



# NAVA SPURTHI

## Bangalore Region



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NEWS LETTER

Jan – Feb. 2011



### *Final Vows*



*Congratulations!!*

*Dear*

*Sr. Prasanna C.J.*

*Sr. Suchita C.J.*



*Congrats to our*

*Silver*

*Jubilarians!!*



## ***Final Profession of Srs. Prasanna and Suchita***



CJs from various communities gathered on the joyous occasion of the final profession of Srs. Prasanna and Suchita. On 29 January, Srs. Usha and Shradha renewed their vows. The meticulous planning and preparation of Sr. Feby, our Regional Superior made



the smooth functioning of the celebration. The profession ceremony was held on 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday during the Parish Mass at 9.15 a.m. His Lordship Percival Fernandes [ Aux. Bishop of Mumbai] officiated the Eucharist together with other concelebrants. The brides, Srs. Prasanna and Suchita pronounced their final vows before all present. This solemn celebration was an awesome experience for their parents, relatives and the parishioners. The melodious parish choir added to the solemnity of the occasion. The reception was arranged in our school hall. A tasty lunch was served after the greeting song by our young sisters and candidates. We were delighted to have of Sr. Carmel with us. Hats off to everyone who made this day wonderful!

## ***St. Mary's Convent, Mulund***

The New Year 2011 dawned invoking God's blessings with thanksgiving Holy Hours and Holy Masses, simultaneously, in our school hall, in the convent and in the parish church. The feast of the Holy Name of Jesus and the feast of our Congregation, was celebrated with a meaningful Holy Eucharist in our chapel in the morning. Bishop Ferdie and the priests of our parish, and CTC sisters were invited for an evening get-together and dinner. The organized recreation added color to the gathering.



## ***Golden jubilee of Sr. Leonie.***

10 January was the long awaited day in the life of Sr. Leonie – the *GOLDEN JUBILEE DAY*. Her 2 brothers, sister, nephew priest and other family members from Kerala, Punjab, and CJ communities from Umralla joined her in the jubilation. The school greeted the jubilarian with floral tributes and a meaningful prayer service and felicitation program was conducted to appreciate the past 50 years of her dedicated life and service. The solemn concelebrated Jubilee Mass was in the parish church, as Fr. Anil Rego being the main celebrant. The festivity of the day was followed by a delicious dinner arranged for the guests, in the school hall.

***School in Action:*** On 22 Jan., our KG children had their annual day celebrations, in fact it was the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of this academic year. The school magazine too, was released by the chief guest, Adv. P. A. Francis [adviser and consultant]. Surely the parents found their wards nowhere, but on the stage.

Mary Ward week was commemorated in the school with prayer services portraying the life of our Foundress and in the community with Holy Hour in honour of our dear





Mother. On Republic day, Sr. Feby being the chief guest, unfurled the National Flag and took the salute of the march past. The annual sports meet was held on 1 Feb. with all the track events and games. On the following day, Class 10 students had their farewell as they all appeared as young pretty ladies, clad in saris

Consecration day was celebrated in the parish, offering special prayers for the religious and hosted a dinner for us by the parish fathers as an expression of their gratitude for all the services rendered.

5 Feb. was a day of great excitement as the entire school was ready with their Art and Craft exhibition which was open to the parents and we were honored to have Sr. Feby to inaugurate the function. To mark this day, there was a colourful performance of dances and the karate students exhibited their skills.



*Sr. Smitha CJ*

### **SMC, Alakode**



**Class X students with one of the inmates of the home for the aged.**

On 21 and 22 December classes X & VIII visited homes for the aged and the mentally retarded and shared their Christmas joy by distributing rice, coconuts and cakes.



**A scene from the Christmas Dance Drama**



**Aren't we cute?**

Our tiny tots of LKG and UKG put up a spectacular show for their parents and grandparents. The programme concluded with a symbolic Christmas Dance Drama, staged by class XII students, which was prepared for a TV broadcast,



**Doesn't it taste sweet Grandpa?**

**Aren't we cute?** aired on 20 December 2010. As a token of our love and appreciation, a piece of cake each was distributed to all the parents and the grandparents. On the same day a Christmas Prayer Service was held in our chapel together with our teachers, after which we moved into the refectory for a Christmas lunch and exchange of gifts with our Christmas friends. On 23<sup>rd</sup>, the school closed for Christmas vacation.

Our school stood 1<sup>st</sup> in Kannur District in the Deepika Childrens' League (D.C.L.) competitions and 9 of our students participated in the all Kerala D.C.L. Cultural and Literary Competitions held in Muvattupuzha. Two of ours won 3<sup>rd</sup> rank in the All Kerala D.C.L. IQ Competition.

On January 15<sup>th</sup> the community went for an outing to Kanjangad, a town in Kasargod District. On our way back we visited Bakel Fort (a sea side fort built to defend the onslaught Tipu Sultan) and the beautiful newly constructed Padanakad Church.

At present the school is preparing for their final exams. Classes I to IV are getting ready for their Parents' Day and Class XI for the farewell of Plus 2 students.

*Sr. Teresina CJ*

### ***Mary Ward Niwas, Umralla***

The New Year was welcomed with a lot of hopes and aspirations, imploring the blessings of Our Lord. On 3 January, both the communities of Umralla, joined together to celebrate the Feast of the 'Holy Name of Jesus' with great devotion and vigour. The celebration began with a creative liturgy, we, especially our three candidates were inspired by the life of Mary Ward and how the name of "Jesus" had a special place in her life. Fr. Abhay, SJ, through his homily enabled us to delve deep into the meaning of the name, **Jesus**. We shared our joy with our neighboring priests and religious with a fellowship meal. We also had the joy of joining the Mulund community and to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Celebration of Sr. Leonie CJ.

We began the Mary Ward week with fervor and love for our Mother, drawing inspiration from her life to mould ourselves into being her true companions to accomplish her dreams in our lives. 30 January was a day of rejoicing for all of us as we joined the celebration of Final Commitment of our Srs. Prasanna and Suchita and with joy we welcomed both of them to our community on 31 Jan. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their new mission.

*Sr. Shradha CJ*

### ***Jesus Youth Jubilee***

An aura of festivity and immense joy hung over the entire Rajagiri Campus, Kakkannad, Cochin, on the day the J.Y. Jubilee Conference dawned. The JY is an international Catholic youth movement, an initiative of young people themselves, who, filled with the Holy Spirit try to reach out to other young people with a charismatic spirituality. It had its small beginnings in Kerala, and is now active in 29 countries. The strength of the movement is its special focus on a life centred on Jesus, nourished by Prayer, the Word of God, the Sacraments and fellowship and sharing the Good News of Jesus with others. It was officially recognized by the catholic Bishops' Conference of India.

Five of us Cjs, Srs. Feby, Jaya, Sherly, Nelcy and Sheetal were lucky to be part of this great gathering of the Catholic Church. It was a moment of joy and pride for all present, as delegates from 29 countries carried their flags and jubilee crosses in a colorful inaugural procession. The Ecclesiastical Advisor of JY India, Archbishop Abraham Viruthukulangara of Nagpur read out the greetings and message from the Holy Father exhorting the movement to create greater awareness among young people of the missionary dimension of being a Christian.



His Eminence Cardinal Ivan Dias inaugurated the Conference by lighting the main lamp followed by the rest of the dignitaries. A solemn

High Mass with Cardinal as the main celebrant followed thereafter. At the beginning of the Mass Archbishop Abraham read out the decree of indulgence. During the homily the Cardinal said that the jubilee celebration coincides with the feast of the Holy Innocents, the silent witnesses of Jesus Christ. He invited the youth to be renewed in their vocation, in their call to be witness to Jesus with their sweat, with their word and if God wills, with their blood. In the presence of 6 Archbishops, 20 Bishops, 800 priests, 1500 sisters and around 20,000 other participants, special blessings were conferred upon the congregation by His Eminence Cardinal Ivan Dias at the close of a meaningful and grace-filled Mass.

The programmes were well organized in 7 streams such as:- kids, pre-teens, teens, youth, married couples, priests and religious sisters. Each stream had input sessions based on the jubilee theme *Refined in Thy fire, Renewed by Thy Spirit and Radiant in Thy Holiness*, by efficient speakers. Short prayer services, action songs and life witnesses of JY full timers in between the sessions kept us alive and alert. Bishop Henry D'Souza in his session for the sisters emphasized that the world needs religious who can motivate, energize and draw out the best in others. After 4.30 pm all the streams gathered together for evening prayer, adoration, the mesmerizing music by the Rex Band and for cultural programs. Fr. Fio Mascarenhas SJ pointed out that the world, which is marked by corruption, abortion, anxiety and all other vices, needs a new reformation and JY is rightly poised for that mission. The conclusion of the programme coincided with the New Year 2011. We welcomed the New Year by singing the praises of the Almighty during a night vigil and the high point was the Solemn Eucharistic Celebration. It was a moment of happiness, joy and gratitude. Everyone present there experienced the outpouring of the Spirit.



For us, it was a time of renewal and evaluation of our own religious commitment. Listening to the life experiences and tireless efforts of JY, reaching out to 29 countries to proclaim Jesus' love and His values, we were challenged to examine our own commitment to the youth though we profess "... especially to the care of youth". We were taken up by the energy, enthusiasm and responsibility of the young people. Everything was so very meticulously planned. The CMI fathers needs to be appreciated for their generosity for providing the entire Rajagiri Engineering College campus for this event. We thank the Almighty God and Sr. Feby for giving us this rare opportunity to be a part of JY Jubilee Conference.

*Srs. Nelcy & Sheetal CJ*

### **Mary Ward, Pizhaku**

2011 dawned with a fresh feeling of the New Year with all its hopes and aspirations for each one of us.

As in the past, the Congregation day was kept up in all its fervor like other years, we celebrated the Holy Mass in the company of our neighbors and close by Congregations and all of us enjoyed a fellowship meal. Being a working day, some of us just squeezed in to fall in line with the celebration.

11 Jan. saw the excited and noisy chit chat of students of Classes V – VIII as they were to go for a day tour to Malampuzha Dam. Though both teachers and students found the day too short, the sweet memories of the trip lingers on even today. Now the exam fever is on, our first batch of 10<sup>th</sup> class students will appear for their board exams which will begin on 28 February. Please keep them in your prayers.

On 29 Jan. Sr. Rosalia along with the representatives of the staff, students and parents went to Kaloor International Stadium to be part of the "Protest Convention" organized by 'All Kerala CBSE + ICSE Schools' against the movements of the State Government interference in the matter of private unaided schools in the name of 'Lida Commission'. It was a very powerful gathering. We need to pray much of course for a favourable decision in the Assembly.

*Sr. Rosalia CJ*

### ***Our TERTIANSHIP Experience***

*"Tertianship prepared me to move on with understanding and commitment into the world that awaits."*

*Sr. Prasanna*

Our intensive journey of international tertianship began on the 1 July 2010. We entered into this great journey with an introductory talk by Sr. Sumita, the provincial superior of the Allahabad province. We were happy to be in the company of our companions under the guidance of Sr. Deepa, our tertian director. Staying and sharing together in the spirit of the CJ helped us to imbibe more and more of the CJ family spirit. We were enriched by the sharing of experiences of one another and thus we prepared ourselves in the school of the heart to be placed with Christ totally, not partially.

Various topics like Constitutions, studies on the lives and spirituality of St. Ignatius and Mother Mary Ward, the fourth vow, dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises and other extra activities like cooking and other house hold activities strengthened us spiritually and mentally to be fitting instruments in our mission at the service of the Lord who has called us.

The dynamics of the spiritual exercises helped us to enter into the 30 days' spiritual journey with the Lord to experience His closeness. We were led into a desert experience in complete solitude through which we confirmed our religious vocation to follow the footsteps of our foundress, in the radical following of Christ, our Master.

Moved by the meditations on the public life of Jesus we went out two by two for our exposure programme to be at the side of the less privileged of our country. We worked with the Missionaries of Charity in their orphanages. It was an opportunity for us to feel with the other in their pain of being alone and rejected. We feel in unison with Mother Teresa who said, **"Our service is like a drop of water in the ocean, if that drop is missing, the ocean is incomplete"**. We became aware that **WE ARE CALLED FOR GREATER SERVICE**.

After this realistic experience, we came back again to SMC, Allahabad, for our special studies on the Constitutions. We indeed inhaled the true spirit of St. Ignatius and Mother Mary Ward, by learning to look at ourselves, in the mirror of Christ, chaste, poor and obedient to be spiritual and diligent persons.

This tertianship programme has formed us to be available for mission as the challenge before us today is to become more like Christ in our attitude, thoughts, words and actions, by **LOVING AS JESUS LOVES, HELPING AS HE HELPS, GIVING AS HE GIVES, SERVING AS HE SERVES, BEING WITH HIM 24 HOURS**.

After having completed our tertianship programme we came back to our Region i.e. to SMC, Mulund, for the immediate preparation of the final profession. Sr. Feby had already arrived there in view of this preparation. Sr. Lucia and the Mulund community welcomed us and made us feel at home. They had already planned everything well ahead of time for the ceremony. On 30 January, the Anniversary of our Region, we made our Final Commitment to the Lord in St. Pius X Church, Mulund, during the parish Mass in the presence of a large gathering. We are ever grateful to Sr. Lucia and the Mulund community for their generous help and support.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to Mother General and to Sr. Feby for allowing us to be part of this spiritual journey and for helping us to reach the awaited day, and to all of you our dear sisters, for accompanying and supporting us with your valuable prayers. We are grateful to you, Sr. Sumita, Sr. Rosily and 21 community for your support and guidance during our stay in Allahabad. We are very much indebted to Sr. Deepa for all that you were to us. We cherish your classes, guidance and tender loving care which helped us to be happy and contented till the end.

*"Tertiaship was a time for me, where I tuned myself to the symphony of Christ to enjoy that intimate familiarity of singing the same praises for the rest of my life."* Sr. Suchita

Srs Prasanna and Suchita CJ

### **Your Prayers for the departed:**

*Sr. Francisca's nephew, Biju who expired in an accident on 22 Jan. He was 36 year old.*

*Sr. Ursula's cousin, Sr. Cecily who died on 3 Feb. She was 74 year old.*

*Sr. Thomasina's uncle, who died on 8 Feb. He was 75 years old.*

*Sr. Amala's sister, Mary who died on 14 Feb. She was 68 years old.*

*Sr. Judith's sister, Mariamma who died on 17 Feb. She was 85 years old.*

*Sr. Angelica's brother in law who expired on 11 Feb. He was 94 years old.*

**A number of our sisters too are on the sick list, please pray for them.**

*Srs. Imma, Esther, Crescence, Elsa, Angeli, Anisha, Tarsilla.*

*Sr. Manju's sister, Sr. Thomasina's niece and Sr. Feby's niece, all suffering from cancer*

*Sr. Bernadette's mother.*

*Sr. Deepti's uncle.*

***Nava Spurthi wishes God's Blessings and Good Luck to all those who are getting ready for their Final Exams!***

