



DELHI DISHA

Vol.13/7 PROVINCE NEWS LETTER JAN- FEB 2020

From the Provincial's Desk...

Welcome back to the province:

Sr. Amita who will be returning to the province having completed a course on Ignatian Sources from Pune.

In need of our continued prayers:

- Sr. Vijaya who is recuperating after her surgery.
- Sr. Laura who needs to regain her health.

News from the communities

St. Mary's Jhajjar

We ushered in the New Year with holy hour and Mass in the Jesuit Chapel next door. As if a New Year gift the biting cold and thick fog gave way to bright sunshine by 11.00 a.m.

In preparation for the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, we spent the previous day reflecting and praying on *Gaudete Et Exultate - the Call to Holiness in Today's World*, by Pope Francis

School remained closed until 16th January so we made use of the time to explore a bit more of our locality and places around. Moving beyond our village, we visited the 'Kingdom of Dreams' in Gurugram, a place that offers an experience of cultural diversity of India.

With Mary Ward Week in view all our Mary Ward books in the Library were much in demand. In keeping with our community action plan each of us presented a short paper on a quality of Mary Ward that she particularly liked. We searched for the lesser known qualities. Sr. Kanula was thrilled to find that our way of praying while beginning a journey and praying for the sick had their origin in Mary Ward's way of praying. Sr. Remya was surprised by Mary Ward's ability to 'wait' for God's time. We appreciated the Mary Ward Week reflections as a way of experiencing solidarity with the entire Mary Ward family. Congratulations to Nalini Gurung of St. Mary's Nainital for her reflection!

The school celebrated the Mary Ward week with daily assembly highlighting some of her qualities. The Bulletin Boards

carried good displays on her maxims. Children are familiar with quite many of her maxims.

Class Picnics to farm houses, Sports Day and an Exhibition of art and craft along with a few science projects were the highlights of February in our little school. Long before the exhibition the talk of the



village was ‘St. Mary’s students are making rockets!’ So, one could imagine the curiosity with which parents walked in to see the display.

Sr.Mariella attended the 6th Annual Peace Convention organized by the National Peace Movement in Collaboration with Rotary International Dist. 2030 at Christ (deemed to be) University, Bengaluru. The 470 participants from 18 states of the country included professionals from

various walks of life, priests, sisters, teachers and students. The spirit behind this gathering of people of good will was to ‘light a candle instead of cursing the darkness’. Action Plans prepared by students, teachers, heads of schools, Rotarians, Priests and Religious in separate groups included projects and activities to promote peace and harmony in their circles. In the current socio-political context of India their determination to uphold the Constitutions and to promote its core values becomes very relevant.

St. Mary’s Nainital

Month of January was extremely cold, the temperature dropping to -5 degrees with heavy snow fall and storm. Due to the storm a huge tree near the stadium was uprooted.

Some of our sisters went to Falna to pay a short visit to our sisters. Srs. Digna and Caroline represented Delhi province at the celebration of the final profession of Sr.Arпита of Allahabad province at Dhamola – her home village in Bareilly Diocese.

February saw the community once again vibrant as all the holiday makers returned with fresh mind and body and with Kerala delicacies. On 2ndFebruary, day of presentation of the Lord,we remembered and relived our consecration day and thanked for the vocation of love that God has gifted us.

Mr. Jemen who retired after 30 years working in the garden was given a fitting



farewell by the community. We joyfully welcomed our provincial and on her birthday the cluster communities came together to celebrate life and to thank the good Lord for all the blessings bestowed upon her.

The excited students of class 12 arrived for their practical exam on 5th. We wish you God's blessings dear students! Accompanied by few of our sisters our co-workers set out for Delhi Darshan and returned with happy experiences. That was a boost for them to speed up the cleaning for the new academic session which was to begin on 26th with the arrival of the boarders. Before the commencement of the new session the teachers had an orientation programme setting the tone for their vocation as a teacher. We were happy to welcome Sr. Divya who came to help out in the dormitory in the absence of Sr. Sherly.



50 families of rag-pickers and very poor of the locality received ration. The inmates of the leper colony were very



grateful and happy to get the water connection to their toilets besides the ration they receive every month. Nainital community wishes all a grace filled Lent.

St. Xavier's, Shahbad

In the beginning of January Sr. Anita along with Sr. Reena went to Allahabad to visit Sr. Rinalda who was sick. On Epiphany day the youth of the parish organized games and some activities for the parishioners as part of Christmas Tree celebrations. Sr. Anita represented the community for the CRI meeting which was held in Jivodaya.

We were happy to accompany Sr. Nathalie, our German Tertian and Sr. Deepa to Akshardham Temple. An evening together made a great difference to our minds. The Silver Jubilee celebration of Sr. Rose invited us to Mayur Vihar; the well-organized celebration was much appreciated. On 30th January – CJ/IBVM gathering was in Loreto and all 3 of us were part of it. A short prayer service, a few games and the delicious meal added joy to the celebration.

The school took initiative of visiting the students' homes as a step towards caring for their wholesome development. The Principal and the entire staff moved to various families in smaller groups. It was well appreciated by the parents and teachers alike. At the end of the academic session the school conducted a Thanksgiving Assembly for the successful completion of the year.

St. Francis, Jhansi

The SFC family ushered in the New Year 2020 imploring God's blessings on all, with adoration and midnight Mass. The annual retreat commenced at the end of December and ended on 4th January. It was indeed a grace-filled journey for all the retreatants.

In the first week of January the school reopened and class XII began their pre-board exams. Due to the inclement weather, the school remained closed for the junior school.

Sr. Georgina's sister Lilly who was critically ill went for her eternal reward on 7th January. Sister was fortunate enough to be with her in the last days of her earthly life. R.I.P.

Enhancing the knowledge: 18th Jan. was set apart as a **reading day** as per the order of the Prime Minister. Hence in the school the students read for forty minutes, one of their favourite books that they had brought from home. Certainly, it has developed a taste for reading in the

students. Classes IX and XI were the beneficiaries of the Prime Minister's talk on T.V. which was an attempt to remove examination fear from the students.

Mary Ward Week – Venerable Mary Ward's birthday celebration commenced with the solemn Eucharistic celebration during which special prayers were offered for the Congregation and for the beatification of our Foundress. The highlight of the day was the meaningful and inspiring dance drama depicting the life of Mary Ward by class IX. Every day during the recess the members of FMW along with the sisters reflected on the outstanding virtues of Mary Ward. In the evening the community too dwelt on the theme provided by the Generalate. The martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi and the death anniversary of Mary Ward were commemorated on 30th Jan. The students, through a meaningful prayer assembly, depicted these two great personalities who had so much in common and how they still continue to inspire us.

Farewell – As the pre-board exams came to a halt, class XI bid good bye to class XII in a fitting manner. Dances, skits, songs added more colour to the day. They enjoyed every moment of their last day in SFC which nurtured them and groomed them into young, mature and confident girls.

Celebrations: The 71st Republic day was celebrated with much pomp and show. The tricolour was unfurled by Sr. Pratima in the presence of the entire SFC family.

She in her address, urged the students to uphold the Indian Constitution and the values enshrined in it. The display of the school band and the parade by the NCC cadets added more beauty and joy to the celebration.

Sr. Isabel accompanied our two Tertians – Srs. Maria and Divya for three days' recollection before their final commitment on 30th January. The community participated in the meaningful final vows celebrations in St. Anthony's Cathedral, thereafter we joined them in Nirmala Convent to felicitate and to share the joy of their final commitment.

The short visits paid by Sr. Mariella, Sr. Sybil, Ms. Rose Cutting and her children, Fr. Vaghese Kunnathu brought much joy to all of us in the community.

As the month of February ended, the students completed their final home examinations. One could experience an aura of silence all around as the teachers kept themselves busy evaluating the answer scripts.

We wish you all a fruitful season of Lent. May the passion and death of Christ draw us close to Him and to one another.

Jesu Bhawan

We welcomed January/February of this new year 2020 with SJ/CJ, CJ/IBVM and cluster community gatherings. The feast of the Holy Name of Jesus brought the SJ/CJ communities together for a dinner during which we had a lot of fun and

enjoyment. On 30th January Mary Ward families came together in Loreto Convent, Cantt. for a very meaningful prayer service followed by the agape. During the Mary Ward week, we appreciated the booklet received from Rome for our reflections and it was a grace filled time for us to pray, reflect, share and listen. It was indeed a new initiative by the friends of Mary Ward and others to write their own experiences of this marvellous woman – Mary Ward. Kudos to the thinking, planning and executing teams!

We thanked God for the gift of life granted to Sr. Elsy on her birthday. It was an occasion for the three CJ communities and the SJ fathers to come together and to be part of this celebration. Thank you dear Sr. Elsy for all that you do for the province. She is seen in and out of the community as she moves around visiting her sisters. May God grant you good health!

Sr. Elsy and the leadership team was fully immersed in their deliberations for two days. Thereafter the trio – GC 2020 representatives came together for their first reflection and sharing.

We extended a warm welcome to many who visited us. Sr. Pratima on her way to Rome for the planning commission meeting, Sr. Vandana from Kolkata for her short holiday, Sr. Shalini from Jhansi, Sr. Tessy after her treatment in Aligarh, Srs. Rinalda and Sherly, the former for her rest after the treatment in Allahabad and the latter who accompanied Sr. Rinalda,

Sr. Laura who was brought in emergency, Fr. Varkey from Jammu, a cousin of Sr. Renata, Fr. James OCD from Bangalore, a cousin of Sr. Deepa, Sr. Divya's brother and his two friends from Kerala, Sr. Vijaya who came for her parathyroidectomy in Apollo Hospital, Srs. Maria and Divya after their home leave were the beneficiaries of our hospitality.

Caring for the sick is one of the works of mercy. Jesu Bhawan community was privileged to practice this as Sr. Rinalda had to be hospitalized twice and as Sr. Laura developed breathing difficulty. Thank God both were taken on time to the emergency ward and are recovering fast in the house now. Speaking to Sr. Laura, Dr. Chandrashekar her cardiologist said, "when you look back you will see how at every step God was there through persons to take care of you..." And it is indeed true in the case of Sr. Laura who had an attack in the train. God bless all those good persons who reached out to her in time!

St. Anthony's, Jeolikote

We entered into the New Year with special prayer and Holy Mass. On 3rd January a get together for the co-workers of all the Institutions of Kathgodam deanery were organized in Suchetna. Eight of ours went for it and six of them won prizes in various games. They had an enriching and enjoyable time together. We celebrated our Congregation feast and had dinner together with three communities.

We reopened our school on 16th January after a short winter holiday. During Mary Ward week both English and Hindi medium schools had different programmes and assemblies to present the courageous and visionary life of Mary Ward. Sr. Damian addressed the students every day after the prayer service, gave her feedback and valuable messages and challenged the students to have strong foundation for their lives on good values



and live them in their daily life. At the end of Mary Ward week observance, we feel that her Maxims are her life experiences. After nearly 400 years of her passing away her vision is still vibrant and living. She left an eternal legacy for each one of us. We extend our profound gratitude to our Mother Mary Ward.

One of our boarders and her mother filed a case against us with allegations on 28th January and the news was carried by the Newspapers on 29th; the investigation started on 30th and it is not completed yet. On 4th Feb. Sr. Elsy, our provincial superior and Srs. Digna and Manjusha were with us, their presence gave a moral boost to us. The Investigation Officer was there for taking the statement from children. Sisters left us by 5p.m. People of goodwill started to come in to express

their concern and assured their support. Mr. Stephen and his wife from Nainital came and spent some time with us and prayed for us. Sr. Elsy came from Nainital and stayed with us for two days. As the case is going on we request you to pray for us.

We got a new set of the pictures of the way of the Cross, which was donated by one of our parishioners Mr. Anoop in memory of his late father Mr. Peter (Sr. Antonette's brother). The pictures look very beautiful on the chapel wall and now we have to make it beautiful in our hearts.

On 16th Feb. Holy Childhood Day was celebrated in a meaningful way in the parish. Sr. Sheeba and Mrs. Neelam worked hard to get the children ready for various activities and competitions. Children enjoyed the day. The one-day recollection conducted by the deanery was attended by five of us.

On 24th Feb. we had the farewell programme for the class X and XII students. The outgoing students appreciated and enjoyed the day.

On 29th Feb. after her home leave Sr. Laura was to reach the community back by 12.30 p.m. She boarded the train in the morning to Kathgodam but had to get down at Ghaziabad station due to breathing difficulty. Informed by the Provincial house, the Franciscan brothers at Ghaziabad fetched her and later our sisters from Mayur Vihar reached her to the Provincial house. For a day she was

in the CCU (Cardiac Care Unit) and at present she is in the Provincial house recuperating from her weakness.

Mayur Vihar community

‘Cherish God's vocation in you. Let it be constant, efficacious and affectionate.’



With these words ringing in her heart Sr. Rose celebrated her silver jubilee on 25th January 2020. It was a privileged occasion for the parishioners of Mother of Perpetual Succour parish. Sr. Rose entered the well decorated Church amidst melodious singing escorted by her brother and family, CJ sisters from Jesu Bhawan, Rohini and Jhajjar, priests and the main celebrant, Fr. Sebastian Jeera S.J. An apt introduction and homily made the celebration more meaningful. A well prepared short programme and the sumptuous dinner was appreciated and relished by all. Congratulations to you dear Sr. Rose!

Nirmala Convent, Jhansi

This year is very special as Nirmala Convent completes 75 years of dedicated

service. "Milestones are not achieved in a day; it is the result of well calculated and well-motivated mettle of great visionaries who could foresee the flip and flow of the strong undercurrent of life." Nirmala Convent thanks and congratulates all the sisters, teachers and support staff whose dedicated and loving service made Nirmala Convent, what it is today.

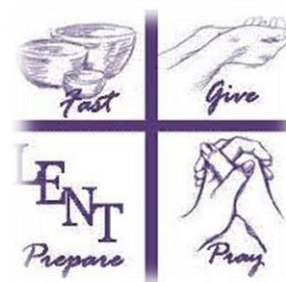
Sr. Vinita returned from home after celebrating the grace filled *100 years* of her dear mother. Sisters Camilla, Crispina and Sujata returned from SFC after the spiritual journey of eight days. On the 6th we reopened the school after many days of holidays. On the 11th a poster making competition was held for classes 11 and 12. We were happy to welcome three of our sisters from Sagar who were delighted to spend some time with us.

On 23rd we had a very meaningful Holy Mass in honour of Mary Ward's Birthday; Fr. Rinoy, the celebrant and Sr. Vinita gave some reflections on the life of Mary Ward. Every day during the well-prepared assembly the students enacted a scene from the life of Mary Ward inspiring and instilling love and reverence for our Foundress. Mother Mary Ward's death anniversary was celebrated with a special assembly and quiz on Mary Ward. Class 12 students looked gorgeous in their beautiful sarees as they came in for their farewell function. The school bade them farewell and wished them a bright future.

We welcomed Srs. Maria and Divya who returned to the province after their

tertianship programme in Nepal. Sr. Isabel conducted 3 days recollection for them in preparation for their final commitment. We were happy to welcome Sr. Elsy. On 30th morning, 7 pre-postulants were received as postulants - three from Nepal, three from Patna and one from Delhi. In the evening at 5 p.m. we had the Solemn Eucharistic celebration in the Cathedral during which our two sisters, Maria and Divya made their final commitment and took the special vow of obedience to the Holy Father. The presence of many priests, sisters and parishioners added joy to the occasion.

Sr. Mary attended the golden Jubilee celebration of Srs. Jane and Seraphina at SMC Allahabad. Srs. Vinita, Camilla, Roselette and a few candidates went for a pilgrimage to Dabra, the shrine of Infant Jesus. Srs. Isabel, Alice and Roselette along with our postulants visited the mission stations Lalitpur, Mehroni, Jaria. They visited the home of Ivy Jude, our postulant in Jaria. Sr. Tessa our new member arrived on 29th and she received a cordial welcome from the community.



(The next issue of Delhi Disha will be in May 2020) - Deepa cj