

## **Allahabad Province:**

### **Efforts to reach out to the needy during the second phase of Covid 19**

#### **St. Mary's Convent, Kanpur**

The plight of many of the people , living in the shanties and shacks near our house, has touched us and beckoned to us to reach out in loving compassion. Many poor people deprived of their daily labour and earning , came to us for succor and we have helped such people as far as our resources would allow. We have provided them with provisions like essential food materials such as rice, attha, dal and other cereals. To the sick and suffering in need of medical help Sr. Shilpa, our nurse, gave medical care or they were given cash to meet their urgent needs.

Sr. Prabha, the Principal of the school, reached out creatively to the needy families especially the families of our Mary ward School in the following ways:

- She created a Whatsapp Group called 'Good Will Cell' and invited teachers of the English medium School to join this Group if they felt moved to do something for the underprivileged children. Many of them responded wholeheartedly and they adopted 10 poor families of Mary Ward school children and have been providing them for their needs. Later Sr. Prabha sent the same invitation to some students and to some parents. The response has been good and encouraging.

#### **Children of Mary ward School receiving provisions**



To keep the children focused on healthy activities Sister has started conducting yoga and Dance classes on line.

- Considering the financial crisis many families are facing due to pandemic and problems it has unleashed, concession in fees are being granted to those children.
- Text books and exercise books are also provided to the needy children.

- Sister keeps in touch with children who have lost their parents due to the pandemic and she offers them counseling and comfort

A student of ours, Gaurangi Srivastava, , perhaps inspired by what she has learnt from school and moved with pity for the suffering, used her own initiative, to collect provisions and with the help of some of her friends, distributed them to the poor. .Some journalists, amazed at what a kid did to help her fellow beings, published the story in the newspaper with her photograph.



दिव्या पाण्डेय

कानपुर नगर। जब इस समय लोग अपने घरों से कम से कम निकलने

The Community too , feeling with the suffering people around us, reach out to them by distributing rations to some of them:



## **St. Mary's Convent, Sagar**

We helped out our own co- workers, labourers those that were in our school campus and teachers with the provision that is produced from our garden, as per their need we happily shared what have like onion, wheat, garlic and vegetables.



## St. Mary's Convent, RDSO, Lucknow

During the second wave of Covid- 19 since we had to abide by the Covid protocols strictly our direct involvement in the relief work limited. We therefore made an effort to collaborate with the NGOs and groups who were directly involved in distributing provisions for the needy. In



collaboration with Lucknow Diocese Small Christian Community (SSC) group, we were glad to distribute kits containing necessary provisions worth of Rs. 750/- each, for 100 families. The 87 families of Aadarsh Kushtashram (Leper Colony) were our other beneficiaries whom



we visit every month and provide provisions as per their need.

With the aim of extending a helping hand to our students of Mary Ward school whose families are badly stricken by job loss, due to the



pandemic, our teachers conducted a survey by visiting their families to discover the deserving families that need our immediate attention and help, in the form of medicine, food and educational aids.

With the support of the ex-students and the school staff, fund has been raised to help them with necessary requirements and medical support. The work is in progress.

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### **St. John's Convent, Fatehpur**

St. John's Convent, Fatehpur is a mission station with minimum income. But God has blessed us with fresh vegetables and fruits from our own garden which we shared with the needy and the poor families around us during the second wave of Covid. Besides we also put together our humble savings and bought a bicycle for a family which is less fortunate and struggles to live. With the meager amount we also helped one of our Catholic boys in his marriage who was facing financial crisis. In these ways we were able to render relief to the people around us during this second wave of Covid.



### **Nav Jeevan Social Centre unnao Honours the Covid-19 Warriors**

Nav Jeevan Social Centre reached out to the frontline line workers of the district hospital and a Pathology Lab Health Care Center in Safipthur a remote village situated in the district of Unnao . The 40 recipients were the class- IV employees and the staff who have been directly dealing with the Covid victims in the past months as real Covid warriors. Each one received a pack consisting of a towel, mask, sanitizer, washing powder, bathing soap, and hair oil. The management of the hospital acknowledged the thoughtfulness of the Nav Jeevan Center for reaching out to the remote village to honour the people.



### **Ashirvad Convent, Kanudih**

We made special arrangements for the vaccination for the co-workers. All of them were taken to the centre and got vaccinated.

All the co-workers were given a vaporizer each, to protect themselves and their families from Covid 19.

To give medicine kits to the poor, we contributed Rs.5000 to Fr.Anand IMS and his team who were involved in distributing medicine kits to the affected area.

We prayed Mercy Rosary with the co-workers at 3 p.m everyday which helped us to pray for the entire world.

We experienced God's special protection during the second wave of Covid as we prayed Palm 91 at morning, afternoon and in the evening.

### **St. Mary's Convent, 32 Allahabad**

"We can't heal the world today, but we can begin with a voice of compassion, a heart of love, an act of kindness."

The CJ Sisters have been working for the deprived through the noble work of education for social transformation. For the realization of the vision of creating a just society wherein all are restored to their God given dignity. In line with the vision, we run the ASHADEEP SCHOOL, which, true to its name brings light and hope to the underprivileged children of our locality.

on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the community sisters of SMC 32 and the school came together to extend a companionship of love and care for this part of our family, and reached out to 12 families of our Ashadeep students in the locality of Rajapur.

Deeply moved with the grief of their struggles and hardships, the direct interaction was revealing of stories of losing jobs, to managing to acquire at least two square meals a day for the entire family, to women and children being abandoned desperately by the male head of the family, as he could no more manage to feed them. Most of them were illiterate daily wagers, who had now turned insane as they had no means to sustain the family amidst the lockdowns during the pandemic let alone being able to provide any medical aid that may have arisen. And abandoning was a sad yet the only option left for them.

We could not offer any permanent help, but we tried within our capacity to cater a temporary solution for the same. Some basic grocery items, like wheat flour, rice, sugar, mustard oil and pulses, were distributed in the quantity of 5 kg each.



Our students, most willing to get back to their studies, were in a fix, of not being able to get connected through the digital medium via smartphones or internet, due to lack of resources and minimal access to technology. Ashadeep teachers under the supervision of Sr. Annie and Sr. Salesia are conducting basic assessments for them, following which they will soon be resuming their normal teaching-learning classes, in the face to face mode. Since the situation demanded that since them coming to the formal set up at 32 Thornhill Road was a tough task now, we have reached out to the place that is most suited to them.

