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INVINCIBLE





Editorial

"In the depth of winter I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer"

Albert Camus

The various events and experiences recorded in this issue of Snow.com reveal the invincible spirit of struggle that exists in each one of us. The theme, 'vulnerable yet invincible' echoes down the pages with the invitation to face the challenge till the end.

You can see our vulnerability in our locks, our gates, our motion sensors, our alarm systems. It's evident from the endless passwords, the extra digits on the back of a credit card, and the x-ray machines and full-body scans at the airport. We have our seat belts and airbags, our helmets, pads, and face masks. We have insurance policies, retirement plans, and social security. Some carry pepper spray, or mace, or a whistle on a keychain. It affects what we eat, where we go, how much we exercise, who we talk to, what we say, how we live. We are desperate for an enduring sense of safety and security. Whatever rugged, seemingly fearless veneer we may be able to muster on the outside, deep down inside we know we are vulnerable. To be human is to be vulnerable - ever exposed to attack, natural disaster, miscalculation, sabotage, disease, heart failure, and more. We long to feel safe, but life in this world is fraught with risks and dangers — even when we refuse to leave the house.

Listening to the people affected by Cyclone Gaja was a soul searching moment. Every person I met, had a story to tell, whether rich or poor, young or old. I found my heart levitating between buoyancy and heaviness as I scrolled down the pages in which I had taken note of case narratives. Some of the cases made me to frown, others elicited a quick prayer for having a privileged life. Amidst all this gloomy picture my heart captured a ray of optimism which kept me probing down within.

The words once pronounced by a woman in distress flashed into my memory, "But getting locked up set me free!" She said that getting locked up set her free to ask questions that she had long buried in her heart. When tried and trapped to make choice between life and death the vulnerable spirit rejuvenates with courage and becomes invincible. The natural calamities, child abuse, rape and murder of innocent girls and the violation of human rights seem to speak in volumes about the vulnerability and at the same time the invincible human spirit which manifested itself in relief work, rallies, gestures of sensitivity and readiness to serve the other, thus calling us to carry on our existence with hope and courage.

Editorial Team :

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Celebration of Gratitude day, Human rights day, Christmas, Easter, Children's day, Women's day, answering ones call to serve the humanity... were moments that aided us in keeping alive the constructive spirit within to become resilient to the challenges posed my life.

Life seems to be nothing more than turning pain into power, fear into faith and transforming vulnerable into invincible.

Sr. Azarias Arokia Mary Selvi FMA

Together with the Young

“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.”

In a society different strata and groups of people live; such as young, old, rich and poor; the most important and significant proxy of a society which plays a decisive role is the youth and fresh generation of that society. If we analyze the role and duty in a society we can say as; youth are back bone to the nation. They can change the future of the society with their well being and courageous behavior.

Youth are great seekers of meaning as rightly stated by Pope Francis in the "Instrumentum laboris" of the Synod on Youth. As educators we are called to accompany them in making life choices. We are called to be present in the digital world where they keep themselves engaged most of the time. We need to guard them against behaviors of discarding others, irresponsible consumer choices and thus prevent them from contributing to generating indifference and exclusion.

As daughters of Don Bosco and Maria Mazzarello, we are called to accompany the young and assist them in making a difference in their lives. The exhortation of Don Bosco, “It is not enough to love the young: they must know that they are loved” is the magic wand which will enable us to work miracles through our choices and interventions. The godly passion of saving the souls of youth within Don Bosco cried out to be transformed into mission. It continues to cry out today in our own hearts. For when it is truly of God, this zeal, this passion has its own way of drawing us deeper and deeper into a vortex of apostolic energy and Christian love. We are called to be friends of the young, present to them, actively engaged in their lives, but always wanting them to belong to God through the work of our hands.

We sisters should meet the young in their own space, no matter what they are “doing”. We know how Don Bosco stole money from the young gamblers and encouraged the young people to chase him right back to base, where he introduced them to others, and eventually gave them their money back, with their promise of returning on the following days. Their motivation at the start was to get their money – still very relevant today – but we like to think that the atmosphere that was



created in the “Oratory” was such that they felt eventually at home. Don Bosco followed an innovative way to relate himself with the young. “In those things that are for the benefit of young people in danger or which serve to win souls to God, I push ahead even to the point of recklessness” (BM 14,281) As we follow him, we should be innovative and courageous in our own ways.

Tips to attract youth :

- ★ Listen to their aspirations.
- ★ Be interested in their world, where they are on their journey, without judging.
- ★ Use innovative ways of meeting them on “their space”.
- ★ Go through their door, to bring them out through your door.
- ★ Keep yourself always ahead (on the vision, on the Lord). Never look down (think negatively). Never look back (regret, counting the cost). “Never, Ever, Give up”. Find ways to praise, to appreciate and to encourage them.
- ★ Give them the large dream, and the small dreams to look forward to, “One step at a time”.
- ★ Offer them what they need, mixed with what they want, starting from where they are.
- ★ Use creative ways to occupy themselves in our mission.
- ★ Create an atmosphere where they feel good about being with you.
- ★ Volunteer yourself to “enter their doors”. Never try to force them to enter your ground.
- ★ Peer pressure can also lead them to behave in negative ways. We should be the moral support to help them in their trouble.

“Education is a matter of the heart and ask God for the keys.” As Salesian educators, let's seek Our Lord's help to assist the young and build up a better society and thereby a better Nation.

Let us walk with the young hand in hand and together create a better world.

Sr. Diaz Francis Immaculate

NEWS TIT BITS FROM OUR HOUSES

THERESPURAM

NUMERICAL FEAST



Mathematics or math, is the study of numbers and how they are related to each other and to the real world. Math is as important as language. In fact, people sometimes describe math as a kind of language. Everyone uses math every day—to tell time, to play games, to cook, to build things, and to do almost any kind of work. Students of Little Flower R. C High School Therespuram participated in the Mathematics association with great enthusiasm. Mrs. Lalitha Bai and Mrs. Venciya were the Chief Guests. The association kept the students engaged with puzzles, quiz and competitions. The students of VI std sang a song explaining the various types of triangle. They also presented the mathematical formulas in a very creative way. The VII std students

acted out a drama about the need of mathematics today. Teachers appreciated the students with small prizes and encouraged them to keep up the same spirit all throughout the academic year. Ms. Yesuvadiyal B.Ed training teacher gave her best contribution to the association. Sr.Santhanamary the Headmistress honored the teachers with ponnadi and appreciated them for their hard work, creative thinking and for their active and lively involvement in educating our children.

Mathematics has now become an interesting venture for our students who are ready with a resolved mind to learn maths at any cost.

FUN FILLED CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Happy childhood is an investment for a healthy society. A fun filled and meaningful celebration of the Children's Day was held at Little Flower R.C High School. Games, cultural programmes and gifts filled the air with applause and appreciation. Selvan. Samson and

Selvi. Abinaya were the Chief Guests for the day. The B.Ed Trainees conducted games and distributed prizes to encourage the children.

The strenuous preparation and the love displayed in the cultural performance of teachers made the children feel excited and happy. Sweets and savories made the day more delightful.

CELEBRATION OF TOGETHERNESS



The entire campus in Little Flower Convent, Therespuram was filled with a single note of “Listening and Accompaniment” which was the theme of gratitude day celebration on 23rd November 2018. The one month long preparation strengthened family spirit among the Sisters and the Educating Community members as we were united in prayer and efforts to make our mission for the young meaningful and committed. It was a summit of celebration as the three schools came to together to celebrate sentiments of gratitude. Sr. Pushpa

Jeya the Animator expressed her appreciation and gratitude to one and all for the display of love and family spirit which marked the celebration. She gave a meaningful message of being grateful and distributed sweets to all to mark the joy of the day.

MEDIA MATTERS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

Living in the era of media it is essential to possess media literacy to make correct choices and enjoy the positive effects of Media. Sr. Arockiam Santhanamary the Media Coordinator animated a Seminar on media for the students of VIII and IX std on 12th December 2018. PowerPoint Presentations and Video Clippings were used effectively to explain the



merits and demerits of social media. The students were involved in a participatory learning mode which favoured their spontaneous expressions of feelings and doubts regarding the usage of media. A critical analysis of the advertisements

were done in order to help the children to understand the effects of the information shared through such marketing strategies. It was an eye opener for the students who pledged to be critical in viewing media hence forth.

Human Rights Day celebration at Little Flower R.C High School, Therespuram :

STRONG PEOPLE STAND UP FOR THEMSELVES... BUT STRONGER PEOPLE STAND UP FOR OTHERS.



Celebration of the Human Rights Day was marked by the rally undertaken by 300 school children on the roads of Therespuram to raise voice against child labour on 15th December 2018. The rally was flagged off by Sr. Arockiam Santhanamary, the Headmistress of Little Flower R.C High school, Therespuram. The rally began in the school campus and passed through all petty shops, hotels, juice shop, and mechanic shop. The participants

held placards with the message against employing child labor and the provisions in law that paves way for stringent punishment against the violators. Placards also asked people to cooperate in the fight against child labor and join as agents of social transformation. The commendable effort has left ripples of questions in the people who expressed their internal disturbance against the situation while speaking to the children after the rally. The effort has reinforced the goodness in the society to fight against unjust practices.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Eight children received Holy Communion for the first time on 30th December 2018 at St. Little Flower Church, Therespuram. This day was the initial step into their lifelong love of the Eucharist. It was an opportunity to give them hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to God for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship. The innocence and goodness of the children were significant as they spoke about our responsibility towards their spiritual growth.

A DAY OF SOWING VOCATION



“Vocations are born of prayer and from prayer and only through prayer can they persevere and bear fruit”. – Pope Francis.

On 15th January 2019 the community of Therespuram conducted vocation day for 33 girls. The participants were from Little Flower School and Auxilium Matric School, Therespuram and the students from M.Saveriyarpalayam accompanied by Sr. Annamanickam. The program started with the invocation to the Holy Spirit followed by the introductory talk given by Sr. Pushpa Jeya the Animator of the community who gave an inspiring overview about vocation and its importance in one's life. The energizers conducted by Sr. Santhana mary spurred the zeal of the participants. In the first session

animated by Sr. Celine Santiago was about the life history of Don Bosco and she made it more interesting by sharing her own vocation story. Sr. Antonia explained the Salesian Charism, life of Mother Mazzarello and the Salesian style of life in the second session. It was followed by an interesting session of sharing and clarification of doubts.

The Sisters of the community accompanied the participants to prayer in the chapel to thank God for the experience gained and for all the blessings gained. The participants set out enriched by the experience to discern their vocation.



GT MARIALAYA

PONGAL CELEBRATION :

“Nature is God which expresses the unseen mightiness of divine power”



Pongal the harvest festival was celebrated with sentiments of gratitude to God for being present in nature on 14th January 2019. Students came in their traditional dresses and exhibited joy and pride as they filled the campus with the land's cultural aura. The programme commenced with a reading from Gospel, followed by a prayer song. A grace filled dance and an inspiring drama was enacted by the students. Sr. Arul Mary the Animator, Sr. Saradha and staffs lovingly and joyfully prepared and served delicious sweet pongal to the student. They encouraged everyone to know the significance of Pongal, and to uphold the traditional values. Sr. Caroline the Coordinator appreciated the teachers for their efforts in utilizing the opportunities to impart cultural values and appreciation for the festivals which are sacred moments to establish love, unity and strengthen relationship.

PENNY FROM THE PENNILESS

“Giving is not just about making a donation; it is about making a difference”



This wonderful difference was made by our dear adopted Child Ms. Jasmine of Broadway Marialaya during our campaign for Gaja relief work. She lives in G.T Marialaya from her childhood with her past pathetic story. She is not very much educated but has learnt the values of life from our sisters. She is well known for her generous heart as she used to help the poor children in Mariyalaya house and we were moved when she offered Rs.10000/- from her savings for the people who lost their livelihood in the cyclone. She is also well known for her good memory and hard work. She remembers all the sisters' Birthdays, death anniversaries and never misses to wish and pray for them. We pray that God may reward her noble heart to go out the Way to help others. Let her act of charity may inspire many more young people around.

(Ms. Jasmine our orphan's help for Gaja cyclone)

NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY

“Every child is God's gift to the world, born to accomplish his designs”.

29th January 2019 dawned as an opportune moment to create awareness on children's rights and their need for protection. Eight hundred and fifty girl children from

different schools participated in the programme including Sisters, School teachers, and staff of Marialaya, faculty members from Madras School of Social work and their College students. The programme began with a small prayer and lighting of the Kuthuvilakku followed by welcome speech delivered by Sr. Sebastiar Caroline and the guest were felicitated.

Sr. Arul Mary, the Animator emphasized the importance of working from the grass roots of the society and introduced the panelist.



Mrs. Sharmila the Advocate from High Court outlined the various measure put in place to improve the condition of the girl child in our country, especially in Tamilnadu. Prof. Subashree the psychologist form Madras School of Social work spoke about the inequalities faced by girls, including rights of a girl child, importance of education, health, and nutrition.

The reason and importance of the Girl Child celebration was given by Mrs. Damen Queen Assistant Professor of P.G. Department of Social work at Madras School of social work. She also explained about the rights and importance of the Girl Child. Mrs. Dhanammal, the Senior Police Inspector brought out the different problems faced by the girl children and young girls in Chennai city. She brought out many cases which were filed in W.15 Rayapuram station and explained the causes for the problem. She motivated them to be careful in daily life situations and invited to work for the rights of girl children in the family and society.

The MSSW Students of Madras School of Social work performed a street play on "Save the Girl Child" and mime on Gender equality. The skit was very apt and significant, our Marialaya home children also staged a beautiful dance with the theme. The day called off with the pledge to establish a gender just society.



"God's Love is unbounded;
It has No Limits."
- Pope Francis

GRATITUDE UNLOCKS THE FULLNESS OF LIFE.

It was a day of celebration of our life together in Francis Xavier convent as we celebrated our gratitude day on 31st October 2018. "Relaunching Holiness" was the theme of our celebration and the day was filled with the spirit of joy and gratitude as a result of our preparation for a month. The day dawned with sentiments of thanksgiving expressed during the prayer moments. Sr. Majella the Animator, Sisters and other Salesian family members were welcomed by the staff and children followed by the colorful cultural programme by the school children which voiced out gratitude. The highlight of the celebration was the Eucharistic celebration wherein all of us were united as a family to thank God and one another for our life and mission.

**INTER RELIGIOUS MEET :**

"Peace among the religions is a precondition for the world peace "

- Swami Agnivesh

Our world today is constantly wounded by war, violence and conflict among religions which leads to brutal actions of violations of human rights. At this peak time it is our duty to form the young minds to live in unity and fraternal love. And so we had inter-religious meet on 17th Nov 2018 in Our Lady's Matriculation School and 29th November in St. Francis Xavier Anglo Indian Hr. Sec. School Broadway.



The day's events started with an invocation to God through all faith prayer. The three major religions were highlighted and the words from each religion's Holy Book were read. Rev. Fr. Bharathi from St. Francis Xavier Church shared his experience of God through Christian practice of piety and explained about the salvation history from the beginning of world till Christ's birth, death and resurrection. Later Mr. Muthupandi, the Advocate in Chennai High Court

shared his views on Hinduism and finally Mr. Azrath Chief Iman of Muslim trust spoke about attaining God through self - discipline and meditation. It was an inspiring eye opener for the students to notice that all three religions speak about the love of God which finds its expression in the love for neighbors. Students enacted a mime titled 'Unity in diversity' which imparted the message of respecting religions and ensuring human dignity for everyone.

RALLY TO PROTECT THE GIRL CHILDREN :

**“Girls are the spirit of our nation.
Give them wings to fly and not the
pain to cry and die”**



In a move to promote 'Child abuse and violence free Tamilnadu the management of our Lady's Matriculation school, Broadway initiated a peace rally on 13th Nov 2018, condemning the atrocities against girls.

It was an apt day to fight for our girls as we celebrated the feast of our Co - founderess St. Mary Mazzarello

who spent her life for the upliftment of young girls. Students from the neighboring schools joined in rising voice for the vulnerable girls. The rally began with empowering inputs by Mr. Balasingh a Social activist and Mr. Arul Doss a well unknown writer and social activist who spoke about the laws and regulation prevalent in the country to protect children and highlighted the achievements of few girls and women like Malala Yousafzai , Mary Kom. Students were motivated to stand for their rights and dignity. Students shouted aloud fiery slogans asking justice for the girls who were killed and promoted awareness among the public to safeguard the rights of children. The effort ended as a successful achievement due to the collaboration of the neighboring schools, parents, Salesian Family members and City Police. May the journey continue towards realizing a just and safe society.



**70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL
DECLARATION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS DAY:**

In St. Francis Xavier A. I. School ;

In view of 70th anniversary of declaration of International Human rights day we celebrated the Human rights day on 30th Nov 2018. Mr. Udhayakumar, Social Activist was the Chief Guest. He holds PhD in political science and has visited many universities and colleges in and around the country. He spoke about the importance of learning and updating oneself with the knowledge about the current situation and acting prudently as women. A candle light procession was organized as a prayer for the girls who died in recent abuses. Members of 'Thinainila Vasigal' Team, a group of students from Loyola College presented a street play illustrating the cruel abuses and violations committed against girl children and invited the students to commit themselves and to stand for the rights and dignity of every human in the society.



In Our Lady's Matric. School :

70th anniversary of International Humanrightsday was commemorated on 7th December 2018. Mrs. Sherine Asha a social worker was the Chief Guest of the day. The schedule commenced with a candle light procession and prayer to honor the victims of abuse and violence. The students enacted the abuse of a 11 years old girl in Aynavaram, Chennai and a mime on the theme 'Being human entitled to fundamental rights' was presented to the audience. The Chief Guest in her address exhorted the students to appreciate oneself and to cultivate feminine qualities. She motivated the students to face situations courageously respecting their parents and serving the nation. She strongly insisted on healthy management of emotions and food habits. The enlightened students and resolved to change their habits for better future.



**Retirement and Jubilee celebration
in St. Francis Xavier:**

**“The end of all knowledge should
a service to others.**



We appreciate and acknowledge the contribution of our stalwarts of education on the occasion of the retirement of Mrs. Ethel and the Silver Jubilee celebration of Mrs. Mrs.Sujatha of St.Francis Xavier school and Mrs. Shakilla, Mrs. Sophie and Mrs. Sharmila of Our Lady's Matric School.

MANIKANDAM

LOVE IN ACTION



Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none (Lk 3:11).

Cyclone Gaja brought a great disaster in Pudukottai district. According to the official estimate more than 63 people

had lost their life, the situation after the cyclone remains grim with despair over so many death, destruction of property and livelihoods being affected. While power supply remains cut off in affected areas relief measures had not reached some interior villages.

The II year Novices went along with our Novice Mistress and sisters to Mudhalcheri, an interior village in Pattukottai Thaluka. We met the people and consoled them and listened to their pain and sorrows. We helped them by giving them bread, dress, candle and match boxes. People were encouraged by our presence and experienced their sentiments of gratitude for taking the effort. A woman in the crowd exclaimed, “Thank you sisters for coming and seeing us. Pray for all the farmers who are discouraged and struggling with their loss of lives and property.”

Every human being has the feeling to help the people who are in need of comfort, love and care. We the sisters were disturbed by the state of people as they had lost the trees, the houses, food etc, above all, their joy. Novices along with our Assistant Sr. Jothy set out to Regunathapuram from 23rd -25th of November with the permission of our Mother Provincials and Novice

Mistress to be with our suffering sisters and help them in their difficult moments. On the very first day of our entry God blessed our generosity with the supply of electricity. The Madurai ITI boys along with Fr. Francis had come for help. The 2nd day started with the contextualized prayer followed by the Holy Mass. This day was a beautiful day as we were able to clear some fallen trees.

In the midst of tears of loss and pain suffered by our dear brothers and sisters we raised our prayers of intercession and thanked God for his continued providence through various sources to support the affected people.



Sr. Devadoss Soniya
33 year Novice

FORMATION MEET - NOVICES & COMMUNITY MEET Report

“Give to the Most High as He has given to you, and as generously as you can afford (Sirach 35:12). Our Institute of Daughters of Mary Help of Christians took a great effort in caring

for the formation of young sisters and all its members in the various stages of Initial Formation through this special and extra-ordinary visit. The animation began at 09.45 a.m. on 6th March 2019 with an invocation to the Holy Spirit. Sr. Rebozo Maria Nieves addressed the Novices and explained the journey to be undertaken in Novitiate.

Our relationship with God and its depth.

- ★ The insertion in the community.
- ★ Deepening of our Constitutions
- learning more about our Salesian charism.

Later, we were given a pause of five minutes to reflect and share on any one of the aspects. This was followed by the input of “Stages of the itinerary towards interiority.” Sister explained it methodically, and then we were asked to share the aspects in the group of two-fours. This enriched us all and a representative from each group put forward the points discussed. After this there was a time-lap for refreshment.

The refreshment was followed by the individual study of nine points under the topic “Conditions for growth.” This study helped us to

interiorize the demands and conditions given in the booklet. Further, we expressed the points that helped us to grow, which we find difficult to live and that we need to incorporate in us. Sr. Rebozo Nieves was happy to know and appreciated us that we had indeed done an open sharing with lots of inspirations to mutually uplift others. It was a surprise that most of us dealt on the aspect of community and family spirit that prevailed enormously within us.

The qualities as mentioned in 'Rooted in the Covenant' was deeply discussed and pondered individually. She assured us that unless we are firmly rooted in Christ, our branches will not yield fruit and our mission will prove fruitless. So, we promised her that we would always walk in the light of faith and glow with God's love as God's beloved Novices. Thus as a community with an Italian song and the playing of Congo by the Novices, we expressed our heartfelt sentiments. She in turn distributed gifts and concluded the meeting with sweet persuasion.

- *Sr. Santhiagu Mary Theresa*
(*1 year Novice*)



Christmas Celebration in the Oratory



On 16th December 2018 with great joy and happiness we celebrated the Suppose Christmas for our oratorians in the ASSIST Hall. We started the program with a short prayer invoking the blessings of Baby Jesus. Christmas was portrayed in a cultural show as an expression of joy, hope, sharing witness of God's love, through dance, song and drama. The Novices enacted a drama which was based on the experience of reaching out to the people affected by Cyclone Gaja. The Chief Guests were Mrs. Josephine and her husband Mr. Anand. In their messages they appreciated the performance of the children and they exhorted the children to be sincere, hardworking and truthful. Later Sr. Cruz Michaela, Animator cum Novice Mistress delivered the Christmas message. Children carried lunch packets to share their experience with their parents and dear ones at home. May Baby Jesus bless all of us and be the good news of salvation.
Sr. Kabriel Gracy Marthal (1 year Novice)

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



“May the Christmas season fill your home with Joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter”

Yes! The community of Divyadhanam along with the staff of ASSIST went to Naduvakalpal in Thiruvarur District to share the joy of the birth of our Savior with 250 families who were affected by cyclone Gaja and neglected by Government on 25th December 2018. The people of the area were eager to receive us. We shared our lunch with them. It was a visitation experience as the Sisters and Novices listened to the outpourings of pain and suffering by the people. It was a scene of despair to people without proper house, vessels and earning sources. Children and the college students had lost their books. Like Mary we had the joy of being present to console and strengthen them in their moment of agony.

Then we conducted games for women and children to change the tone of the atmosphere. We divided them into groups according to their age and conducted games and cheered them up with gifts and prizes. Sr. Michael the Novice Mistress encouraged them in her talk to be motivated towards achievements inspite of the challenges posed by life and circumstances.

We returned home with memories of pain, love, gratitude and commitment to work for the unreached.

Sr. Sorna Rani
1 year Novice



CELEBRATION OF THE 'YES'

“Towards Holiness, with the Young”, was the urge in the five desirous young II year Novices, which gave them the impetus to commit themselves, to God and to save His people, especially the young.

The memorable day in the life of Sr. Joseph Karmel Mary, Sr. Paralagaraj Jeya, Sr. Paralagaraj Sutha, Sr. Charles Lowra, Sr. Devadoss Soniya dawned on 24th May 2019, i.e., the day of their First Commitment to Jesus, the Master.

The auspicious day which marks the initiation of the religious life journey for the five Sisters was celebrated in Divyadhanam, Manikandam, Trichy.

As the sun rose spreading rays of light, Novices, Junior sisters, the other sisters and the community along with the Provincials of INT & INM initiated the celebrations with the morning prayer in which sentiments of gratitude were offered for the five shining stars to be professed. They were made to carry different symbols, representing the covenant that God made with them. As her beloved daughters we thanked God for the maternal presence of Mary Help of Christians in our lives on her feast day.

At 10.30am, the Solemn Eucharistic Banquet began with procession of five sisters with their parents who were honored by taking Aarthi. The Bishop of Sivagangai Rt. Rev. Jebamalai Susaimanikam D.D and royal priesthood of God and the laity were welcomed to the Mass by Kumba Aarthi. It was the celebration of the sisters' response to the Loving call of God by saying "YES" in different terms before the people of God. The Bishop spoke beautifully about the call to serve the youth and highlighted the greater responsibility, the religious

had in being good stewards to lead the faithful and enlightened everyone especially the "professione". They also pronounced the vows of Chastity, Poverty and Obedience to God in front of the public at the hands of their respective Provincials, the delegates of the Superior General. Later they were given Crucifix and the Constitutions, after which the faces of the newly consecrated young women were becoming with grace and true inner joy. This was followed by offertory and other moments of Liturgy. After the reception of the Communion the newly professed sisters thanked each and every person who had played a vital role in their integral growth and expressed their gratefulness to God by singing a thanks giving song.

Finally there were flashes of photos all around as they rejoiced in the Lord for His wonderful blessing of calling people for his service. Festivity lingered on throughout the day.

Heavy showers drenched the dry earth as a sign of God's blessings upon the newly professed Sisters. As the YES of our Sisters ascended, the heavens lifted the shutters drenching the thirsty souls of Sisters with unfailing providence.

*Sr. Mary Theresa
(17 year Novice)*

ORATORY ANNUAL DAY

“The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step”

On 7th April 2019 we had our oratory Annual day. It was held in ASSIST Hall. Mr. Chellapandi, Program Coordinator in TASSOS was the Chief Guest; Sr. Rani Maria BS an Expert in Child Rights and NCP was the Special Invitee. Sr. Michael Cruz was the Guest of honor. The day was the celebration of all our efforts under taken during this academic year to motivate the children to live a focused life as responsible citizens with goals. 160 children from three oratories participated in the celebration. NCP children welcomed the Guests with sandal paste and kumkum. Welcome song sung by the children filled the air with joy and life.

Annual Reports of Oratory, NCP and Evening Coaching classes were read out by the responsible persons. To expand the horizons of thinking the children presented a Debate based on Arts and Education. The children spoke very diligently. It was appreciated by the Chief Guests. The Children's thoughts were like tiny drops of water in a mighty ocean that which is inevitable to make a mighty ocean.

The message was given by Rev. Sr. Michael Cruz, and she told them to make use of the opportunities provided in the oratory and school. Mr. Chella Pandi was very much taken up by the seed balls and had given them the message on Helping Tendency and taught them a song. Rev. Sr. Rani Maria motivated them to be good children in the society and to be obedient to their parents.

At the end the Novices presented a skit based on truthfulness. At last we had prize distribution as a token of appreciation and acknowledgment for their regular attendance and for the winners of various competitions. The day concluded with sentiments of joy and thanksgiving.

*Sr. Ayesha Bindhu
(1 year Novice)*



GAJA RELIEF SERVICES BY IVDP IN REGUNATHAPURAM

16 November 2018 was a sudden and unexpected shock for the people of Tamilnadu, especially people who live in the delta regions of Thanjavur, Pudukkottai and Nagapattinam. It was a great shock to the people and they were helpless and devastated. Sheeted and thatched-Roof houses were damaged, thousands of coconut

trees were uprooted, damaged-roads blocked the normal transportation, electric posts and signal-towers were heavily damaged which resulted absolutely no electricity and communication.



This was a heavy blow on the people especially the poor. The immediate helps by the good hearted volunteers made the victims experience solidarity love and care. At the same time people were confused and at a loss with the thought how to rebuild their houses, repair the damages, cultivate the farms and bring back the cattle. They lost their entire livelihood in the cyclone. What they brought with hard work and heavy toil had been swept in a few hours.

Tamil Nadu Government reached out to the Gaja Cyclone victims with relief services and repairs and reconstruction of houses. But the help could not reach the real victims as it always happens in the arena of politics. The intervention by IVDP at

this crucial situation was a great blessing to the Gaja Cyclone Victims of Pudukottai District. They assessed the real situation of the people and came up with the distribution of Tarpulin Sheets, Bed Sheets and Solar lamps which were essential to the victims. The services not only reached the affected people around Regunathapuram, also to the students who are studying in our Auxilium College of Arts and Science and College of Education. Mr. Kulandei Francis personally visited the affected area and distributed Tarpulin Sheets, Bed Sheets and Solar lamps to 1250 families; 1500 solar lamps to the Arts and Science and B.Ed. Students and 200 Bags to the B.Ed College Students, 70 dinner sets for the staff of both colleges. Apart from this educational scholarships were given to 120 students of both colleges. He totally contributed 43 lakhs worth of relief materials to the Gaja Cyclone victims around our Auxilium Center, Regunathapuram. People were spellbound looking at the relief materials of high quality and standard. They have never experienced such benevolence from anybody.

We are grateful to Mr. Kulandei Francis, Founder and Director who radiates joy and happiness in the lives of poor through his selfless services.

Holiness for us too...

Annual Retreat for the Catholic students

“Behold I come and knock at your door” says the Lord. Retreat is an important moment of listening and realizing God's voice at one's heart. When we realize God's presence in and around us our joy becomes complete and our heart overwhelms. Such was the experience of the catholic students of both the colleges. On January 26th and 27th the catholic students, 180 in number and the 7 hostel catholic staff participated in the Annual retreat organized in the college premises preached by Fr. Rufus SJ, from St. Joseph's College, Trichy. The preacher with lot of enthusiasm and youthful dynamism animated the retreat based on scripture linking with daily situations. Eight dimension of life such as: transcending, acceptance of self, authority, love, emotional intelligence, expression, past experiences, goal setting were explained with life experiences and the participants were helped to analyze their way of life and make right and free choices to change themselves for the better Christian living.

Here are some of the experiences of our students :

A blessing from above

“This is the work of the Lord a marvel in our eyes”

“I experienced the love of God. I was deeply touched by the thought that we should accept all the situations of life and face them with courage and prudence. I was also inspired by the orientation given on goal setting which should be specific. And now my vision is very clear about my relationship with others.”

W.Kimblin Philomina

JJ B.Com



மனம் திரும்ப மாற்றமோ
மனமகிழ் தோற்றமோ;
புதிதாய் மாறினேன் பிறர்க்காய் வாழ
உள்ளமும் மாறினேன் உனக்காய் வாழ ;
வாழ்க்கை என்பது நம் சிந்தனைகளில்;
ஏன் விட வேண்டும் என பல எண்ணங்களில்;
முள்ளிலிருந்து வந்த புவானாலும் அழகு
அகிலத்திற்கே;
உலகை அறிந்தேன் ஒவ்வொரு அணுவும்
அன்பின்வடிவென;
ஒருவரை தீர்ப்பிடும் யோசித்துபார்
அவரின் சூழ்நிலை உன் பார்வையிலா என்று;
தன்னை தானே அடக்கி ஆள்பவன்
உலகத்தையும் ஆள தகுதி உடையவனாவான் ;
ஆசைக்கும் குறிக்கோளுக்கும் இடையே
பல வேறுபாடுகள் தடுமாற்றங்கள் அத்தனையும்
மறந்து போகும்

சரியான உறுதி கொண்ட மனத்தீர்மானத்தால்"

உறவுகள் என்பது உன்னை அடக்கி ஆளவதற்க்கு அல்ல

உணர்ந்துகொள் உன் ஆசைகளின் நன்மை தீமையை எடுத்துரைக்கட்டும்

J.Mystica

III Mathematics

- உன் அறிவின் திறமையில் என் வாழ்வே மலர்ந்தது
- உன் நினைவின் சிந்தையில் என் அறிவே வளர்ந்தது
- உன் பேச்சின் வல்லமையில் என் பயமே விலகியது
- உன் இறைவார்த்தையின் விதையில் என்னில் இறையாட்சி எழுந்தது
- உன் தியானத்தின் வழியில் என் மனமே மாறியது
- உன் அன்பின் கண்டிப்பில் என் பிழையே அகன்றது
- உன் பணிவின் குணத்தில் என் அகமே ஒளிர்ந்தது
- உன் பக்தியின் முக்தியில் என் எதிர்காலமே உனதானது

Dharshika

III Mathematics

அகிலத்தின் ஆயனே,

என் மனதில் வார்த்தைகளை சுருக்கினேன்

உம் அன்பில் என் இதயத்தை விரிவுபடுத்த

என் மெளனத்தில் உன் மொழியை உணர்ந்தேன்

உறுதிக்கொண்டு முடிவெடுத்தேன்

- ★ பணிவாய் உம் அழைத்தலுக்கு செவிமடுக்க...
- ★ கீழ்படிந்து நல் கற்போடு ஏழ்மையில் வாழ...
- ★ பக்குவமாய் உம் மந்தைக்களுக்கு பணி புரிய...
- ★ பாரெங்கும் உம் நற்செய்தியை பறைசாற்ற...

J. Michael Avi

III Mathemati



இதோ மீண்டும் தொடர்கிறேன் அன்போடு என் வாழ்க்கை என்னும் பயணத்தை...

என் உயிர் உமக்காக என் உடல் உம் பணிக்காக...

மனதில் பதிந்த உம் அழைப்பின் வார்த்தைகளோடு என் பயணம் தொடர உடன் வாறும் ஆயனே...

"This retreat which was conducted in 26.01.2019 – 27.01.2019 animated by Rev.Fr. Rufus Godwin transformed me and through this retreat I reflected on the fact that "Decision is mine and Decision is only main" which made me to take decision in my life with personal responsibility. And I decided to eradicate my inferiority complex. I thank God for this inspiration."

SNEHA

II B.A.English

I learned through this Retreat...

- Decision is yours
- Actions speak more than Words
- Acceptance of weakness and limitation
- No comparison of self with others
- The difference between relationship and friendship
- The answer of anger is not anger
- The inner journey of a person travelling into the 8 sides

ARUL JENNIFER

II B.Sc Mathematics

CHILDREN'S DAY

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14).

The celebration started with a prayer for all the children to grow in holiness. At 10 a.m. the community welcomed Mr. J. J. Barathy from Erode, the Founder of Selva charitable trust, the Chief Guest for the celebration; Mr. Vasantha Kumar DCPO, Mr. Ramakrishnan the Head Master from Ammapalayam, Mr. Gunasekaran SI from Anuparapalayam Police station who were the other special invitees on the occasion.

330 children from 22 centers participated in this celebration. The Chief Guest Mr. J. J. Barathy, the Founder of Selva Charitable addressed the children on cultivating leadership. His talk focused on the qualities of leaders especially on that of A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Kamarasar, Kakkan. Mr. Vasantha Kumar and



on the four rights of children. The Special invitees encouraged the children to have a strong desire to live a meaningful and focused life. Kids exhibited their talents through panel discussion, dances and songs. As a token of appreciation children were gifted tiffin box and play materials. After a delicious agape children shared their experience of the end and concluded it in a joyful note of gratefulness for a happy childhood.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY :

"All Human Beings are born to be free and enjoy Equal Right and Dignity". Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December. The United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This year, Human Rights Day marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, milestone document that proclaimed the inalienable rights which everyone is inherently entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Having this in mind Marialaya organized human rights day in Gov. Arts and Science College, Avinasi. Mrs. Vani Lakshmi Jegathambal, Thasildhar,



Mrs. Hemalatha, Principal, and Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam, Director of Marialaya were the Chief Guests. Nearly 300 students both male and female participated and made the day remarkable one. After the inaugural talk the rally marched ahead for two kilometers from College to Avinasi New bus stand. Students shouted slogans expressing their anxiety towards ensuring the safety and dignity of every person in the society. It was indeed a feast to the eyes to see the young people acting with discipline and commitment.

CHILDLINE SE DOSTI WEEK

November 13th to 19th - 2018

Childline Se Dosti' is a week long national campaign which aims to make ordinary citizens stakeholders in CHILDLINE 1098.



The campaign involves a range of events, activities across the country.

Be it a student, a taxi driver and IT professional, a rickshaw puller or a housewife, it is the objective to reach out to people from different walks of life to get to know CHILDLINE, begin to care about vulnerable children and initiate action towards change. The ostensible purpose of this campaign is to generate a Million 'Dosts' for CHILDLINE and acquaint people with Child Rights and Protection. Tiruppur district MARIALAYA NGO is functioning as Childline Nodal Organization for past 8 years.



Press meet was organized at Tiruppur on 13th November to release a case detail which was handled by Childline as means to announce the upcoming 'SeDosti' one week program. Childline city Coordinator welcomed the gathering. Sr. Lourdu Sagayam, Marialaya Director headed the program, Mr. Baskar from CSED NGO and Mr. Kathirvel, the Center Coordinator participated in this program. Sr. Loudu Sagayam

explained the purpose of this 'Childline se Dosti week' and Childline activities. Followed by her Mr. Baskar released the one year Childline case data and he explained the vulnerable situation of children in this district.



On Children's day 6 children from Child care Institutions were selected and they met the district officials and wish them by tying Childline Sureksha Bandhan to them. It was an inspiring moment to see the Children meet the District Collector, Superintendent of Police, District Social Welfare Officer, District Child Protection Officer, Child welfare Committee Chairperson and Members. This arrangement was made to make the Officials feel familiar and work closely with children especially while the children are in need of care and protection.



MADURAI

**மனித உரிமைகள் தின அறிக்கை
அக்சீலியம் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி, மதுரை - 14**

இடம் : ஜவஹர்லால் புரம்

தேதி : 07. 12. 2018

நேரம் : காலை 8.00– 9.30 வரை

பங்கேற்ற மாணவிகள் : 140



தலைமையேற்பு :

தாளாளர் அருட்சகோதரி சுகந்தி, முன்னாள் சட்டமன்ற உறுப்பினர் திரு. ராமசாமி அவர்கள், ஊர் தலைவர் திரு. மச்சக்காளை.



அறிக்கை :

பெண் குழந்தைகளுக்கு ஏதிரான
வன்கொடுமையால்
சராசரி மக்களின் கண்ணீர்
கவனிப்பாரற்று போகிறது
"இன்னுயிர் தந்து ஈன்று வளர்த்து
பெற்ற பிள்ளையை வயது பார்க்காமல்
சீரழிக்கிறது இச்சமுதாயம்...

மனிதன் பிறக்கும் போதே அனைத்து உரிமையோடு
பிறக்கிறான். காலப்போக்கில் அடிப்படை உரிமைகளின்

சட்டங்களை மீறி மனித உரிமைகள் பறிக்கப் படுகின்றன. இதில் எத்தனையோ இடங்களில் பெண்களின் மீது பாலியல் வன் புணர்வுகள் நடக்கின்றதையும் குறிப்பாக சேலம் மாவட்டத்தில் ராஜலெட்சுமிக்கு நடந்த பாலியல் வன்கொடுமையால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு, கொலை செய்யப்பட்ட நிகழ்வினை வன்மையாக கண்டிக்கும் வண்ணம் மாணவிகள் அந்நிகழ்வை விவாதித்தனர்.

இக்கருத்தினை மக்களிடம் வலியுறுத்த எண்ணி முன்னதாகவே எமது பள்ளியின் 9 மற்றும் 11 ஆம் வகுப்பு மாணவிகள் ஆயத்தப் படுத்தப்பட்டிருந்தனர் அத்துடன் நமது பூமியை காத்து இயற்கையை நேசித்து செயற்க்கையை தவிர்க்க நெகிழிப்பைகளை பயன்படுத்ததுவதை தவிர்க்க விழிப்புணர்வு தர முடிவு எடுப்பட்டது. மனித உரிமைகள் தினமான 10. 12. 2018 அன்று அரையாண்டு பொதுத் தேர்வினை முன்னிட்டு அதற்கு முன்பாக 07. 12. 2018 அன்று காலை 8. 00 மணியளவில் 140 மாணவிகள் பங்கேற்று இப்பேரணியை நடத்தினோம்.



முன்னாள் சட்டமன்ற உறுப்பினரான திரு. ராமசாமி, ஊர்தலைவர் திரு. மச்சக்காளை, மற்றும் எம்பள்ளியின் தாளாளர் அருட்சகோதரி சுகந்தி அவர்கள் ஆகியோர் பச்சைக்கொடி அசைத்து இப்பேரணியை தொடங்கி வைத்தார்கள்.

மாணவிகள் மனித உரிமைகளின் வாசகங்கள் எழுதப்பட்டிருந்தப் பதாகைகளைத் தாங்கி ஜவஹர்லால்புரம் கிராமத்தில் வீதிதோறும் முழக்கமிட்டுப் பேரணியாகச் சென்றார்கள் .

அவர்கள் முன்னிறுத்திய வாசகங்கள் வருமாறு :



1. அமைதி வழியில் பங்களித்து மனித உரிமைகளை வலுப்படுத்துவோம்.
2. மனித உரிமை மீறலை ஒழிக்க ஒற்றுமையின் கரங்களாய் ஒன்றுசேர்வோம்.
3. பிச்சை போடுவதை நாம் நிறுத்துவோம் பிச்சை எடுப்போரை நாம் திருத்துவோம்.
4. நெகிழிப்பைகளை ஒழிப்போம் துணிப்பைகளை எடுப்போம்.
5. மற்றவர் உரிமையை போற்றுவோம் மனித உரிமையை காப்போம்.

முழக்கமிட்ட வாசகங்கள் :

6. காப்போம் காப்போம் பெண்ணுரிமைக் காப்போம்.
7. தவிர்ப்போம் தவிர்ப்போம் வன்முறையைத் தவிர்ப்போம்.
8. காத்திடு காத்திடு மனித உரிமையைக் காத்திடு.
9. தயாராயிரு தயாராயிரு பிரச்சனைகளை எதிர்கொள்ள தயாராயிரு.
10. உருவாக்குவோம் உருவாக்குவோம் பெண்கல்வியை உருவாக்குவோம்.

11. சேலம் மாவட்டத்தில் மாணவி இராஜலெட்சுமிக்கு நடந்த பாலியல் கொடுமை மற்றும் கொலையை எதிர்த்து வன்முறையாக கண்டிக்கிறோம்.

ஊரின் மையத்தில் அமைந்த அரங்கத்தில் தலைவர்களையும் ஊர் மக்களையும் எம்பள்ளி மாணவி S. பிரவீனா வரவேற்புரை மூலம் வரவேற்றார்.



மனித உரிமைகள் பற்றிய செய்திகளை எம்பள்ளி மாணவிகள் திவ்யா மற்றும் M. நந்தினி சொற்பொழிவின் மூலம் விளக்கினார்கள்.

சுற்றுச்சூழல் உரிமை, கலாச்சார உரிமை, பெண் குழந்தைகளின் பாதுகாப்பு, மற்றும் மனித உரிமை மீறல்களையும் வீதி நாடகம் மூலம் நடத்துக் காட்டினார்கள்.

தாளாளர் உரை :



அருட்சகோதரி சுகந்தி அவர்கள் ஐந்து கருத்துக்களை வலியுறுத்தி உரையாற்றினார்கள் அவை :

1. விவசாயம் (கஜாபுயல் டெல்டா மாவட்டம்)
2. அந்நிய குளிர்பானம் தவிர்ப்பு
3. நெகிழிப்பை அழிப்பு
4. பெண் குழந்தைகள் பாதுகாப்பு
5. பாலியல் வன்கொடுமைகளைப் பற்றிய விழிப்புணர்வு எனப் பல கருத்துளை எடுத்துரைத்தார்கள்.

ஊர் தலைவர் :

பெண் குழந்தைகளின் பாதுகாப்பை முதலில் ஆண்கள் உறுதி செய்ய வேண்டும்.

அனைத்து பெண்களையும் உடன்பிறவா சகோதரிகள் என்ற எண்ணத்தோடு பழக வேண்டும்.

முன்னாள் சட்டமன்ற உரை :

பெண்கல்வி முக்கியத்துவம் பாதுகாப்பு வேண்டும், பெண்களுக்கு திண்ணிய நெஞ்சம் வேண்டும்.

அக்காலத்தில் மக்கள் காய்கறிகள் வாங்குவதற்கு துணிப்பை மற்றும் துண்டுகள் பல.

நன்றி உரை :

எம்பள்ளி மாணவி பிரவீனா ஊர் மக்களும் தலைவர்களும் நன்றி கூற மனித உரிமைகள் தின விழாவும் பேரணியும் இனிதே நிறைவேறியது.



*'Help one another
this is what Jesus teaches us.*

This is what I do.

*And I do it
with my Heart.'*

— *Pope Francis*

VOCATION CAMP

On 27th December 2018 Sr. Barbon Arokia Jebamani the Animator with the Community Sisters took a great effort for a week to meet the girls and their parents and gave invitation to attend the 'Come and See' Programme. Many were called but eight girls were able to attend the Camp. Some were not interested and others could not come due to special class in their school.



The day started with the yoga prayer reciting biblical versus. During warming up session the participants introduced themselves. Sr. Fernando Josephine gave an inspiring talk on Vocation based on Scripture followed by group discussion on the need for disciples. Later a talk on 'Apostolic work of the house and Holy Father's talk to Youth "You are a mission and many need you" was given by Sr. Barbon Arokia Jebamani. The

programme was made alive with games and activities to mark the Salesian spirit. Video on Don Bosco was screened for the participants to ponder upon their vocation for the youth ministry.



We had a short evaluation. They were very happy and gained new experiences and knowledge. They promised that they would take active part in parish work and read Bible daily. After tea, Sr. Barbon Arokia Jebamani took them to Nallamannayakanpatti and met two vocationable girls who did not attend the camp due to special class. We visited the churches and cribs on the way. While returning she dropped them in their respective places and thanked their parents for sending them for camp. Deo Grazie



Thiruvottiyur

Let Take the Joy of the Christmas to the Periphery

Christmas is the festival of sharing or giving i.e. God the Father gave his only Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, to the world to express His love for all especially to His own Chosen People (the neglected). We, the Community of Our Lady's, Tiruvottiyur, wanted to cultivate the great virtue of sharing with the most needed people of our society among our students, teachers and past pupils. So every year, we have the practice of sharing our Christmas joy and fraternal love with the needy people of that year. We enable our students, teachers and past pupil to become aware of the real situation of the targeted people and make them to come forward by themselves to contribute whatever they can to meet the needs of those people. Hence, this year we decided to share our Christmas joy and fraternal love with 60 families in two villages, affected by the Gaja Cyclone, near Keeranur, Trichy with the help of the local Parish Priest and Don Bosco Centre, Keeranur. We collected the materials needed for affected people entirely from our students, teachers, past pupils of our three schools.

Giving heed to the invitation of Pope Francis we set out of our comfort zone to meet the people in need. A team, consisting of 5 Sisters, representatives from staff and past pupils, started the journey on 23 December, 2018 at 5 a.m. taking all the collected materials to the Gaja Cyclone affected places, Keeranur, Trichy. As we were travelling to the sub-station, we were able to witness the tragedy that the Cyclone had brought upon those people. Trees were uprooted and were lying down and electrical posts were displaced. We saw roofless houses and torn huts. Then the parish priest assembled the people in the Church and introduced us to them. Sr. Jayarani, the Administrator, addressed the people expressing their purpose for having come there, then few Christmas carols were sung and finally Sr. Margaret gave the Christmas message and wishes. After which the materials were distributed to the people.

The following day, there was another group, which was entirely different from the previous since these people were differently abled. Since these people were scattered in different places due to Cyclone, it was not feasible for us to meet them

in their habitat. So they, along with their family members, were brought to Don Bosco, Keeranur by vehicles and the distribution was done there. Few Christmas carols were sung and finally Sr. Margaret gave the Christmas message and wishes. After which the materials were distributed to the people concerned and a sumptuous lunch was served to all. We also participated in the Christmas Vigil Mass celebrated in their village.

Those people were overwhelmed with joy and happiness by our presence and they expressed their sense of their gratitude, love and respect. It was wonderful and great moment of our life and we had never and ever celebrated Christmas like this. We sincerely express our heartfelt thanks and prayers to the local Parish Priest and to the Salesians, Don Bosco Centre, Keeranur for having helped us to reach those people and to celebrate a meaningful Christmas.

Sr. Theresa Santiago



*'To change the world we
must be good to those who
cannot repay us.'
- Pope Francis*

AUXILIUM CENTRE, THANJAVUR GAJACYCLONE RELIEF WORK

"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone" – Dr. Loretta Scott.

A violent cyclone hit the Delta districts of Tamilnadu on 16th November and caused massive destruction. Heavy rain and strong winds lashed the coastal areas. Thanjavur District has been devastated everely. We the Salesian Sisters of Auxilium, Thanjavur came forward to motivate our school children and collect the needed materials like Candle, Mosquito coils, Water bottles, Biscuits, clothes, Rice, Bed sheets, Towels, Napkins and Milk powder. Our students volunteered themselves to offer their helping hand. Sr. Magnificat Soosai (Correspondent, Auxilium Centre -Thanjavur) was the greatest support for this relief work. She enquired the conditions of the affected areas and decided to go to "Thirumangalakottai" (ie) Orathanadu (Taluk).

On 28th November 2018, Rev. Sr. Magnificat, along with our sisters took the staff and 25 students to Thirumangaakottai (Keezhaiyur), Poovathur and Thirumangalakottai

(Melaiyur). We reached out to more than 350 people and distributed the collected materials. 60-80 % of the coconut trees were reported to be destroyed and the lives of the people too were in dismay. We were moved to see their condition. The people were very happy to see our sisters work and contribute worthily. Sisters spent time to visit them personally and gave comforting words of spirit and confidence.

The Parish priest of Thirumangala kottai guided us. We were happy to reach out to the catholic families. Our students felt satisfied and got an inspiration to help them more.

The first visit for cyclone relief inspired us to try for the next. The students and staff shared their experience of their visit in the assembly. This made the children to come forward to contribute more. This time more than 1000 kilos of Rice, Dhal, Rava, Oil, Semiya, Mosquito coils, Match boxes, Candles, Soaps (Washing + Toilet soap), Milk powder, Plastic sheets, Towels, Clothes, Bed sheets, Sugar etc., were collected.

On the very special day of the feast of Mary Immaculate, Sr. Magnificat lead the next troop for the relief work. Sr. Paulia, Sr. Prettencia and Sr. Jennifer assisted her. The educating community members, Past pupils, Typewriting Institute staff and 25 students joined hands in this cyclone relief work and made it successful.

We visited Paapanaadu, Veerakurichi and Sanjayanagar villages. We reached out to more than 500 people and distributed the collected materials. We spent time to hear their feelings of depression. The people felt very happy. It was really a great experience.

“We rise by lifting others”. We the followers of Maria Mazzarello and Don Bosco always look for opportunities to help others.

Mrs. Sheela (Teacher)
Auxilium Hr Sec. School, Thanjavur



*'If we destroy
creation,
Creation
will destroy us.'*

- Pope Francis

ASSIST IN ACTION

'SUDAROLI' WOMEN SELF EMPLOYMENT GROUP



20 women from the first batch of students who completed 6 months tailoring course in ASSIST VTC were guided by Mr. Lawly Claudson, Vocational Training Coordinator and Mr. Chinnarasu, Placement Coordinator to form Women Self-Employment Group and linked it with the Union Office. The members were given opportunities to study market trends through Market Scan and Exposure visit after which they pledged themselves to become effective Entrepreneurs. They have now formed Self – Employment group and have started to engage themselves in income generating activities. Their journey as a group started on 20th August 2018 under the guidance of Mrs. Thilagavathy Coordinator of Self Help Group in Union Office, Manikandam.

CREATIVE THINKING FOR SMART KIDS



Field work student Ms. Amala from Holy Cross College organized the clay activity for Evening study children on 8th October 2018 to kindle creative thinking in their tender minds. The young minds were lead to explore the world of shapes and forms which in turn facilitated better brain coordination. Children also learned to express themselves all in a stress free manner. The evening was an exciting experience for our kids who became budding sculptors and inventors.

YETTU THUVAKKAVIZHA

On 19th October 2018 we had the celebration of the 'Yettu Thuvakkavizha', an initiative of ASSIST which was first of its kind. Inorder to mark the entry into school life a memorable event for the children ASSIST organized the celebration in Ambedhkar nagar village in which people of all ages were invited and shared



the joy of the emerging new generation. The elderly women made the babies to sit on their lap and made them to write the alphabets on rice. This was another strategy to emphasize the importance of education. The members of the Child Protection Committee were involved in organizing this celebration which created a greater impact in the target group.

CONNECTED AND MOVED TO REACHOUT

Gaja the turbulent Cyclone proved that miracles of love happen when the magic wand of normalcy is waved violently. Tragedy struck in the wee hours of Friday, 16th November 2018. Coastal and delta districts in Tamil Nadu witnessed the devastation of Gaja, a severe cyclonic storm, that left in its wake, a trail of destruction across Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram, Thiruvapur, Thanjavur, Trichy, Pudukkottai, Dindigul and Puducherry. The consequential urge to help those

in need in the aftermath of a natural disaster was a cause that connected the human hearts.

The Salesian Sisters of Trichy Province were greatly moved by the hapless situation of the people in the affected areas. The cyclone severely affected the habitat where they lived and destroyed the work opportunities for daily laborers leading to loss of household income and inability to afford food and meet basic needs. Negative coping mechanisms of poor and most affected households were reported, such as taking fewer meals per day as there is only one common cooking facility in the villages with contribution of the materials available in the area and suicide attempts due to the burden of loans and the heavy losses incurred.

ASSIST the Social Development Office coordinated with the group of volunteers from Manitham Trust and the village local authorities in conducting the need assessment to identify the beneficiaries and their needs. Mr. Aiyappan a youth leader from the affected locality who is currently doing his Phd in St. Joseph's College, Trichy was the liaison between the village committee, ASSIST and Manitham Trust.





The relief service was undertaken in 3 phases consisting of the supply of emergency materials on 26th November 2018 as the 1st phase followed by the sharing of presence in the 2nd phase as we celebrated Christmas on 25th December 2018 in Naduvakalapa a cyclone affected village. Distribution of goats as livelihood support for the most affected 90 families on 6th February 2019 marked the 3rd phase to rejuvenate hope.

Thanks to Misesan Cara and the students, staff, parents and Salesian family members along with the VIDES members for extending their humane support enabling us to reach out to the unreached 1500 people in 7 villages located in Mudhalcheri Union of Pattukottai Municipality Vempanchery, Naduvakalapa, Nedumbalam and Paandi the villages located in Manargudi Thaluka in Thiruvarur district.

Mrs. Gangammal with tear-filled eyes exclaimed, "I am grateful for your fraternal love with which you have come to meet us in our moments of pain. I feel confident that I can face the challenge since I am not left alone".

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

International Women's Day was celebrated in ASSIST on March 8th. The emphasis of the celebration ranges from general celebration of respect, appreciation and love towards women to a celebration for women's economic, political, and social achievements and empowerment. The theme for the day's celebration "Lets honor Women" focused on mobilizing momentum for the recently adopted 2030 Agenda which addresses key challenges of the 21st century, such as poverty, inequality, and climate change.

ASSIST took this initiative as an opportunity to unite the women and the non-formal Staff of INT Province along with the representatives of NGOs located in Trichy along with the identified role models of Women Achievers. The celebration was a reminder of the inevitable roles and powers of women in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles and to emphasize the importance of women's empowerment.

Mr. G. Balamurugan ACP, Golden Rock Range, was the Chief Guest; Mr. Aruldoss NAPM, Social Activist along with Sr. Noelle, VIDES Ireland and

Mrs. Elisabetta, Program Officer for Asia, VIDES were Special invitee on the occasion. We have been witnessing the achievements of women in science, civil rights, journalism, sports, arts, technology and beyond for centuries. We created a space to recognize the achievers who are living with us and thus 10 women were presented 'Achievers' Award' for their special contribution as heads of Institutions, Social Workers and Self Help Group leaders.

250 Women and other participants from 8 districts took part in the celebration. The Chief Guest in his address exhorted the audience to recognize the role of women in daily life and to understand the individuality and the special gifts of Women. He invited every individual to celebrate the contribution of women in their family. Later Mr. Aruldoss explained the achievements of women in the history and invited the women present to become creators of history. Sr. Mary Margaret, Provincial Our Lady of Snow Province vividly explained the role of women from the time of creation till date. She further appreciated the achievements of daily life and encouraged them to

continue their service with spirit of faith and love. The Contact Period Candidates sang a song to mark the occasion.

The celebration concluded with the pledge of the participants to honor and celebrate femininity.



**ADIEU TO
SR. GONSALVES DOROTHY**

Dearest Sr. Dorothy,

A little anonymous poem sweeps through my mind as you pass from this our loving family to dwell with the divine one. You seem to say to us:

“Weep not for me though I have gone into that gentle night
Grieve if you will, but not for long upon my soul's sweet flight

I am at peace, my soul is at rest, there is no need for tears
For with your love I was so blessed, For all those many years

There is no pain, I suffer not, the fear is now all gone;
Put now these things out of your thoughts, In your memory I live on;
Remember not my fight for breath, Remember not the strife;
Please do not dwell upon my death, But celebrate my life.

Indeed here we come to celebrate your gracious life dear Sr. Dorothy.

With your minimum education in the school, after your father's death, You completed typing – higher grade confidently and set out to work to help your mother. But with the knowledge you had, you worked great wonders. You through your simple knowledge could record accurately the history of our communities for eight years. You took to heart the responsibilities given to you and accomplished with great care. You were quite good at remembering the dates of death anniversaries.

Though you were slow but steady at finishing your work with love and dedication. Thank you dear Sr. Dorothy for your simple humble and dedicated life. You were a cheerful person. You treasured jokes and enjoyed cracking jokes. Thank you for your naughtiness and joyful life.

You were very efficient and meticulous in administration. We can't forget the days where you kept taping the small typewriter to do the accounts. Oh how could we forget the days in Wellington you sat in the veranda to collect the due for the retreat. Till the end, you assisted the communities

in maintaining accounts. Thank you for your accountability and transparency.



Your conscience was like a clean slate. You always treasured peace and tranquillity in your soul. You acknowledge that as a young sister working as an assistant amidst the Broadway boarders, you lost control of your hand. Because of the oft repeated fault, you felt ashamed of yourself but following the direction of your dear superior – Mother Catherine Mania, you never went to bed without accusing yourself of your weaknesses. Sr. Dorothy, we look at you as a patient, enduring beautiful soul – a model for us to follow.

You never accumulated any grudge in your heart. You forgave others with ease and sought forgiveness from others when you felt that you hurt them. You never hurt the feelings of others. Thank you for your delicate conscience.

During the last days of your life, when you laid helpless on the bed,

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you were so delicate. You had no word of complaint. You were willing to take the food that was given to you. You acknowledged everyone and everything with gratitude and joy. Thank you for graciously accepting your helplessness.

You are a noble person. When we scan through your daily life, it had been a hymn of Gratitude to people who assisted you during these days. You had been a monument of gratitude to Mary Help of Christians. Now you are silent. But carry our thanks to Jesus for the wonderful gift you had been to us. You intercede the Lord to give us 100's of Dorothy's to our congregation. Bless us as we bid adieu to you.

In life we loved you dearly; in death we do the same. It breaks our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone. For part of us went with you, You left us beautiful memories, Your love is still our guide, And though we cannot see you, You are always at our side. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

***Thank you Sr. Dorothy and
good bye to you.***

Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret



DAYS OF INNER GAZING

“My beloved thrust His hand into the opening, and inmost being yearned for him.” – (Song of Solomon 5:4)



The power of gaze invariably vibrated our souls as the ten zealous Junior Sisters of INK, INC, INM & INT coupled along in Sacred Heart Convent, Avalahalli, Bengaluru from 15th November to 15th December 2018. Love reigned exclusively amidst all, as our theme was, 'To be saints is not a privilege for the few...'

The facilitator Sr. Shiny Karackatt, Secretary of INK Province led us into deep experience of prayer and reflection during the Inauguration of the first phase of our Second Novitiate. Animation of Sr. Alice Chacko renewed the favor in us as the brides all set in preparation for our commitment. Our spirits exclaimed, “Oh, it is like nearing the peak of holiness as we got sufficient time for prayer and reflection”.

The warm welcome, hospitality of the Sisters and the pleasant weather

were conducive in deepening our inner gazing which gradually strengthened our commitment with the Lord. Our spiritual energy was boosted up by the inputs offered by enlightened persons namely :



- Two days on Period of Juniorate - Important as preparation for Final Commitment - Sr. Alice Chacko
- Spirituality of St. Francis De Sales - Sr. Cecilia Thomas
- Three days on Seven Habits of Highly Effective People - Sr. Margaret Mathai
- Two days on Religious Life in Canon Law - Fr. Anton Paul SDB
- Three days on Salesian Spirituality & Preventive System - Sr. Sahaya Sangeetha
- Different forms of Prayer & Meditation for better God experiences - Fr. P. I. Thomas
- Two days on Women Discipleship - Sr. Verginia Rajkumari, SAB
- Ongoing formation - Sr. Celine Jacob
- Call to holiness - Fr. Shiju Malayil SDB
- Three days on Psycho - spiritual Integration - Fr. Jose Mathew SDB

- Community Life & Sense of Belonging - Sr. Monica Thomas
- Understanding the depth of Liturgical Celebration - Fr. Moncy Nellikunnel SDB
- Two days on Mother Mazzarello: Evangelizer & Catechist - Marian Dimension of the Institute - Sr. Josmy Jose
- Challenges of Media on the life of the young people - Sr. Alice Chacko

Apart from this, we had two full days of Personal Study & Assimilation and a short outing accompanied by Sr. Shiny Karackatt and Sr. Alice Chacko.

Not only happy feelings emerge, but also Godly perspectives pop up as we all think of this fortunate experience granted to us by our Mother Provincial Sr. Margaret.

Sr. SUNDARAM Bernadette Neha



*“Never give up on the people
you love*

*Never give up from
being happy.”*

Because Life is an Incredible show.

- Pope Francis

EDUCATING COMMUNITY MEETING - THANJAVUR, 19 JANUARY 2019



The Educating Community Meeting was organized at Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur on 19 January, 2019. Animators of each community accompanied the respective community's Educating Community members for the meeting. 125 members participated in the meeting. The meeting began at 09.30 am. Arul Sudar Community, Vadakku Paganur led the gathering into a prayerful atmosphere through a meaningful prayer service.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Ms. Syria Pushpam, Educating Community member of the Hosting Community – Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur welcomed the gathering and made the participants feel comfortable and at home. Sr. Mary Margaret Amalanathan, Provincial addressed the gathering. In her introductory talk inviting the participants to bring transformation in the society through collective participation. She emphasized that the transformation of the society should take its origin in the family, which is the cradle of love and holiness.

PRESENTATION OF THEMES

The first session was on the Strenna 2019 of the Rector Major, “Holiness for you too”. Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal presented the theme using creative methods of singing, dancing and acting and created a celestial atmosphere of saints on the stage and led the participants to realize that it is possible for all to be holy. Through interrogation using the following questions: Who is called to be holy? Why? When? Where? Is it possible? Is it really for me? What must I do? What are some practical suggestions? Where is my strength? Will I see results? Where is my continuing source of holiness? and How long will it take? She spurred the participants to think. She answered all the above questions quoting Scriptures.

Rector Major Fr. Ángel Fernández Arttime has presented the Strenna under nine titles. They are;

1. God calls us to holiness.
2. A call to holiness for everyone.
3. Don Bosco wants his young people happy in this world and in the next.
4. Jesus is the happiness that you, dear young people, are looking for.
5. “I feel within me a desire and a need of becoming holy”.
6. Holiness lived in the Salesian Charism.
7. What does it mean, “Holiness for you, too!”?
8. Some possible pointers to holiness.
9. Paths of Holiness today.



Each title was presented by the students from the Auxilium College of Education, Regunathapuram through talks and singing. The methodology of the presentation of the Strenna helped everyone to actively participate in the animation.

On 1 January 2019, His Holiness Pope Francis presented his message on the theme; 'Good politics is at the service of peace' for the celebration of the 52nd World Day of Peace. Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam, Animator of Marialaya, Tiruppu animated the floor on Pope's Peace Message in the second session. She presented the key points of Pope's message in a creative mode.

The "Beatitudes of the Politician", proposed by Vietnamese Cardinal François-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, helped the participants to understand better the importance of politics and the role of the politician in the administration of society. They are;

1. Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role.
2. Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility.
3. Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest.
4. Blessed be the politician who remains consistent.
5. Blessed be the politician who works for unity.
6. Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change.
7. Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening.
8. Blessed be the politician who is without fear.

The third session was on International Year of Indigenous Languages and International Year of Periodic Table of Chemical Elements. Sr. Azarias Arokia Mary Selvi, Social Development Coordinator presented the theme to the participants. She spoke about the current realities and the danger faced by native languages with passion and great unction as they are in the verge of disappearing. She explained that it is only through language that we communicate to the world, define our identity, express our history and culture, defend our human rights and participate in all aspects of society. Through language, people preserve their community's history, culture and traditions, memory, unique modes of thinking, meaning and expression. They also use it to construct their

future. Language is pivotal in the areas of human rights protection, good governance, peace building, reconciliation, and sustainable development. She exhorted the participants to take efforts to encourage the proper usage of the native language with the goal of improving the quality of life, enhancing international cooperation, strengthening intercultural dialogue and reaffirming cultural and linguistic continuity.



Later while presenting the International Year of Periodic Table of Chemical Elements she explained the goal of the theme, 'To enhance the understanding and appreciation of the Periodic Table and chemistry in general among the public'. The International year theme marked the 100th Anniversary of IUPAC which will be on the UNESCO Calendar of Anniversaries on 28 July 2019 and the 150th anniversary since Dmitry Mendeleev discovered the Periodic System. She further explained that in proclaiming an International Year focusing on the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements and its applications, the United Nations has recognized the importance of raising global awareness of how chemistry promotes sustainable development and provides solutions to

global challenges in energy, education, agriculture and health. Indeed, the resolution was adopted as part of a more general Agenda item on Science and Technology for Development.

GROUP DISCUSSION AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal, Educating Community Coordinator of the Province divided the participants into groups and led them into group discussions.

At the end of the group discussion, Sr. Amirthasamy Maria Pushpam, convened the General Assembly in which, each group presented the findings of their group discussion in common and drew out lines of actions to be followed up by the individuals and activities and programme to be implemented at the local community and province level.

CONCLUSION

The entire animation on various themes of the year helped the Educating Community members to welcome the New Year with a positive note and a proper disposition to grow in holiness. Broadway Community delivered the vote of thanks. Sr. Margaret Amalanathan, Mother Provincial finally distributed key chains to all the Educating Community members as a symbol of inviting them to imitate saints in their spiritual journey of life. The day gave a great learning experience for the gathering with joy and optimism.

*Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal
Educating Community Coordinator*

**5TH SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL
CONGRESS OF SALESIAN
COOPERATORS
25 & 26 January 2019 (Citadel,
Chennai)**

**Theme of the Congress: "SOCIAL
DIMENSIONS OF SALESIAN
COOPERATORS VOCATION"**

The meeting of 5th Regional Congress of Salesian Cooperators was held at Don Bosco Provincial House, Citadel, Chennai from 25 to 26 January 2019. The office bearers of every province was invited together with their delegates. It was organized by Mr. D.S. Anthuvan INK - the World Councilor for Salesian Cooperators and Mr. T.K. Devasia - INN, together with the help of Fr. Edwin George - the Cooperator delegate of Chennai Province and his Cooperators. It was well organized. There were 65 Cooperators from 11 Provinces of India and 35 Religious (SDB, FMA, SMA Sisters). A group photo was taken at 08.30 a.m. with all the Chief Guests of the program.



On 25 January 2019, at 09.30 a.m. the Holy Eucharist was solemnized by Most Rev. George Antonysamy D.D. - the Arch Bishop of Madras Mylapore. He spoke on Salesian Cooperator's Vocation: Being human, Christian Call and Salesian Family Spirit, Social Dimension. He also insisted on three different ways to live this call as a Salesian Cooperator. 1. Sacrament of love in the family - as a witness of spousal relationship, 2. Educate the children in Christian faith - make the family as a Domestic place of worship - with a sense of family commitments, 3. Social Dimension of this vocation - faithful witness to the Church, leading a committed and faithful witness in the world. Finally he concluded the homily with eight Beatitudes of Salesian call.



At 11.00 a.m we had the inaugural ceremony. Mr. Anthuvan welcomed the gathering. Rev. Fr. K. M. Jose - the Provincial of Chennai spoke on the Collaborative

mission of the Salesians and Cooperators. Mr. Anthuvan - the World Councillor for Salesian Cooperators, while sharing about his meeting in Rome, he spoke on: Deepening our vocation, move closely with every one of the Salesian Family, Commitment towards social responsibility both individually and collectively.

Rev. Fr. Jegath Gaspar spoke on the theme "The Role of laity in the society". He spoke on the greatest commandment of Jesus "Go and proclaim the Good news of God". He said that without proclamation there is no Church and Christianity. Don Bosco made a phenomenal changes in the society and what are we as Cooperators making it in today's context? He invited the Salesian Cooperators to discover the new frontiers in the field of education, environmental changes, knowledge economy in favor of the future, entertainment in social media, political changes, etc. He also insisted on pooling our resources by preparing our youngsters to become the leaders of our country's social change.

Rev. Fr. Maria Arockiam Kanaga, the South Asian Regional Councillor, gave the keynote address on "Social

Dimension of the Vocation of the Salesian Cooperator". He spoke on the role of the Salesian Cooperator in the 'Secular Sphere', current analysis of our society in India, practical lines of action, a few regrets (whom to blame for....?), utopian goals (Change the world), Reading the signs of the times, Flagship campaigns for Salesian India (SPCSA), etc. Finally he said that "Religion is not just pleasing God or Saints to make them fulfil our wishes by bribing them with our worship. My religion must make me ask how I serve God in my neighbour, particularly the poor. The Lord of the Universe is not waiting for us in temples, mosques and churches, but in the faces of the masses of our country. God is most visible in the laughter of the poor! When we realize this the Social Dimension of our Vocation comes alive, operative, fruitful and fulfilling."

In the afternoon Rev. Fr. Albert Johnson gave a power point presentation on the theme of "Called to be a Salesian Cooperator". In this he spoke on definition of laity (Cristefidelis laic), mission of the Church, Synod on the laity (1987), need of Christian transformation - by witness, by loving other people, by leading others, Formation of laity

(Spiritual, doctrinal, and human formation), Collaboration on educative pastoral mission, etc.

We had opening of few stalls, the Salesian Cooperators displayed few articles for sale. At 06.30 p.m. we had the Rosary Service with the candle light procession animated by the Cooperators. After the Rosary service, Fr. Antony Joseph – the Provincial of Tiruchy, gave the good night talk to Cooperators. After dinner, we had the lighter moment during which each province was asked to give a program.



On 26 January 2019, at 09.00 a.m. we had the panel discussion on “LIVING AND PROJECTING CHRISTIAN VALUES IN THE SOCIETY” by Mr. Paulson, Dr. Synthia and Mr. Dominis Xavier (Advocate). It was moderated by Fr. Edwin George, Sr. Theresa FMA – South Asian Delegate for Salesian Family, and Mr. K.V. Francis (INK).

We had the Zonal Election for North as well as South Region. Mr. Sebastian



Cyriac – the Coordinator (INN), Mr. Lucas Basumatary – the Secretary (ING) and Mrs. Victoria – the Treasurer (INC) were elected as the North zone office bearers. Mr. Arockia Arasu – the Coordinator (INM), Mr. Jesuraj – the Secretary (INT), and Mr. Hubert Fenelon – the Treasurer (INM) were elected as South Zone office bearers. Mr. Anthuvan – the world councilor for Salesian Cooperators, gave a short presentation of the Roadmap for next three years as a glimpses of the World Congress.

After the election of the zonal regional councilors, the files were handed over to the newly elected members. It was decided that the next Regional Congress would be organized in Tiruchy Province in 2022. The meeting was concluded with sentiments of gratitude and joy.

Sr. Rosy Antony
Salesian Family Coordinator



REPORT FROM THE JUNIORS' CORNER

*ON WE GO... to be committed
disciples for Christ...*

Two days of refreshment, relaxation, renewal and rejuvenation... have certainly spurred us on to an even greater commitment to be ardent Disciples of Christ. The Junior's Tri-monthly Recollection and Conference was held on 26th and 27th of January, 2019 at Manikandam, Trichy. 16 Juniors of our province gathered on 25th evening bubbling with energy and enthusiasm to meet each other and to reflect together on the inputs and sharing of experiences. Everything began with Mary, invoking her blessings with Rosary, followed by an encounter with the Mother Provincial Sr. A malanathan Mary Margaret. She opened cut the ribbons for a series of reflections on the cards for the two days, with a question to ponder: "What is the least hidden desire in you?" She exhorted us to watch our thoughts and become aware of all the thought patterns we have at various moments. Sr. Michael Cruz, the novice mistress gave us the goodnight talk inviting us to have a vision for the remaining years of our

phase as Juniors, fix concrete goals and action plans and to keep growing meaningfully.

The next day 26th, dawned with a beautiful morning prayer inviting us to dream big and to dare to live our dreams. Rev.Fr. Maria Doss Irudayaraj SDB from Kallukuzhy was the preacher for the Spiritual Recollection and his talk on Discipleship, with a strong dash of his own experiences, convictions and reflections inspired us immensely. He exhorted us to swim against the current, go beyond human expectations and interiorize the Gospel values. During the Holy Eucharist, he highlighted five truths that Jesus tells us. They are 1. I love you; 2. I believe in you; 3. I am with you; 4. I am for you; and 5. I bless you. These words rekindled our desire for intimacy with the person of Jesus Christ. The evening was spent sharing with the Mother Provincial, all that we wished to - the recollection, our experiences and our life in our own communities.

On 27th, the Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Gaspar, a Holy Cross priest who preached during the Eucharist on the Missionary zeal that we need to grow in. Mother Provincial screened a video titled 'The Eternal Truth Who am I?' about knowing oneself. It was a reminder to us, to be responsible for the choices we make

in our lives and to guard our souls from any impurity. A discussion in three groups, reflecting on the letters of St. Mary Mozzarella from the book *"I will never forget you"*, set us thinking about the richness of the heritage of sanctity that we have received as the letters were divided among the groups and we were oriented to observe the counsel of Mother Mozzarella on poverty, chastity and obedience. The groups came up with their action plans to live these vows in fidelity today, with a prophetic creativity and radical discipleship. The post lunch session was dedicated to formulating our applications for our Renewal of Vows in an ambience of prayer and contemplation. The final moments were spent in specific batches where we shared and brought out some action plans to be mindful of as we live in our communities and in the mission.

It is not merely a periodic programme that fulfils requirement, but it was true moments of renewal, to forge ahead with interest and commitment. Hence our hearts leap with joy and gratitude when we think of the organizers of these days, beginning with our Mother Provincial and everyone who hosted and animated us. May God reward the goodness that you have shown us in plenitude.

*Sr. Samson Gnana Jennifer
Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur*

HEADMISTRESS MEET



"Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence", says Dr. Ambethkar. The annual evaluation and planning meeting for all the Headmistress of the INT Province was held at Broadway on 16th February 2019. The day began with a short prayer and Mrs. Anto Christy the Social Activist oriented the participants. She shared her own personal experience, starting from the Gospel note of Jesus' call to be salt of the earth and invited us to examine our effective presence and guidance. She asked us to cultivate the healthy mind which will help our recipients to approach us and be open to us. She gave many practical experiences to motivate the students towards achieving their goals in life. The participants were led into discussion on the practical difficulties in handling the young girls and to plan for the new academic year. Later Sr. Majella the Academic Coordinator

presented the 10 key points for success and encouraged us to light the lives of our students with effective presence amidst them. The books and the content for the school calendar for the coming year were discussed and decided. She thanked all the heads of the Institute for their untiring work in the school and encouraged updated with all the government's orders and rules. Finally we thanked each other and resolved to form the young good citizens of the society.

**FORMATION MEET -
28th February – 03rd March, 2019**

The Formation Meet animated by Sr. Rebozo Maria Nieves – the General Councilor for Formation and her team Sr. Fisichella Maria and Sr. Miranda Anelfreda for twenty four Animators, Provincial Councilors and Formators at Don Bosco, Wellington from 28 February to 3 March 2019 was laden with blessings for each one and for the entire Province. Sisters and the ladies working in Needle Packing Section welcomed them with melodious songs and artful dance. The Formative session for each day commenced with an invocation to the Holy Spirit. In the first session, a paper on the Opening of the

Encounter with the Specific Objective was presented. The resource team enriched the participants on each chapter from the book “Guidelines for Formation Period of Temporary Vows, ongoing formation, New animators and Province Co-ordinator for Formation. After each presentation, the participants were lead into personal reflection, group sharing and presentation of the points during the general assembly on – Sisters experience in their Juniorate, then, challenges, convictions, choices, and formative Cana in Galilee correlated with the Inspirational Icon of Mary was an enriching experience for the Animators, Formators, Provincial Councilors and young Sisters. Each general assembly concluded with clarification of doubts, modifications, or addition of points. The resource team expressed their joy and contentment in seeing the Province moving towards the poor in the Periphery and the concrete choices opted for the future.

The meeting for the thirty one Juniors and twenty one perpetually Professed Sisters from the year 2015 to 2018 who belong to both INM and

INT Province was held at divyadhanam Novitiate, Tiruchirapalli from 4 – 5 March 2019. The young Sisters treasured the moments of presentation on the text – “Guidelines for the Formation of Period of Temporary Vows”. They had ample opportunities to recall and share how they lived their formation phase, how they were accompanied. They articulated with clarity, the challenges and the choices for Juniorate correlating with the text. On 5 March 2019, the eleven Contact Period Candidates had an unique experience of meeting the Formation Team. They welcomed them in Italian and shared with them why they are in the Pre-Aspirantate, and how they got their Initial Call to Salesian walk of Life. They were enlightened by the talk given by the Resource Team on the Message of Holiness Pope Francis for the XXXIII World Youth Day. The meeting concluded on 6 March 2019 with an interactive session with the thirteen Novices of INM and INT on the topic “Until Christ is formed in you itinerary towards interiority and conditions for growth.

Sentiments of gratitude well up from our hearts to our dear Sisters – Sr. Rebozo Maria Nieves, Sr. Fisichella Maria and Sr. Miranda Anelfreda who shared their precious time with us and Celebrants Fr. Felix, Rector of Sanitarium Minor Seminary, Fr. Santha Kumar, the Assistant Paris Priest of Wellington, Fr. Paul Samy SDB from Kotagiri, Fr. Raj Devan SDB, Rector of Alaihal Media, Fr. Amalraj Soosai, Rector of AMSAM, Fr. Antony Joseph SDB, Provincial of Triuchirapalli who solemnized the Holy Eucharist each day and kept us ruminating on the gift of God's call, its demands and our response.

- *Sr. AMBROSE Little Flower*
Provincial Secretary

**‘A person who thinks only about building walls,
wherever they may be, and not of building
bridges, is not Christian.’**

- Pope Francis

**Province of our Lady of Snow (INT)
Govt. examination Result particulars
2018 – 2019 - Stds. X & XII**

S. No.	Name of the School	Total No. of Students Appeared		Percentage %		First Mark	
		X	XII	X	XII	X	XII
1.	St. Francis Xavier's A.I. Hr. Sec. School. Broadway, Chennai.	114	210	100%	100%	481	589
2.	Our Lady's Centre Matriculation School, Broadway, Chennai - 108	99	-	100%	-	484	-
3.	Our Lady's Matric. Hr. Sec. School. Tiruvottiyur, Chennai.	169	146	98%	99%	473	546
4.	Auxilium Girls Hr. Sec. School, Pudukottai Road, Thanjavur.	217	201	99%	99%	493	555
5.	Auxilium Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Keela Eral	27	21	100%	98%	467	509
6.	Auxilium Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Therespuram, Tuticorin.	49	16	100%	100%	477	471
7.	Auxilium High School, Therespuram, Tuticorin.	49	-	100%	-	412	-
8.	Auxilium Hr.Sec. School, Sirudur, Madurai	55	38	98%	100%	442	448
9.	Auxilium Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Puliadithammam, Sivagangai.	20	-	100%	-	484	-

THE WAIT IS LONG; MY DREAM OF YOU DOES NOT END."

Second Novitiate – Second Phase

Arise, my love, my beautiful one! That's the voice of our lover! "Men trust God by risking rejection. Women trust God by waiting." John Lennon once said, "Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans." For me, life is what is happening while I am busy waiting in these days of Second Novitiate - Second Phase. I was ready for it and believed that the rest of my life would fade in to the background, and that my big moment would carry me and all others through life like a lifeboat. I wanted to see His face and hear his voice... yes, the voice of our bridegroom Jesus.

The Big Moment, unfortunately, is a month's miles away. Life is a collection of a million, billion moments, tiny little moments and choices, like a handful of luminous, glowing pearl. It takes so much time, and so much work, and those beads and moments are so small, and so much less fabulous and dramatic than the movies. But this is what I'm finding, in glimpses and flashes: this is it. The spider that knows what it will gain sits waiting patiently in its web. The praying mantis is never tired waiting all day.

Having this thought in mind, I Sr. Sundaram Bernadette Neha and Sr. Peter Arockia Mary of INT Province and Sr. Prema from INM Province entered afresh to Thanjavur wherein our Mother Mistress Sr. Soosai Magnificat took four days classes on the "Vows and community life". She explained the Constitutions articles from 11- 48 through her creative, pictorial single sheet paper per day and activity based questions with a practical resolution for each.

'Chastity is an important element for every Salesian' said Don Bosco and



this truth were explained as she added that the love of God must animate us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Speaking about the vow of poverty, she said, preferential love for the poor is the sole aim of our vocation. She also strongly insisted on the spirituality of sufficiency and the virtue of gratitude. The virtue of obedience was said in an innovative way 'we have to let grow and let everyone grow'. Even the community

at the last day conducted a small game quiz on the Constitutions articles with the hook of the fish. We expressed our gratitude to her and all the Sisters of Thanjavur for making us more focused to be imbued with our Salesian charism and promised them that we will make a choice every time to be Christ like.

To make the second part of our Second phase, we went to Don Bosco Renewal Centre, Bangalore and there along with 45 Salesian brothers and 9 Salesian Sisters of different Provinces, we had the Course for the Preparation for the Final Vows from Sunday 28th April to 13th May, 2019. Fortunately, our Sisters convent in Banerghatta was close by and so, we Sisters accommodated there. Fr. Bosco Ponthokkan, SDB was the Vice Rector and Co-ordinator of Programs animated us.

Fr. Seby Kidangan Ouseph SDB, the Administrator conducted the



Inaugural prayer service with the Holy Mass telling us that God calls us and gifts our lives with surprises. The next day he made us to review our life and discernment through the "RIVER MEE" video, based on the book Landmarks by Margaret Silf. Each one reflected on our lives - The Origin, Tributaries, Peaceful Flow, Unseen or Hidden Flow, Detours, Diversions, Obstacles, Dry Spell, Stagnation, Rapids, Deepening and Widening, Destination, My deepest desire, Contributions and finally how it lands up to the Oceans.

All the participants were divided into groups headed by Fr. Raja Reddy Donthireddy SDB, Animator, Sr. Rosamma, Sr. Berni and Fr. T. D. John for Group Process i.e. the Counselling and the Group Therapy. We had this for 4 days wherein gradually we were led to sharing of our personal problems or experiences to be aware of and come up with a solution to be healed. In the beginning, each one of us took the promise that we shall maintain the group secrecy and gradually it made all to feel at ease to lighten the burdens.

Fr. Bosco Ponthokkan enlightened us in his sessions on Psycho-Sexual Integration with the factors involved

for Psycho-sexual development - Physical, Emotional, Cognitive, Social, Spiritual and Moral. He also dealt on Sexuality and Honesty, Gender Assessment, Kinsley's Sexual Orientation Continuum, Wounded Sexuality and Stages of Growth in Celibacy.

Fr. James Theophilus SDB, the Rector dealt with sessions on Lectio Divina and Word of God. He taught us how to pray with the Scriptures - Read, Pray, Study and Experience the Word thus forming spirituality on the whole. Fr. Anil D'Sa through his vibrant and active sessions of games and hot discussions handled the Pastoral aspect of Youth Work and Youth Policy. Fr. John Rosario SDB of INM Province dealt on Salesian History and Charism with the historical point of view and how Salesianity came about in evolving swings. We also had a thanksgiving ceremony in which each one profusely thanked all the Resource Persons for helping us to commit ourselves to be deeply rooted in Christ with our Salesian spirit of joy and optimism. That thing I'm waiting for, that adventure, that move-score-worthy experience unfolding gracefully in the hands of God.

Sr. Sundaram Bernadette Neha

Time to journey...

With an invitation to go where we have never before, the junior sisters of INT and INM provinces numbering 28 in all, experienced a gracious time to make a crucial journey - a journey inward. The annual renewal course held from 14th to 21st May 2019 at Mornese, Yercaud focussed on Psycho-spiritual integration.



It was an interesting experience to have a single person drive us through the entire journey - Sr. Nancy Vaz fdcc, a Cannossian Sister belonging to the Province of Mumbai. The resource person had some remarkable qualities about her: practical approach to religious life, soft spoken in her speech but sound in her convictions and experienced in her views but young and energetic in her animating style!

The workshop commenced with a thought provoking reflection on the post resurrection narrative, inviting us to identify the feelings of the women characters before and after

meeting the angels. The invitation was extended to us too to journey from Jerusalem to Galilee calling us to reflect on what is Galilee in our lives and the concrete steps we need to take to respond to this invitation. Many questions were posed each day for self introspection impelling us to contemplate doing what we have never done before and deciding to go where we have never been before.

The major modules covered during the workshop were Personal Effectiveness and Energy Management, Self Leadership, Change Management, De-cluttering life and Time Management. The modules were integrated with many exercises, activities, games and video clips to keep us enthusiastic and attentive. Another interesting high light was the use of the classical films like 'Rabbit Proof Fence', 'Joshua', 'The King's Speech', a detailed discussion on the spiritual and psychological aspects which brought out the themes which the animator wanted us to dwell on. Everything that was done was filled with fun but none without an intention to instill values and motivation in the minds of the participants. The workshop concluded with writing an integral project for our life with focus on care

of self, mind, relational life, personal timetable and communication pattern. On the concluding day, the project for life booklet was placed under the feet of our Blessed Mother during a prayer service and handed back to us to resume our life afresh with renewed vigour and enthusiasm.

We thanked Sr. Nancy Vaz for her dedicated and tireless service in animating this course for us with a meaningful programme. We also thank our Mother Provincial Rev. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret for her novel plan and arrangement for the 8 day course for the Junior Sisters this year. There is no doubt that we did benefit from the course, our life's journey having been enriched with great ardour and zeal at all levels!

*Sr. Samson Gnana Jennifer
Auxilium Centre, Jhanjavur*



*A church without
women would be like the
apostolic college without
Mary. The Madonna is
more important than the
apostles, and the church
herself is feminine, the
spouse of Christ and a
mother."*

Pope Francis

**IF MOTHER MAZZARELLO WERE
TO WRITE TO OUR
COMMUNITIES TODAY**

For the above initiative in March 2019, sixteen letters came from Eight Communities. Congratulations to all the participants for your creative, imaginative, original and innovative contribution. We here below furnish SIX chosen letters for your dreams about Mother Mazzarello here and now.

LETTER 1

Manikandam - Tiruchirapalli

Hi dear Sweet Hearts,

Thanks for your whats app messages and status of Provincial Community Day Celebration 2019, and Formation Meetings. Hope that these updates and comments during the talks and group discussions always bear perennial fruit in your communities. The current screenshot in my mobile says that. Yes I am convinced that you are 'Valentines of Christ'.

Though we are far away from one another, yet I love you all. We always meet in skype and even meet our senior sisters in face book, to cherish the love of Christ.

I wonder at your marvelous works of accompanying the young angels in their formative journey. I am pleased that you instill in them to make a deeper inner journey to know themselves and get in touch with Jesus in the core of their being amidst the realities of each day.

How is Sr. Dorothy? I find you living the Constitutions Article 52, in Room 8 as you are attentive to her needs and extend your tender loving care. Please post her health details to my mail.

So dear Sister, Keep smiling. May your prayers be updated. Let your witnessing life inspire all. Refresh yourselves often by visiting Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Download videos of qualities and audios of your divine experiences in your communities. Let your eyes capture not only sarees, but welcome the saints with jeans, the oratorians - our target group.

The halo of light enchants my eyes. Oh now my words to the Holy Novices. You are in the world but through your deeds I know that you are not of the world. I am happy that you have created a new folder of obedience, gradually progressing with the document of humility attached in the file of charity.

Remember that you have to save your souls and also the souls of youngsters. Cut your self-love, copy cheerfulness, paste courage and never delete latter two qualities from the file of your life. If you feel that you have missed something, go to the recycle bin and restore it. Remember to keep alive the latest version of your Self Image in the light of the Word of God.

Your community images on the instagram is always liked and shared.

My lovely blooming buds (young Sisters,) embrace everyone in your love. Let the remote increase the volume of the fire of God's Love in your communities and let it resound to the entire Educating Community.

**Your most affectionate Mother,
Maria Domenica Mazzarello**



LETTER 2

DINDIGUL - ULAGAMPATTI

My Dearest Sister,

Greetings from your loving sister Maria, Wish you a very fruitful Lenten season. May I add some points to practice through this time of lent? Sisters, our loving father Don Bosco gave us his heritage of

Preventive System which is our Spirituality and method of Education. Spirituality is not characterized by long hours of Prayer, or rigorous fasting and abstinence. It is rather a life style called the preventive system. This time I take only one aspect of assistance, the Salesian Presence. This presence includes as its Essential element physical presence. This aspect calls for a lot of Sacrifice of one's own time, energy, desires and concerns.

The presence of preventive System is not an authoritarian figure to frighten the youth, but to be a loving sister among the youth and girls taking care that they do not commit mistakes.

Dear sisters, our presence among the youth should be that of God who was always with the Israelites throughout their Journey in the form of cloud during the day time and a pillar of fire at night. I think our Father Don Bosco took this aspect of God in our presence with the youth day and night. Shall I give you some practical points.

When we assist our youth or the boarders, when they are studying, we can sit in front of them and can be engrossed in our work without seeing whether they are studying or doing

their home work etc... or reading story book, keeping it inside their class book. Or they will be busy writing. You may think they are doing their home work, but they may write love letters to pass it on. To prevent this, you should not do your work during the study assistant, but go around the study hall that will make them do their study honestly. Your movement makes a difference. Am I right? You will ask me, when I will do my work? We must find time by cutting useless talks with a particular person during our time or doing useless work etc... I hope you caught my point.

In the Chapel during Mass, we the assistants are very holy facing the altar leaving the children talk, play or sleep without participating in the Mass. But if the assistant turn towards the children looking at them during Mass, you prevent them from doing wrong and also create an atmosphere that make them participate better in Mass and other celebrations.

Because you are looking at them, You may tell me, that you will not be able participate in the Mass at all. Your assistance is a best way for you, and instead of one person, you make your 20,30..... boarders participate in the Mass and get lots of graces

from God and you too will get all the graces you need to form them Spiritually because of your assistance. Hope I am clear do I? Dear sisters our presence is a path of Holiness, call to love and practices the Gospel charity of Christ the Good Shepherd. For this only Don Bosco often said " I have promised God that I would give myself to my last breath for my poor boys". Let us do it for our poor girls. Sisters it is an interior disposition that wings you to be present in someone life and give meaning for their life by your nurturing presence. Do you agree?

Dear sisters, shall I tell you the Characteristics of Salesian presence? Like the Good Shepherd we must say, "girls here in your midst I feel completely at home; for me, living means being here with you."

Our presence is animating presence compassionate presence, friendly presence, and nurturing presence . Dear Sisters I will explain these presence in my next letter, otherwise I will bore you, won't I?

Try to practice one thing during this Lent and if you do it continually for 21 days, it will become your good habit. Try to make many good habits during this Lent and you will become

'Pakka Assistant' and a real model for others to follow you. Mary our Mother is with you and I too will get many graces from God for you.

Wish you all my loving Viva Gesu till we meet again.

*Yours in Jesus Christ,
Sr. Maria Mazzarello*

Mornese
13.03.2019



LETTER 3

BROADWAY - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

My beloved daughters,

How wonderful it is to meet my dear loving daughters in Christ! You are privileged to be chosen to follow our Master and Lord in the footsteps of our beloved father St. John Bosco carrying the Salesian spirit and charism in your heart.

I hope that your spiritual health is good and alive as you much take care of your physical and mental health through your regular diet practices. I know you are very busy with your regular activities in the mission field, But don't sacrifice your personal time with God for any other cause. Is your inner fire for God still burning? If not please shake off the

asses and make it bright. Do not let your initial charm and desire to follow Christ go down with time.

Do you keep your community sisters happy? I believe you are in good terms with your sisters as we the first sisters were in Mornese, choosing the hardest part, robbing the sacrifices, leaving the best for others. Have you ever wondered, what makes a relationship more meaningful genuine and lasting forever? It is the love that we experience from Him and share it with others without any expectation of reward. Love is not just a word but it's full of actions. It is more about respect for each other their individuality, and does not die down with time. Create a gossip free community and let your life bring more vocation to our congregation. Be balanced in dealing with your emotional and psychological behaviors. Our commitment is not about our interest, ideas, priorities and success but the welfare of others, especially the young people under our care.

My dear sisters, don't let your thirst for saving souls go dry. It is less about knowing the person and more about caring and daring. Daring to stand up and accept the person completely,

regardless of their faults, shortcomings, and failures. I understand the practical difficulties you face today with all the technological growth and digital development, but find your creative way to attract the girls to long for heavenly things instead of earthly desires. Let each girl in your campus find in you a caring mother, loving sister, and trustworthy friend to share their joys and sorrows.

How often you recharge your mobile to talk to your loved ones and be connected with the people outside? Don't forget to recharge your inner battery and be connected with the Almighty, because Holiness is nothing but be connected with the creator always than the creatures. I pray that the good works who began in you may bring into completion on the day we meet each other in our heavenly mansion.

Connected in love,

Your loving Mother Mary

Mazzarello.

Posted by: Sr. John Bosco Edal Queen
Place : St. Francis Xavier Convent,
Broadway

Date : 13.03.2019



LETTER 4

DINDIGUL - MARIA NATHAPURAM

March 13, 2019

Viva Gesu`, Maria e San Giuseppe!
My dear and beloved daughters,

I am very happy to communicate to you through this letter though writing letters are outdated. Hope you will find time to read it. I am pleased to know that you are doing well and have the good will to help each other in a serene and joyful way. Your Province is New and it is growing with new ideas and visions in order to spread the kingdom of God in the peripheries. I appreciate your dedication for the mission and readiness to 'learn and unlearn' continuously to search and discover new ways to travel together in an ever - changing society. In today's society you have to face lot of challenges. The quality of Relationships is one of the greatest prophetic challenges. Do you agree with me? How can you build up sincere relationships? By allowing yourselves to be transformed by Jesus.

I hear that you have eleven pre-aspirants who have the sole desire to dedicate themselves entirely to Jesus and work for His kingdom. I am

really happy that you have much to do for the Glory of God and for the Young. I am proud of the new venture the Institute has taken for the Formation of the period of Temporary professed Sisters.

In this fast growing technological digitalized world provide them opportunities, train and form them to use the Media critically and accompany them to use them positively which would help them to handle the youth who face the World with new challenges.

I recommend you to appreciate, uphold and encourage the for mees to bring out the best in them. Find out the soft spot in each of them and make them to grow. It is a must to visit the families of the for mees and get to know their background which would help the Formation community to accompany them in their vocational journey. Living in this industrial World where the youngsters want everything instant, educate them to be patient which would help them to achieve the greater things in life.

My beloved Sisters learn the art of 'Docibilitas' and 'Resilience' which will help you to be cheerful and peaceful. Amidst your heavy

schedule never neglect the personal encounter with Jesus which is the tonic for your body and soul and centre of your mission. Remember that Jesus must be your whole strength, consolation and comfort. Be united and build up quality relationship which will strengthen your vocation and mission.

Time is limited so I'll stop here. I wish you a happy Feast of St. Joseph the patron of our Institute. Ask him to give you true humility and magnanimity. Let us pray and love one another in the Lord.

May God bless you and your wonderful mission.

*Your most affectionate Mother
Sr. Maria Mazzarello*



LETTER 5

REGUNATHAPURAM

A Letter from our Mother...

My beloved daughters,

How are you? Are you still cheerful? I am blissful to write this letter to you. I am happy to see all that you do to enhance the growth of the young. Thanks to your generous heart to accept the will of God. I am happy to see big number of young

and enthusiastic sisters fully launched in the mission. I received your photo in heaven with the caption "the story of Mornese we continue". I was glad that you live the charism to the full. Many wishes from Sr. Theresina, Sr. Juliet and Sr. Rosary. They are here with me and praying for the growth of your province. Sr. Rosary always speaks about Regunathapuram and so your place is well known here in heaven. It rings joyful bells in my ears when I hear about the candidates send from your college singing the spirit of Mornese. I also hear that there are still more aspiring to follow the footsteps of Jesus our Lord and Master. I am glad to see that you are mobile tabernacle carrying God wherever you go. Accept and undertake with gratitude the beauty of being a consecrated woman educator. Remember, review, renew the three promises you gave him at your first profession. Know that St. Joseph is your bursar and protector of your community. As you are eagerly preparing to celebrate his feast, may his virtues remain in your heart and thus you may resemble them among young. Though you were affected by the Gaja cyclone, let not any cyclone affect your

spirituality. Thank you for your hard work, sacrifice, generous availability, total dedication, foreseeing goodness, welcoming presence, adopting your mission according to the signs of the time and your witnessing presence among young. Now I speak to more in person....

To my little sisters,

Are you cheerful? Be happy, be humble and live in the presence of the Lord. Study well not for your sake but for the glory of God. Remain humble before God and others. Do not think you alone are capable of doing anything. Do you accept corrections willingly? Are you faithful to your personal prayer and personal encounter? As you study the language of the world, study the language of the heart. Hold on to Jesus at all times and remain faithful in His love. To my sisters who are young in spirit,

I see that you have a lot of work, colleges and hostels are filled with many young girls. I am pleased with your work. Try to educate them well first of all by your example and by your words. Prepare the youth to become IAS, IPS, CA, by giving them integral education. Make them servers of the society. When you are tired and

troubled go and place all your worries in the heart of Jesus. There, you will find joy and solace. I recommend that you be humble, full of charity and patience. Pray always and from the depth of your heart. Let prayer be the weapon you always keep at hand.

Finally my dear daughters,

I can see there are many more buildings coming up in your campus. May the Lord send, thousands of young girls to be profited by it. May our blessed mother surround you with her Mantle. The Strenna of this year is very meaningful and significant, so love to be holy and through you, may the young too may love holiness. Never forget to take your mother land under good leadership by fulfilling your responsibility of voting. Always I pray for you who love you very dearly in the Lord. May God bless you and make you holy. I leave you in the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

*Yours most affectionate la madre,
Sr. Mary Mazzarello*



Maria Mazzarello writes a short letter to Sr. Vijila. She sends greetings and spiritual advice to live a holy life.

My Dear Sr. Vijila,

Are you happy and cheerful? I want you always to be cheerful and to become holy soon. Maintain your good will, fervor, humility and charity. Think of becoming holy by giving good example to all your sisters and to the girls.

Pray always. Let prayer be the weapon that you always keep at hand.

The world is very attractive. You know that we live in an age of science and technology but if we remain ignorant of the incidents happening in our country as well as in the world we will be proved unfit for the world. So I advise you to read newspapers daily in order to be acquainted with the current affairs of the world.

Mobile is a wonderful technological tool that gives you instant access to infinite knowledge. Be moderate in using mobile. I am sure you won't misuse it. Use it for self improvement and enrichment. Teach the girls to use it wisely. And also use the internet only for the right purpose.

Wide your outlook, remove narrowness of the mind and enrich your thoughts. Be social, talk with everyone and respect everyone.

- ✦ Be inspired and live inspired.
- ✦ Always have good smile on your face. Help the needy and lift them up.
- ✦ Always have good relationship with everyone.
- ✦ Pray for me and be cheerful , keep the sisters and girls cheerful too.
- ✦ Tell them that I wish them every possible good. Reply by e-mail or whatsapp.
- ✦ Give my regards to all the sisters. May GOD bless you.

Yours most affectionately,
Sr.Maria Mazzarello.



*'Let us pray for peace,
and let us bring it about,
starting in our
own homes!'*

- Pope Francis

“I HAVE FOUND THE ONE WHOM MY SOUL LOVES”

(Song of SaLCCMCN(3:4)

The above bible quote is so perfect for our dear Sisters Sr.Sundaram Bernadette Neha and Sr. Peter Arockia Mary on this fabulous occasion, a way to say: I love you anytime! modern and classic with a touch of commitment.

For this day, she had been waiting in her life. Waiting to become something else, waiting to be that person she always thought she was on the verge of becoming, waiting for that life she thought she would have. In her head, she was always one step away. Literally 5 years of formative phases and 7 years of religious life has indeed given her patience to wait for this auspicious day. Faith in God can move the mountains, so on 25th May highlighting the theme and source of her profession motto - “Follow His steps closely (1 Peter 2:21), she got **COMMITTED**. Perpetual Profession marks the beginning of a Sister's total commitment to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

Isaac, the only son to be sacrificed, led by Abraham to fulfill His will. She along with her companion Sr. Peter Arockia Mary made this eternal commitment to the Lord obliging to live their life only for Him alone till their last breath. In the presence of Most Reverend Yvon Ambrose D., Bishop Emeritus of Tuticorin, the wedding, fellowship meal - the Holy Eucharist was solemnized on 25th May, 2019, Saturday at 05.30 p.m. in Our Lady of Rosary Church, Puthenthurai. During the sermon, he emphasized that God is really present. He is the core and precious and they too are precious to Him. God wants their life to radiate the fragrant and beauty of his love to illumine the world with smile and glow charity and service. At the spur of the moment they realized the preciousness of their vocation and their eyes seem to meet the Lord and none there, basking in the sunshine of His love alone.



It was a privilege for our family, relatives, friends and well-wishers to attend this auspicious Perpetual Profession Mass, followed by a fellowship meal.

Most of the time, I'm overjoyed that my daughter found her calling in life by joining the Salesians. I believe that this is the vocation God designed for her and that it fulfills the deepest longings of her heart. I see the profound effect she has on the people she serves. My daughter's chosen path is a mystery to most people. I told her how much I would miss her and that giving her to the Lord had been one of the most difficult things I had ever had to do. Then I felt a surge of strength, looked her in the eye and added that I wouldn't trade it for anything because I know she is exactly where the Lord wants her to be. In that moment, I experienced such grace.

This wonderful grace-filled event was organized by Mother Provincial Sr. Amalanathan Margaret along with her Coucillors who constantly are bound to be thanked for their motherly accompaniment, guidance, love, care and affection in all various

levels of their formation. Also, my heart spells out a big "Thank you" for the concelebrants, Puthenthurai Community who hosted the Mega event, Animators, Sisters, Auxilium College Regunathapuram choir, parents, relatives, friends, well - wishers and all those who added a melody of joy to the tone of the day. My sincere sentiments of gratitude to one and all. THANK YOU!!!

So, my dear Sisters the call to religious life is one of the continuous conversion of heart, mind, and spirit based on an open and loving response to the Will of God. Ongoing spiritual, ministerial, and personal formation continues throughout the course of their lives as consecrated women religious.

He has consecrated his chosen one for Himself and places her in a state of belonging and of more intimate communion with Him with a new and specific title which is a sacred commitment to dedicate the rest of her life in service to God and the Church as a Salesian Sister.

I appreciate and congratulate them for their wholehearted 'yes' and their faithfulness to God. My daughter already offered her yes to this vocation. I'm doing my best to offer mine. With all my heart I entrust myself to this religious family.....

MARJA. E. A



*'Safeguard creation because if we destroy
creation, creation will destroy us!*

Never forget this.'

— Pope Francis





The invincible butterfly never give up its flight.

It basks in the sunlight and harvests energy to lift itself high.

Moments spent in stillness with the divine

lets my soul soar beyond barriers,

Turning pains into power, fear into faith,

My strains and struggles turn into photovoltaic energy providers

Making me invincible! Invincible!



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