



Vol. 01 / 03

January – May 2022

The birth of every creature is meant for a purpose. God has chosen each one of us to perform some duty on this earth. The onus is to identify and fulfil God's wish. The ability to have faith in God's mission and belief in self to pursue the goal envisioned is of paramount importance. It takes commitment to stick to one's purpose despite the odds of life.

Mother Mary Ward at a tender age could identify her conviction in life. Although, many doubted her, she held fast in her faith and never faltered even when she was put under pressure. Trusting in the Divine calling and in the possibilities of the impossible, she influenced the lives of women and empowered them.

Being a part of the group- Friends of Mary Ward, which has been spearheaded by the spiritual values of Venerable Mother Mary Ward, it is our faith and trust that we can become agents of social change through the noble mission of education- a Divine call to which we have responded with great love. It is therefore with this aim of building a civilization of peace, love and justice by walking on the footsteps of Mary Ward, a number of activities have been planned and organized during the months of January to May 2022, specially during the Mary Ward week, a glimpse of which is the content of the third issue of FMW Allahabad News Bulletin.

I, take this opportunity to thank the Almighty for His guidance and each one of you for your wholehearted cooperation and total commitment during this academic year 2021-2022 which has been an year of insights and enthusiasm. I also congratulate all the participants and winners of the Mary Ward Quiz organized during Mary Ward week this year. May we continue to dwell in the aura of our Foundress and keep growing.

Mrs. Rumela Neogy

(FMW- Prayagraj)



The charisma

A group whose leader ardently believed in the ability of women, the ability to comprehend spirituality and had the pastoral skills to spread her faith, it is impossible for her followers to give up. Hence, the auspicious month of January which marks the birth anniversary of mother Mary ward, the FMW celebrated it with a plethora of activities.

A week- long assemblies from 23rd January to 30th January were prepared by different groups revived and replayed “**The painted life of Mother Mary ward**”. Different groups depicted the maxims through songs, skits, speeches which were meticulously prepared by the teachers and students.

The road paved by women from confinements to financial& emotional independence has been an uphill task. They broke the shackles of bondage and patriarchy with grit. This massive transition over a period of time empowered women in various fields. Group 3 of FMW presented a virtual assembly on the struggle and journey of women. The indomitable spirit of our Foundress is visible in each girl who persevere to stand for truth.

Digital assemblies were conducted which focussed on the Five C's. The virtues of five C's – Character, Competence, Compassion, Conscience and Commitment are cultivated to purify the young minds.



The month offered us to know our Foundress a little more closely ,where we studied and appeared in quizzes conducted on four Saturdays of January. The performance of the participants was exhilarating. Heartiest congratulations for making this possible!

Empathy : a virtue



When caring becomes a habit, helping is a practice. The compassionate members of Group 6 under the able guidance of Sister Martha visited the street dwellers in the vicinity of Thornhill road. They provided them with the commodities of basic necessities.

The Academic session 2021-22 has been an eventful year where we revived the FMW group which gave us the opportunity to vibe in the glory of our Foundress. It aroused in us a burning desire to seek and work for God.

FRIENDS OF MARY WARD- SUDENTS' REPORT

Mother Mary Ward was one of the greatest women the world has ever produced. She devoted her entire life for the education of women and their capacity to do much. She is not just an inspiration for millions of us but also for many more generations to come. The FMW group gave us a golden opportunity to know more about this compassionate soul and commemorate her noble values of Compassion, Freedom, Justice and Charity through fascinating and engaging monthly activities.



We have often heard people saying, 'behind every successful man there is a woman.' Did we ever stop to think about the vice versa – who is there behind every successful woman? No one. Why? The reason behind this is that from ancient times our society has been male dominant, thinking that women are just supposed to be at home, behind the grille. But then, there was this great woman who saw and believed in the strength that women possessed.



For the month of January, we celebrated her inspiring and motivational week known as the Mary Ward's Week from 23rd January to 30th January in which we depicted the various aspects of her influential life.

Born into a Yorkshire Catholic recusant family in 1585 Mary Ward was remarkable for being one of the first women to believe that women should be actively involved in the apostolic life of the Catholic Church. Her life taught us to always have faith and trust in the Almighty. We don't often see Him, yet he is always there to help us in times of hardships.



A woman beyond compare

The students of FMW weren't left behind in exhibiting their loyalty towards Mother Mary Ward. "Women in time to come will do much" was that she believed. Taking forward her legacy the FMW students celebrated her inspirational journey. The students of the FMW have showcased the influential journey of Mary Ward's life through an assembly.

Being productive

The students of FMW initiated and informed about the benefits of composting in the month of February. Trees are a vital part of our ecosystem. To help trees, compost is made that promotes growth in plants. Composting is generally a natural process of recycling organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps, into a valuable fertiliser that can enrich soil and plants. While the students engaged themselves in composting what we learnt was how to be productive in not-so-productive environment. "Now is time to make the best out of waste" with this motto the tender minds ensured life .



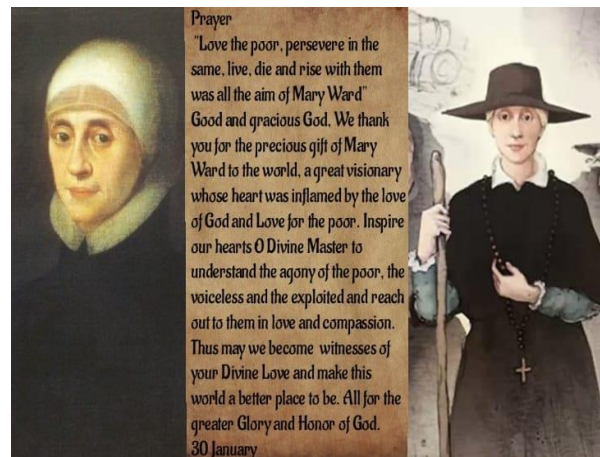
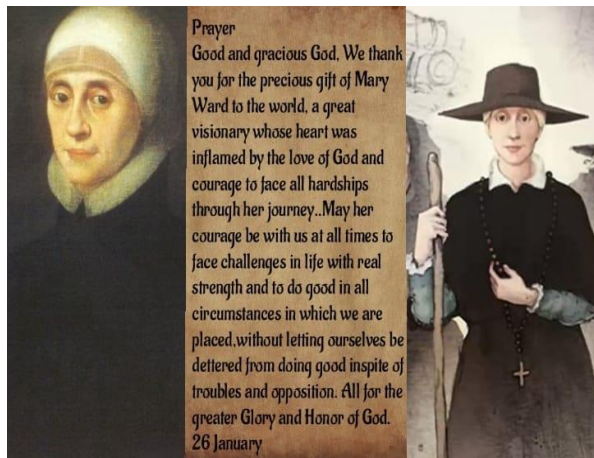
It is an honour for all of us to be a part of the Friends of Mary Ward group (FMW). We feel extremely privileged to take forward the precious legacy of our Venerable Foundress Mother Mary Ward.

Arohi Tandon

(Student)

Blessed month of January is the one that witnesses the birth as well as eternal journey to heaven of our Mother Mary Ward. It is the best time to pay our tribute to the courageous and visionary friend of Ours. SMCIC, Lucknow and F.M.W group celebrated 'Mary Ward Week' from 23rd January to 30th January, 2022. The online medium of celebration can be attributed to the third wave of pandemic.

An Effort To Grow In The Spirituality Of Mary Ward.



With the aim of growing in the spirituality of Venerable Mother Mary Ward, we decided to begin each day with a special prayer which highlighted a particular virtue of Mary Ward that we wished to grow in. The responsibility of preparing the prayer was undertaken by Ms. Ruchi Seth, who with great commitment and devotion to Mary Ward, forwarded it every morning. The entire school participated in this spiritual exercise and began each day's class praying it reflectively.

**"GATHER FOR YOURSELF
IN YOUR YOUTH
A GREAT TREASURE
OF GOOD HABITS."**

**- Mary Ward
(1585-1645)**



Mary Ward Week Activities-

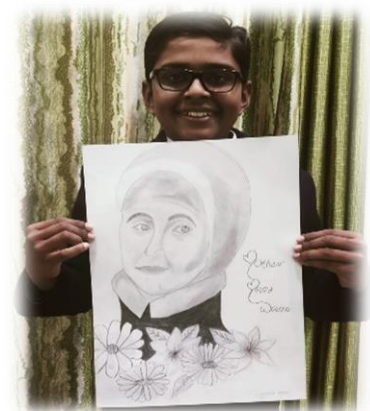


Life of Mother Mary Ward portrays her courage, confidence, patience, communication skills and great understanding along with many other qualities. Mary Ward week was celebrated with an objective to infuse these qualities up to some extent within ourselves. Hence, the inception of 'Mary Ward Week Activities'.

Activities make us better. We work hard to improve ourselves and outshine. In this process, we end up learning new things and gaining confidence.

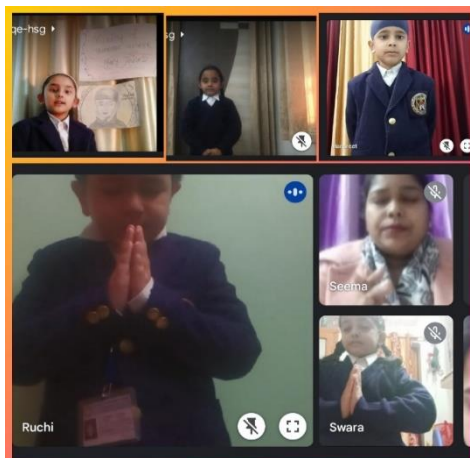
Portrait Making Activity

The birth anniversary of Mother Mary Ward was made memorable by Portrait Making Competition. It was organized through virtual platform for all the F.M.W junior group members. Portrait making is an effective way to connect with and meditate upon the person



whom we are drawing. Junior group members expressed their respect and love through the realistic portraits.

Maxim Speaking Activity



Maxims of Mother Mary Ward have always filled us with God consciousness and encouraged each one of us to lead our lives with integrity. The little ones will develop the right inclination and will walk the path of righteousness if they imbibe and practice the maxims from this tender age. Keeping this thought in mind, maxim speaking competition was organized for the students of Classes Prep to 2 on 24th January. We all were inspired to apply those maxims in our lives.

Maxim Writing

Maxims of Mother Mary Ward say a lot with few words. They show us the right way to lead our lives. Maxim writing Activity was held on 25th January for Classes 3 and 4. The participants chose their favorite maxim, font and colors. They got immersed in writing in order to make their best presentation. The beautifully written maxims were feast for the eyes and pleasing to the soul.

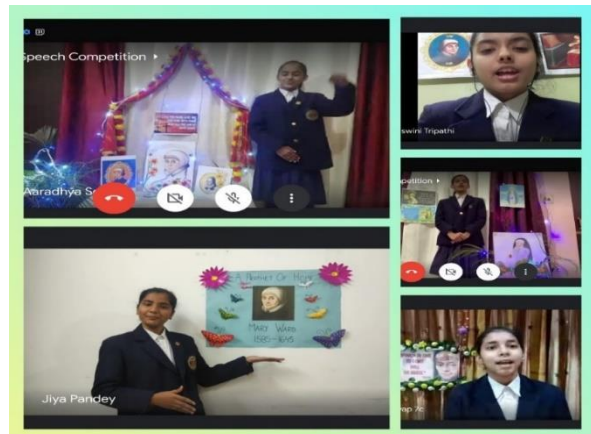


Speech on the Values of Venerable Mary Ward

Speech activities improve eloquence, critical thinking and confidence. And, when it comes to speaking about Our Venerable Foundress, then words can flow seamlessly



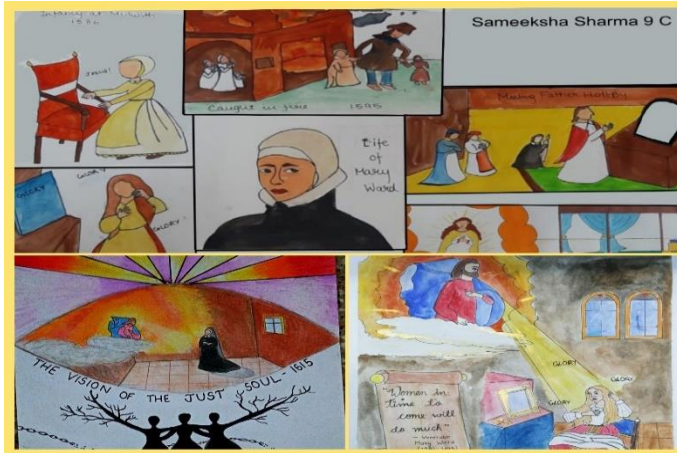
On 27th January, this activity was organized for Classes 4 and 5. Our students participated with fervor and warmth. They elaborated significant instances from Mother Mary Ward's life and gave great presentations.



On Day 5, Speech activity for Classes 6 to 8 was organized. Students were asked to present their views on the topic- **'One Quality of Mother Mary Ward that inspires me the most.'**

Overwhelming response from participants kept us entwined throughout. Beautiful expression of their thoughts and sentiments evoked within us the desire to infuse those qualities.

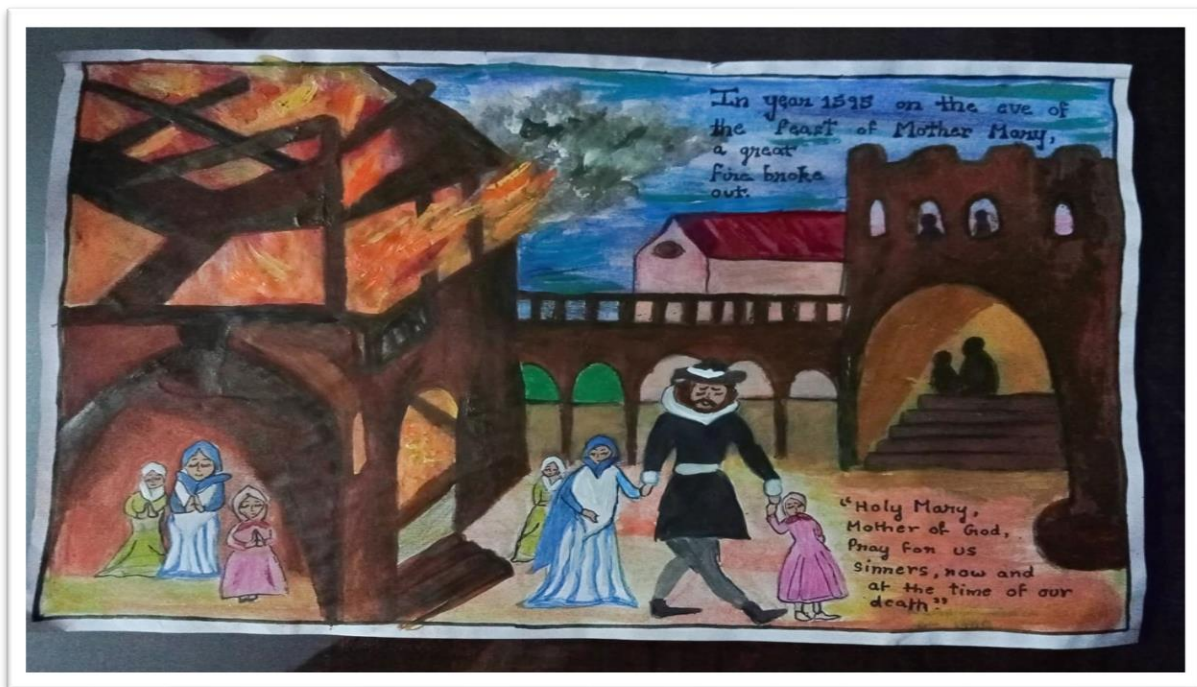
Poster Making- 29th January 2022



The last day of Mary Ward Week Celebration was filled with creative spirit with Venerable Mother Mary Ward as our source of inspiration. Poster Making Activity was organised on Day 6 for students of Classes 9 and 11.

Participants depicted important occurrences in life of Mother Mary Ward through their creative and vibrant mind.

Her first word- Jesus, fire at Mulwith home, her great fall, maxims and visions were illustrated through sketches and colorful strokes.



**“ALMIGHTY
GOD
LOVES
A CHEERFUL GIVER.”**

- Mary Ward
(1585)

Journeying with Mary Ward- The pursuit of learning

“Do your best and God will help”. -Mary Ward



There is a need to know the person whom we call our friend. This relationship flourishes when we sensitively read every page of their life and respect every bit of it. F.M.W members got the opportunity to learn more about life of Our Friend Mary Ward through the booklets titled- Journeying with Mary Ward. The learning of all four phases was assessed through online quiz conducted at Inter-School level on every Saturday in the month of January. One phase of her life was taken at a time and

every member reflected on the details through self-study. In this process, we not only prepared to attempt the quiz but also realized that her inspirational life itself is the greatest legacy that she has left behind for all of us. Winners were awarded with certificates.

We were also glad to participate in an online Pilgrimage with Mary Ward- a combined effort of IBVM/CJ. Short videos explaining the maxims of Mary Ward with its application to our everyday lives were prepared and circulated for daily reflection from 1st to 31st January 2022. Ms. Arvind Tewari our Primary teacher, an ever-enthusiastic daughter of Mary ward, represented our school with her meaningful reflection on the Maxim **“Do not begin what you have to do rashly and over hastily but weigh all well and thoughtfully, that you may not afterwards have to repent of it”**.

“How happy a thing is to love God and serve Him and seek Him in truth.”

- **Mary Ward**

The only means by which love of God can be reciprocated is by serving his people. Keeping this aim in mind, with renewed vigour, Friends of Mary Ward came together for the first monthly meeting of the new academic session on 22nd April 2022 and planned as a team, some substantial value-based activities that would bring life and light in the lives of others and transformation in our own personal life.

**“WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL
TO OUR BENEFACTORS,
LOVING TOWARDS OUR ENEMIES,
OBLIGING TO OUR COMPANIONS
AND COURTEOUS TO EVERYONE.”**

- **Mary Ward**
(1585-1645)

Labours' Day – 1st May that celebrates the dignity of workers and their painstaking efforts for the smooth functioning of any organisation gave FMW group an opportunity to express our



respect and gratitude towards our co-workers who are an integral part of SMCIC. During a colourful function organized in the school auditorium, conducted by class 12 A .FMW members thanked these men and women who work meticulously day in and day out to make our lives easier. Expressing our gratitude FMW members honoured them with tokens of appreciation. It was a rewarding experience for both the giver and the receiver.

Creativity for Compassion

Life of Mother Mary Ward has always inspired each one of us to imbibe the virtue of compassion. Her constant message was to love the poor, persevere in the same, live, die and rise with them.

On 5th May, 2022, FMW Junior group experienced nobility in compassion by diligently organising an exhibition themed “**creativity for compassion.**”



The objective of this exhibition was to benevolently support the underprivileged. The display of handmade utility items, home decorative items, room fresheners, masks, compost and chocolates were not only visually enticing but a perfect blend of creativity and skills. FMW Junior representatives sincerely handled all the counters and received true happiness that lies in doing small deeds of kindness. The earnest effort made by children was generously supported and appreciated by the management and staff of SMCIC, Lucknow.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, KANPUR

In the month of January under the guidance of Sister Roshni the first online meeting was organized with 18 students from classes 6 to 8 who had joined the Friends of Mary ward to imbibe and grow in the values of our foundress, Venerable Mother Mary ward. Following the tradition, this year too Mary Ward week was celebrated from January 23rd to January 30th. This year we celebrated the 437th birth anniversary of Mother Mary Ward. Our school conducted various inspiring activities and assemblies in order to remember the great deeds of Foundress.



The little St. Marians of classes 1 to 5 paid homage to Venerable Mary Ward by reflecting on her maxims. The little craftsmen of these classes took active participation in the activities like making bookmark, depicting the maxim through drawing, collage making and creative writing.



**“LOVE AND SPEAK
THE TRUTH
AT ALL TIMES.”**

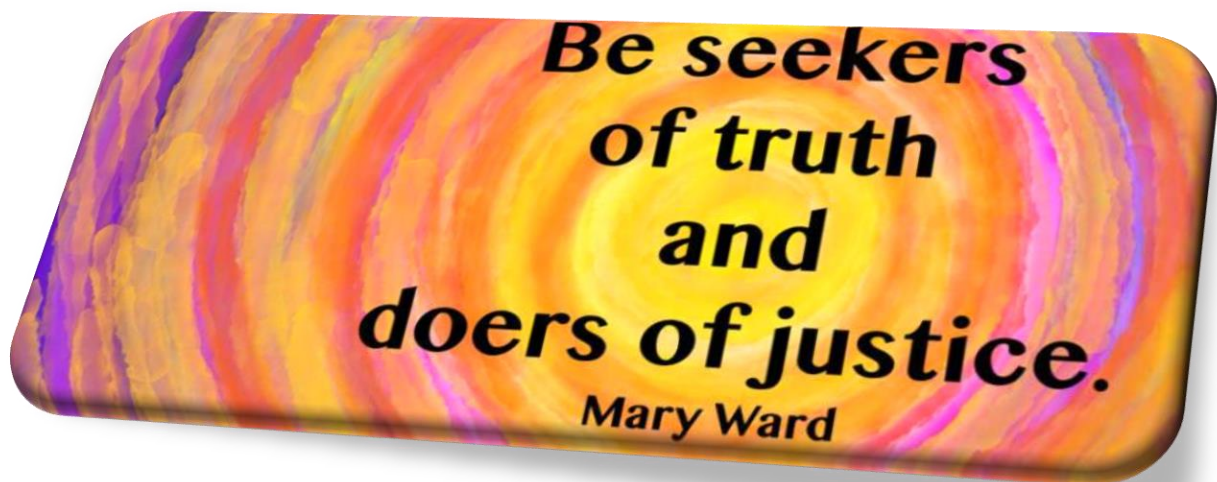
**Mary Ward
(1585-1645)**

Students of the middle school were given an opportunity to display their skills in calligraphy and portrait making activity. The young girls of senior

school exhibited their talents in calligraphy as well as in story writing. All the students participated in these activities through the interactive classes held online under the able guidance of their class teachers.

Through these activities we were reminded of the true spirit of Mary Ward and were given an opportunity to reignite the flame of empathy in our hearts.

The Friends of Mary Ward, met on 5th March, 2022 to learn more about Venerable Mary Ward. Sr. Roshni our manager, presided over meeting in which she threw light on Aims and Objectives of Mary Ward's education and also the Vision and Mission. The FMW meetings of Sisters and teachers focused on studying the life of our foundress. The booklet 'Journeying with Mary Ward' helps us to go through the four Phases of the Life of our foundress. During our group discussions we decided how to uplift underprivileged by extending them our help. We also planned our Exposure programmes which will enable us to understand our responsibilities towards society.



**ALL FOR THE GREATER HONOUR AND GLORY
OF GOD!!!**