

PROVINCE FLASH DAUGHTERS OF THE CROSS CALCUTTA PROVINCE

PF/2023/2 September News Bulletin For Private Circulation Only

My dear Sisters, Associates, Friends and Well-wishers,

Standing on the threshold of September, we thank God for placing us under the protection of Mary our Mother. We thank God for the gift of Blessed Marie Therese, our foundress and all our pioneers who were imbued with the love of Christ and allowed themselves to be channels of His love and mercy to all and especially to the weakest and most suffering members. We thank the Lord for His countless blessings that have accompanied us over the past 190 years.

The birth of Mary underlines the idea that God's plan of salvation includes human participation. God did not choose the rich and powerful, the influential and great to carry out His work of salvation, but He chose an ordinary woman, probably from a poor family in Nazareth, on the margins of society, to be the one He chose to be the Mother of the Saviour. As we celebrate the feast of Mary's Nativity, we are reminded of the hope she brought into the world and the faith with which she lived her life. We are called to follow her example and to commit ourselves as best we can to the Lord, to be bearers of hope and light in this darkened world, so that our actions, words and deeds may bring life to all whose lives we have touched.

The Feast of the Holy Cross reminds us of the paradoxical nature of Christianity: that through suffering and death comes triumph and resurrection. The Cross, a symbol of death and shame, is transformed into a symbol of hope, victory, and eternal life. The Cross serves as a reminder of Jesus' humility and boundless love for humanity. He willingly endured the agony of crucifixion, demonstrating the depth of God's love and His desire for a restored relationship with us. Reflecting on the Cross challenges us to examine our faith and willingness to make sacrifices for the greater good. Just as Christ gave His life selflessly, we are called to emulate His example by making sacrifices for the well-being of others and the advancement of God's kingdom. The Feast of the Holy Cross is a time for prayer, reflection, and contemplation. It invites us to meditate on the profound significance of the Cross in our lives and to deepen our understanding of its transformative power.

Let us seek the intercession of Mary at the foot of the Cross for the courage and trust that we need, to believe in God's unconditional love, especially when we are faced with various crosses. May Blessed Marie Therese intercede for us to have a deeper understanding of our call in these challenging times. May the Crucified Lord become the source of our strength and guide us in our endeavors.

Wish you many blessings of our triple feast to each one you.

In union of Prayers,

Regife

Happy Feast

Sr. Regi Mathew F. C.
Provincial



Congratulations!

Final Profession



First year Novices

Postulants



St. Vincent's Home, Kidderpore

"Uniquely Christ's forevermore"

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? (Mk.8: 36)

Responding to this teaching of Jesus, our seven sisters Mina Barwa, Jyotsna Barla, Rose Anjalina Barla, Pratima Hemrom, Meera Kujur, Aruna Tirkey, Sampa Dhara made a lifelong commitment to Jesus on 27th May, at St. Vincent's Home Chapel, Kidderpore. It marked a significant milestone in their lives.

Ceremony commenced with a solemn procession of the seven sisters accompanied by their parents, the priests, and His Grace Bishop Shyamal Bose, Bishop of Baruipur Diocese. The atmosphere was filled with a sense of reverence. The Holy Mass was made meaningful with the angelic choir. There was a felicitation program for our newly perpetually professed sisters, where the entire congregation greeted them. Thereafter, the event concluded with a sumptuous meal.

Though our loving Sr. Rose Anjalina Barla left us too early to be with Christ, forever indeed, she is never away from us in spirit. Her life was a testament of the power of love, smile and dedication. Her warm smile and compassionate nature drew all of us, in making us feel seen, heard and cared for. Let us cherish her life by imitating the virtues she embodied, spreading smile and finding joy in life's little blessings.

Sr. Rose Mary Rai

My Journey in Pastoral Care at Pandua:

Since last May, my trip to Pandua for pastoral ministry every weekend and on special occasions in the parish has been my own inner journey. It has been an enriching experience for me, as I accompany the faithful, stay with them, visit each house, listen to their joys and struggles, take part in evening family prayers, accompany them for Mass as one among them. It has been an experience of an extended family for me, as the faithful always look forward to my visit to their families. My own faith has been strengthened by participating in the evening healing prayer sessions and faith sharing.

Assisting Fr. Amulya SJ and Sr. Albina of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Cross, was a moment of joy as I witnessed the Sacrament of Baptism of 109 catechumen. It was to my surprise that it was not just a reception of Baptism after having attended number of days of Catechism classes and Church attendance, I came to the knowledge, that they had been being prepared spiritually and actively participating in the Church since many years. The faithful expressed that at times their faith was tested before receiving the Sacrament of Initiation, so that they are convinced of their faith in Jesus, even in times of hardship and persecution.

My journey in Pastoral Care, along with my studies and other trainings, has helped me to utilize my energy and vigor in the vineyard of the Lord. My contribution is indeed, a drop in the ocean, but I truly believe that "our consistency in doing seemingly small things can lead to significant spiritual results."

Sr. Anita Hembrom

Postulancy Entry

Calcutta province is blessed with five postulants; Dibya Lili Lakra, Tabita Kujur, Monica Oraon, Monica Subba and Isabel Tirkey. Their postulancy entry was marked by a meaningful prayer service conducted by Srs. Veronica and Manju. The theme was '*From Cocoon to Glory.*' The beautiful butterflies that attract everyone's attention have a very important period to undergo in the cocoon. All that we admire in the fluttering creatures is due to their patience during that sacred time of transformation. Similarly, the new postulants were initiated to the formation with the assurance of the close accompaniment of the formators who will guide them in this journey they have undertaken – a journey of love. To be transformed by He who has called them in love to follow Him.

Sr. Juliet George

St. Catherine's Home, Kidderpore

Billion Hearts Beating Foundation had come to visit the ladies for health checkup. This is the initiative of Apollo Hospital. One of their CSR activities is to give medical help to the elderly. So we have signed a memorandum to get free medicine from them for three years.

Special day for the elders was organized on 26th July to celebrate the occasion of the elders. The

solemn prayer service commenced with the lighting of the lamp invoking God's presence. Children from St. Teresa's School stole the hearts of the audience with their sweet songs and dances. The cute actions and enactments were a delight to watch and their peppy dance was full of life and joy. To nourish the ladies they come with snacks. And at times they do give other items like soap, powder, oil etc.

St. Catherine's Home has been done many repair works and it looks beautiful now. Inside our home painting and repairs are still going on. Few ladies have returned to the Lord and there are few new comers who have filled the gap.

Our Student sisters are laboriously working to do their best. The sisters at TATA are doing their best to give peace and serenity to the patients to accept their illness and to surrender to God.

Sr. Agatha

St. Teresa's Convent, Khidderpore

- On 2nd May School celebrated Workers' Day. Students put up a small programme for them and each one of our Supportive staff was presented with a gift.



- From 8th to 12th May, Painting competitions were held for different classes and Houses at school.
- The Supportive Staff and Teachers gave meal to entire Teresian Family for implementation of 6th Pay Commission.
- On 13th May, the second death anniversary of Sr. Pranita Lepcha, we invited our neighboring communities for Holy Mass and breakfast. We paid visit to Sr. Pranita at cemetery.
- Investiture Ceremony was conducted on 23rd of June. Sr. Anjali Francis, Principal of St. Agnes' Convent School and the coordinator of Education of the province was the chief guest. In the evening there was Schools' Head Meeting in our School. Nineteen Principals

participated in this meeting.

- The School had organized quiz competition for senior classes on 30th of June. Mr. Steve Manenzes, Headmaster of St. Antony School was the Quiz Master.
- The School inaugurated Van Mahotsav on 5th of July at the School gate. Some students were dressed up as trees, plants and leaves while others stood with placards with the captions "save trees". They also distributed the badge made by them.
- On 10th July our senior students participated All India Inter School Debate Competition. The topic was "Face book friends become more real than real friends".
- Our Sisters and our domestic staff participated in a PEACE Rally organized by the Local CRI unit. Sr. Jasmine Sebastian is the President of Local CRI. Many laity, religious and priests participated in solidarity with the suffering people of Manipur.



- On 19th July "DARE TO DREAM" A Career Guidance Programme was organized by the Audacia Club of the School for Classes VII to XII. The resource Personnel were our own Ex Teresians. Among them were Doctors, Lawyer, Beautician, Model, Actor, Airhostess, Teacher, Nutritionist and so on. The students were motivated and enjoyed listening to them.
- On 30th July we celebrated parish feast St. Ignatius of Loyola the Arch- Bishop Thomas D'souza offered solemn mass. After Mass we felicitated the priests and Arch Bishop in advance for the feast of St. John Mary Vianney.

Sr. Cecilia Surin

Novitiate, Barasat

Novitiate is the best place to learn and to understand and to grow in intimacy with the Lord daily. Past three months were filled with many blessings and great opportunities. It was about ourselves to see how we are growing physically, spiritually, mentally, emotionally and psychologically. From 8th to 12th May, we had classes on English grammar which were very interesting. During the class we sat attentively and were able to learn the tenses in English language even though there were difficulties. After this class we had a fruitful retreat of eight days. We were able to pray and to experience His silent walk in and through us. We experienced new life and also felt calm and light. Four postulants (two from Rourkela and two from Calcutta) arrived novitiate on 30th May. On 1st June postulants entered first year novitiate and first year novices entered second year with a meaningful prayer service. After prayer we had a wonderful program followed by a delicious lunch.

On 4th June our second year novices departed from the novitiate. We thank God for their beautiful vocation and service to the novitiate. On 24th June, Sr. Macquina Carvalho and Sr. Kilariya Antonysamy made their first vows at St. Joseph's Convent, Bandra and Sr. Rajni Kindo and Sr. Deepti Ekka at St. Joseph's Convent, Rourkela. From 19th to 23rd June we had sessions on '**Inner Child Healing**'. It was conducted in a prayerful mood and was truly beneficial. At the end of these sessions we felt light within.

Pope Francis had declared that the world day of Grandparents/Elders will be celebrated on 23rd of July under the theme "**His mercy is from age to age**". Keeping this in mind we celebrated the day in the nearby old age homes. We divided ourselves into two groups and visited St. Ann's Home for the Aged and St. Vincent's Home for the Aged.



We put up a small program for them with a message, greeting song, dance and action songs. We distributed the snacks prepared by us, the uncles and aunties enjoyed them. We prayed for them and assured them of God's abundant blessings.

Novices Fransisca Lepcha & Reeta Kujur

Marie Therese Convent, Gosaba



St. Joseph's Primary School observed '**Van Mahotsav**' day on 18th July. Our students brought saplings and planted in the school campus. We observe this day each year trying to imbibe in them to protect and preserve nature. The children were very enthusiastic and happy to observe the day.

First ever fancy dress competition was held in our school on 11th August to introduce our students to the stage and also to enact what they can be in future. Students took part in it very enthusiastically. Teachers and parents too did their part well in helping the children set for the day.

Sr. Julita Kujur

Little Flower Convent, Basanti

Walking with our youths and helping them to be radiant in Christ light for the world, on 6th August we had a youth gathering in our parish. Fr. Rajen Singh the Diocese' youth director and the DESCO members were the resource persons for the day. All the sisters were present for the programme. Sr. Sampa and Sr. Julita also joined us for vocation promotion. Sr. Sampa spoke about our Congregation and a power point presentation on our mission and charism was shown. The youth of our parish benefited from this programme. Few girls are also interested to join the religious life. It was a joyful and fruitful experience.



After the summer vacation the school resumed on 15th July and we had various activities like; awareness program for the girls, Elocution, drawing competition etc. The Hindustan Petroleum limited corporation Ltd visited us on 12th July and gave an awareness session to the classes VI and VII on mental health.

An orientation programme for the Teachers of High School section was conducted on 5th August. Mrs. Sabrina Pote from St. Pauls School was the resource person. This was a very enjoyable, refreshing and renewing session for the teachers, creative games, prizes and power point presentation added colour to the session. Another Orientation for the primary Schools of Basanti both Bengali and English sections and Gosaba was conducted on 6th May. Miss Babli from Calcutta

Carmel School conducted the session for the Teachers. This too was very inspiring and lively session with lot of games and sharing. Our teachers enjoyed the programme.

Our Associates continue to come for weekly adoration and visiting the sick in the villages. Sisters are visiting the families of our students specially those who are weak in studies.

Sr. Sheena Paulose

Sacred Heart Convent, Baidyapur

May 27th was a memorable day for us, as Sr. Meera Kujur from our community made her final commitment at St. Vincent's Home Kidderpore. We were indeed very grateful to God for her life as a Daughter of the Cross. Our Parish Priest and the Parishioners also joined her in this joyful moment.

In the month of May we had Holy Rosary at the Parish grotto together with the parishioners. On 31st May we celebrated the feast of our Lady. The statue of our Blessed Mother was carried round the village in procession with our Lady's hymn and Rosary.



The school celebrated 'Rabindrajayanti' on 6th June and had a programme in honour of our great Poet Rabindranath Tagore. Children had the Half- yearly exam from 26th June to 5th July. On 17th July there was a Parent- teacher meeting. On 24th July their results were declared.

We sisters from Gasaba, Basanti, Baidyapur, and St. Vincent's Home were delighted to visit the only substation of Baidyapur Rakshokhali's Catholic families and the young girls on 24th June. Sr. Sampa, Sr. Sanju, Sr. Rose Mary, Sr. Meera and Sr. Lalita Lucy took initiative to visit them especially the young girls. We spoke to them and helped them to understand about the God's call. Spending our

quality time with them was God experience for us. It was a beautiful and grace filled day for all us.

Sr. Lalita Lucy Tudu

Daughters of the Cross Convent, Goromtoli

On 31st May Mother Mary's feast was celebrated in the Parish, many faithful came for Mass. After the Mass we had procession in honour of Mother Mary. On 16th July we had our Associates' Meeting. Sr. Bridget spoke to them about the present situation of our country and urged them to pray earnestly for our nation.

On 23rd July we celebrated the feast of Sr. Bridget. We had Mass in the morning. In the evening hostel children gave a beautiful programme. Class four students sang in English, class K.G and Class one presented beautiful dances. We enjoyed the day with the children.

Sr. Embrencia Toppo



Daughters of the Cross Convent, Jordighi

21st April was a great day for the Daughters of the Cross. A well conducted morning prayer followed by breakfast put us all into the mood of celebration. Holy Mass at 11.30am was presided over by our parish priest. At 4.30pm we assembled again in the chapel for a prayer service and to witness a great event – the birth to a new community **Karuna Sadan Convent, Narayanpur**. Our Provincial read the letter erecting the new community and the mandates of the two leaders; Sr. Marina Thapa for Karuna Sadan Community and Sr. Jayshri Kindo for Jordighi Community. After tea there was a beautiful programme by our hostel children who were all decked up to entertain the sisters with their singing and dances.

A lovely grotto is built in front of our house. The statue of Mother Mary was installed.

The nature was in unison with our joys and excitement. We had the joy of cutting the crop of dragon fruits and sharing them with our sisters as we travelled to Terrai for the cluster meetings.

We cultivate various kinds of vegetables in our garden and share with Karuna Sadan. We had a bumper crop of Mangoes, Banana, Jackfruits, Jamun and Lemon.

The sisters visit the families of our hostel children and other families to motivate the parents to educate their children. A few more local children joined our private tuition classes.

On 25th July Sr. Regi made a short visit to our community. She was very happy to see the flourishing vegetable and fruit garden and also the improvement and increasing number of our hostel children.

Sr. Pushpa Ekka said goodbye to us and joined the St. Mary's community Gayaganga. Sr. Jyotshna Lakra has joined us. Sr. Jayshri attended ten days course on 'Leadership' in NBCLC Bangalore.

Sisters from Jordighi

Voices from Karuna Sadan, Narayanpur



On the 23rd April the newly born community sisters moved from Jordighi to Narayanpur, Karuna Sadan into a temporary residence. On 24th April we had Holy Mass here for the first time. In the afternoon we had our first community meeting.

1st May on the occasion of workers day, we acknowledged the contribution made by our ten health workers and construction workers. Nurses' day also was celebrated to thank them for their service to suffering humanity. We had Holy Mass in our temporary residence and had a meaningful celebration. We were happy to see a new transformer installed in our campus on 13th May. Fr. Sunny joined us on 16th May as the administrator of the hospital. We are happy to have Holy Mass every morning since then. On 18th May, Municipality Chairman visited the

hospital and appreciated the initiative taken to start a hospital here and promised to beautify the roadside adjacent to our hospital gate. On 1st June Dr Sr. Vimal Jyoti, Family Physician joined us.



To celebrate the world environment day we planted mango trees, drum stick trees, and tapioca in our campus. On 27th June we had mass and blessing of the sisters' rooms in the 2nd floor of the hospital. Jordighi community joined us for this occasion. On 1st of July National Doctors' Day was celebrated. The Holy Mass was offered for them and had a fellowship meal in honor of them. The arrival of Sr. Sebastia Phjc and Sr. Sylvia Phjc made a big difference. They are working hard to set up laboratory and X-Ray departments. On 25th July, the Inauguration followed by blessing of our Laboratory and X-Ray department was done.

Sr. Marina Thapa

Navjyoti Convent, Dundajhar



On 27th May, one-day restaurant was organized by Hospitality Management 3rd batch students, in the campus. It was a great experience for the students, doing the things practically. New session for students for 2023- 2025 batch has started. On 1st June, Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology gave their entrance exam followed by a seminar related to their domain. We had an Interview for new session from 8th to 14th June and selected candidates who cleared entrance exam. On 22nd May, GDA 4th batch had their Oath Taking Ceremony, twenty- five trainees took oath. Those trainees are registered under Paschim Banga Society for Skill Development (PBSSD) and have the course duration of six months including theory and practical. On 29th July we had an Oath taking ceremony of our 69 students. Holy Mass was offered by Rt.Rev. Vincent Anid Bishop of Bagdogra Diocese. There was a small program followed by lunch. On 5th August we had paddy plantation in our field along with our co-workers, hostellers and sisters. We conduct eye camp on 3rd Sunday of every month.

Sr. Anusha Ramala

Navajeevan Convent, Gayaganga

1st May was one of the happiest days for us all in the Navjeevan family as we celebrated the 20th year of Navjeevan Campus. The day began with special thanks giving Mass, followed by varieties of creative entertainment program by our staff, students and doctors. The delicious fellowship meal doubled our laughter and joys. We the family of NHC, appreciate their selfless services, dedications and zeal toward our hospital. Everyone's hard work and efforts were well appreciated by hospital administrator Sr. Molly FC.



12th May, the International Nurses' Day was celebrated well. Mrs. T.K Bhutia was the chief guest and Rev.Fr. Simon SJ the guest of honor. Hospital staff, students and faculty put up various programme. The Nurses' day was much needed event which brought entire campus together as one family.

We organized a blood donation camp in the month of June. Many generous donors came forward for this noble cause and we collected 42 units of blood.

International Midwives day was celebrated in the college of Nursing. 3rd year GNM students displayed the theme *"together again from evidence to reality"* and explained about the importance of the day.

In May all the students attended a three days' spiritual animation at Chopra with prior permission of their parents. Two teachers accompanied them.

BSCN 3rd semester practical exam was conducted on Anandalok. Sr. Antonia Arulandu was the internal examiner.

On 1st July Doctors' day was celebrated in our hospital, we call them heroes of the day **"they stand strong and fight for our wellbeing"**. Small cultural program was held in the conference hall followed by original plants distributed to all doctors and we all had TEA PARTY.

Sr. Pratima Dungdung

Our Lady of Good Counsel Convent, Gayaganga

- 27th May to 4th June, thirty sisters from different communities of the Province participated and made their annual retreat in our Community.
- Many children of the parish received the First Holy Communion and Confirmation. They were prepared by Srs. Ankita and Annette.
- Class XI began on 15th June and 219 students are admitted.
- Classes XI and XII students along with their Parents had an orientation program.
- Hostellers also had orientation programme.
- Classes V to X completed their 2nd term Examination
- Both Primary and High School students and teachers were affected by conjunctivitis in the month of July and August.

Sisters at O.L.G.C Covent Gayaganga

Leadership Course at NBCLC Bengaluru:

The Leadership course began on 29th July and ended on 5th August. There were 60 participants from 14 different congregations; most of them were superiors and a few formators. The daily schedule was divided in to five sessions and the main topics discussed were as follows:

- Mission –Leadership in Present Indian Scenario
- Women empowerment and gender justice in Church and Society
- “Self- Confiding” in midlife transition/ Psycho – spiritual maturity of religious leader at midlife transition
- Balancing the dichotomy of youth and elder of the community today
- Ethics and moral issues Religious Life
Practical guidance from the canonical point of view
- Experience –based Tips for Superiors and Formators
- Leadership in view of Vatican II and post Vatican and Recent Documents of Pope Francis
- ❖ The leaders are watched and not listened to – Walk the talk
- ❖ The leader’s credibility matters more than charisma
- ❖ The leaders do not impose change but prepares the community for it
- ❖ The leaders combine personal simplicity along with clear vision, passion and mission
- ❖ The leaders need to be impartial
- ❖ The leaders need to affirm and appreciate the members
- ❖ The leaders train other leaders.
- ❖ The leaders need to confront caringly
- ❖ The leaders need to be strict with self and generous with others
- ❖ The leaders need to be humble ,listening more and respect other’s views and opinions

I would like to summarize the main points which we who are leaders can practice in our daily life.

Let us be inspired to build communities and people for the mission. Let us be just, compassionate, and truthful, united and loving persons.

Sr. Beena Varghese

St. Joseph’s High School, Matigara

On 28th and 29th April St. Joseph’s High School, Matigara successfully hosted its first Intra-MUN. A MUN is a simulation of an actual United Nations conference, where students are tasked with solving a global issue through research, drafting, lobbying and debate to pass a suitable ‘resolution’. For school students, a Model United Nations (MUN)

conference serves as an ideal stepping stone into the global arena.

On the 3rd May, the new students’ council for the academic session 2023-2024 was formed. The Principal administered the oath of allegiance to the newly appointed Board of Students’ Council, who



promised to serve their Alma mater with utmost sincerity and to the best of their ability. Badges and sashes were given to the newly elected members. The nominated Prefects from the primary section also received their badges.

Don Bosco School Siliguri organized Bosco Criz on 8th July. It is an Inter-School Christian Students' Meet. Catholics and Christians students from classes VI to XII took part in Bosco Criz. It was an enriching experience for the students.

The School organized Talent Search competition on 10th and 11th May for classes VI to XII. Many students participated in various events and won the prizes.



The school hoisted an Inter school Power Point Presentation on 5th August. 14 Schools participated in this event. Category A was for classes IX and X and Category B for classes XI and XII. In Category A, our school won the 1st Prize and in Category B, it stood 3rd position.

Sr. Lucy Thaikkattil

Jesu Ashram Convent, Matigara

On 17th June we had the blessing of our new building where one part of the building in the ground floor is our Convent. In the morning we had the inaugural Holy Mass at 6:30am celebrated by Rt. Rev. Bishop of Bagdogra. Many Jesuit priests, benefactor Mrs. Patricia, two Franciscan sisters and

a doctor, sisters, staff, students, and patients, were present for the Mass. At 2pm we had blessing of the new building followed by programme and tea party.

Many cancer patients are admitted. They go to North Bengal Medical Hospital for their investigation, Chemotherapy and Radiation done for free of cost. At present we have 200 patients in the ward. We three sisters are taking care of patients. Once a week on Wednesday we go to villages for family prayer and they look forward for our arrival.

Sr. Julieta Kindo

Shanti Bhawan Convent, Pradhan Nagar

We had several celebrations in our parish.

On 25th June we had a grand celebration on the occasion of Laity day. Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Aind offered the Holy Mass. After Mass family meal was shared together.

On 23rd July Grandparents' day was celebrated. Children and ladies welcomed the Priests and grandparents with a beautiful entrance dance for the Mass. We also celebrated St. John Vianney's feast. Seven religious Congregations of our parish came together to celebrate the Feast.



On 24th June 'Siliguri United Christian Forum' had organized Dharna Manch in Siliguri in solidarity for the Manipur victims. Sr. Jyoti and Sr. Rojinta also joined same. On 2nd July in our parish we had two hours of adoration and followed by peace walk for the people of Manipur.

On Sundays and Wednesday we visit the families of our parish and school children's houses. We also join our Associates and prayer group of our parish to visit and pray in the families. Sr. Jyoti and some of our associates visited the Mother Teresa's place in Jalpaiguri where they keep the aged and sick people.

Sr. Veronica Chungath

Daughters of the Cross Convent, Hatighisa

Hello everyone! We the sisters of Hatighisa are very pleased to invite you to our newly furbished house. Our house has undergone a facelift. After the feast of Epiphany the renovation work began and completed by the end of July.

We are thrilled to have a new spacious and beautiful chapel for praise and worship, for reflection and contemplation. This is an ecstatic holy place where you can converse with God as Moses, Abraham and all the other prophets and saints did. You may even have Angel Gabriel visiting you. You are cordially invited to make a pilgrimage to our chapel which might help us to strive towards holiness. On 31st July the new tabernacle and the chapel was blessed by our Bishop Rt.Rev. Vincent Aind.

Harvest is plenty but laborers are few. Pray to the Lord of the harvest.....We have sent five candidates to our formation centre out of which three are our own hostel students. Our hostel children have done well in their Madhyamik and plus two exams. Our Associates along with our sisters visit the sick in their families regularly, pray and care for them.

Our hostel children give an enjoyable afternoon for the patients at our health centre with a culture program. On Fridays evenings we the sisters pray with and for the patients in our health centre.

Karuna Nilaya Convent, Gorubathan

Leadership is not for itself but for the mission.

In two batches NBCLC conducted leadership programme from 11th - 18th July and 29th July to 5th August. Srs. Beena, Marina, Juliet, Hema, Jayshri and Sanjucta attended the courses.

As we look upon the hall mark of Pope Francis' leadership is mainly on compassion, especially for the poor and marginalized. **“Do not forget the poor”** was the first advice he received after his election on the Pope Francis from the cardinal sitting next to him. And surely, he has not forgotten them.

Our great leader is Jesus himself. Moreover, ample of qualities we can receive in the field of leadership...Now choice is ours.

Sr. Hema Kujur

In the month of May everyday rosary was recited in the parish as well as in families by our Associates and Holy Childhood.

“Nature is an art of God”, we need to conserve our environment. On 5th June the World

On 31st July our community was invited to the presbytery for a feast day lunch. That same evening our hostel children too had a high tea and gathering in boy's hostel.



We are nine in our community of which half of us in our late teens as if to say not too old but in the making. Srs. Shalini and Flora are staying at our health centre and are well looked after. Sr. Flora needs assistance as her left hand and leg do not cooperate with the needs and demands of her body.

We raise our hearts in gratitude to our God for all those who have helped us in every way to the beautification of our house. May God bless and reward them. We also express our gratitude to our Superior and all the sisters who helped her in completion of this work.

Sr. Francis Ann

Environment Day was celebrated. Our students brought saplings and planted them in the school campus. This shows, they are learning to be eco – friendly.



Students' future aims to become someone great in the society and country. We organized a fancy dress competition in the school. All of them took part with great joy and big ambitions. They have dreams and desires to give hope to their parents.

On 13th July we had celebration of the famous Nepali poet Bhanu Bhakta. We had dance competition for students along with their parents and recitation of the Nepali poems. Many participated with full vigor and won prizes.

Sr. Jyotsna Barla

St. Helen's Convent, Kurseong

Life in the hills is pretty good with sunshine and rain. Everyone is dancing with the rhythm of life putting their best foot forward.

✚ The Vocation Team of our Province had organized a 'Come and See' program at St. Joseph's Convent, Kurseong on 13th May. St. Helen's community also lent their helping hand for the success of the same. 30 girls were present and few of them expressed their desire to join the religious life.

✚ Our students took part in AISK singing competition which was held on 13th May at Victoria School stood first in the choir and second in the duet singing.

✚ We also had annual retreat for our sisters from 23rd June to 2nd July preached by Rev. Fr. Tommy Augustine SBD. 28 sisters made their retreat.

✚ On 12th July we had seminar on mental hygiene for classes VII to X conducted by Rev. Fr Sajeew SJ.

✚ On 13th July we had Nepali elocution for classes I-X on the auspicious occasion of Bhanu Jayanti.

✚ We had organized the Inter-team English, Nepali elocution for both the groups senior and junior, art competition for I-X and Rhymes and singing competition for Nursery and KG students.

✚ On 22nd July St. Helen's school hosted the AISK elocution and extempore. Four Anglo Indian schools of Kurseong participated. The judges for the competition were Miss. Noreen Dunne former professor of North Point Collage, Mr. Peter Lepcha professor of Salesian collage and Mr. S. Rai principal of JNS School. Our students got the prize in different categories.



✚ On 29th July Table Tennis tournament was held at our School where five schools participated. Our students were the runners up. Overall champion in ICSE was St Joseph's Convent Kalimpong and ISC Level Loreto Convent Darjeeling.

✚ The students of classes IX and X took part in the peace rally for Manipur on 2nd of August organized by the Catholic Association of St. Paul and St. John Bachman parish Kurseong.

✚ St. Helen's family was delighted to welcome new members Sr. Shila Louise and Sr. Josephine Lepcha. Sr. Josephine took over the charge as a new superior on 1st August.

Sr. Deepshika Rai

St. Joseph's Convent, Kurseong



St. Joseph's Girl's Primary School had annual sports on 13th May 2023. The Chief guest was Mr. Subash Pradhan Vice Chairman of Kurseong Municipality. Managing committee members were present. All parents were invited for the programme. There was March past, drills and many other events. Children participated in different events and drills with full energy and excitement.

Parents were overwhelmed and excited to see their children participating in different events. Indeed it was the hard work of the teachers who prepared the students for the events.

Sr. Sangeeta Tigga

Ivana Memorial Convent, Mamring

The month of May and June saw the sisters busy with family rosary and house blessing along with our Parish priest and Gurubabu. Sr. Helen and Sr. Agnes joined Fr. Walter, our PP and a few parishioners to attend the ordination Mass at St. Teresa's Parish, Kalimpong. Again Sr. Agnes accompanied our PP and some parishioners to Nimbung to attend the first Mass of one of the newly ordained priests who had served in our Holy Family parish for some time as a Seminarian.

A Charismatic Healing Prayer Service was organized on Deanery level in our School Hall. Participants from ten parishes attended the same. Sr. Agnes made her retreat in Gayaganga. We are praying for the peaceful settlement of Manipur Problems.

School had cluster-wise Parent/Teacher/Principal meeting from Nursery to class VIII. We held ARCEIS' All Religious Catholic Institutions meeting in our school premises. One of our drivers had surgery of the nerve. We gave financial help to him. He is recuperating and will take some time to join his duty. We attended the



meeting held by the Panchayat Presidents of both Lower and Upper Mamring regarding the supply of water. There is a hope that after nearly 20 years we are going to get regular water. So far, we had to search for water sources in the forest nearby. Due to the heat wave, we had to close the babies' section for four days. The timing was changed for the rest of the students.

The police confiscated the license of one of the drivers for overloading the children. We had to buy a third bus. Now things have settled down. Thanks to the third bus, we have our buses going for only two trips instead of three. The children from the third trip could hardly attend the assembly programme. Now all are in school well on time and all are able to go home together. Sr. Agnes had a surgery for hysterectomy and now is recuperating in Navjeevan Convent, Gayaganga.

Sr. Margaret Subba

Daughters of the Cross Convent, Jorethang

We feel delighted and blessed to be with the little ones at Nursery. At present we have 46 students. They are very naughty and entertaining too. They are learning to read and write. While reading some students does not open their mouth. So we make sure that everybody should open their mouth. Some students open their mouth and don't know what to say. They keep open till we go and close their mouth.

From 25th May to 8th June there was physiotherapy healing programme organized by the government of Sikkim and was conducted by the Lovism group. People from Bhutan, Nepal, and West Bengal came for the physiotherapy.

Sisters from Jorethang

Daughters of the Cross Convent, Rangjuli

In the Month of May we accompanied our parishioners in praying Rosary to different families and for Mass in the villages. Sr. Gladys attended touring sisters' programme from 3rd to 6th July in Rangia.

We have begun music class for our Hostel children. Three of our class X girls from the hostel passed out with good result this year. School had the first Unit Test in June and summer vacations in July. Hostel children had gone home for holidays and have returned to hostel for classes. They are now preparing for their Half-Yearly Examinations. During summer holidays sisters visited the families especially all those who are sick.

Sr. Gladys Tom

St. Joseph's Convent, Hatigopa



We had our Teachers orientation programme on 25th April, 2023 given by Fr. K.O. Augustine SDB.

On 29th April we had the investiture ceremony; our chief guest was Fr. Jacob.

We were very happy to felicitate our 4th batch of Class. X students after their results.

Fr. Messiah gave orientation programme for our Classes IX and X students, which helped them to be more motivated and be actively participate in all the school activities.

Sr. Anu James

Helena Convent, Diphu

The months of April, May and June were pleasant due to sporadic showers, beautiful sun rise, sunsets and at times scorching heat, Helena Hostel is always bubbling with life and spirit, 154 on rolls last session, number kept coming down, some of the students dropped out, class XII students did well in their Board Exams, topper in Arts was from us. This session 153 on rolls, trying to adjust and finding their ways in Hostel life and college life.

The Hostellers are happy with food and accommodation etc. Many platforms are created for their talents and personal growth. Prayers are always given priority at dawn and dusk. Motivational talks, exercises keep them fit. Eco friendly gardening make them bright as blooming flowers, making this place clean and green. Month of June was picnic season for all the hostels and departments to a beautiful place called Saloni with fresh water streams. The day was filled with wonder and delight.

Third year Degree students had tearful farewell from College and from the hostel. They are leading for another mile stone of life.



A DAY OUT FOR ALL



ADVENTURE AWAITS AHEAD



CARE FOR THE EARTH

Sisters from Helena Convent, Diphu

Jeevan Jyoti Social Service Centre, Alipurduar

In this 21st century every one speaks of 'save the earth, save nature and adapt the echo spirituality and find the beauty in all creation'. Yes, we are among those luckiest ones who try every day with little love and fear to adapt the echo spirituality in Alipurduar amidst the green jungle along with all possible kinds of animals. In April 3 elephants entered our compound, broke the boundary walls at nine places. They ate up huge amounts of maize, plantains etc. They did not allow us to sleep at night. We had informed the forest department and they came to help us. The application is given for the repair of destruction.

As we have started the GDA Nursing training for six months course, we too want the students to be certified by the government's certificate. Sr. Virginia and Sr. Elizabeth had gone to meet the District Magistrate.

We have began the short course nursing training programme and have applied for the registration our centre under PBSSD of Alipurduar district. On 2nd June Sr. Sanjita and Sr. Sobhasini met the DM in his office and DPM, ADM as well. Their response was positive. Now we are in the process of registering our centre as TC. On 4th August we had the inspections by two inspectors, one from Alipurduar office and the other from Falakatta. They were very cooperative; in fact they liked the set up of our training centre. They too expressed that 'we have never seen like this complete set up before anywhere'. We thank Sr. Regi for being our support and encouragement for this mission. We look forward to everything going well in the coming days.

On 14th August Sr. Sanjita had an appointment in DM office to make a final agreement and by signing the documents. On 20th August we had arranged free eye camp with Lions eye hospital for our local people in our centre. Many people came for this camp and made use of the opportunity.

Sr. Sanjita Barwa

Prerna Niwas Convent, Deonia

As usual we the sisters at Prerna Niwas have taken extra care for the weaker students. We called individually each child's parents and explained to them where they have to improve and told them to cooperate with us for the betterment of their children. After this some of them are improving.

During the Jackfruit season at night we had to be very alert and if any sound was heard, sisters would run with light and drum to chase the elephant.

Since our neighbours are not permanent here we cannot do our B.C.C. and visiting the families. Now all are busy with cultivation and have gone to their native place. For mass also only few people and students come. But when they come back we will begin our B.C.C. prayer actively.

Sr. M. Goretti Kullu

Christalaya Convent, Maheshpur

In April we had the joy of having visitors Mr. Andreas family; the benefactors of Fr. Bushhousen's group from Germany. We also had two visitors from MISSIO Germany to study about human trafficking and injustice done to the poor and needy in Nepal. They visited our villages and mobile clinic centers.

On 1st of May, we had the Rosary and Mass at our Grotto together with our parishioners and hostlers. Rosary was prayed the whole month in each house of our parish. We concluded this beautiful month on 31st May at the parish Grotto with Rosary and Holy Eucharist, the main celebrant was Fr. Boniface SJ the Dean of Purvanchal.

It is very nice to see our zone people are taking active part in the liturgical preparation, choir, cleaning the Church compound before the Saturday Holy Eucharist, we are very happy to see that our associates are taking a lead.

Dear sisters we are happy to share the joy of the visit of our Indian president in the Charali Taxi stand in Nepal; 'as Sr. Rita was returning after her retreat, as she got into a shared auto, one of the passengers got out of the auto and told others that Indian president Draupadi Murmu is in the auto so many ran and came with mobile to take selfie with Sr. Rita Murmu and Sr. Rita had a good laugh'.

On 11th July we had heavy rain, breeze, thunder and lightning day and night, there was flood all over, our solar panels were blown out, water entered many houses. It was a very frightening situation.

29th July we celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola in the parish. The Crus vir, youth and the mothers took active part. Our associates took lead in all the activities specially in preparing the delicious meal under the guidance of Sr. Mallika .

Sr. Mallika

St. Joseph's Convent, Tubachan

- On May 2nd we re-opened the school and the new principal Sr. Nirmala was welcomed by all at school.
- We thank God for Sr. Mina who made her final vows on 27th May and rejoined the community on 30th May after 3 months gap. We had special prayerful celebration to welcome her.
- The new parish priest Fr. Ignatius Rai was welcomed both in parish and community on 10th June. We gratefully said good bye to previous parish priest Fr. Richard Vas who helped us in many ways.
- Sr. Shanti joined our community on 13th June.
- Fr. Silas our VG visited the parish and our community on 15th July. Srs. Shanti and Mina joined him visiting two substations for Mass. When he was doing vacation promotion after mass, we too encouraged the girls to join us. Sr. Shanti stayed in Amgachi village on 20th July to visit Catholic families. She also went to Matigara on 23rd to conduct meeting of the Animators of Associates. Sr. Sanjucta attended the leadership seminar in NBCLC Bangalore from 29th July to 5 August.
- Sisters are faithful to family visits on Fridays, catechism classes after mass as well as first Friday adoration in the parish.
- Eye camp was conducted in our school by Gaonpalika. Free spectacles were also given to students.

Sr. Shanti Picardo

Gone for Eternal Rest

<i>7th April</i>	<i>Sr. Suchita Tete's eldest sister</i>	<i>16th June</i>	<i>Sr. Virginia Kujur's father</i>
<i>16th April</i>	<i>Sr. Leela Mancherril's Cousin</i>	<i>19th June</i>	<i>Sr. Sheela Kullu's mother</i>
<i>19th April</i>	<i>Sr. Prabha Lakra's aunt</i>	<i>22nd June</i>	<i>Sr. Sini Kurian's father</i>
<i>16th May</i>	<i>Sr. Sanjita Barwa's aunt</i>	<i>22nd June</i>	<i>Sr. Anjali Francis's maternal uncle</i>
<i>25th May</i>	<i>Sr. Lucy Abraham's grandfather</i>	<i>29th June</i>	<i>Sr. Agnes Ddungdung's niece</i>
<i>26th May</i>	<i>Sr. Regi Mathew's mother</i>	<i>6th July</i>	<i>Sr. Rose Angelina Barla</i>
<i>12th June</i>	<i>Sr. Lucy Abraham's grandmother</i>	<i>6th July</i>	<i>Sr. Gladys Tom's aunt</i>
		<i>11th July</i>	<i>Sr. Anthonia Arulandu's father</i>
		<i>1st August</i>	<i>Sr. Priyanca Kullu's grandmother</i>
		<i>5th August</i>	<i>Sr. Mariana Soreng's niece</i>
		<i>9th August</i>	<i>Sr. Geeta Cherian's brother</i>
		<i>23rd August</i>	<i>Sr. Martina Beng's brother</i>

Tribute to Sr. Anjelina Barla

If Tears Could Build a Stairway...

*If tears could build a stairway and memories a lane.
I would walk right up to Heaven and bring you back again.*

*No farewell words were spoken. No time to say "goodbye".
You were gone before I knew it and only God knows why.*

*My heart still aches with sadness, and secret tears still flow.
What it meant to love you no one can ever know.*

*But now I know you want me to mourn for you no more,
To remember all the happy times life still has much in store.*

*Since you'll never be forgotten I pledge to you today.
A hollowed place within my heart is where you'll always stay.*

We miss you a lot dear Sr. Rose Angelina



Sr. Sampa Dhara

Sweet memories...

Dear sisters,

Though the departure of our dear Sr. Anjalina Barla FC is very painful, let the sweet memories that she left behind and the valuable message that she gave with her own life may always remain within our hearts. It is not when God bless us so abundantly..when He fulfills all our desires and dreams...when He makes our life smooth without any struggles, that we love Him. We must love Him even in all hardships, distress, failures and tragedies that the life presents before us, as Sr. Anjalina did... She never let the world know the sorrows within her heart, but with her cheerful smile she proclaimed the love of God...It is not our marks or being able to complete this course successfully that matters but as Sr. Angelina proclaimed with her own life, "GOD ALONE SUFFICES".

*Let us imprint this message in our hearts, whatever hardships and struggles that the life will present before us, we will not lose HOPE and TRUST in God. As we continue our journey here on earth, let us ask the intercession of Sr. Anjalina, to lead a life worthy of the calling we have received; i.e. **TO BE FAITHFUL... TO BE LOVING... TO BE HOPEFUL...TO BE GENEROUS...TO BE SELF GIVING...AND TO BE JOYFUL AS SHE WAS...***

*I conclude by quoting the words of her provincial **Sr. Regi Mathew FC** in her address to the Assembly of St. John's Medical College Management, staff and students gathered in the Chapel on 7th July 2023; **"Years back, I brought her here from the Province with a lot of dreams and hopes and today we are here to take her back to the Province, after having fulfilled all the dreams and hopes that God had for her!"***

Let us also strive our best to fulfill the dreams and hopes that God has for each one of us...

Above message written by **Sr. Mary Chris Antony**, a Good Shepherd sister of 2nd year MBBS student St. John's Medical College and Hospital, Bangalore.

Sisters as a Tribute to Anjali I am sending above message to the province. This was sent to me by her class mate and roommate **Sr. Mereena Chinju** also a Good Shepherd sister. In our interaction with the sisters, students and staff we sensed that Sr. Anjalina loved the Congregation, was proud to be a Daughter of the Cross, showed that she belonged to the Congregation, very conscious about her moves in life, very faithful and prayerful that she imprinted MMT thoughts in the hearts of sisters who prayed with her. So much so her batch mates called her as an angel of their batch...

May her soul Rest in peace!

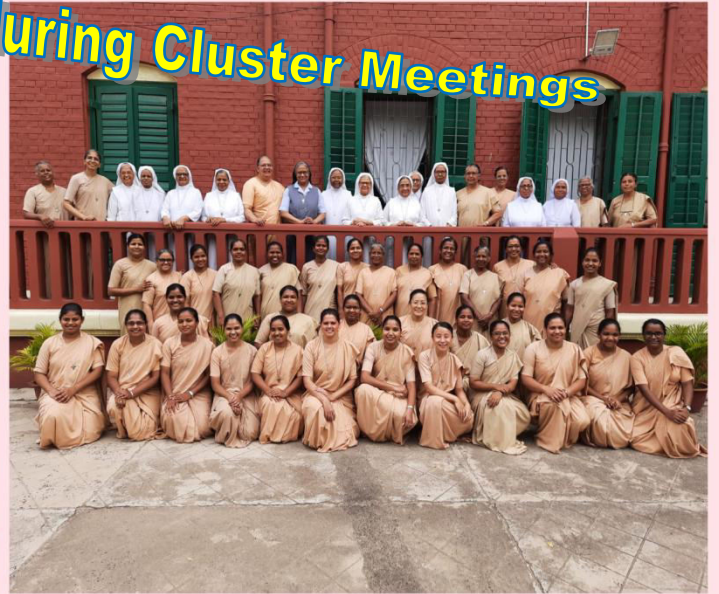
Anjalina, Pray for us.



Sr. Anthonia Arulandu



Glimpse of the Province during Cluster Meetings





Prayerful Wishes

to all the

Chapter Members 2023