



*Loreto Provincialate,
7, Middleton Row,
Kolkata – 700 071*

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Sharing IBVM News:
February, 2009

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at St. Alfred's, Bangladesh – 30th, 31st Jan:

There is no describing the massive efforts taken to make this a special occasion for the past and present students of St. Alfred's School. Our sisters are to be commended for the very hard work they put in to accommodate the taste and culture of the place - with colourful 'shamianas', gate-ways, presentations, and endless speeches, memoirs, commendations, etc, taking prominence. The highlights of the Celebrations were, no doubt: the meaningful opening ceremony, 'Tasher Desh' Dance Drama prepared by Sr. Maloti, the drills prepared by Sr. Archana, and the power-point presentation giving the history and present set-up of St. Alfred's School. His Eminence, Rt. Rev. Bishop Joseph Merino, Papal Nuncio to Bangladesh, was Chief Guest. His Grace, Rt. Rev. Bishop Patrick D'Rozario, the Bishop of Chittagong-Barisal was also present, along with a number of prominent Church figures and Govt. officials. The Holy Cross Brothers and Fathers were very prominent by their presence and in the references made to them by the past pupils. Ex-Alfredians from all over

Bangladesh and other countries, too, took trouble to be present. It was good that a sizeable number of Loreto Sisters from Calcutta were present, along with Sr. Beatrice Stuart. We took this chance to visit Dhaka and call at the Convent of the Sisters of Our Lady, Queen of the Missions, where the old Loreto Convent that was established in 1846 still stands. May God bless our mission in Bangladesh and enable it to grow and increase.

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Mary Ward Jubilee Celebrations in Kolkata – 12th – 14th Feb:

The enthusiasm and interest in Mary Ward that this event evoked was immense. Congratulations to the Mary Ward Team who organized the events, to Loreto Entally who hosted the major events and accommodated the teachers and students, and to the schools who participated in the events. The very apt sermon at the Eucharistic Celebration on the 12th, along with the exquisite singing of the Choir trained by Sr. Anita Braganza, made this occasion special. The Maxim presentations on the 12th and 13th were varied and well prepared. The Quiz on the 13th morning, conducted by Srs. Igora & Mary DeSouza, generated a

lot of enthusiasm. The drama on the 14th on the life of Mary Ward by Loreto Entally, left the audience with much food for thought. Congratulations and thanks to all those who contributed to making these days so memorable.

Medical Bulletin:

Thanks for the prayers, Masses and Mary Ward Novenas offered for the recovery of Sr. V. Punitha. She is greatly improved and out of danger. Thanks to Sr. Regina and the community who nursed Punitha back to health. The visit of Sr. Monica Affonso and Punitha's brother must have surely boosted Punitha's morale & health!

Sr. Celine's arm is healing slowly but surely. There is still some pain, especially when exercising the arm.

Sr. Stephanie Miketinac successfully completed a cataract operation on one eye.

R.I.P.

Sr. Gloria Lakra's mother, Julleta, passed away in the early hours of 27th Feb. '09, after a prolonged illness. We convey our heartfelt sympathy to Gloria and her family and pray for the repose of her mother's soul.

First & Final Professions:

The following will receive **First Profession** of Vows on 19th March 09, at 10.30 a.m., at 'Abhilasha', Novitiate House:

Baisakhi Mondol
Aruna Kujur
Priyanka Toppo
Balika Pal
Bidalin Lyndoh
Bernadette Lepcha
Mable Rudum
Anupa Toppo
Matilda Lakra
Badarilin Majhong

The following will receive **Final Profession** of Vows on Sunday, 26th April 09, at 11.00 a.m., at Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur, and reception thereafter at Mukulika, Thakurpukur:

Sr. Madhabi Brahma
Sr. A. Nirmala
Sr. Rani Minj

Visit to Indian Province & Region of Sr. Janet Palafox, MWI Australia:

We are grateful to MWI Australia for financing a number of projects in India, especially the dispensary and Mary Ward School at Umphyrnai, and the women's self-help programmes and Study Classes in Satarda. It is in this connection that Sr. Janet Palafox will visit India, from 23rd March to 15th April 09. We warmly welcome Janet and wish her a happy stay in India.

In union of love and prayer,

Antoinette Rodrigues