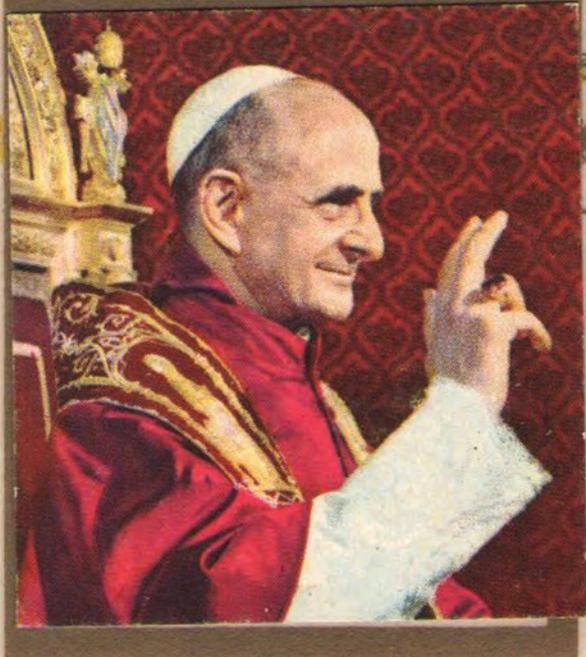


"Do not be afraid to listen to the Spirit who proposes bold choices; do not delay when your conscience asks you to take risks in following the Master. The Church also wishes to listen to your voice, your sensitivities and your faith; even your doubts and your criticism. Make your voice heard, let it resonate in communities and let it be heard by your shepherds of souls".



POPE'S PAUL VI MESSAGE
TO YOUTH

"In the name of God and of His Son, Jesus we exhort you to open your hearts to the dimensions of the world, to heed the appeal of your brothers, to place your youthful energies at their service.

Fight against all egoism. Refuse to give free course to the instincts of violence and hatred which beget wars and all their train of miseries.

Be generous, pure, respectful and sincere, and build in enthusiasm a better world than your elders had.

The Church looks to you with confidence and with love... Look upon the Church and you will find in her the face of Christ, the genuine, humble, and wise Hero, the Prophet of truth and love, the Companion and Friend of youth.

It is in the name of Christ that we salute you, that we exhort and bless you.

Paulus P.P. VI -



EDITORIAL



“I am now making my words in your mouth a fire, and this people wood, and the fire shall devour them” Jer. 5:14(b)

We are living in a world where fire of worldliness is burning the heart of all the children of God attracting them to the pleasures of this temporary world. In this chaotic world, we are called specially to be ignited by the Word to illumine the world that the whole world may be purified by this fire and enjoy the real presence of God in their life journey. To make it a reality our young sisters had a gathering at the Provincialate with the theme '**to be ignited by the Word to illumine the world**'.

Pope Francis says to the youth “Remain steadfast in the journey of faith, with firm hope in the Lord. This is the secret of our journey! He gives us the courage to swim against the tide,” He earnestly says to the youth to “pay attention,” because while going against the current is good for the heart, “we need courage to swim against the tide. Jesus gives us this courage!” With Jesus “we can do great things,” he said, and encouraged the youth to commit themselves to great and important ideals.

Yes! My dear sisters, we need courage to swim against the tide of this world which can be acquired only by the Word of God. We are not chosen by the Lord for little things; push onwards toward the highest principles. Stake your lives on noble ideals. Be brave and go against the tide; May Jesus be our only guiding light who is the Prince of Peace. As Pope says “Everything in him speaks of mercy. Nothing in him is devoid of compassion.”

Let each moment of our life make us all afresh in the merciful love of God and we may burn in that fire of love to light every life that is struggling for the SPARK of God's mercy. Thus, this year may enable each one of us to rejuvenate each other that we may PROCLAIM Him more heroically through our presence, words and deeds. I make this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed in one way or the other to release this fourth volume of SPARK, especially I appreciate our young sisters whose articles are also added here to make this volume YOUTH SPECIAL. Through each event and articles edited here, we proclaim the unconditional love of God.

Sr. Celine Vazhaekat SD





SPARK

Santhidham Province
Activating and Rekindling Kindness
Vol - 4 January 2019

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A young man used to pick up regular arguments with God. He used to say “You call yourself the creator of this world. You better know what a mess you've made - poverty, hunger, inequalities, injustices of all kinds, ethnic conflicts and what not”. God did not answer him for quite some time. The young man did not stop complaining. He was at his wits end. One day he asked God impatiently, 'God, are you deaf? Don't you hear my queries? Why don't you do something about making this world a better place?'

This time God answered, “My son, I agree with all these you say about the world. But remember I created you with the power to make a difference, stop complaining and start working. You can make a difference”.

Yes! Dear sisters, to make a difference in this world, we don't have to be amazing, rich, talented, beautiful or perfect. You just have to be YOU and CARE. Remember, we cannot make a DIFFERENCE in the world if we are living just like the world today. The simple truth is that all of us can make a little difference wherever we are and in whatever we do. Today the whole world is contaminated by the pessimism. Our thoughts are always negative, thus our words and how can we expect our actions to be positive. “The way to get rid of darkness is with light; the way to overcome cold is with heat; the way to overcome the negative thought is to substitute the good thought. Affirm the good, and the bad will vanish”. (Joseph Murphy). Let us be the persons of LOVE, PEACE and JOY that we may welcome the New Year 2019 with much hope and enthusiasm. 'If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way' (Martin Luther King JR). Let us all try to **be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody**.

As we are in the year of youth, I would like to quote: **“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven” (Mt.5:16)**

Light by nature spreads brightness, banishes darkness and brings warmth. Let the igniting lives of our young sisters burn with compassionate love, spreading warmth of merciful love of Jesus.

I take this opportunity to congratulate all those who tirelessly worked hard to bring out this magazine as a New Year spiritual gift to Santhidham province, especially our chief editor Sr. Celine and all those who contributed their little efforts to make this magazine a heart touching one.

May the shadow of the great king accompany you throughout this New Year, May you be able to pitch a tent in your heart for the Great King.

With great admiration and love
Your's in Christ Jesus
Sr. Grace Katteth SD
Provincial Superior

AFZALGARH

Death Anniversary of Venerable Fr. Varghese Payapilly:

It was celebrated on 21st October 2018 in the parish church with solemn Mass by Rev. Fr. Melvin who spoke about our Valliachan, his holiness and S.D. Congregation very delightfully. Youth of the parish made special intercessory prayers for us. After the Holy Mass Valliachan's Novena was distributed to each family and the power of Novena was explained to them. Fr. Melvin and parishioners wished us. We distributed apple and biscuits to all.



Teachers' day celebration: The program commenced on 5th September 2018. There was a march past of teachers and they were warmly welcomed and seated on the stage. After a small cultural event, a game was conducted for the teachers. They were honoured one by one and gifts were given to all the teachers. Before lunch Sr. Rose conducted house and prizes were given to the winners.

Gandhi Jayanti: After the assembly there was a small cultural program followed by cleaning the surrounding of school and the classrooms by the students along with their class teachers, as volunteer service in Tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. Students brought saplings and they planted it in our compound.



Silver Jubilee celebration of Sr. Sindhu: The students and staff of the school celebrated the silver jubilee on 2nd November 2018. Sr. Sindhu was welcomed by putting Tilak on forehead and bouquet. There was a short assembly followed by a small cultural programme along with wishing. All the students were given sweets and after the class, teachers had lunch with sisters.

ALUVA



Reception to Silver and Golden Jubilarians: Jubilee, the celebration of God's love and fidelity to our sisters in the course of 25 years! 50 years! We had 2 Golden Jubilarians & 10 silver Jubilarians. On 15th October, we welcomed the Silver & Golden Jubilarians of St. Mary's and Santhidham province at Mission House. They reached by 10.30am along with Mother Reesa and Mother Grace. Under the leader

ship of Sr. Liss Grace and Sr. Arpitha we welcomed them. It started with Indian style 'Arathi and Bindi'. We

gave them drinks at the gate and with the 'Chenda Melam' they proceeded to the courtyard. Mother Grace and Councillors washed their hands and they received the blessings of our Valliathan. In the chapel, Mother Grace prayed for the Jubilarians and they were invited to the hall. There, we congratulated them and cut the cake. Then they went to Chunangamvely and had lunch there. By 7 pm we had the Vigil Prayer for them thanking the Lord who had filled their lives with unconditional love.



Jubilee Holy Mass: Though we had a plan to celebrate it at St. Dominic Church, due to the flood, we had it in the Capuchin Provincial House. On 16th by 10am Jubilee Mass began at the Main Chapel of Capuchin Ashram. Rev. Bishop Emi. Thomas Chakkiath was the main celebrant. After the Eucharistic celebration, the festive atmosphere continued in dining hall. We wished them, singing songs and cutting cake. Sisters, along with their family members were seated around the arranged table for the sharing of a meal. Jubilarians expressed their thanks. A deep sense of joy and gratitude pervaded the entire day.

Special Concern to the Destitute: S.D Mission House Aluva is always ready to help the poor and the needy. Every day at least 3-4 persons come for food and other needs. We provide them food at anytime, find time to listen to them and render medical care through Govt. hospital. Poor brethren go back with satisfied heart and mind. We are also grateful to God for allowing us to impart his mercy, to the needy. They remind us that, we are the sisters of the destitute.



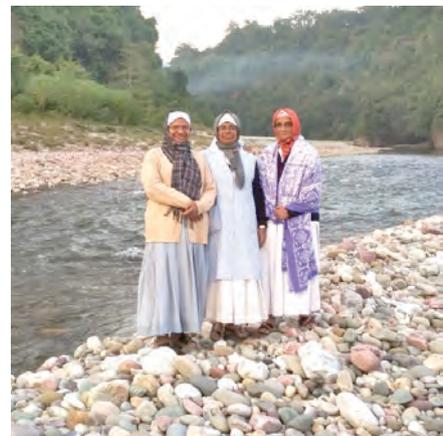
Compassion to the Victims of Flood-2018: 15th Aug 2018 became a part of Kerala history. Due to the monsoon rain, thirty-five, out of the fifty-four dams within the state were opened for the first time in history. It was the worst flood in Kerala in nearly a century. All 14 districts of the state were placed on red alert. The longest river Periyar also overflowed flooding Aluva. Houses were sunk under the river water, trees were uprooted, cultivations destroyed and domestic animals died. Along with Kerala Govt., all 41 Catholic dioceses have opened schools and other institutions to accommodate flood victims and cooperated to send food, clothes and other relief materials to affected areas.

Inspired by the compassion of founder Venerable Fr.Varghese Payappilly, SD Congregation involved vibrantly in the rescue and relief operations in the event of the Flood disaster. With the Govt. hospital team, Sr. Daisy and sisters went to give medicines in the camps. Our sisters from Gujarat sent some clothes and other things; we packed it and gave to the people in need of it. Everyday two or three of us went to different camps to serve the people and to render psychosocial support to the affected. We prayed for them. Under Generalate, there was a disaster management team and Sr, Roshni was a member representing Santhidham Province. The team members were given guidance for the relief work. This team helped us to know about the relief work done in different parts of Kerala by our Sisters and others. Once when our sisters went for the relief work their vehicle also was under the unexpected river flow. The medicines and other things were floating in the water. Sisters prayed loudly in the vehicle. Vehicle started moving; it moved almost 5minutes through the water. Those who were in the vehicle witnessed that they were saved because of prayer. After the flood, our Sisters went to clean the houses, retreat centre and convents affected by the flood. The mutual help rendered, and solidarity expressed was exemplary and praiseworthy.

BAIJNATH

Birthday celebration of Valliachan: We celebrated our Valliachan's day with our school staff. Sr.Karuna introduced our founder to them. We distributed the Novena prayer to all the teachers. They were inspired and motivated, and taken many copies for their relatives too. We served them snacks and tea.

Conclusion of Rosary: We regularly recited rosary with our parishioners. The last day of the rosary was solemnly celebrated. It was a joyous day as sisters of Mandal community visited us.



BEDAPUR



Founder's day: We celebrated founder's day on 14th October 2018. All the parishioners, fathers and sisters of the campus were invited. The presence of our sisters at Bhikkawala and Afzalgarh added more colour to the get-together. Holy mass was offered by Fr.Francis and Fr. Joseph Chacko in the Parish church. Sr.Sheril introduced our founder Venerable Fr.Varghese Payapilly to the congregation. During Holy Mass Fr.Francis gave an inspiring message about the life of our founder. After Holy Mass, we gave out the Novena prayer to all who were present. Our Physically challenged children entertained us by their cultural programme. Fathers, sisters and children had a very delicious food in the evening. Provincial superior, Fr.Biju Vadakkal, also was present for the programme. Thanks be to God for the opportunity to make our Valliachan known.

BHIKKAWALA

Eye Camp: There were free eye camps in our clinic in the months of April, July & September successively. Doctors from Dehradun Medical College came for examining the patients. Around 480 patients attended the eye camps from different villages. They had free check-up and medicines were given. Patients who needed Cataract surgery were taken to the hospital in the following day.

Pastoral Visit: We had a pastoral visitation of our bishop John Vadakkal, Bishop of Bijnor on 29th September 2018. Our Parish priest Rev. Fr. Jose Varghese garlanded and Rev. Fr. Melvin gave him a



bouquet and the boarders and aspirants welcomed him with a dance. There was a short prayer service in the chapel after which Bishop gave an inspiring message. Bishop met all the boarders and had a meeting with staff of the health & social apostolate department. In the afternoon, he was welcomed to the convent by Sr. Sales and sisters. After lunch, Bishop spent some time with us.



He visited all the families of our villages one after another.



Gandhi Jayanti: On the day of Gandhi Jayanti, the children and teachers of St. Mary's school conducted a rally in the town of Bhikkawala; students were carrying placards and said slogans as one of them dressed up as Gandhi on top of a vehicle. The Principal, Sr. Rose Arrackal gave a message about Mahatma Gandhi and the value of labour.

Youth Seminar: We conducted one-day seminar for the youth on 7th October 2018. Sr. Lucy CHF gave class for them about the importance of Word of God in our life. There was short prayer service followed by entertainment programme conducted by the youth. Around 45 youth attended the programme.



Founder's Day Celebration: We celebrated the death anniversary of our Founder Venerable Fr Varghese Payapilly on 5th October in the Parish church. Sr. Sales gave a an introduction about our founder before the Holy Mass. Sweets were distributed to all. We specially invited 12 families for this get together. We conducted a prayer service in front of the picture of our founder and Sr. Sales elaborately explained the qualities and great work done by our founder. After the lunch, we presented gifts for all the invitees and it was a wonderful day for all of us.

BURBURIA

Pastoral visit: Most Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro reached Burburia on 2nd September 2018 for pastoral visitation. Bishop visited us in the morning and went to the substation church, Chechua. The parishioners from different substations had come and welcomed Bishop with risha and bouquet according to their tradition. His Excellency celebrated Holy mass in the church of Chechua and conferred the sacrament of confirmation. There was cultural programme after the Holy mass. We all had lunch with Bishop. It was a blissful day.



Jericho Cross: On 29th September 2018, Jericho cross was reached in our parish from the Diocese of Agarthala and the parishioners welcomed the cross warmly and there was Holy mass and adoration in the evening. It was kept for three days in our parish and the fourth day we went to other substations of our parish with Jericho cross and

prayed there. The active participation of parishioners was a sign of their deep faith and interest in church activities. On 1st October we went to neighbouring parish (Depochera) and handed over the Jericho cross there.

Venerable Day: We celebrated the venerable day of our valliachan on 7th October 2018 (Sunday) with parishioners and we gave a brief history of our founder during Holy Mass. Rev.Fr.Pratap (parish priest) also told about our congregation and founder. Around 100 parishioners from different substations were present and after the holy mass, we gave refreshment to all.

Awareness Programme: Awareness programme on Cancer was organized by the Diocesan Health Commission. Sr.Alice and a team of six children had come from neighbouring parish (Depochera) to conduct the programme. It was arranged in the Burburia church. The programme was valuable and effective that everybody got awareness through puppet show, skit, action song and games. All were enriched with the practical knowledge to *cancel cancer*.



Rosary in Families: We went to families of our neighbouring villages (Burburia & Gamaku) and recited rosary in the month of October. There was active participation of mothers, children and youth. We could receive many graces through the intercession of Mother Mary.

DAMDEVAL



August 8th Valliachan's Birth Day. Together with the villagers we celebrated valliachan's day and introduced our founder to them and distributed snacks as a token of our love. We had special preparation in the community. Being on the top of this Himalaya Mountain always reminds us of God's tangible presence and we do spend time in praying for all.

DEENDAYALPURI

Summer Camp: A six days summer camp was conducted in Nutgali, Rethi Mandi and Rethi mandi jugi. Around 250 children actively participated and benefited from it. Our formees, under the leadership of Sr.Sajitha, Sr.Mareeksha and Sr.Jitha Rose, They motivated the children through skits, awareness classes and action songs.



Medical Camp: We did conduct medical camp under the leadership of Dr. Neelu and team. Five doctors gave their service for this medical camp. Around 110 patients received free medicines.

Distribution of the certificates: Nine of our students received their certificates of tailoring, computer and beautician. The other trainees performed cultural programmes to appreciate them. There are more than 100 trainees for Tailoring, Computer and beautician course.



Adult Education Programme: Around 75 women and youth attending adult education classes in different areas of Deendayalpur. They are showing keen interest to learn.

Flood Relief: A collection for flood victims was carried out for two days to help the people of Kerala. Sisters and formees were actively participated in it. People were kind and generous enough to provide the money and materials for this great cause.

Keerthan: We were invited for Keerthana in three houses of Deendayalpur slum. We accepted the invitation as a part of evangelization and shared word of God and taught them bhajans. It was a good opportunity for us to do the proclamation.

Independence Day Celebration: It was held in the school premises. The flags were prepared and brought by students. The programmes were held in the true spirit of patriotism.



5th September: Teacher's day celebration was held at Jeevandhara welfare centre. Students were motivated to deliver speech in English. They performed skit, dance, songs and also participated in card making competition. All the teachers of OBE centre and non formal school teachers were honoured by the students.

Diwali Celebration: As part of Diwali celebration students participated in 'Rangoli' and 'diya' decorating competitions. Winners were given prizes.

DEHRADUN

Founder's Day Celebration: To mark the occasion of our Founder's Day, in grateful remembrance of Venerable Fr. Varghese Payapilly who was fascinated and moved by the compassionate love of Jesus, shared the same love to all especially to the poor and marginalized, we distributed 'Ration' kits to five most deserved families. We talked to them about our founder and prayed for them.

Being with the Nature: Keeping solidarity with the eco-friendly movement, sisters and our inmates did gardening in our limited area of garden. We planted saplings and seeds of both vegetables and flowers in mud-filled plastic containers and sacks.

Mission Sunday Celebration: In our parish, mission Sunday was celebrated on 21st October 2018. On that occasion, we made 'Daal Wada', entrusted to the catechist and sold by the



Church's stall. Three of our sisters had rendered their service in the coupon counter. On that day, we took our inmates also to the church. After the Holy Mass we bought snacks from different stalls for them. They were very happy and enjoyed very much.

Faith formation: Catechism is the tool by which the faith formation takes place in the young generation. Keeping this in mind, our sisters take keen interest in teaching catechism. This year, three sisters are taking catechism classes. Besides that, one sister takes special catechism class for preparing children for their first communion.

GOPIKANDER



Feast of St. Vianney: All the parishioners of Gopikander mission celebrated the feast of St. Vianney in a solemn way. Decoration and preparation started one week before.

The whole diocese of Dumka is celebrating St. Vianney's Day in each parish. This feast celebration is the occasion to honour the parish priest.

On 5th all the parishioners gathered in front of the Church and ladies were in the traditional dress, lined up to

welcome the parish priest and did honour him in their own traditional way. As part of Santali tradition, they washed his feet, garlanded him, and gave sweets. Then they moved towards the altar in two lines with rhythmic steps. Around 400 people gathered for the Mass. There was cultural programme after the mass, which was an enriching experience for all of us. Bread and egg curry was served to the parishioners. The deep faith and unity among the people are praise worthy.



August 8th Valliachan Birth Day: We introduced Valliachan to our schoolchildren during the assembly and in the evening, after the tuition we served snacks to all the children. We visited the nearby hostel and gave Samosa, Bujia and sweets to them after talking to them the purpose of our visit.



Rosary procession: Every Thursday except rainy day, we gathered all the children in our compound to pray rosary. We conducted it under the banyan tree and made procession in the campus. The month of October was very special and we did our rosary prayer with much love and devotion.

GANDHIDHAM



Celebration in honour of our Venerable: We celebrated the joy of our founder Fr. Varghese Payappilly raised to the status of venerable with our Parishioners on 5th August 2018. Almost all the Parishioners were present. The life history of Venerable Fr. Varghese Payappilly was presented through a video clip. It was very much informative and inspiring. Parish priest Fr. Joyechen also explained well about Valliachan's vision and virtues during homily and special prayers were offered for Valliachan and for SD congregation. After Mass, we distributed cake and Novena prayer to everyone.

We had separate celebration with different Religious congregations and destitute women. We had a very joyful evening on 5th August, Sunday at Santisadan. Religious and diocesan priests and sisters from nearby houses gathered in the evening with Santisadan inmates. We had cultural programme by the inmates of Santisadan that was wonderful and all appreciated them lavishly. Competitions, indoors and out door games were conducted and gifts were distributed to the winners. Our parish priest Fr. Joyechen gave an inspiring talk followed by a prayer after which we had meal together. After the delicious dinner, a small gift was handed to all as a token of our love. We had an open discussion regarding our missionary activities and all came up with practical suggestions. It was really a day of unity, love and joy.



Awareness Programme and free check up on cervical and breast cancer: We have organized an awareness class on breast and cervical cancer for our parishioners on 9th October at Gandhidham, St. Thomas Church. Around 60 women participated and benefited out of it. Dr. Ruchi Pipera, our Gynaecologist was the resource person. It was informative and useful. After the awareness programme on 13th, we conducted a general check up and Pap smear test with on concessional rate. Around 40 women participated and their pap smear test done for diagnosis.

Picnic: We had arranged a picnic for all our Hospital staff and inmates of Santisadan to Veraval Somanath temple. It was amazing experience for all the inmates of Santisadan.

Foundation stone of SD Convent: Mother Grace laid the foundation stone of the new convent building at St. Joseph's Hospital Campus on 4th October 2018. We had a good gathering of our benefactors, well-wishers, religious communities, Parishioners and staff of St. Joseph Family to witness the joy of laying foundation stone.

GHAT



Women's day celebration: We celebrated Women's day in Maria Ashram on 18th March 2018. Ninety women from 10 villages participated in this programme. Nurse Usha from PHC, Ghat gave a talk on the topic- Mother and Childcare. BDO Mr.Mohan Chand, Mrs. Saritha Negi (gramvikas adikari) and Sukweer Rothala (agricultural department) were present for the function. We conducted indoor games and distributed gifts for the winners.

Pastoral visit of Bishop John Vadakkal: His Excellency BP. John Vadakkal made his pastoral visit to Maria Ashram family on 24th May. It was a delightful occasion to our Maria Ashram family. He interacted with sisters and with our children and blessed us.

Holy Cross Pilgrimage: The Holy Cross Pilgrimage arrived on 20th April Sunday at 7.30 am. The Pilgrim Fathers brought the Cross, Bible and Rosary. Fr. Shaiju, Sr.Serene and the faithful received them to Maria Ashram. Fathers celebrated Solemn Holy mass on the occasion. There was one-hour adoration conducted by the fathers. There were around 35 faithful took part and received blessings.

May 1st - workers' Day: We celebrated St Joseph's day as workers day with our brothers who helped us in our construction work at the riverbank. Sr. Serene gave a message on the nobility of work which was enriching and inspiring. She thanked them for their honest work. We gave them lunch and small gifts.

Maria Asharam day: With much preparation and enthusiasm, we celebrated Maria Ashram day on 8th September 2018. Rev Fr.Jijo Maveli was the main celebrant. Seventeen faithful (Nepal) attended Holy Rosary and Holy Mass. After the dinner, there was cultural program by Maria Ashram children and faithful.

Awareness program: We celebrated world girl child's day in Kasthurba hostel. There were 46 students whom we gave an awareness program on the right of girls and showed them a short film about the right of children. Children were truly enlightened and energized.

DRR Training: We conducted DRR training on land-slid region. The main theme and purpose of the training was that how can we reduce the natural calamities. Moral support and financial assistance were given to the needy.

HAZIABAD

Superiors' Conference: Local superiors had a conference in Najafgarh arranged by the Generalate from August 24th to September 3rd. All the input sessions were very effective and enlightening. They were gathered at the Provincialate and had sharing of the community activities according to the decision of the Synaxis. All our local superiors were energized and empowered to lead the communities with much vigour and love.

Birth day of our founder: The 142nd birth day of our founder Venerable Fr.Varghese Payapilly was celebrated with much love and devotion at the Provincial house on August 8th. The special invitees for the

celebration were the children from the slums of Rethimandi, who are the students of our non formal school at Deendayalpur. The programme was hosted by our differently abled children of Jeevandhara with the support of the Provincialate community.



Juniors gathering at Bhikkawala: 16 of our juniors had a gathering at Bhikkawala from 3rd to 6th June 2018. Mother Grace, Sr.Celine and Sr. Suma Jose gave them classes and it was an occasion for them to renew themselves as they had classes and other programmes.

Formation Day: Formation day was celebrated solemnly at the provincial house Ghaziabad on 2nd April and all the formees along with their formators were present for the celebration. They were given classes on different topics, which surely brighten their

area of knowledge. Varieties of programmes were conducted and winners were awarded with gifts. It was an excellent opportunity for them to know each other and to appreciate and admire different cultures and traditions more deeply. There were special classes for them about the liturgy of both Latin and Syro - Malabar. The final day was more gorgeous as they all together had an outing where they enjoyed and celebrated fully.



Jeevandhara Jubilee celebration: Silver Jubilee of Jeevandhara was a time to commemorate the abundant blessings that the differently abled children of Jeevandhara received throughout their life. Special congrats to Sr. Annie, Sr. Catherine Padayatty and community and very particularly Sr.Stella for their sincere effort to make it a memorable one.

Almost all the pioneer students of Jeevandhara were present on that day. The magazine released on this occasion was edited by themselves, was excellent and they were lavishly appreciated for their great work. Each performance by Jeevandhara children was astounding. Many dignitaries including MLAs, Mother Raisy, Mother Rose Mary, and Mother Reesa etc witnessed this great event.





Founder Father to the status of Venerable: Sisters at the Santhidham provincial house commemorated the great event of our founder raised to the status of Venerable considering his heroic virtues life with much love and devotion. There was a solemn thanks giving Eucharistic celebration offered by Rev.Fr.Phinil

CMI on 13th May 2018. Our founder was introduced to the parishioners before the Holy Mass. There was one hour prayer, reflecting on the personality traits of our Valliachan. Agape meal was served as a token of our love and gratitude, with the



neighbouring religious communities, Jeevandhara children and formees. It was a good opportunity for us to make him known to the people.



Junior's gathering, Vows renewal and retreat: 32 junior sisters of the three mission provinces attended the retreat guided by Rev. Fr. Vallipalam OCD at the Provincialate. After the retreat, they renewed their vows on 22nd September 2018 at Ghaziabad. It was a solemn and prayerful occasion.

Valliachan's 89th Death Anniversary: We had vigil prayer in the previous night and offered Holy Mass on 5th October in the Parish church honouring our Valliachan. There was get together of our domestic workers in the evening. Tea and snacks were served as a token of love.

GHOLTIR

Earth day celebrations: On earth day, students put up a skit to bring awareness about the bad effects of over use of resources and they planted trees in school premises. The students were given awareness class to take utmost care to save our limited resources.



Awareness programme: It was conducted on 7th May. To give awareness on the eradication of Polythene bags, our students made paper bag and distributed to nearby shops.

Founder's day: On 5th October, we celebrated the founder's day with youth. We started the programme by introducing valliachen to them by



Sr. Vineet. Rev. Fr. Jijo Mavelli CMI motivated them by giving them the tips to lead a good life, narrating some examples from the lives of great leaders and our valliachan, After the class, we conducted a short prayer for the youth inviting the intercession of our Valliachan. Then a few interesting games were conducted by Father and the winners were awarded. Then the programme was concluded by giving some snacks.



Alms week: In order to cultivate the spirit of sharing and concern in the younger minds towards the needy, we observed alms week from 29th October to 3rd November. The children brought the things and distributed among the poor. They whole-heartedly cooperated with much zeal and enthusiasm.

GUMLA

The joy of reunion: Our continuous and earnest intercession to our beloved Valliachan was heard, that two of our inmates were sent home after our long and tiresome search for their family members. We say that it took place miraculously that we could reach them home through the support of Gumla police and the family came to the centre to get them home on 8th August 2018 (Valliachan's birthday) itself. We believe that the throb of destitute is heard by our compassionate father. These two poor ones left their homes, years back as they lost their mental stability and the police reached them here as they found them roaming around in the city. We could not witness the moment of reunion without shedding



our tears. It was an occasion for us to speak to them of our founder whose intercession made it possible which doubled our joy of birthday celebrations. On the same day, we celebrated Valliachan's birthday with candidates & inmates. They staged varieties of programme and candidates composed songs honouring our founder.

Entrance to Candidacy: 17 of our candidates entered into candidacy on 18th June 2018 after their 'come and see' programme. The presence of Mother Grace the Provincial Superior added more joy to the event. Children put up many programmes.

Independence Day celebration: We celebrated Independence Day with true patriotic spirit. On this precious day, we had solemn Holy Mass by Fr.George OCD followed by the flag hoisting by Sr.Celine. There was parade demonstrated by candidates and a speech wonderfully delivered by one of them. There was a cultural program in the evening where they highlighted the personal responsibility of each person in building up the nation. The programme was an expression of our love and devotion towards our nation and our beloved Mother Mary.

Entrance to Aspirancy: Seventeen of our candidates entered into Aspirancy on 16th November 2018 at Gumla after the three days retreat by Fr.George OCD. The Councillor in charge of Formation, Sr.Celine's presence and support made them prepare well for their entrance.



HAPA



The new flavor as the local community is reformed with new members under the plan of God expressed through our new Provincial Team.

A paradigm step taken in the activities is the entrance to the Main Parish territory at Jamnagar, 5km away from

Hapa. Sacred Heart Church is a big parish with more than 350 families of different States with different cultures including people of various economic levels. We started visiting these families from the *periphery* keeping in mind the 'Re-evangelization of Pope Francis. Normally we attend this Church only on festivals and meet with some people of close circle. But this is a different step and we hope to succeed in this venture because it is His Mission continued in the present situation.



Though it is not an easy task to bring the village children to the main stream we never depart from such endeavors. Since it is our sole aim we channelize all our contacts and connections to this aim. During Diwali season students from Podar School, one of the prestigious schools in Jamnagar spent almost half a day with our village children and it was really a fruitful mingling for both the groups.

Balmandal activities are progressing. There are 13 **balmandals** with 160 members in total. For them monthly meetings, cultural activities, competitions, are conducted in a regular base and gifts were given for the winners as an encouragement. We celebrated Independence Day, Diwali and Children's Day.

Balwadies Apart from teaching they are given chances for the development of mind and skill from the early stages. Parents also co-operate with our efforts to a certain extend. But there are times we get no support from the parents but we strive to bring them to the forefront.

5th October was celebrated in a different way this year as our Founder Father is venerable today. On the eve of the day we invited the religious groups from Jamnagar and introduced our Valliachan to them through a prayer service and had night meal together. Ours being a substation of the parish we have only 13 families here and they all were invited for the Mass of the Day. Before the Mass, a summary of our Founder was given to them. After the Holy Mass, we all had the dinner as a family. Picture was distributed.



Day of the aged we celebrated on 1st of October. Twenty grand Pappas and Mammams above 70 years of age were gathered on the day. The programe started with a *Bajan mandaly*; then we introduced our founder *Varghese Bapu* to them, then quizzed them awarding prizes for the winners. After refreshment *Rani* an *Raja* was selected by lot and moved out to the courtyard for games. Gift also was given to everybody. They enjoyed the day tremendously.

JAHANGIRPURI

Valliachan's day celebration: On 5th October, we gathered the children of our slum in our centre and talked to them about our founder. We made them understand the power of his intercession and spent some time in prayer with them. We gave them tea and snacks

Block Level Meeting: This is the first attempt to say local issues openly with the concerning authorities. JHEP arranged a platform for SHG leaders to raise their voice of community needs with Ward councillor, MCD staff, leaders of small communities and NGO's. We conduct this meeting in every month in each blocks. Our SHG members participate and take actions to bring changes in the society through the interaction.

Medical Camp

Unit meet: We attend the unit meetings regularly that it was a golden occasion for us to introduce our founder to the unit members. Sr.Snehalatha spoke about our founder and distributed the novena of Valliachan to everyone gathered there.



JAMMU

Founder's Day: It was celebrated on 5th October 2018 along with our parishioners. A solemn Holy Mass was offered in our Parish Church to honour Venerable Fr.Varghese Payapilly and around 450 parishioners participated in it. The Holy Mass was commenced with an introduction about our Founder. We made an effort to impart to the people about the short history of our Valliachan. The altar was decorated with a caption - 'The compassionate love of Christ urges us'. Our parish priest supported us and he gave a thought provoking message about Venerable Fr. Varghese Payapilly. After the Holy Mass we distributed cool drinks and samosa to all



Chota Sardhana Mela: Prem Nagar parish conducted chota sardhana mela on 18th of November 2018. The mela started just after the Holy Mass. The proclamation of the word of God and bhajan service also were done during the mela. It was inaugurated by MLA ,CNI priest and our parish priest and many people participated in it. The parishioners did set food stalls and different kinds of competitions for the mela. We had also conducted a procession through Christian colony around 3 kilometres, around 200 parishioners and children participated in the rally and Hail Mary and slogans were recited very loudly.



JASPUR



Boarding: There are 34 boarders who do their studies in Maria School Jaspur. They go to the church every day, recite rosary with us in the convent chapel. They are having group prayer in different groups and they conduct adoration for 1 hour on Thursdays. We try our maximum to inculcate Gospel and moral values in them.

Village work: We go to village for Mass every Sunday. We do conduct a prayer service before the Mass and visit the houses of parishioners after Holy Mass. We organise meeting with youth occasionally.

Pastoral visitation & Holy communion: Bishop Ignatius D' suza of Bareilly diocese made his Pastoral visitation in our Parish, Jaspur on 7th October 2018. With the leadership of Sr. Sheena & Sr. Jeesa Maria, three children were prepared for first Holy Communion and confirmation on that day. This was the memorable day of the catholic church of Jaspur.

Founder's Day celebration: The community members decided to celebrate the Founder's Day solemnly with the poor & destitute from the village nearby on 9th October 2018. However, we could not celebrate because one of the parishioners Mr. Pratap fell down from a ladder while cutting a branch of a tree and he was seriously injured and hospitalized. A huge amount was needed for the treatment. So we the community cancelled the celebration and contributed Rs 20,000 for his treatment. We asked the intercession of Valliachan and now he is out of danger and continuing the treatment in the hospital.



KALAMBOLI

ADVOCACY and intervention for PLHA prisoners: On the 23rd May, we did pay a visit to Taloja central prison, Kharghar. We met the medical officer Dr. Sunil Kale, the jail superintendent Mr. Gaikwad, social worker Sandeep Dighe. The NGO Udaan (MSM AND MIGRANT PROJECT) also joined us. The visit was very helpful that we could obtain the permission for the following. 1. We can have RTP twice a week and AHF-Jyothis team visit once a month. Once the positive case of HIV is found the Pre ART investigations will be done for the positive inmates and free ART will be supplied.

Eye check-up camp: On 7th April, we conducted a camp for PLHA. So many people could make benefit out of this camp and 87 patients got special glasses. Doctors were very generous to spend enough time for the needy patients. IPT intervention of TB prevention started-through the procurement from the RNTCP. Four female patients and a child received the benefit.

Education support activity: On 11th June 2018, we began this program, intending to assist the deserving students. So far, hundred students were supported through this programme.

Send off to Sr. Rose Manjaly: We the sisters, staff and inmates of Jyothis Care Centre gave Sr. Rose Manjaly a warm farewell on 15th June 2018 with our hearts full of love and gratitude. We ever thankfully remember all her dedicated service to the downtrodden of the society.



A Day of our Valliachan: On 17th October, we celebrated the day of our Valliachan with our parishioners. We presented a short life history and activities of SD with the support of video presentation. 300 people attended the programme and they were taken up by our sincere service and Charism as they watched the visual presentation. We distributed coffee and snacks and Fr. Jinto, our Vicar delivered a beautiful message about our Valliachan and the great Services of SD sisters in the parish.



Yoga class for our Inmate

As part of international Yoga Day, we have started yoga class for our patients. It is very important for them to regain health. Every day they find out time to practice it.

RNTP-Revised National Tuberculosis Programme: OUR Clinical team from Jyothis Care Centre arranged an awareness programme for TB infected patients on prevention & treatment for TB on 15th may 2018 at our centre.



KANDLA



World Day of the poor: It was celebrated on 23th November 2018 with the poor children of the nearby slums in a befitting manner. We welcomed them and taught them action songs, conducted competitions and prizes were distributed. Sr. Shirley john talked to them about cleanliness. We made them understand the bad consequence of eating pan masala, injecting drug etc.

We gave them samosa, biscuits and banana. Around 30 children took part and enjoyed the day.



Church feast: There was novena prayer as part of preparation for the church feast. Grotto of Mother Mary was decorated well and there was Holy Mass every day after the rosary prayer. The feast was celebrated on 9th September 2018 and people from Bhaktidham reached church in procession reciting rosary. Fr. Serbastian Kachappilly was the main celebrant and many sisters, priests, and faithful from the neighbouring parishes attended the Holy Mass. Dinner was served to all who attended the programme.

KHERAKHURD



Founder's day: It was celebrated with so much vigour and enthusiasm. The day was celebrated with our inmates. Novices conducted the prayer and delicious food was served to all.

Diwali: The festival of light was celebrated calling upon the true, divine light. Our inmates were divided into three groups and they had Rangoli competition. They decorated inside the house and verandas with flower which they made by themselves. At night our home was decorated with

lighting small Diya. On that propitious day, many of our benefactors visited us with sweets for the inmates.

Dussehra: On the day of this festival inmates were taken out to see the fair. They enjoyed the day and had eatable things to relish the memories of the day.

Rosary procession: In the month of October, we conducted ten days rosary together with our inmates. Every day there was procession, reciting rosary. Novices conducted the prayer in an inspiring way.

Ration: On 9th November 2018, we gave ration to the women from neighbouring poor families. They gathered here at 4.p.m. and Sr.Rose Pullan spoke to them and was given ration to all who were present there.

Reunion: Three of our inmates (Ruby, Unita, Sanjita) were reunited with their family members. All of us shed tears in their reunion. After many days of search for their dear daughters they could get back them safe and sound. They thanked God for his mercy and steadfast love.



MANDAL



First Communion & Confirmation: 15 children of Mandal parish received the First communion & the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our sisters prepared them to receive the sacrament in a worthy manner. Sisters from Premnagar came to our help. Bishop Ivan Pereira administered the sacrament of confirmation. It was a day of blessing and joy to the parish.

Silver Jubilee celebration of Bishop Ivan & the Inauguration of Silver Jubilee of St. John's Convent School: On 6th April, we celebrated the jubilee of our Bishop Ivan Pereira and the inauguration of the silver

jubilee of St. John's School. Bishop Ivan was accorded a grand welcome and the students performed it beautifully. Fr. Peppin gave a message and Fr. Varkey did the felicitation speech.



Bishop expressed his concern and appreciation towards the management, staff and students. Jubilee candle was officially lit by the Bishop with fathers, sisters and student representatives. He prayed for the students and staff and then we had Lunch together.

Women's Day celebration-Mandal Church: We celebrated 'Mahila Diwas' on 11th March 2018 and twenty-two women were present. They took active

role in the Eucharistic liturgy. Most of them presented offerings. Fr. Pepin, the Parish priest in his message highlighted the rights, privileges and role of women in families, society and the Church and reminded everyone to respect their dignity. He cautioned about the atrocities against girls and women. He reminded that Mother Mary is the model for us especially for girls and women. We have to seek the intercession of Mary to lead a chaste and pure life. After the Holy Mass, there was a Quiz competition and other group games. The winners were awarded with prizes.

Congregation Day Celebration: We had a get together of Catholic families of our school on 19th March 2018 at the school auditorium. Eighteen families attended the program. Sr. Jenzy gave an introduction, highlighting the importance of the day, the feast of St. Joseph and the foundation day of our Congregation. The Holy



Eucharistic celebration was a graceful occasion to be enriched by the grace of God. Fr. Pepin, our parish priest in his homily reminded the role of responsible parents in building up a good family like St. Joseph and Mother Mary. After the Holy Mass, Sr. Rancy introduced our Founder and Congregation with the display of the cassette 'Hearts on Fire' and two other video clips on lessons to parents and children. Cultural Programmes & Quiz competitions were conducted to children and parents separately and prizes were distributed to the winners. The Holy picture of Jesus Mercy, the novena prayer of founder and the calendar of Founder were distributed to all the families.

Empowerment of Teachers: Sr. Cyril and Sr. Rancy have given classes to improve their quality in teaching English through grammar lessons, English speaking and moral values. Power point presentations, short stories, exercises were found very effective. Teachers were very co-operative. We express our sincere gratitude to Sr. Cyril and Afzalgarh community.

First Zonal Gathering: Welcome to the new Provincial-Mother Grace and the Zonal Councillor in charge Sr. Celine were given a warm welcome in the presence of zonal members. Zonal gathering was held on 29th and 30th June 2018. The members decided a motto, a word of God, a patron saint, a name for the Zone and a leader and a secretary to the Zone. Input sessions, guided meditation, confession, Quiz



Program and other competitions, outing to Bishop's house and 'Balistump'- memorial of martyrs were the highlights of the gathering. The gathering was very effective. Our inmates witnessed the competitions and they enjoyed it.

Jeevandhara-Mandal: At present we have 13 inmates. Sr. Marcia is in charge of them. They live happily with us. Those who are able, help in cooking, washing, cleaning and cultivation. Namajapa, Yoga and other exercises keep them happy and fit. All the members of the community are involved in taking care of them.

Zonal wise Cultural and Sports competitions of Various Schools of Jammu



St. Johns Mandal was selected this year to conduct the cultural and Sports competitions on 24th November 2018. St. Peters B.C Road, Kunjuwani, Gangayal and St. John's participated and our students could secure Ist positions in many items. Congratulations to Sr. Jenzy and the members of the staff. Then 50 students, the first prizewinners on various items were taken to Diocesan level competitions at Karan bag on 5th December. Our students performed well and secured Prizes.

MAWTHONG

The community has its apostolic areas like education, health care, vocation promotion, pastoral care, hostel and evangelization. The academic year finishes by the end of November but the vocation promotion and evangelization continues throughout the year.

Education ministry: We do our best to give Jesus the compassionate to students of our school. Though the school is developing in all aspects steps by steps, we do try to give the students the taste of higher education by encouraging them personally and motivating the parents. We use all the events in the school like sports, school week as chance for us to bring the glimpse of improvements and to explore the hidden talents.

Health ministry: Through our health ministry, we continue to give the Word of God to all the patients. Sr.Navalatha makes it a point to talk with them about not only their physical illness but also regarding their family matters. This actually makes the people more free with us and they really praise our availability for them.

Hostel ministry: At present, we have 13 students in our hostel. The children who were shy and introvert started participating in all the activities very energetically and now, we witness the changes in them. Throughout the year, we gave them chance to explore their talents, to learn good manners and to know our congregation.



Pastoral care, evangelization and gospel touring programme: As we have only Christian community here, we are always aware of our prime duty- deepening them in their spiritual life. Though language is a main hindrance, we never quit any of the chances to talk about Jesus the Compassionate. We always visit families especially when they face any kind of problems.

Vocation promotion: The prime intention of our being here is encouraging vocations from this area. We go to different schools and villages to meet the children. However, all the community members make a sincere effort for the same.

We celebrated **Valliachan's day** on 5th October with neighbouring communities and the boarders. We had solemn Eucharistic celebration followed by a gathering.

Parent's meet of Novices: Parents' meet of our Novices Merysha and Corniela was conducted at Mawthong under the leadership of Sr.Celine from 6th to 8th July 2018. 20 of them came here to attend classes and prayers. Fr.Kewin and Sr.Linet were the resource persons who enriched them through their inspiring talks and sharing sessions. They were given the opportunity to meet father and to make confession. Fr.Silvester, our parish priest also took classes for them. Sr.Celine met their family members and in short, it was a grace-experiencing event in our lives too.



MOGA

Teachers' seminar: It was conducted on 10th July 2018. The resource person was Dr. Anupama a clinical psychologist. Teachers participated very enthusiastically in the workshop. 105 teachers attended this seminar and it was very useful and practical.



Summer camp: St. Joseph's Church, Moga Conducted a summer camp for 3 days from 29th to 1st June 2018. 62 Catholic students and a few non-Christian students participated in it and Khanna Babuji from Firozpur was the resource person. He gave inspirational classes and prepared children for skit Competition. Games and competitions were held and they were energetically participated in it. Rev. Fr. Antony, the Parish Priest distributed the prizes for the winners.



Foundation stone : Foundation stone laid by Rev. Fr. Antony for the new building for K.G Section on May, 2018.

Silver Jubilee Celebration of Sr. Reema: The community celebrated with prayer, Eucharistic celebration and agape. St. Joseph's school, under the guidance of the manager, Fr. Sunny felicitated with Bouquet.

Zonal gathering at Moga: The second zonal gathering of Karunya Zone was held on 7th & 8th Of November. 13 sisters gathered and input sessions on Eucharist, guided meditation, evaluation, Jubilee celebration of

Sr. Bhavita, Sr. Saphalya and Reema of the Zone, confession and outing to the Boarder were the highlights of the meeting. It was an occasion of communion, sharing, joy and enrichment.

NANDACHAUR



Tiya Festival: Tiya festival is one of the traditional festivals of Punjab. We started our celebration with Holy Mass. It was celebrated in Nandachaur on 12th August 2018. There was gidha competition for women. 8 teams from different villages took part in the competition. Mr. Gurjit Singh Pabla ex sarpanch of Nandachaur was the chief guest. Sr. Canocia C.S.E, Miss Kajal & Miss Priya were the Judges. Pathralian village, Hejma village and Bhagyari village stood first, second and third respectively. Prizes were awarded to the winners. There was langar after the function.

Feast of Our Church: Feast of St. Little Flower – Patroness of the Church was celebrated on 2nd October 2018. Prior to the feast there were conventions for two days-First day convention was on 30th September led by Sr.Rajina F.C.C and her team. On 1st October, the convention was led by Fr. Peter Hans and his team. Msgr. Mathew Kokandam Vicar general of the diocese was the main celebrant of Holy Mass on the feast day. Holy Mass started with entrance dance. During Holy Mass 10 children received their first Holy Communion and 13 of them received their Confirmation. There was langer after the Holy Mass.



Mela of Mother Mary of Nandachaur: We had Mother Mary's Mela in our Church on 27th October 2018. About 500 people took part in the Mela. Holy Mass started at 12 pm by Fr. Thomas Chukungal, Fr. Prem Paramjit and Fr. James. Rev. Fathers & Sisters from different stations were present for the ceremony. Framed Novena prayer with the beautiful picture of Mother Mary was released after the Holy Mass. Miss Romika Masih a devotional songs singer conducted a Mela which was enjoyed by all. The whole programme concluded with langer.

Jubilee Celebration of Sr. Bhavitha: The community celebrated her jubilee with a prayer session, Eucharistic celebration and an agape meal. The superior of Hoshiarpur was the main celebrant. It was a day of joy and communion.

NEPAL

Parents meeting: We conducted a meeting for the parents of the students coming for tuition on 15th June 2018 with the aim to have a good rapport with them. 32 parents attended the meeting. They were given awareness classes on the value of education, parent's role in bringing up of the children and tips to be good parents. We conducted games & distributed the prizes.

Tuition classes: We have started tuition classes for the school-going students. Since we do not have proper infrastructure, we conduct under the tree and there are 36 students who attend the tuition. We conducted a drawing competition on the birthday of our Venerable Fr.Varghese Payapilly and the winners were awarded small prizes.

Church feast: We celebrated our Church Feast on 27th October 2018. Bishop Paul Simic was the main celebrant and many priests and sisters from neighbouring parishes were present. The parishioners attended three days convention at Kohalpur as the preparation for the feast. The Holy Mass was followed by a Rosary procession.



The feast of Christ The King: We celebrated this feast on 24th November 2018. We had a procession with the photo of Christ the king and all our parishioners participated in it.

Family visit: Family visit is done regularly and we concentrate on youth, children & parents. We have regular catechism on Saturdays and meeting of youth and mothers once a month. We recite Rosary with the family members at 7.30 pm with an aim to teach them to recite Rosary & to make them to understand the importance of family prayer.

ORMANJHI

Parents' meet of Novices: Three days retreat was conducted for the parents and family members of our 2nd year novices, Dipti, Rita and Nomita under the leadership of Sr. Annie. 25 of them participated in the retreat conducted by Rev. Fr. Emmanuel OCD. Sr. Annie also took a session for them highlighting the importance of family prayer. Sr. Annie and Sr. Sheen Maria met the family members in-group and it was a good experience for us.

Engagement of Reema Gill: It was a day of great joy for all of us especially for our inmates as they considered Reema as their own daughter. The ceremony took place in Mount Carmel Holy Infant Church, Ormanjhi on 16th August 2018. Rev. Fr. Mark Nediyaikalayil OCD, the Delegate Provincial of OCD Ranchi delegation was the main celebrant and Fr. Kurian Karakkatu OCD, Fr. Mathew Manjaly OCD and Fr. Emmanuel were co-celebrants. The OCD fathers generously met all the expenses. OCD fathers, brothers and sisters of the surrounding convents and few guests were present for the function. Sr. Annie Thaipodath- our Vicar-Provincial gave thanks to all for their support, love and concern towards Reema.

Rtn Governor's Visit: We gave a hearty welcome to our newly elected Ranchi District Rotary Governor. Rtn. Kumar Prasad Sinha by giving bouquet. Some important dignitaries were with him and they spent some time with our inmates and distributed sweets to them.

Mushroom cultivation: They donated the seeds and other necessary materials needed for the cultivation of the mushroom. We find it useful for the inmates of Santisadan.



Mother Reesa's visit: It is a day of great joy to the inmates of Ormanjhi. Mother Reesa and Secretary Sr. Diya paid a short visit. She has taken all the efforts to come to our place, as an expression of her love and concern towards us.

Death of our inmate Suman Mishra: We experienced the tangible presence of God through different persons who consoled and comforted us on the day of Suman's death and even after that. Suman was admitted at Santisadan on 15th August 2017, as she was mentally disturbed and severely out of control. With the written permission of her guardians, we were treating her with psychic

medicine. However, on 30th July 2018 at 2.05 pm due to a cardiac arrest she expired. Her parents and family members were not ready to accept her demise and were very angry with us. Though we were very scared, we strongly believed that nothing will happen without the knowledge of God and started the Novena prayer of Valliathan. We felt the prayerful presence of the whole province with us as Mother Grace assured us the prayer support of sisters. We firmly believe that it was the miraculous intervention of our Valliathan that we could handle all the problems very smoothly. A big thanks to all the OCD fathers and our sisters especially our neighbouring communities-Gumla and Dumka for their sincere support and assistance.

Foundation day of CCL: On 1st November, the foundation day of CCL (Central Coal field Limited), a women group of CCL, visited Santisadan to celebrate the day with our inmates. They spent more than an hour with us, distributed Amul Milk, snacks and fruits. Our inmates did some programme to entertain them. They appreciated our service to humanity and less privileged.

Children's day: On 14th November 2018, Fr. Mathew Manjaly OCD (The manager, Mount Carmel School, Ormanjhi) Principal Sr. Brigit SABS, Sr. Jess Mary SABS, Sr. Leena SABS and few teachers came along with 100 students to meet inmates as a part of their children's day celebration. They spent some time with our inmates entertaining them with songs and dance and distributed sweets to all.

Venerable day: On 2nd December 2018 there was a thanks giving Holy Mass in the parish. Rev. Fr. Emmanuel OCD was the main celebrant. Sr. Jisha Jose and aspirants came from Gumla to attend the programme. The presence and support of Sr. Asha Rose S.D- St. Mary's Province was very much appreciated. It started with an entrance dance by the parishioners. The local superior Sr. Lilly Ann garlanded the photo of our founder father. In the beginning of the Holy Eucharist Sr. Anisha S.D gave a brief introduction of our Founder and Congregation. After the Holy Mass, there was cultural programme by our aspirants and youth of the parish followed by lunch.

PALAKKAL

Silver Jubilee of Convent at Palakkal: We had thanks giving adoration for all the good that God did through us for the poor. We did not have any other celebration other than the one we had with our inmates and we had food together.

St. Vincent de Paul: The youth of the parish visited our centre on 27th September 2018 and spent some time with our inmates. They offered lunch for all and the persons in charge of the group did speak about their activities and the charity they are doing. Sr. Arpitha thanked them for their generous sharing.

Legion of Mary: On 8th September 2018, the members of the Legion of Mary visited the centre along with the parish priest. They offered the breakfast for all. Few of them shared the miracles happened in their life through the intercession of Mother Mary and did pray with us for some time.

Rosary prayer: We had rosary from 1st to 8th October in the ward and all the families took part in it without fail. On the last day of the rosary all the units came to the church in procession decorating the Mother Mary which was an joyful experience for all.

SARSAWA

Thanksgiving Mass for the elevation of our Founder father: We celebrated it with a thanksgiving Holy sacrifice in the Parish. In the beginning of the Holy Mass, there was a brief introduction of our Founder and our Congregation. After the Holy Mass there was refreshment for the parishioners as well as our destitute inmates.

Santisadan: We obtained registration from UP (Women and child welfare) for our home for destitute women. So far, we have taken care of 62 destitute women; presently we have 26 women under our care.



We could reach back home many of our inmates through the help of SHO and local police. The committee constituted by the Honorable high court came to us in the month of September and October for inspection and they appreciated our service and gave us suggestions to improve.

We get Psychiatric treatment from Indresh Medical College & Pilkany Medical College. One doctor visits them once a month. We take them to the nearby CHC and medical College for other emergencies. They have regular time table like Prayer, cleaning their dormitory, washing clothes taking care of garden, making vegetable garden, Counseling, Yoga and Games. Once a month we have Holy Mass with the inmates in the destitute home and the parish priest Rev. Fr. John Mendonca sponsored the food for us all on that day.

We celebrate the important festivals with the inmates: Students of St.Mary's academy, Sarsawa spent few hours with our inmates decorating their hands with MEHANDI and exchanging Diwali greetings. The Local people come to us to celebrate birthdays with our inmates.

In the month of October, we went to the families to pray the rosary and the last 10 days we said the rosary in the grotto of the church.



SAHSNIANG

Gathering of SD Buds: SD Buds of our Parish were gathered on 5th October 2018 to celebrate the 89th death anniversary of our Founder Venerable Fr. Varghese Payapilly. We began with a small prayer service as we gathered around the altar with a lamp lit besides the photo of Valliachan. After that, we showed them a presentation about the life of Valliachan. They were served with tea and bun. Then they got a chance to mingle with the sisters and play games.



Celebration of Venerable day: We celebrated this great day with joy and gratitude as our Valliachan was raised as “Venerable” along with the parishioners. We had a Solemn Mass in the parish church, giving a brief history of his life and the canonization process. Our Parish priest gave an inspiring speech on the virtues of Valliachan. The parish priest along with the parishioners offered special Prayers for progress of the canonization process and for the congregation as a whole. We gave cream bun to all the parishioners after the Holy Mass. It was a very grace-filled celebration.



Women's Day celebration: We had a gathering of the women of our parish. They were taken to the chapel for a short prayer service and then Sr. Francilin gave a small session on prayer life and faith. After that, they had a meeting where they talked openly about the problems they face and we did guide them with the practical tips. They also took this opportunity to give a vote of

thanks to Sr. Francilin as she had contributed much for them. They did give many things as gifts to Sr. Francilin like rice, turmeric, ginger and even hens and bid a farewell of deep gratitude. They enjoyed bun and tea and retreated to their homes.

Medical Camps: Free Medical help is a felt need of the people of Sahnsniang and the nearby villages. In order to get higher medical treatment, people from the nearby villages have to travel at least 150 km to Nazareth Hospital, Shillong. As the trust members understood the dire need of the villagers, they made efforts to conduct a free medical camp.

Education Apostolate: Two of the sisters are teaching in the parish school that has children from all the 7 villages of the parish. We are in charge of the day-to-day working of the school. We strive to improve the quality of teaching by motivating the teachers and by giving them a good feedback and support. We teach the Word of God, the importance of values and stress on the character formation of the children along with full emphasis on academics and extra-curricular activities.

Social Apostolate: We helped the youth to get good job opportunities in Gujarat. We also have SHG groups involving the women of the parish and they get Government projects ensuring employment opportunities. We also work with the Block Development Office to bring about developmental and income generating projects for the people of the village like lemon tree, turmeric, ginger plantation etc.

Pastoral activities: We are actively involved in all the programmes of the Parish. The culture of the place ensures a lot of participation of the laity in all activities. Therefore, we take a guiding role trying to unify the effort and plan the events. We are trying to educate and ensure the deeper knowledge of the Sacraments and better participation in the liturgy. We actively conduct programmes for removing myths, superstitions and fault teachings that are prevalent here.

SD Buds: We have around 60 children (SD Buds) come regularly on Sundays. We teach them good values, Word of God, Songs, Spoken English, games and have a good relationship with all of them.

Friends of the Destitute: We have a vibrant group of the women of the parish who are helping us in all the activities that we organize. They help us by donating rice and other provisions for the hostel children. They also help in the cultivation of the land around our convent. They provide saplings, seeds and manure.

Youth: We partake in all the youth activities conducted in the parish and give them our support and encouragement. We attend their prayer meetings, share with them our viewpoints, faith-enriching experience, and listen to their opinions and thoughts as well. They have youth conventions, seminars organized at the parish level with our presence and help.

Family Visits: We visit the families of our village at least thrice a week and offer our humble sharing and prayers for them. We do take along with us a member of the parish so that we can converse with the people especially the old in their local dialect. We maintain the details of all the families of all the villages of the parish. During our visits, we encourage the faithful to receive sacraments frequently and have regular family prayers with reading of the Word of God. We arrange to give communion for old and sick people. We also inform and co-ordinate with the parish priest for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick for those in need. We do inform about the upcoming programs in the parish and motivate them to participate.

Gospel Touring: This touring program involves staying in the village while we visit all the families and then in the evening have prayer meetings for the faithful, seminars & programs for the children and youth. We also maintain the data – date of birth & death, date of receiving the sacraments, and other details about each family. We encourage them to deepen in their spiritual life, receive sacraments regularly and correct all misconceptions related to the church. It is an enriching experience for us.



SIRSANAL

Founder's day celebration: We prepared well for the 89th death anniversary of our Valliachan, doing the 9 days Novena prayer. On 11th October, we conducted quiz competition for the youth. They were 10 in 5 groups. On 13th, we conducted different competitions for the village children. Around 60 children took part in it. We distributed gifts for them in the presence of parish priest Rev. Fr. Lawrence. On 14th we had Holy Mass honouring Valliachan in the parish. It was an excellent opportunity for us to speak about our Valliachan and about our Congregation. After Holy Mass, we distributed sweets for the Parishioners. In the evening, we had a gathering with our neighbouring religious communities. Sr.Naveena introduced our Valliachan and congregation to them. Sr. Elsy Rose welcomed them all and we had dinner together.

Compassionate presence in the school: We try to radiate the compassionate presence of Christ through our presence in our school. We conduct different programmes for the welfare of our staff and students. The visit of Bishop on 13th of August was a blissful day for us. Sr. Anna (principal) and Sr. Naveena are teaching in the school. In this interior village the school stands as a blessing. We encourage our children giving opportunities to excel in their hidden talents during Teachers' Day, Independence Day, Republic Day, Holi, Diwali, Christmas and Id.



Medical Field: Sr. Elsy Rose is rendering her selfless service to all the poor villagers through our dispensary. Many come here for the treatment especially for snake bite and different types of skin diseases. Through the prayer and medication people are getting the healing touch of Jesus the true healer. She is giving health care for our school children too.

Pastoral work: We have keen interest in the sacramental life of our parishioners. Through house visiting we encourage and motivate them to come for the Holy Mass and have close relation with the church.

Every day there is Rosary in the church followed by Bible reading and studying the Word of God. 16 of our youth took part in youth convention conducted in Christ University-Mariam Nagar Gaziabad. With the sincere effort and cooperation of Fr. Lawrence we are able to take care of our parishioners in their spiritual needs.



TALOJA

Founder's Day Celebration: Together with our destitute brethren we have celebrated our beloved Founder's day. We also went to 'Swargadwar'- centre for leprosy affected people, offered special Holy Mass and introduced our founder to them. We did conduct games and distributed prize to the winners after which they were given snacks as a token of our love.

VASHI

Hair Donation: Vashi mathrusangam took initiative for hair donation for cancer patients. All the children, youth and mothers co-operated whole-heartedly and all those who had long hair offered it for this great cause.

September 8th: Mathrusangam had organized a skit, Thiruvathira and group songs and made the day a wonderful one.



Faith Formation Sunday: Rev.Fr.Shaiju Katteth (Parish priest of Mankhurd, New Bombay) visited Vashi parish and celebrated Holy Mass for the catechism students and he gave a heart touching sermon that enabled each one to evaluate their faith life and get deepen in it. After the Holy Mass students were divided in to three groups and performed cultural programme.

VERAVAL



Ration distribution for HIV Aids & T. B. Patients: Around 90 HIV AIDS and 30 TB patients are given free medicine and ration which includes rice, cereals, oil, protein powder etc every month. Patients are coming from far and near places not only to get the ration but also to hear the soothing words of Sr.Gillet. She goes to the shops, books the necessary items, packs everything

and distributes it with the help of the generous women of our parish.

The ration for these poor people is sponsored by Mr. K.P. Thomas and Kenny Thomas, his son. Sr. Gillet also spends her time in talking with the patients, prays with them and helps their children in their study by giving some financial support for the book, uniform and other necessary things.





YOUTH SPECIAL

ANTHEM

CH: Your word O Lord is a lamp to guide our feet
And a light to show the path

Ps. 119:105

To go and proclaim Your good news to the world

Mk.16:15

And to share with them Your peace

Mt. 10:13

1. You have called us by name

To belong to You and know

Is. 43:1

The treasure of the darkness

And the riches in secret places

Is. 45:3

You've sent us out to serve as Your mouth

and be a fortified wall of bronze

Jer. 15:19-20

We will treasure Your word in our hearts

To guard us from sin and all evil

Ps. 119:11

2. Sanctify us by your Word

Jn. 17:17

Your word alone is the Truth

It's the sword of the Holy Spirit

Eph. 6:17

Like a Hammer that breaks the rock

Jer. 23:29

Do great wonders, signs and healing

In your Name, make us cast out evil

Mk. 16:17

Make Your words a fire in our mouth

And the world, like wood to inflame

Jer. 5:14

An Unknown Youth Icon

- Naaman's Servant Girl



She is a character so insignificant that we do not even know her name. She may be insignificant for the world, as she was just a little girl; insignificant to the historians because she was just a maid servant of the wife of the Commander in Egypt. She was brought into Egypt as a slave when the Egyptians raided the Israelites for booty. But to the Lord she was no insignificant girl. Though a slave and a prisoner of war, she was faithful to her master and mistress.

She wished their well-being and already there she proves a great child of God. She has no complaints whatsoever for the condition she is in. We find her story happening in the second book of Kings Chapter 5, when Naaman was infected with Leprosy and many of his efforts to get cured failed. The slave-girl suggests to her mistress that the master takes a trip to Samaria and shows himself to Prophet Elisha. Things unfold rapidly and Elisha cures Naaman, inspiring Naaman to recognize the One True God, the God of Israel. He returns to Egypt as a believer of Yahweh. Look at the young girl, a simple maid servant, a mere slave – what a difference she made in the life of that man! That is the lesson she hold out to us; able to make a difference in people's lives, because we belong to God. She was able to make that difference because of a series of reasons:

In the beginning years of my consecrated life, I am blessed with the foundational knowledge about my God based on my life experiences, the rich heritage of my congregation and the lives of my senior sisters that stand as strong witnesses. All I need is to take a

step towards Him every moment. And I am sure He will take the rest of the steps that separate us.

Secondly - She had a strong faith that her God could work wonders: Here I am asked to be enamoured by the power of my God. Youth generally have a role model, a superhero or an icon with whom they are obsessed with. The Word of God talks about my God as an all powerful, omnipresent wonder-worker. But many times, my limitations and shortcomings blind me from trusting in Him. I should dare to take a leap of faith with courage.

Thirdly - She loved her master and mistress though she was just a slave: Though a slave, being a youth gives her a hope of a bright future. She is able to accept her present life and love everybody. The young heart that God has blessed me with also has the capacity to let go and contribute my best. The emotion of love in me needs to be perfected into the virtue of charity.

Fourthly - She had the courage of proposing to them to go in search of the true Lord: Now that challenges me with the theme of synaxis - **“The joy of destituteness and Obedience urges us to Proclaim”**. She had nothing of her own and she had to obey each and everything as a slave. Yet she has God as her stronghold. She could accept her life as the will of God and trust that He will make all of it work unto her good. Am I too experiencing destituteness? Haven't I taken the vow of obedience? Then surely God's presence and His help are with me for sure. He has a wonderful plan for my life. Who knows, maybe I too will meet many 'Naamans' in my life. I need to share my love for God with each one of them.

In spite of her insignificance, she made a huge difference, bringing the household to the Lord. Bringing people to the Lord – that is a call given to me and to you – it will happen only when we know God and believe firmly. May she inspire us to courageously know God, trust Him, love everyone and proclaim Him.

Sr. Elizabeth S D
Sahnsiang



BLOOM AND BLOSSOM

- Sr. Vinaya Vazhaparman SD

Have you ever observed the life of a flower? It seems too small and insignificant, yet it is a marvel of God's creation. The life of a flower assumes its full glory and becomes meaningful when the bud becomes mature and flowers, opening completely and fully the soft, silky, and glossy petals. Good climate, fertile soil, water and manure in the proper time, manner and quantity are the favourable conditions for the life of the flower. When all these things come together from the very beginning of its life, a beautiful creation is witnessed. And the beauty, the fragrance, the variety and simplicity of a flower makes everyone happy.

In the same way, each person is a masterpiece of God's creation. In our communities there are buds which are waiting to open their petals in the world. Buds are not based on age or the time spent in religious life. Some buds open up very late. We need to open our minds to understand the beauty, splendor, fragrance, frailty, fragility and transience of our human lives. If these so called 'buds' get love care, concern, prayerful support, loving reminders, sisterly approach, guidance and understanding, then in due time they will become the best flowers they can be. All these flowers need warm sunshine of human praise and compliments. Let our presence, our words and our deeds make more flowers to grow and to fulfill their aim of life. Each person is unique and has unique needs. Let us have a third eye to know what our sisters need the most. And then our communities become an attractive garden with beautiful, colorful, charming, and a variety of flowers. We are together to make the journey of our lives easier, calmer, happier and contented. The treasures of love and compassion locked up in our hearts must be allowed to flow so as to improve and enrich the life of others.

We always say "Bloom where you are planted". But do we really give the apt atmosphere for others to bloom where they are planted? Let us try to have a suitable atmosphere in our community. Do not see others as mere husk but see the golden grain within them. Build up positive attitudes. Cheerfulness lubricates human relations. It is the light of gladness that dispels the darkness of tensions, stresses and despair. It can help others to build up their latent creative potentials.

Circumstances and situations color our lives. We are to transmute the raw materials of life into things of worth, beauty, grace and joy. In the twists and turns of our daily existence there comes that mysterious meeting in life when someone acknowledges who we are and appreciates what we do, igniting the circuits of our highest potential. We need to be hearty in our appreciation and lavish in our praise. The power of a soft touch, a winsome smile, a kind word, an attentive ear, a genuine compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of them have the potential to turn life around. Let all the flowers of our community bloom and blossom through our lives. Let the fragrance of our holy, cheerful, faithful and committed life spread throughout the world.

IN THE GARDEN WITH JESUS

Sr. Anisha

I sit in the garden with Jesus'
I thank Him for every good gift.
I tell Him how much that I love Him,
Such joy and peace I feel within.

In the garden with Jesus'
I feel complete in His Love.
In His word, I will always find,
A sweet supply from above.

He gives strength for everyday
And a sweet supply of Grace.
I enjoy spending time with Him
He is my saviour and my all.

Until then my heart will sing
All my praise to Him I will bring.
Jesus, you are my everything,
I love you my dear reigning King.

“The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs
in parched places, and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water whose waters never fail.” (Isaiah 58:11)



Youthfulness is a precious time

Sr. Anupa SD

- ❖ This is a time to shine, as John the Baptist was a shining lamp in the wilderness.
- ❖ It is a time to be a burning light to show the light to the darkened world.
- ❖ This is a time to live passionately for God and man as Jesus lived.
- ❖ It is a time to stand firm and strong and go deep in Jesus
- ❖ This is a time to glorify God through Mary
- ❖ This is a time to go deeper in consecrated life
- ❖ This is a time to grow in intimacy and closeness to God
- ❖ It is a time to go forward trusting in the Lord
- ❖ This is the time to become a voice to the voiceless
- ❖ It is a time to enrich oneself in mercy and share it.
- ❖ This is a time to rejoice in the Lord always.





A TO Z SECRETS OF EVER GREEN YOUTHFULNESS

Sr. Prafulla SD

- A - Approachable and available
- B - Bless everyone all the time
- C - Creative Visualization
- D - Do ordinary things in an extra ordinary way
- E - Enthusiastic
- F - Faith in one self
- G - Get high on yourself
- H - Hearty in appreciation
- I - Innocence
- J - Joyful presence
- K - Keep a young mind always
- L - Lavish in praise
- M - Mind your mind
- N - Nurture cheerful disposition
- O - Optimistic views and ideas
- P - Practice the art of thankfulness
- Q - Quietly listening

- R - Readiness to do anything
- S - Self appreciative meditation
- T - True to yourself
- U - Use positive language
- V - Visualize, think and speak well of your health
- W - Work with perseverance
- X - Xerox all virtues and values of JESUS
- Y - Yearn only for JESUS
- Z -Zeal



Venerable Fr. Varghese Payapilly

Sr. Manjiri SD

- ❖ A source of inspiration
- ❖ A burning flame
- ❖ An exemplary priest
- ❖ A man of extraordinary vision and mission
- ❖ A man who filled with humility to do the will of God
- ❖ A zealous shepherd of the people
- ❖ A person whose life was centered on Holy Eucharist
- ❖ A man who worked hard for the poor
- ❖ A man who served the poor
- ❖ A man who begged with humility for the poor
- ❖ A chosen and anointed instrument to start SD congregation
- ❖ A person rich in mercy
- ❖ A person who is very courageous to do the will of God
- ❖ A man who totally committed himself to God
- ❖ A man of compassion
- ❖ A devotee and lover of St. Joseph
- ❖ A person who submitted himself to the authorities
- ❖ A person who had deep solidarity
- ❖ A true child of the church
- ❖ A person with the charism to give fruitful hope to the poor and down trodden
- ❖ A man who stood with God's will till the end. –“Whatever happened surrender to the will of God”.
- ❖ A person who is in heaven praying for us.

The community experience gave me a new zeal, I was ensured of the beauty of religious life in the midst of challenges and disputes of the modern world. The joy of sharing the wise discerning within the community the patient bearing, the keen listening by the sisters were really to be cherished and nourished. The warmth of each heart is what I learned to imbibe. Busy like the bee everyone was trying to fulfil their responsibility. I too learnt from them the real meaning of community and reminded me of the novitiate classes of 'Fraternal Community'. The garden of single flowers looks beautiful, the garden of double looks more beautiful, but the garden with varieties is excellent. Yes a community with one character is good, the community with double character is better but the community with different specialities and uniqueness is excellent and such communities become vibrant and radiate the compassionate love of Christ.

You knew me through and through, you know my coming and going from your eternity you discern me. The Lord always has a plan not to harm but for the welfare. The retreat at Dive Vachan Ashram (Ballahrsha M.H) was the days of enlightenment, the days to renew strength. This retreat enhanced me to put my trust in the Lord. Above all it set fire to my heart to love and learn the word of God. As St. Jerome says "Ignorance to the word of God is Ignorance to Christ himself". I acknowledge that I have been one among those who fall in this. But trusting in His guidance with confidence I can say there is nothing too late for me to change. Every saint has a past, and sinner has a future so once again I put my step forward to climb the height of the mountain. I don't know how it will be but only one thing is very clear for me to journey and to reach this goal I am not alone and it's not only me thousand have walked, thousands will follow for He is the HERO of YESTERDAY, TODAY and TOMORROW.

MY LIFE IS A PRECIOUS GIFT

(Preeti Nomita Kullu 2nd year novice)

Before I born in my mother's womb
I born in the heart of God
I received life from above
I am safe in his hand
Each life comes through Him
Each vocation is from above
Each moment is precious
Each day is a special gift from God
Each experience reminds God's love
Each suffering brings closer to God
Each guidance gives hope
Each retreat renews our life
I was fallen in sins
Because I neither knew the scripture
Nor understood the power of God
How ignorant am I
Each vocation has a mission
My vocation too has a special mission
I am to be sent out
To break myself for others
And to share the love of God
And with confidence I can say that –
"Here I am Lord to do your will" (Heb 10:7)



≡ JUNGLY PRINCE ≡

Mariya Varghese 2nd year novice

Beloved Lord, hold my tiny hands, guide my silly thoughts that I may pen down my ABBA experience just as you want me to do.

Once upon a time there was a little lad in a jungle. He was thrown out by someone into the jungle. Since he was grown up in the thick jungle in the midst of wild animals, he was so timid and thin in structure, black in colour, had many wounds and marks due to the fight against animals. He was so sad, never talked to anyone and never made friendship with anyone. As the days passed by, he saw someone in the jungle in a white horse. He was a king who lost his only begotten son at his early age. When the king saw this lad sitting on the tree his eyes were filled because he was in the image of king. King began to talk to him and made him to understand that he was his lost son. But the lad could not believe it at all because he had never seen his face. He only knew that his body was black and full of wounds. He could not find any similarity with the king. But the king came frequently to jungle and talked to him and tried to take him back. But he denied it with his silly excuses. One day king came near to a river but the lad had already hid himself to escape from the king. The king called him 'My little babe, My heart, the apple of My eye, where are you'? Come to me, I love you, you are mine. But he hid himself in that thick jungle. Then the king removed his princely cloak and took a thorny bush and tied himself. It started bleeding then he rolled himself in the mud, with pain he cried out My son.... My son... the lad peeped through the bushes and came to king and took him near to the river to wash the body of king. Then they both looked into the river, into the water and saw that both faces were same and the body image and wounds were same. Then the lad embraced king and cried out MY PAPA...



S.D My Mother

Sonia Masih 2nd year novice

When I think of S.D my heart fills with love, joy and gratitude towards my mother S.D. If I write a few words about S.D. it is not sufficient. It will be like the one drop of water in the ocean. For to me S.D is a precious gift from above. I saw many other religious families but none like you O my mother S.D. you are really so unique and beautiful. As I remember the beautiful quotation from the Bible which says “religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this to care for orphans and widows in their distress” is very much apt for our S.D mother. She is the land of love or we can say it is the lap of God from where the love, care, concern, support and encouragement flows like a river to her children. She is the beautiful dream of the Abba Father. She is so close to the heart of God in which and through which the compassion of Jesus Christ flows to all human kind. She is none comparable.

Why I call my S.D Congregation my mother?

Mother – because God gave me a second birth in S.D family

Mother – because I find all my security in her

Mother – because she covers me under her mantle.

Mother – because she shows tender love and care for me

Mother – because she teaches me to walk

Mother –because she nourishes me with all the nourishment of physical, mental as well as spiritual.

Mother – because she bears me.

If a child has many defects world may not accept it but it is very precious to the mother. So I have experienced the warmth of my mother. In the sight of my mother I am so precious. She brings me up with lots of love and dream. How much an earthly mother can give more than that she is to me. Night and day she works hard for my spiritual growth. She taught me the lessons of life, the ways and means to reach my real home that is none other but heaven. What can I give her in return? She has taught me the forgiving love and the compassion to show to all human mankind and to see the face of my beloved Jesus in each and every one. What can I return for all that I have received. I can give only my heart filled with love and gratitude. Today if I am in this stage ready to commit myself it is because of my S.D mother. The promise of God in Jeremiah 29:11, “for surely I know the plans I have for you, plans for your welfare and not for harm to give you a future with hope” is fulfilled for me in the family of S.D. O how can I thank my God for His wonderful love and gift to me. If thousands of times I say thank you Lord is not sufficient. From my heart emerges the song...

“What thanks O Lord can I render thee...

For all the gifts though hast showered on me.....

Thank you Lord, thank you so much from the depths of my heart. Thank you Mamma S.D... Thank you so much... for all that you are to me.

Committed life of our dear elders..

Sr. Gillet.SD, a Passionate Missionary!.



'What shall I return to the Lord for His bounty to Me?' (Psalm: 116/12)

Sr.Gillet completed 60 golden years in the garden of S.D as a passionate and energetic missionary who was pioneer in some communities, hospitals, dispensaries, institutions and shouldered the pain and struggles in the infancy of those areas where she rendered her selfless service.

Sr.Gillet was born on 29th January 1931 as the eldest of 7 children to Joseph and Mariamma, Perumbil House, in the village of Kadalikad in Kothamangalam Diocese, Kerala. Her baptismal name is Anna. From her childhood, she loved the poor and was attracted by the simple life style of SD sisters. Anna had a great desire to commit her life for the service of the poor and she joined our Congregation desiring to surrender her life totally for the poor. After her 1st profession, she was sent to St.Martha`s Hospital, Bangalore, to study nursing. After the completion of studies she was sent to different hospitals to serve the sick and suffering. She also studied Hospital administration and ward management at Lisie Hospital, Ernakulam. Sr.Gillet, rendered her service as superior in the communities at Damdeval and Nandachour. She offered her services wholeheartedly and faithfully at Pazhanganad, Meloor, Kanjoor, Cheranalloor, Chembu, Malayatoor, Perumannoor, Delhi, Jahamgirpururi, Sarsawa, Jagadhari, Tamasi, Satna Ghaziabad, Damdeval, Chamoli, Bhikkawala and Taloja.

At present, her apostolic field is in Veravel mission. She is helping the HIV/AIDS patients, Cancer and TB patients in and around the locality. Sr.Gillet is ever keen in finding out the poorest of the poor and to provide the best services possible for them. Many of us are witnesses of her dedication in the responsibilities entrusted to her. She rendered the best care and attention possible, giving free medicine and bandaging the wounds of the poor patients and giving ration for the poor families. Even at this age she is very neat, steady and helping the kitchen duties. Besides she is a very good cook and a good gardener, looks after the vegetation of the compound around.

The struggles faced in the life helped her to trust in the providence of the Lord Almighty and she remembers, those were the days that God taught her the prime lessons of abandoning herself totally at the feet of The Lord without any demands.

She finds joy and peace in serving the poor and the unwanted people. She accepts the favourable and unfavourable experiences with joyful heart. She worked tirelessly all her life not only caring the sick and suffering but also serving the communities sincerely wherever she was appointed.

Dear Sr. Gillet, you are a true missionary with full of zeal in your heart. We are proud of you. You toiled hard in the vineyard of our Lord all throughout your life and we are enjoying the fruits of your sweat. With our heart full of joy we pray that God may give you good health both body and mind to continue His mission of compassion for many more years.

Sr. Sales SD



Footprints

Sweet remembrance of Sr. Placid SD

'Your face O Lord I seek' Sr. Placid with a smiling face moved off quickly to the land of the living, seeking the face of the Lord.

Sr. Placid, a gifted and dynamic religious who moved quickly to the divine home with a sweet smile.

- ❖ A committed spirit filled missionary.
- ❖ A courageous woman who became a link between God and human.
- ❖ She found delight in renouncing everything, especially her own dear ones and home land to live for others especially the poor and the marginalized.
- ❖ By leading a dignified life, she owned the crown of righteousness.
- ❖ With a sense of justice she carried out her responsibilities for the greater glory of God.

Sr. Placid (Kochuthresia) was born in Onthirical family, as the fourth child of Mr. Chacko and Mrs. Mariakutty at Pallipuram, Alappay District, Kerala on 12th June 1942. The first three children being boys, Sr. Placid's parents prayed for a girl child and Sr. Placid is a gift from God, for the prayerful longing of her parents. She was christened as Kochuthresia. Her school life was at little Therese Convent School, Manayath, Vaikom.

After finishing pre-university she came to Chunangamvely to become a sister in the Congregation of 'the Sisters of the Destitute'. On 6th January 1963 she made her first profession and in 1967 her final profession.

She has under gone short term theology course and nursery training and was trained in social work. Sensing her mission spirit, she was sent to North India to work at Jagadiri in 1973.

Later after her patron, St. Little Flower, she opted for the missions to spread the Good news to the whole land and she has worked in different mission areas like Bhikkawala, Damdevel and Gholtier in Bijnor, Sirsanal in Meerut, Veravel in Rajkot, Premnagar and in Jammu -Sri Nagar dioceses.

She visited the people regularly who live in far away isolated villages, climbing the hills up and down untiringly at Gholtier, Damdevel and Premnagar. She shared their loneliness, their sorrows and suffering bringing hope to their lives. She had an intuition to know the need of the people and to reach out to them with a smiling face and helping hand.

As Jesus was everything for her she could face all the hardship and inconveniences of Sirsanal, the interior undeveloped mission station, taking care of the illiterate, by educating them. She spent herself for the poor and the marginalized at Veravel, Premnagar and Mandal by listening to them and finding solution to their problems in prayer. She was able to bring about reconciliation among the people. She knew the people by name and was able to relate to them positively and convincingly. It was her personal relationship with Jesus that motivated her, to go to people to share the message of love. She was an excellent teacher of the tiny tots. She came down to their level and made them confident and creative. She has served as superior of the house at Chemmanathukara, Demdeval and Veravel.

In community she was a source of strength and inspiration to others. She was ever ready to accompany the sisters; even the journey was tedious and long. She often ignored her own health condition to help others by shouldering the difficult task. Her presence made the community vibrant and joyful. During the long 69 years we found her active and alive in spirit. She moved about like a young energetic sister.

On 20th July during Morning Prayer and Holy Mass, she felt uneasiness and came to her room. The then VG, Rev. Fr. Varkey, the Parish Priest of Mandal who offered Holy Mass on that day gave her communion in her room. Realizing the seriousness, she was immediately taken to Bhadra Medical Hospital, Jammu and was kept in ICU in keen observation and her condition was stable and steady. At 2.30 am she had massive heart attack and doctors were not able to save her life. She moved quickly to the land of the living to see the Lord face to face. Let us pray together that she may be worthy to enjoy the heavenly bliss with the saints, along with our founder, the venerable Fr. Varghese Payappily and listen to the Word of the Lord "come inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world". Though we miss her bodily presence here, we firmly believe that we have a strong intercessor in heaven.