



Loreto (IBVM) reaching out.....

February, 2011



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Greetings to each one as we celebrate the feast of our Institute on 30th January and the 400 years of the mystical grace given to Mary Ward.

In 1611, Mary Ward heard the following words:

Take the same of the Society. Father General will never permit it. Go to him. These are the words whose worth cannot be valued; nor the good they contain, too dearly bought; these gave sight where there was none, made known what God would have done, gave strength to suffer what since hath happened, assurance of what is wished for in time to come. And if ever I be worthy to do anything more about the Institute, hither I must come to draw.....

When speaking to Mary Poyntz about this revelation, Mary Ward added these words:

"All is as done with me; it only remains that I be faithful". (Vita E)

Mary Poyntz says Mary Ward was aware of an interior voice telling her how to organize her Institute.

In 2009 the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto) adopted the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus. Mary Ward's vision has been fulfilled. She was declared "Venerable" by Pope Benedict XVI on 19 December 2009. As companions of Mary Ward, let us creatively respond to her charism in our mission according to the Signs of the times.



‘Mags, your Golden Jubilee is coming.’ “I want no fuss: no more than the Mass and a celebration meal with the Community.” Well, on Friday 28th, Sr. Magdalene Munro got all the works – from a glorious liturgy prepared by Sr. Molly and Sr. Abhay, through appetizing meals, served in the dining room, with tea in the community room, the ambience of both conducive to a good appetite. Together with the chapel, the young Sisters went all out to make it an unforgettable golden day for the Jubilarian by way of tastefully executed decorations.



Our guests from our houses, who came in for high tea, witnessed Sr. Magdalene enthroned, crowned, toasted, and cutting the cake as all bells to hand rang out while we sang the Jubilantes. The only thing missing was the staff ! Then followed a programme specially prepared by Sr. Maria and the young sisters, beginning with table games and music of the '40s followed by a song and a skit on the 'Life and Times' of the lady of the day, and ending with a wee gift for every one. Thereafter, all repaired to the Chapel for Vespers sung and recited full-throatedly, in line with the day of preparation in honour of Mary Ward. It was a glorious ending to a glorious day in honour of a much loved and appreciated Sister. Ad Multo Annos, Mags!! Sr. Irene Ribeiro

Blessing of Mary Ward Grotto



The blessing of the statue of Mary Ward was held here in Loreto Ranchi on the 19th of January at 8.30 a.m. The whole school gathered here and one could see that they were really proud to belong to Loreto. The ceremony began with a Prayer dance by Class Vs who really danced prayerfully in their white and blue. Miss Leena Tigga, teacher gave her experience of Mary Ward and Deboshrita from the Junior school gave us insights into the early life of Mary Ward. Fr Britius blessed the statue and the Class Vs sang two of her maxims "God loves a cheerful giver" and "God is rich enough for all" with delightful actions. Shannon Khalkho one of our Class IXs spoke beautifully on the courageous woman that she was in her time and an inspiration for all of us. The ceremony ended with everyone singing Mary Ward, Mary Ward, your dedication.....while the girls honoured Mary Ward with their offering of flowers at her feet. Sr. Marion concluded giving her personal experience and expressing her deep love for Mary Ward.
Sr. Marion Vase

Reception in Abhilasha.



Did you know in 1585 that the newborn babe born to Ursula Ward in persecuted England would make such a difference to so many women in years to come? Among those influenced by Mary Ward were 6 young girls who were received into our novitiate on Sunday, 23rd January. Their names are Maan Veronica Thapa, Neelam Prafulla Kindo, Scholastica Xalxo and Isilda Sangriang from Province, Sarita Horo and Biviyana Lepcha from Region . The short but meaningful ceremony was introduced with a role play depicting the candidates arriving with enough material goods to ensure comfort and security in the novitiate. Guided by their ‘angels’ and the word of God they underwent a conversion of heart and were ready to exchange earthly for the heavenly Treasure, Jesus.

Sr. Soria Nongtdu

1st Profession.

1st Profession of our novices—Banisha Sohkhet, A. Kavitha Rosy Mary, Rajneeta Kerketta, Anita Nayak, Ganga Bardewa, Renata Mistry and Rani Hembram – will be on 19th March 2010 at Abhilasha. Bishop Salvadore Lobo will be the main Celebrant.

Final profession.

Final profession of Srs .Rina Ekka, P.Initha and A. Sudha will be on 1st May, 2010 at Loreto, Convent, Entally. ArchBishop Lucas Sirkar,sdb will be the main celebrant.

Republic Day Celebration in Loreto House

The Theme for this year’s Republic Day was “Answering India’s Call for Freedom from Violence, Corruption and Poverty.”



The morning began with the Ceremonial March Past, followed by the Welcome Address. This was followed by the hoisting of the National Flag by the School Head Girl, singing of the National Anthem, reciting the Students’ Pledge and the customary rendition of D.L.Roy’s eulogy to our Motherland “Dhono Dhanney Puspe Bhora.”

The main programme began with a short introductory reading followed by a symbolic dance by the class tens, highlighting the consequences of Indian being plagued by these evils.

The programme and presentations reaffirmed that in spite of all our problems, we have succeeded in preserving the vision of a United India. The students pledged to take pride in their beautiful motherland and make every effort to preserve its rich natural resources and varied cultural heritage.

Sr. Molly Francis

The International Meeting at Toronto.

Srs. Flora Anthony, Mercia D'souza, Agnes Bhutia, Christine Coutinho, Archana Gomes, Moira Cunning, Phyllis Morris and the lay representatives Mrs. Marie Gasper and Mrs. Reena Majumdar will attend the International Meeting at Loretto College, **Toronto**, Canada from Monday 29th May through Tuesday 7th June 2011. The theme of the meeting is "**Being Lovers of Truth and Doers of Justice in the C21**".

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults

Sr. Tina Farias will be the designated Person for safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults for the Province. Sr. Mercia D'souza will assist her to bring out the Ethical Province Policy, a single page of key aspects of a province policy and a single page code for the province.

Sedos Conference

Sr. M. Tressia T. Aricatt will be attending Sedos Conference from 17th to 21 May 2011 in Rome on ***The prophetic challenge of the churches in Asia - Pacific.***

Education Board

Education Board is reconstituted with Sr. Mercy D' Souza as the Director. The members of the Education Board are Sr. Igora Pinto, Sr. Phyllis Morris, Mrs. Marie Gasper (Principal of Loreto Day School, Bowbazar.), Dr. Devika Guha (Loreto B.Ed Department) and Mrs. D. Sequeria (Loreto T.T.C. Department). There will be two representation from the Region in the Education Board.

We express our sincere thanks to Srs. Moira Cunning, Carmella Coehlo, Christopher D'Souza and Stephanie Rodrigues for all that they have done during their term in the Education Board.

Review of our Capacity for Life and Ministry, and our Finances.

L&P staff to province / region leadership has asked that, apart from the province / region treasurer, an IBVM member is appointed to be a second liaison person. As they hope to communicate mainly by email, skype, telephone, this needs to be kept in mind when appointing a person. Sr. A. Nirmala is appointed to be the contact person for 'Review of our Capacity for life and Ministry and our Finance.'

October Province Days.

Province Days have to be held between 1st and 12th of October. Exact dates will be given shortly. Celebration of 400 years of Mary Ward's grace "Take the Same as the Society" will take place during those days.

Convention on Consecrated Life 2020.

National C.R.I. is organizing a convention for young religious envisioning **Consecrated Life 2020 for the West Bengal- Sikkim region**. This is to prepare our future generations with new visions and strategies to face the many challenges. The sisters who will be attending the convention from our province are:

Srs. Josephine Burh, Soria Nongtdu, Alma Toppo, Anita Lakra, Shakuntala Kujur, T. Jeba, V.T. Jency, Binista Kerketta and A. Nirmala.

Sr. A. Nirmala will be in the Panel discussion too on those days.

Prayers are requested for the success of the centenary celebrations in Loreto College on the 2nd February, 2011.

Grateful thanks and continued prayers for Sr. Euphemia Fernandez and Anita Cardos, whose operations were successful. They are recuperating in Loreto House.

Please pray for Srs. Stephanie Rodrigues and Bernadette D' Rosario who will be having surgery in the coming days.

Birthdays & Feast days in February 2011.

4th: Sr. A. Mariyal Sharmila

6th: Sr. Jude Hales

11th: Sr. Lourdes Noronha

19th: Sr. Maria Batian

22nd : Sr. Igora Pinto

29th: Sr. Josephine Burh

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7th to 14th: Loreto, Lucknow

15th to 18th: Loreto, Delhi

19th to 25th: Loreto, Simla

Srs. Mercia D'Souza, Molly Francis, Flora Antony and Archana Gomes extends their greetings for our Feast day.

Let us continue to support each other in prayer.

M. Tressia T. Aricatt

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