Mary Ward Women in a world subjected to exponential change in respect to technology*. Thoughts and sentiments were gathered on one's capacity to adapt to change ecologically and at a social level so that spiritual disconnect be overcome lest one faces extinction. Mr. Bobby led the group into a process of musing over on '**co-creating our way together**'- beginning with an invitation to listen to, then to ignite a spark of the divine resonating within and to love the spiritual core of each other.

Religious life is the radical response to the Gospel at a given time and place. Pondering the dilemmas of the world of our time and place through the lens of GC calls (Loreto

GC 2014 – 5 GC calls) the group asserted that insight alone cannot bring a change but awareness must precede mastery; hence to broaden the range of influence that co-creating is to involve a wider spectrum, to move to the edge and fly. Consciously allowing oneself to transform from judgment to acceptance, cynicism to compassion and fear to love, while not losing the sense of purpose of being Mary Ward woman as the GIANT of today is one response to the changing world. However transformation doesn't change the reality around us but the reality within. The edge is where the religious life belongs. Be at the edge and step over was the note with which the assembly ended. Sr. Anita, the Province Leader invited the group to a safe inscape to view with fresh eyes the community and oneself.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Sr. Pratima and the team for availing this opportunity in becoming a part of the Loreto legacy of the closing event of 175th Jubilee celebration with Province Assembly. It indeed strengthened the bond of Mary Ward women COMING TOGETHER.

Tomsy C J

AMDG