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Province Assembly 2019

From the end of May an air of expectation and intense activity prevailed in the Loreto House



Community, for within the next few days our numbers would swell from its usual twenty seven members to one hundred and thirty one – our Province Assembly would be from 3rd to 7th of June. Preparation for this big gathering was taken on by the Preparatory Committee and the Assembly Proceedings Committee along with their sub groups, well supported by the Province leadership team and the Loreto House community and Staff.

*The Assembly began on 3rd June at 4.00 pm. As we entered the School Hall our excitement at meeting each other gave way to a feeling of awe. The spacious room had been converted into a Conference room, furnished with sixteen tables, around each of which were eight chairs and our names mounted on the tables. The walls were decorated with large posters of Mary Ward Maxims and our GC Calls. The sense of Institute created, was enhanced with the presence of our General Consultors, Srs. Brenda, Macarena and three CJ sisters. This feeling was intensified during the Eucharistic Sacrifice at which Fr. Jerome sj gave an inspiring homily on “**Revisoning our Past and Re-envisioning a Future.**” Quoting Pope Francis he said, “Don’t be afraid of being few but be afraid of no longer being light that illumines all those who are immersed in the dark night -----Panic if you fail to be salt that gives flavour to the life of men and women of our society.” Revisoning our past and our future is like going back to the roots that we may have the strength to take wings for the future. This implies needed adaptations and changes making your life and vision relevant and meaningful. This, together with introductory talks given by Srs. Anita, Marilla and Bobby Moore, our facilitator, set the tone for the days ahead.*

In the following days Sr. Anita and our General Consultors Srs. Brenda and Macarena, helped us to become aware of the need for the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide us. Most amazing was the simplicity with which Bobby explained the complex reality of the need for change and renewal. This he did with the help of the Sigmoid Curve. Through role play and mime all participants endeavoured to enact life situations that would give concrete expression to renewal. Against this

background our Consultors started the process of consultation and discernment for a new leadership team culminating in names being surfaced of those whom the gathering felt could possibly lead the Province. On the last day, the named persons were called before the Assembly for a blessing of support.

Our daily Morning Prayer and Eucharistic Celebrations had been prepared by different communities in a way that fostered devotion and unity of theme. Our days were filled to the brim with meaningful reflection and activities including reports from various ministries on their work during the past six years. Most impressive was that of our present Leadership Team expressed in humble thankfulness for all that the Lord had done through them despite fragility and vulnerability. On 6th night our eight Jubilarians (including Sr. Stephanie 100 yrs.) were part of the Entrance Dance for the special Jubilee Mass and later felicitated in an enjoyable cultural programme which our young sisters performed with enthusiasm. This gave an insight into God's blessings on the past and hope for the future.



The Assembly concluded with a beautiful Eucharistic Celebration at which our Archbishop Thomas D'souza entering into the Spirit of the previous few days guided us forward, urging us to be relevant, a light for the people of our times.

The period of discernment started, at the Province Assembly, continued into the conversation circles held in various parts of the Province with our three consultors facilitating and listening deeply. It was truly a time of listening, openness and a certain amount of anxiety. The Spirit of

God was active even as Brenda, Macarena and Judy returned to Rome on 22nd June 2019 to continue the discernment with their companions in the General leadership team, Noelle and Igora.



Our General Leader sent a letter on 8th July 2019 informing the Province of the new leadership team putting to an end all the conjecturing, guessing, waiting - not only of us IBVMs but of all who are close to the Loreto family in the Province.

We thank God for our new leadership team, Srs. Sabrina Edwards, Priyanka Topno, Beatrice Stuart, Anujuman

Gidh and A. Nirmala. We thank them for accepting this challenging role and assure them of our loving support and prayer.

May the outgoing team be richly blessed for their six and a half years of selfless service.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam



REPORT ON CATECHISM WORKSHOP

A Catechism workshop was organised for Catechetics teachers of Loreto schools in India, on June 21 & 22, 2019 by Sister Phyllis, Catechism Coordinator, Loreto Education Board; 31 teachers participated and the Resource Person was Ms. Grace David, Coordinator of Catechetics, Justice Education and Value Education in St. Columba's School, New Delhi. It was an interactive workshop comprising group discussions, meaningful activities- including an immersive experience involving a visit to the Rainbow Homes and Literacy Centres, video presentations etc.

The topics covered-

1. *The Person of a Catechist-
"Whose am I"? not "Who I am"?*
2. *What is Catechesis?
The process of transmitting faith in an organic and systematic way*
3. *Goal of a Catechism Teacher
To "preach, teach and heal" in order to be with God*
4. *The Challenges of a Catechist & Coping with the Challenges*



5. *Faith Education*
Imparted by- Pillars of Catechism, Liturgical calendar, Sacred Scriptures, Bible themes, Principles of Biblical interpretation, General Knowledge session on the Bible etc.

6. Methodology

Did the teacher view him/her- self as- a transmitter of knowledge/ Communicator of truth? /Was the student 'a question' and the teacher 'an answer'?

The workshop also included an insightful session by Sister Agnes, Community Leader, Loreto House on the Core Values of Our Founder, Mary Ward. Sister Agnes focused on the Just Soul Vision of Mary Ward emphasising that we must uphold the fundamental dignity of everyone because we are all made in the image of GOD.



LORETO HOUSE REPORT ON INTER-LORETO MUN 2019

Loreto House organised and hosted the first ever Inter Loreto MUN from 27th to 29th June 2019. The aim was to give students of our other Loreto schools in Kolkata the MUN experience.

This MUN was unique in many ways.



- *It started with a workshop held just before the summer break which was conducted by the experienced 'Munners' of Loreto House to facilitate first timers of our other Loreto schools to understand the working of a MUN after which a study guide for each of*



the MUN committees was emailed to all the participating schools.



- It was also probably one of the only MUNs in the city to have an all-female Executive Board. Two of our three chairs were ex- students who were outstanding Munnners while in school and thereafter. One of them flew down just to attend the conference as Chairperson. The Secretary General was from our current batch of Class XII students.
- Most importantly there was no registration fee for the delegates as is the practice in every Inter School MUN.

All schools are engaging their students in MUN conferences today and hopefully hereafter, all our Loreto Schools will also soon be sending active and confident delegates to more of these conferences.

LORETO CONVENT ENTALLY

Loreto Convent Entally has embarked on a journey of innovation in the field of academics. We have worked on 2 areas:

- Remedial classes - restructuring has been done wherein, a class is divided into three groups (on the basis of academic performance in the previous class) - below average, average and above



be able to work on all sections of a class and all students will grow according to their capacity. Two periods are kept fixed in the time table for these remedial classes. The middle section students are being included in this.

- Assessment - the second Block test is based on innovative testing. For example, a student may be asked to do presentations, role play, nature studies, research projects, quiz, book review, dramatisation, model making etc. It is marked on 50. The testing would span over a period of two months.

average. The Core subjects are taught by teachers who are best with the given groups. In this way we would

LORETO DAY SCHOOL, DHARAMTALA

1. WORLD YOGA DAY



World Yoga Day was celebrated on 21st of June. Through the morning assemblies and yoga demonstrations, students and staff were made aware of the benefits of yoga.

VAN MAHOTSAV

Van Mahotsav Week was celebrated from the 1st to the 5th of July, 2019, through various activities. A skit “ Save the Trees”, Story-telling sessions on animals, Nature Walk, and Craft work was organised for the children. Projects were done on 'Medicinal Plants' and “Forests of the World” were discussed. The JPIC unit of the school distributed 260 tree saplings among the staff and students on 19th July, 2019.



PAINT PARTY

The Rainbow State Office organized a Paint Party on the 19th and 20th July, 2019 to raise funds for the Rainbow Home. The school students along with their parents painted beautiful canvases which were put on sale. The activity was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



LORETO ELLIOT ROAD



LORETO JPIC INDIA ACTIONABLE GOAL: Loreto Schools in India commit to dedicate One Lakh Trees to the nation by 2020 - Sapling Plantation Drive of Loreto Day School, Elliot Road

We, at Loreto Day School, Elliot Road have created history in our sapling plantation drive when we crossed the historic count of 1000. Our entire focus lay on afforestation and our efforts concentrated on this SDG Goal.

Our Vanmahotsav programme was inspired by the actions of a committed environmentalist, the Chairman of the P. C. Chandra group. The programme organized by the junior school had a new



element introduced- planting a sapling inside the empty tender coconut shell. This apart, 100 of our interested parents were invited. Each of them was presented with a sapling. The middle school children took this initiative to distribute fourteen saplings; in tender coconut shells to their teachers during assembly. They also demonstrated how recycling of organic waste happens.

The concept of 'Nurture a Plant at Home' was further strengthened when the Nature Club and JPIC put up a strong messaged assembly, at the end of which, 141 saplings were distributed among the most important stakeholders - our very own students. It is not enough to only plant saplings but to create and strengthen the bond of friendship between trees and humans. Monitoring their growth will be an integral component of this drive.



Meanwhile, senior girls of LER with the JPIC teachers participated in the plantation drive by Mother Earth Foundation in Science City. For many of our students, this was the first time they were planting saplings themselves. Under the guidance and support of Sr. Marilla, our Sapling count as on date, stands at 1043.

NOVITIATE NEWS

FIRST VOWS

On the 14th June Dipika Mrong and Machalina Murmu responded generously to the call of God and professed their first Vows in Mohakhali Church, Dhaka, Bangladesh. It was a great joy for the Institute.



His Eminence Cardinal Patrick D Rosario CSC was joined by other eight priests in celebrating the Holy Eucharist and the congregation enjoyed his inspiring homily.

The newly professed sisters were joined by their parents, relatives and many IBVM sisters from different communities from India. After the Eucharistic celebration the congregation congratulated them warmly followed by a delicious meal and joyous dancing and singing.



On this auspicious day the new house was also blessed by His Eminence Cardinal Patrick D Rosario CSC and all happy to be part of this celebration

Many thanks to all for your loving support and prayers.

FEAST DAY'S AND BIRTHDAY'S

JULY

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. Veronica Thapa	5th July
6th July	Sr. Maria Bastian	
	Sr. Shakuntala Kujur	8th July
	Sr. Goretti Tirkey	9th July
11th July	Sr. Benedicta Gomes	
	Sr. Babina Lepcha	14th July
	Sr. Mercia D'Souza	19th July
	Sr. Cyril Mooney	21th July
	Sr. Reshma Minj	21st July
	Sr. Antoinette Rodrigues	22nd July
22nd July	Sr. Magdalene Munro	
25th July	Sr. Christopher D'Souza	
26th July	Sr. Anita Maria Braganza	
	Sr. Mariana Bage	27th July
29th July	Sr. Beatrice Stuart	

AUGUST

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. Maloti Thakur	4th Aug
	Sr. Abhay Ekka	7th Aug
	Sr. Mary Archana Gomes	10th Aug
11th Aug	Sr. Claire McFarland	
	Sr. Badarilin Majhong	13th Aug
	Sr. Marion Vase	15th Aug
	Sr. A. Kavitha Rosy Mary	15th Aug
	Sr. Rani Mary Minj	19th Aug
	Sr. Joan Smyth	21st Aug
	Sr. K. Clara	23rd Aug
	Sr. A. Arockia Powlin	26th Aug
27th Aug	Sr. Monica Rozario	

SEPTEMBER

FEAST DAY	NAMES	B'DAY
	Sr. Anu Anet Lepcha	9th Sept
	Sr. Shanta Xalxo	10th Sept
	Sr. Ponnamma Nadackal	11th Sept
	Sr. Barbara Rudum	13th Sept
	Sr. Lynette Daniel-Palmer	14th Sept
	Sr. Mary DeSouza	15th Sept
	Sr. Malti Lomga	17th Sept
	Sr. Beatrice Stuart	18th Sept
	Sr. Anita Lakra	21st Sept
	Sr. Prabina Rudum	22nd Sept
	Sr. Tina Farias	23rd Sept
	Sr. Linda Mrong	23rd Sept
24th Sept	Sr. Maeve Hughes	
24th Sept	Sr. Mercia D'Souza	
	Sr. Tressia Aricatt	27th Sept
	Sr. Anupa Toppo	30th Sept