

ALLAHABAD NEWS LETTER JULY - SEPTEMBER -2022

S.M.C 32



Here we come with news update for the Months of July to September.

The community and the school celebrated Sr. Jyoti's Birthday. The prayer service on the eve was quite symbolic and creative. The teaching staff had tea together in the afternoon and the supportive staff was invited to lunch. Friends and visitors gave Sr. Jyoti a blissful day which gave us some hilarious moments of fun and laughter at the closing, with an organized recreation.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Kumar had invited the sisters for the closing of Girls' Swimming Summer Camp; some of ours bagged prizes too. St. Mary's and St. Antony's girls were the contestants. Well done girls! The Feast of St. Thomas— the Apostle of India was celebrated with great

devotion. The first Death Anniversary of (Late) Rev. Fr. Stan Swamy who died as a Martyr in Police Custody was remembered with gratitude and prayed for the strength to keep the fire lit by him alive. He was a paragon of secular values and an eyesore to the Hindutva brigade.

Srs. Bridgit and Sumita came back from Bangaluru, the former after attending a group-wise get together and the latter after visiting her ailing brother. Sr. Bridgit was given a farewell by offering Holy Mass, special prayers, and a fun-filled recreation. Saturday, being the Second Saturday, the night vigil was held at Hogan Hall in St. Joseph's College. Sr. Grace conducted the Rosary and Sr. Tara 'Praise and Worship.' Both are really anointed by the Spirit. Nurture it sisters, by special prayers and penances.

Sr. Celine left for Varanasi to conduct a few sessions for the IMS Deacons on “Collaborative Mission and Feminine Psychology” and came back on Sunday. Sr. Fabiola arrived with her relations for a “Sangam Darshan”, after which, they came just for a cup of tea, returned within an hour. Sr. Sumita, went to Sagar to install Sr. Benita as the animator of the community on 14th. Thank the heavens for being gracious to Sister by granting her good health and spirit. This time Sr. Celine accompanied her.

22nd, 23rd & 24th were set aside for the annual meeting of the Superiors, Principals and Accountants. Grand/parents Day was held in the Parish and above 70 were honoured after Mass and there was a short felicitation program. In the night, the community expressed sincere gratitude to our senior members above 80 for the valuable services rendered to the congregation and for the community, with flowers and a token gift each. Our revered sisters are Srs. Monica, Felicitas, Dama, Elsie and Theresa. It was indeed a joyful day for all.

The School was flooded with Zonal level activities such as Chess competition, Debate, Extempore etc. along with a medical Camp for vaccination and booster doses. We all prayed for the 15th President of our Nation, Shrimati Draupati Murmu, that good sense may prevail upon her to work for those whom she promised in her maiden speech after the swearing in-ceremony. God bless her with good health and spirit.

On 27th the school witnessed, after 2 years, the Mega Event of the Investiture ceremony. In the presence of their parents, teachers and friends, they were vested with authority of assisting the school administration by the principal and staff. The students proved their mettle in the Oath Taking that they would work



with dignity and honour for the greater glory of God and for the betterment of their school. The program ended with refreshments.

The Ignatian Month ending was with a Spiritual Renewal Program in the Cathedral by a team from the Punjab. All of us experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in the team members and many received various healings and gifts of the Holy Spirit. On both days the Church was packed to capacity and one could feel they were hungering for the outpouring of the H. Spirit. Praise the Lord! 31st July, the feast of St. Ignatius was special for the 6 postulants, 3 of ours, 2 from Patna and 1 from Delhi, for they were received as Postulants. Some of us shared their joy.

Thought for the month: The Cannon Ball smashed the leg of St. Ignatius and that was a turning point in his life. What

is the Cannon Ball moment for me and you?

On 3rd August, our beloved Sr. Monica touched the glorious age 90. The Bible says, the life span of a person is 70, for those who are strong, 80. What do we say about Monica whose heart is vibrant? **Fr. Tauro** offered Mass for her in her room after which we wished her with cake and flowers. Sister Monica seemed blissfully happy.

The Junior section had their Independence Day celebration in advance on 13th while the Seniors on 15th, braving the inclement weather, celebrated it in full vigour after 2 years of Covid lockdown. Mr. Harshvardhan Bajpai, the first MLA from Allahabad, hoisted the flag and attended the program in the upper hall. He was very appreciative of the entire function and for the concerted efforts of the staff and students.



We are proud to say that we had double joy on that day, being the Assumption Of our Bl. Mother to heaven.

Two days after Sr. Sumita left for Rome with our Provincial Sr. Shweta and Sr.

Jane to participate in the long-awaited GC 2020 which was postponed for 2 years due to Covid restrictions. The school is having a plethora of activities, all zonal level, organized by the Council, athletics as well as literary competitions, this time at CMS Lucknow.

29th Aug., a Day of rejoicing for all the CJ sisters, for on this day we are given a new General Superior. We cut a cake in honour of Sr. Veronica Furhmann and wished her for her good health and Mission. A thanksgiving Mass was offered the next day. Long Live our **Gen. Superior!**

September is a month of manifesting Joy, Clarity and Peace. Teachers' Day was celebrated in full gusto since the past two years the school could not express their gratitude in a tangible way. The students showed their loving attitude to their teachers with flowers, a token gift and a lively program. An added joy was the completion of quarter of a century (25 years) in SMC by Mrs Shaila Haroon. The school treated the staff at "Legend" (hotel) with a delicious, out of the ordinary lunch. They enjoyed the hospitality of the hosts and the thoughtfulness of the School Management.

5th Sept. is a 'Punyatithi' (Sacred Date) for all of us since St. Teresa of Kolkata, died on this day. The school honoured her with a very meaningful prayer service. St. Mother Teresa, pray for us.

The feast of the Nativity of our Bl. Mother and the feast of Sr. Preeti were moments of great celebrations for us. The parish too had a great day in the evening with Rosary, procession and Holy Mass after which dinner packets were distributed to all.

Sr. vinaya had to rush home since her mother was hospitalized in a semi-conscious condition. Thank God! Sr. could reach her bed side to give her nursing care. Our monthly recollection was on Sunday 18th – the topic being “Saint and Sinner within” by Rev. Dr. Gregory Pinto SVD from ISC (Indian Spirituality Centre), Bangalore – online held the previous day.

In the school, the half yearly offline exams, which were a boon after two corona lockdown years, have ended. As a coincidence nature too rejoiced with the children with a record-breaking thunder shower. The rumbling of thunder was really deafening and flashes of lightning indeed frightened all and sundry. For one solid hour it was like fireworks, louder and brighter than “Thrissur Pooram fireworks”-the famous festival in Kerala. Then God said stop! The noise and fury subsided, peace and tranquility returned when He said, ‘Be Calm’. The Awesome power of God was revealed.

Sr. Marion is in Coimbatore to attend an official level meeting. May God bless Sr. Celine who is giving a few lectures to the Deacons in the Seminary.

Sept. comes to an end with the sendoff of two of the pillars of our supportive staff, Jagdish and Pappu. After the formal wishing and program in the school, they were treated to a farewell lunch in the lower hall during which the Management expressed their gratitude to them for their 30+ dedicated years of service to SMC. May God bless you and your families.



Wish you all, a good informative reading.
Bye, till we meet next!



We began the month of July with the three days recollection, spending time in reflection and prayer thus enriching ourselves with the spiritual energy needed for our mission in this area. Regular classes had started on 20th June and we continued the same in the month of July. God has been blessing us with pleasant weather from the time it started to rain at the end of June.

On 14th July we welcomed Srs. Sumita and Celine. The former came as the Provincial delegate to install the new animator and the latter to conduct a few sessions for animating the community. On 16th evening during an inspiring prayer

service Sr. Benita was installed as the animator of our community. This was followed by the Eucharistic celebration offered for the intentions of Sr. Benita. Sr. Celine spent a few hours enriching us from her deep experience and knowledge of the Complimentary Norms and some practical tips for effective community life thus facilitating and paving the way to begin anew under the leadership of the new animator. We are deeply grateful to both of you dear sisters for spending three full days with us and boosting our morale by your presence and sharing your spiritual pearls with us. Having accomplished their mission, they returned on 18th July.

On 19th July the school assembled to bid farewell to Sr. Josita. The students and teachers outdid one another in expressing their genuine gratitude to Sister for all her selfless services in the school through prayers, speeches, cultural items, flowers, cards etc. The teachers had a special session to bid farewell to sister and enjoyed a meal together.

On 21st the community assembled for an enriching prayer service during which we thanked God for the person of Sr. Josita and for every small and big service she rendered in the school and in the community. We had a special Mass offered in gratitude for the many blessings that this mission received due to the tireless efforts of Sr. Josita. To make the atmosphere lighter we had a special dinner and an organised recreation.

On 21st Srs. Benita and Sarita accompanied Sr. Josita to Allahabad. After a short break the latter proceeded to Trichy, her new mission field with the IBVM's

Dear Sr. Josita, we the Sagar community thank you sincerely for the person that you are and the way you have worked to bring up this mission from its infancy. We know life was hard and problems were plenty yet you faced everything with equanimity drawing strength from your deep prayer life. You gave of yourself without counting the cost very specially as the animator in the past three years. May the Lord who does not overlook even a minute detail reward you abundantly. We wish and pray that your mission in the new place bears abundant fruit.

On 25th July Sr. Sarita returned accompanied by Sr. Teresina. She spent time with the two Junior Sisters Poonam and Alma. As Sr. Alma stays in the hostel at Bhopal for her studies Sister had to make a trip to the place. Sr. Benita after attending to her auditing work in Kanpur returned on 27th July. On 31st we kept up her birthday in a simple and homely way.

In the school, besides regular classes a number of activities and competitions were organised leading up to the Independence Day. On the 13th the newly appointed school office bearers were vested with official duties during an impressive ceremony. On 15th Aug. in the midst of intermittent rain we managed to have our celebrations consisting of the unfurling of the flag by the Sarpanch (village head) of our village followed by a prayer service and patriotic themed cultural items. After the hard work the teachers enjoyed some refreshments during a get together.

On 28th Aug. we welcomed with open arms and warm hearts our 5 sisters from Nirmala Jhansi. It was indeed a delightful

time for us enjoying each other's company, exchanging news, recalling old memories and not to forget the delicious meal served on banana leaves. In this place where we rarely get visitors the visit of our sisters was indeed a source of joy for us.

Sr. Sheela paid a visit to us arriving on 4th Sept. and spent three days dealing with the school finances and construction work.

On 18th Sept. we paid a visit to Udaipura, a mission station of the diocese of Sagar about 60 km. away from our place. We spent a few hours there acquainting ourselves with their mission work and enjoying the hospitality of the Priests and Sisters as well as paying a short visit to the nearby rice mill and a dhal mill.

On 22nd Sept. Fr. Jobi Peter from Jabalpur who is the Convenor of the ICSE Schools of Jabalpur Zone arrived to make an on the spot survey of the infrastructure and facilities to conduct the ICSE Board exams. Our fledgling school will be sending up the 1st batch of 19 students for the Board exams in March 2023. The Convenor having sent a favourable report to the Council, we are given the permission to have our own centre for conducting the exams.

We have just concluded the half yearly exams and the teachers are immersed in their correction work. Sr. Roselette left for Allahabad on 30th Sept. on her way to Kurseong for her spiritual preparation for her upcoming silver jubilee.



On 4th July, 2022 Asha Niketan Special School re-opened after the summer holidays and we got a few new admissions. At present we have 42 students in the school.

We celebrated Sr. Fabiola's Golden Jubilee on 10th July. The Solemn Eucharistic celebration was officiated by



Most Rev. Dr. Eugene Joseph, Bishop of Varanasi at 11.30 am. Our Sisters from various communities, Rev. Fathers and Sisters of our Parish, Srs. Mariette & Sybil - her companions were present on the occasion. Sister's relatives had come from home to add joy to the celebration. We are very grateful to Sr. Lynette and community for their generous help and



support during the celebration. We also thank Sr. Pushpa for her timely help.



On 13th July Sr. Fabiola went home along with her people to see her sister who was suffering from cancer. She was with her for 3 days and she died on 19th July. R.I.P.

On 20th, a thanksgiving prayer and meal was organized for Sr. Delphine since she was transferred to 32, Allahabad. Sr. Tina fell sick during dinner and next day she was taken to Allahabad for the treatment and Sr. Delphine's going was postponed for the time being.

On 31st July, the cluster community, i.e., Kanudhi, Asha Niketan and Ghazipur – came together to celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. We had a good time together. On 6th August, Sr. Delphine was reached to Allahabad, her new community. We are very grateful to her for her dedicated service to Asha Niketan for the past eight years.

On 15th August, we celebrated the Independence Day. Sr. Fabiola hoisted the flag and children were given sweets after the function. In the parish St. Monica's feast Day was celebrated on Sunday, 28th August. In preparation, all the Mahilas (women) had a session on Saturday by Rev. Fr. Joseph D'Souza, followed by confession and adoration. The next day, Women's Day was celebrated; all took part actively under the guidance of Sr. Bhavana, who is their animator. After the Mass, sweets were distributed to everyone.

On 5th Sept. Teachers' Day was celebrated. After wishing our teachers, we gave them a small token gift to each one which was followed by refreshments.

All of us had our share of ailments, Sr. Tina had bleeding from her nose and tongue for which she had to be taken to Nazareth hospital and now she is part of 21community. She needs frequent medical help and monitoring due to her illness. We are very grateful to Sr. Tina for every help and support rendered to this community though she was with us only for a short time.

Srs. Fabiola, Bhavana and Maria Goretti had their share of Dengue and they slowly recuperated. Sr. Fabiola's had her gall bladder stone removed in the Nazareth Hospital, Allahabad.

As we are in the month of October let us unite ourselves with Mary our mother praying for one another.

S.M.C CHUNAR

We gladly welcomed our new member Sr. Joan, who became a part of the community on 3rd July. She was reached by Rev. Fr. Thomas Kumar, chaplain of 21, Sr. Jaya and four of our sisters from '21' Allahabad.

We thanked God for the gift of life given to Sr. Manisha, our animator and had a small celebration to honour her on her birthday, on 4th July.



The feast of St. Thomas, patron saint of our Parish was celebrated in the Parish. Rev. Fr. Louis Mascarenhas, the Administrator of the Diocese was the main celebrant. On this occasion, we celebrated the silver jubilee of Rev. Fr. Valerion D,Souza, the dean of Sonbhadra Region. Many sisters, fathers and laity were present on this solemn occasion.

On 21st July-Sr. Manisha went to Allahabad to attend the superiors meeting. She returned enriched by the sessions they had. On 22nd was our principal, Fr. Vincent's birth day. Teachers and students were enthusiastic and put up a grand show. We, the sisters and teachers

prayed for father and wished him. The good results of classes 10 and 12 added to our happiness. Fr. Vincent, the principal, congratulated the sisters and teachers.

We were happy to welcome our provincial Superior Sr. Shweta, in our midst on 5th August. After a short visit and lunch, she left for Allahabad. Srs. Manisha, Vinya, Namita and Rosita attended the zonal youth program. The Investiture ceremony of the office bearers of the Hindi medium school was on 6th Aug.

Independence Day Celebration: Flag hoisting, cultural program and Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (celebrating 75 glorious



years of Independence) were the events in which both the schools participated to celebrate the 75 glorious years of our mother land. We had a three days program of different activities and events. Children participated in games, collage making, dances, patriotic songs, dance dramas and rally.



8th September- Birth day of our Blessed Mother was celebrated in the parish. Many parishioners attended the Mass and prayed to our Blessed Mother offering flowers as a symbol of their love for her.



A lot of repair work is going on and the atmosphere is full of dust. White washing of the school building is over and the school bears a new look. As the kitchen, godown, pantry and refectory need repair we have converted a small room into our temporary kitchen and refectory.



The month of July began with the arrival of our new community member, Sr. Geeta. Not only did we welcome her but the whole cathedral parish too. The parish

priest arranged a welcoming program for all those who are newly transferred and joined the parish. We also welcomed our new chaplains. We are grateful to Fr. Herald and Fr. Anil for obliging and giving us Holy mass on three days in a week

Independence Day was celebrated with our evening school children. The children themselves prepared a short program. Sr. Martha also joined us in the celebration

On 16th, we celebrated the Independence Day with our Non-formal Education Centre children in the slums. We gathered



children of three Centres together to Shanti Sadhan. Rajapur community and Sr. Martha joined the program. We were happy that all 3 fathers from Shanti Sadhan also spent time with our children. The Program was prepared by our non-formal education teacher.

27th August being St. Monica's Day, Sr. Daya with her women commission



celebrated the day with our widows in Jawalganj slum. They distributed ration and a sari each to our 40 widows. They were surprised to know that we have 200 widows in our widows' group. We are thankful to them for their support to our poor widows.

Teachers' Day was celebrated with our dear children in the slums. It was a great joy being with the children in the slum. Without the knowledge of the centre teacher, children themselves collected some money and bought cake, balloons



and a few things for the party and a short program also was prepared by them. It was a great joy to observe the leadership qualities of our children in the slums.

8th September the birthday of our Blessed Mother is a special day for us and our mission here. We have completed one year here in the slums. This year on the same day we started beautician's course



in Rajapur and two tailoring centres in the slums with 30 learners in each centre.

These centres are supported by Fr.Babu from DDWS.

Last 3 months it was a difficult time for our people in the slums because of rain and flood. Many of the houses were under water due to which for many days children were not able to come to the centre. Even during the classes, they had to leave the place because our centres are in the open. But with all the difficulties we continue with our mission.



We gave farewell to Sr.Geeta on 1st July, as she was moving to Rajapur on transfer. We gave farewell to Sr.Geeta on 1st. The teachers expressed their gratitude to her for her two years of service and companionship in the school. We were happy to see the little ones coming to the school very eagerly as the school re-opened after the summer vacation on 4th July. This year God blessed us with many admissions.

We had the investiture ceremony of the office bearers of the school conducted during a meaningful prayer assembly. The parents of the captains were called but only a few could make it. It was a joyous occasion to see the captains promising to take up their responsibilities.

There was a cluster community gathering in Ghazipur on the Feast of St.Ignatius. The three communities in Varanasi were

glad to be together for the Holy Mass, lunch and some entertaining games. On the way back we were happy to visit Nanthganj mission station where the IMS fathers and SRA sisters are working. We really had a good time together.

The 75th Independence Day of our country was celebrated in a meaningful way. The chief guest of the day was Dr. Mahendra Rai, the head and owner of Amritmilan hospital at Chandamari. The program was well appreciated by all present, and the chief guest spoke to the teachers of the



value of dedication in teaching. He appreciated and encouraged the teachers and students for their wonderful performance.

On the occasion of the Independence Day, the school conducted a card making competition for classes 6 to 10. Many students from



each class took part in the competition. It was a good effort from the students to make very beautiful and creative cards.

The students showed their love and gratitude to the teachers by celebrating

The Teachers 'Day. The captains of the school under the guidance of the sisters took the initiative to prepare a beautiful cultural programme and a meaningful prayer assembly. The teachers and sisters were honoured and given a small token of appreciation by the students.



It was also a day to honour Sir Vinod Upadhyay for his 25 long years of loving and dedicated



services to the school. He was honoured and well appreciated by the management, teachers, and the students. He was garlanded and was given a bouquet of flowers. The students sang a beautiful Silver Jubilee song and congratulated him. After the cultural program, we had a fellowship meal together.

We were happy to have the presence of our sisters from Asha Niketan community who joined us to celebrate the Birthday and Feastday of Sr.Usha on 8th September. It was Sr.Usha's 70th birthday too. We appreciate Sr.Usha for her simple way of living and dedicated services to the Congregation and community. On the same day Sr.Claudine from Ghazipur community came to stay with us for a few days, as some repair work was going on in Ghazipur.



On 27th a speech competition was held in the school in preparation for the Gandhi Jayanti. Students from classes 6 to 9 participated in the competition. The students spoke well on the inspiring and value-based life of Gandhiji and how the life of this great personality can be lived in our daily life.

We feel and experience the blessings of the Lord in our undertakings, as we have started to spend an extra hour of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament daily. We take turn to pray. We also make regular house visits on Saturdays and Sundays. It is an occasion for us to be in touch with the people around our house and to bring their sufferings to the Lord.

The blue gates of SMC opened wide to welcome students and teachers after the long the summer holidays. The air was filled with shouts of joy and enthusiasm as the silent campus once again came alive with the laughter, cheer and exuberance of children greeting their friends. A few new faces could be seen among the staff, Sr. Renu being one of them. Sister was warmly welcomed as the new Head- Mistress. We wish Sr. Renu all success and joy in her mission in Kanpur!

The new session commenced with a very fruitful orientation under the guidance of Fr. Johny SSP who guided the teachers to think and reflect on the theme, 'Visionary Teachers for Social Change', a very relevant topic. A closer look into issues like violence, disorderly behavior among



children, so prevalent these days helped the participants to realize the importance of imparting value-based education. Thus, well refreshed and rejuvenated, the teachers began the new session with eagerness and enthusiasm to make a difference in the lives of their students.

Investiture Ceremony.

The investiture ceremony of the newly elected office-bearers of 2022- 23, a long-cherished dream of many a young aspiring student, took place on 9th July. The prayer service, meaningfully conducted by XIIC, highlighted the essential attributes of integrity, decisiveness, commitment and vision that mark the character of a leader.



Rain at last!

After the sweltering heat of May-June, on July 20th we were blessed by the rain gods who poured down fresh, cool showers in abundance! The first rain continued for a long time as if to assuage all our feelings of resentment and self-pity over the unbearable heat of the previous months. Some of the sisters danced in joy in the torrential rain as if to express their appreciation for this gift of Nature. In the ensuing days and even now it continues to rain every now and then, a new phenomenon for our region.

Siya Ram, one of our recently retired employees, died on 22nd July. He had been suffering from some ailment quite some time. RIP!

We had the privilege of having many of our sisters, who do either B. Ed or M. Ed exams, stay with us. Srs. Shweta, Lissy, Surabhi, Sagaya, Shilpa Bindu, Nirmala (Patna) all found their way to Kanpur prior to their exams. We shared their anxiety prior to each paper and rejoiced with them when they did well. By the end of July all the examinees completed their papers and returned to their communities, promising to return for the next semester exam.

We shared in the happiness of Sr. Annie who had the joy of welcoming her brother, sister-in-law, a niece and a nephew who came on a brief visit to her. Her brother, Fr. Wilson of Jhansi diocese,

being known to us, it was a happy visit for all.

Felicitation Ceremony

The School felicitated the success of our meritorious students of Class X and XII who passed their Board Exams with flying colours. The felicitation ceremony conducted by the students of class X section C paid rich tribute to the hard



work, perseverance and determination of these achievers who in the uncertain times of the pandemic gave their best. They were awarded with trophies, certificates and medals for their brilliant performance.

The Inter- School North Zone Tae-Kondo Trial, held in Bishop Westcott School was an event that provided opportunity for many of ours to prove their skill. This was the first time that ours participated in this event. The children proved their prowess by bagging 3 Gold medals and secured the first position and were declared eligible to take part in the State level contest to be held in Ghaziabad.

ASISC Regional Athletic Meet 2022

The ASISC regional trials were held on 10th and 11th August at SMC. The athletes

of our school, under 14, 17, and 19 age groups qualified themselves for the State level which will be held on 16th and 17th

Sept. at Varanasi. It was a proud moment for SMC as our athletes gave a spectacular performance, winning in total 26 gold medals, 18 silver medals and 7 bronze medals. Well done, Athletes!



Independence Day Celebration.

The 76th Independence Day was celebrated with enthusiasm, colour and joy. Sr. Prabha warmly welcomed the Chief Guest, Group Captain Avanish Bharadwaj and Guest of Honour, Wing Commander, H.N. Madhusuden. The celebrations commenced with flag hoisting followed by the National Anthem. The senior students staged a special assembly to pay tribute to India's



freedom fighters who not only proved their mettle on the battle field but also left an indelible mark in the glorious history of our country by their sacrifice. The school choir presented a fusion of patriotic songs, an ode to our Motherland. A dance drama depicting the current problems that affect the peace, prosperity



and integrity of our country was an evocative presentation.

Celebrating Independence Day.

Tree Plantation

On 23rd August, a few army officers addressed our students telling them of the need of cleaning River Ganga, burying plastic bottles in soil, and cleaning our surroundings. The students then planted a number of saplings in the school campus along with the army men.

Sr. Arpita and Sr. Renu helped out at the youth festival held in St. Xavier's Church. Sr. Arpita who had been with us for some months had to bid goodbye to us as she had to attend B.Ed. classes in Allahabad. During her brief stay she reached out her helping hands everywhere, making sure

every nook and corner was kept neat and clean. We truly miss her active presence. Sister left on 1st Sept. Sr. Marion arrived with Sr. Roshni and Kiran who had gone to reach Sr. Arpita. Sr. Marion kept herself busy with Orientation to the staff of Mary Ward School and the senior students of SMC.

Teachers' Day Celebration

On 5th Sept. students staged a grand function to celebrate the Teachers' Day. We had another chance to welcome dear ones from home, this time Sr. Roshni's younger brother and family. Although they were busy going out to see places, even as far away as Prayagraj we were happy to have a chance to meet them at table and smile at them. On 7th Sept. Fr.



Joe Puli SJ, a relation of Sr. Roshni came on a visit. He had been to our convents a few times in the past for retreat and other matters. We were delighted to have him join our Onam celebration.

Visit to Snehalaya, an old-age Home

Members of 'Friends of Mary Ward', **accompanied** by Sr. Roshni and Sr. Prabha paid a visit to Snehalaya, an old-age home, managed by the Missionaries of Charity in Chandari, Kanpur.



The purpose of their visit was to extend a healing touch and assuage the grief of these elderly, abandoned people and to heal their broken hearts in some measure. They interacted with them, listening to their stories of grief, heart breaks and unhappy events of their lives with great



empathy and then tried to cheer them up with songs and other forms of entertainment. The visit helped the

Friends of Mary Ward to have a deeper appreciation of the unconditional love and support that exist in their own families.

Four of our sisters have left on a trip to Punjab- Amritsar and will be back on 5th Oct.

October being the month of the Holy Rosary let us be united in praying the Rosary to Our Blessed Mother for our needy world and especially for Peace in the world!



As summer rolls on slowly towards cool October- November we breathe a sigh of relief as we leave the heat of summer and slowly step into cool winter.

After a rejuvenating summer vacation, on 2nd July a staff meeting was held before the re-opening of the school. A short prayer service was conducted by the teachers after which we welcomed Sr. Divya, Sr. Amala and the new teachers.



Sr. Mariette the manager addressed the teachers at the staff meeting. This was followed by an orientation programme on the New Education Policy and 21st Century Skills guided by Dr. Rohini Bhatt who is an expert in this field. The school re-opened on 4th July after the summer break. Once again, our campus was resounding with the joyful voices of the children.

16th July was set aside to express gratitude and bid farewell to Sr. Renu. The students and teachers expressed their gratitude through a well organised and colourful



farewell programme and thanked Sr. Renu for her dedicated services rendered joyfully for the past four years. Sr. Renu expressed her feelings of joy and satisfaction for having been able to do her best for the school and thanked the sisters, teachers and students for their guidance, support and co-operation.

In the month of July, the JPIC group conducted an activity 'LET'S NURTURE NATURE' for the students of classes Prep to 2. The nature walk broadened their knowledge and gave them first hand familiarity with herbs, shrubs, and trees. Intending to cultivate scientific temper

among the children, the JPIC group conducted an activity- 'OUR DISCOVERY' for the students of classes 3 to 5 giving the students the opportunity to perform various science experiments.

26th July we had the investiture ceremony of school cabinet members for the



Academic Session 2022-2023. At a very inspiring assembly in the presence of the management, parents, teachers and students, the leaders made their promise to carry out their responsibilities to the best of their ability.

30th July was observed as a day of recollection guided by Sr. Rosaria. The following day Sr. Mariette, Sr. Lissy, Sr. Mahima and Sr. Amala joined the Jesuit priests at Kalli for prayer and festal dinner in honour of the feast of St. Ignatius.

From 1st to 6th August the students of our school participated in the Zonal Taekwondo Tournament and the Zonal Lawn Tennis Tournament. The girls brought laurels to our school and are qualified for state level. The students of our school participated in all the sports

events, enthusiastically and exhibited great sportsmanship.

On 15th August the school celebrated the 76th Independence Day with much joy



and pride. To express the joy of our freedom and to pay homage to the great martyrs, an inter-house dance-drama competition was held on the theme-Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

On 16th we were happy to welcome Sr. Mary from the Patna Province. The two days she spent with us was an opportunity for us to renew precious memories and strengthen our 'Union of minds and hearts'.

On 22nd August A Felicitation Ceremony was held to honour the students for their outstanding performance in ICSE and ISC board examinations. It was a proud moment for the entire SMCIC family to reward the toppers.



On 23rd August F.M. W (Teachers) took the initiative of visiting 'Paul Mercy Home' along with student- representatives from classes 4 and 5. Paul Mercy Home is a courageous enterprise started by a dedicated couple Mr. Paul and Mrs. Bincy to care for the mentally challenged young women. Currently there are twenty-five young women residing in this home. In support and appreciation of this great work the F.M.W members gifted them dry ration and other utility items. We hope to keep in touch with Paul Mercy Home and



support them on a regular basis.

The following days we happily welcomed Sr. Rosaria's nephew Mr. James and family and Rev. Fr. Joseph Puli SJ-her cousin to our community. Having spent quality time with Rosaria they returned to their respective places with joyful and grateful hearts.

On 5th September our students staged a phenomenal show to express their love, gratitude and appreciation for their teachers. They also honoured Sr. Mariette by celebrating her Golden Jubilee in a

creative manner. Thereafter the teachers were invited to attend a prayer service in our convent chapel, lovingly conducted by the sisters. A festal meal hosted by the management for the teachers was the climax of the day.



On 8th September the entire SMCIC family celebrated the birthday of Our Blessed Mother and Sr. Mariette's feast with much joy, gratitude and appreciation.

On 10th September we received the sad news of the passing away of our dear sr. M. Judith CJ in Patna. Sr. Divya and Sr. Amala represented the Allahabad Province at her funeral service which took place on 12th September.

On 19th September in the gracious presence of the sisters, Mr. Shyam



Kishore the contractor and his team of labourers Rev. Fr. Peter Castelino, the Parish Priest of Holy Redeemer Church blessed the Foundation Stone of the New Wing of the school. Sr. Mariette the superior of the community laid the Foundation Stone.

On 27th of September, the JPIC students of class 11 and 12 shared pencil pouches prepared by them with the students of Mary Ward Junior High school as part of their community service. The drive helped the students to understand better that 'sharing is caring' and instilled in them solidarity and love for the less privileged of the society.



Sr. Anupa along with our teacher Mrs. Steffi Lawrence accompanied a group of ten students to attend the seven days



'Leadership Training Programme' which was held from 23rd to 29th September at

the Universal Solidarity Movement Centre, Indore. They returned on 30th September with renewed enthusiasm to strive to be the best version of themselves to build a civilization of peace and love in our world.



The new phase of the community began with a positive note with new members on board.

Commemorating the sacrifices and meaningful life led by the Deacon St. Lawrence, the parish celebrated the feast of its patron saint on the 7th of August. A solemn Eucharistic Celebration; the high spot of the day, filled the ambience with blessings and grace. The joy of the day was the Sacrament of Confirmation of Nine children from the Parish. Various competitions were arranged in the school to highlight the significance of the day.

St. Lawrence School was acclaimed as the district topper with 99% in ICSE and 98.6 % marks in ISC results of session 2021-22.

A three-day celebration was organized by the school to celebrate the 'elixir of energy of independence' of our nation. Various Cultural and literary events were conducted to disseminate the culture and sacredness of our country.

Metaphorically highlighting the theme "The hum of the bees is the voice of the garden." to the contribution of the teachers to the society, St. Lawrence School celebrated the teachers' day. An hour of scintillating cultural performance by the students added festivity and meaningfulness to the Day of Teachers.



It is a proud moment for St. Lawrence School as Master Tanmay Sharma and Master Trishank Kumar will be leading the National Football team under Ninteen in Siliguri West Bengal.

The students of Nav Jeevan Social Centre began their new academic session on the 1st of July. The regular classes in the centre motivate the students to give their best in their respective schools. An hour of performance on the occasion of the Independence Day showcased the calibre of the students. A drawing competition



was held on the same occasion.

Students took keen interest in the celebration of Teachers' Day and in their respective villages a short felicitation ceremony was arranged for the teachers.



OUR COMMUNITY:

Our life here is very simple like that of a small mission station as every beginning has its adjustments and learning. Well I got adjusted and began learning the Loreto ways. The sisters are simple, polite and friendly. Each one is responsible for her spiritual life. (For example one has to choose one's own spiritual director and confessor). Each one spends time in prayer, with no compulsion. We join in the adoration on Fridays and rosary on Saturdays in the Parish. As a community, common work is shared, kitchen, garden and chapel. Each of us do it well, if need we help each other.

PASTORAL MINISTRY:

On Sundays we have regular Catechism classes from KG to class 12 after English and Tamil Masses. Since most children are going to English Medium Schools, we teach them in English on the basis of their request. Children are receptive and attentive while we converse with them. Two of us teach in the Parish and two of us go to the sub-station to teach Catechism. Last month the children had

different competitions based on the Word of God. Classes KG to 5 had to learn by heart the life of saints and speak on them..

Classes 6 to 8 learnt and recited Psalm 121, Classes 9 to 12 learnt and recited Psalm 91 and a drawing competition for all based on the Ten Commandments was also held.

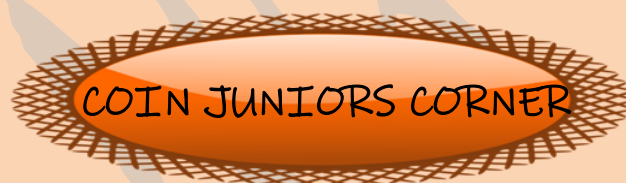


SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY PRAYER:

Small Christian Community Prayer or Animating New Integral Pastoral Mission. There are about 12 such groups. Wherever we are called we go for the prayer. Usually they are held on Sundays, sometime times on Saturdays. First, they welcome and honor the new comers in their midst. Secondly, they share the good things that had happened in their families and thank God for them. Each SCC group contributes money for the orphanage or for cancer patients or for Seminarians. Most of them are elderly, yet they do a lot of charity.



Here the Catholics are very strong in their faith. People do come for Mass on ordinary days too, besides on feast days and Sundays. Lay people are very active in this Parish, more than the priest because they had been doing it. We help in the Parish when we are asked. We sisters take Catechism, distribute Communion and motivate the children.



COMMUNITY MINISTRY:

Sr. Initha, our Superior takes care of five Sri Lankan Refugee Camps. We cannot visit these camps as we have no permission. She teaches spoken English to the animators as well as the youth. She counsels the people who are in need of her guidance in the camp.

The rest of us take tuition for twenty children. Most of them are going to English Medium schools. We help them to complete their homework. Most help is given for Hindi because they find it hard. So, we read word by word and tell them the meaning in Tamil and in English. Sr. Initha too helps in tuition by taking Mathematics classes. We charge a small amount of fees as it helps in our upkeep.

“A moment of gratitude makes a difference in your attitude”

We the CJ juniors of India and Nepal are indeed grateful for the blessings which we received during the five days of our togetherness from 7th to 11th October. We are now taking time to count our blessings. We thank God Almighty for giving us this enriching experience.

Fr. Robin S.J was the resource person. During the course of the program, we dealt on the topics such as emotional health, affective maturity, our core values i.e. I am loved, accepted and wanted, self-esteem, assertiveness, self-talk, healthy relationship and friendship and heterosexual attachments.

Each of these sessions helped us to introspect and see where we stand. During

the sessions we had some activities. Each of them was analysed in detail and it helped us to know ourselves better. We came to know that deep down in ourselves there are many emotional feelings which we are even unable to name. This meeting was an opportunity for us to name them and claim them.

There was an atmosphere of sharing in the group which helped us to open ourselves up to the group. The sharing of each one enriched us and gave the knowledge to handle the situations in our lives. Many of us had a number of questions to ask and father answered them to the point. The meaningful celebration of the Holy Eucharist everyday was a source of strength for us. This meeting had been a rejuvenating experience for us. Coming together after a number of years gave us joy and happiness. We are grateful to Sr. Jaya and all the members of 21



community for the care and affection expressed in various ways. We really enjoyed our stay together. It had been an enriching experience of personal and spiritual growth for all of us.

In the afternoon of the 4th day, we had an outing to Khusro Bagh, a sprawling large

garden situated over forty acres. The garden presents three sandstone mausoleums, (tombs of Emperor Jahangir's wife, son Khusrau Mirza and one of his daughters) an exquisite example of Mughal Architecture. We had an enjoyable and relaxed time in the garden. After visiting Khusro Bagh, we had high tea in SMC 32 in the company of our sisters who patiently waited for us. For many of us it was our first visit to SMC 32 and we are grateful Sr. Sumita and her community for inviting us to 32.

We are grateful to our Provincials and regional superiors for arranging this program for us. The constant support and guidance of our junior mistresses are really remarkable. They were with us all through the program and arranged an inspiring resource person for our meeting. May the growth that has begun in us continue to grow as we journey in our consecrated life.

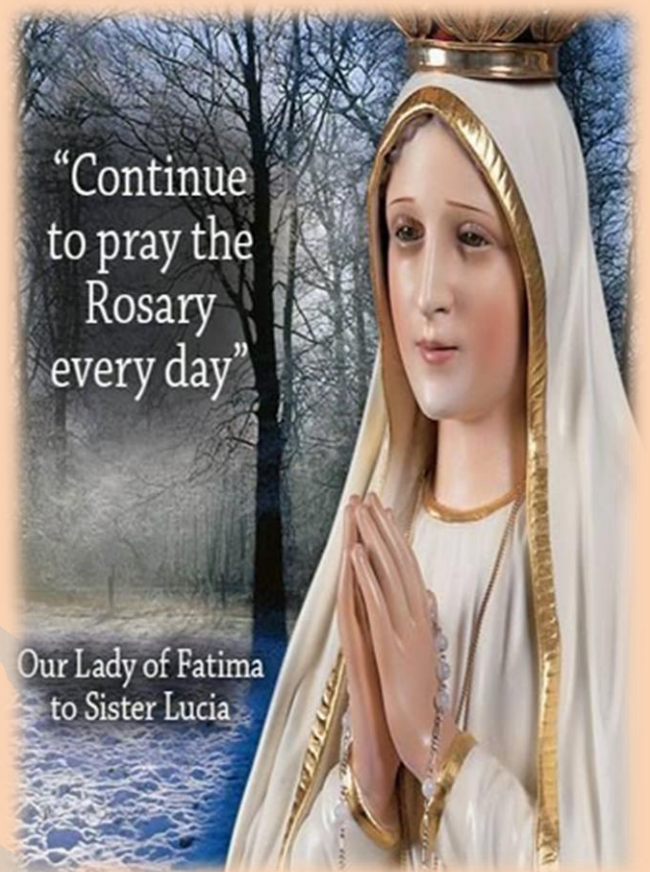


**Thank
You**

The Allahabad Province Congratulates Sr. Veronica and the new Generalate Team and wishes them God's blessings. May the Lord guide, inspire and lead them as they embark on their new mission.



Congratulations!



“Continue to pray the Rosary every day”

Our Lady of Fatima to Sister Lucia



We remember with gratitude all the loving and committed contributions of Sr. Jane Livesey and her council for the past 11 years. May the gracious Lord guide their paths and continue to be messengers and message of God's kingdom.



Thank You

“The holy Rosary is a powerful weapon. Use it with confidence and you'll be amazed at the results.”