



ALLAHABAD NEWS LETTER JULY – SEPTEMBER 2024



The newness and freshness of the month of July brought in feelings of gratitude, joy, appreciation, excitement and happiness within us. The community was complete with all the new members who came on transfer. The first day of July marked the **Installation of Sr. Janet** as the animator of the community by Sr. Prabha who was delegated by Sr. Shweta our Provincial Superior. The solemn Installation of Sr. Janet took place during a well prepared prayer service conducted by Sr. Prabha. **Sr. Mariette was thanked for her total dedication and deep commitment** in taking care of the community for the past six years. We also had some light moments shared together on this occasion. On 2nd we welcomed Rev. Fr. Suresh Mathew who conducted an insightful and engaging orientation for the teachers for two days. The sessions focused on **the role of teachers in the fast changing world.**



5th July was another red-letter day in the history of SMCIC as we **welcomed the first batch of Playgroup and LKG students** to the family. 13th July was yet another joyful event as St. Mary's Convent Inter College celebrated "**A New Dawn: A**

Joyful Welcome and Celebration of Academic Excellence of Our Young Achievers."

commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing enlightenment and the beginning of a new journey.

A warm and heartfelt programme was presented to welcome our new manager, Sr. Janet, as well as Sr. Melani, Sr. Joan, and Sr. Tara.

Following the welcome ceremony, a felicitation ceremony was held to honour our ICSE and ISC meritorious students of the session 2023-24. They received special accolades, including scholarships for their exceptional academic performance, celebrating their remarkable achievements.

The next significant event in the SMCIC family was the Investiture ceremony. **Guardians of Legacy - A Saga of Stewardship.** On July 15th the newly appointed Cabinet Members were invested in a graceful Investiture Ceremony conducted by the



students of XI-A. The event was graced by the presence of

Reverend Sisters, respected parents of the newly elected Cabinet, teachers, and students. Enthusiasm and positive energy were truly infectious, leaving everyone with a lasting impression of the importance of keeping a smile on their faces.

On 25th July we were privileged to welcome Most Rev. James Athikalam, Bishop of Sagar along with 5 priests and 3 sisters from Sagar. We had a solemn Eucharistic celebration followed by a sumptuous breakfast after which they left for an outing to the city and proceeded on their return journey. Our availability and hospitality were well appreciated by all of them.

On 6th August, Sr. Tara represented the community at the **Episcopal Ordination of Rev. Bishop Wilfred Moras** in Jhansi.



Riddhima Singh of Class 4 A, excelled in the Coding for Kids International Olympiad, achieving the prestigious 1st prize in this competition. Congratulations to the little one who made us proud by her performance.

On 10th August, 2024, St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Lucknow, witnessed a historic milestone as we inaugurated the dawn of its 60th year. The event entitled '**60 Years of Grace: Building God's Family Together,**' brought the entire SMCIC family together to commemorate six decades of excellence in education and character building. The day commenced with a solemn prayer service, invoking divine blessings upon the institution. All were excited as the Principal, Sr. Marina, unveiled



the much-awaited teaser, offering a glimpse into the grandeur of the diamond jubilee celebrations to come. The Jubilee Anthem, a melodious composition, resonated with the audience, evoking a sense of pride and belonging. A captivating role-play titled "Echoes of SMCIC" transported



everyone down the memory lane, reliving cherished moments from the school's illustrious history. The event was graced by the

presence of esteemed alumnae Ms. Jyotsana Atul, the Chief Guest, and Mr. Vikas Dalela, the Guest of Honor.

Both luminaries shared inspiring anecdotes about their Alma Mater, motivating the students present to reach for greater heights. The inspiring message of Sr. Marina encapsulated the spirit of the school and ignited a renewed sense of purpose among the students, the staff and the alumni.

We celebrated the **78th Independence Day** on 15th August with immense pride and patriotic fervour. The event began with the hoisting of the national flag by our esteemed Chief Guest, Ma'am Sabina Yousouf. The rendition of the National Anthem echoed through the campus, instilling a sense of unity and pride among all present. The creative display competition, themed "Patriotic Panorama," saw active participation from all four houses, each exhibiting creativity and patriotism.



At the conclusion of the competition, the rolling trophy was awarded to Nirmala House, recognizing their outstanding efforts. The day was a true reflection of the spirit of nationalism and unity that defines our great nation.

On 25th August we welcomed Rev. Fr. Amalraj SJ along with Rev. Fathers and brothers to SMC to have a day of relaxation and enjoyment. The brothers engaged themselves in playing cricket, football and basketball. Neither heat nor rains stopped their enthusiasm and energy. They enjoyed themselves well and returned around 4.45 p m.

On receiving the news of the sad demise of our dear Sr. Lydia, Sr. Divya went to Patna to express our condolences to our sisters.

On 31st August 2024, the SMCIC family gathered to honour Sr. Mariette, marking her transition from the

role of school manager to spiritual guide. The event, titled **"From Twilight to Dawn: A Celebration of Gratitude and Grace,"** symbolized her remarkable journey in guiding the school through moments of growth and transformation.

The programme featured a heartfelt role play, "A Bouquet of Grace," where virtues like faith, compassion, humility, resilience, and integrity came to life, highlighting Sr. Mariette's influence on the entire school community. In her address, Sister Mariette shared words of wisdom and thanked everyone for their love and support. It was a meaningful and joyous occasion, celebrating Sr. Mariette's legacy and looking forward to her new role as the spiritual guide of SMCIC.

Teachers' Day celebration at SMCIC, Lucknow, was a vibrant and heartfelt tribute to the guiding lights of education under the able leadership of our Respected Principal, Sister Marina. With the theme **"Radiant Trailblazers Crafting the Journey into a Masterpiece of Light,"** the event displayed the



essential role of teachers in shaping a just society. The programme began with a prayer followed by a floral tribute to Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Mother Teresa. The highlight was a mesmerizing dance drama, symbolizing teachers as the radiant trailblazers who inspire future generations. Performances, including a captivating Qawwali, enthralled the audience. After the programme, the sisters conducted an inspiring prayer service for the teachers in our chapel followed by a festal lunch for all in the Lower Hall.

On September 8th we joined the parish Community to celebrate the **birth day of Mother Mary**. Most Rev. Gerald John Mathias, came for the pastoral

visit and was the main celebrant for the Eucharistic Celebration during which many of our children received the First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation. An agape for the entire congregation was part of the celebration.

The **celebration of Onam** became more solemn with the presence of Rev. Fr. Jerry, Rev. Fr. Anup and Rev. Fr. Jijo with us. There was a lot of fun and laughter shared among all during the delicious lunch served in the traditional banana leaves.

On 23rd September we celebrated the **Platinum Jubilee** of our dear Sr. Lucilla. We thanked God for the gift of Sr. Lucilla, who is blessed to live a happy and healthy life for 70 years in the Congregation.



In spite of the challenges of her advancing years, Sr. Lucilla spends her time in praying in the chapel, blessing the children and teachers who approach her, in reading, and caring for a few saplings, thus enjoys her life to its fullness. Praise the Lord. God is pleased when man is fully alive. On the following day, the staff and students gathered to express their heartfelt wishes for Sr. Lucilla at this remarkable milestone. It was a moment of deep contemplation and exuberance for the entire SMCIC family. We expressed our gratitude and joy for her marvellous presence by offering bouquets, cards and distributed sweets. In the evening, we had an hour of prayer through audio visual means followed by a sharing of light moments in fun and laughter. May God keep our dear Sr. Lucilla in good health of body, mind and soul to sing the praises of the Lord for years to come.



The jovial July is here, no rain, not even clouds; children desiring to return to their teachers and friends, heat is not a problem for them. Let us be

glad and rejoice in this rejuvenating month, for it is declared as the month dedicated to “The Precious blood of Jesus”, by Pope Francis, a time of grace for us to reap a rich harvest of graces.

On the opening day after the summer break, the school buzzed with excitement. The morning assembly, led by class 11-C, set a positive tone for the new term. Sr. Namita was warmly welcomed as the new Vice-Principal of SMC, while Sr. Josita was introduced as the Sister in-charge of Ashadeep Junior High School. On 3rd July, with great joy we celebrated the feast of St. Thomas, the Apostle of India, nicknamed as the ‘doubting Thomas’, but who became a boon for our faith, strengthening and spreading it. The birthday of Sr. Lissy was celebrated both in the community and the school on 6th July. A special assembly with the theme ‘Spotlight of Excellence: Building a Better Tomorrow’ was conducted in sister’s honour.

Fr. Wilfred Moras, the Bishop Elect of Jhansi was given farewell by the community with Holy Eucharist followed by dinner and a short recreation which was thoroughly enjoyed by him. The next day the Seminary bid him farewell to which the community was invited. A good number of us honoured the invitation and enjoyed the short entertainment and dinner. Srs. Sumita and Rose accompanied the group to reach him to Lucknow to his home diocese. Our prayerful support goes with you, Bishop **“BE THE ONE YOU ARE CHOSEN TO BE, RATHER THAN JUST BE ANYONE.”**

Youth Seminar was conducted at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre Sadhana Sadan, in which the lady animator, Sr. Vinaya contributed her very best. Sr.



Sumita CJ – the Diocesan CRI – President organized the Zonal CRI meeting at SMC-32’ this time. Fr. Johnson S.J. was the

Resource Person who gave some thought provoking input session followed by a general session which helped the participants to recapitulate the day’s theme. From the School front, in the Regional Cricket Competition, under 19 categories, we secured the first position. Congratulations to one

and all. FMW (Friends of Mary Ward) did a wonderful activity among the children of Divya Jyoti Social Service Centre, Muirabad run by SRA sisters, distributing school stationery to the children and spending quality time interacting with them. Srs. Rose and Josita accompanied them.



26th July! Gold Medal for Blasphemy: Paris Olympics 2024 appeared in Social Media. The opening ceremony

of Olympics held in France scandalized the whole Christendom. Nudity, vulgarity and the outrageous depiction of the Last Supper of Christ must be unequivocally condemned by all for its blasphemous, deplorable, satanic mockery.

31st July, Feast day of St. Ignatius, was a special day for Sr. Grace who renewed her vows after a three day preparation guided by Sr. Christina C.J. The community made it very special for her with all the festivities and celebrations. In the evening we listened to a talk on T.V. by Fr. Earl Fernandes S.J. highlighting the Characteristics of St. Ignatius, such as the Magis, Seeing God in all things, Spiritual Exercises, discernment etc. and Sr. Celine gave a fitting conclusion with more of St. Ignatius’ qualities. The day was closed with a short recreation in honour of Sr. Grace who expressed her deep gratitude to Sr. Sumita and the community for making the day a memorable one for her.

The Bible ‘Quiz’ organized by Fr. Anil Abrew has come to an end with the Bumper Quiz on 31st July. Sincere thanks to Fr. Anil, for helping us to delve deep in to the Old Testament.

Bishop Elect of Jhansi, Bishop Wilfred Moras’ Episcopal Ordination was on 6th August and Srs. Sumita, Sybil, Vinaya and Rose represented our community and the rest of us watched it live streaming.



SMCIC is busy with various competitions organized by CISCE. Under 14 categories,

SMC got gold medal in Chess Tournament, two girls are selected for the Nationals. Under 19 categories, girls won the 'Gold' medal in regional Throw Ball held at Gorakhpur, 6 girls are selected for the National level. Four children under 17 are also selected for the nationals. Well Done, Girls!



Ashadeep Junior High School anticipated the Independence Day celebrations. The show was a fitting tribute with dances on Patriotic themes and fancy Dresses depicting the freedom Struggle warriors.



Independence Day was celebrated with exuberance and solemnity in SMCIC as the school basked in the glory of India's 78th Independence Day. The Chief Guest of the day was Ma'am Amna Usmani an ex-student of 1999 batch, a distinguished Supreme Court Lawyer. An inter house regional dance competition themed 'Colours of India' was held to mark the occasion in which Green and Yellow houses emerged victorious.



On 18th morning Sr. Vinaya received the death news of her mother and she left immediately to join the funeral which was held the next day. On the same day, Sr. Carola lost her nephew Mr. Roy, R.I.P. On 19th the community attended the priestly ordination of Deacon Gladwin Fernandez by Rt. Rev. Dr. Louis Mascarenhas, the Bishop of Allahabad in the Cathedral.

FMW of SMCIC reached out to Shishu Bhavan, Muirabad, an orphanage run by the M.C sisters and distributed the essential grocery items. God bless you, friends. CISCE conducted the zonal

Declamation Contest and the venue was SMCIC, PRAYAGRAJ and we played a very responsible host for this event.

On 22nd August, the feasts of Srs. Sybil and Rose were celebrated. On the next day Sr. Sumita, with Sr. Shweta left for Jaipur to attend the Major Superiors and CRI Presidents meet. On 26th the community went to the Seminary to welcome the new Rector, Fr. A. Sebastian. During the month our two junior sisters were kept busy with their B.Ed teaching Practice, at St. Anthony's Inter College Allahabad. Their second semester results are declared, both passed in 1st Div. Well done, Srs Alma and Grace! We were happy to welcome Sr. Annette, Sr. Georgina and Sr. Vinita from SFC Jhansi who spent two days with us refreshing old memories and friendship.

We welcomed the month of September with a Marian Bumper Quiz. All four groups, Fatima, Lourdes, Vailankanni and Madjugoria did very well. The Asha Deep School anticipated the Teacher's day on 4th. It was a Super celebration, Asha Deep! In the morning on 5th, the junior sisters had arranged for a truly meaningful Eucharist and the School continued it with full gusto.

Each teacher counts and all of us are teachers, including our parents as our first teachers. During the assembly, two great Personalities, Mother Teresa of Kolkata and Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan were remembered and the teachers were honoured for their dedicated service to the cause of education. A well-organized programme 'Angels of Hope' was staged where the students expressed their gratitude to the teachers.



At 11.30 a.m. a short and meaningful prayer service was conducted by the sisters in the Lower Hall followed by a fellowship meal. On the same evening a good number of sisters from the

community attended the Mother Teresa Memorial Programme organized at St. Joseph's College.

On 8th we celebrated Mamma Mary's birthday with procession, recitation of the Holy rosary and Holy Eucharist in the cathedral. May Mother Mary intercede for us to her Son. In the first week of September, we were happy to welcome Sr. Mariette who came to stay with us to spend some time with the sick and suffering members.

Onam was celebrated on 15th September with the traditional gaiety and charm. 'Pookkalam' and 'Onam Sandhya' in traditional plantain leaves, keeping up the culture of the State added charm to the celebration. The School remained busy in September with the First term examinations and the ensuing paper corrections.

On 16th Fr. Jerome, one of the Professors from the Seminary helped us into prayer with very down to earth points and sharing of his life experiences on our Recollection Day. It was very enriching and inspiring. Sr. Alma concluded the day taking us for a walk with Jesus during the adoration. We could call it a Day!

70 long, loving years in religious life! Sr, Felicitas, you are a living miracle. We had a homely celebration of this mile stone, ending the day with an organized recreation. Sister was happy beyond words with all that the community did for her.



Sr. Lissy left for Goa for the COUNCIL Meeting and returned on 28th. On 27th Srs. Vijaya, Assunta and Rekha from SFC Jhansi gave a lightning visit, their old house, recalling cherished memories.

The month ended on a sad note, as we received the news of the sudden departure of Sr. Namita's

brother-in-law Mr. Antony Perumadan, of stroke, his funeral was on 30th Sept.

The month of September is coming to its close. Relax, don't rush, don't force, don't stress. Let things happen, trust the process and try to enjoy the ride. Every small step counts towards your goal, so never give up.



On 4th We went to St. Mary's Kanpur to attend the installation ceremony of Sr. Marion. Srs. Rajini and Alisha went to Nav Jeevan Centre and met the students and distributed some books and stationery articles to them, encouraging them to work hard and do well in their studies.



The G.K. and Science Quiz Competitions were held for students from classes 6 to 12, it was an exciting event that tested and sharpened the knowledge, critical thinking and team work of the students.

During the School assembly Van Mahotsav was celebrated with much gusto. Students highlighted the importance of tree plantation, emphasizing the need for a green future. Our School triumphed in CISCE Zonal Level Football Competition, emerging as champions for the second consecutive year.

Sr. Rajini went to Allahabad to attend the superiors' meeting and returned on 29th July.

On 29th we had the Recollection on the theme "His Light will shine upon us", by Fr. Michael Payyapilly VC. Organization of MUN (Model United Nations) in school was a dynamic experience. Students took part assuming global roles, debating critical issues and drafting resolutions.

On 4th August the feast of St. John Mary Vianney was celebrated with a High Mass. On 6th Sr Rajini went to Jhansi along with Sr Marion C. J to join the Episcopal Ordination of Co -Adjutor Bishop elect Rev. Msgr. Wilfred Moras. We appreciate the hospitality of St Francis Convent sisters .

On 10th August, Feast of St. Lawrence was celebrated with a solemn High Mass. The main celebrant was Rev. Fr .Paul Correa. The people were gratified by his thought-provoking sermon. After the Holy Mass the parishioners were served refreshments.

On 15th August we along with the students celebrated the 78th Independence Day of our country. The day witnessed the hoisting of the national flag. There was a short programme followed by Inter House Folk Dance Competition. A special felicitation ceremony for ISC and ICSE rankers were organized and the toppers were honoured with trophies and certificates. In the evening we celebrated the feast of Assumption with a Holy Mass, praying for our country and its leaders.

On 16th August Srs. Rajini and Alisha visited Nav Jeevan Social Centre and met the teachers and the students and distributed sweets for them. They were elated and overjoyed to meet the Sisters. At present we have 220 students; they have made improvement in their studies.

On 23rd August, the community celebrated Sr. Rajini's Feast Day. St Mary's Kanpur community joined the celebration and wished Sr. Rajini. The Unnao community was over whelmed by



their presence. The celebration ended with Holy Mass and dinner.

The staff and the students of St. Lawrence School came together on 5th September to celebrate Teachers' Day with great enthusiasm and reverence.



A prayer Assembly and a cultural show were meticulously

organized by the students including dances, soulful singing and skits dedicated to their beloved educators.

The programme was concluded with the message of gratitude, respect and admiration for teachers. The principal joined in as the host, conducting fun filled games. A sumptuous lunch followed as a grand treat for the teachers.

On 6th September we invited the teachers from Nav Jeevan Social Centre and Teachers' Day was celebrated in our convent with a short prayer and tea party.

On 8th September we celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady in our parish with a Solemn High Mass followed by delicious 'payasam'.

On 15th, the community joined the Thanksgiving Mass and Felicitation of Most Rev Dr WILFRED MORAS. On the same day we were happy to meet our sisters at Lucknow. We enjoyed their hospitality. On 23rd the community joined the celebration of Sr. Milly's birthday at SMC Kanpur. On 29th the community had our recollection and thus ended the month of September.



The school re-opened on 1st July after the summer vacation. The school campus was once again filled with the sound of laughter, shouting and the cries of the little ones who came first time to the school. We got many admissions in the month of July.

5th August was a special day for the school as the newly elected captains took the oath during the investiture ceremony. The parents of the captains were invited for the function and almost all the parents were present for the occasion.

In preparation for the Independence Day, solo song and bulletin board competitions were held in the school on 13th. Patriotism was the theme for both the competitions. The students exhibited their hidden talents and they were well appreciated.

On 15th August, Independence Day was celebrated in a grand way by the school. Dr. Tushar Rai from Amrit Milan Hospital, Chandmari hoisted the flag. He gave an inspiring speech, stressing on the importance to be disciplined in life to achieve one's goal in life.



The childhood friend of Sr. Anjana, visited us on 19th along with her son and three other friends. Both



Sr. Anjana and her friend were extremely happy to meet each other after many years.

On 24th August Sr. Lynette along with 8 teachers went to wish Bishop Eugene Joseph on his Episcopal ordination anniversary. Bishop gifted the teachers with a pen each and a plant for the community.

Card making competition was held for classes 6 to 10. It was amazing to see the creative and beautiful cards made by the students, when they were displayed on the table. Later on these cards were given to the teachers on teachers' day. On the same day Hand Writing competition was conducted for classes 1 to 5.

Teachers' Day was celebrated very solemnly by the students. The captains of the school took the initiative to arrange for the day's programme.



They conducted a meaningful prayer assembly which was followed by the cultural programme. The teachers enjoyed the day well. The students expressed their love and appreciation for the teachers and sisters and gave a small token of love to all.

Girl Child's day was celebrated in Christ Nagar on 8th September for which our students from class 5 to

10 were invited. A good many of them participated in the programme. They had motivational classes, activities, games and cultural programme over there. Our students performed a prayer dance and a group dance which was well appreciated by all.

The students and teachers were busy in the month of September as the half yearly exams were approaching. We began the exam on 20th of September. We wish best of luck to all the students for the exams.



On 3rd July we were to start following the revised version of the Syro Malabar rite Mass. Each of us held a thick book of the Mass and was confused for a few days trying to locate the page and the place of various parts of the Mass. After about two weeks we became familiar with the proceedings.

An orientation programme was organized on 13th July to motivate the teachers about how to deal with the students and how to make teaching more effective and interesting. The



Resource person very creatively and systematically dealt with the topic to make the teachers understand the nobility and the efficacy of this noble profession.

Since our first batch of ISC students will be appearing for their board exam in 2025 we had requested the Council to make our school the centre for the exams. A minimum of 15 students is required to have a centre in the school. Since our first batch has only 14 students and it is too far to send them to another school we had requested for an exception to be made. Accordingly the Convener for the ISC exams from Jabalpur with a team of three members arrived on 24th July and inspected the labs, exam hall and other required infrastructure. They were fully satisfied with the arrangements and because of their positive report we soon received

the good news of getting permission to have our own exam centre.

We experienced a few anxious days as some of us suffered from ill health. Sr. Benita had to be admitted in a hospital in Sagar for three days as she suffered from fever, breathing problem and much weakness. Sr. Sharon too came down with viral fever. Others put up with cold, cough, back pain etc. It took a few days for all to recover to their best.

On 4th August, we observed a special day of prayer under the guidance of Fr. Lazar from Jhansi. We had been preparing ourselves for this day with special prayers and fasting. The day consisted of an hour of adoration, the sacrament of reconciliation, Holy Mass, blessing of salt and oil, anointing all the buildings and campus with the blessed oil, salt and water. It was a day of graces and blessings from the Lord on us and our mission.

It was with much joy that we welcomed Sr. Shweta and Sr. Jyoti on 12th August – the former on her visitation. We are grateful to both of them for their interest in our mission and in each one of us as well as the light moments that we spent in their company. Thank you Sr. Shweta, for your patient and empathetic listening that filled us with hope and enthusiasm to carry on our mission. The duo along with Sr. Teresina visited Bhopal on 15th to spend some time with our two juniors, Srs. Scholastica and Eva. The two of them returned to Allahabad on 16th.

The Independence Day celebrations consisted of flag hoisting in the mild drizzle of rain followed by a prayer service and a few appropriate cultural items in the hall.



Sr. Benita left for Allahabad on 19th August for her medical treatment and spent a few days going through all the necessary tests and relaxing before returning on 5th Sept.

A Diocesan level CRI meeting was held on 31st August. Srs. Teresina and Savita represented our community and found the meeting very fruitful.

For a few days before the Teachers' Day there was a little extra noise in the school as the students under the supervision of the class 12 students practised various items vigorously. The teachers were welcomed in a unique way and the prayer service, speeches and various appropriate cultural items were presented tastefully on a well decorated outdoor stage. Sr. Sharon and the class 12 students deserve our appreciation for all the trouble taken to make this event an enjoyable one as their efforts bore visible results as on the day. In the midst of this the sisters managed to cook a delicious vegetarian lunch which was enjoyed by the sisters, teachers and the co-workers.

On 8th Sept. we were delighted to welcome Srs. Julitta, Reena, Pushpita, Sushmita, Maria Rose and Gladys from Mauranipur. We enjoyed quality time



with them reminiscing the olden golden days, recalling humorous events, exchanging news and views, going around the

campus etc. Needless to say all enjoyed the delicious meals and snacks prepared in their honour.

The students of classes Nursery to 8 enjoyed two rainy holidays on 11th and 12th Sept. as we were having continuous rain.

We enjoyed a homely Onam celebration on 15th with all the usual dishes, alpana etc. Sr. Scholastica was a part of the celebrations as she had come for a short break.

We observed our Recollection Day on 16th and spent time in reflecting and praying on the topic 'Pilgrims of Hope'. The half yearly exams that commenced on 18th Sept. have been keeping all the students and teachers well occupied.



"For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you , plans to give you hope and a future "Jeremiah 29;11

With this hope we began the new month of July. After a month long summer vacation, we reopened our non- formal education centres. Even though it was still very hot, the slum children faithfully came to the centres.



We were happy to celebrate the birthday of our new parish priest Fr.Stany Wilfred on 14th July. Under the guidance of Sr. Joselette, the cathedral youth took up responsibility of the birthday celebration. There was a solemn Eucharistic celebration and a felicitation programme in the cathedral. Fr.Stany being our Chaplain, we had a delicious birthday dinner in honour of him. Fr.Stany and Dn. Gladwin were happy to be part of the homily celebration. On 20th July, Sr .Joselette gave a small introduction concerning the slum ministry to the 2nd year theologians in St. Joseph's Regional Seminary.

We celebrated Sr. Christine's birthday. As the parish priest was not available, Fr. Sebastian Moses was kind enough to offer mass on sister's birthday.



On 27th, cathedral parish celebrated senior citizens day and Sr.Christine was also honoured by the parish. Spending a day with the Lord gives strength and courage to look forward with positive energy to face the challenges ahead. Our monthly recollection topic was "THE WAKE UP CALL: ARE WE READY FOR THE KNOCK THAT AWAKENS OUR SOUL". With refreshed energy we celebrated

Ignatius day on the very next day of our recollection.

Month of August brought blessing on our mission. We are grateful to Fr. Baiju for sending 14 brothers to teach in our slum non-formal education centres on every Saturday. The brothers go in pairs to the centres where they teach English and conduct some activities for the students.



The tombstone inscription of Venerable Mother Mary Ward, 'To love the poor, persevere in the same, to live, die and rise with them was all the aim....' , was relived Sr. Marianne Lindinger, a German national who came to India lived with the poor in the village worked for them and died cared by them. The poor villagers were around her in her last journey. Even today they keep her room as holy place. We were blessed indeed to be part of her final rites.

19th August was a graceful day for all of us as we attended the ordination of Dn. Gladwin. Our Mary Ward Bhawan community feel most privileged to have the first mass of Fr.Gladwin in our chapel on the second day of his ordination. We began our Holy Eucharist with a short introduction by Joselete CJ and also we had special intention for our newly ordained priest. After the holy mass he cut the cake and delicious breakfast prepared in his honour.



On 25th Sr. Joselette CJ accompanied the cathedral youth for the vacation Sunday celebration in Christ Jyoti School

We had the Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting in St Joseph's college, Prayagraj on 26th August. Sr. Joselette CJ attended the meeting substituting for Sr. Sumita. The meeting dwelt on planning for the

future development of the diocesan pastoral ministry.

AMRAT TALITHA KUM is the international network of consecrated persons against human trafficking. Sr. Joselette CJ attended a meeting in Delhi and she is elected as the secretary of UP Region

“From Mary we learn to surrender to Gods will in all things. From Mary we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone. From Mary we learn to love Christ her Son and the son of God” --St John Paul

With great joy we celebrated the birthday of our beloved Heavenly Mother on 8th September. We ask our mother to be with us in our journey of life.



Every little act of kindness makes a difference in the life of the poor. With the help Fr.Baiju and the brothers we were able provide an airbed and ration for a girl who is bedridden for the last 15 years .



School reopening:

On 1st July the school re-opened after the long leisurely summer holidays. Sr. Maria addressed the staff and asked them to chalk out the activities and programmes for the entire school year.

Honouring the Meritorious students:

On 4th July, The meritorious students of ICSE and ISC of 2023-24 were suitably felicitated at an impressive function organized in their honour.

Competitions and activities:

July and August were replete with several inter house competitions – speech, Debate, Group dance, group singing, fancy dress, slogan writing, drawing and painting are to name a few. The competitions are not confined to literary activities but sports and athletic events were also part of them. Five of our

students were selected in the regional level competitions for the first time. The students and teachers were all kept busy in all these activities throughout these months.

Vande Mataram, Ma Tuje Salam:

August 15th is a memorable day for every Indian. All the teachers and students lined up in front of the school for the flag hoisting. Sr. Maria hoisted the flag and the school choir sang the National Anthem. Various inter house competitions were held on this day and prizes were distributed.

Teacher’s Day Celebration:

5th September was a memorable day for all the teachers. The entire school gathered in the open ground to greet the teachers, to offer them bouquets, flowers and cards. The students of class XI conducted a beautiful prayer service and a lively entertainment programme to express their appreciation and gratitude to the teachers. At noon all the teachers were given a lunch packet each.



Birthday of Mother Mary & First Holy

Communion

September 8th was a special day as we celebrated the Birthday of Mother Mary and the girl child day. For Fatehpur community, it was the Feast Day of our dear Sr. Maria. We had mass and a prayer service for sister. The community was happy to



appreciate the silent services she renders to the community and school. Along with the celebration we

had the First Holy communion of Master Akash, a parishioner.

First of October was a great celebration for the community as it was the feast day of



Sr. Florine. We celebrated the day with a holy mass and other celebrations in the community. To add colour to the celebrations, we were blessed to have sisters from Kanpur community who joined in the celebration.

SMC, 21

Month of July was really busy days for 21 Community. The month began with bidding farewell to Sr.Jaya .After nine years of selfless service, as the provincial secretary for six years and as the community animator for three years Sr.Jaya was given a grand farewell and was reached to Asha Niketan on 2nd July. Sr.Cecilia was installed as the community animator on 1st July with meaningful prayer service.

On second week of July, the candidates from Jhansi, Nepal, and Patna reached Allahabad. They were reached by Srs. Remya, Marina and Manisha .We were delighted to have Sr.Celine who spend a few days in 21. Our community was kept busy specially in taking care of our sisters who were admitted in the hospital one after the other .We are grateful to all the sisters from other communities who were a great support to us in time of need. On 24th July we got the sad news of sudden demise of Mr.Joseph, beloved father of Sr.Neeta and she left for home to attend the last right of her father and to be with her dear mother and family. While Sr.Jane was on her way back after the home leave , she received the news of her brother who was sick and ailing is no more and she returned home to attend the funeral of her brother.

The annual meeting of superiors, principals, accountants, social workers and formators was held on 26 to 28 July. The resource person was Fr.Shaji SJ.

31st July seven candidates were received in to the Postulancy during the meaningful and well-prepared Holy Mass. Congratulations to all the Postulants for the daring step you have taken.



10th August was a special day for 21 community specially for Sr.Alphonsa as sister reached the milestone of 90 years of her life. Happy Birthday dear Sr,Alphonsa .On 11th August our Postulants were reached to Jhansi by Srs.Cecilia and Joselette. We are happy to have Sr.Ivy from Delhi Province as our community member. She is here to do her B. Ed along with Sr.Amala. We wish both of you all the best for your studies. The teacher's day was celebrated in full enthusiasm. The candidates showcased a colourful and enjoyable progamme. Month of July, August and September we were happy to meet many of our sisters who visited us from various communities especially from Delhi province. Thank you for your short visits.

SMC, KANPUR

CELEBRATIONS

The leadership baton was handed over to Sr. Marion as she was installed as the new animator of SMC Kanpur on 4th July. Sr Sumita conducted the prayer service during which Sr Marion was entrusted with



the new responsibility. This was followed by Holy Mass and a fellowship meal for which Frs.

Archibald and Anil and Unnao Community joined us.

The staff and students of SMC, Kanpur bid a fond farewell to respected Sr. Roshni, the Manager of the school. She was thanked for the



loving support and guidance which she extended to teachers and students alike. She will always be remembered by all. On 5th July, Srs . Annies and Kiran reached Sr. Roshni to Allahabad as she was missioned in Taraon, Meja.



On 6th July, 2024, St. Mary's Convent, Kanpur extended a warm welcome to our new Manager Sr.

Marion. The students presented a well prepared prayer assembly and a short entertainment programme. The teaching and non - teaching staff of the school expressed their love and appreciation by presenting her with cards and bouquets. Sister Marion, in her speech, praised everyone for their dedication and commitment to the school and insisted on taking the school to greater heights.



A hearty welcome was accorded to Sr Sarita to SMC Kanpur by the teachers and students with

flowers and cards during the morning assembly

Investiture ceremony

“If your actions create a legacy that inspire others to dream more, learn more and become more, then you are an excellent leader.”

On 20th July, 2024 the chosen representatives of the Primary School were inducted into the student council for the academic session 2024-25. The newly elected Council members pledged to carry out their responsibilities with integrity and diligence.



Independence Day: a day of celebration where the students expressed their patriotic spirit and love for the country. The students took part actively in the activities like making national flag, tricolour

badges, poem recitation, group song and dance drama on the theme Kargil Diwas, as this year we celebrate the 25th year of Kargil Victory. Dr Ritu Budhwar, an alumna was the chief guest for the day. It was a day of joy



and pride for her as she was nostalgic of her Alma mater.

The students wait for 5th September as they honour their teachers with conducted prayer assembly, entertainment programme, flowers, and cards and so on. But there was a change in this way of celebration this year since the half yearly examinations were preponed. Yet the Student council conducted the prayer assembly and wished the teachers fondly. The teachers enjoyed a sumptuous lunch which was arranged outside.



ACTIVITIES

Teachers' Orientation Programme

A thought provoking 'Orientation Programme' was conducted for the teachers by Reverend Fr. Suresh Mathew on 1st and 2nd July, 2024. His lucid and motivational talk inspired the teachers to reflect and introspect about their choice of becoming teachers. He also threw light on the POCSO Act.



The session was an enriching one for all.

English communication workshop

On 16th July, SMC hosted an illuminating session on public speaking and confidence-building. It was conducted by Ms. Pankhuri Aggarwal, an ex-student of the school and Mrs. Surbhi Jain of Lucknow Gavel Club who enlightened us about the essential strategies for effective communication in order to leave a positive impression on others. On 16th July, SMC hosted an illuminating session on public speaking and confidence-building. It was conducted by Ms. Pankhuri Aggarwal, an ex-student of the school and Mrs. Surbhi Jain of Lucknow Gavel Club who enlightened us about the essential strategies for effective communication in order to leave a positive impression on others.

Awareness talk by cancer control mission

An informative session was organized by an NGO 'Cancer Control mission for the students of Classes VI to VIII. Mr Ashish Awasthi who conducted the session made the students aware of the importance of having a healthy lifestyle to prevent the deadly disease.

Umbrella activity

The little students of Class I made colourful, vibrant umbrellas with cut-outs on 11th July, 2024. The necessity of an umbrella was discussed while talking about intense sunlight and pitter-patter rain. The activity was correlated with English vocabulary, too. They not only pasted tiny cut-outs on their umbrellas but also learnt that rainy days can be as bright and happy as the sunny ones with the help of umbrellas.

Friendship Day

To honour the significance of friendship in our lives and foster kindness and unity, Friendship Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of August. On 1st August, the little angels of our Primary School shared their friendship goodies with each other, hugged each other and promised to be best friends forever.

Kindness Activity

Kindness activity was conducted by students of class III to show kindness to others. It was a colourful flower themed activity where each child projected their daily acts of kindness by recording them on the flower petals.

The kindness activity conducted for students were put into reality by one of our senior teachers Mrs. Savita Seth who was inspired to spend the money that she was supposed to throw on a party on her silver jubilee celebration for the SMC staff by giving a trolley to a lady who lost her hands in a train accident. This was done with the intention of helping her to earn her livelihood.



Garden of Golden Words Activity



The students of class II enthusiastically participated in an enriching activity titled

'Garden of Golden Words'. Each student creatively decorated paper flowers and vases in their scrapbooks and they wrote golden words such as **please, may I, thank you, sorry, welcome, and excuse me**, fostering polite communication. This delightful activity contributed to their personal growth and communication skills, laying a foundation for respectful social interactions in the future.

Activity on healthy and unhealthy food

The students of Class II enthusiastically participated in the healthy and unhealthy food activity conducted on 20th July. The activity instilled in the students the importance of making healthy food choices at a young age.

ACHIEVEMENTS

On 4th Sept, 2024, Sewa Sansthan, Kakadeo, Kanpur organised Teachers' Felicitation Ceremony for their invaluable contribution to the society. From SMC, three teachers Mrs.R.Tripathi, Mr. A. Bannerjee and Mrs.P.Tandon were honoured and awarded with certificates .The chief guest of the programme was Mrs.Neelima Katiyar, M.L.A.

On 6th July, the staff and the students of SMC gathered to felicitate the meritorious students of ICSE and ISC examinations, 2024 and acknowledged their strenuous efforts to achieve success. The students with 90% and above were awarded with trophy and certificates. The Sisters and the teachers blessed them and wished them well for their future.

SMC students participated in various ASISC Inter School Literary competitions wherein they performed exceptionally well thus bringing laurels to the school.

In various sporting events SMC made its presence felt by winning the runner up position in U-17 Junior category and overall championship in U-19 Senior category. Seven of our students qualified for the nationals CISCE Athlete Meet in which Vaibhavi Singh bagged the Bronze medal in Hammer throw and S. Samyukta Reddy got the bronze medal in 4×100 m Relay. In CISCE Zonal tournament, SMC were winners in U-17 Junior group and sub-junior group got 1st Runner-position. CISCE



the
up
In

KHO-Kho Tournament, the sub-junior team got 2nd runner-up position while the junior team the 1st Runner- Up. In CISCE Regional Yoga Tournament, Pratishtha Singh and Soumya Singh won the Gold medal.

FESTIVALS

Rakhi- Special Assembly

The students of Class XI conducted a short assembly on the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan. The assembly commenced with a prayer. The importance of Raksha Bandhan was highlighted through some speeches. The little stars of our school made rakhis for their brothers with love and affection and were excited to tie them on their brothers' wrists.

Janmashtami Activity

The students of Class II participated in the Janmashtami activity wherein they beautifully decorated pots. Through this creative task, the children were made aware of the significance of Janmashtami and the life of Lord Krishna.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Community celebrations bring joy and mirth all around. The birthday celebration of Sr. Sarita and the festal greetings extended to Sr. Brigit brought joy and happiness all around. We celebrated the 85th birthday of Sr. Sylvia which brought excitement to sister as she never expected a celebration as she celebrates the feast of her patron saint.

We were happy indeed to welcome many of our sisters who came for their B.Ed and M.Ed examinations. Srs Digna, Isabel, Annette and Sr Marion's brother paid a short visit and returned on the same day. Srs. Marion and Kiran attended the meeting of animators, principals and accountants in Allahabad returned enriched and happy.

Our hospitality was extended as our auditors Ms. Arudanti and Mrs Radhika were with us for the annual auditing. They had an enjoyable time with us.



September 23rd was an awaited day for us as the 'youngest' member of our community, Sr Mildred turned 86 on that day. A meaningful Holy Mass was concelebrated by Rev Frs. Archibald and Anil in the evening followed by a fellowship meal. Sisters from Unnao community added joy to the day's celebration by joining us in the Holy Mass and the meal thereafter.

Onam celebration was another occasion of joy and togetherness as the entire community gathered in the kitchen to prepare a variety dishes as each one took responsibility of preparing a dish. A lot of joy was shared through these celebrations.

Mary Ward Tailoring School.

Mary Ward Tailoring School is functioning well day by day under the guidance of Sr. Freda and a teacher



The girls are helped to earn a livelihood. They attend the classes regularly. They organized a short programme on

the occasion of Teachers' day to honor their teachers who are taking the trouble to make them stand on their feet to meet the daily demands of their life.

Mary Ward Junior High School

Mary Ward School had different activities in the last months. Environment day was celebrated with a conducted prayer assembly in which a poem on the occasion was enacted. Independence Day was celebrated with a prayer service and a short variety entertainment programme.

Handwriting competition was conducted for all classes and 3 best students were awarded from each class.

Students enjoyed celebrating Teachers' day with a prayer service and a programme. Each class vied with one another in putting up a good programme to honour their teachers. Choral recitation competition was conducted for the students on 30th September which was an educative and value based one. They had their half yearly exams, result declaration, PTM and now everyone is busy preparing for the forthcoming jubilee preparations.




YEARS ON FIRE
Passion for Mission
125 Years

Hearty Congratulations to SMC, Kanpur