



Loreto (IBVM) reaching out.....

April, 2011



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Jesus invited his disciples to do the work that he empowered them to do and more (Jn. 14:12)

Jesus' empowerment of the disciples came as they learned how to attend to the divine pressure from within, the Spirit, which allowed them to emerge as women and men who came to be more than they ever dreamed they could be. May we live empowering one another so that we become more than we have dreamt we could be....

Rejoicing we welcomed our seven newly professed and three finally professed sisters.

“SET ME LIKE A SEAL ON YOUR HEART.....HOW RIGHT IT IS TO LOVE YOU”.

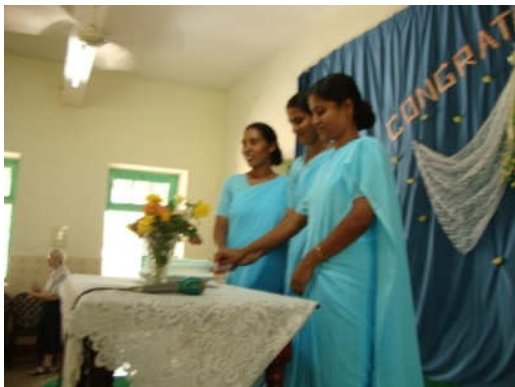


This was the theme for the First Profession ceremony of the seven young women who took their vows for the first time on the 19th March 2011 in the Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur. Anita Nayak (Ranchi), Banisha Sokhlet (Shillong), Ganga Jyoti Bardewa (Nepal), Kavitha A Rosy Mary (Chennai), Rani Hembram (Kalna), Ranjita Kerketta (Ranchi) and Renata Mistry (Bangladesh) sang lustily this refrain to proclaim to all present their commitment. Parents, relations and Loreto sisters came to join in the joy of the occasion. The eleven novices and three candidates danced in the Bishops and seven concelebrants to the rhythm of the mandar. After being welcomed by the arati and chanda the liturgy began. The choir was composed of the novices and the candidates and the singing in seven different languages had been well prepared. The hymns were sung with full hearts and voices. The vows were pronounced in seven languages and the young sisters received the Cross and the Constitutions from Sr. Tressia, the Province Leader. At the offertory the parents came with their daughters and offered them to the Lord. After the Eucharist all were invited to lunch. In the evening the cultural programme was organized by the novices and family members. The newly professed put up two items for their parents. Our thanks go to Sr. Beatrice Stuart who tastefully decorated the church and the Parish Hall.

Final Profession – 1st May 2011

Sunday 1st May was a grace-filled and memorable day for the Indian Province. Rina Ekka, A Sudha, and P. Initha made their Final Commitment pronouncing their vows for their whole life in Loreto, Entally Chapel. The chief celebrant was Fr John Mohandas V.G. and he was assisted by ten concelebrants. Fr. Mohandas gave an inspiring sermon – very much in tune with the other big events of the day – the beatification of Pope John Paul the Great and Mercy Sunday.

Initha's and Sudha's families from Tamil Nadu came the previous day and Rina's family came on the morning of the big day from Raijanj and Bangladesh. The Mass began with a beautiful Entrance dance by our Novices and Candidates to the Hymn – *Boond, Boond Mike Bane Laha* which means – *the drops of water gather and become the sea...* Hymns were sung in Sadri, Oraon, Bengali and Tamil so that the families would be able to participate in the Mass. The young Sisters were able to accompany and also conduct the vernacular singing. Our thanks go to our Entally children who sang with full hearts the hymns in the various languages. Finally, all enjoyed the delicious lunch. It was surely a day to remember!



Sisters Rina, Sudha, and Initha would like to thank all our Sisters who helped to make their day memorable and also all who came from far and near to attend the ceremony. It was lovely to see the long line of perpetually professed Sisters going to welcome our three new members.

Congratulations!

On April 5th, 2011, S. M. Cyril Mooney received **the Global Visionary Award 2011** from the Department for Global Issues, Monmouth University, New Jersey, USA.

Present at the ceremony were Mary Robinson, ex-President of Ireland, who gave the keynote address to open the conference on Global Issues at which S. M. Cyril received the award. Also present were S. M. Anne Kelly, IBVM, who came down especially from the UN to be there and S. Mary Gleason, IBVM, who flew across from Wheaton to keep S. M. Cyril Company!

Extract from the citation reads as follows:



Today we celebrate the dedication of an extraordinary visionary and educator. A native of Ireland, Sister M. Cyril Mooney has lived in India since 1956. Since 1979, as Principal of Loreto Day School, Sealdah in Kolkata, India, she has been transforming the lives of thousands of poor children. Through the school's Rainbow Program, Sister Cyril has opened one of Calcutta's best schools to the city's poorest of the poor, whose only home is the street.

A true believer in education as a vehicle for empowerment, she understands the challenges of poverty, and has introduced programs such as *Barefoot Teacher Training*, *Training for Domestic Care Workers*, the *Rural Child to Child Program*, and *Training in Income Generation and Job Exchange* for poor parents.

A beacon of hope for the poor and an innovator, Sister Cyril has inspired Monmouth University students who visited Loreto Day School and worked with the children of the Rainbow Program as part of a service-learning project, to become leaders in their communities by addressing issues of inequality and promote social justice.

Examination Result: Congratulations to Sr. Archana Gomes for having obtained Masters in History. She is now pursuing B.Ed in Shillong.

Courses: Fr.Savio Rodrigues executive Secretary for Liturgical Commission , CBCI, was the resource person for liturgical animation for the priests, sisters, brothers and laity. On 26th March 2011the Liturgical Catechesis was conducted for 193 sisters and brothers at Loreto Convent Entally. He spoke about the relevance of the liturgical norms and principles and explained how liturgical norms contribute to the beauty and dignity of the liturgical celebration. He illustrated through power point presentation and DVD "Become One Body and One Spirit in Christ". We benefited from this seminar as the sessions were interactive. Many took this opportunity to clarify all their doubts and queries regarding the introduction of the New Roman Missal.

Pope Benedict XVI says that renewal of the liturgy is not so much about changing texts or gestures as it is about changing the Catholics' attitude toward the Mass and helping the liturgy change their lives.

Tertainship: Our three Tertains returned on 2nd April 2011after a very fruitful time spent in Llandudno, Wales followed by the Mary Ward pilgrimage. They have shared their news with us in glimpses and on the Institute website. They write:

We received well-prepared inputs from our own IBVM sisters: Transition and changing times in religious life by Therese Larkin and Gabriel Murphy, Mission and Ministry by Una Coogan and Kathleen MacLennan, Institute History by Pat Mulryan, Constitutions by Elizabeth Cotter, and Discernment by Bernie Boland. Preparation for Mary Ward Pilgrimage was done creatively through poetry, music, dance, art and dialogue by Claire Dillon. Group Bonding and evaluation seemed to happen so simply with painting guided by Jen Bromham. We were inspired and challenged by all that we received during this short time.

Our days began and ended with meaningful prayer sessions and Eucharist daily with the Llandudno community. It was lovely to see a known face among all others...our dear Mary Ross. We also visited Nora in Altrincham and went over the entire Province and Region by name to give her an idea where each one is at the moment. Both as you know still have their hearts somewhere here in India.



Walking in the footsteps of Mary Ward was the highlight of our entire trip. After having studied and learnt about Mary Ward we were actually standing and walking where she did.....by doing this we were in touch with her joys, pain, struggles and all that her first companions went through. Indeed it was Holy Ground and a transforming experience for each of us.....

Blessing of Loreto St.Vincent's School

Our new school building was blessed on 16th April 2011 The teachers and children decorated the place beautifully. Besides our sisters we invited the parish council, the St.Vincent de Paul Society and the C.L.C. mothers from the parish. Fr.Indrajit, a diocesan priest and Sr.Yvonne Gomes, two past pupils of the school were present.



The programme started at 10.30a.m. with the children dancing in the guests. There was a prayer service followed by the blessing. The children then put up a programme of twelve items of songs, dances and short plays. Lunch was served to all the invited guests and the children got packets.

Here I wish to thank all those who contributed to making this dream of our students and teachers possible. They are thrilled with their new school and I see a marked difference in their attitude towards coming to school now. Spain gave us a big donation for the school and Loreto Manchester paid for the play apparatus. Loreto Abbey, Canada, M.W.I. Ireland and Loreto Mission Fund also contributed. The children too have been paying on an annual basis so that they can feel that they have done their bit.

Gyanalaya News

Srs. V. Mary Thomas Jency, T. Mary Jeba and Mary Binista Kerketta write in Gyanalaya news letter:

During our one year in Gyanalaya we learnt many new things. We are very grateful to our sisters and our other teachers who shared their expertise, in a special way to Sr.Philomena who helped us in different ways. Our stay in the Juniorate helped to make us courageous and to build our self confidence. We also enjoyed whatever we did - reading story books, watching good movies, seeing places, listening to Entally Mission stories. We met the local clergy & sisters at C R I meetings, Youth Convention, Jesus Youth & felt one with the Church & her Mission. Being part of Mary Ward Symposium in Darjeeling gave us a great sense of being part of the Province & Region. The flip side was that we had to do a Project on Darjeeling! We had several short courses too- Office Practice, Scripture, Catechetics and Social Analysis.



Child Protection and Safeguarding children.

Sr. Mercia D'Souza reported that all schools have worked on their **Policy Statement and Code of Conduct** for Schools and all the schools have appointed **the designated persons**.

The code of conduct for the Sisters, prepared by Sr. Tina Farias is attached with this News Letter.

Finance Team and Meetings with L and P Financial Trustees' Personnel.

Together with Sr.Moira Cuning we have Srs. Tina Farias, Benedicta Gomes and Anitha Sahaya on the team.

L&P Financial Trustees' Personnel - Helen Harrington and Shane Cowley, Sr.Geraldine McLeer (General Bursar) and Srs.Barbara Murphy and Beatrice Stuart (Institute Consultors)will be with us from 26th Sept.-30th Sept at Loreto House, Kolkata. Province/Regional leaders, treasurers and another staff member from Darjeeling and Australia will also be present with us as part of Review of our Capacity for Life and Ministry, and our Finances. Each Province/ Region will be signed a day each.

October Province Days.

Srs.Barbara Murphy and Beatrice Stuart (Institute Consultors)will be with us during our Province Days from 3rd October to 6th October, 2011(Both Days inclusive). They will be in India from 2nd week of September 2011.

Bereavement and loss:

Our dear **Mother Damien O'Donnogue** passed away in Ireland on 4th April 2011. A special Eucharist was celebrated in Loreto Darjeeling and almost the entire town was present since she had served in South Field College for 37 years. Many past pupils and teachers joined us in mourning the loss of a dear friend, mentor and Principal.

Anita Lakra's nephew Sishir Lakra passed away suddenly in a tragic accident on the 15th April.

Mrs. Monica Minj, mother of Sr.Nirmala Minj, who had been ailing for some time passed away on the 23rd April, 2011 while Nirmala was busy with her examination in Trichy.

Mr. Michael O'donnell, brother of **Sr. Rosario O'Donnell** who passed away recently. Sr. Rosario is now in Marley Home, Ireland.

Celine T. Laitphlang, aged 14, a student of Class 9A in Loreto Convent Shillong, who passed away on 11th May 2011.

Prayer Requests:

Sr.Euphemia Fernandes who will be having surgery in Goa on the 16th May, 2011.

Mothers of our Srs. Christine Coutinho, Tina Farias and Mercia D'Souza who are still sick and in need of healing.

Soma Mondal, student of Loreto Eliot Road Rainbow home who is in ICU in the hospital.

Our **2nd year Novices** are going for their Apostolic Experience from 15th May to 15th June. --Greta Robert and Rajni Soreng to Jeus Ashram, Matigaraha, Rajni Tete and Swati Lakra to Don Bosco Ashalayam, Howrah Sonjyoti Kerketta to Sishubhawan, Durgapur.

Many of our **young sisters** in different communities in the region and province are busy studying for various examinations. Do keep them in your prayers that their hard work and study be rewarded so as to prepare them for their future ministry.

JPIC AGM REPORT MAY 2011 RANCHI



Mrs. Reena Majumdar (National Co-ordinator of the JPIC) started the meeting by welcoming all participants- 44 from Loreto College and 16 Loreto Schools in India and Darjeeling.

The ice-breaking session helped the JPIC representatives to interact with one another.

This was followed by Powerpoint presentations of the different schools of their activities between November 2009 till date.

The second day's session began with a prayer service conducted by Loreto Ranchi on the 'Child'.

Mrs R. Mazumder identified the difference between **charity and justice**. It was pointed out that Charity is a response to immediate need while Justice is a long term goal. She also pointed out that Charity is directed at the effects of an action while Justice is directed at the root of the cause.

Sr. Cyril Mooney spoke about her work with the inhabitants living behind Ruby Hospital and E.M.By Pass in Kolkata which was started in 2007. The "Rainbow" project started by Sister Cyril Mooney sends buses to red-light areas in the city to take daughters of sex workers to government schools some distance away where they are not easily identified.

We were divided into 6 groups to discuss about human rights and corresponding duties. After the groups gave their feed back a slide show on human rights was shown.

We visited the **Jesuit centre at Kishore Nagar** where we interacted with the boys. It made us realize that we can be happy with the minimum. The evening session started by reflecting on our visit to Kishore Nagar Correctional Home. We were impressed by their discipline, innocence, simplicity and deep sense of gratitude. Sr. Mercy spoke on child abuse and how to deal with the issue. All complaints were to be made to the Designated Officer who in turn would report to the Principal of the School for the necessary action.



The last session of the day was taken by Sr. Cyril on Global Vision. Her vision is that the world will become a place where "LOVE" replaces "HATE". To sum up her concept a game was played which demonstrated how few people get more attention and opportunity. Very often we become so busy with what we have that we ignore the needs of others.

Br. Steve Rocha, a Christian brother gave us the input on the third day. He stressed the need for advocacy and social justice in our schools.

MAY

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
31st May	Sr. Elizabeth D'Souza	2nd May
	Sr. Monica Rozario	4th May
	Sr. Anita Maria Braganza	7th May
	Sr. Stephanie Miketinac	7th May
	Sr. Nirmala Minj	16th May
	Sr. Bernadette Lepcha	20th May
	Sr. Urusla Darcy	20th May
	Sr. Baishakhi Mondal	21st May
30th May	Sr. Joan Smyth	
30th May	Sr. Celina Pinto	

JUNE

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. A Thivya	2nd June
	Sr. Therese Curran	5th June
	Sr. A Anitha	7th June
	Sr. Deepa Biswas	8th June
	Sr. Initha P	8th June
	Sr. Matilda Lakra	8th June
13th June	Sr. Antoinette Rodrigues	
	Sr. Alice Mary Martyris	20th June
	Sr. Marian Moriarty	25th June
27th June	Sr. Cyril Mooney	
	Sr. Pushpa Ekka	29th June

My Itinerary

5th- 7th May - Ranchi ,10th -27th May-Rome (Sedos Conference), 28th May – 16th June (Canada)

Do feel free to contact me by email: tressiat@yahoo.com

In my absence you may contact **Sr. Molly Francis, ibvm** for any urgent matters including formation matters.

As we come to this holiday season and relax, take things a little easy perhaps we could develop an unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment and be contented with feelings of connectedness with others and nature.

Wish you all a time of leisure, fun and renewal. May all of us return to our ministries energized by good times spent together at home or in community, meetings or in retreats.

M. Tressia T. Aricatt, ibvm.