



# Loreto (IBVM) reaching out.....



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## *TO God Be The Glory*

Loreto South Asia celebrated 175 years of their arrival in Kolkata, India with a grand ceremony in Science City on the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016. His Eminence Cardinal; Patrick D’Rozario C.S.C, the first Cardinal of Bangladesh and His Grace Archbishop Thomas D’Souza , Archbishop of Kolkata were the main celebrants of the Thanksgiving Eucharist. They were assisted by seven other bishops and many priest friends. Parents, Past Pupils and friends of Loreto filled the 2,500 seated auditorium to capacity. A short documentary film on the history of Loreto South Asia was screened followed by an original creative drama” Every Leaf of Green” in which the 21 Loreto Schools from all over the country took part.

From 31<sup>st</sup> December to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 150 sisters including 4C.J Provincials from India and Nepal came together for their Province Assembly. The Theme of the Assembly was “ Remember- Renew- Reimage” .Sr.Noelle Corscadden IBVM, our General Leader, Bro.Philip Pinto C.F.C, Fr.Joe Kootinal S.J and Dr.Robert Moore of Ireland guided the sisters through the days to listen and look deeper into what new thing was emerging in our world and in religious life. The Assembly was challenged to look at things differently-“*a miracle is a*



*shift in perception from fear to love”* . there was a real awareness and consciousness of God’s Spirit alive and active in the group.

The Closing Eucharist was celebrated on the lawn in front of the newly erected Mother Dephine Hart (Founder of Loreto Sisters in India) Memorial. With the words of the concluding hymn ringing in their hearts” We will follow You... with our hearts we will enter the greatest adventure...Follow Me” the sisters recommitted themselves to their religious life with passion and Joy. By Sr. Sabrina Edwards

### *St. Teresa’s Girls H. S. School*

#### Loreto Girls receive National Bravery Award

On 23rd January 2017 two students from Loreto Convent and Loreto St. Teresa's were awarded the Geeta Chopra National Bravery Award by the Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi. Shivani Gond of St. Teresa's and Tejaswita Pradhan of Loreto Convent had shown exemplary courage in busting an international human trafficking racket in 2016. These two students along with a third student Nina Rai of St. Teresa's assisted the police and NGO MARG by posing as prospective job seekers thus luring the traffickers and getting them arrested. Nina however being above 18years was not chosen for the National award. But Tejaswita and Shivani did not allow Nina's contribution to go unnoticed. They have dedicated their awards to Nina. These three brave hearts have lived up to the teachings of Mary Ward and have exhibited the true Loreto spirit of working for a noble cause. It is worth mentioning that Shivani and Tejaswita also participated in the Republic Day Parade at Delhi.

1. Shivani receiving the award

2. Tejaswita receiving the award



### 3. Shivani, Nina and Tejaswita at Khoribari police station



### 4. Nina who is also a state level hockey player.



### Champasari

Mable and Mary left Siliguri for Nepal on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb.2017 to be present for a common Mary Ward celebration with the C.J.'s on the 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. There were six of us present – Flora, Aruna, Powlin, Ganga, Mable and Mary. We were welcomed by the C.J. community in Sirsia which is a three hour journey from Dharan. A young newly professed Junior, Sr.Monica Hasda, who came from that parish was felicitated. The priest who gave the homily had done his home work on reading up about Mary Ward. The parishioners were given a good idea of her life. The whole Mass was in Santhali with a few English hymns put in. Monica and Ganga spoke briefly about their vocation stories. Lunch was served to all invited guests. Mable and Ganga stayed over and spoke to the hostel girls the C.J.'s have, about vocations to our congregation. Sr.Smitha took them around the village too and introduced them to various families.





‘Your servant O Lord, Your servant am I

You have loosened my bonds...’ Ps.116:16 – By Sr. Christine Countiho

Sr. Ursula has passed on to a find her place with her Maker and we are sure that she is praying this Psalm with joy... for now she truly lives...Sr. Ursula was brisk in life as in her departure from us. She had a pacemaker implanted about a year and a half ago; this gave her new life. On 20<sup>th</sup> January, a black-out during Mass, and another on 21<sup>st</sup> morning during her morning walk with Jeffrey, caused alarm; she was admitted to Woodlands Nursing Home for investigation in the afternoon of 21<sup>st</sup> January. The same night we rushed to the hospital, following a telephone call from Woodlands, to find that Sr. Ursula had suffered a massive heart attack. She could not be revived, and slipped away within a matter of minutes.

Sr. Ursula was to have gone on a home visit with her sisters in February; she was, however, called away in haste, leaving us stunned. Staff and students came from far and wide to pay their respects to a little giant in the field of education and a recipient of the TTIS Best Teacher Award.

A touching tribute from the staff and students of Loreto Convent School, Chembur, where she served for 22 years of the 42 years of our presence in the little RCF school, was read out at the funeral Mass by a past pupil, Sangeeta Shahani. This, along with Ella Castellino’s moving rendition, ‘**The wind beneath my wings**’, were among the expressions of the influence this stalwart of Chembur had upon her pupils. Sr. Ursula was blessed with the ability of identifying gifts and talents in her staff and students; she enabled nurturing these in others without ‘smothering’ them. She believed in spontaneity and that an element of surprise brightens every student’s day.

Sr. Ursula worked as if everything depended on her and prayed as if everything depended on God. Her love for the Memorare and her dedication to the Rosary saw her through many a tough spot. Her daily visits to the Grotto and devotion to the Eucharist, till her last day, were a source of strength to her. Sr. Ursula Darcy left us suddenly... when we least expected it. Fond memories and messages have been coming in of a much loved and respected Principal, an excellent teacher, a confidant, a mentor, a community member who was generous with her time and talents, one who saw the hand of God in all situations and hence was always cheerful, trusting that God sees all things through.

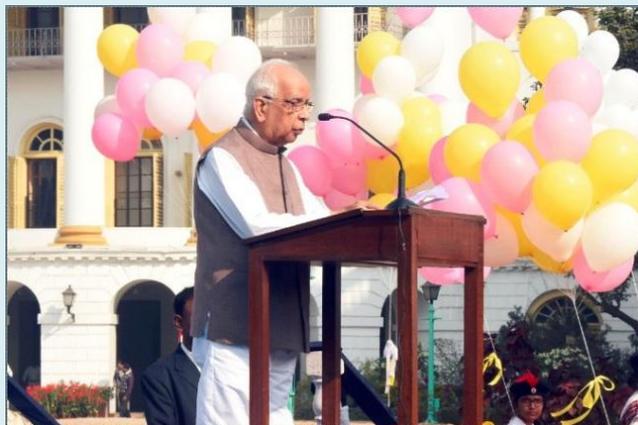
Jesus say, Amen.

## THE HISTORICAL LEGACY WALK ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2017

### FROM GOVERNOR'S HOUSE TO LORETO HOUSE – By Mrs. Keya Prabal.

The Year 2016 has been a historic one because Loreto began its celebration of 175 years in togetherness of spirit of vocation in the hearts of the people of South Asia. It was Mother Delphine Hart who embarked on the mission of bringing the institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Kolkata from where the Loreto nuns branched out to different areas in South Asia, spreading love and education to those who need.

The Legacy Walk that was flagged off from the Governor's House on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 9:30 a.m. was a monumental effort to unite in spirit all the students who come under the Loreto banner : children from well - to - do backgrounds and the Rainbow children comprising less fortunate children. Before the walk could commence, a short programme marking the



occasion was organized. It included a cultural programme by the students of Loreto, an address by the Province Leader Sr. Anita Braganza, address by his Excellency Governor of West Bengal Shri Keshari Nath



Tripathi and a vote of thanks by Sr. Beatrice Stuart, Chairperson of the Jubilee Committee.



During the address His Excellency, The Honorable Governor of West Bengal, highlighted in his speech the motto of Loreto and the work the institute has done in Kolkata. He ended by wishing the Loreto staff and students all success and good wishes for the future.

The Walk culminated at Loreto House where the Province Leader, Sr. Anita Braganza proposed a vote of thanks. The event came to a close with the singing of the Loreto chorus.





The Loreto Legacy walk's purpose was to celebrate the success of Mary Ward's teachings which are a part and parcel of every Loreto girl. Mary Ward remains alive and immortal through all the Loretoites.

The Legacy Walk of 2017 brought to life the words of the theme for this 175<sup>th</sup> years of celebration **"REMEMBER, REIMAGE and RENEW."**

## Loreto Dharamtala Reunion



**LORETO DAY SCHOOL:** It was a magical morning for the alumni of Loreto Day School as they met up at The Lalit Great Eastern recently after 25 years. Ex-students from across the country and beyond turned up to reunite with long-lost friends, best buddies, classmates and benchmates. Many of them have been in touch on social media. The afternoon ended with a promise to stay connected, forever.



**LORETO DHARAMTALA:** Ex-students and teachers of Loreto Dharamtala bonded over memories at a grand reunion hosted by the alumni on January 28. Sister Anita Braganza, the Provincial of Loreto South Asia and an ex-student herself, was present along with several IBVM sisters of Loreto Dharamtala. Present principal, A. Gomes, also an ex-student, encouraged the alumni to go around their alma mater, the library, corridors and classrooms. A photo booth, where they could get clicked in cutouts of the school uniform, turned out to be a massive hit. Come evening and the former students, nuns and teachers danced to music churned out by Rodney Rodrigues.

## **JANUARY**

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. Jency. V	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan
	Sr. Agnes Bhutia	5 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Banisha Sohkhet	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Molly Francis	9 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Phyllis Morris	12 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Yvonne Gomes	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Rani Regina Hembram	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Maeve Hughes	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Sunila Toppo	19 <sup>th</sup> Jan
21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Sr. Agnes Bhutia	
	Sr. Monica Suchiang	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan
	Sr. Anita Nayak	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan
	Sr. Sangeeta Surin	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Sr. Lynette Daniel-Palmer	
	Sr. Helen Borneo	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Shalini Rozario	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Priyanka Topno	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan
	Sr. Ganga Jyoti Bardewa	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan

## **FEBRUARY**

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. Leena lakra	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. M. J. Jude Hales	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb
11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Sr. Lourdes Noronha	
	Sr. Carmella Coelho	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. Mariam Ekka	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. Maria Bastian	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. Igora Pinto	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb
	Sr. Sangeeta Madhuri Jojo	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. Maxima Toppo	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. Josephine Burh	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Sr. Swati Lakra	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb

## **MARCH**

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. Madhuri Lakra	6 <sup>th</sup> Mar
	Sr. Euphemia Fernandes	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar
Feast of Christ the King	Sr. Christine Coutinho	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar
	Sr. Balika Pal	12 <sup>th</sup> Mar
	Sr. Claire McFarland	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar
	Sr. Geraldine Moktan	26 <sup>th</sup> Mar
	Sr. Valeria Mundu	27 <sup>th</sup> Mar