



DELHI DISHA

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Province News Letter

November - December 2019



From the Provincial's Desk...

Sr. Amita is attending a course on Ignatian Sources from 5 January to 15 March in Pune.

Sr. Rinalda is in Jesu Bhawan for rest after her treatment in Allahabad. A special note of thanks to Sr. Roshni and community and Sr. Sherly for taking care of Sr. Rinalda while she was sick.

Both our tertians Srs. Maria and Divya will be making their final profession on 30 January in St. Anthony's Cathedral Jhansi.

Srs. Teresa, Nibedita and Josephine will be renewing their vows on 30 January.

Let us keep all of them in our special prayers.

Those who have gone before us...

- Sr. Doreen's brother-in-law who passed away on 24th November.
- Sr. Georgina's sister/ Sr. Sheeba's mother who went to her eternal reward on 5th January.
- Sr. Rinalda's sister Sr. Josephine who passed away on 12 January.

Heartfelt condolences to Srs. Rinalda, Georgina, Doreen and Sheeba. Let us remember the departed souls and the bereaved families in our prayers.

News from our communities

St. Mary's, Jhajjar



Christmas Celebration was of course the highlight of December. Already by October children started queuing up in front of Sr. Kanula's office with the request to be included in the Christmas Play. Sister trained a good group of children for the Nativity Play and Carols.

The School celebrated Christmas on 21st Dec. The Christmas story has become a familiar story for our non-Christian children. During Christmas week the Jesuits next door and the CJs together visited some of the close by religious communities.

Jagruti- Nurturing Dreams - the Annual Day Programme was held on 23rd November 2019. Every student had the opportunity to be on the stage. The cultural event with variety entertainment was totally value-based. Sr. Remya and the teachers deserve kudos for the efficient conduct of the programme. We were happy to notice the improvements seen in parents' behaviour. Almost all the

parents came and they came on time. They have begun to honour values like punctuality, polite behaviour, appreciation etc. In this sense the school is effecting some transformation in this village. We appreciate the solidarity expressed by Sr. Elsy our provincial, Sr. Renata and Sr. Anita who came a day early to help us out.

CJ- IBVM consultation and sharing was an engaging and enriching exercise for us. We have grown in our appreciation of the Mary Ward Legacy.

Experiences We Value: Sr. Remya attended a workshop on Ignatian Spirituality and Discernment led by Fr. R.C. Chacko SJ at Navjivan Retreat Centre (NRC) Dehli. What she found very helpful was that every participant was given the freedom to choose his/her own space and time to undertake the self-led interior journey. For her it was an invitation to integrate the daily experiences in the light of Ignatian discernment.

Srs. Kanula and Mariella were much impressed by a discussion and reflection that they attended on 'Wounded History and Social Healing' at NRC. In the context of the recent events in our country, their ramifications and our past and present history of woundedness, about 33 Christian leaders came together to reflect on what our Christian Faith Tradition can offer. They proposed a healing process based on Forgiveness and Reconciliation. They also deliberated on a few healing actions that are possible and

can be introduced in our national context of a wounded history, the unhealed memory of which results in revenge, 'creating new victims and new cycles of revenge'.

With every good wish for a peaceful and joyful 2020,

The Jhajjar community



St. Francis Convent, Jhansi

The month of November ushered in with the feast of All Saints and the very next day, the All Souls Day, we were at the cemetery praying for the dear departed souls, especially those of ours who went ahead to their eternal reward.

Sadhbhavana: Fr. Sadanad of Jhansi diocese had organized a Sadhbhavana meeting on 3rd Nov. in St. Jude Shrine, in which prominent members from every religion took part. Srs. Isabel, Seema and Deepti attended the same and used this opportunity to invite the team members to come to our school to conduct the Inter - religious dialogue. It was organized in our school in which eminent personalities from different religions interacted with the staff and students and enlightened the students on the theme '**peace and harmony in the society**' reflecting valuable thoughts from each one's religion. It was a unique experience for all.

Friends of Mary Ward: Students who are members of Friends of Mary Ward

took a day out to visit St. Jude's hospital along with Sr. Isabel and Mrs. Caroline. They visited the Children's ward and the surgical ward, shared the pain and suffering of the patients and returned home with compassionate hearts.

Charismatic Convention: 9th to 12th Nov. a charismatic convention was organized in the cathedral of Jhansi Diocese and few of us were fortunate enough to attend this convention. Fr. Paresh and his team led the people in prayer and all of us experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit amidst the gathering.

Children's Day: On 14th November the entire school campus was vibrant with colour and festivity. The students were overjoyed to see the SFC community putting up a fun filled musical band which was led by Sr. Isabel. The teachers truly entertained the students and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day. The primary section had their internal Athletic meet and children's Day celebration on 13th November.

Competitions: Various competitions were conducted in the school. The inter house Turncoat Debate for Cl. 9 and 10 and inter class extempore for Cl. 7&8 were well appreciated.

The Constitution day: The day was remembered with an inspiring and motivating assembly which filled each of us with patriotism.

Sr. Regis was taken to Allahabad by Sr. Pratima for a checkup as she was not feeling well. They returned on 26th Nov. after completing the entire checkup and Sr. Regis feels a little better now.

Christ the King Feast;- Few of us participated in the holy Eucharist offered by Rev Bishop Peter Parappullil and later joined the procession which culminated in Christ the King College with an inspiring homily and Benediction.

Sr. Jessy left for Chennai to attend the annual conference of AISCE and returned with new ideas for the betterment of her mission.

Sharing the meal of Joy: Accepting our invitation Srs. Alice and Roselette along with the Candidates, pre-postulants and postulants joined us to share a meal of love. Our sisters conducted for them a few games for which prizes were given. Their joy and laughter filled the air with warmth and cheer.

December: The month of December dawned announcing the arrival of Advent followed by Christmas.

On 6th November 75 **glorious years of legacy and excellence of Nirmala Convent**, Jhansi was celebrated with joy and enthusiasm through their annual P.T Display. The entire SFC community was there to witness the grand opening ceremony of the jubilee year.

CRI: The members of the CRI gathered at Judepur to share the Christmas joy.

Besides the Holy Eucharist, there was a Christmas get together with a short entertainment programme, games and exchange of Christmas gifts.

Exhibition/Book fair: The school had PTM for all the classes. The same day there was Art and Craft exhibition for which the auditorium and classrooms were artistically decorated. The book fair held on the same day, gave the students ample opportunity to buy books of their own interest.

Spiritual Accompaniment: Sr. Isabel accompanied the pre-postulants in their spiritual journey for a week staying in Krist Jyoti Niwas directing them during their retreat.

Reaching Out: In a bid to reach out to the needy, the students collected various items like cereals, clothes and other stationery which were distributed to the less privileged. USM members and LTS members visited few places and distributed some of the collected materials to the needy ones.

Christmas get together: The staff had a Christmas get together on 21st Dec. The teachers along with the sisters had a few games and then the Christmas friends exchanged small tokens of love. The management gave them gifts and teachers treated us with a sumptuous lunch and the school closed for winter vacation. The very next day there was carol singing in St. Jude's shrine in which teachers and students from our school participated.

Christmas: On 24th night we were in the parish for midnight mass. On Christmas day many students and teachers and few other well wishers were here to greet us. Srs. Pratima and Deepti extended a helping hand in serving food to the hundreds of people gathered in St. Jude's Shrine.

Sr. Isabel went to Allahabad to be with Sr. Rinalda who was ailing and she was happy to spend a few days with her as well as to meet the other old sisters. On 27th the community got into the annual retreat under the guidance of Fr. Tom Karimundackal S.J. Few members from other communities too joined the retreat and so the year ended and the New Year began with prayers going up to heaven.

Wish you all a very Happy New Year.

St. Francis' Community, Jhansi.

Nirmala Convent, Jhansi



The month of November reminded us of all our dear departed ones. On 2nd the Parishioners of Cathedral Parish and Prem Nagar Parish gathered at Prem Nagar Cemetery to offer the Holy Mass and prayers. Bishop Peter Parapullil and many priests concelebrated the Holy Mass and later blessed the graves.

Jhansi Diocese was blessed to have a Charismatic retreat under the guidance of Fr. Paresh from Gujarat from 9th to 12th

November. A very good crowd, daily attended the retreat, and many of us experienced the Divine touch of healing and blessing. Fr. Paresh is invited for another retreat in 2020 in Jhansi.

Though preoccupied with studies and revisions, the children found time to celebrate our Sr. Jyotika's birthday on 18th. She was greeted with bouquets and smiles and good wishes. A short programme was also staged to felicitate the birthday child.

The Feast of Christ the King was celebrated solemnly and meaningfully. The Procession took off from St. Jude's Shrine; stopping at St. Joseph's School and then proceeded to Christ the King College grounds. Fr. Franky Mathias and Fr Pius Pereira were the preachers. People from all the parishes took part in the procession proclaiming in public that 'Jesus is Our King and Lord'.

In honour of Sr. Roselette's birthday, St. Francis Community was invited by Krist Jyoti. The postulants and pre-postulants prepared a high tea followed by a short cultural programme. Their self confidence, creativity, fluency of language etc. show that they are well tutored by their Mistresses Sr. Alice and Sr. Roselette.

By the end of November, we were very excited and anxious about the forthcoming PT. Display - an event to inaugurate the 'Platinum Jubilee' of Nirmala Convent Girls Inter College. Sr.

Camilla went home to meet her sister and family who were coming from America.

6th December dawned bright and sunny. Our ground had a festive look. '75 glorious years'! All the students were in colourful dresses waiting for the hour. Bishop Peter Parapullil opened the function with a short prayer. Thereafter, Sr. Elsy **declared the Jubilee year open** by releasing 75 colourful balloons into the air. The students from K.G class to class XII put up an amazing show in various colours, rhythms, music and graceful movements. Mary Ward and her Companions, their call, foundation of the Institute, Mary Ward's visions etc. in dance and ballet was the culmination of the programme. The Chief Guest, Mr. Ravi Sharma (M.L.A Jhansi) in his message spoke well of Mary Ward and her sisters' contribution to the progress of the society and very specially uplifting the status of girls and women in the society.

Before Christmas we visited the homes of all our teachers, carrying Baby Jesus and bringing the message of peace and love. We were happy to stage a Christmas programme in Jhansi District Jail. Our students presented a Nativity play with a few Carol Songs. Fr. Lawrence gave a Christmas message to the inmates of the prison. The Deputy Jailor Mr. Subhash Pandey, in his message pointed out that Jesus is the example of love and forgiveness. Though He did no wrong, He was crucified, but He forgave those murderers. He is the example of humility

and mercy. We could feel how convinced he was as he spoke of Jesus.

Sr. Isabel directed a retreat for our pre-postulants. On the second day (15th Dec.) during the Adoration, the whole group experienced an extraordinary presence of the Lord in the Eucharist. Srs. Isabel, Roselette and Alice too were blessed with the same experience. Bishop Peter, many Fathers, sisters and many parishioners visited the Krist Jyoti Chapel. As a result, in the following days, the little chapel looked like a pilgrimage centre, as many people, teachers and children crowded the chapel fervently praying before the Blessed Sacrament. Many, especially our senior girls expressed that they experienced a certain peace and divine presence.

The school closed for Christmas vacation on 20th, after a Christmas Mela. In the evening the teachers had exchange of gifts with their Christmas Friends and thereafter Christmas lunch. The days had become very very cold, yet the midnight Mass was very solemn. The Cribbs were original, well lit with illuminations.

On Christmas day we had many people visiting the crib and asking blessing from the Baby Jesus. In the evening Srs. Mary and Jyotika attended the gathering of the local authorities and dignitaries in the Bishop's house. We were happy to reach out to so many poor people; we distributed ration and other things to them. Srs. Crispina, Camilla and Sujata spent their holidays in S.F.C. making their

retreat. Sr. Vinita was at home to celebrate her dear mother's 100th birthday.

Srs. Mary and Jyotika held the fort for eight days seeing to the garden, school cleaning, watering the field etc. On 27th the postulants said goodbye to us, as they were leaving for Patna for their Novitiate. Their presence was always a blessing; in the Cathedral, in our chapel, for any common function, they were part of our community. We pray that they become dedicated and committed brides of Jesus to keep His light burning where ever they are.

The year 2019 ended with Adoration and Holy Mass in the Cathedral. We wish you all New Year 2020 with God's abundant blessings and surprises.

St. Mary's Convent, Nainital



Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty, and persistence. [Colin Powell].

The month of November brought exam fever to the students. They were immersed in their books and notes burning the midnight oil. Teachers worked their fingers to the bone to finish the corrections and to get ready with the report cards. Children's day as usual brought a variety of surprises. The school celebrated the birthday of their principal, Sr. Manjusha with a meaningful prayer assembly followed by a mesmerizing

entertainment programme. As every year our primary children excelled in putting up a Christmas play to the delight of all. All appreciated them in doing their best to get the Christmas message across.

The Christ the King feast was celebrated very meaningfully. The procession began from the Parish Church, proceeded down by our convent road and reached the lake chapel very prayerfully and concluded with an hour of adoration in the church. Sr. Manjusha attended the AINACS meeting in Chennai. Since long our Sr. Tarcisia was suffering with neck pain. She could not hold it straight without pain. She went to Mayur Vihar for her treatments under a physician who treats (Marmum Chikilsa) for such pains. She came back before Christmas much refreshed and healthy. Thanks to her doctor. God bless him.

We had the monthly recollection guided by Sr. Tessy, on the theme Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

The month of December greeted us with many activities. As the academic year was coming to an end the students and teachers were busy with exams and corrections. On 7th our children conducted the final assembly of the year and thanked and appreciated the management and staff for their tireless effort in moulding and shaping the young minds and keeping them active always. By noon the boarders left the school premises and the campus became serene and quiet. Sr. Amita proceeded for her

home leave. On 8th we celebrated twin feast of Our Lady and the feast of Srs. Nirmala & Shobha. As a part of celebration Nirmala School children were served enjoyable lunch in the children's dining room.

After the hectic days of exams and corrections the teachers enjoyed a day out in Kausani – picnic arranged by the management. As we returned to Nainital the town looked all white as it snowed here. Srs. Digna, Nirmala, Anne, Tessy, Grace & Sheryl went to Bareilly to participate in the Christmas gathering of the religious organized by the diocese. The last day of the school was 14th and that day all the teachers gathered in the hall for the celebrations of Christmas.

Our agenda during December was visiting teachers, families of well-wishers, singing carols, sharing gifts & love, praying with them and giving them Christmas message. Our Christmas celebration began with our brothers and sisters in Haldwani leper colony. We then invited different sets of poor people of our locality such as ragpickers, potters, boatmen and children of ragpickers to celebrate Christmas with us. Every group gathered in front of our crib; we prayed with them, sang carols and distributed ration and blanket to them. We were delighted to visit our sisters in Puranpur, Rudrapur and Jeolikote to wish them a Joyous Christmas. On 22nd we had the gathering of local dignitaries and leaders. Most of them accepted our invitation and joined the Christmas celebration which ended with a high tea.

We were delighted when our DM gave us a special invitation to sing carols in his residence. On 23rd it was our co-workers turn to sit before the decorated crib for the Christmas prayer followed by a delicious lunch and distribution of Christmas gifts.

After the midnight Mass in our chapel sisters went to both parishes to be part of the Solemn Mass there and to wish the parishioners. Christmas Day kept us busy as many teachers, students, parents and well wishers came in to be part of the celebration. Immediately after Christmas, Sr. Manjusha left for SFC Jhansi to make her annual retreat. On 27th Sr. Sherly went to Allahabad to take care of Sr. Rinalda who was admitted in the hospital. Srs. Digna, Caroline & Shobha went for their home leave. Thus the year ended leaving a very small community behind.

Wishing you all a grace filled year ahead. May the New Year bring you beautiful moments, treasured memories and plentiful blessings.

Maria Ward Convent, Falna



Sr. Doreen attended a meeting organized in Mount Abu deanery on 'Mission- Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news'. She also attended a seminar conducted for the teachers who teach value education at Ajmer. Diwali holidays were well utilized for the revival of our spirits by spending time with the Lord in retreat. As and when time permits we visit

the families of students, supporting staff and teachers. They appreciate our visits and we could see this when most of the families visited us during Christmas. This year Christ the King feast was celebrated at Abu Road church and we were given charge of conducting the Rosary during the procession. After the feast Bishop Pius came to Falna and offered Mass in the church the following day. Sr. Doreen reached on time to be with her sister whose husband had a massive heart attack and thereafter breathed his last. May he rest in peace. We are praying for you and your family, dear Sr. Doreen.

During the season of advent our neighbourhood religious communities visited us. Though the parish community is small, we had the carol singing in the families and concluded the same in the convent and the whole parish was present. Students put up a beautiful Christmas play in the school and the carol singing added beauty to the celebration. Sr. Rayna happily left for Kerala to join her group in preparation of her silver jubilee. We made use of this winter break by completing all the odd jobs of the community. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Pushpa as our helper who comes from our village itself.



St. Anthony's, Jeolikote

The month of November reminded us of the dear departed ones. We remembered all the departed souls and

prayed for them with the parishioners as we had a common Mass in the graveyard.

We got the sad news of the demise of Sr. Damian's mother on 9th and Mr. Peter, one of our parishioners who worked in Nainital St. Mary's for so many years. Many of us went to his house to pray for him and to console the family members. Meanwhile Sr. Damian went home to attend the funeral of her mother.

Two Salesian priests Frs. George and Vineet who served our parish in the past years as brothers offered their first Mass in our parish after their ordination in Jharkhand. They were facilitated by our parishioners after the Mass.

Children's day was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm. Mass was offered for them and a meaningful prayer service was held in the school compound. A well organized fete was held for the children. The children enjoyed it thoroughly specially the dance club.

Congratulations to Sr. Deepika - She was awarded with a memento and certificate by the education department for St. Anthony's Inter College for their best performance in the academics. Children were seen practicing after school hours as singing and dance competitions were held in the English Medium school.

We heard the sad news of the demise of Mr. Jai Singh, Sr. Doreen's brother-in-law at Kathgodam. Many of our sisters

attended the funeral and offered their condolence to the bereaved family.

The last month of the year invited us to enter into the time of Advent. Many events took place during this month. We observed the International Disability Day with 12 differently abled children. Our English Medium School children put up a small Cultural Programme for them and each one was given a token of love. In the English Medium School class wise Crib and Carol singing competitions were held on 12th and they prepared a beautiful cultural program for the parents. The chief guest was Mr. Nayal, the Ex. Commissioner. The Hindi Medium School had crib making competition and Science, Art and Craft Exhibition. The Chief Education Officer was the Chief Guest on this occasion.

Carol Singing was held with enthusiasm and the climax of it all was taking out a tableau to the High way near Dogoan Village. Srs. Pratibha and Sheeba prepared the Church and made the crib so beautifully for Christmas. Christmas Day was a busy one as usual. Under the guidance of Sr. Sheeba a small programme was prepared with our catholic children and they performed it for the children at Haldwani slum.

Sr. Rinalda had gone to Allahabad for her regular check up and Dr. Paul asked her to stay on for a week more since her condition was not so good. Recently her sugar level became very low and she was

admitted in Nazareth Hospital. Sr. Roshni and community members took good care of her and she is out of danger and resting in 21. They have arranged a lady to take care of her, and Sr. Sherly is with her at present. As soon as Sr. Sheeba received the news about her dear mother's illness she rushed home and was present there when the mother went to her eternal reward. R I P.

Four of us from the community attended the Diocesan level Christmas get together. Bishop gave a talk on Consecrated and Community life. Conducted games and distributed gifts for all. Since all could not be there for the gathering the Bishop visited the communities and wished them, an expression of a pastoral heart.

We ended the year with thanks giving prayer, praise, worship and thanks giving Mass.

We the SAC join to wish you all a very Happy, blessed and fruitful year ahead.

Jesu Bhawan Delhi



At the beginning of the month we remembered with gratitude all our sisters who have gone before us and are praying for us. We paid tribute to them by visiting the sacred places where they lay. Srs. Elsy and Deepa moved to SFC, Jhansi for the council meeting and from there Sr. Deepa took some time to be with her dear ones at home and returned hale and hearty to continue her mission.

The study and reflections on the CJ/IBVM Consultation material gave us an opportunity to go deeper into our heritage and appreciate it from the heart – a Mary Ward family surviving and thriving with all the ups and downs of the congregation.

December was a time for us to enter into the families and institutions of many of our neighbours/parishioners and religious with the message of peace, love and joy. Christmas is love shared - we visited the children who are with the sisters of 'Birds of the Air'. Also the home of the destitute where there are 60 ladies who are neglected and denied a home of their own. Mayur Vihar community kept aside for us some ration and clothes and we happily distributed them to these needy ones. Thank you dear Srs. Poonam, Rose and Merlin for sharing with us what the students contributed for the poor.

Ours is an active parish and during the advent the parish organized many activities, competitions and retreat preparing the faithful to welcome Jesus into our hearts and homes. The midnight Mass brought a lot of meaning and joy to everyone. The wonderful youth made a difference with their lively and melodious singing.

Christmas lunch was a time when both the communities – Rohini and Jesu Bhawan sat together to relish the food at the same time to relish the moments together. Sr. Elsy, our Provincial and Sr. Sanjana were missed as they were at home; the former

with her old mother whose 90th birthday was celebrated with joy and love and the latter who went for a short visit to meet her doctor.

On 30th we welcomed Sr. Nathalie, a CJ tertian from Germany who will be with us for two weeks. From October she is in Nepal with the other tertians; she had to come down to us for some work with her visa. She is making use of her time reading a lot of books on St. Ignatius and Mary Ward.

Good news – the road in front of our house is being widened and repaired. It is going to be like NH; these days we are having a hard time but we console ourselves saying that this is a sign of development and so very hopeful.
Jesu Bhawan community

Mauranipur School



Srs. Annette and Geetika attended the Charismatic convention in Jhansi for two days. In the month of November the school had celebrations like children's day and Principal's day. Both the celebrations brought much joy to the students. We welcomed the month of December with joy to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus into our hearts and into our lives. Sr. Suchita took a short break to meet her doctor in Kerala. She returned with much consolation knowing that the reports are normal but she needs to continue her

medicine for another year. Srs. Annette and Geetika along with Fr. David went to attend the annual Sports and P.T. display on the occasion of the platinum Jubilee of the Nirmala School. We were happy to welcome Sr. Geetika's sister and sister in law to our house; they enjoyed our hospitality and returned home with a lot of loving memories. The science and art exhibition which was organized by the school was much appreciated by all those who came in specially the parents of children. The presence of the local authorities made a great difference to the staff and students; it was a sign of their positive affirmation of the activities of the school in Mauranipur. On 21st Christmas prayer was conducted for the teachers in the church followed by lunch. Though the students had practical exams Fr. David and some of the teachers went to the officials and principals of the locality to invite them for Christmas - the first attempt after many years of our presence here in Mauranipur. Christmas day kept us busy as lot of students, teachers, parents and officials came into the campus. In the afternoon the poor people of the locality were invited to our school and about 700 people were fed on that day. The service rendered by the teachers and the students were very appreciative. On 27th Srs. Annette and Anima went for their annual retreat to St. Francis convent. Fr. David and Sr. Geetika accompanied the teachers for a picnic to Chandigarh, Shimla, Kufri and Bagha Border in Amritsar. After a beautiful and enjoyable time they returned with cherishing memories.



Mayur Vihar, Delhi

Here we are to share with you our experiences of God's goodness although with a gap of some time. Great is our God and great is His goodness that He magnanimously showers on each one of us day after day.

Our Programmes: The Primary school had the Sports day with the theme— 'Celebration of Life.' The DM of East Delhi Mr. Arun Kumar Mishra was the chief guest and Fr. Susai Sebastian (VG) was the guest of honour. The students presented a Fitness Fiesta with an amalgamation of aerobics, yoga and dances from various regions of India and traditional games. The scintillating drills depicting strong and fit India showcased the physical strength, agility, coordination, grace and balance of the young Marians. It was well appreciated by all. Senior school had class wise programme in the Auditorium. Each was unique in theme, message and innovation. Parents watched it with awe and wonder as their wards moved on the stage with their energetic performance, vivacious props and vibrant costumes.

Joy of Visitors: Our community has the privilege of welcoming many visitors mostly our sisters who come for various purposes such as meetings, seminars, treatment or are on their way to go somewhere. A sudden visit of Fr. T.J. Jose S.J., Sr. Divya from Kanpur, Srs. Jyoti, Jaya and Neeta from Allahabad, Srs. Elsy, Sherly, Deepika, Elaine, Rinalda, Amita,

Jessy and Manjusha brought joy to our community. Sr. Tarcisia stayed with us for three weeks for her treatment and we were so happy to be in her company. Sr. Tarcisia is a true model for all of us and we can look up to her as an ideal.

Mary Ward Friends: Besides regular prayers at the beginning of the day in the school, Mary Ward friends along with Sr. Poonam went on a mission of making peace in a family of one of our students. The woman was being ill treated by her husband and her children had complained to us. We had to daringly stand between the husband and the wife as he started slapping her in front of us. Sharing of Christmas joy by distribution of food grains among the rickshaw pullers, slum dwellers, poor families of our school and parish brought joy and contentment.

Picnics and Tours: In order to kill the stress of overwork and problems sisters along with the manager Fr. Jose T.J. decided to take three days off from the busy schedule naming it management tour. This tour was to our own sisters in Nepal region and the best choice we could ever make. Sr. Jessy the Regional Superior planned and organized our trip and we simply admired their hospitality and warmth as we visited our convents in Gorkha, Pokhra, Jamshikal, Godavari, Lubu and Kathmandu. Thanks to all of them for giving us life time memories of the trip.

School staff along with sisters went for one day trip to Pratapgarh farm house

Jhajjar on 7th December. Having *makka roti and sarson ka saag* while sitting inside the huts was most exciting and we enjoyed it a lot. On the whole it was a day of relaxation with the entire staff.

Community Ministries: Besides the school responsibility we participate in S.C.C. unit prayers, various unit feast day celebrations, house visits to old and ailing, school functions etc. Life here is very busy especially due to the daily evening Mass. Christmas this year was very special and exciting as the entire school was in a festive mood since a month. House wise and class wise activities were organized such as bulletin board decorations, carol singing with crib depictions. The whole school looked like a bride for the savior to be born. In the parish too it was very beautiful; our creative hands reached out to make it more wonderful.

Wars fought: In the month of October and November we fought the war against dengue and pollution. This year's pollution was much more hazardous than other years. Life in Delhi was equal to living in Gas Chambers and breathing Delhi air was equal to smoking 45 cigarettes a day (Times of India). Praise the Lord that we could fight this war and come out of it.

Mayur Vihar- Delhi

All the earth worships you, and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.



Thanks to our God of miracles for letting us materialize our long planned and cherished dream of coming together in 'God's own country' Kerala. We 12 of us sisters - Mariette and Vineeta from Nepal region, Ancy and Sherly from Patna Province, Sagaya, Lissy, Neeta and Sheela from Allahabad Province and Amita, Sushmita, Rayna and Poonam from Delhi Province reached Kerala soon after Christmas. After our arrival and having refreshed ourselves in Sr. Sheela's house we headed towards the famous historical Churches, the renowned Divine Centre and from there to the renewal centre. At night we were mesmerized by the charm of 12,000 stars around Malayattoor lake.

Fr. Sunny S.J. from Kerala Province, an experienced formator, a great psychologist and a deep prayerful person was our resource person. We stayed in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre Niveditha. It was truly a renewal programme which rejuvenated our spirits, deepened our prayer life and taught us the skills to be happier, healthier and more vibrant.

Morning Yoga brought tremendous freedom in the body and the sessions on inner healing brought mental and emotional healing. Meditations with heart level conversations brought in awareness, healing and divine touch.

After the renewal programme we went to explore more of Kerala; Edapalli Church - the biggest church of Asia, Lullu Mall, Alleppey, Munnar etc. We also visited some of our sisters' homes, we were happy with their hospitality and warmth and it was an occasion to witness Kerala culture. Our coming together was truly a joyful and learning experience as we marvelled at God's work in each one's life at different stages. It was indeed a memorable experience. We are grateful to all who made this possible for us. Sr. Poonam C.J.

Xavier Sisters, Shahbad



On 8th November we attended one of our parishioner's wedding. Our presence made them happier. Sr. Anita was the privileged one to be part of Mayur Vihar School annual function. On 22nd Srs. Elsy, Renata and Anita went to Jhajjar community to witness their beautifully and creatively prepared cultural programme. The Good Shepherd prayer group gathered in our small chapel for the concluding prayer of 2019. After the prayer we had a fellowship meal which was a joyous contribution of the prayer group members.

On 1st December our Parish celebrated the Feast of St. Francis Xavier the patron saint of our Parish. The life of St. Francis was enacted by catechism children. Cultural items were put up by the young and old of

the parish. Lunch was served for all and everyone enjoyed the fellowship meal. Fr. Nishanth IMS was invited for a one day retreat in the parish in preparation for Christmas. Parishioners are well cared by the Jesuits. It was an encouraging experience to be part of a lively group of carol singers. We had a happy gathering on Christmas day in the Provincial house. On 28th along with Jesu Bhawan community, we went to Najafgarh for a friendly visit to the Don Bosco fathers. We were beneficiaries of their hospitality and after the lunch we moved on to the Cathedral for the wedding of Rose Cutting's (Jeolikote girl) daughter. We were happy to meet some of our girls.

The year 2019 was ended with the Thanksgiving Adoration followed by the Holy Eucharist during which we prayed for a happy 2020.

Shahbad community

Delhi Province wishes you all a prayerful and fruitful Mary Ward Week 2020.

[Thank you for all the news items from the communities. The next issue of Delhi Disha will be in **March 2020**] - Deepa cj