



NAVA SPURTHI

Bangalore Region



Vol. 1

NEWS LETTER

April - 2019

MARIA SADAN, BANGALORE

Our **Congregation Feast** was celebrated on 4th January along with our sisters from Begur community. We had Holy Mass highlighting the person of Jesus. After a sumptuous dinner everyone departed.



On the occasion of the death anniversary of our Foundress Venerable Mother Mary Ward Sr. Rupali renewed her vows in the presence of her family members,

Begur community and all of us here.



On 31st January we commemorated the **first death anniversary** of Sr. Aloysia. with her family members from Bangalore and Kerala, Begur and Mittapally community joined us for the Holy mass and thereafter we visited the cemetery for prayer and blessing of the grave which was recently renovated .



Our candidates Biyona and Archana are at Jhansi for their candidacy during their holidays and they will be back in May. Sr. Rupali was away in Sawanthavadi for vocation promotion along with Sr. Christine. Sr. Prasanna is busy with her exams. Kindly keep her in your prayers.

Sr. Daisy was away for the **PRSC** at Rome in the month of February. We had many visitors including our sisters from different provinces and we enjoyed their company.

Srs. Suchita, Vidya and Rupali had their **convocation ceremony** at St. Peter's for their diploma course in **Youth Formation**. Hearty Congratulations!

Sr. Alphonsa is hail and hearty in spite of her aches and pains. She enquires about each one of you and keeps you all in her prayers. Sr. Daisy stayed four days with our **Khanapur** community to discuss about our final plan of the mission. We are still waiting to know God's will for that place. The parishioners and the School community appreciate Srs. Cyrilla's and Nelcy's hard work and accountability in their service at Khanapur. She was happy to see the love and care of staff and students of St. Francis' school towards Sr. Nelcy where she is teaching with the Jesuits.

The Regional Council meeting was held from 28th to 31st March at Maria Sadan.

SHANTI SADAN CONVENT, BEGUR

Mary Ward Week

Mary Ward Week celebration offered the staff and students a time of reflection, inspiration, prayer, action, fun and memories. **Three prayer assemblies** – 1. On 23rd Jan. on the theme of Love, 2. On 26th Jan. on Patriotism and 3. On 30th Jan. on the contributions of Gandhiji and Mary Ward in creating a peaceful society – were creatively



conducted by different classes. The **Republic Day** celebrations included also the **Sports Day** which ended with a fierce Tug-O-War between staff and students. It was so fierce that the rope snapped in the middle and several of the participants kissed the ground. Thankfully no one had injuries except for a few bruises! Afterwards the students had a few minutes to themselves to dance to their favorite numbers.

That was not all. During the Mary Ward Week the **Friends of Mary Ward Club** organized 1. A Fancy Dress Competition- on the Companions of Mary Ward, 2. A drawing competition on 'Save Water to Save our Future' and 3. a visit to Visuveswaraiah Science



Museum for the students of Class 7. Master Augustine from the group presented a detailed and interesting report about what they saw and learnt during their visit.

Parents' Day Programme Contd.

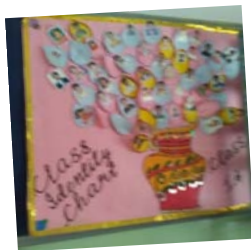
There were three programmes more: 'Mother, Heart of a Home' by the Kindergarten children, 'Prakruthi' by Cl. 1 and Cl. 2 and 'Arpane' by Cl. 3 & Cl. 4. Each Programme lasted for an hour and a half followed by an input on the teaching - learning methodology followed in our school. All except one got the opportunity to be on the stage.



The Chief Guest and Guests of honour had a chance to see the school from within and they have become ambassadors of the school.

Two Good Practices:

During this academic year over 70 students presented **book reviews**. It all began with the students who had attended the Leadership Training at Universal Solidarity Movement, Indore. They presented Book Reviews during the morning assembly. Other students were inspired and they followed the suit. We had not only book reviews but review of articles, magazines and even text books used in class. Rikt Raj from Grade 2 was the youngest to present a review on his favorite lesson. Justin Shreyas presented his review on 'the First Disciples and other Stories'. He said, "I am inspired by Jesus because of his good behavior, helpfulness, kindness and forgiveness. Jesus is my God and Role Model". What a testimony by a Grade 5 student!



Making **Class Identity Collage** and **Class Room Norms** were two engaging activities which students enjoyed. Much discussion and reflection went before the display of the masterpieces. Different symbols were used to represent their class and most of them had their photographs inserted. Both the exercises helped the classes to grow in group loyalty and discipline.

Sudha and Biren make a difference

Sudha, a B. Ed student from Christ University spent three months on and off doing her internship. Evaluating her lessons and guiding her was a refreshing experience for those involved. Biren a student of Masters in Education from Asim Premji University also spent three weeks here to interact with students and teachers. His thesis was on how bonding between teacher and student enhances learning and how teachers achieve this bonding during their lessons. Mrs. Anita Mary, one of the teachers who worked with Biren said, that the interaction had challenged her to be a good mentor'.

From Women's Day to Women's Week The women's week celebration culminated with honouring all the lady staff – teaching as well as non-teaching. The gents on the staff organized a special assembly during which all the ladies were felicitated. Flowers and greetings cards by children, speeches and songs by



the gents, an inter-religious prayer service and finally a cup of refreshing tea together made the ladies feel special.



One of the interesting activities of the week was a project on 'The Most Inspiring Woman I Know' by students of Grades 4 – 8. Women from various fields captured their attention. For Joshua from Grade 7 the most inspiring woman was his own mother who "is his first teacher,

doctor during his illness, and comfort in times of sorrow, and strength and support when feeling down”

The most engaging project presented was by Spoorthy from Grade 7 on Saalumarada Thimmakka, the 106 year old crusader of environment from Karanata, who was recently honoured with a Padma Shree Award by the President of India. The Morning assembly included presentation of projects. Each class had a wonderful collection of write ups on inspiring women.



On **Women’s Day** the students also greeted their teachers with handmade greetings cards with words of appreciation and love.

Thanksgiving Mass - the last Mass of the Year was offered by Fr. Aji, a priest from the Congregation of Holy Cross just before the final term exam began. It was a very lively and meaningful celebration. For the



offertory children carried a symbolic thanksgiving tree. Each flower signified something that they were grateful for during the academic year

ST. MARY’S CONVENT, MULUND

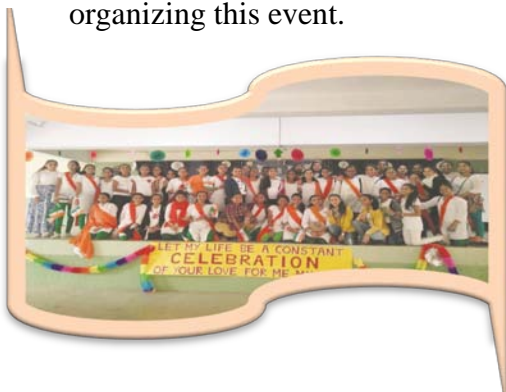
Inter - school Debate Competition: - On 19th January, 2019, SMAART – the school alumni association - organized an Inter-school Debate competition for the neighboring schools in Mulund. Seven schools including our school participated in it. Current topics as per the interest of the students were taken for the debate. Our school bagged the second prize in the debate. Thanks to SMAART for organizing this event.



Republic Day celebrations: - On 26th January, at 8 a.m. Sr. Edwina hoisted the national flag. It was followed by a prayer service, pleading for God’s blessings on our nation and our leaders.

Mini Sports Day: - 22nd January, 2019, was a day filled with energy and enthusiasm with a lot of sports activities, races, hurdles races, games etc. The students

and staff enjoyed the day on the school grounds. It was a combined event for the students of Pre - Primary, Primary and Secondary sections.





Silver Jubilee Celebrations: - 25th January was a day of great rejoicing as the school family celebrated Sr. Edwina's 25 years of religious commitment. Prayer services and cultural programmes were conducted by both the Primary and Secondary Sections. The staff had a high tea party. To continue with the Jubilee celebrations, Sr.



Christine conducted a special prayer on 26th morning for the community. At 7 p.m. there was the Thanksgiving Eucharistic Celebration in the Parish Church by Fr. Gavin D'Souza, concelebrated by Deacon Everest. After it we had the jubilee Agape with the parish fathers, Sr. Edwina's family members, our sisters from Umralla, CTC sisters and our friends and benefactors. To multiply our joy, we had the presence of our Regional Superior, Sr. Daisy who was with us on her community visitation. The next day we, including Sr. Daisy and our sisters from Umralla joined Sr. Edwina for the jubilee celebration at her brother's place.



Farewell to S. S. C. Students: - It was time to bid farewell to our Class 10 students. On 8th February, a meaningful prayer service was organized by students of class 9, imploring God's blessings on our SSC students, as they will be writing their Board Exams and facing the challenges in the world, on leaving the portals of St. Mary's. The next day our outgoing students came draped in sarees for an entertainment programme recalling the glimpses of their school life. They had a lot of fun and laughter.

St. Pius X Church celebrated **Appreciation/Association Day** on 10th February to acknowledge and appreciate the efforts and contribution put in by the various associations in the parish. The celebration was in our school lunch hall, with the theme "**Thanks Giving – Thanks Living**".

On 15th February, we had **Art and Craft Exhibition**. The students displayed various exhibits, which were appreciated by the parents who came in large number and encouraged the students for their talents. We also had the release of the school magazine.

In the evening, the **Syro - Malabar** Church arranged for a **retreat** for the parishioners of Mulund and Bhandup in our Secondary Lunch Hall. Fr. Joseph Puthenpurackal O. F. M CAP was the preacher. People flocked in great numbers to listen to God's words.

20th February was a day of great joy as we celebrated **Sr. Christine's birthday**. Fr. Saundar Nathan, Tamil Chaplain of the Parish celebrated Birthday Mass for Sr. Christine. The students of Primary and Secondary sections conducted prayer service on this joyous occasion. The staffs were given a tea party. In the evening there was a special prayer, followed by organized recreation to conclude the birthday celebrations.

This year too, our school was awarded for being the third highest in the **Flag Day collection**. Mrs. Christina, along with a few students of seventh standard, as they had collected the highest amount, participated in the award ceremony at Chetana College, Bandra.

SSC Board Exams: - Our school was a centre for the Board Exams. This year we had 425 students, from four different medium of instruction. The Exams commenced from 1st March. We had 4 of our students with learning disability (LD) with special subjects. By God's grace and hard work, commitment and support of the entire staff, the conducting of the exams went on very smoothly, till the last exam on 22nd March. Along with the Board Exams, we also had the final exams for the students of Class 9. On 25th March, we began final exams for the entire school.

On 29th, 30th & 31st March, we had **English Lenten Mission** in the parish, preached by Brother Lalith Pereira and team from Shrilanka. It was an enriching spiritual experience.

Farewell to Mrs. Ruby: - On 5th April, the last day of the school exam, we bade farewell to our

Art teacher – Mrs. Ruby Mukhopadhyay, after 33 years of loving and committed service to our school as art teacher. We had a meaningful

prayer service followed by an entertainment programme. Mrs. Ruby was accompanied by her daughter Miss Nupur for the celebration. Ruby gave a snacks party to the staff.



The school closed for summer **vacation**. Happy Holidays.....

Some of us were privileged to be present at the **Ordination Ceremony** and **the First Mass** of our Parishner, Fr. Leon Veigas.

Wish you all the Peace and Joy of the Risen Lord!!!!!!

MARY WARD CONVENT, PUTHENVELIKARA

In January 2019 as usual most of the sisters of our community were in **retreat**. On 3rd January Srs. Fransisca, Rosalia, Berni, Elsa and Mahima came back to the community after a beautiful and grace filled retreat guided by Rev. Fr. Sunny S.J., at Niveditha, Chunanganveli. In the meantime Sr. Georgia and Sr. Esther took care of the community. The School reopened on 4th Jan. after Christmas vacation.

On 10th Jan. Classes 9 & 10 had a **study tour** to Kanyakumari and Trivandrum. The “Niyama Sabha “and its functioning were very informative for the students. Srs. Rosalia and Berni represented our community for the Annual Day celebrations of NPS, Pizhaku. As part of the **vocation promotion** Sr. Rosemary and Ann Maria visited our class 10 students on 14th Jan. Sr. Francisca had a fall and fractured her shoulder bone. Now she has recovered.

As usual **Mary Ward week** was celebrated in the school with role plays, skits and maxims. We had a lovely concluding celebration of Mary Ward week with Eucharistic celebration and grand dinner at Jyothirbhavan with our Sisters.

We were also happy to have the celebration of “**World Day of Consecrated Life**” by Kottapuram diocese. Bishop Joseph Karikassery was the main celebrant for the function. The Provincial of the Capuchin Fathers talked about the role of modern religious. It was worth attending and most of us participated in it.

In January we had our **parish church feast**- Lourde Matha and St. Sebastian’s feast combined. Every day evening we had inspiring talks from different priests, followed by adoration and Eucharistic celebration.

On 2nd February we had **farewell for the students of Class 10**. On 6th Feb. we had special holy Eucharistic celebration for the outgoing students. As we began the ICSE exam on 26th Feb. we had to start our school early. On 2nd March we had a grand birthday celebration of our parish priest, Fr. Franson along with Frs. Shaju and Shiju, in our community.

We got the sad news that Sr. Esther’s only brother in law (Mr. Mathachan) expired on 4th March. Sr. Georgia took her home at once.

On 31st March the School closed for summer vacation. We began with the painting of the school building after the great flood. Now deep cracks are appearing in the new building even on the pillars. All our buildings are badly affected with the flood.

We have terrible scarcity of water. Here wells are drying up. Hope and pray that “The Wellspring of the world may provide us with water during the Easter season.

Wish you all peace and joy of the Risen Lord.



Mary Wrad Ilam, Mittapalli

While Srs. Deepti and Smitha were away for retreat at Aluva, Srs. Lawrentia, Usha and Sanjana saw to the needs of the House and School. Srs. Deepti, Smitha and Usha went to Eicher Company at Salem and booked for a school bus. All enjoyed the **Pongal celebration** on the school grounds. During Pongal holidays from 12th to 17th Jan. we visited a few nearby villages which gave us some good experience of the culture and practices, above all, the hospitality of the people. In our parish the 13th of every month is kept for special prayers in honour of **St. Antony**. In the month of January it was also combined with Parish Pongal celebration.

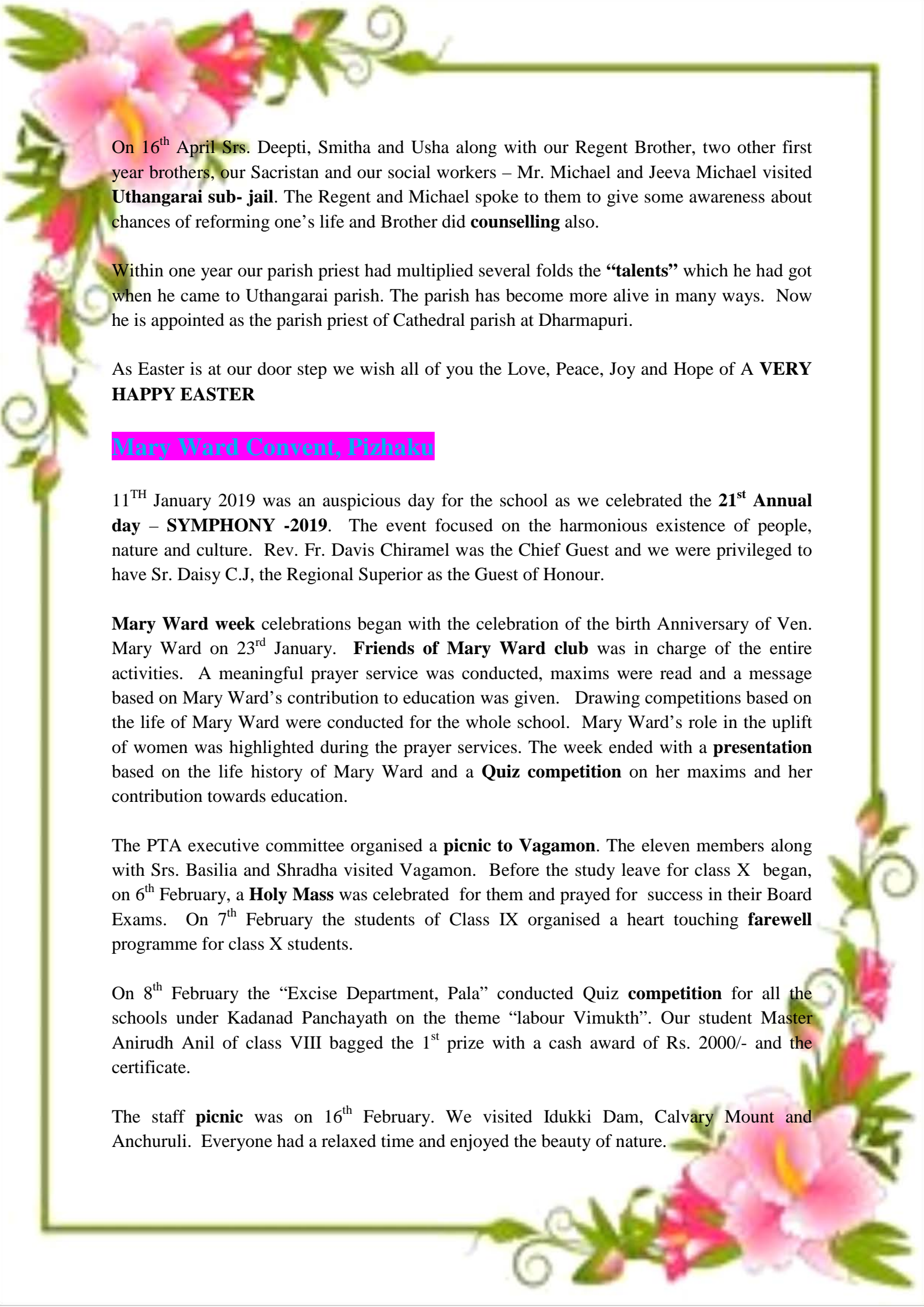
We had **Congregation Day Celebration** which was enjoyed by a good number of guests from Salesian's College Thirupathur, S. R. A. Sisters and Parish priest from Visuvasampatti, our Parish priest and the Brother Regent. We conducted a short prayer service which was followed by games and supper. Each Sister took charge of one or other part of the programme.

On 27th Jan we participated in the **wedding** party of our teacher Mr. Vinu Karthik. When we brought the new bus from Salem we bought a statue of Mother Mary and we are waiting and praying that our dream of constructing a grotto may be realized soon. On 5th Feb we had our **Annual Day** celebrations. Dr. Vanathi, the Chief Guest is our former student and school topper of the first batch. She was happy to grace the occasion and spoke sky high about her happy experiences in our school. Her presence and message were surely an encouragement and motivation for our students. A very good miming and dance on Care of Earth, a dance and dialogue presentation on India's most honoured missile man- former President Abdul Kalam were much appreciated among other good items. A big crowd of Parents and relatives filled up the school grounds as all the students were on the stage for one or other item.

Our parish priest formed **village units** of the parish. Considering their difficulties to come to the parish church, he offered Holy Mass in each of the units during **Lent**. This gave us also opportunity to visit these units and participate in the **village Mass**.

This year all the Board exams got over by the end of March. Sisters, Teachers and students did some canvassing in the evenings to get more admissions. Some of them are doing the follow up also.

On 31st March the parish had one day **Lenten Prayer** which we also attended. The Diocese of Dharmapuri arranged for a **One day Retreat for the children** of all the parishes. 44 children of our parish attended it and Sr. Sanjana, the Regent Brother and Mr. Michael a good helper in the parish, accompanied them in our school bus. They said that it was a wonderful experience.



On 16th April Srs. Deepti, Smitha and Usha along with our Regent Brother, two other first year brothers, our Sacristan and our social workers – Mr. Michael and Jeeva Michael visited **Uthangarai sub- jail**. The Regent and Michael spoke to them to give some awareness about chances of reforming one's life and Brother did **counselling** also.

Within one year our parish priest had multiplied several folds the “**talents**” which he had got when he came to Uthangarai parish. The parish has become more alive in many ways. Now he is appointed as the parish priest of Cathedral parish at Dharmapuri.

As Easter is at our door step we wish all of you the Love, Peace, Joy and Hope of A **VERY HAPPY EASTER**

Mary Ward Convent, Pizhaku

11TH January 2019 was an auspicious day for the school as we celebrated the **21st Annual day – SYMPHONY -2019**. The event focused on the harmonious existence of people, nature and culture. Rev. Fr. Davis Chiramel was the Chief Guest and we were privileged to have Sr. Daisy C.J, the Regional Superior as the Guest of Honour.

Mary Ward week celebrations began with the celebration of the birth Anniversary of Ven. Mary Ward on 23rd January. **Friends of Mary Ward club** was in charge of the entire activities. A meaningful prayer service was conducted, maxims were read and a message based on Mary Ward's contribution to education was given. Drawing competitions based on the life of Mary Ward were conducted for the whole school. Mary Ward's role in the uplift of women was highlighted during the prayer services. The week ended with a **presentation** based on the life history of Mary Ward and a **Quiz competition** on her maxims and her contribution towards education.

The PTA executive committee organised a **picnic to Vagamon**. The eleven members along with Srs. Basilia and Shradha visited Vagamon. Before the study leave for class X began, on 6th February, a **Holy Mass** was celebrated for them and prayed for success in their Board Exams. On 7th February the students of Class IX organised a heart touching **farewell** programme for class X students.

On 8th February the “Excise Department, Pala” conducted **Quiz competition** for all the schools under Kadanad Panchayath on the theme “labour Vimukth”. Our student Master Anirudh Anil of class VIII bagged the 1st prize with a cash award of Rs. 2000/- and the certificate.

The staff **picnic** was on 16th February. We visited Idukki Dam, Calvary Mount and Anchuruli. Everyone had a relaxed time and enjoyed the beauty of nature.

CISCE Board Exam began on 22nd February. A total of 39 students appeared for the exam. The month of February was a busy time supervising the renovation work of the roof, pantry, kitchen and the work area.

March 8th being the International **Women's day**, the JPIC and Mary Ward club organised a special prayer service during the assembly. They enlightened the students about the contribution of women in the society, and the need for their empowerment, through play cards and charts.

On 26th March the students were given **prizes** for their full attendance. Prizes were also distributed for the "Inbox talent Exam" and "maths Olympiad". Eric Joe Liju of class I secured 2nd rank in the "IT -Inbox Exam" and received a cash award of Rs. 2000/- and trophy. Other 6 students received cash award of Rs. 200/- and trophy. Many received Medals and certificates.

On 27th March the school bid **farewell** to Sr. Shradha and Mrs. Jini Oommen. The students prepared a prayer service and thanked Sr. Shradha and Mrs. Jini for their service. The school closed for summer vacation.

On 6th February we got the message that **Sr. Suchita** from Delhi province who was on home leave was admitted in Caritas hospital for her operation. Srs. Suma, Basilia and Borgia took turns to be with her until Sr. Julita reached from Jhansi. After she was discharged on 11th February she took rest in our house for a month. One of us accompanied her to Caritas for her regular check up. Sr. Pratima (Provincial of Delhi) came to see Sr. Suchita showing her love and concern.



**NAVASPURTHI WISHES ALL OF
YOU A VERY HAPPY EASTER!**