



NAVA SPURTHI



Bangalore Region

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NEWS LETTER

May - 2020

Maria Sadan, Bangalore

We began the year 2020 with a Holy Eucharist on the 1 January officiated by Fr. Joy James S J, the superior of ISI Bangalore, and celebration continued till 3rd as we celebrated the feast of our Congregation. We were privileged to have many visitors in the month of January, Sr. Alphonsa's friend, Sr. Jayashree MSJ was with us for a few days sharing the old lovely memories with Amma. We were happy to welcome our CJ sisters from different provinces.

Mary Ward week Novena was an enriching experience as all of us took our turn to conduct it, using our own creativity with the materials provided for the same. Mary Ward Day was celebrated on 25 January with solemn Mass in the morning and in the evening sisters from our neighbouring communities, our student sisters and our sisters from Begur joined us sharing in our joy. We conducted a prayer service, highlighting the spirituality of Venerable Mary Ward followed by a fellowship meal.

On day of the **death anniversary of Sr. Aloysia**, her relatives joined us for the Eucharistic celebration and thereafter for the blessing of the grave.

Tree Plantation - Efforts to increase environmental awareness and to support an ecologically balanced earth.



On 2nd of February, the feast of presentation of Jesus in the temple, Sr. Daisy and candidates Biyona and Aleena with the community members presented G.C 2020 to Jesus as the light of our lives and mother earth as source of energy by planting a Soursop sapling in the Regional House garden.

Sr. Mahima, after having completed the course in **Ignatian Spirituality** returned to us and shared with us her experiences. During the Holy Week we made our 8 day Online **Ignatian Retreat** conducted by **JCSA**. As the country announced **lock down**, we were busy helping out in the household chores in the absence of our helpers in the house.

The Archdiocese of Bangalore invited all the religious to contribute in cash and kind, to help the needy and the poor. We, at Marias Sadan community joined the Archbishop's NGO groups and helped in **packing food kits** containing rice, wheat flour, cereals, oil and sugar for distribution among those badly affected by the nationwide lockdown in Karnataka. The Religious were called to the Bishop's House with special permission from the government authorities in order to pack the provision kits. Already fifteen thousand kits have been distributed to various parts of the State. Our community gives daily dinner to three persons living on the foot path.



[Shanti Sadan, Begur](#)

Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus:

We, at Shanti Sadan, Celebrated the Congregation Feast, inviting the neighbouring religious communities, with a short prayer service displaying the Charism of Mary Ward, followed by a few entertaining games and dinner. We were doubly blessed by the presence of Sr. Daisy & Maria Sadan Community. All of us felt renewed and relaxed in the beautiful ambience of our celebration.

Mary Ward Week Celebration

The School Celebrated the Mary Ward Week with great joy and vigour. The day began with daily prayer service highlighting different aspects in the life of Mary Ward. On 30 January, the Friends of Mary Ward Club students sponsored a lime sapling and was planted by Sr. Lima CJ, symbolically in the school campus.



Art & Science Exhibition:

In the month of January, Art & Science exhibition was organised where our students displayed their talents. They also made some Science Models and explained to their parents. Our students also took part in the Inter School Canvas Painting Competition held at **Sherwood High ICSE School, Bannerghatta, Bangalore**. Ms. Diya Baxi secured second position out of 90 schools that participated in it.



ACADEMIC SUPPORT :

The sudden closure of school has its own impact on the academics. The school year might be short and we may lack time to complete the syllabus. So we started to teach our class 10 students through Social Media. We follow regular time table for them and the teachers prepare their lessons and teach them and clarify their doubts. The Pandemic has given rise to newer possibilities to explore and to be innovative.

COVID - 19 RELIEF WORK:

As we face one of the worst conditions in the present time due to COVID-19 Pandemic, we decided to extend our helping hand to the suffering people around us, daily wage earners who are at the mercy of others for their survival. We helped some poor Catholic families and migrant workers of the locality with food kits.

The Archdiocese of Bangalore has taken the initiative to help the poor and needy. We contributed our mite to the Archbishop's Relief Fund.

We also support the suffering humanity with our prayers, with special daily adoration to intercede for the world and people, affected by the Pandemic.



MARY WARD CONVENT, PIZHAKU

In the month of January students spent one day out with their teachers. The primary section was taken to the play world, Ettumanoor, classes VIII and IX went to Munnar and the Middle school to Ernakulam Sagar Rani. Everyone enjoyed the day and returned happily.



On 3 January the students participated in the **DCL Quiz Competition** held at Shantal Jyothi School, Muttom and won 2nd prize

KG section had their **Annual Day programme** which was a great success. Mrs. Gigi Thampi (Lalam Block Panchayat Member) was the chief guest. All the parents appreciated the school and the teachers, for the way they trained the little ones. Srs. Celine, Digna and Marion gave us a surprise visit on the same day.



Srs. Basilia and Nelcy attended the funeral service of Sr. Prisca's brother in law and Srs. Berney and Basilia attended the funeral of Sr. Pauline's brother.



The teaching, non teaching and supporting staff also had their day out in January to Kumarakam. Every one enjoyed the time spent in the House Boat. The presence of Sr. M. Ursula C J doubled our joy.

Mary Ward Week began with a beautiful prayer assembly conducted by class VII A. The community had a very meaningful Mary Ward Week which ended with the Holy Mass in our Chapel.



On 30 January the School celebrated the death anniversary of Mary Ward. After a meaningful prayer service, students along with the teachers planted trees in the school campus.

On our Republic Day, Patriotic Speech competition was held and the winners were awarded with prizes.

In February, a Holy Mass was offered for our outgoing students by our Vicar Rev. Fr. Kuruvila Thudiampilackal who blessed the students and

wished them the very best for their board examination and for a bright future.

On 7 February the school celebrated the **Manager's Day**. Class VI B conducted a very inspiring prayer service for Sr. Basilia under the guidance of Sr. Nelcy. After the prayer assembly the students wished her with beautiful of flowers. On 8th, the school bade **farewell to class X** students. Class IX students under the guidance of Mr. Madhu prepared a beautiful programme with a prayer service.



The '**Art & Craft exhibition**' was also organized on the same day. The parents did appreciate the students' creativity and the teachers' hard work. The best exhibit and the best class were awarded.

Sr. M. Janet CJ's (Patna Province) **Golden Jubilee** was celebrated in our parish by her family people. Our community too joined with them to thank the Lord for the past glorious 50 years in the service of God. During the felicitation Sr. Nelcy gave a short history of her mission. Sr. Basilia decorated her with 'Ponnada', Sr. Bernie garlanded her and Sr. Borgia presented her a gift from the community.

The community organized a **pilgrimage**, visiting 9 famous churches. We began our pilgrimage with a Holy Mass at Mannanam church, and prayed at St. Kuriakose Elias Tomb and ended with St. Mariam Theresia's Tomb at Kuzhikattussery. During the pilgrimage we had the opportunity to visit our two communities, at Thuruthipuram and Puthenvelikara. We were happy to have a short visit from Sr. Vinita (Nepal) and her family.

On 17 March Sr. M. Ursula was admitted in M.K.M Hospital Pravithanam due to severe backache. Though she is confined to bed, at present her condition is much better. She thanks everyone who prayed for her. We are fortunate to get 'Palliative Care' from the Kadanad Panchayat for Sr. Ursula. We are happy that they do follow it up every month.

The school bade **farewell** to Mrs. Rosamma Abraham after having completed 18 years of service in the school. The school thanked her for her dedicated service. A meaningful prayer service was conducted by the staff in the convent chapel. After expressing a note of gratefulness by Mrs. Rosamma, a sumptuous lunch was served for the staff. She was reached home by the sisters and teachers.

We had been touched by the initiative taken by the teachers who decided to forego their personal enjoyments and to contribute their pocket money for the outreach programme. The little drops that made the ocean, was good enough to help a couple of students to get their text books and stationery items.

The school was closed on 19 March due to Covid -19. Because of the Lockdown our kitchen lady was unable to come for a week. All of us were busy cooking, cleaning and taking care of Sr. Ursula.

Since the Lockdown we are attending 'Live Holy Mass' in Shalom Channel. We are fortunate enough to have Holy Mass once a week. During the Holy Week we could make our confession and prepare ourselves spiritually for Easter. On Holy Thursday we celebrated 'Pesaha', the Last Supper in the traditional way. In preparation for Easter, we spent three days in silence and prayer.

The Evangelization Team of Pala Diocese under the guidance of our Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Kallarangattu, requested each of us to pray 50 **Divine Mercy Rosaries** within 24 hours for the intention - **to prevent the spread of Covid-19 Pandemic and for forth - coming starvation.**

The constant reminder of the Kerala Chief Minister, encouraged people to spare food and to cultivate every bit of land. If that was not possible, to give the land to others for cultivation, so that we could share the produce with our neighbours and co-workers.

We thank God for protecting all of us from Covid-19 Pandemic and taking care of our minute needs.

Mary Ward Illam, Mittapalli

Sr. Smitha after her retreat at Bangalore participated in a Seminar on Minority Rights at ISI Bangalore before she returned. After Christmas vacation KG to class IX resumed their regular classes on 4 January 2020, as per the Govt. order.

The month of January was replete with various activities in the school. Special classes were conducted much before 4 January for the students who have to do their Board Exams.



The festival of Pongal, was celebrated in the school with a prayer service, lively cultural programmes of various kinds and of course a share of the delicious pongal, adding joy to the festivity. During Pongal holidays Srs. Japa and Sanjana made their annual retreat at Harur where they could get a Jesuit director. The rest of the Sisters visited many families and the



people were very happy with our visits. A cute calf was born on the auspicious day of “cattle pongal”. Pulse polio drops were served to the children of KG section. The Republic Day celebration was marked by Flag hoisting and prayer service.

During **Mary Ward Week**, the students of classes 3 - 8 conducted special Assemblies, Prayer Services enacting her life and maxims, role plays, quiz and chart making competitions, etc., thus paying tribute to our Foundress Venerable Mary Ward. The enthusiasm and creativity of the staff and students made the week very meaningful. The oath taking ceremony by the Friends of Mary Ward, under the able guidance of Sr. Sanjana was also a part of the celebration. In the convent the sisters took turns and conducted Mary Ward novena adding personal creativity to the material given. We were happy to have Holy Mass in our chapel on 30th Jan, on the death anniversary of Mary Ward.



The month of February too was a month of various programmes. The **farewell** for the out-going students of class 12; Science practical exam for the students of board exam; our co-workers' picnic to Kodaikanal etc. The students of classes 5 and 8 were very happy to hear the news that they would not have to appear for the public exam in March 2020 which was planned by the State.



The teachers organized a **Talent Week** from February 22 - 29 with literary, cultural, art and craft competitions to showcase the talents of the students

The Art and Craft and Science exhibition was an opportunity to appreciate the students for their colourful and neat displays and awesome working models.

The **Board Examination** of Classes 11 and 12 has already taken place and now Class 10 students are waiting for the new schedule for their exams. Sr. Sanjana's birthday was celebrated. We were happy that our parish priest celebrated the birthday Mass on the day itself. On the Sunday after the lock down was declared, we kept the whole day adoration as per the request of our Bishop. We prayed the same way on the next Sunday as recommended by Sr. Jane. Ever since the lock down order, daily we have special prayer with the blessed sacrament exposed, besides the common prayer. Even though there are no known cases of covid -19 in our locality we obey the government order of lock down. The cook did not come for 10 days. We manage the cleaning of the main parts of the House and yard. Since our Bhiman comes daily the cows are taken care of. Thanks be to God we have plenty of water and a lot of greenery around.

On 25th April the wife of Mr. Rajkumar one of our teaching staff was struck by lightning and died then and there. Since he got Government job, he had resigned from our school on 31st March . They have two children. Kindly pray for them.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT , MULUND

The feast of the **Holy Name of Jesus** was celebrated on 3 January 2020. Fr. George Athaide, our Parish Priest, celebrated the Holy Eucharist to thank God and pray for our Congregation. In the evening we had an Agape with the priests of the Parish, Deacon Clifton and CTC sisters along with our own 4 junior sisters from Delhi and Patna provinces. We had a joyous celebration. The month of January saw many activities:

Our school band was invited to perform at Mulund College of Commerce for their **Convocation**. Our performance was well appreciated by the college faculty and the invitees.

Sr. Mercy along with a few of our teachers participated in **District Level Science Exhibition** at Udayanchal School, Vikroli and the Science Flag was handed over to sister by the hosting school to be brought to our school, as we would be hosting the District Level Science Exhibition next year.

We were happy to have Sr. Lima with us who gave an awareness programme on POCSO to our students of Std 4 -10 and to the staff. Thanks to you Sr. Lima for your availability and readiness.

Sports Day was celebrated, many of our students participated in various activities with energy and enthusiasm.

Registration to Junior KG for ICSE stream has taken place for both boys and girls. Till now we had State Board Curriculum.

Annual picnic for our tiny tots, Primary students, along with their teachers and Sr. Divya to Tikuchiniwadi was very enjoyable and they returned refreshed and rejuvenated after a day of fun and frolic.

On 23 January, we had a solemn Eucharistic celebration by Fr. Clifford OCD. In the evening the community had special Holy Hour marking the first day of Mary Ward Week.

Mary Ward Week celebration in the school began with special prayer services in honour of Mary Ward, depicting various aspects of her life. Competitions were held throughout the week like pencil sketching, calligraphy on the Maxims of Mary Ward, collage making based on Mary Ward. Students participated with much joy and enthusiasm and thereby expressed their love for Mother Mary Ward.

On Republic Day. Sr. Christine hoisted the Flag and gave a message during the prayer service. Some of the parents also joined for the Republic Day Celebration. We got the sad news of the demise of Sr. Lillian's sister at Vasai. Srs. Christine, Edwina and Seema went for the funeral to Vasai. On the same day, we had A special A special Eucharist was offered at 9.15 a.m. praying for and thanking God for the

religious working in the Parish on the day of Consecrated Life. In the evening, we were invited along with CTC sisters to the Parish for a get-together which was very enjoyable.

February, another month of activities:

An outing for the staff, they watched a 3D movie 'Tanaji' and lunch at Barbeque Nation, Korum Mall. Everybody enjoyed the day. Class 10 students were given farewell, praying for God's blessings on them, a programme was organised with games and other lively activities.

The **World Day of the Sick**, was celebrated with a special Eucharist and blessing of the sick at 5.30 p.m. in the parish. Arrangements were made to bring the sick to Church. For the Art and Craft Exhibition the parents came in good numbers and appreciated the talents exhibited by students, along with the efforts of the teachers.

This year the HSC exams were conducted in our school for 452 students, coming from other colleges of Science Stream. SSC Board Exams began on 3 March. Our School was the exam centre for 470 students of 5 different mediums including our 251 students. Simultaneously, we began with final exams for the students of Std. IX.

On 16 March, as a precautionary measure against Covid-19, schools were asked to be shut down.

During the lockdown period, we participate daily in the Live Mass offered by our Archbishop Oswald Cardinal Gracias on YouTube. This period was a blessing as we could spend more time in prayer and reflection, lifting up to God our brethren infected by this deadly virus. May Our Merciful God save our nation and the whole world.

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

The long awaited dream of the people of Alakode had come true on 20 January 2020, when the **newly built Parish Church was blessed** by Bishops George Njaralakatt, Joseph Pamplany and Emeritus George Valiyamattom. It was one of the greatest events in the history of church in Alakode. More than ten thousand people, including a good number of priests and religious witnessed this grand blessing ceremony. The following week the church feast was celebrated with full gusto. We had Holy Mass being celebrated by Bishops of all three Rites. Entertainment programme followed in the evenings. All, young and old enjoyed well.



We were privileged to witness the renewal of Vows of Srs. Jumila and Serina belonging to Patna Province on 30 January. Fr. Tomy Cheruplavil offered a Holy Mass in our chapel during which they renewed their Vows.

Jubilee celebrations are events that everyone looks forward to with gratitude and joy. We were delighted to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of our dear Sr. Sherly. The staff and the students made the day a memorable one for her. The community celebration was on the next day with a solemn Holy Mass, held in the newly Blessed Parish Church. The presence of her parents and family members, our



Regional Superior Sr. Daisy, Srs. Alma, Basilia and Nelcy and a few well wishers made the day more joyful.

During the Holy Week, Srs. Anisha and Sherly made the online Lifeline Retreat and Srs. Lucia, Carina and

Gladys happily took care of the house.

The school re-opened on 1 January 2020 after the Christmas vacation. “Health and Fitness through fun activities” was the aim with which we conducted Sports Day for the students of KG and Primary section. The sporting spirit of young athletes of SMC, was best expressed in every event held on the day. The Sports Day for High School and Higher Secondary was held later in January. The students entered into the spirit of the occasion with the oath being administered by the Sports Captain Nikhil Nanda Kumar. Once the race began, the air was filled with cheering, applause and words of encouragement for the participants. The students participated in various events like sprints, relays, shot put, long jump and discus throw. The day concluded with prize distribution to the individual champions. The students of classes III & IV had an outing to Vismaya, an amusement park in Kannur. It was indeed a day of great fun and enjoyment for them. Mary Ward Week was celebrated with an attitude of gratitude and joy. The students expressed their love and devotion to Venerable Mary Ward by organizing prayer services very creatively, highlighting various qualities of Venerable Mary Ward through role plays, dance drama, skits, tableau and songs. On 30 January a quiz competition was organized on the Mind and Maxims of Mary Ward.



At the end of January, Our School Band participated in an awareness rally on “**Health and Hygiene**” organized by Alakode Gramapanchayath and the Primary Health Centre, Therthally. The rally began from St. Mary’s Forane Church, Alakode and was concluded in NSS School, Alakode. On the same day Dr. Bijoy Thannippara, the health officer, spoke to the students on the

importance of drinking sufficient water and covering the mouth while coughing or sneezing. He then, inaugurated water bell and distributed handkerchiefs to the students.

In February, JCI, Alakode introduced an **integrity shop** in the school. Stationery items like books, pens, files, pencils, erasers, sketch pens, etc. were kept for sale, each item costing Rs.10. The students could pick up any item they needed and drop the money into the cash box kept on the table. It aimed at training the students to be honest and responsible for their actions.



Sr. Sherly with the help of Mrs. Shruthi and Indu organized an **orientation programme** for the students of class IX. They had sessions on Personality Development, Conflict Management, Phonetics and Mathematics Lab activities.



Holy Eucharist was offered for the students of classes X & XII and prayed specially for their intentions. A **farewell** programme was organized for the students of class XII. During the programme, the students expressed their genuine feelings of gratitude and love for the Institution, through speeches, songs and poems at end of which Srs. Anisha and Sherly distributed mementos to every student. Ronald Victor Benny was adjudged the Master SMC and Annabel Denny was crowned as Miss SMC

for the academic year 2019-2020.

“English Fest” was very effectively and systematically organized by our staff, Mr.Chaitanya and Mrs. Somy on 20 February. The students of classes I to VIII participated in various competitions like listening, comprehension, news reading, product launch, storytelling, debate, mock interview, pair anchoring, spelling marathon, phonics and news writing.

An outing for the staff, classes for the Board exams students took place in February. On 13 March 2020, the State Government declared lockdown and the school had closed. We do sent holiday activities to the students through mobile App and whatsapp and the class teachers monitor their activities.

Mary Ward Sadan Puthenvelikara

We had quite a number of visitors - The **Silver Jubilarians** from Allahabad Province, Patna province, Nepal Region and Bangalore Region had a very relaxing and refreshing time with them.

Sr. Georgia went with supportive staff for an outing to Chertala, Thankipally.

The School reopened after the New Year celebrations as well as Mannam Jayanti. On 4 January we had the **Sports Day** celebration. For Mary Ward Week celebration, each class took in turn to display the spirit and knowledge about our beloved Mother Mary Ward, through skits, maxims and enacting certain scenes from her life. On the concluding day, under the leadership of Mrs Preeti, Mrs Prathibha, we rejuvenated the Friends of Mary Ward with many life giving activities. The little ones' slogan was 'Save Natural Resources'.

The month of February was most challenging for the students from the examination point of view. Class 9 had their 1st Board examination, then the ICSE examination on 2 February. The school exams are cancelled this year from classes 1 to 7. Since Covid-19 was spreading fast, we had to close the school.

[Maria Bhawan, Umralla](#)

Srs. Linda and Jyostna in Umralla community fully involved in pastoral ministry . We prepare for Holy Mass and help priest to distribute Holy Communion. We spent time in - family visits, family prayers, visiting the sick and teaching Catechism on Sundays and prepare flowers on special occasion. The parishioners are extremely supportive and as a family they take care of us. We are running play group of 15 children.

[Jyothir Bhavan, Thuruthipuram](#)

Our main Apostolate is pastoral ministry. Sr. Imma has completed twenty five years of service in the same place. She has visited more than thousand and two hundred families of their parish and closely associated with them. She served nearly 25 years as a catechism teacher, Head mistress of Sunday school, youth animator and a family counselor .At present She is doing youth and family counseling instructing the non Catholics in our Christian faith for inter religious marriage .

She has group of **children, spreading devotion to Mother Mary by gathering** children to pray the Rosary and helping in whatever way possible in the community activities. The young priest seek advice from sister to settle family problems.

Sr. Alma is also fully involved in family counseling sharing word of God and prayers. Sr. Teresa teaches in Mary Ward School and is also interested in her mission of helping neighboring parish church, teaching Catechism, in our parish and taking part in the Family Unit prayer.

Sr Amala is apart time teacher in Mary Ward school to teach Phonetics. Rest of the days Visiting the old and sick, in the parish is a usual activity of the community. Sisters make it a point to be present at the funerals of the dear ones of our sisters of the different provinces. Sr. Imma's presence in the same place has changed the social and spiritual life of the people of that area. In the beginning of March the parishioners celebrated Sr. Imma's service of silver jubilee .