



CONGREGATION OF JESUS

# Delhi Disha



VOL.19/2

PROVINCE NEWS LETTER

MARCH – APRIL 2025

## From Provincial's Desk...

### Those gone before us...

Sr. Consolata Elavankal CJ (95)

### Let us pray for the sick...

Let us continue to pray for all the sick sisters in the COIN.

Let us also keep all our student sisters who are giving exams.

Hearty congratulations to all our schools for securing good board results.



## JESU BHAWAN, DELHI

**Get Well Soon:** Sr. Tarsicia spent few days with us after the surgery, recuperating. Sr. Sherly was there to look after her. We are happy to see Sr. Tarsicia bouncing back. The visits and 'get well soon' wishes from the parishioners of Shahbad added joy to her rest.

**ELM & FM Sharing:** Srs. Elsy and Divya travelled to various communities to share with them the take aways from the ELM and Formators' programme in Spain. Communities in Delhi gathered here in Jesu Bhawan for the same on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**Vocation Fostering:** Srs. Juliana and Kiran attended the vocation camp in Jharsuguda. They also

travelled to Bhagalpur to bring candidates while Sr. Divya attended the CJ-IBVM Formators' meet in Allahabad. Our vocation promotors also managed to visit few parishes in West Bengal and Rourkela. We hope and pray that the Lord of the harvest bless us with labourers.



**Visits & Outings:** Some of us went on a pilgrimage to Sardana – the church of 'Our Lady of Grace'. It was indeed a gracefilled time. While Srs. Elsy and Digna visited our community in Silchar, discussed a few matters of concern with the bishop and attended the youth gathering of the diocese at our parish there, here in Jesu Bhawan also we were blessed with visitors – ex-student of Sr. Elsy, Bro. Sharon and Fr. Vinayanand OIC (Malankara) and two Jesuit Deacons and two brothers from Vidya Jyoti. Srs. Elsy and Renata visited the elderly priests in the Jesuit community in Raj Niwas.

The community also went on an outing to Damdeval, Uttarakhand, Rishikesh-Haridwar and



Roorkee. We got to enjoy the hospitality of Fr. Biju, the community of the Sisters of the Destitute and Montfort Brothers. We are grateful to all of them for making our stay and experience a beautiful one. Sr. Monica is on a well-deserved holidays to her home land – Jharkhand.

**Farewell:** Sr. Anne was given a fitting farewell on 11<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you dear Sr. Anne for all your selfless services here in Jesu Bhawan especially for your presence. We wish you God's graces in Nainital.

**A day of gratitude was dedicated to Sr. Elsy:**

During the meaningful Holy Eucharist we prayed for her. In the evening our sisters from Shahbad and the Jesuit fathers were present for the supper. Dear



Sr. Elsy, thank you for your 6 years of dedicated service and for the unwavering support and wisdom you have provided to us. Your guidance has been invaluable and we are grateful for your leadership and the positive impact you have had on our province. May your future be filled with blessings and peace.

**The Installation of Sr. Deepa:** We welcomed Sr. Deepa on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April. Sister made a three-day recollection under the guidance of Fr. Varkey SJ. The installation ceremony of Sr. Deepa took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. The out-going team, all the superiors, the new team members, sisters from our cluster communities, IBVM sisters from Delhi Cantt and the Jesuit fathers from Shahbad were present for the occasion. Our Auxiliary Bishop Deepak Valarian Tauro was the main celebrant for the thanksgiving Eucharist after the installation. The celebrations concluded with a fellowship meal. We wish you all



the best as you shoulder this great responsibility of leading and guiding our province for the coming years.

## ST. MARYS', LALPUR

**News from the Community:** Srs. Elsy and Divya came to share with us the Safe Guarding Policy as part of the ELM sharing. It was enriching information. On the same day we were happy to welcome Srs. Martha and Jyoti from Allahabad province. Their short visit brought joy to our community.

On 30<sup>th</sup> March Srs. Anita, Rayna and Sanjana joined the Kathgodam Denary for the recollection in Jeolikote. The input was followed by the way of the cross to the Calvary Hill, and it was concluded with the Adoration and Holy Eucharist.

From 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> April, we had three days prayer in our parish conducted by Fr. Rudolf and his team in preparation for the Easter celebration. They helped everyone to experience the forgiving love of God.

On 10<sup>th</sup> Srs. Anita and Rayna went to the Cathedral for Chrism Mass. On 22<sup>nd</sup> we had the Requiem Mass in our parish praying for our Pope Francis. We went to Bareilly for the Ordination of Deacon Charles Pagolu and the silver jubilee of Frs. Francis Pinto and Royal Antony. On 30<sup>th</sup> Sr. Rayna went to Delhi to help out with the music for the installation of Sr. Deepa.

**News From School Corner:** On 1<sup>st</sup> March we started the Final exams for classes NC- VII. New session for Classes IX and X commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> March. On 27<sup>th</sup> we had the Prize and certificate distribution for the winners and toppers followed by PTM. On 28<sup>th</sup> we had the first Staff Meeting for the academic session 2025-2026. On 1<sup>st</sup> April we were happy to see some new faces in our school. On 3<sup>rd</sup> April the Nursery students entered the campus for the first time. We had a small Vidhyarambh ceremony for them. Class X conducted the welcome assembly followed by time table making competition for the students of classes III – X.

The JPIC club took the initiative to conduct different activities to mark the World Health Day. On 12<sup>th</sup> we had the investiture ceremony for the newly elected



school cabinet. School remained closed for Easter from 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. We, along with our staff members went to the Tiger Reserve in Pilibhit. It was a wonderful and memorable outing. The climax was the appearance of the male and female tigers moving



in the forest. For a moment we were scared to hear their loud roaring but it was a wonderful sight indeed. All of

us felt relaxed and refreshed after the picnic. The Earth Day was celebrated with a special assembly; activities related to the earth were the main attraction of the day. Our teachers are kept busy attending CBP (Capacity Building Program) conducted by CBSE. Sr. Sanjana along with another English teacher went to Kashipur to attend 2 days CBP.

## MARIA BHAWAN, MAURANIPUR

“A Lamp does not speak...it introduces itself through its Light.....Achievers never expose themselves But their achievement exposes them.”

At the heart of our hospital mission is a deep dedication to the health and well-being of mothers with their new born babies. We work as a team around the clock to ensure that every mother receives compassionate support and that every baby enters this world in a safe and nurturing environment. From prenatal guidance to postnatal care, we are proud to offer a continuum of services designed to meet the unique needs of each family with excellence, empathy and expertise. Though the govt. programmes run in full swing, we have the highest number of normal deliveries in our hospital compared other private hospitals. In the month of March, about 80 babies were born and by God’s grace mothers and babies went home happily.

We were happy to welcome Rev. Fr. Royston SJ from Bangalore Province who made a short visit to Mauranipur, on his way back from Varanasi. During the season of Lent we had the Way of the Cross in English in our chapel and in Hindi with the parishioners in the Church.

Sr. Maria Rose attended an Ignatian Spirituality Course in Jamshedpur under the guidance of Rev. Fr. R.C. Chacko SJ. She returned with renewed spirit and enthusiasm for the mission.

We were happy to welcome Srs. Joseline and Remya who shared their rich experience of ELM and

Formators meeting in Spain. It was very informative and reflective paving the way in our understanding of 'Becoming one' with each one's strengths and weaknesses, richness and liabilities.

We were delighted to have our Emeritus Bishop Peter Parapullil and Fr. John Padayatty, who spent some time with us and shared a fellowship meal.

We celebrated Sr. Shanti's golden Birthday on 15<sup>th</sup> March, with a well-arranged Eucharistic celebration followed by cutting the birthday cake. And in the afternoon sisters from St. Francis, Jhansi came to wish her and had lunch with us. In the same day Fr. George Madathikudiyil and Srs. Jean Mary and Prerita joined for a sumptuous dinner along with the school community and our parish priest. Their presence made the celebration truly wonderful.

Sr. Sujata returned from Pune after the renewal programme and after two days she left for her well-deserved holidays. On 16<sup>th</sup> March we took our co-workers for a picnic to Orcha and Jhansi. We visited Orcha temple and Fort and Space Museum in Jhansi. They enjoyed the day thoroughly.



New Bishop of Jhansi Most. Rev. Wilfred Moras visited us along with Fr. Vincent our parish priest and Fr. Karthik. On Maundy Thursday, as part of the spiritual journey, we washed each other's feet and



shared the bread and wine from the same cup. It was a very touching experience for all of us. Though we have very few parishioners we had a very reflective and devotional Passion Week Service, which led us to a joyful Easter. On 29<sup>th</sup> April, on the death anniversary of Sr. Suchita, both the communities together visited her grave and prayed for her soul.



On Women's Day about 200 women and girls from 13 villages arrived and a short cultural programme was put up for them by the nursing students and Kaushal Development Youth. Sr. Lucy, the chief guest, exhorted them emphasizing on women empowerment. Fr. Vincent spoke on Women's Rights. A word of appreciation to Sr. Julita for her hard work in organizing this programme thus honouring our women.

On 30<sup>th</sup> April one batch of nursing assistants and computer and electric technical students completed their course. They were 75 of them receiving their much-awaited certificates and placement in different states. In the village we have two tailoring centers; about 28 young girls are getting benefitted from the 6 months' training.

### ST. ANTHONY'S, JEOLIKOTE

The month of March began with the community recollection, the theme being "The Consecrated life and Evangelization". Everyone spent the day prayerfully and reflectively concluding it with confession and adoration.

Srs. Elsy and Divya came to share their experience of ELM and Formators' Programme in Spain. Sr. Elsy shared about the ongoing Discernment on Becoming One while Sr. Divya shared some

information on Safeguarding which was inspiring and very informative.

During Lent the parishioners prayerfully made the Way of the Cross climbing Calvary, the hill above the pastoral centre. It was a time of deep prayer and recollection. As a Lenten practice we conducted prayer service in every catholic family and a few of our sisters specially Srs. Marcellina, Mariella,



Pratibha and Shobha took time out and went daily and joined the family prayer. We visited the sick - our orphan Mrs. Munni got a mild stroke and was taken to the hospital; she is now recuperating at home. Srs. Marcellina and Tessy made a visit to her and prayed for her wellbeing. Our presence and prayer gave her great joy and relief from all her pain.

This year Sr. Mariella was the Inspector of 10 centres of ICSE/ISC exams and so in Feb/ March she visited schools in Nainital, Bhowali and Ramnagar according to the examination guidelines. The board students of classes 10 and 12 went home on 11<sup>th</sup> March after completing their exam successfully.

Our parish celebrated the Women's Day. The day began with adoration and the Holy Mass followed



by cultural programme by the children. Everyone enjoyed the day, specially the women of the parish

who were honoured and for them it was a memorable day.

After reaching Sr. Tarsicia to Nainital Sr. Deepa paid a short visit and on the next day she left for Puranpur accompanied by Srs. Camilla and Shobha. On the same day we were happy to welcome and spent some time with our Bishop Ignatius D'Souza of Bareilly.

After the annual home exam all the boarders went home for their holidays. Fr. Vijay Tellis and his team conducted a two-day retreat in the parish. Many from the neighboring parishes also joined for the same. After the two refreshing days everyone returned home spiritually enriched, ready to celebrate Easter in a meaningful way.

On 29<sup>th</sup> March school annual result was declared, those secured first and second in class and for full attendance certificates and gifts were distributed. Sr. Shobha, the principal of the school took this opportunity to thank the teachers and parents for their corporation and timely help in the past academic year.

On 31<sup>st</sup>, 54 Religious from the Kathgodam CRI unit along with the priests from the deanery assembled at Tabor Ashram Jeolikote for a day of Pilgrimage cum Recollection in preparation for the Holy Season of Lent. All of us were privileged to join this gathering and spend the day in prayer. The input was given by Fr. Shyam Prasad. In his talk he emphasized on the need to have a deeper sense of humanness in our relationship with people. He explained Lent as a 'Spring time for the soul'; a time to introspect - 'does my form conform to the form of Christ?' and a time to grow in gratitude in my life. The Way of the Cross to Calvary hill was well put together - different parishes, convents and groups were given charge of different stations to prepare them for the group in any way they desired. This led to a very meaningful, contemporary, prayerful and deeply

spiritual exercise. After a simple but tasty lunch all the participants dispersed to their various centers.

On 4<sup>th</sup> April the new academic year began with new hopes and vigour. 6<sup>th</sup> April was a day of joy for all the parishioners; seven of our children received the First Holy Communion. It was a memorable day for all seven of them. The celebration ended with a big tea party.

On 8<sup>th</sup> April Sr. Mariella as one of the diocesan Coordinators of the Ecology Commission, attended its Review meeting. Ecology Cell animators from all the diocesan schools were present. They presented their six monthly reports on the 'Year of Care' projects. During this meeting there were two short input sessions: significance of the jubilee year and the 'symbiotic relationship between the environment and the humans'. Then the goals and objectives of the National Ecology Commission were shared along which lines they were asked to prepare their action plans for the current academic year.

The results of classes X & XII brought great joy to all of us. The hard work of the students was rewarded as everyone passed with good division. Congratulations to all the sisters, teachers and the students for their great achievement!

Easter was celebrated with full joy and grandeur. Many of our parishioners took part in the Vigil and Easter Holy Mass and exchanged the peace and the Joy of the Risen Lord among them.

On Easter Monday we received the sad news of the passing away of our Pope Francis. On 22<sup>nd</sup> April holiday was announced in the school and in the evening the parishioners gathered together and offered Holy Mass and prayed for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis. The Deanery arranged a Holy Mass in Kathgodam for Pope Francis; all the priests, religious and the laity of Deanery were present. Srs. Camilla and Maria were happy to join and pray for his noble soul.

On Earth day, our school organized a special assembly to raise awareness about the Earth and the



Environment. Prayers and intentions were offered for Mother Earth, followed by a song dedicated to the plantation of trees. The JPIC Members were the active participants of the assembly. During this assembly the school paid a loving tribute to our late Holy Father Francis, by bringing out His contributions to the church and the whole world.

## ST. MARY'S, JHAJJAR

The month of March signalled the end of another academic session. The commencement of both board and home examinations kept the students very much on their toes. Our first batch of class 10 students bravely appeared for their board examination, marking a significant milestone for St. Mary's, Jhajjar. We are proud of their hard work, and eagerly await their results.

We embarked on our Lenten journey on 5<sup>th</sup> April with a sense of spiritual growth. Sr. Joseline returned on 6<sup>th</sup> after her outing with the provincial team and during her return, she also shared her key takeaways from the ELM held in Spain with our communities in Jhansi. We were delighted to have the presence of Srs. Divya and Vandana on 12<sup>th</sup> March. In the evening Sr. Divya shared with us her valuable insights on safeguarding the members and other vulnerable associates, providing few valuable guidance to us.

On 14<sup>th</sup> we had our community recollection on the theme 'Be The Aroma of Christ' and Sr. Damian led us through the day.

An admission test was conducted for various classes on 15<sup>th</sup>. The upward trend in registrations and admissions is encouraging. The community rejoiced with Sr. Anu as she celebrated her gift of life on 30<sup>th</sup> March. The day began with a solemn Eucharistic celebration. The memorable birthday celebration was shared with the Jesuit community.

On 1<sup>st</sup> April we had a staff meeting to prepare for the new session. The new academic session commenced on 2<sup>nd</sup> with much enthusiasm and positivity. Outstanding students of the previous academic session were duly honoured during the assembly. On 15<sup>th</sup> April our first batch of Class 11 commenced with Science and Arts streams.

Since we were journeying through the season of lent and was about to enter into the holy week, the CRI unit of Jhajjar organized a day of recollection at MSFS Community and all of us attended it. We marked the significance of Holy week with meaningful reflective services, leading up to the joyous Easter Vigil. Fr. Somy Mathew S.J was the main celebrant for the Holy week celebration. The 'Way of the Cross' on Good Friday was held in our school campus.

We are deeply saddened by the passing away of Pope Francis, a beacon of hope and compassion for millions of people from different walks of life. May his compassionate spirit continue to inspire us.

Since Sr. Sheryl's birthday coincided with Good Friday, the celebration was postponed to 21<sup>st</sup>. The



day commenced with a Holy Eucharist followed by joyous festivities in the community and school. In the evening the celebration ended on a happy note.

The Managing Committee meeting of the school was held on 28<sup>th</sup> April and the valuable suggestions of the members are welcomed for the betterment of the school.

### MARY WARD BHAWAN, MAYUR VIHAR

The month of March dawned as usual with school annual examinations / board examinations. All over busy bees were seen - students focused on revision while teachers / sisters were busy with correction cum preparation of report cards, and getting ready for the new academic session.

With great love and gratitude to God one of our parishioners, Mrs Johana celebrated her retirement in the parish.

Women's day was another celebration in the parish. Youth members honoured all the women and girls with cards which were well appreciated by everyone.

Fr. Dennis from Jhansi along with his family members paid us a very short visit. Our Srs. Marisha and Vandana from Shahbad paid us a short visit. Come again dear sisters! We visited Mussoorie and stayed with the RJM Sisters. Our parishioners had two pilgrimages. In March they visited Najafgarh - Morning Star Church and in April they went to Jhansi - St Jude's shrine, SFC, etc.

Srs Anjali and Deepti attended the Vestition of Br. Sharon, one of our ex- students in the Malankara church. May God continue to bless him as he begins his Theology.

Rev Fr. Stanley Kozhichira guided 5 days theatre workshop for the interested students from class 5 - 11. Fr. also conducted Phonetics classes for the teachers. Br. Savi George, SJ conducted Peace Education seminar for all the teachers.

Srs. Alka and Anjali represented our congregation in the Vocation Sunday organized in the diocese. Sr. Deepti joined all the Catholic principals for a picnic.

The month April ushered in with novelty and freshness as the new academic session began for all the classes. Like all other years, the parents of Kindergarten students had an orientation. One of our primary teachers, Ms. Kalpana Kandpal took voluntary retirement as the family was relocating.



The school management placed on record her selfless services to the school and its students over 20 years and wished her God's blessings in the next phase of her life.

We joined the East CRI Pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Church, Faridabad which is one of the 'Pilgrimage



Churches' in the Arch diocese of Delhi for obtaining Plenary indulgences. We also visited the Divine Retreat Centre, Faridabad. It was indeed a spiritually enriching experience. Different associations in the parish co-operated and made 'Lent' as a time of



spiritual enhancement for everyone. The parish youth enacted the Stations of the Cross on 'Good Friday'.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April Srs Anjali and Alka went for the requiem Holy Mass for Pope Francis held on Columbus school ground. On 25<sup>th</sup> we had the memorial service for Pope Francis in the school and in the parish on 27<sup>th</sup>.

From 28<sup>th</sup> on, our students – Classes 3-12 went for the 'Science Safari' a 3D movie and updated their scientific temper.



Unlike other years, this year the student council members were elected by the students. 'Earth Day' was celebrated in the school with a special assembly by the ECO Club, plantation drive as well as a cleaning initiative by the JPIC Club. (Pic 7)

We were indeed happy to join the missioning of Sr Deepa and we wish the new leadership team best wishes and God's blessings!

## ST. MARY'S, NAINITAL

The students were busy with their board exam and the rest of them had their regular classes, unit test and other activities.

Lent is a time of cleaning out the stale air from our lives and lets us feel a sense of freshness. It is an opportunity to receive God's grace and helps us in our desire to "Returning to the front of our hearts". On 5<sup>th</sup> April our boarders returned after their board exam, happy to be back to their classes and joined the PT practices.

St. Francis Parish organised a pilgrimage to Bana Parish, Sr. Kanula joined the parishioners on this pilgrimage.

On 12<sup>th</sup> April we had our investiture ceremony of the newly elected student council. Srs. Manjusha and Sheeba bestowed badges and sashes on the student leaders marking the commencement of their tenure.

It was a solemn ceremony – lighting the *diya* followed by a prayer dance and a well conducted



assembly. The students were reminded of the importance of integrity, compassion and service in their role as leaders and to make a positive impact on the college community. The parents were all invited for this solemn occasion and were treated to a high tea.

On 15<sup>th</sup> we continued our journey towards “Becoming One”. During the hour of adoration conducted by Sr. Sheeba we had a prayerful anointing of our palms and forehead with blessed oil. It was a unique experience and we shared in common what “Last Supper” meant for each one of us, we concluded with a thanksgiving Prayer.

On 17<sup>th</sup> Srs. Sheeba, Anne and Sherly visited Puranpur, Rudrapur and Jeolikote to wish them and to share with them the Pascal Lamb lovingly prepared by Sr. Caroline.

On 19<sup>th</sup> we had the Easter vigil at 6.30 pm. The altar was beautifully prepared by Srs. Sheeba and Grace. After the morning Mass Sr. Manjusha left for Abu Road to give an orientation to the staff, students and parents of St. Anslem School run by her priest brother Fr. Dominic.

On 21<sup>st</sup> we received the sad news of the demise of our dear Pope Francis “The People’s Pope”. He has left a beautiful legacy to remind us what we continually forget “Goodness is not an idea but a Practice”.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> Ramnee Alumni batch of 1975 visited the school to rekindle the memories of their Alma Mater

marking a golden mile stone on their journey. They left us as teenagers and returned as grandmothers.



This nostalgic visit was filled with warmth and camaraderie as relived cherished memories with heart warmth gestures. We treated them with snacks and tea in the boarder’s refectory. They behaved just as they did when they were kids. They generously contributed to the leprosy welfare, a cause dear to the heart of our dear Sr. Dominica.

Srs. Sheeba, Anne and Caroline attended the requiem Mass at Kathgodam on 24<sup>th</sup> for our departed Pope Francis.

We were happy to have Fr. John Paul with us for two days. He was a guest of honour for the decided internal sports events and gave away the prizes.



Governor’s Cup Inter School Golf Tournament was held on 27<sup>th</sup> and our students were awarded with overall runner up trophy. Congratulations to our golf team.

On 30<sup>th</sup> we hosted a vibrant University fair comprising of delegates from 30 universities, bringing together 10 esteemed schools providing the students with invaluable exposure and opportunities.

Their dedication expertise has been instrumental in making this event a memorable experience for all participants.

On 30<sup>th</sup> we were thrilled to announce the excellent results of our board examinations. All students of classes X and XII have achieved first division showing their dedication and hard work. Nine students of class X secured full percentage in the following subjects - History, Chemistry, Biology, Hindi and class XII secured full percentage in Political Science and brought laurels to Ramnee. On the same day Fr. Vipin's relations accompanied by Fr. Isidore visited Ramnee. They enjoyed their stay here and returned with fond memories.

We wish all our dear sisters a happy Easter Season and fruitful, grace filled month of May with mother Mary.

### NIRMALA, JHANSI

The month of March was as usual, a busy month with exams, corrections and results. Yet, we found a day to relax when Sr. Poonam arranged for the Community 'A visit to the Space Museum.' It was a thrilling experience to be in Space with millions of stars, planets and constellations. We felt, we were moving with the planets; truly we were in a world of awe and wonder to imagine the all-powerful hands and wisdom of our God who is in control of the whole universe.

The youth of our Parish had arranged an evening of "Taize Prayer" in our Parish. It was well arranged and many parishioners participated in it with great devotion. It was a sort of penitential service during Lent. Many priests were available for confessions. The service was arranged outside the Cathedral in front of the Grotto. It was a touching and emotional moment when the faithful were invited to kiss the Cross walking up on their knees. Bishop Wilfred Moras appreciated and encouraged the youth with his homily and blessing.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> we were shocked by the news of our dear Fr. Arul Joseph's sudden demise. A large number of Priests from Jhansi and Gwalior dioceses and many sisters and lay people were present for the Eucharistic celebration and last rites. May his noble soul rest in peace.

On 13<sup>th</sup> we had a common recollection for Priests, Religious and laity. We reflected on two Vatican Documents. 'The Lumen Gentium' which was explained to us by Sr. Poonam C.J. Fr. Ronald Tellis enlightened us with the teachings of 'Gaudium Et Spes'. The study of the Vatican Documents is part of the 'Jubilee Year' programme.

After the examination, some teachers with Srs. Doreen and Poonam made an educational tour to Kashmir. They were impressed by the simple,



hardworking people of Kashmir, their life style and manners. The enchanting nature, snow falls and pony rides created lasting memories. Meanwhile, Srs. Patricia, Shalini and Mary who remained at home, took the chance to visit some Mission stations, Mahoba, Mamna, Kulpahad, Panwari and Mauranipur. From 23<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March, we had the summer camp.

About 80 students took part in various games, art, music, dance and adventure activities. On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, we began the new academic



session. There was a rush for admissions in the English medium.

On 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April, the parish had arranged for a 'Triduum' in preparation for Easter. The Holy week services were very touching especially the Good Friday services. The youth of the parish took whole hearted interest and acted out the whole Way of the Cross. In the evening the Body of Jesus was taken down from the Cross and as every year, we had the procession through the town. On Easter vigil too, we had a dramatic presentation of 'Jesus rising from the Grave'. The Youth of the parish are very active and creative.

Fr. Victor Edwin S.J. was with us from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday. He enjoyed and appreciated every celebration of the Holy Week. On 21<sup>st</sup> we were saddened by the demise of our Holy Father Pope Francis. We watched the entire funeral Service and prayed for Him. May His holy life inspire us to lead a simple and joyful life.

The month of April ended with rejoicing and gratitude as Classes 10 & 12 results were declared. We thank God for the 100% pass result. Sakshi Thakur of Class XII was declared having the 10<sup>th</sup> position in the District. Congratulations to the Principal, Teachers and Students!!!

## ST. JOSEPH'S PURANPUR

The month of March began with exams and corrections of answer sheets. On 6<sup>th</sup> March Sr. Elsy and Sr. Divya visited our community to share their learnings of ELM and Safeguarding Policy. On 9<sup>th</sup> March the awaited moment for the teaching staff arrived as we proceeded to Ramnagar for a picnic. It was an excitement filled day for all of us as we participated in all the activities like, boating and various adventurous games. On 13<sup>th</sup> March Sr. Camila and Sr. Shobha paid us a short visit as they accompanied Sr. Deepa to the community from Jeolikote. On 28<sup>th</sup> March the final results of the students were declared and the school closed for a

few days before we began the new academic session in April. On 3<sup>rd</sup> April the students were excited to go to their new classes and meet their new teachers. On the same day a fitting farewell was given by the teachers to Sr Deepa and Mr. Manbir, a senior Maths teacher on his retirement. The teachers expressed their appreciation and gratitude towards them for their dedicated and loving service in the school.

As part of the Jubilee year programme, the Jubilee Cross was received from Pipiriya parishioners as they solemnly brought to our parish. During the adoration Fr. Gautam prepared the faithful for the sacrament of Reconciliation. We ended the service with a meaningful Eucharistic celebration. After a week's prayer before the Cross, we reached it to the next station – Pilibhit.

On 15<sup>th</sup> Sr. Sheeba, Sr Anne and Sr. Sherly visited us with the Easter wishes. Thank you, dear sisters, for your generosity and warm love. On Easter Sunday we had a farewell lunch prepared for Sr. Deepa as she was moving to the provincial house, Delhi. The next day morning Fr. Rajesh reached sister to Delhi. We wish her blessings of the Lord and our prayers accompany her as she takes up the new mission.

The school had a special assembly on the occasion of the Earth Day. They pledged themselves to love and care for our Mother Earth.

On 25<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Sr. Annette as she joined our community for



two months.

We wish you all grace filled Easter Season and joyful Mother Mary devotion.

## ST. FRANCIS', JHANSI

On 5<sup>th</sup> March Sr. Joseline shared the experiences she had in the ELM (Extended Leadership Meeting) in Spain. It was a fruitful and enriching experience. On 8<sup>th</sup> March we got the sad news of the demise of Rev. Fr. Arul Joseph (Jhansi Diocese) at Holy Family hospital Delhi a week after he had undergone angioplasty. He was a great missionary and our chaplain for some time. The community is grateful to Sr. Remya for enlightening us on the Safeguarding Policy and formation. The community attended the common recollection for priests, religious and laity organized by the by the diocese. The team led by Fr. Tellis and Sr. Poonam CJ dwelt on the teachings of Vatican II Lumen Gentium. The CRI celebrated the women's day on 16<sup>th</sup> March with a Eucharistic celebration concelebrated by Most Rev Bishop Wilfred Moras and Most Rev. Bishop Emeritus Peter Parappullil. A large number of priests, religious and laity participated in it.

On 29<sup>th</sup> March the staff had an orientation on Experiential Learning and Creative Teaching Strategies by Ms. Rashmi Srivastava of Macmillan Educational Trust. The programme was engaging, informative and interesting. The new Academic session began on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. 3<sup>rd</sup> was a Proud day for



SFC. The School was awarded the Title of Best ICSE School in Jhansi under EBSB (Ek Bharat Shersht Bharat).

On 7<sup>th</sup> the parents of Nursery and LKG classes had an orientation programme by Srs. Digna, Merlin and Mrs. Caroline to acquaint them of School policies and procedures, to discuss school curriculum and to tell them of the expectations of the school and to give them guidelines on good parenting. The parents were given the opportunity to clarify their doubts.

The Lenten retreat began in our parish church from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>. The talk on the Eucharist was very informative and inspiring. The Resource person Fr. Sunil D' Souza from Mumbai did a wonderful job in bringing the people closer to the Lord.

A teachers' session was organized by CACA (Children Against Child Abuse) Project whose books we have introduced for Value education in all the classes to train and upskill teachers on how to go about with the CACA SAFETY WORK Books. Unlike the other years this year the Catholic students of classes VIII to XII who secured 80% and above were given Mary Ward Scholarship giving them a new hope and encouragement.

The earth day was celebrated on 23<sup>rd</sup> April with the aim of protecting the environment, which supports life on earth. A massive rally was organized to create public awareness to safeguard the



environment and our responsibility to save the earth to sustain life. Many students, teachers and sisters joined the rally outside the school with great enthusiasm.

The authorities of Nagar Nigam noticed the effort we have made in promoting environmental



consciousness and responsible waste management practices to create awareness among people. The next day they came to the school to appreciate what we have done and in an encouraging gesture awarded the Manager and Principal and also the teacher in charge and 20 of our young enthusiastic change makers with medals and certificates.

On 30<sup>th</sup> ISC and ICSE results were out and all passed with good marks. The toppers scored 97.5% and 98.6% respectively. We are happy to note that more than 65 students scored above 90% in Class 10. Congratulations to the School Management, Staff and Students for their great achievement!

## ST. XAVIERS', SHAHBAD

Month of March marched very fast. Sr. Alice was invited to Syro Malabar Church (St. Alphonsa Church) to help out with Ash Wednesday services. On 8<sup>th</sup> March Delhi diocese arranged Women's Day programme. Being the animator of the Parish Mahila Sangh, Sr. Alice along with them attended Women's Day celebration in the DCC hall. Sr. Alice accompanied Sr. Sheryl to have an eye check-up in AIIMS. We went to Jesu Bhawan for dinner as Sr. Anne was transferred to Nainital. We visited Sr. Tarcisia in Jesu Bhawan before she left for Nainital. We had a day of recollection conducted by Sr. Alice.

We received the sad news of Sr. Vandana's mother's sudden demise. She went home for the funeral. May

the soul of her dear mother rest in peace. We were privileged to have Sr. Salesia and Sr. Jaya with us for two days. They had come to visit their uncle Fr. Varkey Perakkattu who was sick and recuperating from his illness. Sr. Vandana returned from home after having said goodbye to her mother. We went to provincial house for the ELM sharing by Sr. Elsy and Sr. Divya.

Sr. Alice went with Srs. Elsy and Renata to visit the senior priests and Br. Ittup in St. Xaviers Raj Niwas. The new academic session began on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Sr. Alice went to Burari for a Charismatic convention. In preparation for Lent, there was a day of recollection in our parish conducted by Bro. Mathew and his Team. All the parishioners made a good confession and spent the day in prayer and silence. We joined the Jesuit community in praying for God's blessings on our mission and on Fr. Anil and Fr. Arvind as they were on transfer. Srs. Alice and Marisha participated in the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral.

Sr. Rose Maria CMC stayed with us as she was on her way back to Kerala after her study tour to Jammu and Kashmir. On Maundy Thursday after the Church Service, sisters from Jesu Bhawan joined us to share the Passover meal. On Good Friday our parish youth enacted the Stations of the Cross, very meaningfully. We were saddened to hear the passing away of Pope Francis. Sr. Deepa stayed with us, spending three days in prayer and recollection before she assumed her office. Srs. Deepa and Alice attended the condolence Mass for Pope Francis, offered by Nuncio in Columbus school ground. On 30<sup>th</sup> in the evening we joined the Jesu Bhawan community for the farewell dinner given to Sr. Elsy.

