

September 2020



Loreto (IBVM) reaching out...



Loreto Provincialate, 7 Middleton Row, Kolkatta- 700 071, Ph: 4006 1156, E-mail: lorsecpro@gmail.com



*Listen, let your heart keep seeking, Listen to His
constant speaking,
Listen to the Spirit calling you.
Listen to His inspiration, Listen to His invitation,
Listen to the Spirit calling you.'*

God is constantly communicating with us through His/Her Word, through people and through the events of everyday life. There is no aspect of human life and emotion where God is not present. God is present in the good and even, in the seemingly ‘negative’ experiences. Can we look back over these months of lockdown and say ‘God was there’? We were going at a terrific pace and we seemed to be in control of things and then COVID 19 steps in and everything seemingly came to a standstill. Do we believe that GOD is still in control? We are called to leave what is safe and familiar and TRUST that God has our good at heart. If we truly listen with our hearts we will be able to see the hand of God in these most unexpected times. We have also realized what is truly important in life and to let go and let God travel with us into an unknown future knowing that He/She is our strong Companion and a Light in our darkest times.

This is our first issue of the Editorial Board of which Matilda, Prabina, Isilda and I are team members. Each one of you is very important to this newsletter and so we count on your cooperation and collaboration. We will get to know each other a little better through our sharings. Looking forward to working with you.

Best wishes

Mary De Souza



Mary
Isilda

Prabina
Matilda



Table of Contents

1. Wisdom Corner - Sr. Eithne
2. News from Entally Community - Sr. Carmella
3. Delhi Community - Sr. Babina
4. Experiences of Panighata Community - Sr. Sangeeta
5. Shillong Community - Sr. Balika
6. Shimla Community - Sr. Mariam
7. The Best Medicine - Sr. Adriana
8. My Experience - Sr. Abhay
9. Happenings of 52 C - Sr. Eithne
10. Sadam Community - Sr. Nithya
11. Recipes - Srs. Balika/ Euphemia / Baishakhi
12. Tertainship Experience - Sr. Anitha
13. News from Maria Sick Shelter Barisal Bangladesh - Sr. Regina
14. Loley Community - Sr. Biviyana
15. Loreto House Community - Srs. Anet & Ablin
16. Need of the Time - Sr. Anet
17. All about Ranchi Community - Srs. Punitha & Nirmala
18. News from Gyanalaya - Sr. Geraldine
19. Mukulika Community - Sr. Josephine
20. Inbox Me
21. Birthdays and Feast Days

ATTENTION
PLEASE



The first one to send the
correct answer will be the

WINNER

Send your correct answer to

southanewsletter@gmail.com

Don't miss this chance

HURRY UP !

Wisdom Corner

Sr Eithne

BE THANKFUL, EVER-GRATEFUL TO HIS UNSEEN GOODNESS.

"I HAVE RECEIVED SO MUCH, FAR FAR MORE THAN I HAVE GIVEN...

I AM NOT ABLE TO CONTAIN THE GOODNESS OF GOD".

These were the words of two cancer patients as they approached death. Without matching their intensity I would like to echo this cry of gratitude.



Looking back on my religious life , which began 68 years ago, Mary Ward's words, "Be thankful, ... His unseen goodness", have come to mean much to me. Entering the Novitiate in Rathfarnham was a strange move for me coming from a large, free and open-minded family. The little gesture of another postulant, changing her place to the edge of an open circle and inviting me to hers in the centre, put me at ease. Added to this was my Angel's attitude of "Blessed be God" in every situation. This set the tone for my Religious Life.

Coming to India was the fulfilment of a dream, but my early days in Loreto House, rather than Morapai which had attracted me in the first place, was somewhat disillusioning. It didn't last long. My mission to Sealdah where there were many poor children, and M. Kevin's love for them, urged me to upgrade myself for their sake. My next move to Entally was the most gripping and challenging of my life. I soon realized that academic qualifications were not enough. Love was the only force that would uplift the children to a sense of their own worth. I recognized its presence in the Community. This, and a sense of humour. Senior sisters have played a huge role in my life.

Over the years, significant changes have taken place both in our spirituality and mission. The Call of Vatican II to return to the spirit of our Foundress meant replacing the much cherished 81 Rules with the full Ignatian text . The new life discovered in time in the full text, put to rest the unease about relinquishing the old and above all brought us closer to the heart of Mary Ward. Similarly in our ministry our much loved free schools have been closed and the children accommodated in the main school. Among the new Outreach Programmes are our 5 Rainbow Homes which have survived the closure of the Lockdown.

Life of course has had its sorrows and difficulties. At these times the words "Under the Banner of the saving Cross" come to mind. Even the death of our dear ones has been accompanied with healing and a deeper appreciation of our call to fullness of life, "I will bring you Home, I love you and you are Mine".

News from Entally Community

It is difficult to give news of our Community without integrating it with Mission. Our Community is focused on Mission. Our Community Members are serving in the School, Hostel and the Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre.

The end of the academic year, in the last week of March, coincided with the 1st lockdown. Parents wished to take their children home for the short term break. However with Easter, the sudden announcement of lockdown, which has not yet ended, is the cause of the children being still at home.

Eight and now six boarders have been with us over these months. They have become part of the Community. They spend about an hour and a half in our Community room, with puzzles, toys, online stories and songs loud enough to bring the roof down! They also join us for Sunday Mass with the matrons and workers. Edeline is in charge of them. Incidentally she is the only pair of “LEGS”.

Apart from Sr. Monica Suchiang, the rest are SENIOR and ADVANCED Senior citizens! Sr. Celine is an exception to the rule as she can still enter a marathon race! Her music lifts our hearts and enriches our Liturgies.

Before the School closed, Sr. Arockia went home to Trichy for her grandmother's funeral in mid-March and has not been able to return yet due to the consequences of Covid lockdowns, cancellation of flights and increasing infections.

Sr. Jeba has left the Community to be the “Province Finance Minister”!

We followed online Masses till June 18th. The Salesians kindly celebrated the Liturgy for the Community. Now that they are in quarantine, we have Communion Services once again.

Amphan was another frightening experience. About 15ft of the wall from the Grotto down to the K.G. collapsed under the weight of falling trees. Much of the damage fell into Motijheel. Several trees were uprooted, including our best mango tree, incidentally planted by Sr. Maria Bastian. It was overladen with fruit. Windows fell, solar panels were destroyed and several window panes broke. We could add to the list! Fortunately Sr. Tina managed to avail of the services of the National Disaster Team to help clear the mess in Motijheel and at our front gate. The cost of repairs has been covered by kind donors. Entally is coming to life again.



Sr. Monica Suchiang has done yeoman service in reaching out to the poor and suffering without counting the cost. With her staff they have been distributing dry rations, soap, clothes, and blankets to all the outreach centres...the Sunderbans, and far flung areas near Ganga Sagar. Srs. Christine, Geraldine, Anjuman and Anita Lakra have assisted her in these times of distress. Reports of these services have already been circulated in the province.

KMWSC has added a richness to the mission of Entally and the Province.



Online Classes in Faith Formation are taken by Sr. Carmella. She tries to contact the Catholics from Classes 6 to 12. Sr. Edeline has helped her with the technology.

The Community attended Sr. Sudha's presentation of "Living the Just Soul Today".

Contributed by Sr. Carmella

Delhi Community

Birthday Celebration

The community was happy to celebrate Life during this lock-down of sisters Monica, Matilda and Babina. Special prayers services were prepared by the sister in charge and we had beautiful sharing. We had fun time together; partying and dance.



Fruity Treat

We are blessed to have a beautiful compound with a beautiful garden. We were lucky to taste varieties of fruits this pandemic- mango, papaya, grapes, custard-apple, banana and pears we enjoyed having together. We planted few vegetables, garlic and sag. During this pandemic we learnt that home gardening is very important.



Community Life

As a Community praying together is a blessing.

We continue to pray for healing for Mother Earth. In community we have twice a month Recollection.



Contributed by Sr. Babina

Experiences of Panighata Community

In the beginning of lockdown, we thought that it would be a matter of a few days but this turned out to be something different that we never thought of or we ever imagined. The lockdown began on the 24th of March. Greta had left for a course in Patna – Atma Dharshan. As the School was closed Srs. Subhashini and Sangeeta went to make their retreat in Pastoral Centre, Matigarha. From Champasri, Preety came to stay with Sr. Amia. They were busy doing all kinds of things like gardening, cleaning, cooking etc. After Subhashini and Sangeeta returned Preety went back to her community. We utilized our time experimenting new things...

Home made Tea leaves

Plucking tea leaves from local tea gardens and making homemade tea leaves. It was a great joy to make tea leaves at home. This was a new experience for all of us.

Evening Walks

We in Panighata are very blessed to have such a vast expanse of greenery, a beautiful river and mountains. Every evening we went for long evening walks which rejuvenated us both mentally and physically.



Celebrations

On Environment Day we planted 20 trees in our school campus. We beautified the garden, planted flowers, cleaned the school campus. We went to pluck all sorts of green leafy vegetables, mushrooms, fruits. It was a joy sharing this abundance of nature with our neighbors.

Besides all this we too had an occasion to celebrate life.

We celebrated Greta's birthday.

Cooking skills

We also tried our hand at different kinds of cooking/baking. These cooking experiments turned out to be a great hit!



Visiting the sick and needy

We visited sick people and distributed rations to the people who didn't have enough food to eat. We were happy to see smiles on their faces.

We never realized how the time passed. These were the moments of joy and opportunities for new discoveries.

In a nut shell the time of Covid -19 lockdown was the time for reflection, to be in touch with ourselves, with the people around us and the time for sharing and caring for one another. Thanks be to the Almighty God who is with us and who will be with us always.

Contributed by Sr. Sangeeta



Shillong Community

We would like to share with you that this unusual lockdown had a positive effect in our community. It brought us closer to each other and helped us to get to know each other better. It also has made us technologically savvy!!! We have attended many zoom meetings and google meets. This has kept us in touch with the Province too.



We, as a community are grateful to God for the gift of life. We were privileged to celebrate two Birthdays on the 19th July - Sr. Mercia's and on the 21st July - Sr. Reshma's. The days began with the holy Eucharist followed by breakfast and cutting of the cake. In the evening we had a special prayer service prepared by Sr.Makhelina.



On the 31st July, we had a celebration - St. Ignatius of Loyola. We began the day with the Eucharistic celebration. On the evening of the same day Sr. Mary prepared a beautiful prayer service on the life of St. Ignatius.



On the 5th August we organised a google meet session for the support staff. Sr. Badarilin spoke on Mary Ward and our Spirituality, Sr. Soria spoke on Commitment and Team Work and Sr. Banisha spoke on Self-Care. The workers were very happy and appreciative. We hope to follow this up with a monthly Mass/Prayer Service, where they will get some regular spiritual nourishment.



Contributed by Sr. Balika

Shimla Community

We celebrated the Crowning of our Lady on 1st May with a Rosary procession from the grotto of our Lady near the residence to the grotto of our Lady near the main gate.

Naresh, the supervisor and his family, and our security guard, Binod joined the community for prayer. We ended the procession at our chapel. In each place we crowned our Lady. It was very meaningful for each one of us.



We celebrated the feast of the Visitation of Our Lady as well at the end of the month on 31st May. We had a beautiful prayer service. Being a rainy day we had the rosary procession along the different parts of the residence ending in the chapel. The beautiful prayer session ended with a prayer dance by Srs. Madhuri and Priyanka.

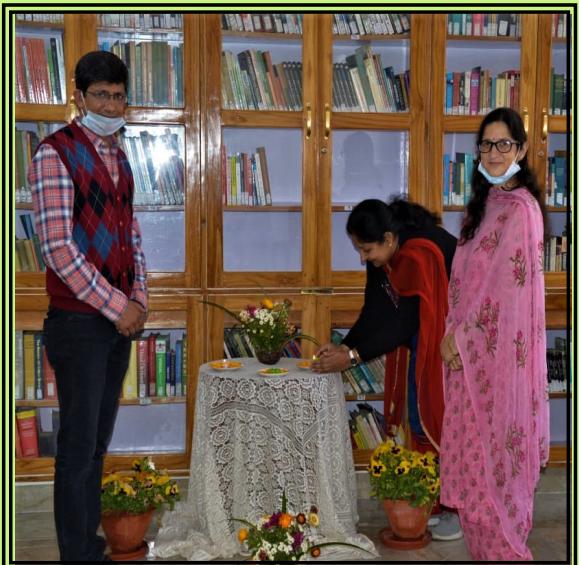
We had several activities since the lockdown i.e. from 23rd March.



We had meaningful holy hours including acting out the Emmaus story. We follow the online Mass of Oswald Cardinal Gracias from the Archdiocese of Bombay. We are inspired by the way he celebrates the Liturgy as well as his sermons. In the evening we follow the online catechesis and prayer from the Archdiocese of Bombay. Each day there are different speakers to suit the needs of adults, youth, and children. Some of these talks are based on various themes like counselling, Scripture study, and talks on the laity as well as the cardinal's question and answer session every Sunday. Each session ends with different methods of prayer. We found these sessions very enriching, inspiring, lively and informative and we look forward to them.

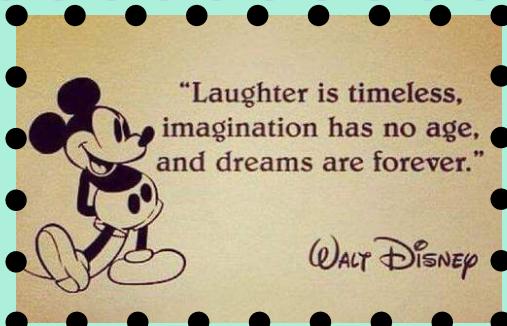


We bade farewell to Mr. Vishal Gupta and Mrs. Piali Chakraborty and welcomed Mrs. Upasna Gupta with a meaningful prayer service on 8th June. This service was attended by the three coordinators and the community.



Contributed by Sr. Mariam

THE BEST MEDICINE



TEACHER: Children tell me the rhyming words for 'moon'.

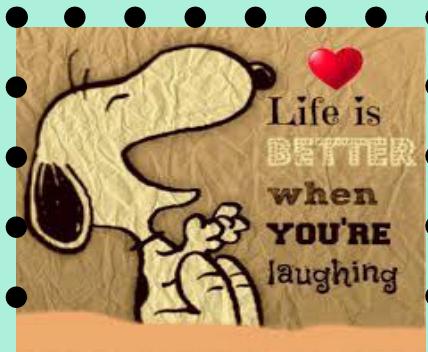
RAY: Sir will I say?

TEACHER: Of course

RAY: noon, spoon, June, boon, coon, hoon, zoom

TEACHER: Thank you Ray. Who wants to add more?

JOY: And so on...



On the footpath, beggar to passerby.

BEGGAR: Please give me 50 rupees.

PASSERBY: Sorry I cannot give money but I can give you my BA certificate.

BEGGAR: Sir shall I give you my MA certificate?

A Nun dies and she was on her way to heaven.

She met St. Francis of Assisi.



FRANCIS OF ASSISI: You need to answer some questions before entering into heaven.

NUN: I am ready

FRANCIS OF ASSISI: You need to tell me something about Pope Francis's book 'Laudato Si'

NUN: I know it very well. I have read it many times.

**"Praise be to you through brother sun and sister moon
Praise be to you through father fire and mother water
Praise be to you through uncle storm and aunt wind."**
Francis of Assisi: Stop! Stop! You can enter into heaven.



Contributed by Sr. Adriana

My Experience

Sr Abhay

I thank God for my vocation to the religious life and I also thank Him for His constant presence and unconditional love for me. There were ups and down in my life journey, but through different people I have experienced God's guidance, love and help. It has strengthened my faith, and I have grown and come closer to God.



My first mission was in Panighatta. I enjoyed working with the people and in the school. I took care of the sick students and used to reach them to their homes. Everything was new for me. It was the first time I prepared the children for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. I felt that by God's grace everything went well. Through house visiting I mixed with the people and listened deeply to their sharing. I came to know their problems.

Another mission also I helped in, was in the Doranda Parish in Ranchi. I used to take Catechism class on Sunday. Once I took the children for Confirmation class. I used to distribute Communion. During the holidays I had visited the candidates' homes and also different Parishes.

Staying in Loreto House I have learnt many things and experienced a lot of loving care, help and support from the sisters. I was very happy to visit the elderly and sick sisters. Through listening to their sharing I was touched when they used to say "You are the future of the Institute". It gave me strength to go ahead. Sometimes I participated in the Parish Church Sunday Mass in the Hindi reading and leading the Way of the Cross. It was a good experience for me.

Again I got the opportunity to work in our Panighata mission. I have contributed in a small way by giving my time for the weak children. My desire was to help them. I learnt how to be patient with them. I have visited many students' homes and others too. I have prepared the students for the Bible Quiz. Many schools participated in Good Shepherd School, Bagdogra and our students came first. I felt very happy.

I am very grateful to God and all the sisters who have helped me in my life journey in different ways. Sometimes I feel that when I am weak and fall, then I am strong. Trusting in God our Creator who knows everything and what is best for me and that God has a plan for me I move forward with hope and confidence.



Happenings of 52 C

Visitors

While we were settling down to our new home in Loreto Residence, we have had a busy time with various loving, caring and generous visitors locally and from afar.



The Friends of Mary Ward after a session with Sr. Beatrice came over to the refectory and conducted a beautifully prepared prayer service, after which there were songs and games with prizes. A lovely joy filled relaxing evening when we got to know each other especially the new members over a cup of tea and snacks provided by our guests. Each one of us received a gift of a warm scarf.

Our long standing friends, Mrs Uma Ahmed and Mrs Katie Dalal paid us a visit laden with tasty sandwiches. All were present, some in wheel chairs or walkers – great evening of interesting conversation and laughter.

The other occasion was just before the lockdown when Margaret Paschal and friends arrived in the afternoon. They recalled and enjoyed stories of the past and sang songs taught by Sr. Alice Mary and Sr. M. Celine. Sr. Lourdes in the meanwhile with the help of a visitor brought in thirteen cups of tea which gave a further boost to the gathering.



With renewed zest Margaret Francis launched forth into humorous recitations. Sr. Cyril had been having some special guests the most distinguished being Harsh Mandir. He arrived one day with Kaveri Dutt and they chatted together in her room, a most simple person who enjoyed listening to her Limericks. He made enquiries about our caring staff. Indeed it is due to Shampa, our Nurse, and carer that the Sisters' health is so good. Sr. Joan, despite predictions of doctors, walks with help every evening. Sr. Maria who had had a fall while feeding the birds is full of life though off and on in pain.

Celebrations

The Entally community and us, had a joined celebration for the Diamond Jubilee of our dear Sisters Maria Bas- tian and Carmella Coelho.

The celebration started with the Mass con-celebrated by Fathers – Franklin Menezes and T.C. Jose, sdb.

The décor was tastefully done and our choir was exceptionally beautiful.

After the Eucharistic Celebration there was a fellowship lunch for all.

The Jubilantes was sung with great feeling.



St. Patrick's Day brought joy to all of us. We began the day with both communities celebrating the Eucharist together in our Chapel (52C). After that Sr. Monica Suchiang hosted us with her community in the new KMWSC Café to a warm welcome by her staff and a delicious lunch.

At tea time we had our sisters coming from our various communities in Kolkata to spend time with us with plenty of "goodies". Sr. Magdalene who loved to see old friends and who surely gave her usual reply to enquiries with a smile, "I am fine" was thrilled that day to have so many around her.

Our days of freedom ended shortly after St. Patrick's Day Celebrations!

"NO Visitors due to COVID 19," This notice went up on our gate just a day ahead of PM's announcement of lockdown. Our "chaplain", Fr. Franklin Menezes, aware of the rapid spread of the virus recommended it and Sr. Beatrice took no chances.



The lockdown began a few days later. Sr. Beatrice was busy trying to stock up food stuff and medication. Some of the staff were caught unawares because of the lockdown. Several rooms had to been given to the staff during this time of the pandemic.



Sudden dismissal

Sr. Magdalen's death came suddenly, quietly and peacefully. We gathered around her bed after dinner, prayed with her, now unconscious. Many remained on until after midnight and then left to take a bath or to have a nap. It was then that she passed on to her heavenly home in the presence of Shampa and the carer.

We gathered immediately and thanked God for her gentle presence in our lives. The Mass was devotional and beautiful with Fr. Robin Gomes, SDB as celebrant. Our two Communities, Provincial and two from Loreto House were present. Because of the lockdown the journey to St. John's cemetery was smooth and easy.



Installation of Sr. Beatrice as CL

Our community room is an all-purpose room. At present we are participating in the Holy Eucharistic celebration from Bombay with Cardinal Gracias as celebrant who lifts up our hearts with his inspired homilies. Here also we had the installation of Sr. Beatrice with a special Prayer Service prepared by her adapted to the new mode of the Participative leadership. It began with an introduction explaining the Ignatian model of obedience. This was followed by a pattern of Scripture Readings, Constitutions and appropriate hymns. The PLT invited Sr. Beatrice to make her commitment with the following symbols:

FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS
SR BEATRICE'S INSTALLATION 2020



LORETO RESIDENCE
52 C RADHANATH CHOWDHURY ROAD
KOLKATA 70015

PATEN- To remind us of the daily breaking of Bread at Mass, a sign of celebration and love, and remembering the fragility of all members at 52C and planet Earth.

BIBLE- Word of God to be a source of inspiration, listening, responding, to God's plan in our life.

CONSTITUTION- Our Charism for our guidance.

OIL- To be a blessing on Sr. Beatrice and all in community , a discerning and caring CL, allowing the oil of gladness to flow in abundance.

Being part of KMWSC

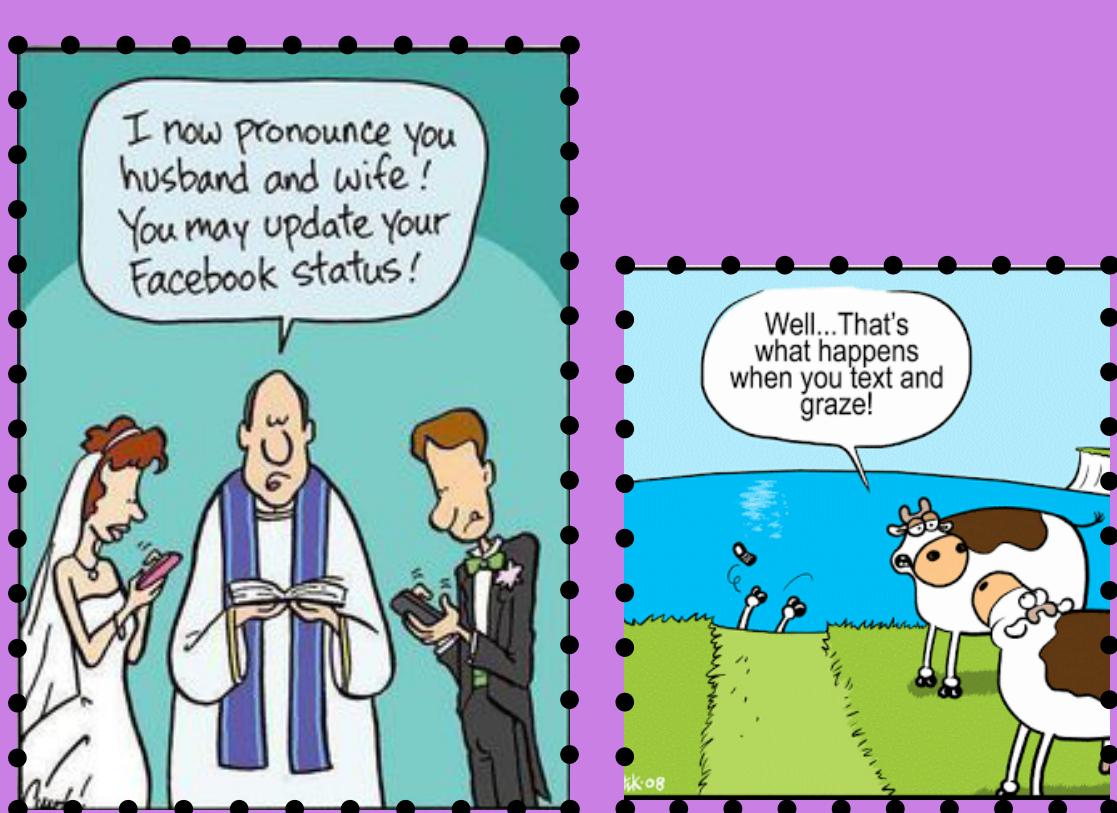
We were very happy to have this opportunity to express our solidarity with the Anti-Trafficking Networks offered to us by KMWSC.



We are grateful to Sr. Tina who responds to our every need that has been helpful towards our transition and adjustments in Loreto Residence. We are thankful too for the Entally community sharing with us, mangoes, jackfruits, fish and much more!

Our Support Staff have been selfless and cheerful during this lockdown. They have shown a wonderful spirit of co-operation. Sr. Beatrice has been very considerate towards them. We are blessed!

Contributed by Sr. Eithne



Sadam Community

As a community, we feel this time has been a period of reflection, a time for introspection and going deeper into our hearts and listening to the voice of God amidst uncertainties; helping us to place all our trust in the Lord. Yes, God has His perfect time.

We begin our day with the Lord and have a communion service; each of us taking it in turn to lead the prayer. As a community, during these days we are able to share our hearts desires as well as the times when we feel disturbed and depressed with the things that happen around us. This openness in sharing and listening to each other's feelings bind us more closely as a loving community. We are being able to strengthen each other by our presence and support. This time has bonded us more as companions on the journey.

We are able to spend quality time with nature apart from sending homework to the students. We as a community clean our surroundings, and plant and remove weeds in our vegetable garden.

During these days as we work in the garden, we are able to feel the presence of God in nature as we constantly reflect and meditate on the important value of St. Ignatius' "FINDING GOD IN EVERYTHING". Yes, we are able to find God's presence in nature and His unconditional love through His creation.

We are also grateful to our sisters for giving us online sessions on various topics during this pandemic to keep us engaged. We have learnt a lot from attending these webinars and sessions.

Visitation of Nurses

We were also visited by our nurses from Primary Health Center, Sadam who gave us sanitizers and handmade masks. We were indeed overwhelmed with joy to have them and grateful to their kindness.

At the end of the day, as a community we thank the Lord who is protecting and keeping all of us safe through our adoration and evening prayer. We hope and pray for the whole world as everyone is striving for good health and peace. As

we reflect and we know that God has his time for everything, let us wait patiently on the Lord and hold all in our daily prayers.

Contributed by Sr. Nithya



RECIPES

Biscuit Cake

Ingredients

Biscuit - 13 pieces (any kind of biscuit)

Baking powder- a pinch

Milk – 1 ½ cup (liquid)

Method

At first put the biscuits into the machine to make it fine.

Then put it into a bowl and add a pinch of baking powder and mix well.

Then add milk a little at a time to make a smooth batter before baking.

Pour a packet of salt into a big covered dish and put a stand in it to keep the baking dish.

First, pre-heat the big dish on a low fire for 5 minutes.

Apply oil in the baking dish then pour the batter in.

Tap the baking dish.

As the salt is pre-heated place the baking dish on it and keep a medium fire for 10 minutes, then lower the fire for another 10 minutes.

Then check the cake until it's ready.

It takes about 30 minutes to bake.



Contributed by Sr. Balika

Carrot Pickle

Ingredients

½ kg – carrots

1 tea spoon-ginger & garlic each

½ tea spoon – mustard seeds

Curry leaves

3 serving spoons- chilli powder

½ tea spoon- turmeric powder

½ small cup- vinegar

Salt to taste



Method

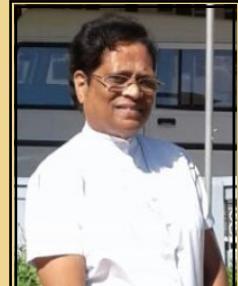
Cut the carrots either in cubes or length wise, add salt and keep aside for 10 minutes.

Heat the oil, add mustard seeds, ginger, garlic and curry leaves.

Cook for a minute and add chilli powder, turmeric and vinegar.

Add carrots and salt to taste but don't overcook the carrots.

Contributed by Sr. Euphemia



RECIPE

Hot and Sweet Dates, Amsat and Tomata Chutney

Ingredients

500gm Dates - remove the seeds and cut into small pieces,
3 medium size tomatoes,
250gm Amsat cut into small pieces,
100gm Cashew nuts,
2 dry chillies, 1 tea spoon of panchphoran, 4 table spoons of sugar,
1 tea spoon of jheera and 1 tea spoon of dhaniya with 1 cumin leaf fried together and made into a powder.



Method

Add 2 table spoons of oil into a pan on the fire.

As the oil gets hot put the panchphoran and 2 dry chillies cut into 4 pieces and fry them together for just 3 minutes.

Add the chopped tomatoes, 1 tea spoon of haldi powder and salt according to your taste.

Cook them for 5-7 minutes.

As the tomatoes get cooked, add the dates, amsat and cashew nuts.

Mix all the ingredients well.

Cook for few minutes and add some hot water.

Cook for another few minutes.

As all the ingredients get cooked, add the sugar and smash the dates with the spoon.

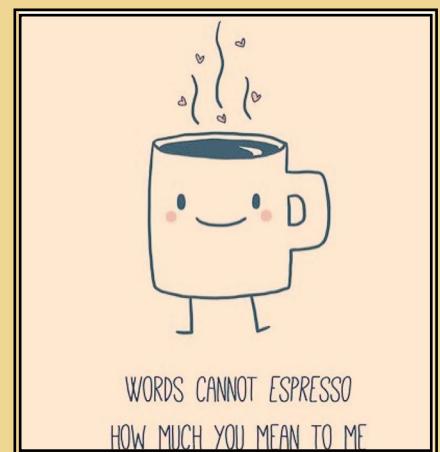
Remember not to make the chutney too watery or too dry.

Now add the fried powder masala and cook for 3 minutes.

You can keep this chutney for a minimum of one month.



Contributed by Sr. Baishakhi



Tertianship Experience

Sr Anitha

First of all let me thank the Generalate team and our Province leadership team for giving me this opportunity to make my tertianship outside my country, India and have a wider community experience with the tertianship group in Ireland.

In the beginning I had to make an effort to get to know the others in the group who were from different countries, cultures and backgrounds but once I came to know them it was easy for me to mix with them and feel at home with all my friends.

From our sharing I came to know that all of us have struggles in our spiritual life and our journey as religious.



The following are the learnings and discoveries I brought with me to live my life in the years ahead as a child of God and a daughter of Mary Ward:

- Passion to read the constitutions daily, reflect on it and practice it in my life.
- I came to know that art and its colours could even talk to me.
- I was a person who always believed in doing but from the tertianship experience I have learned and realized that being is more important than doing and that I need to give time for myself –self-love and self-care.
- It is very important to own my feelings and to recognize all as a part of me and to select and accept the feelings which are healthy and help me to grow. Thus I learned to balance myself and my feelings.



- Trip to Rome and York was a moving experience. How privileged I was to walk the same ground which Mary Ward had walked and I asked the grace to be grateful to God always.

Graces from 30 days Retreat

Rooted in God and his love, like Peter to listen to Jesus with zeal and desire. I am ready to cast my net deeper into the sea and do God's will. Everything is possible with Christ. God has not yet finished with me. I am still being moulded by the Potter.



Apostolic Experience

I am grateful to God and my tertianship community in Gorey for all their loving support and care that I received during my stay for three months. In the SVP shop I learned to be humble and I was able to do whatever was given to me by the manager of SVP. I was happy to see that the poor were taken care of by the SVP. Being in the community I learned that our sisters are so loving and caring towards each other.

Special thanks to Srs. Eileen Linehan our Tertian Director and Anastasia our Assistant Tertian Director for accompanying us.



News from Maria Sick Shelter, Barisal Bangladesh

The joy of giving is greater than the joy of receiving. It is three years since we, the Loreto Sisters had begun our Health ministry in Barisal, in collaboration with Caritas.

The Caritas in Barisal Division has been very kind and generous towards our maintenance and has set up a self contained house on the Roof Top of the Caritas building for a small community of Loreto sisters to reside. It is here that Sr.Sushila Turkey and I began to practice our nursing profession by being available to all the poor and needy from far off villages.



The Caritas in Barisal has begun a Sick Shelter with the help of a project, and we assist the feeble, weak and sick people, who come to town to visit the doctors in the government hospital. We accompany them to visit the doctors and make necessary appointments. They often have to stay back in the sick shelter due to various tests prescribed by the doctors. Moreover their village homes are so far off, that they are unable to return on the same day.



So this Sick Shelter is a blessing for many underprivileged, downtrodden village people to get food and lodging free of cost, along with all the medical support from us. This service is very demanding and yet, when I look back now, I get surprised as to how the three years have flown by so quickly. During these three years I have learnt many things and came to know a lot of people. We are truly grateful to Barisal Diocese, Caritas and Loreto Padribhipur Community for their constant support.

Sr. Sushila Tirkey worked with me from the beginning of our ministry in Maria Sick Shelter at Barisal for more than one year. She was a great help to me as we both are nurses by profession. She touched many people's hearts and they still remember her. They often ask about her each time I visit various villages.

Contributed by Sr. Regina



Lolay Community

On 14th of June Sharon Rai from Lolay, who completed her Class 12 from Loreto St. Teresa's Darjeeling this year and who is interested in joining us, came to stay with us. She was happy and enjoyed her stay.

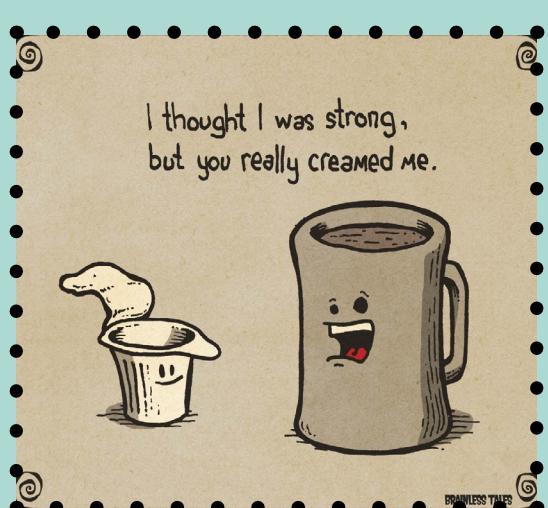
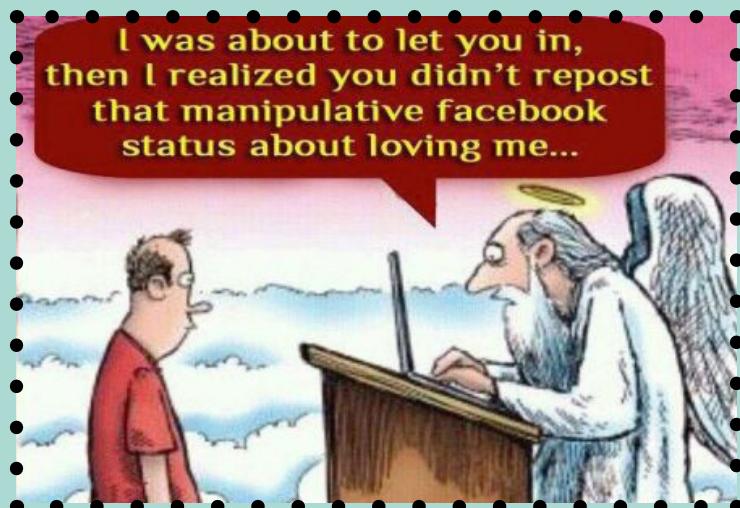


When we go for house visiting we share our joy, hope and faith with the people.
The families always cherish our presence.

We as a community went to congratulate Sharon for her successful results in Class XII.

On 3rd August Darjeeling Diocesan Youth organized online singing, drawing, painting and storytelling competitions for the youth. The sisters helped the children and the youth to bring out their talents. The children who participated from Lolay Parish were very happy for this opportunity.

Contributed by Sr. Bivijana



Loreto House Community

We are grateful to Almighty God who has been so good to us by protecting, guiding and providing us with all our needs, whereas millions of our brothers and sisters are unfortunately struggling to live their daily lives.

As the whole world is facing this pandemic for almost five months, it has challenged us in all spheres of life; emotionally, mentally, physically, spiritually, psychologically etc. With the help of each other we are learning and trying to cope with the insecurities, hopelessness, and chaos in our world as well as within ourselves, and also realizing the value of life by going deeper in our way of living and making an effort to spread positivity in whatever way we can.

We are all together in this crisis and we are trying to create and make our community livelier by contributing our bit by sharing our daily experiences to build a healthy and hopeful environment. This togetherness has helped us a lot to know each other in a deeper manner, by listening to each other's sharing even revisiting our past life with gratitude. We have been getting everyday Eucharistic celebrations in our community and daily Holy Hour, where we remember our whole broken world and pray for the mercy of God to touch each one of us, especially our people who are affected with Covid-19. It has increased our faith and trust in God who still loves our world unconditionally.

Welcome

We welcomed our new members to

**Loreto House community; Srs. Phyllis, Jeba and Rani on 7th June, 2020 with
a short prayer service and programme.**

Later we also welcomed Sr. Lynette to our community.



Recreation

Each liturgy group takes it in turn to organize recreation where we feel refreshed, laugh, share and relax .

We feel happy being together because it helps us to be positive during this pandemic.



- If bread is the first necessity of life, recreation is a close second.
- Edward Bellamy



House Visiting

God gives us the strength and courage when we respond to His call with trust and faith. There was a man called Zeeshan who was suffering from mouth cancer and our sisters would visit him every week since last year but due to Covid-19 we had not visited him often.

On 21st July 2020 suddenly around 10:00 p.m. at night we got a call from his family to give him the Last Sacraments. It was not easy for us to move out but having faith in God we went and gave him the Last Sacraments and the next day he left peacefully for his heavenly abode.

Feast Day

On the feast day of
St. Ignatius of Loyola
we had a special prayer
in our community.



Helping hand towards Rainbow

We are continuing helping our Rainbow children.
We teach and play with them.

Helping hand toward KMWSC

Srs. Agnes, Christine and Geraldine had
gone to Lodhapara (Gangasagar)
accompanying Sr. Monica Suchaing to
distribute basic needs to the unfortunate
community affected by the
Amphan Cyclone.



Online Course for Temporary Sisters

We the juniors of Loreto House community attended a course on “**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**” organized by Xavier Institute of Engineering in collaboration with St. Xavier’s College Mumbai for six weeks. We found it very enriching and fruitful. We have gained knowledge and become familiar with the environmental issues as well as with the use of technology.



Contributed by Srs. Anet & Ablin



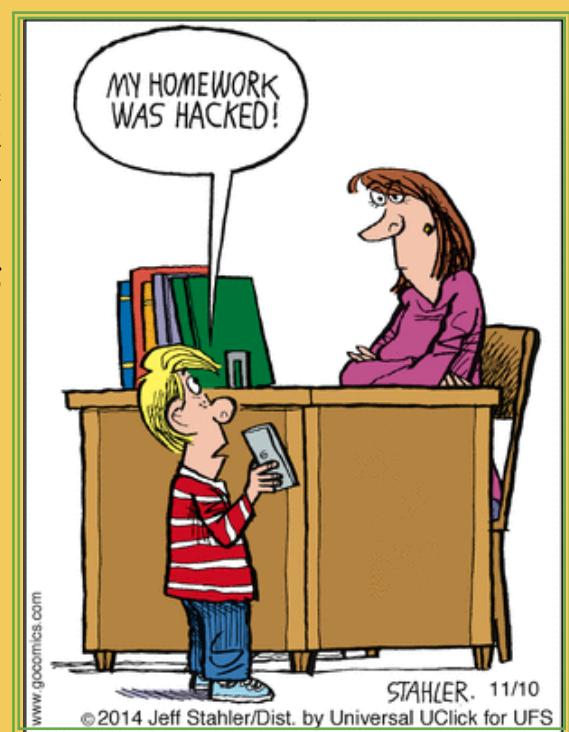
Need of the Time

Sr. Anet

Technology is an important tool for connectivity during this pandemic. Covid-19 has shaken the whole world and there has been very little movement. We have been locked up in our homes. Since there is no security of travelling and being together we have failed to meet our loved ones or to fulfil our plans which were made earlier. So, technology has become a real blessing for the people who have been provided with this facility. It has helped us immensely in our educational system where an educator or teacher has the ability to teach the students.

Though it's not satisfactory, it has given them the opportunity to convey their lessons. Another great thing is that we can update ourselves and know what's happening in the world and be aware of different issues by watching the news and attending online courses to develop our talents.

Therefore, let's have a grateful heart to be thankful for this asset called ‘TECHNOLOGY’ and the people who worked hard to create it as well as the people who are working tirelessly by providing us net facilities and letting us connect with our loved ones and the whole world. Share your good thoughts and deeds through technology and keep building a better place for all to live in.



RANCHI COMMUNITY

Helping hand

3rd to 20th June we started going to the villages to distribute rations to the poor people. The youth team of Ranchi diocese accompanied us. The food packets were given by some of our past pupils and parents of our school. They were very generous and eager to help the needy. The groups of people whom we helped were mainly the old and widows. We could see joy on their faces when they received the food packets.

Visitors

We had a very special visit from the Bishop of Hazaribag, Rev. Dr. Anand Jojo who came in search of information on Loreto's connection with the present Police Training College in Hazaribag. Sr. Maeve was able to give him the information that he was looking for since she knew the history of the place. Bishop Anand had lunch with us and entertained the community with lively conversation.



Frs. Nicholas and Augustine from Gumla also visited us in the month of June. It was a friendly visit.

We invited for tea the youth group of the Ranchi diocese who helped us with the distribution of the food packets.

We had a very enjoyable evening. They were also very happy to meet all the sisters in the community.



Recollement

On 27th June, we had a community recollection guided by Fr. Aurel SJ. He gave us a talk on ‘Community living’; it was a very insightful and reflective talk.

On 11th July, a day of recollection was arranged for our support staff too. Fr. Ignace SJ, gave a talk on ‘Family life’. It was very meaningful. After the talk we had Holy Mass for which all the sisters joined. We had lunch together with the workers, which was cooked by the sisters. It was a happy event and much appreciated by the working staff.

Outing

The first outing of our community after the lockdown was to a village called Muru, for the House Blessing of our driver Sanjay’s new house. Despite heavy monsoon showers we arrived there dry. We had lunch after the blessing and returned home. It was a happy day with all the family members and all our community present to rejoice with them.

Celebrations

The community celebrated the Environment Day by planting saplings and had a special prayer service in the evening.



We celebrated Srs. Rajni’s and Anima’s birthdays. On Rajni’s birthday we had our lunch under the new umbrella in the garden. On Anima’s birthday we had some games.

Special prayers were prepared for these days. They were wonderful celebrations.



The Enneagram Retreat

On 12th July the Temporary Professed Sisters and Sr. Baishakhi went to Jharna for the Enneagram program. It was a six days course and we all found it very enriching and helpful. It was a wonderful experience for all of us, to know ourselves better and to understand others. In the beginning it was hard for all of us to know our number. As we continued reflecting and sharing in the group we were able to help each other to discover ourselves.



Catechism Sessions

On 24th July we had online catechism sessions organized by Sr. Phyllis. The resource person was Fr. Johnson Robert. The whole community took part in it. We learnt new ideas and methodology to teach our children in a better way, and to understand the Word of God and deepen our faith.

The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola

On 31st July, the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, we had an online Mass at 6.30am. We had a Quiz competition about his life. We were divided into two groups. This experience reminded us of our time in the Novitiate, where we used to have lots of acting on the life of different saints.



"UP HILL"

We, the Juniors have daily English class with Sr. Maeve Hughes, which is very helpful. On 4th August we had a poem recitation "UP HILL" by Christina Rossetti. This poem is about the struggle on life's journey. This helped us to understand the challenges in life.

Online installation of the Community Leader

On 6th August we were very happy to have Sr. V. Punitha's online installation as our Community Leader. We had a short prayer service led by Sr. Gloria and we congratulated her with a beautiful bouquet. After that we had a delicious dinner.



Recycle

On 9th August old wax was recycled and we prepared beautiful and colorful candles.



AGM meeting online

On 13th August the whole community joined the AGM meeting online. This was a very good opportunity for all of us to know about the various matters which were discussed and decided upon.

Independence Day celebration

On 15th August we had the Independence Day celebration with the community and our support staff. The Temporary Professed Sisters performed a short program.

Sr. Nirmala gave an introduction about Independence Day, after which Sr. Punitha hoisted the Flag and then Sr. Binita gave a speech about how our great heroes fought for our Mother India.





House Blessing

We had invited Fr. Vinod SJ, for the blessing of the House and the newly renovated kitchen. He brought us some saplings too.

New members of the Community

We have some new members who joined us during the lockdown to bring new life to the community. They are; puppies (our dog has given birth to 4 puppies), hens, rabbits, fish and the cat. They have added joy to our community.



Contributed by Srs. Punitha & Nirmala

NEWS FROM GHANALAYA

Sr Geraldine

'YOU ARE CALLED TO A VOCATION OF LOVE' Mary Ward

On the 22nd August, 2020, the Feast of the Queenship of Mary, the Sisters gathered to celebrate the Perpetual Professions of Sisters Ganga Jyothi Bardewa, Rani Hembram , Ranjita Kerketta and Anita Nayak at the chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Loreto House, Kolkata. There was an atmosphere of joy and the chapel was beautifully and tastefully decorated to suit the celebration.



Rev Fr. Dominic Gomes, the Vicar General of the archdiocese of Kolkata was the celebrant as Archbishop Thomas D'Souza could not be present due to his ill health. The Covid-19 situation with the strict lockdown and travel restrictions gave an opportunity for many to join in the celebration according to the times, as the Loreto sisters went live on YouTube. Even though the family and friends of our four sisters and the Loreto sisters could not be present physically, many were able to witness it and be part of the celebration by watching it live.

The young sisters of the community led the celebrant, Fr. Dominic and Sr. Sabrina Edwards, the Provincial Leader, the Leadership Team, Sr. Geraldine Moktan, the Director of Temporary Professed and the four sisters to the altar with a beautiful entrance dance.



The Loreto House community choir under the guidance of Sr. Molly Francis added joy and festivity to the Eucharistic Celebration.

Rev. Fr. Dominic Gomes, gave an inspiring homily, exhorting the Sisters to be faithful to community life, to live radically the perpetual vows they were about to pronounce and to lead a life of witness by remaining in God's Love and sharing this love with all, wholeheartedly

and joyfully. The serenity that filled the room reverberated with the full presence of the triune God and the angels as Sr. Soria Nongdu led the entire congregation in chanting the Litany of the Saints. The vows were received by Sr. Sabrina.



The four were then presented with the rings, a symbol of Christ's fidelity to them and their consecration to Him.

Then Sr. Sabrina publicly confirmed that Sisters Ganga Jyothi Bardewa , Rani Hembram, Ranjita Kerketta and Anita Nayak are lifelong members of the Institute.

To this the congregation responded with a joyful "Alleluia Amen"



Due to the Covid-19 situation we could not give the four sisters the traditional 'Loreto' hug to welcome them as part of us. Hence we went up to congratulate the newly professed with a 'Namaste' and welcomed them to the Institute.



After Holy Communion, the four finally Professed Sisters shared their feelings of gratitude and thankfulness to God for his love and blessings, for their lives and vocation and thanked all those who prepared and made the day meaningful.



After the Eucharist the community gathered to present a short performance and felicitated the four sisters who made their Final Commitment. The day ended with a delicious dinner. It was indeed a joyful day for our four sisters and all of us who witnessed this beautiful occasion. We thank God for the life and vocation of our sisters and the joy they brought to us.

MUKULIKA COMMUNITY

We are pleased to share with you about what is happening here at Mukulika. The month of June has been a very inspiring, enriching and moving time with the various sessions we joined in: the sessions on Environmental sustainability, the Just Soul, the Accountancy course and the Zoom meeting for the memorandum study of the society.

As a formation community in this time of uncertainty, we try to be attuned to the global reality in solidarity with the whole world. We still continue online Mass except on Thursday and Friday as we get mass from Dhyan Ashram. We have community prayer, the rosary and daily adoration. The month of June was also a very life-giving experience as we were so involved in cultivating vegetables in our kitchen garden.



June 28th was a very sad day for us when we got the news about Sr. Priyanka Topno being transferred to Loreto Sealdah. On the 5th of July we had a farewell for her. We had a lovely short programme prepared by the candidates and a special prayer service for her. On 6th July Priyanka left for her new mission.

On 18th of July Sr. Geraldine came to stay with us for a week and took classes for the candidates. We were so happy to have her and enjoyed her company .On 27th we had a short programme for Sr. Geraldine prepared by the candidates. On the 31st July, the feast of St. Ignatius we had online Mass in the morning and in the evening we had a special prayer service.

On 4th of August we celebrated the feast of St. John Mary Vianney and took the opportunity to wish our new P.P Fr. Santhanam and assistant P.P Fr. Pradip. 15th August was another memorable day for us. We had flag hoisting in school by ourselves. It was so different without the children and teachers. Soon after the flag hoisting we had an online prayer service and a beautiful programme by the teachers and students. We had a GK Quiz and short programme by our candidates. On 18th of August we managed to get the K.M.C to sanitize the school and campus as well as the convent.



Contributed by Sr. Josephine



QUIZ TIME
DO NOT DELAY ANSWER AND WIN



QUIZ TIME



1. Rearrange the following letters so as to form one word:

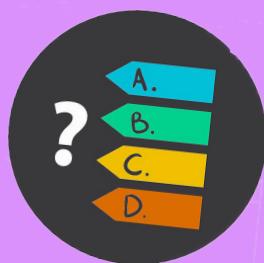
DON WORE

3. Use these letters UMXIA and form a seven letter word.

4. How many times can you subtract the number 5 from 35?

5. A and B are young ones of C. If C is the father of A but B is not the son of C. How are B and C related.

- a. Niece and Uncle
- b. Daughter and Father
- c. Niece and Uncle
- d. Daughter and Mother



Put on your thinking caps and send the correct answer to

southanewsletter@gmail.com



THE FIRST CORRECT INBOX ANSWER WILL BE THE WINNER



DO NOT DELAY !



EXCITING PRIZES WAITING FOR YOU

OPEN FOR ALL SISTERS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd Leena Lakra
- 8th Amia Tete
- 9th Anu Anet Lepcha
- 13th Barbara Rudum
- 14th Lynette Daniel-Palmer
- 15th Mary De Souza
- 17th Malti Lomga
- 18th Beatrice Stuart
- 21st Anita Lakra
- 22nd Prabina Rudum
- 23rd Tina Farias
- 25th Ponnamma Nadackal
- 27th Tressia T. Aricatt
- 30th Anupa Toppa

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4th Sushila Kerketta
- 5th Flora Anthony
- 5th Ablin Tirkey
- 8th Lily Grace Soreng
- 12th Sushila Tirkey
- 12th Ranjeeta Kerketta
- 23rd Celine Pinto
- 28th Rosita Tirkey
- 30th Christopher D'Souza

IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE ROAD YOU'RE WALKING,
START PAVING ANOTHER ONE.

Dolly Parton

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Madhabi Brahma
- 1st Anima Kujur
- 1st M. Sudha
- 3rd T. Jeba
- 6th V. Punitha
- 6th Vimala Jenifer D.
- 8th Angela Rodrigues
- 10th A. Arockia Mary Das
- 13th Manjula Lomga
- 14th Cecily Wong
- 14th Regina Thami
- 16th Subhashini Lakra
- 16th Soria Nongtdu
- 21st Lourdes Noronha
- 26th Isilda Sangriang
- 27th Sabrina Edwards
- 27th Aruna Kujur
- 27th Madhuri Lakra

SEPTEMBER FEAST DAYS

- 24th Maeve Hughes
- 24th Mercia D' Souza

OCTOBER FEAST DAYS

- 1st Tressia T. Aricatt
- 2nd Angela Rodrigues

It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it.

NOVEMBER FEAST DAYS

- 22nd Cecily Wong

“Youth is the gift of nature, but age is a work of art.”