



DELHI DISHA

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PROVINCE NEWS LETTER

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2022

From the Provincial's Desk...

Those Gone before us...



Sr. Alphonsa Thayil (93)

Sr. Dipti's father Mr. K C Yacob (89)

Special prayers for those who are sick:

- ❖ Sr. Mariella who has fractured her hand
- ❖ Sr. Coletta who is not keeping well
- ❖ Sr. Josepha (Patna) who is very sick



We are proud of you dear Sr. Shanti for securing the first prize for Alberione Bible Quiz.



Hearty Congratulations to you dear Sr. Crispina as you complete 50 Golden Years of commitment and service...



Kindly keep the following sisters in your special prayers:

- ❖ Sr. Teresa as she makes her Final Commitment
- ❖ Sr. Ivy Jude as she makes her First Commitment
- ❖ Sr. Josephine as she renews her vows

- ❖ Monica as she begins her Novitiate in Patna
- ❖ Srs. Divya and Kiran as they are going for Vocation promotion (Indore) from 17th to 31st January

JEOLIKOTE



On 1st November Sr. Sheeba bid goodbye to us and went to Nainital community on her new mission. We thank her for all the loving services rendered to this community. We also wish her God's blessings and good wishes as she takes up the new responsibility as the animator of the community. Boarders returned after Deepavali holidays and classes began on 2nd November.

On All Souls' Day, we fervently prayed for our departed souls. After the Holy Mass the graves which are adjacent to our convent were blessed. During the course of the day Masses were offered in the other two cemeteries. Srs. Julita, Lucy, Gladys and Kiran stayed on with us after their retreat and joined the G.C sharing in Nainital. This sharing was



an occasion of coming together as well as a time to go deeper into the future planning of the Congregation.

On 12th Sr. Sheeba was given a fitting farewell by the community and the school and on 13th by the parish. The priests were invited for the farewell lunch and in the evening, she left for Nainital.

Children's day was celebrated on 14th in a festive and grand way. We started the day with a Holy Mass. It was followed by teachers' programme and the students really enjoyed it. After a short interval, games were conducted for the students and they danced and enjoyed themselves thoroughly. In the evening sisters conducted a few games for the boarders.

Srs. Mariella and Kanula left for Jhansi to join the G.C sharing. On 20th, on the occasion of the Feast of Christ the King we had a procession with the Blessed Sacrament from the priest's house to the church. All along we prayed Rosary and sang hymns and on reaching the church we had adoration and Holy Mass.

On 26th Indian Constitution Day was celebrated in the school. The students conducted an assembly depicting the rights and duties of a citizen as written in the Constitution. By this the students were made aware of their duties to preserve and safeguard the Constitution of our country.

The Advent week began on 27th. The purple and pink coloured candles placed in the church, reminded us of preparing our hearts to welcome Christ, the babe of Bethlehem.

Sr. Shobha returned after attending two days Training programme of principals in XLRI Jhajjar. It was a well-arranged programme and she was happy to meet some of ours from Nepal.

On 27th the parish community gave a fitting farewell to the Emeritus Bishop Isidore as he was leaving Jeolikote after being here for 8 years. We wish him a restful stay in Allahabad, his diocese.

It was a great joy for us to go to Nainital community and wish our dear Sr. Adelaide, on her 90th birth day. She is so grateful for the gesture of love shown to her.

We welcomed the month of December in the spirit of Christmas, the teachers and students were seen practicing Christmas carols, and during the morning Assembly each class sang carols and gave fitting messages to the whole school. Thus, everyone was brought to the mood of Christmas.

A few of us left for Lalpur to attend the Parents' Day programme. It was well appreciated by the parents

and well-wishers of the locality. Hats off to our sisters for their hard work.

It was a great joy for the boarders to participate in the throwball match which was organized in the school. The winners were given trophies.

Sr. Shobha's feast day was celebrated by the school on 8th December. The children conducted a prayer service and put up a programme.



On 10th, the missioning of Sr. Marcelina as the animator of the community took place and we prayed for her wellbeing and a happy stay as an animator.

Kathgodam Deanery organized a Christmas gathering for the sisters on 14th December. Our sisters stood first and were given a cash award of Rs. 1500 for the quiz conducted on the Apostolic Letter DESIDERIO DESIDERAVI on the Liturgical Formation of the people of God.

On 20th, Christmas programme was put up for the whole school and school closed on 21st after the PTM. We prayed and shared our joy with the boarders, and they were very happy to receive a small Christmas gift each. They left for winter vacation on 21st.

20th to 23rd were the days set apart to visit the Christian families and give the Christmas message. Srs. Pratibha and Shobha joined the parishioners for Carol singing. A prayer service was conducted for the school staff and all the co-workers and they were given Christmas gifts and lunch on 22nd and exchanged Christmas greetings.

On Christmas day many people visited the well decorated crib and worshiped the Babe of Bethlehem.

On 28th, Sr. Mary John left for home to meet her sick sister who is undergoing heart treatment.

The last day of the year we ended with a thanksgiving Solemn Holy Mass.

Happy and a prosperous New Year to all.

MAURANIPUR HOSPITAL



The month of November began with All Saints and All Soul's Day. We remembered and prayed for our dear ones especially for our dear sisters who have gone before us. We fondly remembered Sr. Suchita and visited her grave. Some of us went to Jhansi to attend the annual function of Nirmala Convent. It was a wonderful programme. Some of us joined the GC Sharing in Nainital and the rest in SFC. It was a very enriching experience for all of us. We appreciate Srs. Elsy and Deepa for sharing and imparting their experience with us. On 25th November Srs. Pushpita and Shanti attended RUPCHA AGBM in Nazareth hospital, Allahabad and returned on 28th November.

The Advent season was welcomed with joy and we conducted the Advent service meaningfully and at the end we were given a Christmas friend for whom we would be praying throughout the season. In the first week of December Srs. Maria Rose and Sujata made their annual retreat at Shanti Sadan, Allahabad. On 3rd December Srs. Lucy, Julita, Renata and Kiran went to SFC to witness the annual Sports Day. Srs. Doreen and Kiran left for Rourkela for vocation promotion.

On 8th December we celebrated the birthdays of Srs. Gladys and Juliana. Sr. Shanti bagged the first prize for Bible Quiz season -1 conducted by St. Paul's Biblical Centre, New Delhi. She received a cash award of Rs. 25000. We are proud of you dear Sr. Shanti! On 13th, we celebrated the feast day of Sr. Lucy and the birthday of Sr. Maria Rose. On both the occasions our school community along with our parish priest joined us for the celebration in the evening. On 16th December St. Mary's Hindi medium school had the annual function. It was a joy for all of us to attend the programme which highlighted the message of Christmas and our responsibility towards our nation.

In spite of the busy schedule in the hospital we were happy to render our service in the parish, in crib making, church decorations, and carol singing. We were welcomed into both Hindu and Muslim families to sing carols through which we were able to announce the message of Christmas. On 23rd we celebrated Christmas with our co-workers with prayer, a few games, high tea and gifts. On 25th

many poor people, patients, our doctor and staff came to visit us. In the evening we had sumptuous dinner with our resident staff. On 26th night Srs. Julita, Shanti and Gladys went on a tour to Srinagar along with the school community, fathers, and teachers. They had a wonderful time. On 31st December we had special thanksgiving adoration followed by Mass in the parish. We thanked the Almighty God for the year 2022 and for the numerous blessings and graces.

We wish you all prosperous and grace filled New Year 2023.

MAYUR VIHAR



School: - The year-end was on and the months of November and December didn't pause for us rather we had to hurry with many activities in school and parish. Some of the prominent activities of the school were the Athletic meet for both Senior and primary school, Primary school annual function, inter-school sports meet, assemblies on Constitution Day (26th November), Orange the world: End Violence Against Women and no poverty – zero hunger. These assemblies were essential for the growing minds to better understand the world and society and prepare them to respond to these situations at a given time. Celebrations were unique to these months and added special energy to everyone. Celebrations also included Birthday



Celebration of Sr. Deepthi on 11th November, Children's Day on 14th, and the School Feast Day on 8th December. On 11th November was the staff

tour to Jim Corbett. It was a happy time for the teachers and to all of us. On 10th December, the school had the fete and it was an enjoyable day for the school community.

On 16th, the fully renovated school hall was blessed by His Grace Most Rev. Archbishop Anil J T Couto. It is named after



Most Rev. Late Archbishop Alan Basil De Lastic. His Grace remembered the pioneers of St. Mary's and appreciated the school for its growth. The art Exhibition held on 17th December showcased the aesthetic sense of students. Week-long celebrations prior to winter break lit the Christmas spirit around St. Mary's. Christmas assemblies and carols added much meaning to the celebrations. The highlight of the Christmas joy was the generous contributions of the children from KG- XII to share and care for the needy. On 19th December Srs. Deepti and Alka accompanied by LTS club members and staff visited the school's adopted slum at Khichripur, to distribute the contributions of students i.e., ration to 85 families located there. On the 22nd, Staff had the Christmas get-together and a meaningful Christmas prayer service. School closed for winter break on 23rd.

Community and Parish: All Soul's Day was a special one in Parish. A garden of souls was created by arranging the photos of the departed ones. We placed the photo of Sr. Benigna and prayed for her during the Holy Eucharist. On 5th November we had the Holy Communion of 7 children prepared by Sr. Alka. Sr. Tomsy left for Nainital on the same day to attend the GC sharing. Srs. Deepika and Lorna paid a short visit on their way to Jeolikote on 8th November. The community celebrated Sr. Deepti's Birthday on 11th November. We had the Holy Eucharist in our chapel and the Birthday dinner was on 14th November. Sr. Alka attended the GC sharing in Jhansi. Sr. Deepti was ill and so could not make it. She was hospitalized for three days. Thankfully she recovered soon and returned home healthy. Sr. Alka attended a leadership training programme at XLRI Jhajjar on 25th and 26th November. On 27th early morning, we received the sad news about the demise of Sr. Deepti's beloved father. Sister rushed home by afternoon and returned on 2nd December. The community offered a Mass for the departed soul and prayed along with Sr. Deepti.

On 2nd December the community welcomed Sr. Cynthia on her way to New York. Sr. Prabina IBVM also visited us on 3rd December. On the 4th Sr. Alka along with the



Parish Catechism teachers participated in Carol Singing competition. They bagged the second prize and made our parish very proud and happy. We had the Advent prayer services and the joy of preparing our hearts on both communitarian and individual levels. Parish Fete - the Christmas Carnival - was a unique feature of fundraising for the Parish Silver Jubilee

celebration. On 13th December Carol singing in families began. Srs. Alka and Tomsy led by the Unit coordinators and carol groups visited each family, sang carols and prayed for them. On 14th we received the first Christmas wishes from Srs. Reena, Anita and Marisha. They came with warm hearts, gifts and cards, and the delicacies of Nainital. Thank you dear Srs. Sheeba and Caroline for always being so thoughtful. 22nd and 23rd, we were on the move visiting priests and religious of neighbourhood to wish them Christmas.



The community had the Christmas eve prayer and the messages of Sr. Veronica and Sr. Elsy were read, to dwell upon Christ's Birth in a world of our times. 26th was the day of exodus for the community. Srs. Deepti and Tomsy went to NRC Delhi for retreat and Sr. Alka to Jesu Bhawan. Sandhya our house help also had her short holiday. All of us returned on 3rd January. We are grateful that the Lord kept us safe all through and has brought another year with hope and peace.

Wish each of you a grace-filled year ahead.

NIRMALA



The month of November began with the Feast of All Saints. We also started our practice for the annual function. All Souls' Day reminded us of our temporary existence on the earth as we prayed for all the souls of our dear departed during Mass. Some of our sisters attended the Mass for departed souls in Prem Nagar parish as we remembered and prayed for Sr. Suchita very specially.

On 2nd November we welcomed Sr. Amita to our community. On 6th we celebrated Mission Sunday in the parish. There was Mela after the Mass on behalf

of Mission Sunday. Small stalls of eatables were put up by the parishioners. All had an enjoyable time.

14th was a big day for Nirmala School as we had our annual function. The main focus of the programme was a dance drama 'Judith' - the fearless woman who fought for the rights of Israelites. It was composed by Sr. Poonam and Mr. Anand, our office in charge. Besides there were other programmes



displayed by about 400 students. The audience applauded and appreciated their talents. Mr. Ravi Sharma the M.L.A.

was the chief guest. Our Bishop Rt. Rev. Peter Parappullil and D.I.O.S. were the guests of honour. They congratulated the principal, staff and the students for their excellent show.

On 17th we celebrated the feast days of Srs. Shalini and Amita. In the afternoon Sr. Elsy, the Provincial and S.F.C. sisters joined the community to wish the sisters. We joined S.F.C for G.C. sharing. On 20th the feast of Christ the King was celebrated and some of us joined the procession in St. Jude's Shrine.

On 23rd November we celebrated the 75th birthday of Sr. Mary. Bishop Peter Parappullil offered the Eucharist with our neighbouring Priests and prayed for her good health and long life. Sr. Elsy's presence added joy to the celebration.

Jhansi diocese organized Bible Festival mainly for the various formees of different congregations of men and women religious. Our candidates participated in dance, group singing, mono act, Bible recitation, fancy dress etc. They did well and bagged quite a number of prizes.

The season of Advent helped us to prepare ourselves spiritually and the Christmas season brought hope and joy into our lives. On 3rd the school started half yearly examinations.

On 4th December we had the C.R.I. meeting in the C.K.C. auditorium. Sr. Poonam C.J. the resource person gave a talk on the topic "The Language of the Way" highlighting the leadership qualities of Jesus. It was very inspiring and appreciated by all. We also made use of this opportunity to celebrate our Bishop's birthday and also to celebrate Christmas in

advance. After lunch Christmas gift was given to all present and the day ended with some games and tea.

On 15th Sr. Mary with three sisters, Fr. Ronald Tellis, Fr. Jerry S.D.B. and a few of our students visited the inmates of jail at Jhansi. The children had collected some eatables for them. They put up a short programme and Fr. Ronald Tellis gave them a touching Christmas message.

A beautiful and colourful programme was put up by the little children of English Medium wing for their parents. The tiny tots of L.K.G. U.K.G. and class 1 performed well on the stage with confidence and cheer. Their parents were happy to see their wards' performance. It was followed by the Christmas programme put up by the Hindi Medium school. Some of them presented speeches on Nativity and enacted Christmas carols. The whole school was on festive mood.

In honour of late Bishop Fredrick D'Souza, Christmas carol singing competition was organized in St. Jude's Shrine. Srs. Amita, Poonam and Josephine joined our cathedral choir.

A fete was organized in the school. Teachers put up different stalls for games and eatables. The children in their colourful dresses enjoyed the day.

On 20th, after the P.T.M the teachers were given Christmas lunch and gift. Prior to that Sr. Poonam conducted a prayer service highlighting the Christmas message of peace and joy. The co-workers too had their share of Christmas celebration. A prayer service was conducted for them by Srs. Lorna and Josephine. Thereafter the school closed for Christmas vacation. The sisters kept themselves busy preparing crib and visiting the benefactors and well-wishers. On Christmas eve all of us gathered around the beautiful crib to share Christmas wishes and gifts and to pray for our Christmas friend. Thereafter we joined the parish for midnight mass.

Christmas day kept us busy as many students, past and present, teachers and well-wishers came in to wish the community. They were very happy to meet some of our sisters after so many years. On 27th school reopened and the compound was filled with noise and laughter of children. On 31st we joined the parish at 7 p.m. for prayer and thanksgiving Mass. As the year ends, we pray to our Blessed

Mother to keep us safe under her mantle as we look forward for a happy and prosperous New Year.

PURANPUR



The month of November ushered in with a reminder to pray for all the departed and we prayerfully remembered them. Sr. Deepa was away to join her novitiate batchmates in Delhi as an orientation programme was organized for them. In the absence of Sr. Deepa, Sr. Camilla from Rudrapur gave company to Sr. Sudeepti. We thank you dear Sr. Camilla for your availability. In the first week of November the two – Srs. Deepa and Sudeepti took part in the GC sharing in Nainital. After a few days of gap, Sr. Deepa proceeded to Jhansi for the second GC sharing.

In the school, teaching and activities continued; teachers and the students of pre-primary and primary were busy practicing for the annual function. On 30th the whole school was excited to celebrate the life of Rev. Fr. Rajesh, the principal of the school.

The month of December always comes in with the season of Advent, a grace filled time waiting with



hope, joy and love. On 17th, the school looked colourful and solemn as it welcomed the chief guests and parents for the annual function. The little ones from nursery to 5th really performed well which was much appreciated by all.

After the busy days, the parishioners were happy to go to the families with the message of Christmas through carol singing. We enjoyed going to the interior villages meeting the Catholics and believers (Krist Bhaktas). The one-day prayer and preparation in the parish was very helpful for all the parishioners to make their confession, preparing oneself to receive the Babe of Bethlehem.



On 23rd the students put

up a meaningful prayerful assembly for Christmas. Through the short dance drama, carols and dances the message of Christmas – message of love and joy was given to the students and chocolates were distributed. On 24th for the midnight Mass and on Christmas Day, though very cold, the Church was full. Throughout the day teachers, students and well-wishers visited the crib bringing Christmas wishes. After Christmas, due to bad weather the District Administration had declared holiday for the school, but the pre-board exams continued for classes X and XII and on 31st the school closed for 10 days.

On 31st – the parishioners gathered around the Altar for a Thanksgiving Adoration and Holy Eucharist. We commended the year 2023 to the Lord asking Him to bless everyone. Happy New Year! May this year be a grace filled one for all of us.

RUDRAPUR



The month of November was indeed very hectic. All were busy preparing for various activities and celebrations.

On 2nd we got the sad news that our driver Mr. Lal Bahadur lost his father who was suffering from cancer for a long time. RIP.

On 4th and 5th our students participated for the first time in the St. Mother Teresa Memorial Athletic Meet held at St. Peter School, Kichha. 825 students from 22 schools partook in it. We were very happy to get the consolation prize for the March Past and the silver medal for Mixed Relay. Well done! Students.

On 5th Srs. Camilla, Rose and Rayna went to Nainital to attend the GC Sharing while Sr. Seema took care of the house. The sessions were conducted very well especially the memorial service was very heart touching. We returned home on 7th relaxed and rejuvenated after meeting our sisters from different communities.

As per the guidelines from the department we held various activities and competitions to mark the Foundation Day of Uttarakhand. Dance, poem recital, GK quiz etc. were some of the important activities of the day.

Children's day was celebrated with great joy. The teachers prepared a meaningful prayer assembly and performed a couple of dances. Later games were conducted for all the classes. The students enjoyed to the full.

On 17th Sr. Seema went to Jhansi to attend the GC sharing and returned on 21st.



On 26th the school wished the Chief Education Officer Mr. Ramesh Chandra Arya on his birthday. A well-prepared

assembly and the cultural program were the highlights of the day. The CEO was delighted to see the performance of the little ones and the discipline exhibited by them.

On 28th the community spent a day in prayer. The topic for the day was Becoming Jesus - Through Advent to Christmas. We were invited to 'COME AND SEE' and 'COME AND REST'.

3rd December was a much-awaited day as we had our Annual Function after a long gap of almost 4 years. Prem Kranti the Dance Drama depicting the Forgiving Love of God was the main attraction of the day. Children performed various folk dances, qawwali, recitation, group singing etc. The parents were excited to see their little ones performing for the first time on the stage.



On 8th we thanked God for the gift of Sr. Seema during the Eucharistic celebration and sought God's blessings on her. In a short but meaningful prayer assembly the students wished and prayed for her.

From 9th - 19th the students had their IIIrd Unit Test. On 15th Srs. Seema, Rose and Rayna went to Kathgodam for the Christmas gathering of the religious arranged by the diocese for Kathgodam Deanery. We had meaningful adoration and confessions, followed by games, Christmas gifts and agape. On 18th Bishop Ignatius joined us for lunch

and spent some time with us. On 19th Srs. Sheeba and Nirmala came to wish us Happy Christmas.



Christmas mood was already in the air and to make it more appealing, on 20th the students had different activities like making Christmas tree, Santa's mask, socks, sticks etc. On 21st Class V put up the Nativity Play and the others joined in singing and dancing to make the celebration more joyful. The students got Christmas break from 22nd - 26th. On 22nd we had short prayer service for the teachers followed by games and Christmas lunch and exchange of gifts. On 23rd the co-workers had the Christmas celebration.

We joined the Kichha Parish for Midnight Mass and the Rudrapur Parish for Morning Mass. This year some teachers and few people came to wish us for Christmas. On the whole the community was not in a joyous mood as Sr. Camilla was confined to the room due to conjunctivitis; Sr. Rayna was down with fever and Sr. Seema suffering from pain on her right hand.

Due to extreme cold on 28th the DM declared holiday for classes Nursery to V. Classes VI and VII had normal classes. On 31st we joined the Kiccha Parish for the adoration and thanksgiving Mass.

We wish all our readers a very happy and prosperous New Year 2023 and a very Happy Feast of our Congregation on 3rd January.

JHAJJAR



On All Souls' Day as we remembered all our dear departed souls, we were delighted to receive NOC from Department of Education, Haryana for CBSE affiliation. This is an opening for the affiliation process. On 4th Srs. Damian, Grace, and Jyothika left for Nainital to attend the GC sharing. On 14th November we celebrated the children's day by organizing a fete for them, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We celebrated the birthday of Sr Jyothika on 17th November a day earlier as Srs Vinita and Joseline were going to Jhansi for the GC sharing. On 25th and 26th of November the Nepal

region organized a training program for the Principals, in XLRI, and a few of us joined the same. It was indeed an eye opener as a number of experts shared their valuable knowledge. Dr. Fr. Casimir S.J, the Director of XLRI held the last session and reminded the participants that the present generation is unable to respond to our advices and good teachings because their mind is filled with messages from mobile and other such gadgets. On 8th December we celebrated the feast of the Immaculate Conception and also the birthday of Sr. Vinita.

14th December we covered another mile stone by receiving the “Structural Stability Certificate” from PWD which is mandatory for CBSE. 17th December was a red-letter day for the school as we had the Annual Sports and PT Display for the first time. The chief guest was Shri



Ram Niwas Sharma Deputy DEO of Jhajjar. The chief guest appreciated the programme and spoke well of the school. The



hard work of the staff and students was well appreciated by the large number of parents who had come to witness the display. It was indeed something unique and rare in this remote area of Haryana. The Director of XLRI, fathers and sisters of the neighbouring communities and the presence of Srs. Reena and Anita added to the joy.

18th was a day of purification for all of us as we spent the day in recollection and confession including our co-workers who were prepared for the sacrament by Sr. Vinita. The co-workers went fishing after the confession. It was like Jesus telling them to cast the net into the sea and they got a good catch of fish. We too had a share.

On 23rd December we went for the carol singing to the houses of the Catholic families. The school celebrated Christmas with great joy. The Nativity play organized by Sr. Jyothika, Ms. Ankita and students brought out the message of love incarnated in Jesus. The carol singing by different classes, and the message by Srs. Damian and Joseline helped the children and the staff to understand the meaning of Christmas. The teachers and students were

extremely happy to see the crib prepared by our co-workers and had many questions to ask. It was indeed a golden opportunity to explain the meaning of Christmas to them. A few students offered some gifts for the poor and one of our co-workers was extremely happy to receive a new blanket gifted by Cl.7. Their thoughtfulness was appreciated during school assembly. We had a meaningful Holy Mass celebrated with the staff to mark the birth of our Saviour. The celebrant Rev. Fr. Thomas SJ appreciated the melodious singing by our Catholic teachers. The teachers enjoyed the home-made lunch served on the lawn of the convent. They were indeed delighted to receive the Christmas gift as a token of love and joy. On 26th, we organized a Christmas tree for the families of our support staff. They were thrilled to have a few games and gifts.

We wish all of you a very Happy New Year filled with the blessings of peace, joy and happiness in abundance.

NAINITAL



November dawned with celebrations - All Saints' Feast, welcoming Sr. Sheeba our new animator and House Feast (St. Catherine, Ann, Theresa and Agnes). On the 2nd we remembered all our dear departed, visited them and prayed for them in the graveyard. Sr. Elsy arrived on the 3rd and installed Sr. Sheeba. The whole Ramnee family welcomed her and congratulated her on the same day.

Ramnee started filling up with sisters who came to participate in the GC sharing. On the same day Sr. Adelaide was surprised with the visit of nephews, nieces and grandchildren, totalling 15! They stayed in St. Francis Home but spent their quality time in Ramnee with their aunt.

GC sharing started on the 6th very solemnly. The most touching experience was the liturgy for deceased members of Mary Ward family. It began with the recalling of the loss of Barbara Ward, one of the first companions of Mary Ward who died in 1623 and the last one was Sr. Judith from Patna Province.

On the 7th, GC sharing had a solemn closing ceremony at 4 p.m. and all the participants returned to their respective communities. On the same day

Sr. Adelaide's relatives returned to Kerala with a lot of cherished memories of being with their aunt.

Sr. Manjusha went to Trivandrum for the Principals' meeting and returned on the 14th on time to celebrate the Children's Day. After the Mass, the boarders cut the cake and enjoyed thoroughly. The Principal, Manager and Sr. Sheryl dressed as school head girl and captains entered the hall accompanied by Class 12 students. The students were surprised and so hilarious that they brought the hall down with their laughter and they enjoyed the program. The day came to an end with 'Maha munch'. On 18th as usual we distributed the ration kit to 120 rag-pickers, coolies and rickshaw pullers from Nainital town.

The month of November ended with the celebration of 90th birthday of Sr. Adelaide. Since there were no class picnics, due to the unexpected holidays announced by the DM the classes 12 and 10 were given a town walk with a lunch in their favourite hotel.

On the 26th, classes Prep - 8, after their exam, Christmas play, the parent's day and Christmas celebrations, went home with their parents for their winter holidays. Classes 9-12 continued on with their final exams. On 7th December they too began their holidays.

On 14th December we had Christmas lunch for the teachers and distributed the gifts. On the same day we bid farewell to Mrs. Mala Singh and Mrs. Asha Kandpal. It was painful for both of them to say goodbye after spending so many years in Ramnee.

On 16th we distributed ration to 150 families sharing our Christmas joy with them.

Christmas is a symbol of peace, joy and love. We visited the nearby convents and parishes to spread the joy of Christmas.

We wish you a very happy and a grace filled New Year

SHAHBAD



Community: - Sr. Anita returned from Jhansi after spending a few days there with the community. On All Souls' Day Sr. Marisha joined Frs. Sebastian and Varkey for the services in the cemetery. Sr. Marisha and a few fathers joined the one-day staff picnic.

On 4th Srs. Anita and Vandana went to Nainital for the G.C. sharing and returned on 8th. During their absence Sr. Marisha stayed in the Provincial house. Sr. Lima from Bangalore region was hospitalised after the Wisdom Group Gathering as she was diagnosed with Dengue. Sr. Marisha stayed with her in the hospital.

On 17th Sr. Marisha went to Jhansi for the G.C. sharing and returned on 20th. 26th November was a special day for our parish as 12 of our children received the first Holy Communion and 3 received the sacrament of Confirmation. Archbishop Rt. Rev. Anil J.T Couto was the main celebrant.

On 4th December our parish celebrated the feast day of St. Francis Xavier. On 10th we had the local CRI meeting at the Jesuit residence. Fr. Varkey SJ gave us reflections on the five joyful mysteries. In the meeting Sr. Vandana was appointed as the president of our CRI unit. After the meeting we had the Christmas Carols and cake cutting by the new president and the secretary. On 9th Fr. Soosai Mani SJ, the provincial of Delhi Jesuits was here on visitation. We had an opportunity to share with him our experiences of collaborative apostolate.

A two day prayer was organized for the parish on 11th and 12th December. Mr. Mathew Antony and his team led the prayer. All had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. Thereafter we had the Holy Eucharist followed by lunch for all.

On 11th Sr. Vandana along with Sr. Elsy went to Bangalore for the Discerning Leadership Programme. On 12th we received the sad news of the demise of Mr. Kenneth D'Souza who was an active member of our parish council and the Good Shepherd prayer group. He was suffering from cancer. Srs. Anita and Marisha along with Sr. Reena attended the funeral Mass.

On 14th Srs. Reena, Anita and Marisha went to Mayur Vihar community to wish them Happy Christmas. On 17th Sr. Anita along with Sr. Reena went to Jhajjar for the PT display and they were full of appreciation of the hard work of teachers and sisters. On 18th afternoon, all the remedial class children were brought from various centres and some entertainment programme was organised by Fr. George Peter and the LVI staff. After the programme bags and snacks were distributed for all

the students. In the evening we were happy to join our parishioners for carol singing. We visited about ten families and shared the joyful message of Christmas.

On 21st we visited the Franciscan brothers to wish them for Christmas. On 24th we had the Christmas vigil Mass celebrated by Fr. Soosai Mani. On 25th Srs. Anita and Marisha joined Jesu Bhawan for lunch. On 26th Srs. Anita and Marisha began their retreat guided by Fr. Varkey Perekkat. On the same day Sr. Vandana was taken to hospital by Sr. Divya. After returning from the hospital, she was taken to the provincial house. Unfortunately, Sr. Divya herself, fell sick and Vandana had to take her to hospital the next day. At the end, both had to be admitted in the same room. On 31st they were discharged from the hospital.

School: - On 12th November Classes 4 and 5 went for a picnic to Pratapgarh farms. They enjoyed the day with their friends. A Special assembly and an entertainment programme were organized by the teachers on 14th November to celebrate Children's Day. The students of classes 4 and 5 had a gala event of fitness challenge. They showcased their potential in sports. The students from classes 1 and 2 participated in the English Quiz competition and Classes 3-5 in the Science Quiz. The students of classes 1 and 2 also got a chance to relax as Campus Picnic was organised for them.

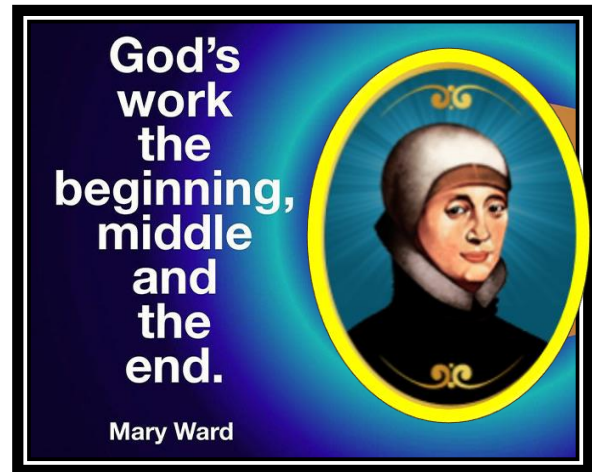
The month of December was full of festivities and activities. On 2nd December children of class 3 went for a Picnic to Eco – Adventure Park and Class Prep enjoyed their picnic in the school Campus. A Special Assembly was conducted by class 2 and 5 to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier. The Periodic Tests started from the 5th to 9th December.

A Carol Singing Competition was held on the 13th for classes 4 and 5. A Live Crib Activity was held on the 14th for classes 1 to 3.



The Xavier Fair on 17th was a day of fun and frolic for all. A Christmas Assembly was conducted by classes 1 and 4 on the 21st. The children conveyed

the message of Christmas through a small skit relating to the life of Baby Jesus. Fr. Anil, the principal graced the occasion and gave a short message on Christmas.



*Mary Ward,
Pray for us
And give us your Spirit!*



*"Into that heaven of Freedom my
Father,*

Let my country awake!"

