

# FMA - Trichy

# SMUW. COM

JULY - DECEMBER - 2021



Sr. Ruth del Pilar Mora Velazco Mission



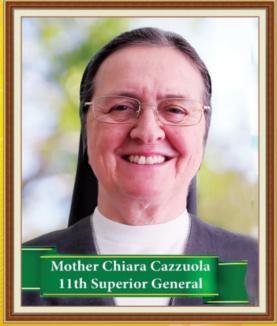
Sr. Runita Galve Borja Youth Pastoral



Sr. Maria del Rosarto Garcia Ribas Vicar General



Sr. Maria Luisa Nicastro Secretary General





Sr. Nilza Fatima de Moraes Formation



Sr. Leslie del Socorro Sandigo Ortega Salesian Family



Sr. Ena Veralis Bolanos Economer General

Council 2021 - 2027

# The FMA General



Sr. Maria Ausilia De Siena Social Communication

# Visiting Councillors

















Dear sisters, do not forget the grace of the origins, the humility and smallness of the beginnings that made God's action transparent in the life and message of those who, full of amazement, began this journey. Mary Help of Christians will help you. You are her daughters! Her words at the Cana wedding were and are a beacon of light for your discernment: "Do whatever He tells you".

May you be attentive to reality, grasp situations of need, when the "wine" is missing, that is the joy of love, and bring Christ, not in your words but in service, in closeness, with compassion and tenderness. To be like Mary women of hope. You do it starting from the salesian identity, with its salesian style. I am close to you with prayer and I bless all your sisters in the world.

(Pope Francis to the chapter members)

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# Editorial

Keeping alive the freshness and grace of the origin...

"Let us go further with our gaze to the future, to make our face and house shine with beauty and freshness to colour our mission with genuineness becoming more attractive signs of love". These cheering words of our



new superior general Mother Chiara Cazzuola, stir us to go forward in our joyful journey towards the final year preparation of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our institute with the Great Spirit of our founders. As FMA India, we have excess joy in celebrating the centenary year of our presence in our Mother Land, recalling the memories of our pioneers and missionaries.

We too are guided by the grace of the GCXXIV, to revive the fidelity of our vocation having the surety of being in God's hand, with grand commitment to lead the young who are entrusted to our care. Though we still suffer with the consequences of the COVID 19 pandemic and in many parts of the world, weapons are not yet silent, we are invited to be actively united with God's abounding love, keeping alive the freshness and grace of our origin. The task of keeping alive the freshness and to be alert and astute is a great challenge for everyone in the midst of struggles and obstacles. But strong weathers and perilous seas often produce the most skilful mariners.

I remember reading an anecdote about the Japanese who had always relished fresh fish, but the waters close to their country had not held many fresh fish for decades. They tried various methods to get the fresh fish to the market and finally found a solution installing big fish tanks in their boats with small shark in it. The fish they caught were collected in the tanks and they were challenged by the small shark. Of course, they were constantly on the move which kept them alive and fresh till they reached the market. Sure, the challenges always keep us energized and the steady conquering of challenges makes us fresh and fortunate. Our St. Mary Mazzarello with her simplicity and depth would tell us," Now is the time to shake of the ashes and enkindle the fire' (L 27,8) of our charismatic passion that makes us generative communities in the service of the young and the poor.

Pope Francis reminds us in his message for Lent 2022, to "sow seeds of goodness for the benefit of others", and to take daily concrete actions in favour of our brothers and sisters. Let us not grow tired of doing Good and let our strength be in the words of our saintly Mother, "Courage! Let us go forward with a big and generous heart"



# "Recalling the past to renew the present"



Almost a hundred years ago, six simple yet dynamic and spirit filled sisters left their home town Italy and came to our mother land to extend His love, joy, knowledge and explore Him through their mission among the poor. Their journey was met with many hardships, toil and obstacles but their work among the needy youth brought new light to our country. And it is still being carried out with utmost diligence by all of us bringing life and love to many in our locality. As we celebrate the centenary year of the missionary arrival in our Mother Land, this page connects you with our pioneers and early missionary sisters. The beautiful memories shared by our sisters who lived and cherished their days with the missionaries may help us to relive the Charism of our founders and make our year's celebration more meaningful.

We now have Sr. Fernando Josephine and Sr. Arokiasami Ofelia, to share their sweet memories with the missionary sisters with us.

# From Sr. Fernando Josephine....

I am Sr. Josephine Fernando fma. I am now 79 years old and I feel happy to recall and relive the days of my life with the pioneers and many missionary sisters.

# With Sr. Luignia Appiano

I was in St. Francis Xavier's Convent in Broadway as an aspirant in 1959. There were around 60 Aspirants and 61 Postulants. Sr. Luignia Appiano was the secretary and Sr. Catherin Mania the Mother Provincial who was a very good musician and pianist. We were taught to play the piano and I was very poor in learning music. I was asked to practice in the sister's quarters where there was a piano. Suddenly one day while I was playing the piano, Sr. Appiano came and asked me whether I know the scale of a particular tune. I thought of the measuring scale and went in hast to bring it and to give it to her. She was calm and told me very gently, "Child I asked you to play the scale on the piano". It was her generous forgiveness that overtook my ignorance.

Another time, I went to Wellington to make my annual retreat. I met Mother Catherin Mania who asked Sr. Luigina Appiano her secretary to go to Yercaud since she is very old. But Sr. Luigiano did not want to go away from Mother Catharine Mania.



And so during goodnight Mother who had a great devotion to Baby Jesus asked Sr. Appiano to ask Baby Jesus whether to go to Yercaud or to remain with her. She went to the chapel where there was the statue of Baby Jesus and came back to Mother and said "Baby Jesus told me to be with mother Mania". I laughed loudly. Sr. Appiano looked at me and said," Pray that I may remain with Mother Mania." I was so surprised to see her obedience to her authorities.

# With Sr. Maria Angelori

Sr. Maria Angelori was in pallikonda when I was a novice in Sacred Heart Katpadi. Our usual picnic spot was Pallikonda and we spent several sweet moments with Sr. Maria Angelori there. She was gentle in nature and was pleased with us novices. She used to appreciate any little things we do for her. Once I performed a dance along with my companions and she was so happy and said often "Bravo". In the evening while we were about to leave she called me and said, "Bravo! Sr. Josephine, you must become a pakka FMA to look after the children".

# With Sr.Theresa Balastra

I was a little girl and went with my parents to Kotagiri to see my aunt Sr. Magdalen Perez who was a novice and Sr. Theresa Balastra was her Novice Mistress. I was overwhelmed to see my aunt and liked to go round the garden inside the novitiate. While I was enjoying the sight of the white rose creeper Sr. Theresa came and sat near me on the swing and kept me near her. This memory of seeing her and the flowers around me, never goes away from my mind and am still happy to recall it.

# With Sr. Theresa Merllo

I was a junior in Auxilium College, Katpadi where I met Mother Merllo during her Provincial visit. During her talk she recommended that the sisters keep the places clean. She said that while we do cleaning, to ask Jesus to keep our souls clean in order that He might be pleased to stay in our community happily". I was taken up by her words and I still keep her words in mind and keep the places clean with the intention of making Jesus happy in my community.





Sr. Virginia Marchetti my Novice Mistress at the Sacred Heart Novitiate in Katpadi



My perpetual profession at Bangalore – Cardinal Monsignor Simon Lourdusamy at the centre, Sr. Virgina Mary at his right, Sr. Regina Colombo my Novice Mistress in Bangalore at his left and Sr. Aurelia Bossi who was my assistant in the novitiate near Mother mistress.

From Sr. Arokiasami Ofelia....

# Joyful Memories of the Missionaries.... precious moments with the Missionaries

I am Sr. Ophilia and am so happy and glad to share the precious moments of my life with the Missionary Sisters from whom I imbibed the Charism of Don Bosco and the spirit of Mother Mazzarello. I consider this as a privileged opportunity for me to express my love for them and an invitation for all the young and energetic FMA's to be missionaries in their mission field. I am so happy to say that I lived with the following Missionaries: Sr. Mother Catherine Mania, Sr. Gastelli Giovanna, Sr. Virginia Marchetti, Sr. Fino Maria, Sr. Camilla Tagliabue, Sr. Pauline Gomas, Sr. Liugina Appiana, Sr. Maria Rossini, Sr. Mother Cesira Galina, Mother Merlo, Sr. Aurolia Bossi, Sr. Carmalina Zanetta, Sr. Maria Zonta, Sr. Regina Collombo and Sr. Consilia Taricone. Among these sisters some of them were Mother Provincial, Superior, Novice Mistress and community sisters who guided me to be a prayerful and authentic FMA.

# Saintly Mother Catherin Mania

In the initial stages of my formative journey as I suffered from physical illness, the kind and gentle approach of the missionary sisters was the great support to go ahead. It is because of their guidance, genuine love and understanding that I stand today as an FMA. Especially, I am very glad to share about the kind and encouraging words of Mother Mania because of whom I became an FMA sister. From my aspirantate, the supportive words of Mother



Mania made me to feel at ease to approach her for anything and everything. Whenever she saw me struggling to eat she used to tap me on my shoulders and said "You will become a sister" this gave me the courage to face the challenges. She was very motherly.

# Sr. Camilla - Lover of the poor

The other great support for my vocation was my assistant Sr. Camilla who came after Sr. Joseffa a Missionary sister from Poland. Sr. Camilla used to care for me so much. When she understood that I was struggling to eat, she provided special milk and pickles. She was never angry and was always smiling. She would correct the candidates with sisterly affection in private only. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to go as a pioneer to Thanjavur with Sr. Camilla. We were staying in the Carmalite campus in one room. I enjoyed her company as a Superior. She was simple, holy and she had great love for the poor and the workers. As she was a very hard working person she was ever ready to try her hand at everything. She never locked her room and, the safe she believed was always under God's protection and trusted the people. She was caring for the sickly woman like the watchman's wife. Even after her death she cared for the baby so much. She used to lie down with the baby and made that baby to sleep and only in the night she would give the baby to the father. She built a house for that watchman. This was a great example for her love for the poor. Though she was rich she was very simple and her family members helped her to do much for the mission of God by sending food and other things.

# Sr. Castelli - Dedicated Daughter and Sacrificing Sister

Once when I was an aspirant I broke a cup. There was a custom in the house that if we break anything we have to eat double. I expected a scolding but Sr. Castelli said nothing. At that time she told me "Don't worry Divine Providence will help". I learnt from her to place my trust in Divine Providence at all times. When I was a postulant I was so happy to have Sr. Castelli as my God Mother who really cared for my spiritual growth and her brother, a Salesian Priest Rev. Fr. Anjelo Castelli was my confessor. After some years again I had the joy of being with her in Yercaud.



There I admired her hard work for the growth of the mission in Yercaud. After one year when I became Superior I was very much taken up by her respect towards me though I was a youngster and at that time only 46 years old. She would call me only "Superior", When I asked her to call me by my name, She would stress the word Sister Superior. She served in the kitchen, store room, garden, in charge of the motor and she prepared the food for the Old Italian Father and for a lady at Montfort who was alone.



She helped her by sending her food daily. She was very systematic and orderly. She was a committed FMA and faithful DMH. She was so prayerful and her lips would always move while saying short prayers.

# Sr. Consiglia Taricone

ladmired her way of speaking in English like a little child. When they were building the MIC School, though she was quite old she climbed the wooden ladder with the robes and she used to watch the workers. She was a great example for me to work even in my old age. Always smiling and welcoming.

### Sr. Carmelina Zanneta

Always her slogan was "Tutto Per Gesu Solla Per Gesu" (All for Jesus, only for Jesus). Throughout her life she was in the kitchen fulfilling the needs of the sisters so joyfully. It was a great example for all the sisters. She always was the first one to be in chapel and spent her time in front of the Blessed Sacrament. I stayed with her for only 2 months.

# Sr. Mary Fino



She was a Superior in Auxilium College while I was doing my juniorate. Once, while I was finding it difficult to eat and I vomited on the way, I was afraid to receive the scolding but she called someone to clean the mess up and told me "Don't worry even if you eat half idly that is enough". These understanding words of her left me speechless. She would always encourage my teaching and she would follow my teaching. When I asked her to come to my class, she told me "You are teaching well I can follow from here".

You are few and lacking means and not supported by human approval. Nothing disturbs you. Things will change soon and you will have so many. I can assure you that the Institute will have a great future if you maintain yourself simple, poor and mortified"

(Don Bosco from cronistoria I 305-306).





# Second Novitiate - First phase : Lumen Institute, Dindivanam



# HIS BRIDE HAS MADE HERSELF READY...

Nothing in this world is as delightful as preparing for a wedding. That too to be and become the Bride of the Son of God in totality is something to be cherished day in and day out. As a bride adorns herself with jewels we, the brides of Christ adorn ourselves with humility, simplicity, cheerfulness, fidelity and total surrender



"Set me like a seal on your heart" was a continuous echo deep within as we stepped out

to the Lumen Institute, Tindivanam. LUMEN INSTITUTE is the Sisters' Formation Institute run by the Tamilnadu Pondicherry Conference of Religious India (TNPCRI). At present the Congregation of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod are taking charge of the Institute. We participated in the Second Novitiate, Phase-I from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 23<sup>rd</sup> December and from 2<sup>nd</sup> January to 15<sup>th</sup> January.

We were 32 young sisters, from 7 different congregations which included, Holy Cross in majority, Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Coimbatore Presentation, Irish Presentation, Missionaries of Evangelisation, Franciscan Sisters of St. Aloysius Gonzaga and we Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco from, INM and INT, Provinces. Dr. Sr. Metti Amirtham, SCC, was our Directress. 32 of us were from six different states so English was the medium of communication and lecture. Well known Theologians, Psychologists and Scripture Scholars namely, Rev. Bp. Dr. Peter Abir, the Bishop of Sultanpet gave us a lecture for a week on the Book of Revelation. Rev. Fr. Micheal Raj, St. Paul's Seminary, Trichy — Biblical Discipleship, Rev. Sr. Ruby, Former Provincial of Servite Congregation-Evangelical Counsels, Rev. Fr. Suresh OFM Cap, from Anugraha — NLP, Sr. Violet, FSAG, Anugraha — Growing in healthy Religious Personality were the other courses offered.

Together with the above innovative classes we also had a wonderful opportunity of Inter-Cultural, Inter-Congregational, synodal experience which enabled us to have a broader vision towards our call, our congregational wealth and charism. We also cultured ourselves with the richness of different congregations and different charism.







It was a gathering of diverse culture coming together to prepare ourselves for the total commitment of self to God. We cherished every moment in Lumen. This unique experience illumined our hearts to thirst more for Christ and for His people. We thank our Mother Provincial,

her Council and all our community animators and sisters for availing such a unique experience for us.

Sr. Pichaimuthu Masilin Mariya, and Sr. Raja Clarencia Mary

# **ANNUAL RETREAT - 2021**



We were around 40 FMA's gathered in Tiruchirapalli, Manikandam, in the Provincial House to make our Annual retreat from 26<sup>th</sup> December to 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Rev. Fr. Gnanapragasam CSC, was the Retreat Preacher emphasizing the theme on 'Religious—The committed Journey of life'. Provincial Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaretguided and accompanied us every day on the theme Beatitudes 'Blessed are you'. The sisters could go deeper in the sense of total commitment with conviction and of experiencing blessedness in daily life in the community and in the mission. It was a time of spiritual renewal and rejuvenation.

Sr. Peter Selvarani



# **Juniors Tri-monthly recollection**

Our special vocation is to go closer to God and to be holy. Having realized this fact, we, 18 junior sisters of the province of our Lady of Snow, Trichy gathered at Marianathapuram, in Dindigul for our tri-monthly recollection and animation from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2021. We began the day with a beautiful prayer and had a lively animation by Rev. Sr. Cruz Anthoni



The Novice Mistress selected the theme from Mt 4: 19 "FOLLOW ME". She enlightened us about the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience with the help of the document named, "The pact of our covenant with God". There was a long group discussion where the challenges to live the vows in the community were discussed and clarified in the presence of Mother Provincial Rev. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret and Rev. Sr. Michaela. In the evening there was a group presentation on the Constitution articles on Prayer life. During the good night, the spiritual movie "GROWTH" was viewed in order to increase our faith in God at all times.



The following day was a day of grace as we made our tri-monthly recollection and confession. The talk was given by Rev. Fr. Bernard, the Rector in Don Bosco Pre-Novitiate, Dindigul on "Consecration life is a joyful and active life". The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Fernando Francis Camillus from the same community. A shower of rain on that day was a sign of God's presence and an assurance of His Blessings.

To our great surprise, Rev. Mother Provincial took us to Vadipatti – A Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Good Health. These moments of prayer, silence and recollection increased the fervor and the Grace from Our Blessed Mother as it was the first Saturday of the month. We had group sharing about the experiences that were gained and the expectations that were fulfilled during these days of animation and recollection. We gratefully thanked Mother Provincial, the community of Marianathapuram and the house staff for the days of joy and cheer.

Sr. Infanta



# **CHAPTER DISSEMINATION**



# "Communities that generate love in the heart of contempronaity"

With this theme of the XXIV General chapter, filled in our hearts and minds, the sisters of the province of Our Lady of Snow, Trichy gathered for the chapter dissemination in two different phases:

Phase I - St. Francis Xavier Convent, Broadway (19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021)

Phase II - Auxilium Provincial House - Manikandam, Trichy (30<sup>th</sup> Nov to 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021)

The meeting began with the

the Blessed Virgin Mary with a garland. It was followed by a grand welcome given to our chapter members Sr. Maria Pushpam our Vice Provincial and Sr. Little Flower, Province Secretary who represented our province during the General Chapter 2021. Rev. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret, the Provincial gave us an introductory talk inspiring the sisters to be good listeners. Sr. Maria Pushpam presented the General Councilors' report for the previous six years. During Good night, Sr. Maria Pushpam gave a run up of everything that had happened in the General Chapter that day.

majestic enthronement the Word of God and honoring

The following day, Sr. Little Flower led everyone in the prayer moment by reawakening everyone's fascination with Jesus and by affixing their names to the Cross as a symbol of renewing their Covenant with God. The topic of the day's discussion was vocational community, synodal community, and prophetic community in light of the Gospel "WEDDING AT CANA." Sr. Little Flower spoke about the vocational Community, and the theme was centered on time, which creates new life, and Mary, the woman of the Eucharist. Sr. Maria Pushpam dealt with synodal community giving importance for the "Action of Mary" and the "Action of Jesus". Mary's Action was described as effective attention, building bridges by giving the best legacy "Do whatever He tells you" and it was followed by the presentation of the Prophetic Community by giving the example of Jesus as the outgoing missionary.



The following day a clear picture of the Acts of the General Chapter on the following themes was presented

- 1. Witness to the beauty of the Salesian Vocation and ongoing formation.
- 2. Missionary Synodality Participation, Animation and Governance.
- 3. Listening to the cry of the poor Integral ecology.

Seeing the Action plan developed by the Chapter members for each act instilled new zeal in each of them. A group discussion was held based on the Acts in order to develop action plans for the benefit of the Province and the communities. The common conversation with Mother Provincial was beneficial for the post-Chapter journey. With an enthused spirit and new vigor the sisters started their journey towards their communities.

# **DIAMOND & GOLDEN JUBILEE**

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last (Jn 15:16)

We, the sisters of the INT province were delighted to celebrate 75 years of dedicated life of Sr. Arockiasamy Philomena and 50 golden years of committed service of Sr. Lourduswamy Philomena on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021 at St. Francis Xavier Convent, Broadway. We had a solemn jubilee Mass, which was officiated by Fr. Sitrarasu Kanickaraj SDB, Rector and parish priest of Saint Francis Xavier Church, Broadway, and Fr. Sebastian Francis SDB, lawyer from the Saint Gabriel community. During his homily, Fr. Sitrarasu Kanickaraj SDB, emphasized the sisters' commitment and faithfulness, as well as God's goodness to them over the years. Both the priests bestowed souvenirs on the sisters.

We had a jubilee gathering after the mass, that began with a festal song by the boarders. Both the jubilarians cut the cake and expressed their wish to have more vocations and sisters in our province. The sisters from various communities wished the jubilarians with gifts and prayed for their good health.



### **FORMATION**

# Orientation on the Study of the Acts of the Apostles

On 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021 all the sisters of the Province participated in the Google meet, 'an orientation on the study of the Acts of the Apostles', by Rev. Fr. Michael Raj from St. Paul's Seminary, Tiruchirapalli. This in depth study and reflection on the Acts of the Apostles enabled us to reflect more on discipleship in order to re-dedicate our lives to our God and Master.



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# **Online Meet on Docibilitas**

A webinar on "Docibilitas", was organized for all the sisters of the INT province on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 by the formation sector of the Province under the guidance of Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela. The chief speaker of the day was Sr. Ambrose Little Flower, Provincial Secretary of Tiruchirapalli Province. The concept of "Docibilitas" was beautifully and practically connected with the life

Saint Maria Dominica Mazzarello and presented. The references were also taken from the book "Personal encounter" and from the Acts. The complete obedience of Jesus, and St. Maria Dominica Mazzarello was stated as an example for docibilitas. There was sharing after the presentation with the sisters from different communities. Thanking each other the meet came to an end.

# **Guidelines for Chronicle Writing**



Sr. Ambrose Little Flower held an online webinar on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021, inviting all superiors and the persons responsible for cronaca writing from different communities of INT province, to provide specific guidelines and practical



ideas for drafting the cronaca. The meeting started with a hymn dedicated to the Holy Spirit and Sr. Ambrose Little Flower outlined the instructions for compiling the entire cronaca of the year in detail, step by step. Doubts were raised and answered. The gathering came to a close with a thank-you note.

# YOUTH PASTORAL CO-ORDINATORS' MEET



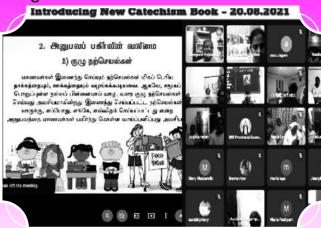
All the local Youth Pastoral coordinators participated in the Google meet conducted on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021 on the theme "Keep running the race before the young people, outstripping all those who are slow or afraid." Sr. Diaz Francis Immaculate, the Province Youth Pastoral Co-ordinator, co-ordinated the meeting which commenced with the presentation

of the multifaceted, evolving roles of the youth Animator as an evangelizing Missionary followed by a discussion on how to make our presence felt by young people during the period of lockdown.

### **CATECHESIS**

# **Training on New Catechism Textbooks**

Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani, the Catechetical Co-ordinator of the Province, along with Sr. Savari Raj Arockia Sophiya, the Mission ad/inter Gentes Co-ordinator of the Province animated an online meeting on the dissemination of "The New Catechism School textbooks" for Primary Education, for all the Sisters of the Province on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 from 6.00 p.m to 8.00 p.m., christened "To



know, experience, love and proclaim Jesus". The ultimate purpose of the new Catechism textbook is not to fill the young minds with doctrines but to bring children to Jesus and to help them to establish a personal relationship with Him and make Him their best friend. Both the sisters systematically presented the theme using a power-point presentation which was well attended by all the sisters of the Province.



### **ACADEMIC**

# Role of Educators During & After The Pandemic - Webinar

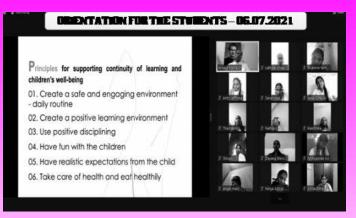
On 25<sup>th</sup> September, from 05:00 p.m to 07:00 p.m, all the sisters of the Province and teaching faculty from our schools and colleges participated in a virtual meet on the theme, "Role of Educators during and after the Pandemic" by Dr. Jonas Richard, Professor and Head, Department of Social Work, Director, Centre for life skills



Education (CLSE), Kristu Jayanti College, Banglore. Sr. Feranando Majella, the Academic Co-ordinator, organized the above online meet. The resource person helped the sisters and the staff to reform themselves as quality Educators in this present outset of the Pandemic.

# **ORIENTATION FOR THE STUDENTS**

Sr. Majella Fernando the province coordinator of academic sector, arranged for an Online orientation programme for all the students of Std X.XI and XII in our province at different day and timing. Rev Fr. Arnold Mahesh SDB. gave this orientation with the aim of inviting the students to think about the challenges of online learning. He



insisted on responsibility, autonomy, empowerment, self discipline, family, virtue of balance monitoring and managing screen time. He gave few tips to attended the online classes effectively and develop their positive thinking. All the students eagerly participated and they expressed their gratitude after the presentation.

# ADMINISTRATION Animators cum Economers Meet

The online Animators and Economers meet were held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August 2021 respectively. On 17<sup>th</sup> August, the Animators participated in the meeting held in the



Auxilium Provincial House. Sr. Madalaimuthu Angela the provincial Economer organized the above meetings and the points dealt with, were on Innovative Writing of the Report, the Guidelines to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act and Annual General Body Minutes.



# **Meet with New Auditors Team**

From 07<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October all the Animators and Economers participated in the Animators cum Economers meet, in the Auxilium Provincial House, Manikandam. It was the new venture for our Province as we have a new Auditing team. Mr. Rosario

and Mr. Asirvatham, our new Auditors were honoured and introduced to the Animators and the Economers. Guidelines and procedures were given and the sisters their queries with them regarding FCRA, Society Accounts, Society Minutes and other necessary clarifications for fruitful administration. Thanks to Sr. Angela Madalaimuthu who organised the meeting and to Sr. Soosaimuthu Arul Mary and the community for making all the arrangements for the same. May God bless and accompany you now and always.

# SALESIAN FAMILY PAST PUPILS MEET

Sr. Rayan M. Auxilia Sophia organized an online Past Pupils Meeting for all the delegates, office bearers and the past pupils from the nine units in the Province. One hundred and ninety members participated in the meeting which was animated by Fr. Amala Jeyarayan SDB from ITI, Madurai on the theme Youthful Volunteerism on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021. This was followed by a discussion facilitated by Sr. Auxilia Sophia on the action plan for the year 2021 - 2022.



# SALESIAN FAMILY SPIRITUALITY DAY

The meet was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at Lourdes Shrine, K. Pudur, Madurai from 09:30 a.m. to 04:30 p.m. The SDB & FMA Provincial and Local Delegates, and the Province Executive Members, delegates of various Salesian Family groups like VDB, ADMA members also participated in the meeting. They had a talk on Francis de Sales,

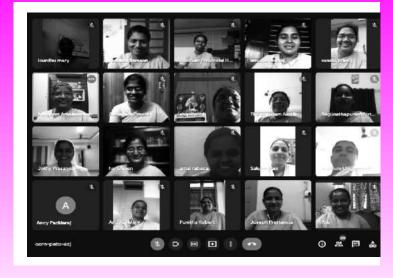


a brief history and his spiritual inspiration by Fr. Thomas Louis and Strenna explanation by Fr. Amose. Then we had a group discussion on a strenna based questionnaire. Following this we had Holy Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Arul Maran the Vice Provincial. 10 Provincial delegates from the FMA and a few local delegates were present for this meeting. It was really a good experience for all present.

Sr. Rosy

# **SOCIAL MEDIA**

"Posting less, doing more, comparing less, reflecting more, discussing less and accomplishing more" are the terms globally used for social distancing from social media and thus, The Local Media Co-ordinators meet was held on 11<sup>th</sup> September from 03:30 p.m. Sr. Antony Rayappan Jothy led the Media Co-ordinators into a general discussion on how to form action plans that are relevant during this COVID 19 period to



inculcate better learning in the field of media in our communities. She spoke on how each sister can be a resource person to help and teach others through online demo classes with regard to photos, mobile apps, editing of photos, videos and basic programs of Microsoft Office. The participants pledged to offer Media Education to Sisters, Staff, and all recipients.



# **IMMUNE BOOSTERSTO MITIGATE COVID-19 IMPACT**



The World Health Organization (WHO) had warned that children could be affected by the third wave of COVID-19. ASSIST had taken steps to boost the immunity of children as a measure to prevent children from getting affected. Children were given food items, safety equipment and awareness as a strategy in four places: Puliadithammam, Ulagampatti, Keela Eral

and Manikandam during the month of July. The immunity booster kit consisted of Groundnut, Jaggery, Chickpeas, Dates, Awarness poster, Sanitizer & Masks. Staff and volunteers were given training to help the common people to understand the COVID-19 protocols and organize the distributions in the target areas without putting people into risk.

S.No	Assist Target District	No of families in the village	Indirect Beneficiary (families)
1	SIVAGANGAI	609	2009
2	TUTICORIN	1665	5494
3	TRICHY	424	1399
4	DINDIGUL	902	2976
	Total	3600	11878

# INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION



74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day was celebrated at the ASSIST office in association with the Lions club. It was presided over by SR. Arokia Mary Selvi, Directress of ASSIST. Lions club president Mr. Er. Britto and secretary Mr. Er. Jayaraj

attended as a special guest. 60 Children youth and women from Gandhinagar took part in the celebration. Special Guest Mr. Er. Britto spoke on the importance of freedom among students and the freedom of students. Then Mr. Er. Jayaraj, Secretary, Lions Club, addressed the students on the story of our soldiers in the war. Special Guest Mr. Er. Britto hoisted our National Flag. The national flag was paid homage with a flag salute song. A sapling was then planted by Mr. Er. Britto at the ASSIST Office in the memory of the flag hoisting. Provincial Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margret delivered the keynote address. The students realized that they could regain their rights by realizing the importance of freedom.

# A NOBLE ENDEVOUR OF OUR CHILD LEADERS

Individual spacing and awareness are essential to prevent corona spread. ASSIST organized awareness events for students, alumni and parents in the villages where evening study centers were functioning and explained how to adhere to Covid-19 protocols and use face shield, disinfectant and personal protection. Neighbourhood

children's Parliament members were capacitated to raise awareness in the enclave of the village. Through this the members of the Children parliament prepared and pasted awareness posters on the walls of the public spaces in their village. This inspired them to think and work creatively in order to promote



artistic excellence. They came up with amazing creativity. Their efforts and initiatives were appreciated by one and all.

# CARE FOR THE PREGNANT & LACTATING MOTHERS DURING PANDEMIC



Pregnant and lactating mothers in rural areas during this pandemic often encounter barriers to healthcare that limit their ability to obtain the care they need. This emergency intervention assisted local government and made medical care services available for the

pregnant and lactating mothers infected by COVID-19 thus prevented the death of these patients, especially the most vulnerable and low income group. Through this intervention a considerable health care was ensured of pregnant women among the most vulnerable and low income group. Safe deliveries were conducted with the assistance of the equipment supplied. The Government run Primary Health Centers were equipped with basic equipment like Electronic Heater, Suction apparatus etc as they lacked all these facilities.

# REJUVANATING THE LIVES OF SMALL LAND HOLDING FARMERS

Watershed management program has been implemented in two villages, Aththivetti and Pichinikadu, located in Thanjavur district which have been suffering from the aftermath of Cyclone Gaja. The people of the targeted areas suffered through physical, social, economic and environmental vulnerability. The cyclone damaged several water conservation and



harvesting structures which has also resulted in change in the soil physical condition. ASSIST organized an awareness program for the farmers on watershed management and maintenance. This session helped the farmers gain knowledge on sustaining their water resources efficiently through watershed management.

# Highlights of the initiative:

- ➤ A scheme on crop insurance and agricultural developmental schemes which is introduced by Government of India is made aware and access to 200 farmers.
- ➤ Distribution of paddy crops and tree saplings to the beneficiaries for the development of organic farming.
- ➤ Distribution of agricultural equipment like Fertilizer sprayer (2 nos) and Seed sowing drum (1 no).
  - Distribution of farmers guide (200 nos)
  - Distribution of Soil Health Card (200 nos)



# "LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN NOW!

ASSIST conducted three major programs on behalf of

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women which launches 16 days of activism to be concluded on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2 0 2 0 — the day that commemorates the International Human Rights Day. This year's theme is "Leave no one Behind: End Violence against Women Now!.



ASSIST has taken an effort to raise awareness against Violence against Women and Girls, and particularly domestic violence which dramatically exalted in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. This created a great opportunity to raise our voice towards women and the ways to combat Gender based discrimination. This gave a positive motivation and aim to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls around the world. It was organized on 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 at 4 pm to 6pm. Special invitee for this event was Ms. Metha Patkar (Indian Social activist and social reformer). She inaugurated this event in St.Francis Xavier campus, Chennai which was live streamed. This Campaign was organized at the same date and same time in 12 districts in Tamilnadu and 20 states in India respectively. 10 questions regarding violence against women and girls were mentioned in the banner and students (College & School) were requested to express their views against this violence. They have expressed their views by leaving a signature of them mentioning which was the major issue to take immediate action. Totally more than 7000 students have participated in the campaign and raised their voice towards violence against women and girls.

Distribution of awareness sticker: Awareness sticker was distributed to each student by announcing the activism message. Followed by this, they passed this awareness message to as many as they can. Google form has been created to document the count of people each student has reached.

Awareness Video Presentation: Along with this activity, the awareness video on Violence against women was telecasted for children and parents to raise awareness about Gender based violence.

# SOIL HEALTH, OUR HEALTH

World Soil Day is celebrated every year on December 5 to raise awareness of the importance of soil quality for human well-being, food security and ecosystems. ASSIST Celebrated World Soil Day this year in Athivetti village where Watershed Management project was undertaken. This initiative was a means to raise awareness about the growing challenges in



soil management and encouraging societies to improve soil health. The program started with the opening ceremony of the village map. The special guests and the beneficiaries gave their respect to soil by their prayer and ceremonies. Farmer's Guide was released for the benefit of the farmers who cultivated paddy. Followed by this event, agricultural equipment like Sprayer (2 nos) and Seed sowing drum (1 no) were distributed to the farmers' cooperative group. Nearly 160 farmers participated in the celebration and made the program a grand success.

# **A CHANGEOVER**



Youth in Gandhinagar have requested for alternative job instead of their regular job (Selling evil eye dolls& begging) during quarantine to manage their financial crisis. Pen production unit for the youth in Gandhinagar has been inaugurated with the support of ASSIST. A team consisting of 5 youth is engaged in producing the pens and the other 11 members of the community is engaged in the sales of

the pens. They would like to produce and sell instead of buying and selling at a low margin of profit. The unit aspires to deliver quality products which would be beneficial for the student, institute and market as a whole. It is expected that there would be a demand pull at the customer end which can be further strengthened through innovative promotional strategies.



# Gypsy - Health and Hygiene

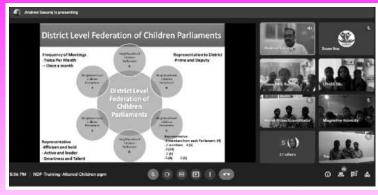
ASSIST took the initiative to ensure healthy and improved socio economic life for 260 Narikuravar Gypsy families. Through this project, the Narikuravar people gained awareness on the need for hygiene and healthy surroundings. It has built capacities among local women, local population and local committee.



Training in segregating the wastes into degradable and non-degradable categories, by employing local persons to clean the area for daily wages the streets of the village is becoming hygienic day by day. The governing committee members were capacitate through finance literacy, human resource management and recycling the resource for long term through the sale of natural manure and non-degradable waste. The targeted community understood the value of living with dignity and social respect.

# Orientation for creating a national platform for NCP members

NDF training for the child leaders was organized for two days i.e, on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2021 on Google Meet. Totally 110 participants including child leaders, sisters & staff attended the training program. Resource person of the Program was Prof.Andrew Jesuraj State Convener, TNCRW – Tamilnadu



Child Rights Watch presided over by Sr. Arokia Mary Selvi, NDF Coordinator. Children from all over India joined the orientation. Prof. Andrew explained about Democracy / Participative - Power to political decisions and the procedures to form state and district level NCPs based on the number of districts level and field level NCPs. Then children were requested to share the model of the district level federation. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margret, President-PCI, had joined the meet and greeted all the children for a wonderful future.

Sr. Arokia Mary Selvi

# **COIMBATORE**

# **Sports day**

As part of National Sports Day, the Sports Day event was conducted on 10<sup>th</sup> August in Marialaya. Mr. Suman Mathiyalagan, Co-Founder of FC Covai and Category 3 Referee in the Tamilnadu Football Association was the Chief Guest of the Event. It was organized by Ms.Annammal, Ms. Nivetha, and Ms.Sabitha- College Students. The event started with a colourful and brisk March





past. Following which the flag was hoisted. Lighting of the lamp was carried out by the children. The Chief guest and Sr. Victoria delivered a speech to the children about the importance of the day and sports in our daily life. Children actively participated in the event with full enthusiasm and prizes were distributed at the end of the event.

# Marriage of our orphan girl

"Love is what happens when two hearts find their happy place right beside each other" Sisters of Marialaya along with our animator Sr.Irudaya Raj Victoria prepared Ms. A. Anushua Mary-Marialaya girl for her wedding. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of September, the Sisters, Salesian Cooperators and few staff members went to Sulur Sagaya Madha Church. The Bridegroom A. Jegan Chinnathambi and his family members were also present. The Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Joseph

D Selvaraj, Fr. John Paul Vincent- the Parish Priest of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, and our Salesian Priest con-celebrated in the Holy Eucharist and solemnized the wedding. The reception took place at the CSI Church Hall. Well-wishers and sisters wished them and returned home.



# **Group inauguration**

Children of Shelter Home were prepared for a week for the group Inauguration on 17<sup>th</sup> October. Each group leader with the help of the sister in charge prepared a badge for their group members. The children gathered at Marialaya Hall where the statue of our Blessed Virgin Mother was beautifully



decorated. The function started with invoking God's Blessing. Sr. Irudayasamy Maria Tamil Selvi invited the gathering and said few words about the importance of the inauguration of the groups. After this, each group went forward and took the pledge and the sister in charge pinned on the badge for the leaders and for the secretary of the group.

# Happy wedding



"Happy is the man who finds a true friend, and far happier is he who finds that true friend in his wife."- (Franz Schubert) Our Marialaya girl M. Vasanthi married P.Suthish Kumar on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November between six to seven in the morning in Temple. Our sisters and Sr. Michael Sujatha

Mary, the Superior of Chennai Marialaya and Sr. Saluja Rani from Don Bosco Wellington, and our Staff went to participate in the wedding ceremony and blessed the couple.

# Feast of Saint Mary Mazzarello and Children's day



As per the practice and in keeping with the theme 'The beatitudes and the Spirituality of Saint Mary Domenica Mazzarello,' the sisters prepared the children to celebrate this feast of our foundress. In the evening three of our Salesian Priests came from Don Bosco



School of Excellence, Vellakinar, and con-celebrated the Eucharist. The main celebrant Fr. Marten in his homily said that Mary Mazzarello lived only nine years of religious life and she lived up to the age of forty-four but she lived a holy life and she became a leader of a great congregation. At the end of the Holy Mass, the Shelter Home Children

Celebrating the arrival of the pioneers and entering into 3rd year of the centenary celebration

Everyone's heart filled with joy and gratitude to God Almighty and to Mary Help of Christians in celebrating the arrival of the pioneers and entering into 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the centenary celebration. We gathered on 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Marialaya Hall. Fr. Alex from the diocese of Coimbatore from our Assisi Parish celebrated the Holy Eucharist and during his homily he articulated how we have to be grateful to God and to our Blessed Mother who accompanied us for the past hundred years. We also have to be grateful to our sisters, through whom education and shelter is provided for millions of children. At the end of the Holy Mass Fr. Alex and Sr. Vincent Mary Nadar hoisted the Centenary

Since the children who are studying in school and colleges were engaged in online classes smart phones and tablets were distributed on 16<sup>th</sup> November with the help of Miracle Foundation. General awareness was given to the children regarding the usage of the smartphones with a discerning mindset by Sr. Irudayaraj Victoria, our animator and Sr. Irudayasamy Tamilselvi, our Economer.

# Distribution of Tab smartphones





Flag.

### **Christmas**



"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who lived in a land of gloom a light has shone." (Isaiah 9:1) Marialaya rejoiced to celebrate the festivity of Christmas with the children. Sr. Irudayaraj Victoria, the Director of Marialaya gave the Christmas message, saying that what we have prepared for and longed for has finally arrived. Dances were joyfully performed by the Reception Unit children and the mixed group and tiny ones of Shelter Home. The vocational training students, Reception Unit and the Shelter Home children sang Tamil and English Christmas carols. Everyone enjoyed the surrounding and rejoiced.

# Human rights day awareness programme

"Peace can only last where human rights are respected, where the people are fed, and where individuals and nations are free" – Dalai Lama.

On the basis of International Human Rights Day on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021, we, at Marialaya committed ourselves to spread the awareness of Human Rights to the surroundings especially to the children based institutions. The children of Coimbatore Marialaya were taken to the Corporation Girls Higher Secondary School, Ranganathapuram to spread awareness to other students. Through their role-play and mime



created this awareness in the minds of the higher secondary girls. With colourful placards held in their hands at the end, they also projected some quotes on human rights.

Sr.Neha

### MARIALAYA NARASIPURAM

# **New Building Inauguration & Blessing**

29<sup>th</sup> September 2021 was the greatest day filled with joy and a wonderful occasion to remember God's goodness and His divine providence as we had the inauguration and blessing of our new house. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret Mother Provincial inaugurated the new building by cutting the ribbon.



Fr. Valsas Edward Vimal the parish priest of St. Antony's Church, Vadavalli blessed the new building. After the blessing, the solemn thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration was celebrated by our Parish priest. During his sermon, he spoke about the inauguration of the new building and the feast of the Archangels. Then he appreciated and congratulated the sisters and the engineer Mr.Samuel and assured us of his prayers for the continuation of our mission in Narasipuram. Sr. Rayappan Selvi Cecily, the animator of Marialaya Narasipuram, thanked Mother Provincial and the counsellors with a shawl, and she presented the others with gifts as a token of love. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret, Mother Provincial appreciated all the sacrifices and support by the sisters, the engineer, and the workers. We felt the divine providence through Mrs. Susheela George our benefactor and her family members, who have helped us to build this new training centre for the children and young girls.

Sr.Shantha

# DINDIGUL

# With Grateful Hearts Our Mother Earth Speaks

**Mother Earth:** Oh what a transformation! Are they my children? I am so delighted.

**Newly planted Tree:** What Mum, you seem to be so happy?

Mother Earth: Because you are enjoying my warmth and space. Like you there are hundreds and thousands of saplings which are planted. Henceforth I am going to give out clean and fresh air.





**Newly planted tree:** How is it possible?

Mother Earth: It's because of the month of Laudato Si`" suggested by Papa Francesco. He is so concerned and thinks of the future generation. This is the greatest moment to express my sincere gratitude to his tender heart. Through this encyclical, he exhorts the importance of caring for Mother Earth. So, enhanced by the practical implications, the faithful are invited to make a great ecological conversion. To instil this great value in the little ones, the community of Marianathapuram has conducted some innovative competitions for the evening coaching students.

**Newly planted tree:** Wow! The students were so enthusiastic in drawing the images with grains, preparing videos on the usage of the herbs, reciting poems and making speeches on nature.

**Mother Earth:** The most interesting initiative was collecting the saplings of neem and planting it in the School ground. Sr.Susai Anthonia the animator of the community insisted that the children should take care of nature. She gave some tips like how to create a kitchen garden, how to prepare natural manure with vegetable wastage, and how not to waste water and electricity etc...

**Newly planted tree:** Will they follow this till the end?

**Mother Earth:** Surely, because they as a Maria Anjali family have pledged to protect nature. I am so pleased with these little ones and the community.

### Corona and Flood Relief

"When I was hungry you gave me food" We the Sisters of Marianathapuram moved by the cry and suffering of our nearby village Sakthipuram, Rajiv Gandhi nagar and the rain affected areas of East Marianathapuram extended our helping hands by distributing dry rations to them. with the financial support of our Mother provincial Sr.



Amalanathan Mary Margaret and the community we bought rice, dhal, oil etc. On 9<sup>th</sup> December in the presence of our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Jeyaseelan and Sr.Susai Anthonia the animator of the community, we distributed this to seventy families. The people were contented and grateful to the sisters for thinking of them and helping them to satisfy their urgent need.

### **Christmas Celebration**

The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the greatest intention" It was a colourful day for all our evening coaching children. We celebrated Christmas with the children, and the senior citizens. An atmosphere of joy



pervaded the air. Rev. Fr. Justin Prabhakar Selvaraj sdb was the Chief Guest of the programme. The Dindigul Lions club President, Secretary and the treasurer joined us for the celebration, and distributed bed sheets for the poor and aged people of East Marianathapuram. Christmas is the season of love and sharing was the thought brought out by the Chief Guest.

Sr.Anthonia and Sr.Rebecca

# **DINDIGUL - ULAGAMPATTI**

# **Christmas with Evening Coaching Class Children**

On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021, Ulagampatti Salesian co-operators celebrated Christmas in a meaningful way by sharing their joy with 220 of our evening coaching centre children. The programme commenced with a prayer and was followed by a dance and skit performed by the children. Rev. Fr. Simon Sesu, our Parish priest was invited as the Chief Guest. He gave a Christmas message on love and sharing. The teachers were



honoured for their generous service. With a delicious lunch and a small gift they returned home happily. We are grateful to the Salesian Cooperators who sponsored this delicious lunch for our children.



### **BROADWAY**

# **Sharing Multiplies Joy to Heaven**



"As the pandemic wore on, no one wanted a gathering or to gather individuals in need and share what they had with them. People travel on various journeys; they have fun with friends and family; they are very busy with attractive employment; they enjoy working in crowds; they earn for an uncertain future, but they rarely care about their souls and those of others" — This was the somber sigh of the

Asirvathapuram elderly women, whose sons and daughters homes had been closed during the pandemic. As the Word of God rightly insists "Hear the cry of the poor", we the community members of St. Francis Xavier Convent Broadway along with our Benefactors Mr. Keith and Mr. David decided to share and invited nearly 80 elderly women on September 9th morning. We gave each of them a 5kg rice bag, biscuit packets, packets of buns, and a lunch pack. We could feel the happiness in their eyes, which were filled with tears of joy. Those real moments of joy and satisfaction filled our hearts.

# **Investiture Ceremony**

# "The Best anchoring spirit is to hail your challenge of leadership"

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 was a great day in St.Francis Xavier Anglo Indian school with the enlightenment of celebrating the most awaited ceremony for the leaders - "The Investiture." The guest of honor Sr. Majella the correspondent and headmistress invested the captains, class leaders and volunteers. The parents of the various leaders were invited to see their children taking



up their responsibilities. As the logo of the school upholds the theme - 'HOLD YOUR TORCH ALOFT' the leaders were ready to uphold their responsibilities anchoring the spirit of prefect ship.



# The Call for Holiness is Open to all...

The 13<sup>th</sup> of November was truly a holy day. We, the FX community sisters, celebrated the feast of our saintly mother, St. Mary Mazzarello, with great zeal. The Tridum of St. Mary Mazzarello was performed very creatively, filled with holy thoughts and quotes about our beloved mother's life. We held a quiz competition based



on the life of St. Mazzarello for our boarders, who prepared well and participated enthusiastically.

On the feast day, the children acted out our saintly mother's life, which inspired everyone to live in simple ways like our mother. At the conclusion of the celebration, our superior, Sr. Majella, delivered an appropriate message emphasizing the virtues of St. Mary Mazzarello, and we raised our voices in great joy saying "viva Mazzarello" at the end of the day.

Sr. Prettencia

# **Jubilee Celebration in the Closer Circle**



The diamond jubilee celebration Sr. Arockiasamy Philomena was extravagantly arranged at St. Francis Xavier's Convent Broadway. The sisters of St. Anne's convent, our benefactors Mr. Keith and Mr. David and Sr. Arockiasamy Philomena's family gathered joyfully at the convent on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The

celebration began with a solemn prayer service and the biography of Sr. Arockiasamy Philomena, the places she served, the lovely virtues she exemplified, and the love and support of her family she cherished were all been recalled through a video animation. Sr. Fernando Majella the animator thanked everyone, especially her family members, for their presence that evening. All her family members wished her well with gifts. A sumptuous dinner was arranged for everybody.

Thy AMA Sr. Renuga

# Visit to Kannimanagar - We are still... and we still remain...

These words were delivered invisibly but loudly by the underprivileged in many parts of the country. Kannimanagar in Kadambathur, Thiruvallur District, is one such location. The location is remote from all basic necessities. Almost 120 Irular tribe families still live there in huts and tarpaulin sheets. All are daily



wage earners, day labourers and mostly illiterate. We came to know about them through Mr. Prakash, a former student of the Don Bosco Institute of Education, working for the upliftment of the backward class. On December 28th, the FX community went to this village and there were children, teenagers, adults, and the elderly who remained hopeful to see us. Saris, bed sheets, biscuit packets, and buns were distributed. The community wished them well and encouraged them to improve their lives. A beautiful realization just sparked in our minds "There is a real need to expand our visions, enlarge our minds and enable our hearts with great passion to work for those on the periphery".

Sr. Prettencia

# **MARIALAYA - GEORGE TOWN**

# Youth Day

We were happy to gather youth from BR Garden Government Computer Center to celebrate Youth Day on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Sr. Sujatha our animator and Sr. Masline were accompanied by Miss. Ambika and they were able to gather 40 youth for the day. The Chief Guest Mathumitha a transgender was enthused on seeing the active participation of the youth and shared her life story that inspired many to take a decision by themselves for a bright future. Sr. Sujatha the director thanked the programme co-ordinators, Mathumitha the transgender who enthused the youth and all the participants and assured our support for the animation at all the time for their needs.



# **Medical Camp**



We arranged for a medical camp for our children and staff on 22<sup>nd</sup> August. It was a great event to have 20 Doctors giving Medical checkup and Dental care from "Aarushi Foundation" under the guidance of Dr. Vinisha Kathiravan. Blood tests were done by the Rotary Club members and volunteers.

# **Teachers Day**

# "Education is a matter of heart"

We remembered all our staff and the all the teacher on 5<sup>th</sup> September, those who work tirelessly for the benefit and growth of the children and thanked God for them. Mrs. Asha Sherin an inspirinal speaker



helped our staff to realise that their profession is a vocation and a call from God and He is expecting to give the full. Everyone shared their dream to achieve within this year and Sr. Sujatha the animator distributed bed sheet as a token of love to all the staff.



# Reunion of Siblings after 13 Years

G. Mageshwari a girl from Marialaya found her lost brother after 13 years with the help of Child Welfare Committee and Anti Child Trafficking Unit (ACTU) We made arrangements for the girl to meet her brother on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021. This news went viral on all local media. Their meeting was an unforgettable event and all those

present were overwhelmed to see them. We celebrated the day with the cutting of a cake and with the exchange of gifts. We all thanked and congratulated each other for this great event.



#### **Awareness on POCSO Act**

An orientation was conducted for our children to have proper knowledge about the act on POCSO (Prevention of Child from Sexual Offences) on 13<sup>th</sup> October. Mr. Ramesh the Assistant Police Commissioner and Mrs. Shobana explained to the children about the Act and their response was the evidence of their understanding.



#### Flood Relief Work



It was a wonderful opportunity for us to realize God's providence in our daily journey as we had the Rotary Club members from Madurai to provide rice and dhal for our people who were affected by the flood. They distributed provisions for 250 families of our Women

Women Group members. They were happy and appreciated our services and assured us of their support in the days to come.

## Christmas Distribution at Kalpakkam

The community selected a place called Kalpakkam near Dindivanam for a meaningful Christmas celebration this year. We gathered the people at Kaplakkam on 22<sup>nd</sup> December and distributed materials like rice, bed sheets, snacks and toiletry articles. They were so happy to receive this and thanked us.



Sr.Lourdhu Mary



#### **Distribution of Sewing Machines**

To empower women economically the community thought of helping the women of Pothur with a sewing machine each. The sewing machines were brought



from the shrine of our Lady of Good Health Besant Nagar and repaired by the sisters and given freely on 25<sup>th</sup> July to 20 women who learned tailoring and have no means to earn their daily living. They were very happy to receive them.

#### Distribution of food



The sisters supported the elders who are not cared for by their children. The sisters went to Velachery to collect cooked food given by the Zomato food team and distributed the same to the elders in Pothur village. The food was served to them individually at their door step. Nearly 150 elders were benefited by this program for two

days. Since the distance was too far to collect the food, the program was stopped and groceries were given to the elders to support them to have a meal per day.

## Awareness on child rights

To create awareness among women on child's safety and protection and to ensure their rights in the family, the sisters organized a program in Thottakalai village, nearly fifty women were benefited by this program. The place was given by the Panchayat leader Mr. Srinivasan Veppampattu. The topics on child rights, Child Marriage and POCSO Act were dealt by Sr. Remegius Angel Veda the animator. Based on these topics, charts and posters were prepared and exhibited to the women. On 29<sup>th</sup> October the team of Marialaya went to Kaniyampakkam Goventment Hr. Sec. School to give awareness to the school children about child rights and safety. There

were fifty boys and girls who attended the program and became aware of the ChildRights and safety measures.





#### **Christmas program in Prison**

Sr. Remegius Angel Veda makes her visits to the women Prison at Puzhal every Saturday along with her team of sisters from other congregations who are also part of the Prison Ministry India organized by the Arch Diocese of Madras Mylapore. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 9:30 a.m. the sister's volunteers went inside the prison to prepare the inmates for the program. Fr.G. J. Anthonysamy the president of Tamil Nadu prison ministry, Mr. Jesuraj the secretary, Sr. Nirmala the Provincial of Franciscan Missionaries of Mary from Stella Maris college Chennai were the Chief Guests for the celebration. The children of St. Justin Girls Hr. Sec. school Pallavaram enacted the birth of Christ, "what will be our response if Jesus were to be here today" was the provoking message given by them. Christmas carols were sung by the inmates and volunteers. Saris and Biriyani packets was given as gifts to all the 192 inmates. Sr. Remegius Angel Veda proposed the vote of thanks, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Grace filled New Year.

#### **TIRUVOTTIYUR**

#### **Catechetical Seminar**

In an effort to create a tool by which the Educators and catechists could best use and understand the revision of Catechism books launched for the year 2020 by the Pastoral Center, Rev. Sr. Margaret Sebastian, Our Correspondent arranged a one day seminar for four school teachers of Archbishop Louis Mathias Home Schools on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Rev. Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani, Catechetical Co-ordinator of the province animated the seminar. At the launch of the new Catechism Curriculum for class I to V in Tamil, she gave a clear view on how the team pioneered to give Catechism and the new structure that allows the children to learn basic prayers, prayers of the holy mass and to know more about the Catholic Church, Saints, Popes, Kings and Prophets.

She elucidated the 10 divisions vibrantly which follows - Joyful catechism, Biblical Catechism, Catechism of the Catholic Church, Experimental Catechism, Meditative Catechism, Cultural Catechism, Action-Oriented Catechism, Life Oriented Catechism, Media Catechism and Hop-filled Catechism. Teachers clarified their doubts and learnt to transmit the same joy of learning Christ with their children. It was a great day of enlightenment for the staff as well as for the sisters.

#### **Provincial Team Visit**

It was indeed a great joy and blessing for our School as we welcomed Rev. Sr. Mary Margaret Amalanathan, our Mother Provincial and the Team of Councilors in our campus on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021. The students were overwhelmed with joy to welcome the Provincial Team with a Beautiful Hindi Song. As a toker



sweets and gifts during the felicitation. Rev. Sr. Margaret Sebastian our correspondent introduced the teaching and non-teaching Staff members to the Provincial team and they congratulated and recommended their co-operation and provision for the School. Finally they visited the whole school and saw the drastic changes made in the set up during the Inspection.

### **First Missionary Expedition**

Considering a year of preparation for the Centenary of FMA's presence in India, Rev. Sr. Margaret Sebastian our correspondent directed a Flag hoisting ceremony for the four School students and teachers, to mark the arrival of the six pioneer missionaries who set their foot for the first time in Tanjavur on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1922. The program began with a brief introductory talk given by our Correspondent about the Pioneers and their missions carried out in India. Following this, an introduction on the qualities of the six pioneer sisters were delivered and the flag was hoisted by the SPL Ms. Akshaya of Std XII. Later the Schools dispersed with the song of Mother Mazzarello. We thanked God for these glorious years.

## Inspection of CBSE school for Affiliation

The long awaited CBSE inspection day had been scheduled with the grace of the Almighty. Six months of preparation and hard work carried out by Rev. Sr. Margaret Sebastian our Correspondent had left everyone in utter amazement. We uploaded the





required documents in the Fresh Affiliation on the secondary level portal and the Affiliation Board appointed Mr. Maximus H. Rose, Principal Nahaar Public School, Vilupuram and Mrs. Sapna Shankla, Principal RMK School Kavarapettai as IC members for Inspection on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021. The School presented an arousing reception to the members with a guard of honour followed by a mellifluous prayer moment and virtual assembly conducted by the students. Rev. Sr. Susai Anthoniammal Principal gave the welcome speech and felicitated the members with a shawl and bouquet. After a small meeting, the members joined the staff for a group photo and started inspecting the campus, We thank the Almighty for giving us this day showering His unfathomable blessings on us. We thank Rev. Sr. Margaret Sebastian our correspondent for her dedication and contribution for the success of this Inspection.

#### **Christmas Wishing and Sharing**

Sr. Sebastian Margaret Mary went along with a few teachers and the eleventh Standard students to share Christmas wishes with the HIV Infected people's family living in Pope St. John Paul Garden. The few articles that were collected from the schools



were shared with them and in return they shared their joy and happiness which was contagious, heart melting and silently proclaimed the significance of Real Christmas.

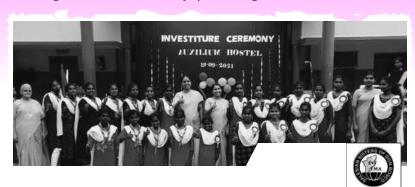
Sr. Bastina

#### **MADURAI - SIRUDUR**

## Auxilium Hostel: Investiture Ceremony and Fresher's Day

The investiture ceremony signifies the reliance and confidence that the hostel consigns to the newly invested office bearers. The hostel was reopened for hundreds of students after long holidays. Once again the students enjoyed being in the second

home- Auxilium Hostel and the presence of each other. In order to rejuvenate the spirit and discipline, the leaders were elected and they took



up their responsibility on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021 in the Investiture ceremony. The ceremony was held with lots of zeal and zest. It commenced with the procession of all the leaders and the sister. The girls were dressed up well and holding the flags and the symbols marched forward elegantly and proudly. Sr. Saveriammal and Sr. Leema Rose honoured the leaders with badges and the scarf. Sr. Saveraimmal appreciated and encouraged the leaders to go ahead with full enthusiasm and commitment. The new students in all their simplicity performed the programs that were delightful.

**Diwali Sharing** 

It is God's great benevolence and providence that our boarders were given a dress as a gift by the Rotary members. Mr. Vishwanarayan the Assistant Governor of Madurai Rotary club willingly accepted to offer the dress. He, with his team especially with the major donor Mr. Jugal Rathi



arranged new dresses for all the boarders. The function was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021. The boarders welcomed the Chief Guest and the other invitees with shawls and gifts. They also gave an entertainment programme wishing and thanking the generous people. The people of the Rotary were very much pleased that the poor and needy are educated and cared for by the Salesian Sisters. They also promised to extend their help for their Academic and other needs. We as a Community are grateful to God and the benevolence of the Mr. Pandian from the Rotary Club of Madurai.

## Feast of St.Mary Mazzarello

"Make yourself a saint, but a truly humble, cheerful saint, full of charity for everyone".

Paying heed to the persuasion of our saintly Mother we kept up the novena by practicing the exhortations, reading her letters and sharing her life with the hostel girls at the good night and so on. It was a wonderful day to celebrate the feast of

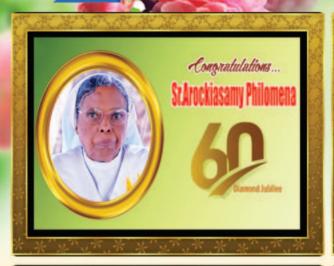
St.Mary Mazzarello on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 along with the hostellers. We started







# CONGRATULATIONS





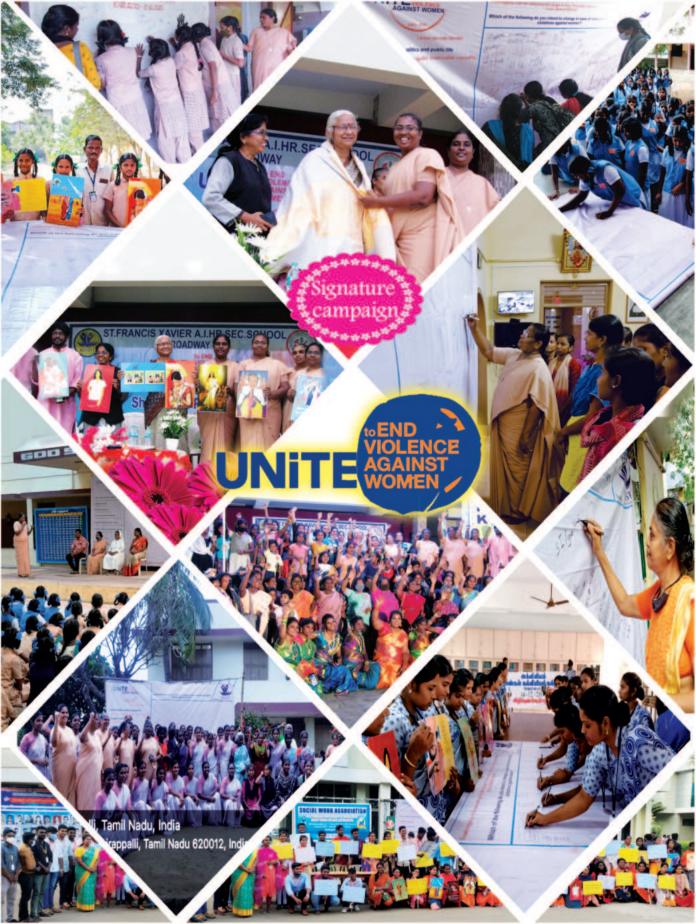












the day with the blessings of the Lord in the Morning Prayer and in the evening we had a solemn Holy Eucharistic celebration by Rev.Fr. Francis Xavier SDB from Don Bosco community. The girls enacted a short life incidence from our saint's life. In the Holy Mass Fr. Francis Xavier spoke about the simplicity and deep fervor of Mary Mazzarello and he asked many questions about Mother Mazzarello to which our hostel girls answered beautifully.

### Children's day



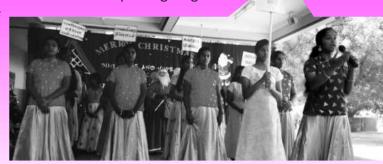
God loves every child so much that he creates each one of them with unimaginable perfection. Truly, children are blessings from heaven. The campus was filled with laughter and joy as we had children's day for the hostellers on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Novices Sr. Sheeba and Sr. Tenciya took up charge to conduct the

games in the morning. They were also surprised by the sisters' performance to make them happy. Sr. Nirmala the animator shared the message of being sincere and truthful as God wants of everyone.

## Jingle bells

It's not how much we give, but how much love we put in giving and

the Christmas spirit is a spirit of giving and forgiving. Rekindling the same spirit and fervor, we celebrated Christmas in the hostel on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021. They decorated the place aesthetically with the traditional Crib and



balloons. The Christmas message was shared by Sr. Nirmala the animator wishing all a peace and joy that Christmas brings. The delightful celebration concluded with the distribution of Christmas Gifts to all the girls in the Hostel. Then Santa surprised them with a dance and gifts. They had a sumptuous meal after the celebration.



## Auxilium Matric. School Awesome Red day

Red - the colour of love and smiles illuminate the air with energy, vigor and exuberance. The first colour day for the Academic year 2021-2022 for the Primary was celebrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021. The colour red symbolizes enthusiasm, life and vitality. The students and the teachers



came in red attires. The little ones participated in various activities and showcased their hidden talent. The students enjoyed colouring, thumb printing etc. A special assembly was conducted to emphasize the significance of the colour red.

## **Exciting Yellow Day**

Decked in yellow, the children were mellow. Shades of yellow stimulate our little ones with happiness, energy and optimism. With an objective to recapitulate and reinforce the effects of yellow colour, the primary wing celebrated the Exciting Yellow day. A day dedicated to

the yellow colour was marked with children

dressed in different hues and tints of yellow. They also decorated the classroom with yellow and brought yellow objects to make it a complete "yellow" day. The students sang a rhyme on yellow and exhibited yellow things and explained it well.

#### Christmas

Excitement reverberated in the air as the festival of Christmas joy was celebrated in both the Auxilium schools. The students were seen donning the Santa cap around the campus. Fr. Francis Xavier SDB was the chief Guest and Mrs. Jeyanthi, the First woman of Madurai Rotary club was the Guest of Honour. Both the school students exhibited their talents and the pinnacle of their talent was a treat to watch.





## Auxilium Hr. Sec. School Past pupils meet

Students of 2014 batch organized a reunion on 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 in our school campus. Fifteen boys and girls participated in the celebration. Sr. Saveriammal Vedamuthu welcomed the past pupils and presented 'Strenna 2021 – Moved by Hope' to them. Everyone introduced each other about their present position and shared the nostalgic experiences of their school days. The sharing bound them together and inspired them to organize such reunions every year. They planted trees in remembrance of their reunion and finally concluded the meet with a prayer.

### **Independence Day**

Our Nation's 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day was meaningfully celebrated in Auxilium Hr. Sec. School on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. Members of the Rotary Club of Madurai Kings City and Inner Wheel Club of Madurai City participated in the Independence Day celebration. Mr. Arumugam, President of Rotary Club of Madurai Kings City hoisted the national flag. They sponsored 10 tailoring machines and a LED TV for the Smart Class room. Inner Wheel Club of Madurai City



contributed Rs. 6,500/- to obtain text books for students and planted many fruit trees in the school campus. Both the clubs were very much appreciative of our mission and promised to support the education of the poor students in the future.

Sr.Saveriammal

#### **MADURAI - SRINGERINAGAR**

#### **International Youth Day**

International Youth Day is commemorated every year on 12<sup>th</sup> August. The theme of International Youth Day 2021, "Transforming Food Systems: which highlights the success of such a global effort that cannot be achieved without the meaningful

participation of young people". As our Superior, Sr. Jeganathan Assumpta, discussed the challenges and barriers to prosperity faced by the young people of the world, we created awareness in our community



### **Independence Day**

75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, was celebrated in our home and we had special invitees Mr. Govindaraj and Mrs. Joan Kalavathi. The children sang Tamil Thai Vazhihu (Prayer Song). Ms. Patathuarasi and Ms. Azhgupandi delivered their speech, recalling the courageous leaders who sacrificed themselves to get this freedom.



## Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Girl Child Day and World literacy day

As a community we celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 8<sup>th</sup> September. We had a cultural programme (Song, Dance and Street play) in honour of our Mother Mary as well as for girl child day. It was a marvelous and meaningful programme.

This day also was proclaimed as International Literacy Day by UNESCO. Sr. Assumpta and Sr. Annamanickam conducted an awareness program about International Literacy Day and the importance of women's education for the children of CCI (children's care Institute) to get rid of various social problems.



#### Let us the celebrate season of creation

The Season of Creation is a time of grace that the Church offers to humanity to renew its relationship with the Creator and with creation, through celebration, conversion and commitment together. The inmates presented a short celebration of

the Season of Creation in which Sr. Assumpta, our animator, Sr.Annamanickam, along with the BSW students explained in detail. We conducted various contests for children.





## Legal action against women violence

We had an awareness programe on the legal action against women violence. Fr. Santhanaraj detailed the legal actions women face in domestic violence, divorce, and property disputes. He also explained about domestic violence and the protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, and many amendments in Criminal Law have been implemented to various acts



that act against the modesty and dignity of a woman.



Our FMA Institute (1872 – 1922) was marked with the great historical event of laying the foundation in India. We had a wonderful prayer service, song and the life story of our six sisters. Sr. Assumpta explained about the history- Mother Catherine Daghero then Superior General, carefully chose six valiant missionaries to furrow the Indian soil, to sow the potent seed of the Salesian charism and to reap the harvest of Salvation of souls.

Sr. Assumpta, Sr. Annamanikam and Sr. Sathiya



#### **PUTHENTHURAI**

### Nature prayer service

September reminds us of the period of "season of creation". To celebrate this season, we had a nature prayer service on the seashore on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Sr.Arockianathan Verginia Mary conducted this beautiful and meaningful prayer service based on "NATURE". Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret, the Provincial and Sr. Madalaimuthu Angela, the provincial Economer was also present for this occasion. It was a double joy for our community.



### "Salesian Co-Operators Day" Celebration

The birthday of Mamma Margaret was celebrated as Salesian co-operators day. Since we were unable to celebrate on that day we postponed it on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Around twenty members gathered for the celebration. They had a meeting and discussed about the Christmas sharing. After which we had the Holy



Eucharistic celebration in our convent chapel. They renewed their promise during the Holy Mass. Sr. Medabalimi Josephine, the animator wished them and gave souvenirs to them.

## **World Communication Day**

August 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 is the "world communication Day". Our youth celebrated this day in our parish. The message of his holiness Pope Francis for 2021 World Communication Day is "come and see" - Communicate by encountering people where and as they are. The youngsters were enlightened by the message of the Pope during Holy mass.

## **Coastal Cleanup Day-Youth**

Coastal Cleanup Day was established by the Ocean Conservancy, an organization that works to help and protect the ocean from the challenges it faces every year. Every year thousands of tons of garbage winds up in the oceans, with at least 60% of that being composed of plastic material. Plastics are extremely hazardous to marine life, killing more than a million birds and over 1,00,000 seals, turtles, and whales, and an immense number of fish in our ocean. Therefore the youngsters of Puthenthurai along with the parish priest Fr. Godfrey and





Sr. Anthony M. Ponraj Amudha Selva Rani the youth co-ordinator gathered together on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 3:30 p.m in order to clean the sea shore of our place. They gathered the rubbish around the sea shore and cleaned up our coastal area. It was a beautiful day to see the young taking responsibility to keep clean their environment.

## AUXILIUM SCHOOL Independence Day Celebration

Though the children are at home, In order to inculcate patriotism to our students, we informed them to perform some activities on 15<sup>th</sup> August based on Independence Day. The children of UKG & Std I took part in Fancy Dress competition on the theme Freedom fighters. Std II & III took part in singing Patriotic songs; Std IV & V took part in art & craft based on Independence Day. The



children sent in their videos for Independence Day. All the children and parents took efforts and prepared well. Their costumes and the background were excellent. Their way of speech and singing were attractive. Std IV and V did art and craft creatively. Through this, the students recalled the history of our nation and thanked our freedom fighters. They learned to love our country.

#### **Season of Creation**



Since the children are attending the online classes, we informed the parents about the projects for season of creation on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. We gave projects in three categories. Growing plants for UKG and Std I, five types of land forms for Std II and III, forest and pet animals for Std IV and V. We instructed them to prepare well and give their explanation. So on 2<sup>rd</sup> October students sent their videos prepared

for the season of creation. UKG children grew small plants and shared their beautiful experiences. Std I and II prepared very well the five land forms and explained it. Many of them presented their projects very creatively and showed their originality. Std IV and V also prepared the forest set up and gave details about their pet animal. We appreciated them for their effort and the creativity in preparing. Through this, they were with the nature during the season of creation.

### **Teachers Day Celebration**

"Teaching is a calling too. And I've always thought that teachers in their way are holy – angels leading their flocks out of the darkness" said Mr. Jaennette Walls.

So we acknowledge our teachers wonderful service on this special day. We had a meaningful prayer service in the chapel on 6<sup>th</sup> September. We invoked God's blessing upon our teachers to be a light to their students. After which we wished them through a poem. We showed a video clipping in which Rt. Rev. Bishop Stephen gave a message to the teachers.



Rev. Sr. Medabalimi Josephine, our correspondent wished the teachers. Due to the corona pandemic, the children gave a programme for teacher's day through the whatsapp group. They wished their teachers through songs, poems, greeting cards, dances and speeches. Their program was colourful. The teachers thanked them for their beautiful performance. We shared tea and snacks with them.

## **Pioneers Day**



November 24<sup>th</sup> is a great day for us to celebrate the fond memory of our pioneers and their arrival in India. It is a moment of joy and gratitude. The students, teachers and sisters all gathered together in the chapel to praise and thank the lord for our pioneers. We had a meaningful prayer service. The children came to know about our pioneers. We

entrusted our school building construction to our Blessed Mother and our pioneers and prayed fervently.

#### **Christmas Celebration**

Christmas gives joy to all. Hence Auxilium school celebrated Christmas joyfully on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021. We started our programme with a prayer, offering ourselves to the Babe of





Bethlehem. The children depicted the nativity scene. They sang a lullaby to the Baby Jesus. They enacted a Christmas play which gave meaning to see Jesus in the persons who are in need. Thereafter they displayed a vibrant dance. Rev. Sr. Medabalimi Josephine, our correspondent gave a message to the children. We shared the Christmas cake with all.

Sr.Amudha

#### **REGUNATHAPURAM**

**Auxilium College of Arts and Science** 

#### ISS -FMA Webinar - Born to fly

ISS — FMA Asia Institute of Higher Education conducted an International Webinar on Born to Fly - Psychosocial wellbeing in the time of Pandemic. The resource person was Dr. Fr. Wilson Sundar, OFMCAP,



Director, Anugraha Institute of Counseling and Psychotherapy, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India. This was organized by Sr. Dr. Rathinasamy Regina Mary, Core Member ISS-FMA-Asia. Around 50 students attended the webinar and benefitted from it. The recourse person gave several exemplary lives of people who are challenged physically and socially but led and are still leading their lives successfully because of their positive outlook and faith in themselves and God.

## **HIV / AIDS Awareness Programme**



The Red Ribbon Club of the college organized HIV/AIDS awareness programme. 450 Students were present for an inspiring display on the stage about this drastic sickness and the way how it could be cured and prevention from falling onto

it. Young women were given a thought-provoking message by the Principal on how to be disciplined even in their thoughts and behavior. The Youth Red Cross Unit of our College animated Human Rights day with a rally around the village and made every one to take an oath to provide and preserve the rights of all.

## **Charity Day**



The whole college actively and happily took part in the day's events. Since last year due to the CORONA curfew, the students missed it very much and this was shown in their joy and enthusiasm in their whole hearted participation. The profit they have taken was completely used for the poor students of the college and the daily wage earners working for the college.

#### Day of social justice

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, declared September 17<sup>th</sup> as 'Day of Social Justice', a tribute to Social Reformer EVR Periyar on his birth anniversary. In our College, students undertook a pledge for



social justice, self-respect, rationalism, equality and brotherhood which were sent by the Regional Joint Director Office. His life also was highlighted by a speech, depicted by placards.

## **Immunity booster distriution**



One of our adopted villages was selected to distribute the Immunity Booster for Covid '19. It was provided by ASSIST, our Development Office. The Principal and Mrs.Punitha, in charge of the Village Soorakadu, went and met the people and distributed the material to each family with the help of the president of the Village. People were happy and appreciated the effort taken for their good.

#### Online awarness programme

New India @ 75 Campaign - Red Ribbon Club organized an online awareness programme in three Phases on HIV Awareness, Blood donation, Tuberculosis. The link was given in Google Meet for the competition. Mr. J. Jeyakumar, District Manager, DAPCU, Pudukpttai, Mrs. M. Pushpam, ICTC,



Counsellor, Malaiyur, Mr. Sridar, ART – Counsellor, Medical College, Pudukkotai and Mrs. M. Julie, RRC – Co-ordinator of our College were the animators.



### World kindness day

Two of the present students of Auxilium College, in spite of their poverty, saved Rs 1500/during the pandemic days and donated it to the poor students. God bless them and their family. World Kindness Day was celebrated in which present and past pupils paid fees for the poor students.

## Rally for voter name list awareness

NSS students together with the II year students of Tamil, English, Physics and Computer Science Departments went on a rally around the village, shouting slogans on the importance of registering their names in the voters list. Revenue Divisional Officer Pudukkottai, Sub Collector Pudukkottai and Regunathapuram VAO witnessed and appreciated the effort made by the students.



Sr. Peter Selvarani



## AUXILIUM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION Human Rights Day



Auxilium College of Education, Regunathapuram, celebrated Human Rights day on 09th and 10th December 2021. The student-teachers expressed their rights through dance, song and drama. Rev. Sr. Dr. Maria Pushpam, the correspondent and Principal of the college was the chief guest for the celebration and she advised them not to be slaves to anyone and things. Mr.Sharath, the Advocate of Supreme Court Delhi was invited and he explained the law of human rights especially for women The student-teachers also intervened with him and clarified the doubts. On 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 we conducted a rally on Human Rights around the village. The student-teachers enthusiastically participated and loudly said the slogans to the crowds. After the rally we went to the Government Higher Secondary School, Regunathapuram to give an awareness program on the POCSO Act (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences).

## **Christmas with Gypsies**

On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 3.30pm Auxilium College of Education had the joy celebrating Christmas on 18<sup>th</sup> December with Gypsies of the local area. The student teachers enacted a play depicting the importance of education, cleanliness and ways to improve their culture. The management, Staff and Our Student teachers contributed their best to reach out the needy. We were able to reach 75 families distributing 10 kg of rice and the Christmas cake box to each family.



Sr.Malar Jothi



#### **AUXILIUM HOSTEL**

## FMA Presence in India - stepping into the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebrations

We the community sisters recalled with gratitude the arrival of the pioneers to India on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1992. The Morning Prayer was conducted in the community chapel which was adorned with lovely flowers and lights. Pictures of our six pioneers were also decorated at the centre and we kept the six oil lamps on either side of the altar.



### **Celebration in both the Colleges**



It was a happy day for all the Auxilians of Regunathapuram as we commenced the FMA presence in India – stepping into the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration. As the centenary song was played, it was beautiful to see the glorious march of the young people from four directions to the spot where

we had the hoisting of the flag. The flag was brought by a team of Rangers in procession from the B. Ed college block. The colourful balloons in the hands of the young added more beauty to the campus. The flag was hoisted by the Animator of the community. It was a memorable and joyful event for all of us.

## Feast of St. Mary Mazzarello

"Be always joyful and humble. Pray always with all your heart. Remember that prayer is the key which opens the treasures of heaven." Remembering the exhortation of our Co- Foundress St. Mary Mazzarello, we the community sisters and the young people who are inmates decided to celebrate the feast of St. Mary Mazzarello on 29<sup>th</sup> November. The hostellers presented meaningful thematic and colourful dances. Sr. Maria



Pushpam, our animator appreciated the students and the sisters in-charge of the committed groups for their wonderful and profound celebration. She also highlighted and shared the life of St. Mary Mazzarello and her virtues to all those gathered for the occasion.

#### **Christmas Celebration**

On 20<sup>th</sup> December the hostellers had a grand celebration of Christmas, inviting all the sisters to their happy abode. They presented a meaningful skit on the true meaning of Christmas and colorful dances and singing of carols. The place was filled with fun and laughter. We all enjoyed the programme and understood the real meaning of Christmas.



#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**



The management arranged for confession preparation for the 40 Regunathpuram catechism students, youth and for the workers. Rev. Fr. Jesu Raj, The parish priest gave the sacrament of confession.

## Co-operators' Recollection and Christmas Sharing

On 22<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 2021, Auxilium Salesian sisters of Regunathapuram arranged for the recollection of the Salesian co-operators. Rev. Fr. Alphonse, Headmaster of Don Bosco Matriculation School, Thanjavur animated the recollection. He insisted on them to be open minded, to embrace the Love of God and to enjoy the forgiveness of God's abundant love in order to welcome Jesus in our hearts. After the sermon, the Salesian co-operators renewed their promise. They selected three families who are in need of our help and invited them on that day to share the provisions. Then they

wished the Auxilium Sisters for their love and concern towards each one of them. With grateful heart they returned home.





### The Generosity of Our Past Pupils

The Covid – 19 pandemic had taken its toll on the poor, daily wage earners, migrant workers and the marginalized. By the gratuitous grace of God, the kindness of our of our Superior Sr. Maria Pushpam and all the community sisters, the generosity of our Past Pupils and Well-Wishers, on 16<sup>th</sup> August, we contributed to the families who are poor and affected by Corona around our villages especially the



families of our students and workers. The amount received by them was fairly distributed to all of them in the form of rice and provisions worth Rs 2000/- each. About 37 families benefitted from this drive. Some of their children's school fees and college fees were also met by this help. The beneficiaries were very appreciative and grateful to the community sisters. It was a pleasant moment of great joy and expression of solidarity during the pandemic.

Sr. Pushpa

#### **PULIADITHAMMAM**

#### **Bloomed the new Mission-ORATORY**

"Run, jump, shout but do not sin"-St. Don Bosco

The much awaited oratory inauguration was held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with great zeal and excitement filling the atmosphere with great cheer. In the history of Arunodaya the Oratory mission bloomed for the first time. The total number of children assembled was more than 40. The Chief Guest of the day was Sr. Regina Mary the animator of the house. The program commenced with a beautiful prayer along with a hymn to Don Bosco. The oath was taken by all the children saying that they may come for the oratory to play and to learn values. Dance, song and other events were given by the children. Sr. Regina Mary gave a talk about Don



Bosco's Oratory through which she enlightened everyone. At the end, we provided sweets and sent them home.

### The Feast of St.Mary Mazzarello

"Make yourself a saint, but a truly humble, cheerful saint, full of charity for everyone" - St. Mary Mazzarello

We the community of Arunodaya were enormously happy to celebrate the feast of St. Mary Mazzarello who was a humble, cheerful, wise co-foundress of our Institute. The frame of the St. Mary Mazzarello picture was well decorated in the chapel. We had a solemn Eucharistic Celebration by Rev. Fr. Francis SDB who imprinted in our hearts the way to live the Salesian spirit as daughters of St. Mary Mazzarello. In the school students gave a speech about St. Mary Mazzarello during the morning assembly.



The day was filled joy and gratitude to God for the wonderful gift of St. Mary Mazzarello.

Hail to our saintly Mother Mazzarello.

Sr. Charles Sandal Princy

### First Batch Stepped out



18<sup>th</sup> September 2021 was an important day as it marked the first batch of 32 students of standard 12 of the Auxilium Matriculation Hr. Sec School, Puliadithammam who enrolled in the past pupils association. The inaugural ceremony began with a meaningful prayer service. It commenced by invoking God's blessings on all of us and thanking

God for accompanying us these 14 years, 12 years of journey in this Auxilium campus. Everyone poured oil as a sign of unity in the Salesian family.

Sr. Regina the animator gave an inspiring message on "Bloom brightly where ever you are". The students shared their future carrier and wished each other.

#### Christmas celebration

"Christmas is a beautiful time of the year, filled with love and the spirit of giving. ...

The celebration was held in our school campus on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021. The entire place was beautifully decorated with flowers, festive lights, posters, and models. All the students and faculty members were very excited and full of





enthusiasm for the celebration. Students came to school wearing the school uniform. Sr. Regina the school correspondent and a few transgenders Jecitha, Karthika and her companions were the Chief Guests. There was a living crib depicting the birth of Jesus from the Bible, after which followed a short programme consisting of a play with a Christmas message, dance, carols and some jokes.

### Signature Campagin

"Unity starts with you, If not you, then who?" If there is unity for cause there will be Victory".

On 13<sup>th</sup> at 03:00 p.m, we gathered all the Children of Auxilium Matriculation School and R.C. Middle School, Puliadithammam and Parents of the Children and staff and animated the signature campaign to "Unite to End Violence against Women" at the Auxilium Matriculation School stage. We invited the Chief guest Sr. Antony Regina Mary the Animator and Correspondent of the School and Tr. Jeyarani the Assistant Headmistress of R.C. Middle School, Sr. Paulia Mary the Principal of Auxilium Matriculation School and all the Arunodaya community sisters and

welcomed them for the greatest event.

On 19<sup>th</sup> all the evening coaching class children, parents, VIDES members, Salesian Co-operators and women groups joined to participate in the signature campaign. All the awareness programmes and awareness sticker process and purpose were explained to the groups and they were asked to pass this sticker to every corner of their village. Thus this awareness made all the people stand for the right of every girl child in the family, street, and village.

### **THANJAVUR**

### **Triple feast**

5<sup>th</sup>August is a date of grace and a strong event of communion and gratitude. We feel deeply united with our Institute as loving daughters of Mary Help of Christians. As a Family that belongs totally to Mary, we extend in the Church, the love of Don Bosco and of Mother Domenica Mazzarello for the



young, the little ones, and the poor. It is a day of remembrance and a day of the future as August 5th, 1872 was at Mornese; a day of thankfulness and fidelity. The day was an opportunity to return to the evangelical and charismatic sources, to the motivations that give meaning to our life and that comes from the heart. On this extraordinary day we gladly remember the birthday of our congregation, the feast of Our lady of Snows, Patroness of our INT province and the profession day of two of our community sisters; Sr. Soosai Magnificat our Animator, and Sr. Barnabas Susanna. After the usual daily mass at the parish, offering the mass for these intentions, we had animated morning prayer prepared by Sr. Vishvanathan Sujatha, depicted on the backdrop were all the names of the houses of our province with the statue of Our Lady of Snows at the center and facing us was a monument made of bricks and we placed eight small little lamps in it, praying to Mother Mary to protect our province beneath her powerful mantle. At the conclusion, we honoured both the sisters, singing and blessing them. We had a lovely day of praying before Mother Mary in the chapel the whole day. Sr. Vishvanathan Sujatha

## Novices at Auxilium centre, Thanjavur Experiencing the richness of salesianity

Two novices, Novice Susmitha and Novice Ebseeba, of INT from Divyadhanam Novitiate Trichy reached Auxilium, Thanjavur to have a month long experience of community life and mission. They came with great enthusiasm to live and enjoy the family spirit and the charismatic richness of the Salesian life. They inserted themselves



beautifully into the life of the community, as they participated and involved themselves with great zeal in every aspect of the community. They were fortunate to have this experience from Oct 20<sup>th</sup> to November 20<sup>th</sup> 2021, as the students had just arrived after a long break due to the pandemic related lockdown. The Novices showed lots of interest to know and to see how the sisters live and accomplish the mission in the style of the preventive system. They took part in every activity of the community – prayer, meals togetherness, fun and laughter at table, presenting the missionary sisters' lives creatively, daily journal writing, evaluating their daily experiences and regularly sharing with the animator for guidance and assisting the boarders joyously during the study hours, playing with them at recreation, conducting games, songs and dances according to the need of the moment. They were also encouraging and inspiring the 5 apostolic girls that the community has, to respond to God's call, sharing with them about the formative process they undergo in the Salesian congregation.

As they left, they expressed their joy that they were strengthened to go ahead in their vocational journey, with the various experiences they had in the community. They thanked the community for the revival of the Salesian spirit within them and returned to the Novitiate with a great sense of satisfaction and happiness.

Sr. Soosai Magnificat

### Children's day celebration

"Children are like buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured as they are the future of the nation and the citizens of tomorrow"

-Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru



On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021, we at the Auxilium Nursery and Primary School, Thanjavur celebrated Children's Day to express our love for our children. We welcomed the children at the entrance with smiley Balloons and sandal paste. Later students were moved

to Auxilium Nursery and Primary School Hall to experience a power packed programme specially arranged for the children. The teachers gave various performances for the students in order to exhibit their love and affection for them.

The students cheered their teachers as they saw them on stage and laughed boisterously at their jokes. The Primary Hall was buzzing with excitement and joy. Teachers enacted a skit with the theme how Covid-19 has changed their schooling. Awareness about how to handle corona was said in simple words. It was humorous about online classes and also useful knowing about corona. Our Correspondent



Rev.Sr. Soosai Magnificat presided over the day and appreciated the children. The day ended with the distribution of sweets and students' essential stationery kits like pencil, eraser etc. to the students and wonderful memories lingered in everybody's minds. After 2 years as they were back to school, all of us were happy.

We also celebrated Children's Day on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 for the KG students on a virtual platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. On 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021 along with our boarders we celebrated Children's day with great zeal and enthusiasm. After the Mass our superior Rev. Sr. Soosai Magnificat distributed cakes to the boarders. In the evening, the community sisters gave a cultural programme to the children with a group dance and a song followed by a skit which was performed by all the sisters. The students participated with great excitement and fervor.

Sr. Abraham Epsibai

## Inauguration of the centenary of our pioneers to our mother land at Thanjavur

It was a grand memorable day on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021. We recalled the 99 years since the arrival of our six pioneers to Thanjavur and started



the memorable centenary on this beautiful day of Our Lady. The apostolic girls enacted their arrival clad as each of the six sisters, narrating their own history and making it known to all. This was done during the morning liturgy, in the school morning and afternoon assembly for both the sessions

and in the evening for the hostel girls during goodnight time. We have relived that moment of their arrival to our mother land. Thanks for the blessing, since it was the first time, we remembered this day of their arrival to Thanjavur on 24<sup>th</sup> November, instead of 22<sup>nd</sup> November when they arrived at the Gate Way of India. Our gratitude ascends to heaven for our loving pioneers who will intercede for us!

Sr. Barnabas Susanna

## Centenary celebrations start to shine in Auxilium School, Tanjore

We launched the centenary celebration on 24<sup>th</sup> November with great gusto at 9:00 a.m in our school premises. Both primary and high school staff and students gathered in the ground with gaiety.

Sr. Teresa Balestra, Sr. Maria Angeleri, Sr. Caterina Marnetto, Sr. Luigina Appiano, Sr. Consiglia Tarricone and Sr. Teresa Merlo were the seeds of the FMA congregation in



India, the fruits of which we taste today. The cherishing moments of those sisters' life lead us to live a cheerful life today. These sisters were a group of bold women, full of life and vivacity, eager to win souls for God by their faith, humility, docility, simplicity and spirit of sacrifice.



On this day we remembered these six stars who paved the way for our sisters to carry on our charism which was gained from Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello. Our superior Sr. Magnificat Soosai led the procession of the centenary flag held by our Guides students.

All the sisters of our community accompanied our superior to the stage. Our superior hoisted the centenary flag which symbolizes the great inauguration of the centenary year. Our students sang the song "Hail Don Bosco....." and added energy to the event.

A Prayer service was solemnized by the staff and the students. Six students beautifully dressed themselves as the six pioneers and delivered a meaningful speech. Our superior asserted upon the spirit of the Salesian sisters and the importance of the centenary celebration. She recalled the nostalgic memories of the six pioneers and the development of our congregation. The programme came to an end with the school anthem.

Sr. Viagappan Rosario Jebamani

## Love in the air: Community Christmas Charity 2021

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and the Lord will repay them for their deeds" – Proverbs 19:17

Christmas, indubitable a season of love and joy, was celebrated in a meaningful manner amidst the pandemic which has taken a heavy toll on the poor. Christmas day at Auxilium, Thanjavur has always been a day of being one with the poor and the marginalized. This year too, the day witnessed numerous needy persons and families

flocking to our campus, to have something to take back to their families. Groceries needed for a family, at least for a month was elegantly packed along with 5 kg of Rice for each family. While the community was prepared to offer it for 180 people, it was a surprise when around 270 persons from various parts of the locality



turned up, hoping to receive something. It was indeed challenging for us to plan and organize, and ensure that all received their gifts for Christmas. As the dictum in the Gospel instructs us, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you"(Luke 6:38), we practically were praying for a miracle of multiplication and began dividing the groceries in order to be able to give to all. Making them sit comfortably on the ground and with a moment of prayer and a short Christmas message, we began distributing the gifts to all who were present. All were satisfied and there was none who went empty-handed. One could sense a feeling of gratitude, and the people blessed everyone in the campus, as they strolled out with those gift bags.

The Christmas charity however did not end with this distribution. Even on the following days we witnessed needy persons, dropping in to our campus, seeking little favours and sources of sustenance and none were sent away with needs unanswered. The community distributed whatever it could, with joy and generosity to the needy and seeing their satisfaction and gratitude was the truest joy of Christmas. It was an overwhelming manifestation of God's abundant love and mercy to all God's people—it was indeed an experience of Love in the air!

Apart from the needy who approached us, our own domestic staff, the families of the adopted children of the community, and many other needy families were gifted with new clothes, bed sheets, towels and groceries for Christmas. Thanks to the goodness of God and all our benefactors, Christmas 2021 was indeed a meaningful celebration of God's Incarnate Love in the air, in our campus.

Sr. Samson Gnana Jennifer

#### **VADAKKU PAGANOOR**

#### **Meet on POCSO act**

It's imperative to communicate the knowledge on Child Protection Policy and POCSO Act 2012 to the members of the Educating Community. And so we invited our educating community members on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and explained to them about the act. It began with a short prayer where we prayed to God to grant us grace to build a safe environment for the children to grow in the likeness of God. Then the

Introductory talk was given by Sr. S. Pushpa Jeya on "Appreciating the weaknesses in oneself" which also can be turned into good.



Then Sr. Amalorpavanathan Premila Ruby spoke about "Child Protection Policy" and the way it functions and the positive outcome as it is being implemented in all the Salesian Institutions. Then Sr. Arockiasamy Rani Celine Mary showed the videos on the "POCSO" Act, as the women and girl children are facing lots of sexual harassment at home and in the society. We had group sharing and promised to build a safe environment for the girl children. Everyone accepted.

**Past Pupils Meet** 

"If the poor cannot come to education, Education must go to him - Swami Vivekananda"

There were nearly 35 past pupils gathered on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021 for past pupils meet and Sr. S. Pushpa Jeya our animator spoke to them about "Being and becoming Human" Then Sr. Arockiasamy Rani Celine Mary introduced Mrs. Deepa Manickam the Assistant Professor in Tamil Nadu National Law University and she spoke on the Law of evidence, Administrative Law, Cyber Laws and Professional Ethics and the ways and



means to give a secure life for the children. Then Sr. Rani Celine Mary thanked her for her vibrant sharing. The parents and the past pupils assured that they would be more responsible and make their children grow in the climate of love, care and acceptance.

Sr.Rani Celine

## NOVITIATE - TRICHY Project Mornese

Person 1: Hi dear! You look so bright and joyful. May I know the reason?

Person 2: Oh...Yes let me tell you. All are finding it difficult to get a visa during this post pandemic period. But we had an opportunity to see Mornese without having any passport or visa.

Person 1: Wow! What a privileged person you are. Then what's next...





It was a joyful and exciting event. It was nice to see and get to know the novices from different Countries like Cambodia, Philippines, Australia, USA and some provinces from India like INK and INB, INT and INM. We were divided into five groups. We came together with joy, to participate in the project Mornese in an Online Zoom meet on 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2021, with the title 'Today Mother writes a letter for you'. The meet started at 12 noon. The ambience was prepared with decorated pictures of Mother Mazzarello which was unveiled after a short ceremonial introduction and the traditional lamp was lit. The introductory talk was given by our Mother General Sr. Yvonne Reungoat.

The Formation General Councilor Sr. Rebosso Maria Nieves emphasized on the spirituality of Mother Mazzarello centered on the Eucharist and she insisted to us to meet Mother Mazzarello every 13<sup>th</sup> of the month by reading and writing a letter to her. Sr. Jeaette Palasota and Sr. Sahaya Sangitha Rani were the resource persons. The procedure of the programme began, as each Novitiate presented a three minute video on their daily life activities. We the INT and INM Novices of Diviyadhanam and Sacro Cuore di Gesu, were indeed happy to creatively share our formative activity in the Novitiate. The spirituality of Mother Mazzarello in the places where she lived was also delivered interestingly.

#### **Marian Week**

#### "Behold the handmaid of the Lord"

Everyone loves our Mother deeply. Only she understands our hearts. Only she can play a vital role in our life such as father, mother, friend, sister, teacher, guide, councilor and so on....Such was the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, as a simple,



humble ordinary woman, virgin and mother. We the Salesian sisters are proud to say that we are her daughters. To increase our love in our Mother Mary and to contemplate more about her, we the Divyadhanam Community celebrated "Marian Week" from 13/09/21 to 19/09/21. On 13<sup>th</sup> September our Mother Mistress Sr.Michael Cruz inaugurated the Marian week and Sr. Bernadine Lauzer presented to us the pre-figures of Mother Mary in the Old Testament. She prepared six of our Novices to act like pre-figures of Mother Mary and enacted like Eve, Ruth, Esther, Debora, Abigai and Judith – the pre-figures of Mother Mary. Our chief guest Sr. Arul shared her real experience of Mother Mary in her life.

On 14<sup>th</sup> September the day was surrendered to our dearest Sr. Robert Sandhiya Punitha. She spoke on "Mary in the Holy Church". She fed us the four dogmas of Mother Mary in detail, the Lord's entrustment of St. John the Apostle to Mother Mary and to the Church

On 18<sup>th</sup> Sr. Saratha explained about Mary's intervention in the life of the Saints. On the day of conclusion we cordially invited our Provincial community and the community of Vadakupaganur to our joyful celebration with Mary. The sisters of these communities came in haste to taste the love of Mary and to accompany us in loving celebration of our Mother Mary.

Sr. James Arockiya Doss Michael Avila and Sr. Joseph Arockiya Jency

## Ashram experience

"Jesus went up the mountain and called to Him those whom he wanted and they came to Him". [MK: 3:13]

It was ten days of experience with the Lord which God specially planned and gifted us to experience His love and to enter into the initiation process of becoming Christ conscious in the silence of our hearts. On 31<sup>st</sup> September we the first year novices with proper preparation accompanied by

Sr. Sebastine Princy, our Assistant went to the

Ashram in Mannivakkam, Chennai. We were warmly welcomed by the sisters of the Mannivakkam Community and at 6:30 p.m. we had our introductory talk which was given by Sr. Rosalia Doss and Sr. Pichai Mary Saroja.



The maturity of Christ was clearly explained by Sr. Rosalia Dass and she helped us to understand the human maturity levels from one level to another and made us to realize our sinful nature which separated us from His family. The sharing and the classes strengthened us to have a thirst to become children of God. The daily Adorations, brought newness into the lives of each one. Sr. Pichai Mary Saroja took classes about the call of God and Religious life in Thirukural. On the 8<sup>th</sup> day we renewed our Baptismal promises. We also had a chance to have an Eco-friendly spirituality that helped us to have a positive thought and to praise God.

## **Group Therapy**

"Gratitude is a thankful appreciation for what an individual receives whatever tangible or intangible."

We the second year novices with joy filled hearts began our course on group therapy from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> October. The course was animated by a vibrant person: Sr. Samson Gnana Jenifer FMA who is filled with



with lots of resources and experiences. It was the time where we went back to our past life and where we came to know how important each one's contribution is, in living, growing and working together. We had various group activities to increase our group spirit, creative way of animation and the psychological films which taught us lessons in life. We also learnt good and positive values from our experiences.

## **Community Experience**

"Serve the Lord in gladness in a deeply rooted Family Spirit"



Great joy and fervour filled our hearts as we went to the different communities for community experience. Though there had been a big void since we have had the exposure of the outside world due to the prevailing of the covid pandemic, this chance had been



given to us, in view of giving us a wider exposure of the present youth. Joyfully we the twelve second year novices set our foot out of the Novitiate to have a greater

It was a month's experience that we cherished beginning from 20<sup>th</sup> October to 20<sup>th</sup> November. Living in a community along with the sisters of different age group and different temperament was a kind of loving experience that we enjoyed. Joining the community for meals, recreation, other practices of piety and so on helped us to view the theory of the constitutions lived practically. The cheerful disposition of the sisters in their undertakings in the welfare of the mission was admirable.

On the other hand we also had a widespread experience of being with the youth of today. Great was the opportunity provided to us even in this time of great uncertainty.

**Christmas in Oratory** 

"Give to the full and Live to the full"

service and carried on with various programs presented by the novices like dance,

To make known the babe of Bethlehem present in the neediest, we invited all the oratorians of Ambethkar Nagar to take part in the Christmas celebration held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in Assist hall. The celebration commenced with a short prayer

Christmas songs and a skit based on the theme of Charity

the joy of sharing. Sr. Cruz Antony Michael the animator of our house articulated the joy of sharing by giving the examples of living heroes who set out in helping others during the time of the pandemic. At the end, dresses were given to our oratorians as a gift.

Sr. Arockiaraj Sawmiya Vinclate



# TIRUPPUR Relief Work



We the community of Marialaya, Tirupur reached out to 400 families on this day as a COVID 19 response, awareness and distribution of 10 kg rice, and two N 95 Masks to each family. Added to this 10 scavengers were given stitched dresses. On the following day 200 families were given nutrition kits for the children in two villages and sanitary napkins for 50 young girls of the villages. The Inspector of Police from the All women Police station Avinashi with other police members, Panchayat officer, Village leaders, Women group members, Anganwadi teachers and the Primary health center staffs were present.

## **Distribution of Yoga Certificates**

A certificate is a proof that we know what we are doing. It provides external validation that we have the skills needed to succeed. Yes, our Shelter home children aged seven and above had the opportunity of participating in Yoga classes for forty five days. With lots of appreciation and gratitude to all the Lions club members the certificates were distributed to our children by the team members of Lions club.





## **Evening Coaching Centres**

The community at Tiruppur has 25 evening study centres with 625 children helping them to continue their schooling without dropping out from school. This year as all of us are aware of the situations, these children are provided with 12 tabs to continue their online class as well as English. Children also learned and enjoyed the walk and talk programme.



### **Awareness on Child Abuse**



Marialaya, Tiruppur made a week as SI DOSTI WEEK from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> this year with the aim of preventing children from various abuses. Awareness programmes were given in various schools and the villages. Mrs.Saraswathi, Inspector of Police – All Women Police Station of Avinashi, explained

the procedure of dealing with child abuse cases. She also explained the consequences of child marriage, at the same time she explained about the POCSO act 2012. Sr.Antony Lourdu Sagayam highlighted some of the effects of child marriage and explained how to save oneself from dangerous situations.

## **Children's Day Celebration**

Children's day at Marialaya Tiruppur was celebrated in a meaningful way. The day started with a spiritual tone in thanking God for the gift of life and the childhood experience in a safe place by holding a light in each child's hand. The theme chosen was "I am responsible for my safety".





## Ear Piercing - A Day Celebration

The community was very glad to do the significant ritual that is usually performed for girl children. Seven of our home children were waiting for this day. Mr. Durai Raj and the team of Arema Sangam were ready to lend a helping hand for our children to perform the ear piercing. A group of Lions club members arrived at 10:00 a.m. Fr. Henry Daniel the Correspondent of Bishop



Ubagarasami Higher secondary school blessed the ceremony. We the community sisters and staff members were very excited to see our kids with an adorable cute pair of earrings.

Sr.Lourdhu Sagayam

# KEELA ERAL SILVER JUBILEE

"God's love for us is endless.
God's thought about us is limitless.
God's grace towards us is boundless.
God's protection over us is fathomless"

It is very true to us the community of Sangamam, Keela Eral as we witness His love and grace everyday especially during this month, as our house and hearts resound with resound with the song of jubilation. We are very happy to pen these few lines in our news letter to share our joy with all and raise our gratitude to the Almighty. The long awaited day dawned with greater and brighter lights on 23<sup>rd</sup> October as we had the twin jubilee celebration of our community Sangamam and the religious





profession of our dear Sr.Irudayaarasi. It was a day of great joy and cheer as we celebrate the presence of the sisters in Keela Eral. During the Provincialship of Sr. Arul Josephine of the then undivided province of Chennai the Salesian sisters set foot in Keela Eral on 24<sup>th</sup> august 1996 at the invitation of the Most. Rev. S. J. Amalanther DD, the then bishop of the diocese of Tuticorin. Since then the mission has branched out and embraced many young people in its shade as evening coaching centres, parish ministry, Auxilium matriculation higher secondary school, Auxilium hostel, women groups, children parliament, etc. We are very much delighted with the growth of our mission.

We also rejoice at the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the religious profession of our dear Sr.Irudayaarasi. It was really a time of grace and thanksgiving for these 25 years of God's faithfulness and love. Fr. Dinesh, a diocesan priest from Sivagangai diocese incharge of social communications was the main celebrant of the day and around 20 Salesians and neighbouring diocesan priests con-celebrated the Holy Mass. After the homily Sr. Arasi renewed her faithfulness to God by pronouncing the formula of her profession. Sr. Arasi thanked everyone after the mass. May her fidelity and love continue to inspire many young people and may our house Sangamam be the path for many youngsters to tread and to follow the lore and save many souls for God.

## **Human Rights Day**



Human Rights Day was held in our Auxilium School on 10<sup>th</sup> December and all the students participated and portrayed the basic rights of humanity according to our constitutions, social status of women and downtrodden and on the theme of unity through their mime, dance, drama and awareness song. The Parish Priest Fr. Paulsamy headed this event and through his talk made them to realize how valuable the human beings are and, how we need to respect each other.



## **Investiture Ceremony**

"Leadership is the capacity to translate vision to reality." To make this thought into reality our Auxilium Matriculation Higher Secondary School conducted the Investiture Ceremony for this academic year. The class leaders and School Pupil Leader, Vice School pupil leader, Sports Leader, Leaders of various groups and the Volunteers were chosen and the Teachers trained them



well for the ceremony of taking their responsibility Fr. Sebastian Antony Victor, the Rector and the Secretary of the Auxilium Arts and Science College Keela Eral presided over the function and spoke to them on being responsible leaders.

Sr. Arokia Mary

#### **THERESPURAM**

## An unforgettable adventurous Night

The night on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021 was dark, calm, silent and deserted. It was drizzling and the only light came from the dim street lamps on the road. One could hear a few desperate dogs barking somewhere in the distance. Sr. Soosaimanikkam Josephine returned to the convent after a tiring work schedule at Malar Clinic. The night watchman was on leave and it was left up to her to finally close the gates. She was rudely startled, alarmed and petrified when sister saw four young boys sneaking into our campus from behind the parish gate. This was really frightening for they were shabbily dressed and looked fierce. Scared, Sr. Josephine was voiceless and she could feel her sweat like beads of pearls run down her forehead and neck.

Gathering courage sister rang Sr. Kannikam Maria Savariyammal; she warned her not to respond to any knock upon the main doors. "Fear" filled the air around. It was quarter past nine... Sr. Josephine quietly but quickly hurried to the house next door. Skeptical of what would be next..... To our surprise and consolation, the families were so supportive; they confidently walked into our campus raising their voices and asking the thieves to surrender or leave the place as quick as they could. The crowd gathered and we recommended the sisters to inform the police of the same. These thrilling moments will be remembered by all of us in the community. One would admit that the presence of Mother Mary and her guiding force had been witnessed through not only Sr. Josephine but also through our loving neighbours.



## **Human Rights Day**



We celebrated the Human Rights Day and the Constitution Day on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 with the teachers and students of standard 6 to 12, presided by our Principal Sr. Immaculate Diaz and hosted by the Staff in-charge of the Human Rights Education in our school. with a simple prayer moment, we

initiated the celebration, in which we prayed for the true existence of gender equality and to exercise Right to Education, for the happy living of mankind. A short film titled "Humanity" was screened. The significance of the Right to Education for all even during these days of the pandemic was further discussed.

## **Investiture Ceremony**

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then you are a leader".

Our school Auxilium Matric Hr. Sec. School cherishes the tradition of providing opportunities to students in various activities to compete for excellence through knowledge and virtue, the joint collaboration of the management, staff and students strive to work with the spirit of Christ, our founders Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello empowering our students to excel in their sphere of interest thereby helping them to be enlightened to enlighten. Rev. Sr. Rosy our Superior awarded the



badges and handed over the flags to the prefects of the academic year. She inspired the children pointing out the qualities of a good leader.

# Centenary celebration Journey well begun

The Salesian family set their spirits high as they happily celebrated with great gusto and gaiety on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 the prestigious moments of the six valiant heroines from Turin (Sr. Teresa Balestra, Sr. Maria Angeleri, Sr. Caterina Marnetto,





Sr. Luigina Appiano, Sr. Consiglia Tarricone and Sr. Teresa Merlo) arriving in India a number of years ago. Celebrating and reliving the life of the six sisters were cherishing moments. The gathering claimed to be enthralled with the spectacular parade of the participants lead by three of our senior staff waving colourful balloons while they entered the ceremonial grounds.

Our Superior Sr. Anthonyswamy Rosy declared open the celebration in commemeration of the centenary calling it "The beginning" ... Sr. Rosy then hoisted the special centenary flag symbolizing the great inaugural of the centenary year.

Sr.Immaculate

#### **VIDES**

"Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes" - Mt 20:34.

It was indeed a great day on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021 when the VIDES members made a visit to Fr. Paul Alangaram's Home for the Blind, at Thalamuthu Nagar, Tuticorin accompanied by Sr. Savariammal, the local VIDES co-ordinator. It was a distinct spiritual experience like that of the With the help of various benefactors, VIDES members



collected a good number of soaps, toothpaste, toothbrushes, snacks, towels, skirts and other things that amounted to Rs. 5000/-. The gifts were handed over to the inmates in person who received them joyfully and gratefully. They expressed their gratitude in assisting them in their needs.



## **Christmas by VIDES**

## "Intense love does not measure, it just gives" - Mother Teresa

With great joy we the members of VIDES, Therespuram planned to celebrate Christmas at Francis Peuson, A Home for the physically challenged children, Loorthammalpuram, Tuticorin, run by the Sacred Heart Sisters. They gathered at that home on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 with a variety



of gifts that included MamyPoko Pants, Cerelac, Grains, Bed Sheets, Towels etc... The gifts were worth Rs.12,000/-. It was a strenuous effort of the VIDES members to go out and raise the funds from benefactors for the little children. Their success is well appreciated.

# "We multiply the joy of God by sharing it" - Pope Francis

In addition to this, one of our VIDES members offered to share his Christmas joy with the children of Rev. Fr.A. J. Lourdes Memorial Home for Deaf and Dumb. On a fine day, lunch was offered for those children, the expenses for which were about Rs.6000/-. It was a moment to cherish for us. The children and the management were very happy and grateful for the service attitude that the VIDES members had towards the poor and the needy.

Sr. Savariammal,

Vides Coordinator - Therespuram.

### M. SAVERIARPURAM

# New Community at Nesamaninagar, Tuticorin



The presence of FMA sisters at M.Saveriarpuram began on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 with a mission at St.Antony's school owned by Tuticorin Diocese managed by the parish priest as correspondent, a FMA sister working as Headmistress. It was the dream of sisters of Trichy province to establish and start a home in Mullakkadu area and Saveriarpuram including Abirami nagar and Kamaraj nagar.



# **Inauguration and Blessing**

By the blessings of God the Almighty, we inaugurate the new convent 'Auxilium Convent' at Nesamaninagar, M.Saveriarpuram, Tuticorin on 03<sup>rd</sup> August 2021, Rev.Sr.Devaraj Jeyarani as the administrator, Rev. Sr. Savarimuthu Annamanickam and Rev. Sr. Antony Rajapushpam as members of the community. The inaugural mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Selva George, the parish priest of M.Saveriarpuram as chief celebrant with Fr. Soosai Amalraj and Fr. Antonysamy of Therespuram as cocelebrants. At the end of the Mass new Blessed Sacrament was installed at new Tabernacle in the convent New Chapel. The presence of sisters from near by communites, people from our parish, VIDES members added joy and cheer to the day. Sr.Jeyarani thanked everyone for their presence.

# **Human Rights Day**

Human Rights Day was celebrated in the premises of Auxilium Convent at Nesamaninagar- M.Saveriarpuram on 16.12.2021. The students of evening coaching class with the help of Rev. Sr.Devaraj Jeyarani and Ms. Shanmugapriya, the coaching class teacher organized the programme. Mr. Amarnath was the Chief Guest, Sr.Jeyarani and Sr. Savarimuthu Annamanickam also shared the dais. The chief guest in his address spoke on the rights of each citizen at different stages of life and the



responsibility of each one in the society and the rights of the society which were well received and appreciated by all. The children also performed various cultural programmes and an oath was taken by everyone at the function.

Sr.Jeyarani

# CELEBRATING MARY AND HONOURING THE MISSIONARIES



"An evangelizing community gets involved in word and deed in people's daily lives; it bridges distances, it is willing to abase itself if necessary and it embraces human life, touching the suffering flesh of Christ in others (Pope Francis)".

The month of October is dedicated to Holy Rosary and Mission. The missionary mandate received by our founders and lived by so many missionaries gives life to our congregation till today. Being part of this great missionary congregation we the sisters of the province of INT celebrated the month of October joyfully in our communities with four weeks of festivity.

1<sup>st</sup> week: Rosary animation and one of the pioneer's lives to be presented to the community.

2<sup>nd</sup> week: Rosary with the educating community and present the missionary aspects of St. Joseph.

3<sup>rd</sup> week: Rosary animation in the school/with the inmates and one or two sisters to share their vocation and religious experiences.

4<sup>th</sup> week: Family Rosary/BCC and the Bible quiz from the Acts of the Apostles for the community.

Sr. Arockiya Sophiya.S

Coordinator for Mission.

### **MARIALAYA - COIMBATORE**



The Marialaya community at Coimbatore was delighted to celebrate Mother Mary during the month of October and honored our missionaries. Rosary was animated along with the presentation of pioneer's life to the community. We were happy to invite our educating community members and prayed with them presenting the missionary aspects of St. Joseph. Our Salesian Cooperators joined with us and prayed the Holy Rosary. The community sisters shared their vocation and religious experiences with our inmates and offered special rosary for many more vocation in our congregation. During the last week of the month, we prayed the rosary with the families in Basic Christian Communities of our parish..



#### **BROADWAY**

"Rosary is not only a prayer but a mission to be lived in"

With this attitude, our FX family at Broadway celebrated the month of rosary recalling the missionaries of our congregation. Sr. Fernando Majella presented to the community the life of Sr. Giovanna Castelli, insisting on the prominent virtues of the silent saint, who traveled from place-to-place bearing Jesus and Mary and spiritually nourishing the areas he visited with his holy, honest, and committed existence. We prayed the rosary with Don Bosco, and his dreams that are connected with Mary along with our



boarders. The dreams were enacted and Mary's message to Don Bosco's boys was explicitly mentioned and, we prayed for the young people of the world. The Blessed Virgin Mary was carried majestically and lovingly around the campus with great fervor and devotion. The entire month was filled with the fragrance of rosaries everywhere in the campus. We really cherished our experience with Mary most Holy, through the power of the rosary.

#### MARIALAYA - GEORGE TOWN

We the sisters and the children of Marialaya gathered around Mother Mary to render our gratitude to her throughout the month of October. During the first week Sr. Joseph Julie Nirmala shared the life of our Pioneer Sr. Luignia Appiano and kindled the spirit of our founder and love for the missions. We were able to gather our educating community members for the second week and Sr. Arokia Sujatha Mary the animator of our community helped us to unite us in praying the rosary. We took the statue of our Blessed Mother to the whole house and prayed for the children, their family members and for their future during the third week of the month. We felt the loving presence of our mother in all our endowers. During the last week we the sisters went to one of our Educating Community members Mrs. Sagaya Selvi's family, to share the Good News and prayed the Holy Rosary. We were happy to share the blessing of our mother with our Salesian family members.

#### **REGUNATHAPURAM**

The month of rosary was well kept up in the community and in the Hostel. Each day the rosary was animated by our girls in different groups. On all Tuesdays the community sisters joined to pray the rosary along with the inmates with different



intentions. Every Saturday of the month we had a procession while reciting the rosary around the hostel building. In this one month of praying the rosary we were called to be true imitators of Mary. Her presence was felt everywhere and we lived this month in her company. Mary was invoked at all times, her statues were decorated and placed in front of the hostel and prayed to constantly. Mary was here, there and everywhere. Thus, we were happy to deepen the devotion to our Mother Mary with our inmates.

#### **PULIADITHAMMAM**

"No prayer is more meritorious for the soul and more glorious for Jesus and Mary more than a well recited rosary"-St. Louis de Montfort With filial love and great devotion to Mary the sisters of Arunodaya community prayed the Rosary throughout the month. Being the month of the missionaries, Sr. Sandal Princy presented the life Sr. Teresa Blastra the pioneer who sowed the Salesian charism in our soil. It concluded with a quiz competition and it helped the sisters to learn the life history of our pioneer. Praises of Mary



resounded in our campus on 19<sup>th</sup> October with the members of the educating community. More than 50 people gathered for a Marian evening celebration in front of St. Joseph. Sr. Maria Arul Paulia Mary and our students presented the missionary aspect of St. Joseph to the participants. On the second Sunday of the month we prayed the rosary along with our parish catechism children for the various needs of our village. In the third week the rosary was animated by Sr. Arockia Sophia and Sr.Kulanthai Theresa. It was a great opportunity to share our vocation with the young people. Sr. Joseph Kulanthai Theresa shared her vocation, how Mother Mary helped her in her vocational journey. Throughout the month along with the Salesians we have visited the catholic families of our parish and prayed the rosary with them. It was a great help for us to experience the blessings of our Mother Mary and we were happy to spread the devotion of our Blessed Mother.

Sr. Joseph Kulanthai Theresa

# **THANJAVUR**

The Holy Rosary is a storehouse of countless blessings, a powerhouse of spiritual strength. The community sisters of Thanjavur, experienced immense blessings as we honoured our Blessed Mother along with the hostellers and boarders. The hostellers and boarders prayed in front of Our Lady's grotto in the hostel premises, every evening along with sisters. A flag hoisting and a Marian procession that followed was a



special initiative that highlighted the celebration of the Rosary during these days! The filial voices of the young echoing the loving praises of our Blessed Mother filled the air in the campus, and brought alive the Maternal presence.

Sr. Jennifer Samson fma

#### **NOVITIATE-TRICHY**

"To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate the face of Christ with Mary"- Pope John Paul II

We the community of Sacra Cuore di Gesu' Novitiate Manikandam, Tirucirappalli celebrated the month of Rosary in a grand manner to honour and spread the devotion to our Blessed Mother in our mission field. Twice a week the Sisters and the Novices went to visit the families and prayed the Rosary with the families. It was a new experience for the Sisters and the Novices during this pandemic. During the missionary month we shared the life and goodness of the pioneers in the community during the spiritual reading. We had an enriching experience with the core group members, workers and Catholic families and with the memories of our beloved pioneers. Pope Pius XII says that "There is no surer means of calling down God's blessing upon the family than the daily recitation of the Rosary". We thank our Blessed Mother for all her continuous blessings and guidance.

#### **AUXILIUM PROVINCIAL HOUSE-TRICHY**

The month of Rosary in combination with the Missionary month paved a way for vocational fruitfulness in each of us in Auxilium Provincial House. Mary mother and guide of our institute was visibly present in our lives. Every day was new, every week brought many surprises. "I will ever be grateful to Mother Merlo" said Sr.KumbukkalRosa, on narrating her experience with the youngest Pioneer to India. We could see tears in her eyes as she was also sharing about her former superior Sr.Consiglia Tarricone. It was much more interesting to listen to Sr.Arul and Sr.Anjela

who were Novices in the time of Mother Merlo. After a devout rosary we gathered together for such a sharing. We were enlightened by one another. Praying the rosary with our house staff created a family bond within us. "I felt more peaceful and blessed when I joined to pray the rosary with you" exclaimed our house staff, who also animated the rosary devotedly. Finally we blessed our campus carrying Our Lady for the protection and good health of the entire world during this time of pandemic.

Mary's special presence in our Institute is our powerful help.

We feel accompanied, preceded, guided by her. We are an Institute that is all of Mary, therefore with boldness and prayer let's move forward with enthusiasm.



- Mother Chiara Cazzuola



















