



# NAVA SPURTHI Bangalore Region



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NEWS LETTER

March- 2022



**My Dear Sisters,**

Warm greetings to each one of you. We are now coming to the end of our Lenten Journey and are entering into the Holy Week, reflecting and meditating on the Sufferings and Crucifixion of Jesus. Let us together as one family of God, walk the Way of the Cross along with Christ in His passion and death, listening to one another and to the Spirit, renewing our personal life and, re-energizing our love for all, including those who hate us, knowing

that Calvary is not the end, but after it comes new life and joy of the Resurrection. Let us be witnesses of His transforming love by being members of Christ having compassion, forgiveness and loving services to the needy around.

The Soul of Christ will sanctify us, Passion will strengthen us, and within His wounds He will hide us, with these prayers, I wish you a very happy joy filled and grace filled Easter.

## [Maria Sadan Regional House, Bangalore.](#)

The New Year 2022 was welcomed with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, looking back to our past with gratitude and looking forward to the future with renewed hope and faith. Our community was delighted to

celebrate the feast of our Congregation on 3 January. It was a memorable day for Sr. Alphonsa (Amma) since the celebrant took her in his vehicle for a joy ride to the Provincialate of the Claretians. On the Birthday of Venerable Mary Ward, Maria Sadan Community along with Sr. Alphonsa gathered at our



community in Begur to thank and praise God for His eternal presence among us, and bringing us together in unity. In fact it was a joyful outing for Sr. Alphonsa, after a break of 10 long years. Begur community was thrilled to welcome Anma. We gave a start to the Mary Ward week together in their Chapel and after a grand lunch, we left with lots of happy memories.

Sr. Isilda IBVM was with us for a home quarantine as she was tested positive for covid-19. She took ten days to be fit to join her College in Bangalore. We felt the absence of our Srs. Linda and Vidya as they were busy helping out in Umralla and Mulund communities in place of Srs. Cyrilla and Seema respectively.



January 30 was indeed a happy day for all of us as Srs. Serina and Jumila, our juniors from Patna province, who are engaged in their studies in Mangalore, renewed their vows in our chapel. Fr. Joy James S.J. the superior of ISI Bangalore was the main celebrant. We were happy to have Bro. Lambert S.G, Sr. Jane's brother with us that day.

Months of February and March, kept us busy welcoming many visitors. We were happy to have all our animators of our provinces/regions and sisters from Nepal. They attended a leadership programme at the Jesuit Centre, Xavier Sadan, Mysore.



We were privileged to welcome Sr. Prisca, the Coin leadership and the Formators for their meeting in our house. Being together for a week, brought us much happiness and renewed past memories. It was also an occasion to meet some their relatives in Bangalore.



The Loreto sisters Shalini, Priyanka and Velia visited Maria Sadan, Bangalore, and then proceeded to the Loreto House, Trichy, Tamilnadu for a meeting of the IBVM and CJ.



Sr. Shalini IBVM stayed with us for a short while. We enjoyed the company of each other. Sr. Sanjana from Delhi Province has joined our community for her B.Ed. studies. We wish her all the best.

### [Mary Ward Convent, Pizhaku.](#)

The school reopened on 3 January, 2022 with a beautiful prayer service seeking God's blessings on the New Year. Though most of the students were present in the school, we had to conduct a hybrid teaching learning process. We conducted classes keeping the Covid -19 protocols for schools, laid down by the State Government.



The community and the school bade farewell to Sr. Bernadette on 15 February. We thanked her for her dedicated service in the community as well as in the school. Her gentle way of doing things with a beautiful smile is appreciated by everyone. She is missioned as an animator of Jyothir Bhavan Community, Thuruthipuram.

We were extremely happy to wish our golden jubilarians, Srs. Poonam and Joyce from Patna Province and Sr. Georgina from Delhi province, when they visited us during their home leave. Sr. Theresa left for Nagaland to join an Intercessory Prayer group for a month.

Class X students were taken for a one day tour to Ramakkalmedu -Vagamom & Kambam accompanied by the teachers and Sr. Suma. They had a lovely time.



In order to build up self confidence and in preparation for their Board Exam, a one day retreat was conducted by Fr. Jayce CSSR from Kanjirappally for our class 10 students.



Our students participated in the Career Guidance Seminar, conducted by Prof. Cherian and team in Kavumkandam parish. The parents too were welcome to attend the seminar.

The JPIC students and Friends of Mary Ward under the guidance of their moderators, conducted a beautiful prayer service with a theme of 2022 International Women's Day "Gender Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow". Children appreciated and recognized services rendered to them by women in their lives. They honoured our supportive lady staff by gifting them with beautiful saris. On the same day the JPIC students, their moderators along with



Srs. Lucia and Carina visited Santhinilayam, Ullanadu, a place for women who are mentally challenged. The children entertained them with songs and dances and distributed cakes and other gifts in cash and in kind.

An out-reach programme was organized for the Friends of Mary Ward of Classes IX and VIII. They, along with their teachers, Srs. Suma, Carina and Theresa visited Navajeevan Trust, a place where 250 cancer patients reside at Kottayam. The students spent a quality time with the inmates there and donated some money, toiletries and

clothes. They were very happy to have such an experience and thanked God for the beautiful life they have with their parents in their own homes.



Class 9 students prepared a beautiful farewell program for our outgoing students of class 10 who thanked the management, Principals, teachers and supportive staff for all the services rendered to them for the last 12 years of life in the school by making them heroes of Nirmala Public School Pizhaku.



### Mary Ward, Puthenvelikara

Since the Covid situation improved in our State we reopened our school in the month of January. The students were overjoyed and excited to enter the school premises. The excitement of the little buds of Mary Ward added joy and enthusiasm and brought a lot of life in the campus.



The joy of opening the school was short lived as the covid situation worsened again. From 21 January onwards, we had to go back to online mode of classes.

In order to celebrate Mary Ward Week, different classes took initiative to prepare meaningful prayer services and the program was aired through our YouTube channel.

Sr. Shweta, from Patna, along with her uncle Fr. Antony OCD paid us a visit. Sr. Tarcisia, with her religious sister Sr. Georgina and Sr. Sheeba spent some time with us. All of us had a lovely time together.





On Republic Day, the students of classes 3 & 4 put up a beautiful program.

At present Sr. Rosalia is under treatment at Amala Hospital Thrissur.

We had four sessions of discussions on Synodality, based on the guidelines provided by the Diocese of Kottapuram.

Offline classes began in February as the Omicron wave was over. Midterm exams were conducted for all the students.

On 24 Feb. Sr. Alma left for Begur, her new Community. On 1 March, Sr. Bernie was missioned as the Community Animator at Thuruthipuram. Srs. Deepti, Amala and Rosemary were present for the missioning, and thereafter for the Holy Mass.

Srs. Deepti and Rosemary attended the funeral service of the mother of Srs. Ancy and Amala.

Sr. Prisca spend a day with us and met Sr. Rosalia who is under the treatment.



Women's Day was celebrated, the children prepared a short program which included poems, speeches dances, songs etc.

An awareness on the importance of respecting and honouring women has helped the students.

Teachers of Government schools try their best to get students to their schools. Thus some of our students tend to move to Government schools. Family visits help us to maintain good relationship with the families of our students and also to understand the background of our students

Srs. Imma, Bernie and Deepti visited Fr. Sebastian Kunnathoor at Senior Priests' home. He was a great benefactor to us.



We bade farewell to Class X students. Class IX students put up a beautiful program. 31 March was the last working day for this academic year. We could see the beaming face of the children as they completed their examination and so could enjoy their summer vacation. The students of classes IX and X will continue with their classes.

Our newly constructed big tank for harvesting rain water is eagerly waiting for the onset of monsoons.

Wishing you all a grace filled Lent followed by the JOY and HOPE of Easter,

## Mary Ward Niwas, Umralla

We welcomed the New Year 2022 with a Holy Eucharist in the open air. In spite of the fear of Corona, a good number of faithful attended the Holy Mass asking for God's continuous blessings and protection. The month of January kept us busy with meetings on Synodality. A core team consisting of priests, religious and the laity, was given a special training as to how to conduct meetings in the villages.

In the absence of Sr. Cyrilla who was on home leave, Sr. Linda from Bangalore, Maria Sadan helped us out in the community. Sr. Linda's hospitality and generosity was well appreciated by all.

### **Golden Jubilee Celebration**



February 13 was a joyful day for all of us as Sr. Cyrilla as we celebrated her Golden Jubilee. The Jubilee Mass concelebrated by 10 priests along with our parish priest, Rev. Fr.

Anil Gonzales. During the felicitation Sr. Cyrilla was very much appreciated for her dedicated service in the parish and as well as in the locality of Umralla.



We highly appreciate Sr. Christine and Mulund community for their help and support to make this day a memorable one.

We cannot forget the leadership of Sr. Georgia to make this

celebration a colorful one.

Sentiments of gratitude from Sr. Cyrilla, "My Heart is filled with joy and gratitude to God Almighty for all the blessings I have received through my Congregation, from every sister who have lived with me. I am grateful to God for all my formators, Provincials and Superiors who have shaped and formed me. A big thank you to all our sisters very





especially to Regional Superior Sr. Daisy, Srs. Georgia, Christine and all my dear sisters at SMC, Mulund”.

We have nine children in our play school to keep us more active and alive.



Mr. Gabru Master, a well wisher and a great support to our community, passed away on 18 Feb. We thank the Lord for all the blessing we have received through him. May his soul rest in peace! RIP.

### [St. Mary's Convent, Mulund.](#)

The New Year 2022 was welcomed by organizing online prayer service. Though the School reopened for classes 9 and 10 on 4 Jan, within a few days we had to close the school as the order for lock down was made stricter.

The New Year began with the celebration of our Congregation feast. We had a solemn Holy Mass in our chapel and an agape with our parish priests and CTC Sisters.

Mary Ward week was celebrated by conducting prayer services on different phases of Mary Ward's life. Every day, our teachers from both Primary and Secondary Section concluded the assembly by giving a message based on Venerable Mary Ward's life. The community celebrated Mary Ward Week with prayers and Holy Mass.







We were able to carry out smoothly unit tests, School Inspections and Republic Day celebrations. Sr. Christine unfurled the national flag in the presence of the teaching, nonteaching and supportive staff. Online prayer

service and programme were uploaded on the school YouTube channel for students and parents. More than 100 students of St. Mary's participated in the Drawing Competition organized by the Mayor. The winners were honoured with a certificate, a medal and a cash prize of Rs.5000/ each by the Mayor. Five other students who won consolation prizes in their respective age groups, received certificates and a cash award of Rs. 500/- each.



Sr. Christine's Birthday was celebrated as Managers' Day in the school. Our students prepared virtual prayer service and entertainment programme and wished Sr. Christine. Sr. Theodora too celebrated her happiness.

feast with much joy and On 23 Feb, our campus walked in with their catwalk Sr. Seema left for Pune to

looked very colourful as our 10th Std girls steps wearing fancy saris for their farewell. attend a seminar on Ignatian Spirituality; So

Sr. Vidya reached our community to fill the gap. Two of our teachers Mrs. Philomena Fernandez and Mrs. Annie Quadross attended the seminar arranged by ABE at St. John's High School on Synodality - Participation and response in Church's Mission. All our primary as well as secondary teachers underwent "Anapaan training" (part of Vipasana) organized by Education Dept.

The students participated in different activities conducted by Marathi teachers, on the Birthday of a well known Marathi poet, Kusumagraj and celebrated Maharashtra Day.



The month of March was very hectic in school. We were very busy with verification process for Jr. KG. admissions. Our school, being the main centre for the Board Exams for the students of neighbouring schools, Sr. Edwina along with Secondary teachers got very busy with the preparations and meetings. 251 of our students are appearing for board exam this

year.

Women's Day was celebrated on a virtual platform. The theme given to the students was "MaharashtrachyaLeki". Daughters of Maharashtra. The students spoke on women social reformers of Maharashtra. Different activities were conducted such as speeches, writing poems, Fancy dress, mono act, drawing etc.

On 12 March T Ward had its honours day. Sixteen of our girls got certificates, medals and trophy at various competitions. Our B.O. Mrs. Vaishali Wavekar praised St. Mary's students, teachers and the principal for getting the highest number of medals.



Sr. Linda came from Umralla for her ear checkup; She underwent her ear operation in the Holy Family Hospital, Bandra.

Lenten Season has kept us busy with parish activities, like participating with people in Lenten Mission, Mass and Way of the Cross, family visits, Bible study with Zonal Members etc. Our Parish had organized "Saving grace", lenten praise and worship, presented by the Gospel Band of Salesian Youth Movement. Sr. Prasanna attended the Archdiocesan meeting for Vocation promoters.

### **A Peep into the St. Mary's ICSE School in Mulund**

The new year 2022 was welcomed enthusiastically by our students on 3 January. They had their 2<sup>nd</sup> unit test in January. Our tiny tots of L.K.G. and U.K.G. had their drawing and colouring competitions, Mary Ward week was celebrated by a short PPT, presented every day and thus marked the importance of Mary Ward in their lives.

Republic Day was also celebrated by a well prepared video presentation. The month of February was full of excitement, surprise and joy as a result of the mutual agreement of parents and management to start the offline classes for two weeks. Thus for the first time within these two years our tiny tots with their parents and even with some of the grandparents stepped into our beautiful campus - full of joy and excitement!





Sr. Christine’s birthday was celebrated by our children in the class.

We tapped the resources within our parent community by having one of our parents, Dr. Denissia Rosaria who gave an enriching orientation programme to our parents on “Parenting”. It was well appreciated.

The climax of the academic year 2021-2022 was the Annual Day celebration. Since it was online, hats off to the hard work of our parents to prepare their wards for their wonderful performance. Mrs. Chrislyn Vaity prepared the final video too.

**Jyothir Bhavan, Thurithipuram.**

We entered the New year 2022 with a special Eucharist and a Thanksgiving Adoration in our parish church asking for God’s continual blessings and protection. We actively participate in the Liturgy, Faith Formation and family prayers. Our parish consists of 916 catholic families and we are unable to reach out to them for lack of personnel. The Synodality: Communion, Participation and Mission was explained in our church during a meeting .

St. Joseph’s feast was celebrated on 19 March and observing this day as Fathers’ Day in our parish, during the homily some of His qualities were highlighted for reflection, His patience, trust, kindness, humility, gentleness, sensitivity, care, love and ability to work hard in our life situations.

In our parish activities during the Lenten Season, retreat, recollections, counselling and Sacrament of Reconciliation are included.

Srs. Bernie and Imma are looking forward for the possibilities of mission at present, considering the after effect of Covid and Omicron pandemic in the area.

On International Women’s Day the parish priest prayed during the Holy Eucharist for all the women and explained



the Theme, 'Gender Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow.'

We prayed very specially in our parish during the Holy Mass on the International day of the unborn child, which is linked to 25 March, the feast of the Annunciation.

During this Lenten season we are trying to encounter each other face to face and also reach out our help to those who seek our help and support.

### St. Mary's Convent and Secondary School , Alakode

We welcomed the New year in a spirit of joy and bliss after a relaxed and enjoyable Christmas holidays. On 2 January Srs. Basilia, Thomasina and Nelcy joined the parish community to prepare Chicken Biryani for a fund raising activity called "Biryani Challenge" organised by the youth of the parish for the purpose of raising fund for the newly formed St. Mary's Forane Church Charitable Trust, Alakode. We too contributed for this noble cause by buying Biryani for the community and for our supporting staff. The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus was celebrated with a Holy Eucharist in our Chapel. On the same day, we welcomed Sr. Jyotsana to the community.

Srs. Fabiola and Christine from Allahabad province, Sr. Agnella from Nepal Region and Sr. Josephine from Patna province, visited us during their home leave. We celebrated the birthday of Sr. Basilia. The day began with a Holy Mass. A special prayer service and an organized recreation made the day more joyful and memorable.

Having completed six years of committed service as the animator of the community and the Manager of the school, we bade farewell to Sr. Anisha on 14 February. The staff thanked her for carrying out her responsibility with utmost care, love and kindness during a farewell function organized in the school. On the same day we had a



Thanksgiving Eucharistic Celebration to thank God for His assistance and guidance in carrying out her responsibilities and to implore God's blessings up on her. We are ever grateful to Sr. Anisha for serving the community, the school and the parish for the past six years with love, dedication, a dauntless and sacrificing spirit. Sr. Anisha left for Bangalore on the next day accompanied by Srs. Basilia and Nelcy to attend a leadership Seminar. Sr. Gladys re-joined the community after the treatment and a few days' stay at Jyothirbhavan, Thuruthipuram.

The parish community celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Srs. Gladys, Basilia and Sr. Elsy S.H. with a Holy Mass and a short felicitation programme thereafter. During the programme, Fr.Emmanuel Attel , Fr.Thomas Neendoor, the Co-ordinator and the Headmaster of the Catechism classes congratulated and thanked them for the various services they render to the parishioners. They were also given mementos and shawls. A few of us attended the meeting of the family apostolate organized in the parish hall as a preparation for re-starting Family Unit Prayer which was stopped since the outbreak of Covid 19 pandemic. Every Sunday four of us go to different families for Family Prayer meeting along with the priests of our parish and Sacred heart sisters.



Even though we re-opened the school on 3rd January, we had to resort to online classes from 15 January as many of our students and staff were tested positive for Covid 19. Therefore Mary Ward Week was observed online by conducting meaningful, thought provoking and inspiring prayer services by various classes, inviting the students to follow the example of that valiant and daring woman and to be agents of change in the world.



A Virtual Assembly was organized by the students of class X on the occasion of Republic Day to enkindle patriotic spirit in the students. Prayer service, Patriotic songs, speeches and dances were

performed by the students aiming at generating in the students values of love, loyalty and respect for the country. The video presentation at the end of the programme showcased our rich historical, traditional and cultural heritage.



Merit Award function of “DISHA “DARSHAN” an initiative by Adv. Sajeev Joseph, MLA, Irikkur, was held in our school. Mr. VD Satheshan, the opposition Leader was the chief guest and Mrs. KC Lekha, Dhyanchand, Award Winner was the Guest of Honour. 249 meritorious students of various schools of Alakode and Udayagiri Panchayath were awarded certificates and mementos.



Offline classes began for all the students from 14 February. An award function was organized to distribute prizes for the winners of various competitions held throughout the year. The final examination was conducted offline and the school closed for summer vacation for classes LKG to VIII on 31 March. The students of class XII are having External Practical

examination these days and revision classes and Model Examination are being conducted for the students of class

Sr. Jane CJ from Allahabad province conducted an orientation programme for the teaching staff on the topic “Mary Ward Education Today”. She enlightened the teachers of the qualities every teacher in a Mary Ward School should possess. The programme was concluded by a presentation of a collage prepared by the teachers, depicting the qualities a teacher should possess. By the end of the programme the staff felt confident and empowered to handle the students with great love, care and positivity.

We wish all our students prayerful support for their Board Exams.



[Mary Ward Illam and Matriculation school, Mittapilly](#)

We began the New Year 2022 with the night vigil Mass in our parish. An expert musician from the diocese, Br. Arun came to assist the Parish choir. His musical talent enabled us to have a lively and meaningful Eucharistic celebration.

Since we were very few in the community we joined the parish for Mass on 3 January for the Eucharistic celebration, Fr. Mariadass prayed for our Congregation.

The school started with a special prayer service asking for God’s continual blessing and protection. The decline of the Covid-19 cases in the country brought great blessings to us as we are able to run the school once again to prepare the students for the home examination.

PONGAL, the great festival of Tamil Nadu was celebrated with great fervour. Our cows decorated in colorful garlands and new ropes were brought to the front of our convent.

Sisters and supportive staff gathered together in a prayerful atmosphere. Sr. Auxilia read out a passage from the Holy Bible, followed by a short reflection and prayer of blessing. In the end we greeted one another. Our supportive staff received their PONGAL gifts from the management.



After attending the province Assembly of the Loreto sisters, Sr. Smitha returned from Calcutta not alone but with an unwelcome

guest- CORONA. Sister was in quarantine and Sr. Auxilia and Shashi (our cook) had to muster courage to see to Sr. Smitha’s needs.



During the month of February we were busy with repair and painting works of our School Vans, thus getting them ready for obtaining the Insurance and Fitness certificates.

Mary Ward Week was celebrated with usual practice of reflecting on the matter provided in the booklet. Each member took turn to lead the community in prayerful reflection in the presence of the the Blessed Sacrament exposed.

Sr. Auxilia attended the leadership training programme at Mysore with animators of Bangalore Region and Nepal. In her absence Sr. Mercy took the responsibilities of the community.

On 6 March, Rt Rev. Lawrence Pius, the Bishop of Dharmapuri Diocese came to visit our Parish. It was a joyous moment for all of us to experience the affection and concern of His Excellency.

We had ample time to interact with him and we were edified by his keen interest in us and in our mission.



March 9 was a day of celebration for the community as Sr. Anjeli celebrated the gift of life. Rev.Fr. Mariadass ,



our Parish priest offered the Holy Eucharist in the convent. Shashi our cook under the direction of Sr. Japa prepared delicious dishes. The community had a fun filled evening, each one conducting a game contributed to the feeling of festivity.

On 25 March, Friday, Srs. Auxilia and Mercy along with three of our Catholic students from our school conducted the Way of the Cross in our Parish which was appreciated by one and all.

Friends of Mary Ward and JPIC students are engaged in preserving the Mother Earth. According the time table each class takes up to complete their project while taking care of the plants.



As part of the Lenten Practice, on 27, March, Sunday , all of us excepting Sr. Anjeli joined the Parishioners on a pilgrimage to the 7 churches in Dharmapuri diocese, during

which we recited the Holy Rosary and conducted the Way of the Cross. We attended the Holy Mass in Nagamagala, Mother Mary's Shrine. It was an enriching experience as well as it served as a suitable platform for

interacting with our parishioners. Besides sharing our joy with one another we had generative listening and faith sharing which brought us to know the realities of lives among our faithful.

On March 29, Sr. Auxilia joined the Parish Priest and the Parish Council members to submit a letter of request to the Bishop of Dharmapuri regarding the renovation of our Parish Church. We were impressed by the cordial welcome offered to us by the Bishop and the concerned priests in the Bishop's House.

We are involved in the parish activities, in teaching catechism, youth ministry, taking care of the choir and church decorations. Our sisters are busy with annual examination preparation. St. Joseph's feast was celebrated on the 19 March in our parish, during the homily some of His qualities such as patience, trust, kindness, humility, gentleness, sensitivity, care, love and ability to work hard in our daily life was stressed.

### ST. MARY'S CONVENT SCHOOL, BEGUR-BANGALORE

The month of January marked the Mary Ward Week Celebrations. Beginning with a Prayer service and followed by a week long activities organised for students on various topics like Speech, Quiz, Drawing and Photoframing, Fancy Dress and Bird's nest etc. Many Students took part in it . On the occasion of the Republic Day celebrations, prizes were distributed to the winners.



World Education Day was celebrated on 24 January 2022 through online activities such as Audio Content, Power Point Presentation, Collage Making and Digital Poster Making.

A very meaningful prayer service was conducted 8 February 2022, to mark St. Bakhita's Day, remembering all the children all over the world who are abused, ill-treated, those bonded by child labor etc.



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On 8 March 2022 – International Women's Day was celebrated in our school through various programs like Fancy dress competition depicting the important personalities, Drawings based on Women's Day, Speeches and Quotation based on International Women's Day etc...



FAREWELL: School bade farewell to the 2021-22 batch of class 10 students on 12 March, 2022. The theme was IGNITE – SET THE WORLD ON FIRE. We prayed for the students, blessed them and wished them good luck for the future.



PTM: We had the ‘Parents Teachers Meeting’ held for Class 10 students appearing for the Board Exam . Parents were informed about the present state of students and how they can improve and the need for parent’s support to the students.



**KISA Competition:** Our students took part in the Competitions conducted by Karnataka ICSE School Association at state level namely “Let’s Rhyme together” and “Talent Search examination”. The winners were awarded. In the Talent Search Examination, two of our students secured 1<sup>st</sup> position and two secured consolation prizes.

