



DELHI DISHA

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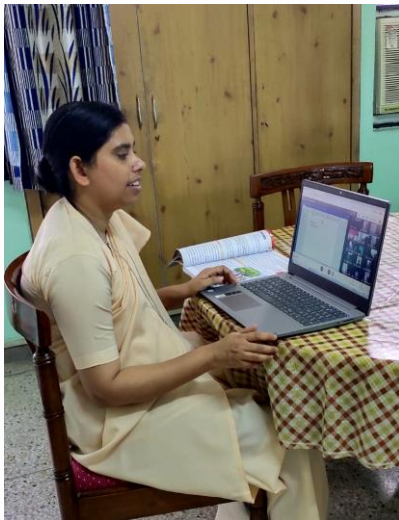
PROVINCE NEWS LETTER

May- June 2020

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES

Shahabad Community

The long lock down period got us more accustomed to a new lifestyle, such as staying indoors and sanitising the hands, not to exclude from wearing a mask. School activities continued in the month of June as we had skill enhancement programme to keep away from boredom. On June 1st, the new Principal Fr. Anil Kispotta SJ took charge. Admission process was on by 17th June and slowly the school office resumed its ordinary look. Throughout the past two months with a short break in June we had online classes for the students. On July 1st the second phase of online teaching learning experience began.



The community is privileged to have regular Eucharist; however, the parishioners are deprived of such spiritual assistance from March 20th. C C#3 was the focal point of the month of June. We were engaged in a number of community gatherings; thereafter we also scheduled an online meeting with the Falna Community. Due to lack of connectivity and net access we decided to have the sharing session within our communities. Through this exercise we got a larger picture of the whole CJ, broadening our view with an understanding that all are at the same pitch somewhere or the other.

Fr. George Peter SJ graciously agreed to enrich our spiritual journey from 25th to 27th June. The recollection experience was based on a pilgrimage through our spiritual life remaining grateful to God. Angela our house-help regularly comes for certain hours though bit distant from our campus, which is a great relief for us. We are replenished and revived after a few good rains that the capital city enjoyed over two weeks of June. Our garden looks vibrant in its greenery. We step out every evening for a community practice to weed out wild grass and to nurture the plants. Evening hours the campus is very quiet yet not lonely. Jesuits make it a point to have hourly walks. Our

community walk and exercise commence from 6: 45 p.m. followed by preparation for dinner. The cases of virus attacks are rapidly growing around our locality. We are much careful in moving out. We seek help from the co-workers or office staff to get provisions. So, we enjoy the good will of our well-wishers. All we look forward to is for God's Mercy and Grace upon the whole world.

Sr. Tomsy

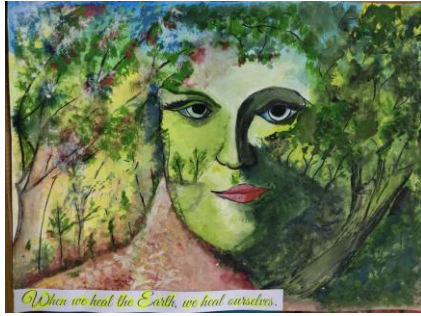
St. Mary's Convent, Nainital

The month of May is the most gorgeous of all months in Nainital. One part of the world experiences the hottest weather, while the other part celebrates the blossoming of flowers. The fascinating varieties of flowers in our garden is eye-catching and a source of joy for all of us during this lockdown. It is also parallel with the Laudato Si. We do enjoy the natural beauty around us and raise our hearts in devotion to Mother Mary in this month of May. One of our JPIC action plans, 'cleanliness drive' was practised by most of us sisters, as we took initiative in sweeping our yard, weeding the grass, planting saplings, making candles and host, carrying firewood etc. During the Laudato Si week Srs. Digna, Manjusha, Amita and two students attended the online seminar organized by Tarumitra, IBVM/ C.J on various topics. Our community took seriously the study of Laudato Si and the topics on JPIC. During the lockdown some of us took great interest in creating micro green garden and all of us are enjoying the fruit of it.



14th May was a day of recollection with whole day adoration, fast and prayer following the invitation from the Holy Father that the Lord may wipe away the corona virus from the face of the earth. Sr. Nirmla helped us to reflect on the theme, 'A new Heaven and a new Earth' and the day was concluded with a meaningful holy hour.

On 'World Environment Day' Sr. Manjusha organised an online competition for sisters to mark our love for the environment. It was indeed a great surprise to see the young and the old taking part in drawing/ photography and videography. We strongly believe that love for our 'Common Home' led us to take part in this activity. On 23rd of June a Mary Ward quiz was also organized for the sisters and the Friends of Mary Ward. Great was the enthusiasm.



Art by Sr. Kiran



Art by Sr. Georgina



Art by Sr. Nibedita

All of us still remain in the campus, having regular online Mass and online classes for the students. Most of us utilize the lockdown period attending online adorations, talks, seminars and orientation programmes. Besides the online classes Sr. Manjusha takes the initiative to conduct various competitions for sisters, teachers and students. Virtual meetings and parent-teacher meetings are conducted on zoom. It is well appreciated by the teachers, students & the parents. Zoom meeting with Friends of Mary Ward was also conducted encouraging them to be more active. Our Nirmala School too is trying its best to educate the children through online classes.



Special devotion to Mother Mary was concluded on 31st with a well-prepared Rosary conducted by Sr. Nibedita. We began the Rosary from the convent chapel and concluded it in front of the Grotto of Our Lady. Indeed, we are glad to have Sr. Coletta back, who returned from Rudrapur after 2 months of relaxation. Lockdown taught us to face challenges gracefully. By God's grace all of us remain healthy and away from all the sickness.

The month of June greeted us with showers of blessings and we were privileged to have our daily Eucharist as usual. Sr. Nibedita was with us around three months after her studies in Goa. On 13th

June she was reached to her community at Rudrapur by Srs Nirmala & Manjusha. Thank you, sister, for your loving & selfless service to our Ramnee Community specially preparing colourful & attractive charts, making hosts, teaching our co-workers' children, etc. Truly, we are grateful to you. May God bless all your efforts in sharing your talents and gifts with us.

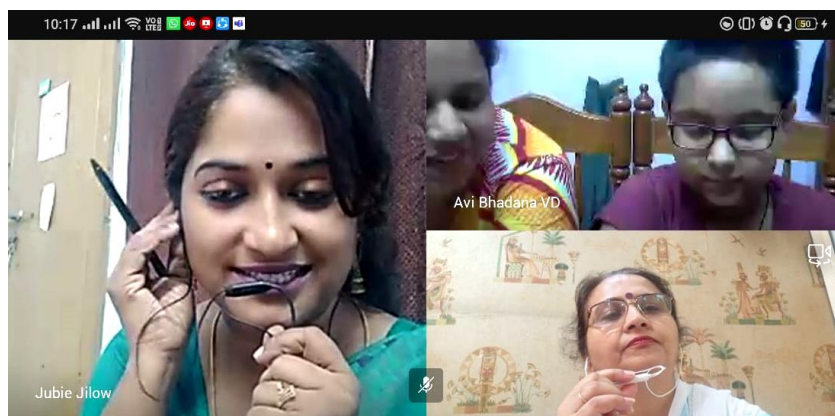
We had our monthly recollection conducted by Sr. Caroline, on the theme 'We have the power to change our circumstances'. We appreciate her for taking delight in leading us into prayer and reflection. We have organised recreation on last Sunday of every month. Each group takes the responsibility to organise it with games, fun and frolic. And all of us find it very relaxing.

Nainital Community

Mayur Vihar Community

Challenging times can lead to innovative changes that broaden and improve opportunities. With the lockdown restrictions 'Labour Day' was celebrated differently this year. To honour our support staff for their contribution towards making our lives easier, a befitting video presentation was made and circulated among them. Words of appreciation and E-Cards conveyed the message that each of them makes a remarkable contribution for the smooth functioning of St. Mary's, Mayur Vihar.

A day of prayer and recollection was held in the community on 4th May to introspect and evaluate our life and mission in the community as well as in the school. Our students had the first online periodic assessment from 6th May. It went on smoothly and on 22nd KG to XII had the PTM



through virtual medium. It was altogether a new experiential learning for the teachers as well as parents. Parents appreciated the effort of the school management for the timely response through the online mode before the bleak future of Covid-19. From 23rd May the online classes were put on hold for the summer break but the

students were assigned with summer fun time activities, holiday homework and short film making competition on the theme 'Break the Chain.'

During the lockdown we felt the need to be recharged physically, mentally socially and emotionally as we were locked inside the four walls of our flats. Sr. Elsy's presence in our community for a week made a difference to us; definitely we had an enriching and refreshing time together. Thanks to Sr. Elsy for taking time out to be with us during the lockdown. These days in the evenings we go

to the school ground to walk and get ourselves connected with the blissful nature. Since last two months we attend online Holy Mass.

From 16th to 24th May community observed 'Laudato Si' week. All the materials sent from the province were very useful and relevant for our reflections. 1st to 3rd June the school management organized a webinar on the topic 'The Nuances of Lesson Planning'. Mrs. G. Pongal Punita the Director of Infiniti Leaders academy, Chennai was the resource person. It was a fruitful and highly appreciated webinar which mainly focused on effective strategies for teaching and communication.

In order to apprise our class XII students about brilliant and aspiring career in Media studies, the school organized a webinar on 16th June in collaboration with the Niscort Media College. The two-hour session had an array of guest speakers who informed the students about the challenges and future prospects of the media industry. Mr. Bhupendra Chaubey, the senior anchor and journalist at CNN News 18 told the young Marians that it is essential to be sharp, multi-talented and hone skills in more than one field. Students grabbed the opportunity to learn more about a career in the media world and the resource persons were highly impressed by the response of our students.

Our school celebrated the Yoga Day on 21st June through the virtual platform. The physical education teachers conducted the programme in three sessions for classes III to XII. Students were taught various yoga asanas, Surya namskar, Pranayama and meditation which are beneficial physically, mentally and spiritually.

Amidst the Corona pandemic we initiated an awareness campaign on the occasion of World



Environment Day by organizing competitions on virtual mode. Classes KG-XII eagerly took part in various competitions and bagged prizes in their respective category. All the competitions were aimed at sensitizing the students towards their immediate environment and developing in them an aesthetic eye towards the beauty of nature.

On 17th June our long-cherished dream of visiting the Jhajjar Community was fulfilled. In spite of the lockdown we managed to visit them and had a fruitful Community Conversation (CC#3) on the realities in different part of the CJ Body in preparation towards the forthcoming General Congregation.

Community had the three days recollection from 28th to 30th June. All three of us took the turns to lead the community through prayer and reflections on topics like 'Shedding the masks to be real, Forgiveness and Owning one's Identity'. It was indeed an in-depth journey of the 'Self' through quiet introspection to find the 'Real Me'.

After a month long summer break, on 30th June with an insightful staff meeting, teachers joined the online mode to impart their knowledge and from 1st July onwards students resumed their online studies. Class wise orientation is being conducted for the students to get them back to 'New Normal' after the vacation. Ever since the lockdown started, Covid -19 pandemic is enabling us and our staff to harness the power of webinars and online conferencing; thus up-skilling us to be Technology Teachers. A blessing in disguise of course!

Sr. Merlin

St. Anthony's Convent, Jeolikote

We began the month of May with devotion to Our Lady, praying the Holy Rosary. Through the intercession of our Lady we prayed for the whole world, to be healed from the corona virus. We are privileged to have the Holy Eucharist daily.

Two of us, Srs. Deepika and Pratibha made an attempt to visit Rudrapur during the lockdown but without the pass they could not proceed after a certain distance and had to come back home. Their perseverance motivated them to get a pass within a few days and they managed to visit our sisters there and returned home with a lot of fresh vegetables from the garden.



The JPIC week was celebrated by the community in a fitting manner. Daily we familiarized 'Laudato Si' - encyclical of Pope Francis. As part of our action plan sisters and co-workers worked hard to regain the shape of the field which was in a bad shape due to construction work. Daily, most of the time Sr. Lucy is found in the field. Sisters also kept themselves busy in making fertilizers with kitchen waste. Thus, we tried to heal the Mother Earth and nourished her with love and care.

Praying for the departed: We were saddened to hear about the loss of Sr. Lucy's beloved father Mr. Joseph. She could not see her father for the last time due to lockdown. Our kitchen maid Saroj got the sad news that her mother is no more. She too could not be present for the last rites. We supported both of them – Sr. Lucy and Saroj with our strengthening and consoling words and humble prayers. May God forgive the sins of their dear ones and take them to His eternal presence.

To celebrate the World Environment Day on June 5th June we purchased 250 Tej Pattha saplings to be planted. We prepared the pits and planted them behind our English Medium School. We are happy to have some showers of blessings and our plants look refreshed.

On 13th June we celebrated our parish feast, the feast of St. Anthony of Padua. Even though many of our parishioners and visitors could not participate in the celebration, we had adoration followed by solemn Holy Mass giving due respect and reverence to our Patron Saint. We distributed St. Anthony's bread to all those who came for the Holy Mass.

Our Board Exam students, classes X and XII finally sighed a big relief when they could give their last pending papers on 22nd and 24th June respectively. Now they are impatient for that awaited day – final results!!

We are blessed with beautiful weather in Jeolikote. School is not opened after lockdown but still all are busy, some in the kitchen, some in the garden and some are settling the store rooms and godowns. We still find time daily 3pm to 7.30 pm to be before the Blessed Sacrament to plead for the world. Let the merciful God in his own time heal this broken world. We entrust the future in the merciful hands of God and accept each day as it comes.

Jeolikote community

Nirmala Community, Jhansi

It was a relaxed month with a lot of God's graces and blessings in the form of rain and cool air. We celebrated the feast of St. Antony of Padua, Patron saint of our Cathedral. Through his intercession we prayed for protection of the whole world from corona virus.

School received class X and XII board exam result. Class X got cent percent result while in class XII one failed due to her illness. Congratulations to the Management, sisters, staff and specially to all the students who worked very hard to get good marks. Everyone rejoiced and thanked God for the good result.

Sisters were engaged taking part in various competitions organized Sr. Manjusha, like videography, photography, paintings and Mary Ward quiz. It was very encouraging at the same time a lot of fun and joy. Congratulations to all the winners! The community took some time out to be in the company of the Lord in prayer and recollection. We were shocked to see our campus covered with swarm of locusts. Our dear Sr. Camilla was very much anxious and worried seeing them destroying the vegetable garden; she called everyone to take part in the herculean task of chasing them away

from our fields. They remained flying around for some time and then hearing the sounds of various instruments they flew away into far distance never to return.

Sr. Mary with the help of Srs. Alice and Roselette conducted a Bible quiz for our postulants and candidates. The audience, our sisters encouraged the participants. Their participation and responses were very good and was greatly appreciated.

“What gives me the most hope every day is God’s grace; knowing that His grace is going to give me the strength for whatever I face, knowing that nothing is a surprise to God.” - Rick Warren.

With God’s blessings, Nirmala Community, Jhansi.

St. Mary’s Convent Jhajjar

Greetings! May-June, the dreaded summer was after all not that dreadful this year! No home leave and so we were all here to do what we could. The community made a study of Laudato Si and prepared an action plan following the guidelines provided by the province office. The study helped us to ‘listen’ more deeply to the ‘the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor’. We held the concluding community prayer in the lawn in front of the convent, to be more in touch with and listen to the earth.

Jhajjar community rarely has visitors but the month of June was a pleasant exception. Notwithstanding the lockdown and social distancing, Sr. Elsy our Provincial came and spent a week with us. Then came our Mayur Vihar community for the CC#3 sharing in preparation for GC. After our sharing we had the Eucharist together. One could sense how they relished the experience as they only had online Mass for weeks. On 22nd June Sr. Deepa brought Sr. Maria who had to join the Falna community. The same evening, we welcomed Sr. Joseline to our community. She came by road with a Catholic family from Falna (Rajasthan). The latter spent a day here to rest and relax before returning to Falna along with Sr. Maria.



The CJs were an integral part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Fr. Joseph Kochupura SJ, whom many of ours will remember. It was a 100% community celebration and the CJs being a sort of extended

community had the privilege of lending a CJ touch to the celebrations.

Like most other schools in our district we held online classes till 30th May, completed the assessments by 15th June and then declared holidays until 30th June. We resumed online classes on 1st July. We feel concerned about those children who cannot take advantage of the technology for

various reasons. Sr. Remya keeps in touch with parents specially to update them on new developments and much more to encourage them.



On 'Plastic Bag Free Day' (3rd July) all our students except the pre-school group, engaged in various activities to promote the idea. Cl. 1 and 2 made different types of carry bags with the help of their parents. In the bargain parents too had become conscious of observing plastic bag free day. Cl. 3 and 4 had to persuade three persons to give up the habit of using plastic bag and instead encourage them to use cloth / paper bag. Cl. 5 organised a conversation with family members and neighbours about the disadvantages of using plastic bags. And Cl. 6 made posters to display in public places highlighting the advantages and disadvantages of using plastic bags. Wishing everyone good health and happy times,



Jhajjar Community

St. Francis, Jhansi

Spiritual Enrichment: The month dedicated to Mother Mary brought us together daily, at dusk to recite the rosary and seek Our Lady's intercession for the world victimised by the pandemic. The observance of the Laudato-Si week was indeed an enriching experience as the community took to the study of Laudato-Si with earnestness. Sisters took turns to explain each chapter and each day's session ended with the sharing of the responses to the questions given for the day. Certain days, we also listened to Fr, Daniel Horan OFM on YouTube who explained the topic of the day very briefly and clearly. The study and reflection helped us to become aware of the critical challenge in the absence of an integral ecology resulting in the cry of the earth and the poor.

Webinars - Norm of the day: The webinar organised by the Mary Ward sisters during the Laudato-Si week on various themes related to ecology, in order to strengthen the network, was attended by some of our sisters, teachers and students and found it very enriching and informative. Besides, many of our students participated in the drawing, calligraphy and nest making competitions organised during the Laudato-Si week. The webinar hosted by Sr. Cynthia CJ on 25th June on the issues of Covid -19, was enthusiastically attended by some of our teachers, students and ex-students from various walks of life and they made a remarkable contribution by sharing their views with Sr. Cynthia. This session was facilitated by Sr. Deepti and made an exceptional contribution to U.N.

House for the Homeless: Mrs. Theresa Francis, our orphan girl from St. Antony's, Jeolikote who was in great need of a house, was handed over the key to a newly built lovely two bed room house by Sr. Pratima.

Revamping of Our Lady and St. Joseph: Sr. Georgina unleashed her artistic traits and the result of which was the facelift given to the statues of St. Joseph and Mother Mary in our Chapel. Now both of them look gorgeous.

The role of technology in the Lockdown: A boy told his Mom, “Mom you know, they in the school told us not to bring mobile to the school but today the school is in the mobile.” This is not a joke in the current scenario but a fact as the online teaching is on progress with its pro et contra. The online classes were resumed on 23rd June after a break for a month. Our students have now become well versed in attempting online assessments. Hats off to the teachers as they have become more creative in imparting knowledge. In spite of the strain of integrating various modules of E-teaching, we are happy that the teachers, parents and students are co-operative in this process.

SFC winds up here, wishing you all the best to cope up with all that is demanded of us during this time of uncertainties and anxieties.

S. F. C. Community

Jesu Bhawan, Delhi

The few good rains in the months of May/June cooled the air a bit for which we are really grateful. The road in front of our provincial house looks very grand now; the evening hours, just before our dinner, is well spent by the community taking our strolls daily. It has become rather a busy road with a lot of people enjoying their walks and exercises and inhaling fresh air since this area is corona free.

After exactly two months of online Eucharist we are happy to have daily Holy Eucharist in our chapel. Thanks to the Jesuits nearby for their generosity and dedication. Sr. Maria who was with us for three months was reached to Jhajjar on her way forward to Falna, her new community.

We, here in Jesu Bhawan celebrated the ‘Laudato Si’ week by learning, reflecting and discussing together the encyclical of Pope Francis. Caring for the animals and birds have become part of the day in Jesu Bhawan. In



the past weeks we noticed that some of the animals move around looking for their habitat. It is very pleasant to the eye to watch the mainas, plovers, bulbuls, peacocks, nilgai or blue bulls, wild bores, jackals, monitor lizards, deer and many more freely moving around – oh, no, we are not in the jungle. This is the nature around us. We watch them with joy; great indeed are the deeds of the Lord!!

CC# 3 in preparation for GC invited us to be in touch with the Ignatian process of community conversation; thanks to the General Leadership Team! Our horizon is widened and there is a feeling of belongingness to a worldwide Congregation which goes through almost same kind of situations in our mission field and community relationships. This awareness was brought to us in the process of the community conversation.

Though it is lockdown period, Sr. Elsy spent a week each with our sisters in Mayur Vihar and Jhajjar communities. An enriching time for the sisters as well as the leader of the province.

Jesu Bhawan Community

*Delhi Disha wishes you
a Great Feast of St. Ignatius !*



Dearest Lord,
**teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve You as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward
save that of knowing I am doing Your Will.**