



# DELHI DISHA

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PROVINCE NEWS LETTER

JULY-AUGUST 2021



## *From The Provincial's Desk...*

**Hearty Congratulations** to all our schools for the good result.

**Congratulations to Sr. Maria Rose** for having successfully completed her BAMS. She has obtained her provisional NOC for practicing medicine. May you always experience God's blessings, dear Sr. Maria Rose.

Special prayers needed for our novices and tertians making their 30 days retreat.

I appreciate Sr. Deepti, our Province JPIC coordinator and all the other coordinators for motivating and encouraging the communities and schools to actively put into practice the Laudato Si action plan.

### **Prayers requested for the sick:**

- Sr. Sherly who is recuperating at home after her operation and is affected by corona.
- Sr. Elaine who is healed of corona but suffering from vertebrae problems
- Sr. Isabel's brother and sister-in-law recuperating at home and her niece, Linta undergoing radiation.

## **NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES**



### **St. Mary's, Rudrapur**

After the lockdown by the civil and church authorities was lifted, we had been fortunate to have the holy Eucharist celebrated in our chapel four days a week. The parish churches are open for the faithful to attend the holy mass on Sundays from 15th August, so we too join them for Sunday service.

As usual the heat and the high humidity of July-August was quite severe. As psalm 34:6 says, 'this poor man called and the Lord heard him'; the good Lord heard our prayers and sent us some showers to cool ourselves and the earth.

The regular monthly recollections in the community give us much grace and strength to journey through life specially during these days where everything is uncertain. After a gap of few months, we had the recollection at the deanery level on 30th August, at Kathgodam.

We were glad to welcome Fr. Sunny SJ who spent two days with us before he left for his new mission in Ireland. We availed his time to make ourselves familiar with the current challenges faced by the priests and the religious. He was kind enough to make our teachers aware of the current scenario prevalent in the country and a gave a short talk on NEP 2020.

Short visits paid by our sisters from Jeolikote added much joy and colour to our lives. Apart from our ardent prayers for the speedy and complete recovery of Sr. Elaine, we also visited her in the hospital and at Ramnee during her illness. We paid a visit to the sisters at Kiccha and extended our condolences at the loss of their community member during the second wave of Covid-19.

**News from School Corner:** We got a couple of new admissions in July for lower classes. We have started with offline classes for class 6 while the rest of them are having online classes. Checking the unit tests and class works of our students, we discovered that it is not only the students who have good hand writing but their mothers and grandmothers as well!

**Celebrations:** On the occasion of St. Anne's feast, we were invited to St. Anne's community at Rudrapur for lunch. It was a joyful coming together after a long time. On 30th July we had a special prayer service conducted by Sr. Assunta for the feast day of St. Ignatius. We celebrated the 75th Independence Day of our nation on a low profile. To mark this day various competitions were conducted for our students. They participated in these competitions with great enthusiasm and joy. On 15th we celebrated the feast day of Sr. Assunta. It was a meaningful yet memorable family celebration.

We wish all our sisters in different communities peace, joy and good health in the Lord.



## St. Mary's, Jhajjar

Greetings of love and peace from Jhajjar Community!

We thanked God for the gift of life given to Srs. Joseline and Grace and had a combined celebration of their birthdays. The celebration concluded with the Holy Mass in the evening followed by supper with the four Jesuits next door.

As the whole world is suffering from the pandemic we feel the pain, suffering and loss that people go through. The pandemic has helped us to put our entire trust and faith in the Lord. On 23rd July all of us got our 2nd shot of vaccination. By God's grace all of us are fine.

The orientation on JPIC by Loreto Kolkata was very helpful as it did provide clarity regarding the way we should proceed. The FMW meeting held on 23rd July was also much appreciated for the inspiration it provided. Zoom meeting organized by Tarumitra helped us understand the various experiments they make to contribute to the integrity of creation.

The school campus became alive as school reopened for Classes 6 and 7 on 23rd July.

The feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated with special Mass, prayer service and an organized recreation. We have been attending a few 'Cannon Ball Moment' themed prayer services and the session by the Karnataka Jesuits was our last monthly recollection theme.

Our computer lab was blessed on 10th August in the presence of some students and staff.



The festival of Hariyali Teej is considered an auspicious occasion in Haryana as it is meant also to welcome the monsoons. On this day the school launched its ECO – FRIENDS club. The founding members made their pledge and handed over a copy of their vision and goals to the principal during a formal assembly. That

day they planted a few saplings with a keen eye on promoting bio-diversity in the school campus. The Independence Day celebrations included various cultural competitions, a prayer service and cultural programme on 14th and the Flag hoisting on 15th. It was encouraging to have a few parents to attend the flag hoisting besides some students and teachers from close-by villages.



As a community we have made a good study of the seven Laudato-Si goals. That has enhanced our understanding of the 'Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor'.

We keep our fingers crossed for the people of Afghanistan.



## St. Mary's, Nainital

After having undergone the treatment at Allahabad Sr. Elaine was brought to Nainital on 1st July accompanied by Srs. Elsy and Julita. Since her health was not improving, after a week, she was admitted to Krishna Hospital, Halwani for further treatment. Having spent 15 days in the hospital she began to show improvements.



On 3rd July, the school had arranged an online farewell programme to bid goodbye to Sr. Anne who was missioned to Jesu Bhawan. The community is indeed grateful to Sr. Anne for all her loving services for the last ten years. On 6th July we had a meaningful Eucharistic celebration, prayer and an organised recreation expressing our gratitude to Sr. Anne for her dedicated service. Thank you, dear Sr. Anne, for being with the little ones,

listening to their stories and above all being a grandma to all. May God reward you generously. On 7th July Sr. Anne left for Delhi accompanied by Srs. Marisha and Sheryl.

During this pandemic we reached out to many families with grocery items. Thus, we were able to ease their sufferings.

On 21st July we had our monthly recollection on the theme 'Call to Holiness'. It was concluded with a meaningful holy hour conducted by Sr. Tarsicia. On 24th July the board results of ICSE and ISC were declared. We congratulate all our students for the cent percent result and for bringing laurels to school.

JPIC was introduced in Mount St. Mary's, Rudrapur on 25th July by Srs. Manjusha and Deepti. On the same day we had an orientation on JPIC for the students of Ramnee. We could see the eagerness and enthusiasm of students wanting to transform the society by their little deeds. On 29th July Srs. Manjusha and Deepti conducted an online orientation for the Hindi medium school teachers & students. It was indeed a joy to see their active participation and they were motivated to work for peace and justice.

On 31st July we had a meaningful prayer service in order to celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius. According to him "All the things in this world are gifts of God, created for us, to be the means by which we can come to know him better, love him more dearly, and serve him more faithfully". We were glad to join the Pre-GC group for the special online prayer on the occasion of the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The month of August brought in many activities, celebrations and competitions. The community members had the excitement of planting seeds of various fruits.



Soon after the half yearly examination, the online classes resumed and online PTM was conducted for classes 6 to 12. On 6th August Fr. Sunny SJ paid us a visit along with our sisters from Rudrapur. Fr. Sunny stayed on with

us for two days before he proceeded to Dehradun.

11th of August was a great day for all of us as we celebrated the feast day of Sr. Digna, the community animator. The recreation in which the entire community participated was the culmination of the day. The students put up an online mesmerizing entertainment programme and it was appreciated by all. On the 14th of August, class X organised a virtual assembly to mark the occasion of the 75th year of Independence. On 15th of August the National flag was hoisted in the presence of a few teachers and co-workers both in SMC and Nirmala School. Dance and solo singing competitions on the theme of patriotism were also organized for the students.

On 21st August the teachers assembled in the school for a staff meeting. We could see the joy and smiles on everybody's face as they met each other after so many months.

Sr. Elsy is here with us from 24th August for a short break and on visitation. On 25th Cl. 6 to 12 boarders returned after five months of break due to the pandemic. After months of stillness and silence in the campus, once again the sound of children's laughter fills the air.

Srs. Maria and Anima attended the deanery recollection at Kathgodam on 30th August. The school reopened on the 31st of August, keeping the protocols of covid 19. At present the morning shift is for day scholars and afternoon for boarders. Online classes are also going on for those who are unable to attend school.



## **Maria Ward Bhawan, Mayur Vihar**

School - The school revived five clubs to make the students more responsible and responsive. The JPIC club officially conducted its first club meeting in the month of July. Similarly, LTS, Literary club, Media club and Eco club followed the suit in reviving the spirit of each. Number of students and teachers show eagerness to bring about changes through proactive initiations. To add to the growth of students, the school has opened up platforms such as online live assemblies and prepared assemblies by individual classes. Commerce Fest gave the students an opportunity to showcase their talents. Various activities were organized to mark India's 75th Independence.

Live oral examination was conducted for primary school which was monitored by Sr. Poonam. Both primary and senior school conducted online PTM. The response of parents was encouraging.

Classes X and XII had a good result. At the moment both Srs. Poonam and Merlin are busy organizing the live assemblies for the Teachers' Day and Investiture Ceremony.

Parish - On 15th August, the Parish had the Eucharist celebration and Flag Hoisting. Online Catechism classes resumed from 4th July. Preparation for first Holy Communion is taken care of by Sr. Tomsy. Sr. Poonam is one of the animators of the parish youth and shoulders the responsibility of conducting youth meetings. Youth Day was celebrated and competitions were held on 29th August in school hall. As the Parish Feast is approaching, the novena and daily Mass is attended by the faithful.

Community - In July, the Parish Mass hadn't yet resumed and we had online/offline Masses as per the situations. However, since 15th August the community makes it to the Parish for the daily evening Mass.

We were active co-participants of Pre-GC Discernment Process, as we read along the reports and attended Prayer Services that were live streamed. 30th July was a recollection day in preparation for the Feast of St. Ignatius. Sr. Merlin guided us through prayer and reflections. The monthly recollection was held on 22 August on the theme – Mary Model of Faith, conducted by Sr. Tomsy.

Onam was celebrated with an all vegetarian sumptuous meal. On 20th August we visited the only Diocesan Oratory situated in Haryana. It was a beautiful experience to move out as a community along with our parish priest to witness the life experiences of an Oratory and an NGO run by Sisters

of Charity of Nazareth. On 30th August Shahbad community came over for a community gathering. It was a happy day as we spent time together sharing a joyous meal and pleasant conversations.

Community members are seen practicing concrete action plans as a part of celebrating the 'Season of Creation'.



## Jesu Bhawan, Delhi

In the beginning of July, we welcomed Sr. Anne our new member; we wish you a happy stay in the provincial house dear Sr. Anne. Sr. Marisha accompanied her to Delhi and stayed on in Jesu Bhawan taking care of the house and its needs in the absence of Srs. Elsy and Deepa who were in Asansol for the Pre-GC Discernment Process. The GC event from 14th July – 8th August kept them busy as the whole province accompanied the event through their prayers. We, the 13 of us – 12 CJs and 1 IBVM stayed in Loreto College, Asansol enjoying the hospitality of our Mary Ward sisters. Though very hot and humid, we were fully engrossed in it, reading the reports, reflecting, watching the videos etc. from across the Congregation. The online sessions, sharing in groups and the informal interactions brought us closer to one another.



Sr. Marisha returned to Nainital on 13th August to continue to shoulder her responsibility. Thank you, dear Sr. Marisha, for your generous availability to be a third member in Jesu Bhawan for a short time. God bless you!

After a few days of rest, Sr. Elsy began her mission of visiting the communities and she preferred to begin it from the hills. We accompany you dear sister with our prayers. Sr. Nibedita paid a visit to her college in Patna for the purpose of her certificates.

We were happy to be part of the Prayer Assembly for peace in Afghanistan through which we expressed our solidarity with the people of Afghanistan. The Bicentenary Celebrations of IBVM was a good beginning for the jubilee year; and the first letter about the history of Teresa Ball and her companions enlightened us with a better understanding of the IBVMs. Yes, a good initiative indeed as we are in the process of Union. Thank you, dear Sr. Noelle and team, for the invitation extended.

We ended the month of August with a day of recollection with the theme, Consecrated People: Bearers of Good News. We pray that we bring the good news to one another in our interactions in the community and in our mission.



## **St. Anthony's, Jeolikote**

July began with showers of blessings. we got a number of showers this year. It is a sign of God's blessing indeed. We also had landslides causing disruption of traffic. Haldwani road was blocked since half of the road had gone down. The repair work is still on.

Sr. Anita from Delhi spent with us a couple of days reliving the old memories. We enjoyed her company. On 8th July Sr. Mary John joined the community and on 9th July we visited Puranpur community and spent some happy time with them.

On 16th July in order to celebrate Harela (Festival of greenery) in a worthy manner we decided to visit a few nurseries to buy some saplings and plant them in our land. But for our disappointment all the nurseries were closed for the pooja.

Many parishioners attend the Sunday Mass which makes the liturgy active and alive. Because of lockdown they were restricted from attending the Holy Eucharist making their lives dry and hopeless. Now they value the Holy Eucharist and long for it.

On 13th August Fr. Manoj joined the parish as co-pastor and the pastoral centre in-charge. We welcomed him warmly and made him feel at home.

We celebrated 75th Independence Day in a fitting manner. Since we were not allowed to call the students, our teachers took the lead to conduct the prayer service and to pray for our country. Sr. Deepika, the Principal hoisted the flag. Fr. Uday, our parish priest gave a beautiful message for the day, inspiring us to keep our hearts clean and to experience the spirit of brotherhood.

On 21st August we celebrated Onam. Fathers from Parish house and Sumedha Centre joined us in this celebration. As customary, the food was served on banana leaves. All enjoyed the various dishes of vegetables and were reminded of those 'good old days'.

On 30th August we began the Novena to Mother Mary in preparation for her birth day. Daily we have Holy Mass and Novena in the evening. Many parishioners specially the little ones come daily to pray and receive blessings from Mother Mary. Let us have a wonderful feast of our dear Mother Mary on 8th September.



## **Maria Bhawan, Mauranipur**

On the 1st of July we had two visitors, Srs. Lorna and Remya, the latter had come to install Sr. Shobha as the animator of the community. We celebrated the Feast Day of St. Thomas on 3rd combined with the birthday of Sr. Celine (Nepal). Sr. Teresa left for her home leave on the same day. Srs. Julita and Pushpita returned back to the community, the former after reaching

Sr. Elaine to Nainital and the latter after a month of caring for Sr. Elaine in Allahabad. And on 6th July we started our 3 days recollection. Fr. Kapil directed us and our recollection got over on 8th evening, all of us made our confession and renewed our vows during the Mass.

Some of us attended the JPIC webinar on 11th July. Sr. Lucy along with Srs. Shobha and Geetika attended the orientation programme at St. Francis Convent on 24th and 25th July. Srs. Isabel and Celine were the resource persons. It was an enriching experience for them.

On 26th Sr. Pushpita left for her well deserved home leave. On 29th Sr. Teresa came back after her home leave. On 31st Sr. Kiran left for SFC to begin her tertianship program. The feast day of St. Ignatius was celebrated in a fitting manner. We received a total of 9 oxygen concentrators from CHAI.

We started the month of August with a recollection on the theme 'Consecrated Life and Evangelization'. We listened to a video talk by Fr. Anil Dev IMS. The heavy rain on 2nd morning brought much relief to all. On 5th August, four of us joined the Nirmala Community on the occasion of Golden Jubilee celebration of Sr. Annette.

On 7th we attended the National Prayer Service for the health of the world. We as a community attended the final Pre GC concluding prayer on 8th which was very enriching. On 12th we participated in the online Bicentenary celebrations of IBVM. We had the Independence Day celebration after the Holy Eucharist in the school without much pomp and show. Srs. Renata and Julita together hoisted the flag. Surrendering our nation to the care of our Mother, we prayed for peace and well being of the nation. We celebrated the festival of Onam on 21st evening. We enjoyed having the meal sitting on the floor. On 22nd, our parish feast was celebrated in a very simple manner.



## **St. Francis', Jhansi**

There was excitement and enthusiasm when Sr. Anjali was introduced to the school as the new Principal through a virtual medium. She was given a warm welcome during the prayer service conducted by the students of class 12. Soon afterwards online classes began in good earnest. On 4th July the feast of Sr. Isabel was celebrated with a solemn high Mass. It was followed by a good breakfast and later delicious lunch.

We were part of the thousands who watched with keen interest and admiration the funeral Mass of Fr. Stan Swamy SJ. He indeed is an inspiration and a challenge to us. With great joy and enthusiasm, we kept up the feast of Sr. Pratima. A solemn high Mass was offered by Fr. Vianney. The melodious singing helped us to pray better. The special dishes prepared by Sr. Alka and Gir Bahadur and the organized recreation after dinner made the day memorable for Sr. Pratima. On 10th she left for Asansol to attend the Pre-GC Meet. We assured her and the group our prayerful support.

Sr. Isabel in her passion for mission went to Nirmala Convent to prepare the pre-postulants for the Postulancy day and returned joyfully having accomplished her mission. On 17th we rejoiced when

Srs. Celine, Carola and Roselette visited us and spent a few hours with us. While the latter two returned, Sr. Celine remained with us.

A webinar on “A step towards a Greener World” enriched us. The much expected rain brought us relief from the scorching heat and a surge of energy. SFC brimmed with joy and pride when Andrita Verma of Class 1 got into INDIA BOOK OF RECORDS by identifying the maximum number of landmarks of the world within the stipulated time. Congrats Andrita. We are proud of you! Good News! ICSE and ISC results were announced on 24th. The school did well. Congratulations to all our students and the teachers who worked with them.

24th and 25th were special days for us, as our young leaders of Jhansi and Mauranipur gathered here to attend a seminar on ‘Our Way of Proceeding’ according to the Constitutions conducted by none other than Srs. Isabel and Celine. Our Animators and Principals have gained a lot from it. 25th was important on another account too. Sr. Divya arrived making our community complete and filling the place left by Sr. Regis. We wish you ‘all the best’ and God’s blessing dear Sr. Divya.

29th was observed as recollection day in preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius. Sr. Celine in her typical style made the input session interesting, inspiring and practical, the theme being “How to make community life happy”. The day spent in reflection and prayer brought us closer to God and to one another. Thank you dear Sr. Celine!

The feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated with usual enthusiasm and joy. Many of ours went to Nirmala convent to share the joy of our postulants on their Postulancy Day and to pray for them. We were happy to welcome Sr. Kiran who came to begin her tertianship programme along with Sr. Alka on 1st August. The day ended with watching the celebration of the feast of St. Ignatius live-streamed from Rome.

Fr. Vianney’s birthday cum feast day was celebrated with great joy – a solemn high Mass in the tastefully decorated chapel with a meaningful liturgy and melodious singing. He expressed joy and gratitude for our gesture of love by sending us a cake, ice cream and chocolates for lunch. Sr. Annette’s golden jubilee celebration was another occasion which brought us great joy and a sense of oneness.

Sr. Celine conducted an orientation programme for the JPIC/FMW members which helped in the drawing up of the 7 Year Action Plan 2021- 2028. The JPIC/FMW groups celebrated the International Youth Day with a beautifully prepared virtual assembly.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY:** The joyous and proud day was celebrated without much fanfare. The flag hoisting was done by Fr. Vianney, our chaplain, who was escorted to the venue by a few NCC girls marching in style. Of course, we missed the customary beating of drums, music, grand march past and the colourful competitions. Sweets were distributed after the ceremony. Afterwards class10 conducted an inspiring virtual assembly. Sr. Anjali’s message was challenging as well as uplifting.

The mood of celebration of the week changed suddenly when Srs. Celine and Georgina had to be admitted in St. Jude’s hospital. They gave us some anxious moments. After two days Sr. Rose too

joined them. By God's grace and due to the fervent prayers of many, they are back and are enjoying good health now.

On 21st Srs. Evelyn, Sharon and Alma from Sagar surprised us by their visit. They were eager to see Sr. Celine who was ill. We were happy to meet and spend some time with them. The community felicitated Sr. Vijaya on her feast day. She enjoyed the simple but homely celebration.

The tertians left for Kolkata on 23rd. We wish them fruitful days in the months that follow. 24th was a day of remembrance – remembrance of the miracles of grace the Lord had worked in Sr. Celine and the goodness and wholeness we have experienced through her. We celebrated the day with a special Holy Mass offered for her intentions and an organized recreation. After five weeks' stay with us Sr. Celine left for Kanpur along with Srs. Shilpa, Isabel and Vijaya. The month ended with taking stock of our life as God's chosen ones – Sr. Pratima helped us in this endeavour with her input session.

“It is good to be blessed; It's better to be a blessing”  
May you be a blessing to someone daily. This is our wish and prayer for you.



## **St. Xavier's, Rohini**

The month of July began with the preparations for the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Teachers buckled up to celebrate the essence of 'The Ignatian Year' with the motto 'Seeing all things new in Christ'.

Various competitions were organised for the students of junior school. They also participated in different inter school competitions. A fitting farewell and welcome programme were organised for the outgoing and new members of the school. The school management expressed their gratitude to Sr. Tomsy who served the school for the last three years with dedication and love and welcomed Sr. Vandana as the new Headmistress. In the evening we joined the SJ community for a fellowship meal.

The month of August began with various examinations. On 1st Sr. Sanjana left for Jhansi for her M.A exam and returned on 6th. A beautiful virtual Independence Day assembly was conducted by the students with the help of the teachers. Dances, songs, speeches etc. by the students helped to instill patriotism in them. A seminar for the staff was organised by the school on 18th August. The resource person was Capt. Rekha Kapoor and the topic was 'Happy Teachers Create Happy Class Rooms'. It motivated all present to be happy teachers. On 30th we paid a visit to Mayur Vihar community and spent the day with them.

