



DELHI DISHA

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PROVINCE NEWS LETTER JULY-AUGUST 2025

NEWS FROM COMMUNITIES

JESU BHAWAN, DELHI

Come and See- a Brief stay for candidates:

For about two months a few girls came and stayed with us for a 'come and see' as we had been considering a change of location for the initial formation. The initial formation will now be held in Jeolikote, with Sr. Kiran Toppo appointed as its in-charge. On August 1, Sr. Kiran and two candidates left for Jeolikote. We celebrated their stay with us with a short prayer service conducted by Sr. Deepa followed by a special meal to which our Shahbad Community too was invited.

A House of Hospitality: Over the past two months, we've had a steady stream of visitors, mostly our sisters. We are happy that we can be at the service of our sisters. Sr. Manju, who is spending a few weeks here after her home leave, successfully obtained her Australian visa. She will leave for Sydney on Sept. 18 for her internship. She is currently pursuing her Licentiate in Safeguarding from the Gregorian University, Rome. Sr. Tomsy is still here recuperating after her treatment in Apollo Hospital for the loss of hearing and waiting for her check-up, sometime in September.

Meeting of Superiors and Heads of Schools / Ministries: On 19th, 20th and 21st of July we

hosted the meeting. The first two days were for all but the third day was exclusively for Community animators. During this meeting Fr. Ravi Sagar SJ led a session on Digital Citizenship, focusing on responsible navigation of the digital world. Sr. Merlin made an excellent presentation on 'Mary Ward Compass' for our schools. Sr. Deepa promulgated the Revised Service Rules for our staff. Presentation of Community / Ministry reports were followed by discussion and further planning. Our community animators tried to get a better grasp of our manner of Governance as the CJ and as Delhi Province in their separate meeting.



Ignatian Feast: 30th July was a day of special prayer, holding our Loreto sisters close to the heart. On 31st we celebrated the feast with two Jesuit communities. Srs. Deepa and Mariella joined the Vidya Jyoti community for Mass and lunch. The message of the main celebrant of the Mass - Bp. Deepak Valerian Tauro (auxiliary Bishop of Delhi Archdiocese) to the Jesuits and their friends and well-wishers was 'Be Men of

Discernment'. He also spoke about the Ignatian 'Cura Personalis'. In the evening, we joined the Shahabad Jesuit community for a special prayer followed by dinner.

Visit to the Loreto Sisters: After the merger announcement, we visited the Loreto sisters in Delhi. On 10th August along with Srs. Manisha, Shilpa and Rosita from Allahabad, we spent a lovely time with Srs. Igora and Aruna. We relished the unique delicacies they kept ready for us and while leaving they shared some golden apples they had received from their community in Shimla. We really felt the sisterliness. Their 'Merger Board'- a Bulletin Board display using the wood roses carried from St. Mary's Nainital and the fish scales from their community kitchen waste was a unique idea!



Delhi CRI Meeting: Srs. Deepa and Mariella attended the Delhi CRI meeting at NRC on 30th Aug. Among other things two input sessions - Pilgrims of Hope responding to the signs of the times and The Golden Circle of Leadership: 'Why- How- What' were very relevant. Watching the Documentary 'the Sultan and the Saint' was another engaging experience.

News: On August 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II), a six-lane road enhancing airport connectivity. Srs. Pratima

and Mariella were the first CJ-s to travel by this road.

ST. MARY'S NAINITAL

Nainital's Unseasonal Rainfall Brings School to a Standstill: Nainital's unexpected heavy rainfall resulted in a record 15-day school shutdown, throwing the academic calendar off track. The announcement about the reopening of the school brought joy and relief to students and teachers. As they prepared to return to their routine, the excitement was palpable, much like the eagerness of a new student joining the school.

Raksha Bandhan Celebration: On the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, the Universal Solidarity Movement (USM) members of our school organized a unique celebration to express gratitude towards our non-teaching staff. The students prepared Rakhis and tied them on the wrist of the staff members, who were overwhelmed by this thoughtful gesture.



As part of practicing the Five Paths for Personal Transformation, the students also shared their saved chocolates with the staff, making it a heartwarming moment. This initiative not only strengthened bonds but also promoted values like empathy, kindness, and selflessness.

Sr. Manjusha further enlightened the non-teaching staff about the Five Paths, motivating them to incorporate them into

their daily lives. This added depth to the celebration, emphasizing personal growth and self-awareness.

The celebration showcased the students' appreciation for the hard work and dedication of our non-teaching staff. It fostered a sense of community and mutual respect, highlighting the importance of gratitude and kindness in our school culture.

Themed Assemblies and Bulletin Boards:

Our students have been preparing theme-based assemblies and bulletin boards, showcasing their creativity and skills. This initiative encourages students to explore various topics, develop presentation skills, and work collaboratively. The themed assemblies and bulletin boards enhance the learning environment and foster a sense of teamwork and innovation among our students.

St. Mary's Celebrates Independence Day with Patriotic Zeal: St. Mary's marked a significant milestone with the celebration of India's Independence Day. The event



commenced with Rev. Fr. Sajeev SJ hoisting the National Flag, followed by a vibrant rally and enthusiastic slogan-shouting by students. A dance drama paid tribute to patriotic heroes. The celebrations showcased the institution's commitment to instilling national pride, unity, and patriotism among its students and staff. █

Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam: We recently organized a successful tree plantation drive under the initiative 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' (one tree in the name of mother). Students zealously planted trees and uploaded photographs. They were awarded with an online certificate for their participation. We were thrilled to be part of this eco-friendly endeavor, promoting environmental awareness and community involvement. The initiative not only contributed to a greener environment but also instilled a sense of responsibility among our students towards nature, and of course their mothers.



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL KABUGABJ

The school was closed for summer vacation and our boarders were delighted to be with their loved ones for a longer period. Sr. Rose's cousin paid us a short visit as he came to Assam for his work and we were blessed by the thoughtful gesture of her dear mother, who generously sent us some special pickles and homemade delicacies. Srs. Geetika and Rose attended the Principals' and Superiors' meeting in Delhi and returned, renewed and reenergised after meeting many of our sisters after a long time. Sr. Anima came back from home after spending quality time with her dear ones, specially her mother.

Celebrations of Community Bonding: The month of July ended with the blessings of St. Ignatius of Loyola. The day began with a Holy Mass during which Sr. Geetika beautifully guided us to reflect on the profound legacy of St. Ignatius; his inspiring spiritual path, and deep connection with Mother Mary Ward, the union of both

branches and the priceless gift of our vocation – truly it was a grace- filled day.

The campus came alive with joy and warmth as forty of our boarders returned. The Feast of John Maria Vianney, celebrations began with the Holy Eucharist and came to an end with an AGAPE in the presbytery with both C.J. and Auxilium communities. *Mother Mary's* Assumption was celebrated in our parish by reflecting on the virtues of Mother Mary during the Holy Mass. We were very happy to be a part of the celebration of Burunga parish feast. Indeed, we were glad to meet many sisters and fathers of Barak Valley, who were also interested in our whereabouts. We had the opportunity to celebrate the life of Sr. Teresa, the Superior of Auxilium, and had a meaningful Holy Mass and a festive dinner shared in a spirit of joy and togetherness.

Spiritual Renewal : We listened to Fr. Michael Payyapilly's inspiring talk on 'Mother Mary the Undoer of Knots'. He reminded us that our lives are often filled with knots, and we must go to our mother to untie these knots to live freely.

The Mary Ward Holy hour which was conducted by Sr. Rose brought us a step closer to our foundress and her legacy. She inspired us to keep our focus fixed on Jesus. During the prayer we were invited to return to the roots of our faith and charism. Keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus is not turning away from the world but seeing as Jesus sees through his gaze of love.

Achievements: Independence Day was celebrated with great patriotism. We were privileged to have Fr. Justin Anto to hoist the flag and to begin the march past followed by

other events. There was a colourful show to express our heartfelt gratitude to the country and the freedom fighters. The art and craft exhibition showcased the talents of our students. On this day most of the parents were in the school to see and enjoy the creative works of their children. The parents returned home in a happy mood as they told that '**something good is happening in the school**'.



MARIA BHAWAN - MAURANIPUR

HOSPITAL COMMUNITY

Sr. Deepa's Visit: We were blessed with the opportunity to welcome Sr. Deepa for a short three-day visit to our community. Her loving presence filled us with joy. Her visit was truly a moment of grace, strengthening us emotionally, spiritually, and mentally and inspiring us for the continued growth of our mission.

Hospital Anniversary Celebration: On **31st July**, we joyfully celebrated the **25th Anniversary of our Hospital** and the Feast of **St. Ignatius** with a Thanksgiving Mass. During the celebration, we remembered and prayed for all our benefactors who contributed to the growth of the hospital, as well as for our patients, staff, and well-wishers.

National Flag Hoisting: With a deep sense of patriotism and respect for our heritage, we gathered in the hospital courtyard for the National Flag Hoisting ceremony on 15th Aug. We were also honoured to extend our presence to neighbouring schools for their flag-hoisting ceremonies and to serve as judges for their various competitions.

Feast of Our Lady, Queen of Heaven and Earth: On 22nd August, we celebrated the Feast of the Queenship of Mary. The Mass was presided over by Bishop Wilfred Moras, who inspired us with his homily on ‘The Seven Lies of a Mother.’ Around thirty priests from the Diocese of Jhansi, nearly one hundred and fifty sisters and several lay faithful from neighboring parishes attended the celebrations.

Milestones: During the past two months, we successfully facilitated more than 100 safe deliveries. This positive experience strengthens our resolve to serve with compassion, care and dedication.



ST. FRANCIS’ CONVENT, JHANSI

In this newsletter, we invite you to take a walk down memory lane with us, revisiting

the moments that made us smile, reflect, and grow as one family.

Arrival of Sr. Deepa: A warm Welcome was given to Sr. Deepa who visited us for the first time on 7th July, after having taken up the responsibility of Delhi Province. The school joyfully welcomed her with a special assembly. Afterwards Sr. Deepa interacted with the teachers over a cup of tea.



Expanding Horizons: On 9th July the ‘Navprabhat’ seminar was conducted for our students by Ms Shalini John. Through engaging discussions, interactive activities, and reflective sessions, students were prompted to look beyond textbooks and think critically about real world issues. The seminar focused on curiosity, self-awareness, and innovative thinking. It created an environment where students felt inspired to question, learn and grow.

Silver Jubilee celebration:



On 15th July the school celebrated Ms. Angelina Maxwell’s Jubilee, honouring her

25 years of remarkable service and love as a teacher. Ms Angelina's journey of selfless commitment inspired everyone to see the impact one person can have on numerous young lives. The event served as a powerful reminder that true success lies in serving with passion and perseverance.

JPIC members in Action: On World Hepatitis Day JPIC members held a discussion to raise awareness about hepatitis, its prevention, and the importance of early diagnosis and treatment.

Act today for a better tomorrow: On 26th they organized a special event, to raise awareness about population growth and its impact on the planet. To highlight the importance of being responsible citizens for a better tomorrow a collage making activity was conducted. Children from various classes enthusiastically created eye-catching collages filled with informative messages, powerful slogans, and colourful illustrations. Themes such as 'One earth many people,' and 'Act today for a better tomorrow' were explored.

Human Trafficking: JPIC members, teachers and others came together to highlight this urgent global issue through impactful skits, powerful speeches, and thoughtful reflections. The programme raised awareness and inspired students to actively oppose injustice in all its forms. This event left students with a deeper understanding of their role to protect human dignity.



World Population Day: The JPIC members organized a 'wall making activity' to highlight the importance of population control and sustainable development. Students created a colourful and informative wall that depicted issues such as over population and its consequences, resource management, and the need for family planning.

Building Bridges: Our school hosted an Inter School Debate Competition, uniting bright young minds from various institutions. The event fostered a healthy exchange of ideas, critical thinking, and collaboration among students from different schools. In all categories SFC girls bagged the first prize.

Pride and Patriotism: On 14th and 15th Aug. a vibrant series of Inter-house competitions, including a General Knowledge Quiz, Dance, and Singing and screening a Documentary, filled the school with patriotic energy. Mr. Pradeep Jain, the ex-minister for Rural Development was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

World Humanitarian Day:

The Little Guiding Lights (LGL) Club led a reflective morning assembly on 'World Humanitarian Day' on 19th Aug. The event



inspired students to live with compassion and conscience, while also building character to

stand for what is right. The message of the day encouraged the entire school to embrace humanitarian values and to contribute positively to Society. It reminded everyone that even small acts of kindness can create lasting change.

National Sports Day: To honour the Hockey Wizard Major Dhyan Chand on his Birth Anniversary, the National Sports day was celebrated with a delightful Yoga drill followed by exciting Kho Kho, Volley Ball, and Basket Ball matches.

Gift on Wheels: The State Bank of India on the occasion of its centenary celebrations donated a Tempo Traveller – a 17-seater to our school. The Chief General Manager and his team organized a ceremonial flaff off programme on 29th August. They also organized a session on Mental Health and Stress management for our senior students.



Future Focus: A Career Guidance programme was organized on 30th August for senior students along with their parents. Ms. Rachna Basin, a renowned educationist and a motivational speaker from Delhi opened for them new horizons - new options for their future career.

Sr. Digna CJ



NIRMALA CONVENT, JHANSI

School reopened on 2nd July, and in the subsequent days, we were engrossed in the

admission process. We are getting good number of admissions to the English medium school.

On 11th July we had the honour of welcoming Sr. Deepa, our new Provincial, during a brief yet well-planned assembly. She thoroughly enjoyed the programme and inspired the students to diligently pursue their aspirations. The three days she spent with us were truly memorable.

July 30th was dedicated to prayer for two intentions: to prepare ourselves for the Feast of St. Ignatius and to beseech God that His Will may be realized in and through us especially as our Loreto sisters were casting their personal vote.

On 31st, during a special Mass, Fr. Rinoy S.D.B emphasized St. Ignatius' exemplary life, ambition, determination and vocation. In the evening, Sr. Shalini conducted an inspiring prayer service centered on Ignatian spirituality, his vision, and his contributions to the Church.

Being the Jubilee year, we made a pilgrimage to The Divine Mercy Church in Orai on 10th Aug. Fr. Ala Ramesh and the sisters were exceptionally gracious hosts. Then, we proceeded to the Sacred Heart Convent, where the sisters shared their anxieties, struggles, and challenges in managing the school. We assured them of our prayers and expressed our appreciation for their warmth, hospitality, and openness.

On 11th, the FMW, accompanied by several children, visited the Jhansi District Jail to present a short programme in celebration of Raksha Bandhan. They tied 'Rakhi' on the

wrists of approximately 200 inmates, as well as the jailers and guards. After the programme, we were treated to refreshments. Our presence undoubtedly made an impact on the inmates.



Various competitions were organized to commemorate Independence Day: One-Act plays, Group Dances, and Speeches. On the 15th, we held a grand celebration. The programme began with the March Past by the 4 houses, followed by other items. The Chief Guest, the S.H.O of Prem Nagar Police Station, hoisted the flag and addressed the gathering, urging the students to study diligently, and become responsible citizens, to serve the nation.

We took some time to relax at Sukhwa Dukhwa Dam, and to visit St. Xavier's School, Babina and St. Xavier's School, Simravari.

The monthly recollection in Aug. was guided by Sr. Shalini on the theme, 'Our Blessed Mother as the Model of True Discipleship.' Sister highlighted two qualities of Mary's life: total dedication to the Father and total dedication to the mission of her Son.



Sr. Poonam along with some teachers and students celebrated Raksha Bandhan at the police station tying Raki to the policemen. They were warmly welcomed and expressed their gratitude by presenting us with token gifts.

Sr. Mary participated in the 'Becoming One Programme' in Bangalore, relishing the opportunity to connect with I.B.V.Ms. Sr. Doreen and Sr. Mary attended the Mauranipur Church feast. On the 25th, Sr. Shalini welcomed her brother Thomas and grandnephew Binoy from Kerala. Sr. Poonam attended the meeting of Heads of Catholic Schools of U.P. and Uttarakhand, hosted by CKC Academy.

The school celebrated Sr. Poonam's birthday with a thoughtfully arranged assembly, and in the evening, our sisters from St. Francis joined us for a delightful cup of tea. We commenced the Novena to Our Lady on the 30th and wish everyone a joyous feast on the 8th of September.

Sr. Shalini C.J.



**MARIA WARD BHAWAN – MAYUR
VIHAR, DELHI**

School Apostolate

On 1st July teachers had an orientation programme after which a fond farewell was accorded to Fr. Richard who had served the school for the past three years. The students returned after the summer vacation on July 2nd, with KG students looking adorable in their new uniforms. A seminar was conducted for teachers by Mr. Deepak Mukherjee, sharing innovative teaching techniques.

The school hosted a fun-filled Mango Festival, followed by Lit-O-Fest 2025, a literary celebration with poetry recitations, debates, and more.

A felicitation ceremony honored board exam toppers and subject toppers from Classes 10 and 12, with scholarships awarded to deserving students.

Our school won first position in the Diocesan Inter-School Street Play Competition.



A Traffic Awareness Program educated students on road safety, and a Cleanliness Drive promoted hygiene and community service.

Cultural Week 2025 began with the theme 'MRIDAANG – The Mystic Heartbeat of India,' celebrating India's cultural heritage. Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic fervor, featuring a flag hoisting ceremony and cultural programme.

Community Life and Parish Apostolate

On the 19th and 20th, Sisters Deepti and Anjali attended the Superiors' and Principals' meeting at Jesu Bhawan. We were delighted to welcome Srs. Marina and Poonam, who paid us a short visit. We also joined the Jesuits of ISI Delhi to celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius.

The entire parish community was prepared to consecrate themselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary through 33 days of special prayer and reflection. On the occasion of the Assumption

of Mother Mary and the Independence Day, Rev Fr. Mathew Koikal, the main celebrant of the Mass hoisted the National Flag; he also led the parish community consecrate themselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In August we went on a picnic to Jaipur with our co-workers and had a wonderful time; we also visited the shrine of Our Lady at Sardhana. Sr. Deepa spent a few days with us - graceful days of visitation. We were pleased to welcome Srs. Pratima and Alice, alongside Sr. Nirmala from Nainital and Sr. Sherly. The month culminated in a splendid Onam celebration in our society.

Sr Alka



ST. JOSEPH'S PURANPUR

Visiting Mission Stations: We visited the nearby parishes and convents - Shahjahanpur, Pipiria, and Banda. Engaging with sisters from various religious congregations was a delightful experience.

Gathering of Consecrated Women: Being the Jubilee year, on the 24th of July, a special day was observed for the Consecrated Women of Shahjahanpur deanery. Rt. Rev. Ignatius D'Souza, the Bishop of Bareilly, inspired us with his reflection. He urged us to embrace the stillness of God's silence, when we are tempted to give up. His discourse was followed by an hour of prayer.

Tree Plantation Drive: In order to cultivate awareness among students regarding the significance of trees and the necessity of a green environment, each class - every section-

was encouraged to bring two saplings to plant in the school campus.

Parish celebrations: Grandparents' Day



was celebrated in our parish, where each grandparent was honored with a sapling. Everyone expressed their heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for the blessings they embody. Couples' Day was commemorated on August 24th. During the Mass couples renewed their marriage vows. They were presented with gifts and certificates in recognition of their commitment. Following the Mass, a series of engaging party games provided entertainment. The celebrations highlighted the significance of love, respect, and togetherness in family life.



ST. MARY'S JHAJJAR

Visitors: Sr. Deepa visited our community. Srs. Prisca and Mariella brought her here. During her visit, Sr. Deepa met the sisters, staff, and students. We are grateful to Sr. Deepa for her guidance and support to our mission here. Then Sr. Pratima gave us a delightful surprise. We were honored by a brief visit by the Auxiliary Bishop of the Delhi Archdiocese.

Celebration: The community celebrated Sr. Joseline's birthday and prayed for her. Independence Day was celebrated with great fervor, as students engaged in a variety of

patriotic expressions, including songs, dances, speeches, and bulletin board decoration.

Care for Creation: In the spirit of 'Laudato Si', children were encouraged to bring saplings from their homes to plant in the school campus.



ST. MARY'S CONVENT RUDRAPUR

The rainy season finally arrived in July after the scorching heat of June bringing some relief but with increasing humidity.

World Population Day: the JPIC members addressed the school. Through their presentations they raised awareness about global population issues including family planning, gender equality, poverty and maternal health.

Caring for the Earth: On the occasion of Harela different activities were conducted which included: discussion on the importance of conservation of water resources, campus cleaning and tree plantation drive.

Health Concern: On 18th July Sr. Rayna developed stomach-ache all of a sudden which resulted in vomiting and the diagnosis showed colon infection that required treatment staying in the hospital. Sr. Anita stayed with her and so, she could not attend the meeting of Superiors and principals.

Celebrations and Days of Prayer: On 26th July the community celebrated Sr. Anita's feast and the school had a special prayer assembly. On 27th we celebrated the feast of our parish. The grandparents and our sisters above 60 years were greeted and honoured.

We celebrated the feast of Sr. Lorna on 11th August.

On the 22nd of August, we participated in a special adoration hosted by COIN, centered around the theme 'Keeping Our Focus Fixed'.

The parish commemorated St. Monica's Day. The couples had the opportunity to renew their marriage vows. Following the Mass, there was a brief felicitation programme during which Sr. Rayna also articulated the ten virtues of St. Monica, inspiring mothers to emulate these qualities in their own unique ways.

Sr. Rayna attended a meeting of Principals and Managers of the Bareilly diocese, at Bp. Conrard School Junior Wing. Bp. Ignatius D'Souza guided the participants in conducting a self-analysis based on twelve points. The resource person, Fr. George Nedumattam SJ, drew our attention to the challenges facing Catholic education.

On Youth Sunday, Sr. Rayna gave an insightful talk to twenty-two youth in our parish on the topic 'God's Plan for Our Catholic Youth and Their Response.' She attended an online meeting organized by the COIN Education Coordinators, where they shared the proposals developed during their gathering at Puthenvelikkara concerning the advancement of the 'Mary Ward Compass.'



SHAHBAD COMMUNITY

After the summer break, classes recommenced on July 1st. Srs. Marisha and Vandana attended the orientation for teachers. We were delighted to meet Sisters Vinaya and

Neeta from Allahabad, who visited Rajeev Gandhi Hospital for medical checkup and Sr. Rose, who came from Silchar.

The month of August heralded a season of travels. Sr. Alice journeyed to York to attend the Mary Ward programme, accompanied by Sr. Shobha and other sisters from Allahabad and Patna. She returned imbued with a sense of joy and gratitude after visiting the significant sites associated with Mary Ward. Meanwhile, Sister Marisha seized the opportunity to travel to Bangalore for the 'Becoming One' programme.

Celebrations: In the school, preparations for the Feast of St. Ignatius on July 31st involved a nine-day Novena of reflections, culminating in a Special Assembly held on the 30th. The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated with great fervor. A Mass was celebrated for all the teachers and co-workers, followed by lunch. In the evening, we were invited to a dinner at the Jesuit residence.

We were also honored to participate in the celebration of Fr. Varkey Perekattu's 85th birthday on July 16th. Jesuits from nearby communities, friends, and relatives of Fr. Varkey gathered to partake in the festivities. As customary, the collaborators' meeting was convened at the Jesuit residence. We were invited to celebrate Fr. Glenn's birthday on the 8th, and Fr. Packiam's birthday on 18th in the Jesuit residence.

Welcome: We were happy to welcome Sr. Pratima who came from Rome. Sr. Alice accompanied her while visiting the Loreto sisters in Delhi, sisters in Mayur Vihar and the elderly Jesuits in St. Xaviers Raj Niwas. The same day Srs. Pratima and Alice went to

Apollo Hospital to meet Sr. Tomsy who was undergoing treatment there. The community welcomed Sr. Deepa, who came on visitation.

Parish Celebrations: In the Parish we had a double celebration: St. Ignatius's Feast and Grandparents' Day. There was a special Mass for the Catechism students on August 10th and after the Mass, the Diocesan Catechetical Commission conducted a Drawing and Colouring Competition. On 15th, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and India's Independence Day were celebrated. On 24th, a special programme was conducted by the Archdiocesan team to form 'Parish family Cells' in the parish. Five couples from our parish and another five from our neighboring parish participated. Sr. Alice also attended the programme.

Sr. Alice attended the CRI meeting at NRC on 30th August and on 31st she attended the charismatic convention at Jeevan Jyoti Ashram, Burari

School Activities: In July the school conducted a range of enriching activities and seminars aimed at holistic development. The Jesuit Education-Leadership Training Programme equipped teachers with Ignatian values and 21st century skills, while a seminar on 19th explored the Jesuit mission and its global legacy. There was workshop for students of cl. 4 and 5, Storytelling competition, Solo dance competition for cl. 3, 4 and 5, Seminar for parents of cl. 3 and 5, Seminar for the staff and group recitation in Hindi and English. The students of Cl. 3 conducted an inspiring assembly on the occasion of the Feast of St. Ignatius.

In the month of August, the school organized a variety of enriching activities promoting

cultural awareness, patriotism, scientific thinking, and social responsibility. There was a special assembly conducted by classes 4 and 5 students on the Birthday of the Manager and Principal of the school.



ST. ANTHONY'S JEOLIKOTE

Moments of happiness shared: On the 3rd, we met Sr. Tarsicia, her sister, and nephew, and enjoyed lunch together. The Christian Brothers from St. Joseph's Nainital visited us on the 6th. This was their first visit as a community. They came to pray at the graves of their brothers who are buried here. They too enjoyed a cup of coffee with us. Srs. Shweta, the Provincial, Allahabad Province, along with Srs. Sumita, Jyoti, and Cecilia, paid us a cordial visit after meeting Sr. Tarsicia in Nainital. Srs. Seema and Shobha attended the meeting of Principals, gaining insights on social Media and AI. We also learned about the Mary Ward Compass. Sr. Shobha joined a pilgrimage to York, visiting significant sites associated with Mother Mary Ward. We welcomed Sr. Kiran and two new candidates, who are settling in well.

Parish activities: The Apostolic Nuncio of India, His Excellency Most Rev. Leopoldo



Girelli, visited Kathgodam. Under the

leadership of our Bishop a good number of priests, religious parish representatives etc. from our diocese attended the Mass and spent meaningful time with the Nuncio.

The parish had a special Holy Mass and prayed for the release of the two Assisi sisters of Mary Immaculate, who were in jail for alleged conversions. On August 4th, we celebrated the feast of St. John Mary Vianney. Our parishioners fervently prayed for Fr. Nelson during the Holy Mass, making the day both memorable and enjoyable.

On August 10th, following the morning Mass, our newly elected Pradhan, Naval Kumar, a past pupil of St. Anthony's School received a warm welcome from the parish priest, Rev. Fr. Nelson, along with the sisters and parishioners. Fr. Nelson extended God's blessings upon him, encouraging him to fulfill his responsibilities with integrity, wisdom, and justice. To commemorate this significant achievement, he planted a sapling.

The Jubilee Cross was brought from Nainital Parish Church to Jeolikote. We reverently received the Jubilee Cross at our entrance gate. We had an hour of prayer before the Cross in our Church. Throughout the week, special prayer hours were arranged for various groups, rendering it a grace-filled week for our parish. After a week, Fr. Nelson, along with Srs. Maria and Kiran, and some parishioners, took the cross to St. Theresa's Church, Kathgodam. On August 15th and 16th, our parish youth group office-bearers attended a training programme at Suchetna to equip themselves for shouldering various responsibilities.

School Activities: School reopened on 3rd July and our teachers conducted a special assembly to welcome the students. The investiture of our school cabinet was held on 12th July during an impressive ceremony. Inspired by Mary Ward's legacy the student leaders promised to shoulder their



responsibility with, love, justice and integrity.

On 23rd July the students of class 7 to 10 had a prayer assembly on Mary Ward and St. Mother Theresa highlighting their noble qualities. They explored the meaning of Freedom according Mary Ward and encouraged everyone to practice it in daily life. In the 3rd week of July the Bulletin Board Display competition was on **Mary Ward Compass**.

On account of rain school remained closed most of the days during the first half of August. Teachers sent some daily work online. On 8th August school celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan. Students in groups tied rakhis which they themselves had made and greeted the local government officials, the police, shopkeepers and our co-workers in school. This friendly gesture created a close bond between the school and the neighborhood. The prayer assembly, reminded the students and teachers of their responsibility to take care of their sisters.

The Independence Day celebrations were limited to flag hoisting and a short prayer service as it happened to be a rainy day. Mr. Naval our new Pradhan hoisted the flag.

On 23rd August a special prayer assembly was held on the theme 'My Voice My Choice'. It was also followed by a speech competition on the same topic. 22 students of class 9 to 12 took part in the competition. Sr. Tessy guided the students. Students also took part in creative writing on the topic 'My Freedom is my responsibility'.

Our students presented a prayer dance and a Kumaoni dance at the local Mela (fare) as our share in promoting inter-religious harmony. During this programme Vanshika Arya the school topper in Cl. XII Board exams was honoured with a laptop by Mr. Shyam Singh Kotaliya, a local well-wisher.

On 26th July Sr. Manjusha conducted a seminar for the teachers of Cl. 9-12 and guided the group on developing essential moral values in the personal life of a teacher.



The 'Mary Ward Compass' was very well explained to the teachers and students in an interesting way. She asked the teachers to prepare an action plan for each month and to follow it up faithfully. A separate session was arranged for the teachers on "POCSO".

On 30th July we remembered all the Loreto sisters in our prayer and the following day celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius. On 12th August Rev. Fr. Ranjit OFM Cap. guided us through a day of recollection and prayer. On 17th August. Srs. Seema and Laura attended the annual CRI meeting at Bareilly. The deanery level meeting at Kathgodam was attended by Sr. Maria and Sr. Kiran.



ST. MARY'S CONVENT MAURANIPUR

During the past few months Sr. Lucy was engaged in a new project for farmers - teaching them integrated farming, organic farming, integrated pest management etc. Now that the project has been successfully completed, she is busy preparing the report.

Sr. Deepa's visitation was very encouraging. She conducted a community meeting during which she quoted St. Paul Col. 3: 12-17 and challenged us to live these values in our daily life.

On 22nd August we celebrated our parish Feast- Queenship of Mary. Sr. Sujata and her choir had begun their practices well in advance. Anselin Angel one of our students received her first communion on this occasion.

Fr. John Ravi SJ paid us a short visit when he came to Jhansi as a resource person at the meeting of Heads of Catholic Schools of U.P and U.K.

This year we have plenty of rain but humidity continues to remain high. Farmlands all around are submerged under water. The farmers have a distressing time. Some have migrated to Delhi and other places to eke out a living.



Here is a report from Srs. Alice and Shobha on the International Mary Ward week in York, England.

Visiting Mary Ward Places : 4-11 August 2025

We began our meeting on 4th August evening by introducing ourselves to one another. We were 28 participants: 7 CJ Sisters from India and Nepal, 3 Loreto sisters from Kenya, 8 teachers and 10 students from Mary Ward and Loreto schools in Germany, South Africa and Nepal. We stayed in St. Peter's School, Clifton. We began and ended the day with a short prayer service. We visited a few places related to Mother Mary Ward like Mulwith, Ripon Cathedral, York Minster, St. Margret Clitheroe's Chapel, Osbaldwick, Bar convent Museum, Chapel and garden, Newby Garden, Fountain Abbey and the City Wall.

Visiting these places brought us closer to Mary Ward and deepened our desire to work like her who moved firmly trusting in the Lord. We really had the 'heart burning' experience as we touched the tomb stone of Mary Ward. Seeing the places we understood that the difficulties and struggles that Mary Ward went through were far more than what we had learnt. But the faith of the Catholics was very strong. Standing for the faith meant accepting Martyrdom like St. Margret Clitheroe. It also reminded us that one man's greed for power and fame brought so much of destruction and killing in the Catholic Church and religious monasteries.

It was an incredible time in York. The places we visited are truly captivating. We were amazed by the surrounding beauty. We tasted new food and loved it. We met interesting

people and they wished us. We noticed the cultural difference. The trip made us think about medieval period and the transformation. We felt favorite moments in the places where Mary ward lived and walked. We found the people of the place systematic and caring.

After exploring the history of York and Mulwith we began our return journey on 11th and reached Manchester and stayed there one day and explored the city. We enjoyed the picturesque views on our way back to India. We felt very happy and energized cherishing the good memories of York.

We are grateful to the Almighty God for His protection throughout our journey. We are grateful to our Provincial and all the sisters for giving us this opportunity to visit the places of Mother Mary Ward. A Big Thank you to Annette Haseneder for organizing this event.

Srs. Alice and Shobha.

