



*Loreto Provincialate,
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Sharing IBVM News:
January 2010

Province Consultation: *The 3rd and final phase of the Province Consultation took place from 2nd to 7th January 2010, with the 3 Consultors – Sandra, Carmen, & Barbara taking a marathon round of interviews of the Province members. Thankfully, the Consultors had some rest and relaxation after that, before Sandra & Carmen went to the Region for the Consultation there. The departures for Rome began with Barbara leaving on the 8th Jan, and Sandra, Carmen & Beatrice, leaving on the 21st Jan.*

Unfortunately, Beatrice had had to undergo lazer surgery on the 4th Jan, and after an initial setback, Beatrice recovered well enough to travel back to Rome on the 21st.

Age-Group Meeting for the Senior Citizens: *Congratulations to Sr. Celine Pinto who took the initiative in organizing the Meeting of the Senior Citizens from 4th to 7th*

January 2010, and to Bro. Kevin Ward, the Resource Person, who prepared so thoroughly for the Meeting. Bishop Henry D'Souza and Mr. & Mrs. Geo Paul addressed the gathering on the last day, sharing from their experiences.

Such topics as 'Blessings of Growing Old', 'Willingness to Let Go', 'Preparing Spiritually for the next Life', etc., were done in such a reflective way that the 12 participants relished every moment of the Meeting together. The whole experience could be summarized in the comment of one of the participants: "It was a very relaxing time and it was a good feeling to be relaxed with other people of your own age group! The process Bro. Ward followed enabled us to go into the past and enjoy the life we have had, and that has helped us to enjoy the life we are having. It was a very affirmative process – affirming that one's life, one's worth does not

depend on what you can't do, but on what you have become and what you are. I feel we can continue to live in a very positive way".

May there be many more of such meetings in the future, and may others be encouraged to hold meetings for their own Age-Group!

Golden Jubilees of the Year! *Srs. Maria Bastian and Carmella Coelho celebrated their Golden Jubilees this month with much aplomb! Maria was blessed to have her brothers and sisters around her for this special occasion, including the well-loved children of her ministry. Every detail of the Eucharist was seen to with great care, and the whole service was most meaningful and satisfying.*

Warm Congratulations to both Maria and Carmella; may the years ahead continue to be blessed abundantly!

Welcome back!

➤ *Sr. Moira Cuning returned to India (Delhi) on the 9th January 2010, and to Kolkata on 11th Jan, after a decent break in Ireland. A Warm Welcome back, Moira! May the days ahead continue to strengthen and affirm you.*

➤ *Warm welcome to Sr. Margo Mulvey who arrived on the 21st, and is already – very gently and quietly, getting a sense of the work being done in the Province.*

Departure from the Institute: *With regret I write to inform you that G. Rani, from Tamil Nadu, has requested to be released from her vows with immediate effect. Though she will not carry on as a Loreto Sister, we continue to extend to her our good wishes for the future.*

R.I.P. *We grieve with Sr. Anita Cardoza who unexpectedly lost her nephew - Nixon Bosco, son of Anita's sister, Regina. This is the second nephew in the same family that has died suddenly. Some will recall that Regina had previously lost her younger son, as a teenager, in 1991.*

IBVM abroad:

➤ *Sr. Kay Foley has taken up office as Province Leader of the US Province from 23rd Jan 10*

➤ *Sr. Christine Jaffarally will take up office as the Province Leader of Mauritius Province from 25th April 10.*

World Parliament of Religions:

The theme of the 5th World Parliament of Religions held this past month in Melbourne was: 'Make a world of difference: Hearing each other, Healing the world'. The fundamental message of the gathering was that God is boundless and limitless. "He cannot be held captive within the boundaries of religion".

Haiti: *Who can measure the extent of the sorrow and suffering of the victims & survivors of the terrible disaster that overtook Haiti? There is grave concern that the country's impoverished economy will leave the people without adequate services. In the words of Pope Benedict XI, "May not the people lack our concrete solidarity and the effective support of the international community."*

As we celebrate Mary Ward Week this month, and the Province Feast on 30th Jan, we pray in the words of Mary Ward:

*"You, O Lord, know my heart!
Make my heart perfect -
Such as you would have it be.
My heart is ready, O God,
My heart is ready!
Put me where you want me to be.
I am in your hand.
Turn me this way or that,
As you desire.
I am Yours, ready for anything!
Amen."*

*In union of love and prayers,
Antoinette Rodrigues*

**Birthdays & Feastdays
in February**

4th Mariyal Sharmila
11th Lourdes Noronha
22nd Igora Pinto
28th Josephine Burh