



DELHI DISHA

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Province News Letter

JULY – AUGUST 2020



NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES



St. Mary's Jhajjar

We had been knocking at the doors of Department of Haryana Education offices for quite some time. Bringing much relief to our anxiety we received recognition up to class 8 from the Department. On this happy note we resumed online classes in the first week of July. Class wise PTM, regular classes and on-line co-curricular activities for the students kept us on our toes. Zoom meet for the animators, principals and accountants enriched all of us who participated actively. On the feast of St Ignatius, a small gathering was organized at the Jesuit residence and on the same day Fr Joseph Kochupura was given a farewell. He served the XLRI Jhajjar mission for the past eight years. He has been a great support in our mission too all through. We joined the Jesuit community to reach Fr. Joseph Kochupura to Behror, his new community.

Sr. Kanula who is missioned anew to Jeolikote was given a farewell by the sisters and teachers via Zoom meet. It was a moment of gratitude as we recalled Sr. Kanula's five years of wholehearted services to the school. On 10th August Sr. Mariella and Sr. Remya accompanied Sr. Kanula to Delhi along with Fr. John Ari and Fr. Jinesh. The journey from Jhajjar to Delhi was so enriching as Sr. Kanula kept recalling and reminding the group of the family spirit shared by both, the CJ and Jesuit communities.

On Independence Day Sr. Remya hoisted the flag in the presence of Sr. Mariella and Sr. Joseline. Three support staff who stay in the campus also attended the ceremony. Online competitions - speech, fancy dress and patriotic songs - were conducted. Speeches on the theme '**Online classes**

and Children in Indian Villages' prepared by the students of classes five and six, all had a personal touch as many of them struggle with poor network and lack of proper facilities.

In the month of August XLRI Campus at Jhajjar began online classes for the first batch - MBA Finance. New faculty members have joined the Jesuit community. Inauguration of SBI branch at XLRI campus on 27th August was one of the most awaited developments for our village-Aurangpur.

As the school still awaits the order to reopen, we have a breathing space to complete all the pending works and repairs. Works related to the basketball court, installation of lift, electricity connections etc. are all in progress. We are in great urgency to obtain the occupation certificate. We are ever grateful to our communities who generously extend their support to develop the mission in Jhajjar.

Remya CJ



St. Mary's Nainital

The month of July brought the good news of the 100% result of ICSE/ISC students. Given below is a 'thank you' note, sent by one of our students which was indeed a good gesture from her side.

The wonderful guiding lights of Ramnee

The past 24 hours have been a surreal experience for me. Scoring the marks that I got did involve my efforts but a larger share of my success is a result of the efforts of the Sisters and teachers who worked as background artists, in creating an absolute image of success. 10 years in this institution, and I have not spent a single day not being inspired by the efforts you put in to make each lesson more memorable.

Therefore, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the kind of support, love and motivation I experienced from you all. Thank you for all the corrections you gave me and the grit you all instilled in me to make me strive harder and work better.

I owe it all to you and request similar guidance in the future as well.

Regards,

Escandita Tewari (2019-2020 batch)

After the Board result, we started with the proceedings for class XI registration and admission. This year we have introduced psychology for ISC students. We got a very good response from the students. School conducted online half yearly examination and gave the results too.

We held fruits and vegetable competitions for sisters and many of them took part in this activity. Srs. Alice, Roselette and Josephine won the first prize and Mauranipur community bagged the second and Sr. Sheeba the third. Congratulations to everyone!!



Sr. Josephine



Srs. Alice & Roselette



Mauranipur Community



Sr. Sheeba

On 23rd July Sr. Manjusha had arranged a zoom meeting for Friends of Mary Ward in which Sr. Isabel addressed the gathering on the topic 'Friends of Mary ward' followed by a quiz competition on the Painted life of Mary Ward. It was very encouraging to see the Friends of Mary Ward taking part in the quiz with enthusiasm. They shared that through this they get a chance to know more about Mary Ward. At the request of the Friends of Mary Ward it was decided that Sr. Manjusha would organize Zoom meeting on 23rd of every month. Various resource persons are invited to enlighten the group. We also had our monthly recollection conducted by Sr. Grace. The entire community set aside themselves to be with the Lord.

On first August we bade farewell to Frs. Jerome and Manish, who had served us spiritually for last 3 years. On August 11th we celebrated the feast day of Sr. Digna. Though lockdown yet children prepared a beautiful prayer service along with cultural activities and thus we had the virtual feast day celebration.

On 15th August for the first time without staff and students we had the flag hoisting. Bishop Ignatius of Bareilly Diocese was supposed to offer Holy Eucharist and hoist the flag. Unfortunately, Bishop fell ill; so, Fr. Aloysius OFM offered mass and hoisted the flag in the presence of sisters, few neighbouring teachers and our co-workers. He prayed for the wellbeing and welfare of the country. The students of class IX conducted a meaningful online prayer assembly. We also had conducted various online competitions such as Kavi Sammelan, recitation of poem, Rangoli, speech, etc. prior to Independence Day. We had the online virtual cultural programme to mark the 74th Independence Day which made a difference to the celebration.

On 23rd August we had our zoom meeting for the Friends of Mary Ward. During this meeting Sr. Celine CJ addressed the gathering on the topic 'The Spirituality of Relationships' followed by a quiz on the maxims of Mary Ward. A good number of them took part. During lockdown we were able to do a lot of creative activities for the students. Sr. Manjusha took orientation for parents of St. Francis Convent College Jhansi. Sister dealt with various topics such as coping with stress, positive parenting, A to Z parenting, dealing with teenagers of 21st century etc.

On 16th we got the sad news of the demise of Sr. Ursula and on 17th Sr. Adelaide's brother Mr. Thomas. We all attended the virtual funeral services and prayed for the repose of their souls. 29th

August was spent in prayer and recollection on the theme 'Consecrated life a gift and responsibility'. The day was concluded with an hour of prayer conducted by Sr. Sherly. Due to the lockdown online classes are still on. This year the rain is not coming to an end.

Since the corona virus is spreading like a wild fire, all of us are very cautious and careful and praying more earnestly.

Nainital Community



Nirmala Convent, Jhansi

July was a month of feast days of many saints, began with St. Elizabeth of Hungary and ending with St. Ignatius of Loyola. The saints interceded and we received many blessings.

Activities: We were happy to receive a lot of saplings of fruit trees from the District Officer of Schools (DIOS) office and with great joy each sister planted a sapling each in the school campus. Under the able guidance of our two formators, Srs. Alice and Roselette, a creative and inspiring tableau was put up by the candidates and postulants on the theme 'Laudato Si' depicting the scenes of creation, environment, pollution etc. Well done young formees!

Celebrations: Sr. Camilla's Feast was celebrated with a meaningful Holy Mass, followed by showering her with wishes and blessings. The day was made memorable for her by the candidates and postulants with a fitting felicitation. The last day of the month July 31st was a great day for all of us as we celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius. The day started with the Holy Mass and the inspiring introduction by Sr. Tessy made the liturgy meaningful. As a conclusion, a quiz was conducted by Sr. Mary on St. Ignatius for the postulants and candidates. The community celebrated the 60th birthday of Sr. Tessy with a meaningful Holy Mass and evening adoration. The organized recreation and the short programme by the candidates and postulants was praiseworthy which added colour to the day's celebrations.



Sad News: We were saddened to hear the tragedy of Anushka Chourasia, class 3 who died by falling from the staircase of her house. She was a very active and intelligent girl; we will miss her presence in the school. May her soul rest in peace. Sr. Tessy received the sad news of passing away of her paternal aunt Sr. Gracy FSMA. We as a community offered Mass and prayed for the departed soul and for her family members. RIP.

Sr. Tessy C J



St. Anthony's, Jeolikote

We eagerly looked forward for the month of July to reopen schools but we said “yes” to all the lockdown regulations. We continued our fervent prayer for God’s mercy and complete healing from the Covid 19 virus.

We received the sad news of our contractor Javed’s sudden demise. He was only 35 years old. May his soul rest in peace. Javed was very kind and understanding towards his employees. Please pray for his parents, two sisters and a brother. Another shocking news was of the sudden death of one of our elderly parishioners, Mrs. Elizabeth. She was a very devout lady, attending daily Mass. She was surrounded by all her children and grand children as she struggled for breath. Our parish priest, Fr. Uday, Srs. Lucy and Pratibha reached in time and she received communion and breathed her last peacefully.

Our children from the parish took part in competitions – recitation of Psalms, singing and dance based on Bible themes and they bagged the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in their respective groups for singing and 1st and 3rd for the dance and 3rd prize for Psalm recitation. Congrats to you dear children!!



On 16th July we welcomed the new Congregation of Sisters named “**Disciples of Jesus**” to St. Anthony’s parish. Their main mission is to preach the Word of God, to reach out to the poor and to help in the parish activities. We bade farewell to the MSI sisters, who had been serving the Jeolikote mission for the past eleven years. Thank you and God bless you dear sisters!

On 24th July Sr. Manjusha conducted a beautiful prayer service and installed Sr. Sheeba as our new animator. We thanked Sr. Lucy for her loving care and generous service to the community for the past three years. We can proudly say that Sr. Lucy has given her very best and guided the community very efficiently. May God bless her and reward her; we the sisters are very grateful to her for her self-sacrificing service to each one of us. We assure our prayers as Sr. Sheeba shoulders her new responsibility as the animator of our community and we ask God’s blessings upon her. We offered Holy Mass and prayed for God’s blessing on Sr. Lucy for her new mission in Mauranipur and God’s guidance on Sr. Sheeba. We enjoyed a special recreation, with games, fun and laughter in the evening in honour of Sr. Lucy and Sr. Sheeba.

On the last week of July, we had meeting with the parents in three groups to discuss about the online classes and take their suggestions as well as to listen to their difficulties. Parents are happy for the efforts taken by the school authorities and the teachers.

The feast of St. John Maria Vianney was celebrated very meaningfully with our parish priest and others. On this day Bishop Isidore celebrated his 32nd anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination. The community enjoyed a festive meal at the parish house. The twin feasts of Sr. Lorna and Sr. Rekha was made meaningful and prayerful with a special Holy Mass and festive meals. Sr. Augustine celebrated her feast, with a High Mass and a special Holy Hour. She is greeting all of you with a warm smile.



We welcomed Sr. Elsy our Provincial and Sr. Kanula, the former came for her visitation and the latter as a new member to our community. A Hearty warm welcome to Sr. Kanula and we wish her God's blessings as she begins her new mission here in the community and school. Sr. Elsy left for Nainital after a refreshing tea.

11th August was a great day of rejoicing as a residential priest has been appointed at Bana mission. Our Bishop, Ignatius D'Souza offered Holy Mass for the people and he also visited the houses of the parishioners in Bana. After the celebrations in Bana, Bishop Ignatius visited our community and on the following day he offered the Holy Mass which was attended by a large number of parishioners.

On 21st according to the directions given by our Bishop, we prayed for the protection of our environment and after mass, in the presence of our parishioners, Bishop Isidore planted a sapling. He also encouraged every family to plant a tree and take care of the environment.

We thank God for our Board Exam Results. Majority of our children secured 1st division and a few secured a good second division. A few of the students in class 10 and 12 could not secure the pass percentage. We are grateful to God for the success of our students and thank our principal, teachers and parents for their support.

On 21st August Bishop Ignatius asked the entire diocese to keep a fast and pray earnestly the whole day before the Blessed Sacrament and implore Jesus, the Divine Healer to wipe away the Corona Virus. May our people come back to God with true repentance and believe in the power of God and praise His Holy name. Our community had the whole day prayer along with our parishioners. We still continue our daily extra hours of prayer and fasting.

We have begun the novena prayer in preparation for the Birthday of our dear Mother Mary, Mother of God. Happy Feast to each and every one of you!

Jeolikote community



St. Francis Convent, Jhansi

July was a month of feasts: starting with the feast of St. Thomas (3rd) the apostle of India and ending with the feast of St. Ignatius, our beloved Saint. The inspirational lives they led and the heroic virtues they practiced serve as a model for us. They give us the hope and the assurance that we too can become saints if we desire it with all our heart, soul and mind and strive for it.

The atmosphere has cooled down due to frequent rains and the compound looks lush green. Mother earth gave us lots of vegetables, mangoes and jackfruits which we shared with our sisters in other communities and friends. Sr. Isabel made use of this golden opportunity to try out various dishes with jack fruit such as chapattis, ada, putte, ice-cream and even payasam with jack fruit seeds. All came out well. Kudos to Sr. Isabel!

We celebrated Sr. Isabel's feast on 4th July and Sr. Pratima's feast on 9th July with great enthusiasm and excitement. The solemn high Mass, the melodious singing in the tastefully prepared chapel and the grand breakfast that followed added colour to the celebration. After dinner we had an organized recreation with lots of fun and laughter which made the day memorable for all.

The ISC and ICSE results were declared on 10th. Congratulations to Sr. Jessy, the staff and students for the excellent results!

We are extremely happy that we could admit four of our Evening school Mary Ward students in proper schools: two girls in Nirmala Convent Inter College and the two boys in St. Joseph's School. We have found a tutor too for them. We provided them with smart phones too as they had to attend online classes.

One day, to our surprise we heard from our chaplain that Sisters of Charity (MC) were not getting sufficient financial aid, due to lock down, to help those who knock at their gate daily for help. So, we supplied them with some provisions.

In preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius we had our monthly recollection on 12th guided by Sr. Pratima on the theme 'Ignatian Spirituality' and she led us to reflection and prayer. The day spent with the Lord renewed us in mind and spirit.

On 20th we had an outing to Krist Jyoti Niwas to see the tableau our postulants and candidates had prepared on Laudato Si – how to take care of our Common Home – the earth. It was a welcome change after staying at home for months on end. The tableau was excellent!

Sr. Isabel was the resource person for the zoom seminar for Friends of Mary Ward which was on 23rd August and at the end of the session there was a short quiz on ‘Painted Life’. All the participants appreciated Sr. Isabel for her love for Mary Ward and her eagerness to share her insights with others.

Lockdown hampered many of our activities in the mission field. But it provided us with lots of time to be with the Lord, to learn some new techniques in teaching and to become tech savvy so to say.

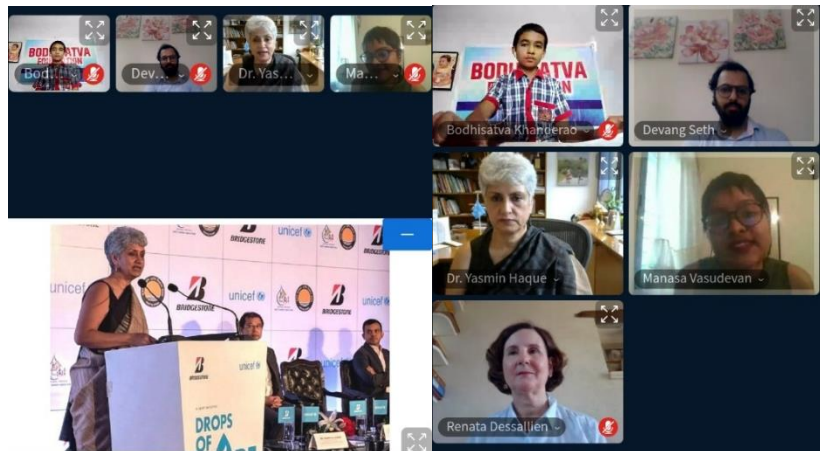
Webinar is proving to be a powerful medium to come in touch with the world. These webinars besides giving us knowledge suggests ways and means of dealing with post pandemic problems. We attended a series of webinars – on living with Covid-19 – a humanistic approach in education by Fr. Paul Pudusery CSC, on Catholic Education in Covid-19 era and beyond, challenges and possibilities on Future Religious Life by Fr. Sunny Jacob SJ to name a few.

31 days with St. Ignatius was very inspiring and enlightening – *“Your words came and I devoured them, your word was my delight, the joy of my heart.”* was the spirit with which we watched the videos prepared by the Jesuits of Chennai Province. On 30th Sr. Shalini conducted a beautiful prayer service on the Spirituality of St. Ignatius which set the tone for the celebration of the feast of St. Ignatius on 31st. Our Bishop surprised us by turning up in the morning along with Fr. Vianney to offer the Holy Eucharist. That made the day. In the evening we had an organized recreation which included quiz on St. Ignatius and Mary Ward. It re-energized all.



Some of us attended a five weeks workshop on ‘**Environmental Sustainability**’ which ended in the first week of August. Sr. Deepti did the Home Work faithfully and she was awarded an ‘O’ level certificate for the same. Congrats Sr. Deepti! In spite of her busy schedule in the school, she has been attending almost all the webinars organized by UN representatives and the JPIC. We appreciate your enthusiasm dear Sr. Deepti.

A number of our students joined the “Earth Pro Activist” online certificate course on climate change conducted by Steve Rocha, “Nine is Mine”. Our student Dhanya Jha was selected for the National Workshop. We are climate warriors to co-create actions and solutions for climate



change scheduled for 20th August. Ms. Renata Dassallien, the UN Resident Coordinator in India along with Dr. Yasmin Ali Haque, the UNICEF representative were also present. Dhanya came back beaming with confidence convinced that our efforts are never too small to make a difference.

The birthday cum feast day of Fr. Vianney, our chaplain, the feast of Assumption of our Lady cum Independence Day and Sr. Vijaya's feast day – were all celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm. We made it Big – memorable for them with a meaningful celebration of the Holy Mass and the big and small things we did for them. Yes, 'you have touched me and I have grown'.

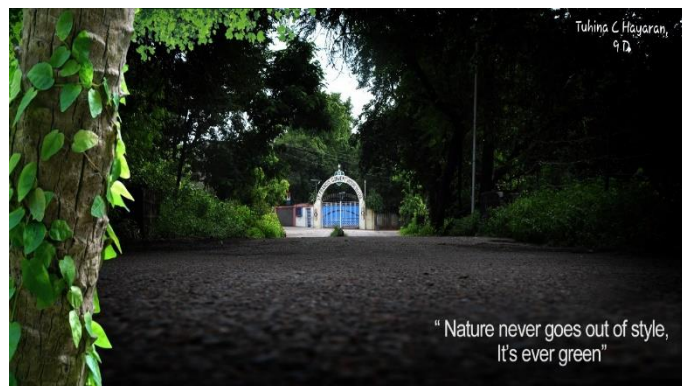
On 15th the tricolour was unfurled by Fr. Vianney in the presence of all of us. Mr. Ajit Banerjee, the senior Physical Education teacher and Mr. Ezra too witnessed it. Sr. Jessy and the Head Girl addressed the school online which was followed by class assemblies of all the classes from class VI up. The Primary School held a few competitions prior to 15th August to showcase the talents of the students and to keep their patriotic spirit alive.

August offered us plenty of opportunities to attend webinars on NEP organized by different groups. The webinar on emotional well-being during Covid-19 and beyond by Sr. Prisca did a lot of good to us. '31 days with Mary Ward' was a good initiative and it did bring us closer to our Foundress Mary Ward.

A pall of gloom descended over us on 16th as the news of Sr. Ursula's death reached us. All of us knew her well and she had endeared herself to us by her charming smile and unmatched hospitality. She is not dead; she lives in our hearts. The song is ended but the melody lingers on.

The parents of the senior school had Orientation Programme conducted by our very own Sr. Manjusha. They appreciated it a lot. Well done Manjusha! We are proud of you. We also sincerely appreciate and thank you for conducting Mary Ward quiz, competitions and arranging various webinars.

18 – 24 August saw a few competitions, held for class VI up, such as short story writing, poem writing, drawing, solo singing, solo dance etc. The results are awaited. Now they are busy writing their 1st terminal examination.



In this maddening month, we found time to have our Recollection, the community evaluation, community conversations and reflection and sharing on COIN Towards New Frontiers in Mission. We felt proud we could do it all to our hearts' content.

Srs. Divya and Kiran paid us a flying visit, on 30th on their way to Mauranipur. We wish you all the Best in your new community dear Sr. Divya. Today we started the Novena to our Lady of good health – our special intention being healing for those affected by Covid-19 and good health for those who care for them. With the celebration of Onam the month of August came to a joyful end.

St. Francis community



Jesu Bhawan, Delhi

The past two months - July/August brought a lot of fresh and cool air with many showers of rain. The whole surrounding is being cleaned, footpaths are made and roads are widened; all being set for more people to come and occupy the area. Good news for the residents of Jesu Bhawan!!

Meetings and Webinars: Zoom meetings have become norm of the day. Two council meetings, coming together of animators, principals and accountants, annual meeting of Asha Kiran Society and the meeting of the junior sisters were held very successfully. It was a time for Sr. Elsy to interact with them and to discuss the main issues and challenges of the respective ministries.

Fr. Sunny Jacob S J, the resource person for the meeting of the animators and principals spoke on **Pandemic Pedagogy**. Fr. Sunny, referring to the day's first reading 2 Cor 4: 7-15 said, "this is true for the situation of today, we have troubles around us but not depressed because we believe in a God who is more powerful than anything and anyone." Challenging the participants, he explained how badly Covid -19 has hit the educational Institutions. And so, our teaching methods needs to be transformed and we cannot remain with our traditional classroom teaching.

Srs. Elsy, Deepa and Shweta (Junior mistress) spoke on various topics during the juniors meeting and interacted with them through reflective questions. The Webinar by Sr. Prisca was a welcome session which was very inspiring as she spoke on '**Emotional well-being during Covid-19 and beyond.**' Other zoom sessions – Friends of Mary Ward, JPIC were attended by some of us and felt inspired and challenged.

Sr. Divya went to Mayur Vihar community for the virtual vocation seminar for the Catholic youth of the parish as well as for the students of class XII. Along with the trio of Mayur Vihar she played her role to inspire the youth. Well done; may you continue to challenge many more.

Sr. Reena was very regular on Saturdays in attending the 'Good Shepherd' prayer conducted by the parishioners. Now they have moved to zoom sessions thus continue to gather and pray for various needs.

Urgent Call: Sr. Elsy had to rush to Max Hospital as her younger brother Mr. Wilson was seriously ill and was admitted. According to the doctors pace maker was the option for him. After spending one two days with him sister came back with the good news that he is feeling better with medication and so pace maker is not needed. Thanks to everyone's prayers for him. Gratitude is expressed to our sisters in Mayur Vihar community who reached out in visiting the hospital and relieving Sr. Elsy for some time.

Missionary Journeys: Sr. Kanula was reached by the community to Jesu Bhawan on her transfer to Jeolikote. Sr. Kanula was accompanied by Sr. Elsy who took this chance for her visitation of the communities in the hills and two in the plains. Sr. Elsy is busy with her mission there in Uttarakhand. Srs. Divya and Kiran moved on to their new mission fields, the former in the school community as a social worker and the latter to her old ministry in the hospital community in Mauranipur. Thank you, dear sisters, for your generous and loving services here in Jesu Bhawan during the past six months. We wish God's blessings on you as you begin your mission in Mauranipur.

Spiritually Renewed: In July and August the community came together for recollections, community conversations and reflections on COIN process theme. The recollection guided by Sr. Elsy was inspiring and meaningful as it was in preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius. Sr. Renata guided us through the theme 'Contrast Community' and helped us to reflect and pray throughout the day. '31 days with Mary Ward' - we deeply appreciate and thank our Leadership Team for the creative and inspiring initiative taken. It was indeed useful for daily reflection.

Jesu Bhawan Community



Mayur Vihar, Delhi

After the summer holidays the school reopened and we began with the virtual classes in full swing. The pandemic and the present situation made all things to be different for the students and the teachers in the school. It was a proud moment for the 'Marians' to launch a 'You tube' channel named 'E-Marians' under the able guidance of the Principal, Sr. Merlin to update the



news and activities of our school to the parents, students and well-wishers. A virtual assembly for the entire school was a conducted which was appreciated by all the teachers, children and parents.

26th July was a very special day for us as we were celebrating the 'Vocation Sunday' in the Parish. Sr. Divya, the province vocation promoter was here to plan and conduct the virtual meeting for the youth of our

parish. There were about 39 youth (boys and girls) of our parish who participated in this meeting and few of our sisters from various communities joined us for the same. Fr. Johnson from Jhansi Diocese was the main speaker of the day. The Parish Priest, Fr. Jose T. J, Srs. Poonam, Rose, Merlin and Divya shared their thoughts on various topics to motivate and help the youth to choose their way of life to priesthood, religious life or to a married life. And also, we had a virtual vocation meeting for our class 12 students in which they were made aware of the opportunities given to them to choose the right way of life to serve the Lord and the humanity. We were happy to see our sisters from Allahabad Province, Nainital and Rudrapur joining us to interact with the young boys and girls.

In preparation for the 74th Independence Day, our school conducted many online competitions for all the classes. This great Day was celebrated digitally. The meaningful prayer assembly along with a few cultural activities were streamed live for all the Marians in our You Tube channel which conveyed the spirit of patriotism, honoring the freedom fighters and instilled the need to live in fraternity and peace. The viewers appreciated the creativity and unique digital celebration of Independence Day by the Marians.

On 30th August we celebrated 'Youth Day' in the parish. A special Mass was arranged only for the youth followed by Bible quiz, games, songs, dances and motivational speeches based on the Bible. During this programme Ms. Zeena, the lady youth animator was thanked for her services and in her place Sr. Poonam was appointed to animate the youth of the parish.

We ended the month having a day of prayer, reflecting on our vocation. As the Corona virus is fast spreading in our country, we pray for all, especially for our elderly sisters who are very vulnerable to this situation. May the Almighty God bless us and keep us in good health.

Sr. Rose C J



*Dear Mother, pray for us your children,
Protect this world from pandemic,
And cover us with your Blue Mantle.*