

# GEETHA



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## EDITORIAL....

### **THE LIFE WE CHOOSE**

A human being is part of a “Whole” called the “Universe”. Our aim is to free ourselves from different kinds of bonds by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures of the whole of nature in its beauty. “Only a life lived for other is worth living.”

There are only two ways to live our lives. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle. But without deeper reflection one knows from daily life that one exists for other people.

All that we require is to become aware that we have the power inside us to create everything we wish. As our sage A.P.J. Abdul Kalam said “All of us do not have equal talents but all of us have an equal opportunity to develop our talents.” So “dream dream, dreams transform into thoughts and thoughts into action.” Learn to master our imagination and in a matter of time, our life will simply change.

The past is but a memory; the future a dream – both stored in our minds. The only time we actually have is the present. We can neither change our past nor act in the future. There is only one time that is important – Now. The correct way to make the right time is by starting to act now. Chances are that things won’t be in your favor to act. The more you wait, thinking about something as a remote possibility the longer will it be before you realize your dreams.

There is only one right time; that is the time we are living right now. After reading these articles, we may proceed with making the boldest decisions we have ever made. We can take the life of Mahatma Gandhi one who dreamt about the freedom of our country and got the independence. So we are enjoying the 69<sup>th</sup> independence of our country now. Let us choose to dream our lives right now...

**Sr.Lalitha Mary**

# Sr. Mary Shares...

**‘Look at the sky. We are not alone. The whole universe is friendly to us and conspires only to give the best to those who dream and work.’(A.P.J. Abdul Kalam)**

God is present in all things. His power is revealed in everything great and small, valuable as well as insignificant. His presence comes through in the tiniest objects in everyday use. You see him hovering ever so gently though unseen even in the darkest recesses of the universe where neither death nor sin can remain unseen.

In today’s rush we all think too much, want too much and forget to admire and enjoy the beauty of God’s presence in the Universe. Why is it difficult for us to find and experience God in the universe? Here I would like to share with you the story which I have read recently. One day a guru called his three disciples to him, gave a dove to each and said, “Take it, and kill it, but no one should see it.” Three disciples went out.



One of them got inside his room and closed the door. When it was dark he allowed the bird to fly in the air and killed it with an arrow. The second one took the dove to the interior of a forest. At midnight, he made sure there was no one around and then killed the dove. The two disciples came to the guru very happily, because they had fulfilled the task he had assigned them.

Days, weeks, months and years passed, but the third one had not yet returned. So the Guru sent for him, keen on knowing the reason for his delay.

The disciple replied, **“Forgive me, my Lord, I could find no place in this world where there is no one. Wherever I looked I could see the image of God. My dove was always in the presence of God. So I could not kill my dove.”**

Hearing this, the Guru was so happy that he exclaimed, **“At least one has found God!”**

***God’s presence fills the whole universe. He is present in every nook and corner, and in everything! Even if we don’t want to see Him we can’t escape seeing Him.***

The realization of God according to the third person in this story is great. He has nothing to do with what he holds but to do everything with his state of consciousness is important. Our life is determined how we act in the world and interact with God, nature and others. It is a great challenge for everyone to think how consciously we are living in this world by interacting with God and others. Can we find God’s image in the universe???

**“God is the ultimate source of the whole evolutionary process. God does not act as an external cause of the universe but as an internal cause of the unfolding of the mysterious “web of relationships” in the entire universe. Our loving God is clearly other than, and infinitely more than the universe, but God is also inseparable from every being in the universe.”(V.M: 2.1)**



**Sr. Mary  
Unit Leader**

Integration is the key to human wellness! Spiritual Integration is a lifelong process. It is realizing God and being with Him and sharing in the divinity of God. Integrated people are focused and stand for their words and action.

Along the pilgrimage of the Church towards God's creation and humanity, Mother Mary is the great sign to fulfill God's plan. Mary was indeed always "transparent" to the will of God by her consecrated life. The integrated people are always open to the Spirit. Mary significantly by her readiness, surrendered to the action of the spirit. At the Annunciation when the call came from the unknown saying "The Holy spirit will come upon you." She was ready to say "Behold the handmaid of the Lord." *Fiat* to a mission without any frontiers, Mary freely, totally, joyfully, consecrated herself to God. She was an integrated person who was available at all times; went in haste to Elizabeth and waited on her. Mary honestly, frankly calls herself in the *Magnificat* that she is a servant of God and the Handmaid of God. It is very well expressed of her emptiness, littleness and single mindedness. She experienced the spirit of the O.T Anavim that she is nothing without God.

Mary's spirit of integration pushed her to come out in the foreground in the event of wedding at Cana. The deep sensitivity spurs her on to go to her Son immediately asked him to do a favor to protect the dignity of the people. At the temple the most unexpected reply from her Son "Do you know that I should be with my Father's business" which enabled her to experience the inner peace because she was a woman of contemplation.

The climax of her integrated spirit leads her to Calvary. She was helpless, depressed and

experienced "the Dark Night of the Soul" at the foot of the Cross and was unable to prevent the death of her Son: Struggled between loosing and leaving; between consolation and desolation. But she was strongly and firmly standing for God's plan in holding of her "yes." She could have looked for security and safety. But she was a consecrated Prophet. Pope Francis says Prophets are free, they have no one, but God and they have no other interest other than God; they know that they are not alone.

The year of consecrated life is inviting us to go to our origin and stay there for some time and check our lives; we are called to leave our own comforts, by going beyond our boundaries to deepen our purpose of being religious; Call to get out from the cave of our own and to become experts of communion and integrated wholeness. The spirituality of "God Alone" and the charism of communion to welcome the happiness of others. To become an agent of communion by our witnessing life we bring unity among others. To become an integrated person we need to be attached to God by our devoted and selfless service through our fraternal life. By surrendering ourselves to the divine will we will be able to discern and denounce the evil of sin, injustice and become the true witnesses in our services;

To start a fresh beginning we need to have a listening heart, reflect and respond to the will of God and let there be light in our daily life; by integrating our life we all may become one by creating a new heaven and earth by the spirit of integration. To become an electrified consecrated person we are called to vibrate in the Mother Earth a sacrament of communion.

**May our Mother Mary help us to become an integrated person!**

இரக்கத்தின் அடையாளம்  
இறைவனின் பராமரிப்பு  
முழுமையான கொடை  
முற்றுணர்ந்த பக்குவம்

படைத்தவனின் ஈகை  
பல்லாயிரம் வரங்கள்  
படைப்பின் பெருமை  
பல்லுயிர் ஒம்புதல்

ஆவியின் கனிகள்  
ஆண்டவனின் தர்மம்  
அயலானுக்குப் பரிவு  
மானுட தர்மம்

பாரியையும் ஓரியையும்  
பாரறியச் செய்தது  
மனிதநேய உயிர்நிலை  
மணிமுடியாம் தர்மம்



பிழையில்லா தர்மம்  
பிறர் துயர் நீக்கும்  
தன்னிகரில்லா தர்மம்  
தன் தலை காக்கும்

மாவும் மரமும்  
புள்ளும் பிறவும்  
சமநிலையோடு பயணித்தல்  
இயற்கையாம் தர்மம்

சேர்த்த எதையும்  
சேர்த்துக் கொண்டு போக முடியாது  
கோர்த்த அனைத்தும்  
கோட்டையில் நுழைந்து விடாது

நீ இல்லாத போதும்  
நீ இருப்பதாகவே நிலைக்க (நினைக்க)  
தரணியில் உயர்ந்தது  
தலையாய தர்மம்.



ஆசிரியை ஜோ. செபிஷி ஜோசப்,  
ஆர்.சி.உயர்நிலைப்பள்ளி  
கீழைச்சாணி

## WHY COMPLICATE LIFE?

|                        |   |            |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| MISSING SOMEBODY?      | ~ | CALL       |
| WANT TO MEET UP?       | ~ | INVITE     |
| WANT TO BE UNDERSTOOD? | ~ | EXPLAIN    |
| HAVE QUESTION?         | ~ | ASK        |
| DON'T LIKE SOMETHING?  | ~ | SAY IT     |
| LIKE SOMETHING?        | ~ | STATE IT   |
| WANT SOMETHING?        | ~ | ASK FOR IT |

The age we are living in is the best time to acquire knowledge. So the world is actually moving forward at all levels specially in the IT (**Information Technology**) which makes field, impact in the lives of the people. According to the signs of the time, in the year 2014 our Delegation had given chance to start a new ministry at Mulagalampadu. During the month of July we visited our 9 substations and introduced our ministry on “Computing Skills” to the people and motivated them to gain knowledge on computer for their bright future.

During our visits we came to know that the young people are very eager to learn computer in order to get good jobs. Due to economic conditions they are not able to move away from their families even to stay and study in cost centers which are available. As a community we understood the life situations of the people and discerned to begin this new ministry.



On 4th of August 2014 we officially opened the center with the name **“Holy Family Skill Training Center.”** More than

30 students joined in the computer course, among them some were dropouts from the school and some were searching for jobs. Also there were some teachers joined for their increment. On the opening day Sr.Iruthaya Mary welcomed the students and gave basic introduction and instructions about the Center. One of the trainee Mr. Rajini said a short prayer. Sr.Iruthaya Mary divided the batch into three groups. So all kinds of people studied the course DMO – (Diploma in MS office) and Internet. The duration of the course is 3 months.

In the month of October next batch joined. Slowly people came to know about our Center through the

students. The seasonal work of agriculture started from the month of January we gave a break for four months. So around 42 students joined in our Center and completed their studies on MS office, Photoshop, and Internet.

On 28<sup>th</sup> April there was an announcement about summer computer class, in all around the 13 villages. We



prepared one Flex board and kept known to the people in front of our main gate. On 1<sup>st</sup> of May we opened Summer Computer Class. 22 students joined and learned computer. They successfully completed their course on Diploma in MS office and on 12<sup>th</sup> of June Sr. Milred the community leader distributed certificates to them.

We remember the marvels that the Lord has done for the people through our Holy Family Skill Training Center. Because some of them who have finished computer course are earning around Rs.10,000/-. As a community we give glory and eternal praise to the Lord Almighty. I personally thank God for his blessings and the opportunity to offer adequate knowledge and training in computer.

And I gratefully remember our Delegation who gave me the chance to complete the training in DCTE, and to do my graduate studies. And I thank our present Unit Leader and her Council who entrusted the ministry and encouraged me to do this service enthusiastically and as well as creatively.

May the Lord be glorified by our services, as we spread the gospel values in the community and in the ministries whatever we do. Once again I render my gratitude to God and to our Congregation.

**Sr.Iruthaya Mary  
Mulagalampadu**

**“We give thanks to the Lord for His marvelous things that has done to us”**

It is about 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of our foundation of Holy Family Sisters in Keelauchani. Every jubilee is a time to share memories, a time to give thanks and show appreciation. On this occasion of the Silver Jubilee, we thank God for his faithful love which has overshadowed in the life of our sisters in Keelauchani for the past 25 years.

At the beginning, with the blessing of Bishop Rt. Rev. Edward Francis, bishop of Sivagangai and the then Parish Priest Fr. Robert Elango we started our community with our first members Srs. Everista, Marion, Jasintha and Rosemary Swaminathan on 03.07.1990. Following the footsteps of the Holy Family and the Charism of Communion which our Founder had entrusted us.

We began our ministry by teaching, cateching, preparing the children/adults for sacraments and visiting the families. Sisters entered the school educated, gave awareness to the young ones to stand on their own, take responsibility for themselves and to continue their higher education. We thank and congratulate our sisters past and present for their commitment, unwavering spirit in proclaiming God’s kingdom daringly and heroically for God Alone. We cannot forget our missionary

sisters, Srs. Everesta, Cyril and Canice and our early members who have given themselves with all the hardship for the mission here.

With joyful heart we celebrated our Community Silver Jubilee in Keelauchani on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 10 a.m. in our parish church of St. Anne & Joachim. In a procession 25 members carried lamps in their hands which symbolized the 25 years of our life’s journey in the parish and 8 priests concelebrated the Holy Eucharist. Fr. Arockiasamy the former parish priest was the main celebrant, Fr. Clement gave a meaningful sermon about the sisters’ commitment & ministries in the parish.

After the Eucharistic celebration we had a short cultural programme. This was followed by the appreciation of Priests, Parish Council, Teachers and Youth. After the mass we had a fellowship meal with the parishners, well-wishers and friends.

We take this opportunity to thank our Lord Almighty, Delegation Leadership Team and the sisters those who made the effort to join in the celebration and made the day very memorable one. We want to continue to walk in the footsteps of our Holy Family, accepting the challenges that have come to us today as we see the evolving of our society and world.

**Sr. Lalitha Mary  
Keelauchani**

### **SEVEN SECRETS OF SUCCESS FOUND IN YOUR ROOM...**

|                      |          |  |
|----------------------|----------|--|
| <b>Roof says</b>     | <b>:</b> | <b>Aim high</b>                        |
| <b>Fan says</b>      | <b>:</b> | <b>Be cool</b>                         |
| <b>Clock says</b>    | <b>:</b> | <b>Every minute is precious</b>        |
| <b>Mirror says</b>   | <b>:</b> | <b>Reflect before you act</b>          |
| <b>Window says</b>   | <b>:</b> | <b>See the world</b>                   |
| <b>Calendar says</b> | <b>:</b> | <b>Be up-to-date</b>                   |
| <b>Door says</b>     | <b>:</b> | <b>Push hard to achieve your goals</b> |



ஓ யேசு, மரி, குசையே! வழிகாட்டும்  
 ஓளி விளக்காம் திருக்குடும்பமே  
 உம் குடும்பப் பெயர் கொண்ட  
 திருக்குடும்ப சகோதரிகளுக்கு  
 எம் நன்றி கலந்த உள்ளத்திலிருந்து  
 வெள்ளிவிழா வாழ்த்துக்கள்.  
 தேவையறிந்து உடனுக்குடன்  
 சேவைபுரிந்து வரும் சகோதரிகளே!  
 நானறிந்த நற்றமிழால்  
 நவில்கின்றேன் நன்றிகளை

அன்றொரு நாள் 03.07.1990-ல்  
 ஆயர் மேதகு எட்வர்ட் பிரான்சிஸ் ஆசியுடன்  
 இல்லிடமாய் கீழ் உச்சாணியில்  
 ஈன்றிட்டாய் புதுக் குழந்தையாய்  
 உன்னத கன்னியர் இல்லத்தை  
 ஊக்கமுடன் 'குடும்ப ஐக்கியம்'  
 என்றதொரு தனி வரத்துடன்  
 ஏட்டிலடங்கா பணிகள் செய்தீர்  
 ஐயமொன்றுமில்லை உம் அருஞ்செயலில்  
 ஒருவரோ, இருவரோ, மூவரோ நால்வரோ  
 இருந்தாலும்,  
 ஓராயிரம் தேவையிலிருக்கும் மக்களுக்கு  
 ஓளவையின் ஞானத்துடன் பணிபுரிந்தும்  
 எ.கின் உறுதியுடன் நிலைத்து நின்றீர்

பெருவெள்ளம் வந்தபோது ஆற்றில்  
 அன்பு எனும் கயிறுகட்டி நிறைமாத  
 பெண்மணியை மறுகரை சேர்த்து  
 பக்குவமாய் மறுபிறப்பு கொடுத்தற்காய்  
 பெருமழைப் பொழுதுகளிலும்  
 கொடும் டெங்குவின் தாக்குதல்களிலும்  
 கண்கொட்டக் கொட்ட விழித்திருந்து  
 கரம் பிடித்து மருந்து கொடுத்து  
 மறுவாழ்வு தந்து காத்தாற்காய்  
 சகோதரியருக்கு வாழ்த்துக்கள்

ஏழ்மையெனும் விரதத்தை  
 எளிமையென்ற பெயர்வைத்து  
 ஏசுவின் அடிச்சுவட்டில் அமைதியாய்

எண்ணத்தில் ஏற்றம் கொண்டு  
 மாணவரின் உள்ளத்தில்  
 இலட்சிய விதை விதைத்து அவர்தம்  
 முயற்சியை ஊக்குவித்து பின்  
 உயர்ந்து நிற்க கண்டு மகிழ்ந்தற்காய்  
 சகோதரியருக்கு வாழ்த்துக்கள்.

திருப்பலியோ திருவிழாவோ  
 திருபீடம் முதல் தலைவாயில் வரை  
 தோரணங்கட்டி மாலை கட்டி  
 எண்ணத்தூரிகைகளால்  
 வண்ணப் பூக்களிட்டு வியந்திடும் வகையில்  
 மின்னலாய் பளிச்சிட்டு மின்மினி பூக்களாய்  
 கிறிஸ்மஸ் காலமோ தவக்காலமோ  
 முன்னுரை முதல் மாதா பாடல் வரை  
 முத்து முத்தான சிந்தனைகளால்  
 மூவொரு இறைவனை ஆராதித்து  
 வானம்பாடிகளாய் கானம்பாடியதற்காய்  
 சகோதரியருக்கு வாழ்த்துக்கள்

பள்ளிகளிலும் ஆலயவளாகங்களிலும்  
 பட்டாம் பூச்சிகளாம் மாணவரின் துணை கொண்டு  
 பசுமையான சோலைவனமாக்கியதற்காய்  
 போக்குவரத்தில்லாத கிராமங்களுக்கும்  
 ஓடியோடி உதவி செய்தும்  
 இலங்கைத் தமிழர் பிரச்சினை  
 சுற்றுச்சூழல் பாதுகாப்பு ஏனைய  
 கிராமியத் தேவைகள் அனைத்திலும்  
 பரந்த மனதுடன் போராடியதற்காய்  
 சகோதரியருக்கு வாழ்த்துக்கள்

இயேசுவின் பாதையிலே  
 பயணிக்கும் நிறைவொன்றையே  
 பரிசாய் ஏற்று பார்போற்ற  
 சேவையில் திளைத்து  
 பல்லாண்டு பல்லாண்டு  
 பொன்விழா பலகண்டு  
 நீடித்து சேவைபுரிய  
 நினைவாலே வாழ்த்துகிறேன்  
 திருக்குடும்பத்திடம் இறைஞ்சுகிறேன்

ஆசிரியை ஜோ. செபிஷி ஜோசப்,  
 ஆர்.சி.உயர்நிலைப்பள்ளி  
 கீழ்உச்சாணி



**“It is not the healthy who need the doctor, but the sick.” (Mt 9.12)**

I would like to share with you all about healing ministry among the poor. I got my transfer from Kombuthooki to Mangalamkombu in January 2014 and started my healing ministry in our First Aid Center. Everyday more than 30 patients come. During this ministry I have experienced God’s healing power which is working within me and through me to the sick in this remote village. I would like to write down my experience in which I felt very strongly God’s presence within me.

### Case I

In the Acts (3:6) Peter said, “I have neither silver nor gold, but I will give you what I have: in the name of Jesus Christ, walk” Once a tribal mother with her relatives brought a two year baby Gowri to me. They were crying very badly to save the life of the child because she was not giving any response. I called the name Gowri but no response and I went on checking for any stimuli. I was frightened and prayed to God to give me the wisdom to identify the cause. Suddenly I got an inspiration to give a particular injection. I gave that injection and the baby vomited worms which were chocking her. After that the baby opened her eyes and she was alive and active. All were happy and thanked the Lord.



### CASE II

Luke (7:50) “Woman your faith has saved you; go in peace” Mrs. Mathi a 27 yrs old woman came with the complaint of wound in the big toe. The nail was hanging and smelling badly. I removed the nail and poured hydrogen peroxide to the wound which had more than 70 worms. The worms started coming out and I was removing the worms though I was feeling dizziness and vomiting but I did not give up. I was praying and continued the work. After dressing the wound gave an injection and tablets for five days. The dressing was done on second and third day. One fine day I got an inspiration to do a medication which would heal the wound faster and permanently. The worms stopped and the wound also got healed. It was an unforgettable experience. *Ps 75:1 “We give thanks to thee, O God, we give thanks, we call on thy name and recount thy wondrous deeds.”*

### CASE III

Mrs. Vigitha a 29 yrs old woman came with the complaint of ear pain. She was shouting and was not able to sit or stand. We were trying many ways to find the cause for the pain but in vain. We thought of examining her one more time. We told her husband if this attempt also do not work out then you have to take her to far away hospital and they agreed to it. As I was examining her I saw some black thing inside the ear. With the help of the artery forceps I removed it. It was a cockroach after removing it she found relief from the pain. *Ps 31:14 “But I trust in thee, O Lord, I say, thou art my God.”*

These experiences affirmed me to be firm in my faith and deeply committed to the ministry. It also increased my faith in God and gave me a push to go little further to give my time and energy to the ministry. The outcome of these experiences is the free medical camps for the poor people.

We have arranged 2 free medical camps: One of the free eye camp for a whole day and one free general medical camp for two days. Jesus said in Mt 6:22 *“the eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light.”* Eye camp was conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> March in collaboration with Theni Aravind Hospital and Lions Club, KK Nagar, Madurai. 238 patients were examined and according to their eye problems they received spectacles, eye drops and medication. 29 patients were taken to Theni Aravind hospital for cataract surgery. All the operated patients have sights and are able to see God’s creation. It helps them to stand on their feet. We thank our collaborators.

We had a free general medical camp on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015. It was conducted by Dr.Selvaraj’s team from Chennai. We had 19 Medical team members: 5 doctors, 5 nurses, 1 physiotherapist, one Priest, 6 social workers and volunteers for registration. All received very good medication according to their sicknesses. Altogether 774 patients were benefited. Panchayat President, elders of the village, teachers and people were impressed by our service and cooperated with us for the success of these medical camps. Through these programs people came to know about our First Aid Centre and our service to the poor. It renewed our energy to reach out to many more poor and helpless people. Mt 25:40; *and the king will answer, “in truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.”*



**Sr.Vimala  
Mangalamkombu**

### **Are we aware of the 7 challenges of Pope Francis???**

1. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of Missionary enthusiasm*
2. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of evangelization.*
3. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of hope.*
4. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of community.*
5. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed the Gospel.*
6. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of the idea of fraternal love.*
7. *Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of Missionary vigour*

### Glory to God Alone!

We are happy to share our experience in Sri Lanka for about 15 days. It was an enriching one which will remain with us as memorial. We were happy to see all our sisters from various countries: Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Philippines. The first day our gathering was exchange of greetings of love and joy to all our sisters and we felt the power of our PBN's family.

The theme given to us "The Holy Family young seekers dare to move" led us to enter into the input session of the following days. We were insisted on the meaning of "Seekers". The answers of all the participants helped us to know the different meanings of .....

'Seekers'-----move on

Burn with fire

In search of something very precious

Not stagnant but on the move

Creative ways of prayer based on the different theme led us to enter into each day's session.

Every day we had various sessions such as

- Story telling ( Vocation & Family)
- The Asian heritage in our context
- The passion of Jesus who responded in His time
- Our early mothers and relevant for life today
- Vowed life for mission
- Expectation
- Action plan

We were explained clearly the document on "Vowed life for Mission" by Sr.Bonaventure. We had a very clear picture and felt the interdependence of each other. We consider earth as mother, heaven as father. So heaven fertilizes the mother earth and it produces this statement led us to a deeper meaning of our very being on this earth.

We were happy to listen to our other four Vocations. By their sharing we understood that how deep and big is our Founder's dream and how he longed to include all kinds of people in our Family. We were much taken up by the spirit of belongingness which each one had towards our Family. We were moved by the life of our sisters who were missionaries in different countries. One point that struck from their sharings was that "for the love of God."

Every day, time was given for personal reflection and group discussions. From the group sharings we have gained how we can think differently. GLT shared about the total picture of our family, Vowed life for Mission and the expectation. We were free to share our expectations on various aspects like formation, professional training, and studies to responding to the signs of the time, movable communities and about the means of communication. On the last day we have drawn up the action plan for five years. Each country drew up their plan according to the context and possibilities of the community and made very concrete.

One day we had an outing and visited various places in Sri Lanka. Specially we were taken to visit our sisters and historical places. We were taken up by the love and oneness of our Family and their warm welcoming spirit. We truly experienced their love and we were happy to see all our missionary sisters who have been working in India. We are very grateful to our Sr. Christa and Sr. Euphrasia who have made all the arrangements.





Totally when we look back the experience of our stay in Sri Lanka which makes us at a deeper level, understand the connectedness of our family members and finally to the whole cosmic family. We have come to know that our Founder's dream has a deeper meaning according to the present context.

Now we take this opportunity to express our gratitude to our dear Sr. Mary and her team for giving us this rare opportunity. We appreciate Srs. Helen and John Mary who prepared us before hand to present our country. We are happy to say, all were taken up by the motto of our country unity in diversity

by our presentation and exhibiting of our market show. We thank Sr. Punitha who worked hard to get our passport and Visas and we thank Sr. Pushpa who animated us efficiently. At the end we thank all our sisters in our Unit who supported us through their prayers and love.

**TP Sisters  
Unit - India**



**8**

## **MY MISSION AT BODA (Chhattisgarh)**

"The Secret of getting ahead is getting started"

I am happy to share my experience at Boda in Chhattisgarh. I thank God for giving me an opportunity to give my service in this mission area. I can say that I was challenged by our Chapter theme "If you don't dare now, then when?" This helped me to say yes in order to give life to others and be a witness to God in the far away village of Boda.

When I look back the past one year, my heart fills with gratitude to God because I have experienced Him in all my undertakings. I was entrusted with the teaching ministry. At the beginning I felt that it was very difficult task to understand the differences without the language. So I took effort to study the language, learn about children, people and then the culture. Slowly I started to communicate with others. Being in the school I have learnt many lessons for life namely to grow in patience, to be simple, approachable to show my appreciation and concern to the ones who were dull in studies. There were times I felt I have failed in giving them good education without learning their own language.

Even then I did not give up. The book which I read "the power of your subconscious mind" by Joseph Murphy helped me to know my inner abilities. So daily I started to affirm myself with conviction that

- I am capable
- the Lord is always with me
- everything goes on well

Then I observed some changes taking place in me I became courageous, free and capable. So with this push I was able to share my talents creatively, actively and thus participating in all the events that took place in the school. Not only on the subjects but I was able to share moral values and create awareness about the sacredness and interdependence with the whole Universe. Very often I stress on the conservation of water, planting trees, saving the Electricity and recycling the plastic and other materials.

I am happy to do my given ministry and commit myself fully. I thank my community who were with me always and supported me very much. I thank Sr. Mary and the team for giving me this chance to serve the people here.

**Sr. Vimala Kumari  
Boda**

APJ Abdul Kalam was born to Janiulabeleen and Ashiamma on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1931. He came from a family whose financial conditions weren't sound enough. As a means to support his family's meager income, Kalam took up odd jobs in his childhood but never gave up his education.

He graduated from St. Joseph's College, Thiruchirappalli in 1954, but not satisfied with his degree, he left for Madras later next year to study aerospace engineering. He enrolled him in the Madras Institute of Technology.

After graduating from MIT, Kalam took up the position of Chief Scientist at the Aeronautical Development Establishment of Defense Research and Development Organization. However, the profile didn't appeal to Kalam much who shifted to the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) where he was the project director of India's first Indigenous Satellite launch.

A milestone was achieved when locally built Rohini – I was launched into space, using the SLV rocket upon watching the raving success of Kalam, the government agreed for initiation of an advanced missile programe under his directorship. He played a pivotal role in developing missiles under the missions Agni and Prithvi.

From 1992 until 1999, Kalam was appointed as the Chief Scientific Adviser, to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of Defense Research and Development Organization. It was during this time that Kalam served as the Chief Project Coordinator of Pokharn II Nuclear tests, after which he was fondly, became as the 11<sup>th</sup> President of India from 2002 until 2007.

It was a highly one-sided contrast. With his appointment, Kalam became the first scientist and first ever bachelor to occupy the Rastrapathi Bhawan.

In addition to all the profiles that Dr. Kalam held, he authored numerous influential and inspirational books. Amongst all his books "India 2020" was the widely read and appreciated one. It forecast an action plan which advocated India turning into knowledge super power and one of the developed nations of the world by the year 2020. His other books include "Inspiring Thoughts" and "The Luminous Sparks."

In 2011, he launched his mission for the youth of the nation called the "What Can I Give Movemnet" with the main aim to defeat corruption in India.

After completing his term as president Dr.Kalam served as visiting professor in various esteemed institutes and universities of India, such as Indian Institute of Space Science of Techonology, Thiruvananthapuram, and Aerospace Engineering at Anna University (Chennai) JSS University (Mysore).

Kalam was the proud recipient of Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibbushan and Bharat Ratna awards from the Government of India. He received the same in the years 1981, 1990 and 1997 respectively.

Kalam was the proud recipient of honorary, doctorates from 40 universities. In addition to this, Kalam's 79<sup>th</sup> birthday was recognized as world student's day by United Nations.

This great man died on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at Bethany Hospital, Shillong, Meghalaya due to heart failure after having collapsed during a lecture at Indian Institute of Management, Shillong.

When we were watching the funeral service in the TV, Sr. Helen asked everyone in the community to write down the phrase or sentence, inspiration or challenges from his life style.

**These are the following:**

- He was an optimist, one who saw everything positive.
- He was a man of vision and people oriented. Journey with the children and youth.
- Committed person
- Broad minded and easily approachable person
- Lived with minimum things.
- Hard worker
- He is the main inspiration to all “ To plant a Tree”
- Fight against the failure
- He was a honest man who kindled fire on everyone
- He lived beyond the religion, country, race and colour.
- He inspired all of us to “DREAM”

Yes, he has shaken the whole world specially India with his way of thinking and deeds. Come from poor family, being an ordinary man, choosing a simple life style and lived so vibrantly with a global vision. Really he was a message to the world by doing a small thing in a great way.

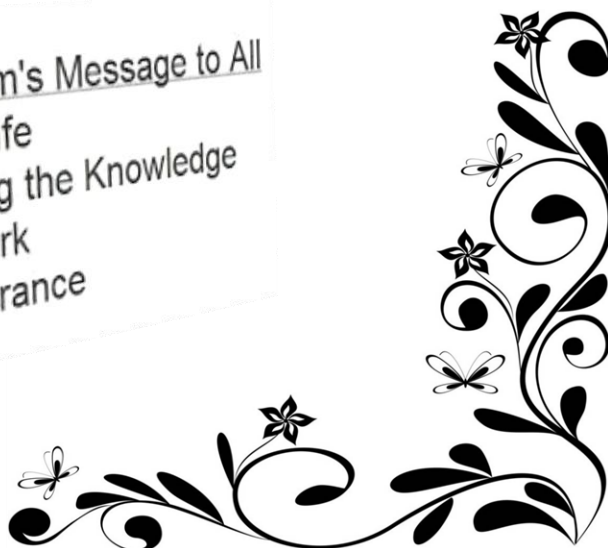
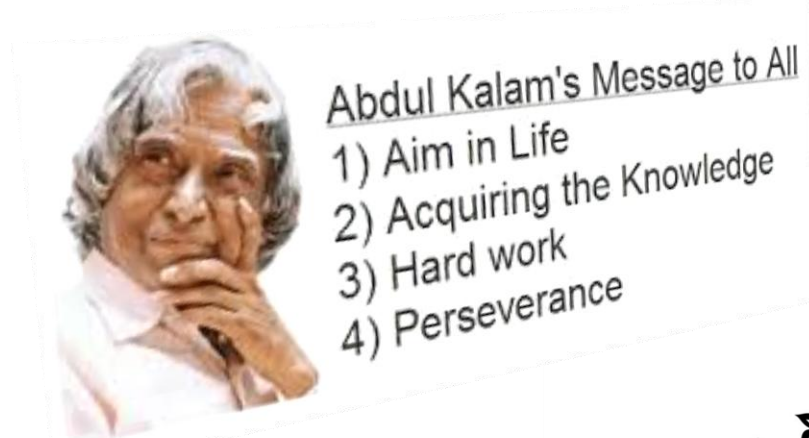
God continue to disturb us by such leaders. He has chosen like our Founder, Mother Teresa and so many others according to the signs of the times.

We the Holy Family sisters are leaders by our vocation and servants by our ministry. We have to follow simply the footsteps of Jesus, Mary and Joseph we can surprise the people with our words and actions. If they have lived, why can't we?

Let us surprise the world with something new, something better, something beautiful for God and for the people. Shall we try?

- ☞ Something greater!
- ☞ Something unexpected for our friends!
- ☞ Something noble for our congregation!
- ☞ Something personal for Jesus!
- ☞ Something special to reach the people in the periphery!

***Let us be a surprise! Make a difference!***



**CHENNAI  
Community**

In order to give more attention to the poor children, those who are studying in Government schools we have begun evening tuition classes for this academic year August 2014. In our surrounding there are five Government schools. I have visited and informed about the evening tuitions to the Head Masters. They welcomed and encouraged the students to go for it. All classes are kept in their school grounds except Mulagalampadu which is kept in our convent premises. We have appointed young women in each village as teachers. First they were given instructions and motivation about this evening tuition classes. These tuitions were taken after school for two hours. In Mulagalampadu village two centers about 75 students, in Aasanagadam 35, Vemulapalli 132, Rangapuram 45 were gaining through this programme.



The majority of the people are daily coolie workers and their children are studying in surrounding government schools. Since the quality of education and is less staff, the study of the children are affected and they become drop-outs. Since the parents are not educated they are unable to help the children in their studies. The poor children also find difficult to study at their homes because of failure of electricity in their houses and some are not cared enough.

To encourage the students and to develop their skills we have planned to organize competitions like singing, dancing, elocution etc. We also conduct games, give some moral values by our interactions and regular visits to the Centers. We have chosen these students, because of our reflections on giving dignity to the downtrodden. We look forward to give good future to the children.

**Sr.Sugirtha  
Mulagalmpadu**

### அன்னை மரியின் வழியில்

வானத்தை விட விரிவானது  
கடலை விட ஆழமானது  
மலையை விட உயரமானது  
கனியை விட இனிமையானது  
பூவை விட அழகானது  
அதுதான்!  
அன்னைமரியின் அன்பு  
அதை தான் நாம் வாழ  
அழைக்கப்பட்டு இருக்கிறோம்.

உண்மை அது  
உள்ளத்தில் வேண்டும்  
உறவுகளில் வேண்டும்  
உறங்கும் போதும் வேண்டும்

உருக்குலையாமல் காக்கும்  
உயிரினும் மேலான  
உண்மையே உன்னை  
உயர்வடையச் செய்யும்

உதடுகள் சொல்வதெல்லாம்  
உண்மையல்ல  
உள்ளத்தில் உள்ளதை  
உள்ளபடி உரைத்து விடு

பொய்மையை மறந்து விடு  
பொல்லாததை விட்டு விடு  
பொறுமையைக் கற்று விடு  
புகழோடு வாழ்ந்து விடு

ஊரார் உன்னைப் போற்றும்  
உலகம் உன்னை வாழ்த்தும்  
உன்னதராம் இறைவன்  
உனக்கு விடுதலை அளிப்பார்!

விடுதலை பெறுக  
விடிவெள்ளியாய் ஒளிர அன்னை  
மரியாள் துணையாக இருப்பாள்.

**Sr.Veronica  
Chennai**



My Mission Experience With The Tender Leaves

Dear friends I am happy to share about my life and mission experience in 'Chiguru'

I work in a Salestian Institution, "Navajeevan Bala Bhavan Vijayawada". 'Chiguru' is not the place. It gives a beautiful name to the children. These children are compared with very tender leaves because they come here and start a new life. Chiguru is like Mother's house for all the children. The children are brought from the Railway stations, Bus stations, from the Street and Road sides. Some are orphans, semi orphans and from broken and poor families. Chiguru gives shelter, protection, care and education until they settle in their lives. Some come from child marriage back ground and they are given counseling and vocational training. After this course they go for placements.

God sent me here to share my love, support and to take care of them at all times. The atmosphere is very beautiful everywhere greenish, very calm. We live near the Krishna River. We enjoy God's creation in this place. Morning and evening we admire the beauty of the nature and I feel God has given me a new and beautiful experience.

There is a formal school in our Institute and I had the opportunity to teach and encourage the children to sing, dance, draw and play. Once a month we have a development meeting. Once a week we have a staff meeting, I share what I experience.



Through this I have observed lot, I can see the growth of the children. I am happy about my colleagues. We all work together. I am able to mingle with everyone and work with lay people and religious groups. I am given freedom to exercise all my religious duties. I feel that God has sent me to his mission and he is facilitating everything for me.

Sometimes we had cultural programs and trips to the Hailand Amaravathi and Vundavalli when there was a holiday. I am able to come to Ramanakkapeta and help out the sisters. On our Founder's Feast day I shared my joy with 'Chiguru' children by distributing sweets to them. Director Father prayed for us and he gave a message that we should never forget the Charism of our Founder.

First of all I thank God and secondly my sisters for the good opportunity given to me to grow in my life and improve in all areas of life.

**Sailaja**  
Pre novice

IN MITHRA INSTITUTE AND IN RAMANAKKAPETA COMMUNITY

I am happy to share about my six month experience. First and foremost with heartfelt thanks and gratitude I thank God for giving me an opportunity to have different experience in two places – Ramanakkapetta and the Institute of Mithra. I worked in Mithra for two months for the differently abled children. At the beginning I was scared because of the language. I found difficult to communicate with the children. Slowly I got adjusted and I felt God's protecting hands over me. I could see that the children were differently abled but highly talented. There was a case who proved

herself, that her physical inability was not a problem for her but she went ahead to do her degree. I was inspired by her motivation and happy life. When I see the children who are created by God, as handicapped, I always ask God, Lord why do you allow this misfortune? What can I do for these little ones? From the day I started to work at Mithra, I began to count his blessings on me. I recognized God's image in them. I was very happy to work with them and found difficult to say good bye.

I had a community experience at Ramanakkapeta. I was given the ministry to help the boarding children and to help our sisters. I felt joy of being with the children. They started to speak English with me, children are loving and joyful. They are free with me and taught me Telugu Language too. I am happy that I have taught them some values. All the sisters in the community are loving, caring and I received encouragement and



support. I am inspired by their prayerful life and zeal for mission. Sisters need to work selflessly in order to help who are in need. Affirmation from the sisters made me to grow in God's love. I have felt the sense of belonging. Once again I thank God for this opportunity.

**Roshini**  
**Pre novice**

### **ALL GLORY BE TO GOD ALONE**

I am happy to share my experience and feelings with you. First of all I thank God for his unconditional love and the many blessings for me and for my family.

I want to share with you about the love. If I ask a question, "What is love"? There are many answers. Some say, it is an expression, it is a need, it is a passion, it is an entertainment, it is an emotion and it is a mixture of all these.

Yes it is true. During these three years of my life, I have experienced different types of love which made me realize the differences between these. In the hostel I mingle with everyone and create good atmosphere wherever I am and I too had best friends. Being in the hostel I saw different kinds of people and had different experiences. These are times I was challenged to live my religious life in spite of the attractions. Really it was challenging opportunity to become strong in my vocation.

There are times I felt sad because of my weakness but now I feel that it is for my growth. Sometimes I enjoyed my life with others. God gave me many talents, gifts and everything for my growth. I was proud and had self confidence in whatever I did. It is all because of my brother who made my life peaceful, simple to live for God and others. Now what I feel is, because of my brother's sudden, unexpected death I experience the value of love and the loss of love. I have experienced God's guiding hand in all my strengths, weaknesses and sadness.

I have started to live for others and become simple to serve others. I really thank God and all our sisters for giving me this opportunity to develop my skills and to live a witnessing life wherever I am. I thank you for supporting me and my family through your prayers.

Dear sisters and brothers, continue to pray for my vocation and for my family to accept the death of my brother. The loss of my brother's love here on earth made me to share my love with all who are in need for it here on earth.

Thanking you

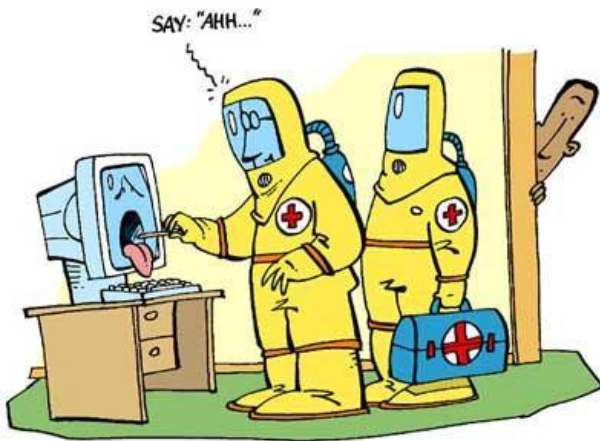
**Sr. Sunitha S.**  
Ramanakkpeta

Health is wealth; ill-health is a liability. Everyone desires to live a healthy life. Sickness is bound to come. There are sicknesses due to bad habits; sicknesses due to hereditary factors; and there are sicknesses due to unforeseen circumstances. A well-disciplined life can help each one to avoid sickness to some extent. But, I am going to share about Today's Aids. I know everybody is thinking that we know what is aids, its disadvantages and suffering people face today. I am not going to share the disease of aids but I want to share with you another kind of aids that is spreading everywhere in our surroundings and in the world. These aids affect the infants, students, adults, rich and poor people and all of us.

### *TODAY'S AIDS - NET WORKINGS*

Today the people often talk on password, code word, pin number, CVV number and social net workings, which are Obsession to facebook, whatsapp and many other networking sites makes even the adults and elders sick and dependent.

Media plays a vital role in today's context. Communication has become instant and exact. We cannot think of human life without modern technologies like internet and social media. We are able to communicate with anyone living in any part of the world online. The distances are no more binding, differences are disappearing, and the domains of



knowledge are made visible to everyone.

On the other hand, the dangers of modern social media are not unknown. We are aware of the evils which cripple the minds of the users. We can easily become addicted to internet diseases. Without discipline and proper way of using social media we can turn out to be idiots and ruthless robots. "I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction. The world will have a generation of idiots" says Albert Einstein.

I have read from a news paper that 'A 30 year old man died in China after playing video games continuously for three days. Another man died in Korea after playing video games almost continuously for 50 hours.' Same way if we speak continuously over the phone or listen to the music continually, we can easily lose our hearing sight. It is the time to wake up ourselves.

Social networking sites offer variety of entertainments, careless and adventurous ways that will lead some into unwanted and harmful relationships.

I see this is dangerous, slowly making one person obsessed to finish off his life. This is what I see as modern aids. Modern technology is powerful and useful but it needs proper and wise usage. Ensure that we live in a real world with real people.



Sr. Mercy Rani  
Kaliakkavilai.

**Dear Sisters and Brothers!**

Wishes from Your Holy Family Boarding Girls from Ramanakkapeta.

We are very happy, to share our beautiful life experiences with you all. We are twenty three and ten tailoring young girls staying in the boarding. We would like to present the rhythm of our life in brief.

**HOMELIEST**

Our boarding is our home. We are the lucky children to receive more love from our Sisters, warden and our fellow friends. We are treated equally. At home when we fall sick our parents give some medicine and they go for daily work and we just lie down and wait for their return. But in our boarding we were given more concern and taken to the hospital for our emergency medication. Whenever we go home we miss our joyful moments in the boarding. The reason we love most is that we all work together. Sisters too join with us during the gardening, games, prayer and they make us to sing & dance. When we meet misunderstandings among our friends, lack of interest in studies and feel home sick our sisters help us to accept our momentary disturbances and we give and receive forgiveness which also help us to understand one another and grow in the healthy relationships with everyone. We never felt left alone in our joys and sorrows. Our friends and sisters always stand by us. Thanks to sisters for their concern.

**PRAYER LIFE**

We often heard that Jesus responded to the children's prayer promptly. Unfortunately most of us do not know how to pray. Our parents never showed interest to pray. We are sad to say that we don't have the opportunity to go for daily mass. But in our boarding we are grateful that we go for daily mass in the parish Church. We believe through our prayer our parents also receive blessing. This helps

us to pray creatively and we are able to pray spontaneously. We pray not only for ourselves but also for our co-students and their needs.

**PERSONAL GROWTH**

We are aware of fear and shyness do not allow us to move forward. Slowly we are helped to join with our friends to do dance, singing, drama, speech and news paper reading. Now we feel we are able to identify our different talents. We each one respects one another as we are. We are able to perform meaningful programs without fear and shyness. We are happy to say that in our boarding we have the opportunity to have personal dialogue with our mistress. This helps us to overcome problems with our age and become aware and face it. Every Sunday we have moral and catechism classes that help us to learn good values and grow as mature young girls.

**GROUP ACTIVITIES**

In our boarding we have five groups. They are as follows,

1. Jesus' group,
2. Mary's group,
3. Joseph's group,
4. Bienvenu's group,
5. Fanny's group

We are happy to work in our own little groups.

This system makes us to become more active and creative. Under the four headings we are given points such as Punctuality, Discipline, Cleanliness and Creativity.

Every Sunday we eagerly await to receive our points for our groups and surprising gifts.

**SAFEGUARD MOTHER EARTH**

We feel grateful to our mother earth which give us pure air for breath, shelter, variety of food, beautiful flowers, and fruits and nourish all of us and all living beings. But because of our blindness and ignorance, we misuse all the resources of the earth. Through the awareness classes we are able to feel our mistakes. We have suggested in taking care



of our mother earth by way of collecting all the plastics and burn in a separate place, not to waste our note books, water and cultivate vegetables in our land. We are motivated to take care of our Mother Earth.

In Andhra Pradesh women are not much respected. The big problem is that at the very young age they

are given in marriage. We feel sad about this. But we are fortunate that we are given chance to study. We hope we will never allow our parents to do this age old problem. We feel we have the responsibility to give this awareness to our fellow friends in the school, our neighbour and nearby villages. Thanks to our sisters for giving us such awareness.

## Holy Family Boarding Girls Rmanakkapeta

# 14

## THE BEAUTY OF INNOCENCE IN BUILDING COMMUNION

For the past academic year 2014 – 2015 I was in Chennai and this time was a great opportunity for me to experience the words of Jesus that “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.”[Mt.19:14]

It was first time for me dealing with the kids between the age group 2 – 4 years. There were 35 children belong to different language and religion like Catholics, Hindus, Musilims and other denominations. I love and like the children, I was eagerly waiting to admire their cry and Instead of getting what I expected from them I was able to be one with the children.



I tried to relate with their parents but the parents were not ready. They do not enter inside the campus but they just rush out for their work after leaving the children in the nursery. There started hesitation to talk with me that questioned me am I going to manage this year with these children. The next morning there came a muslim parent, and shouted at me saying, Madem we are leaving our child only for a good education and behavior. Don't convert my child to your Christianity and don't teach him your prayers.

As I love the children so much the words of the particular parent did not bother me. Without knowing what to do, I shared the particular events with my sisters and offered the children and their parents to the Holy Family and prayed for them.

With the continuous prayer I took an another step to visit their families along with our sisters and listened to their problem. It gave me more understanding about the parents and the children.

In order to be close with the children I just came out of my own restrictions and started to dance along with my kids. I just went along their way. I listened to their repeated stories, though it was sometime boaring for me. I pretended to cry whenever they cried. There I experienced the beauty of their hearts. They started to come closer to me, gave a beautiful smile, for which I was waiting in the beginning. Slowly tried to pronounce my name with the help of our sisters. They accepted me in their group for everything. They listened to me, learned all the basic things and discipline. They started to imitate me at home and wanted to see me often.

The friendship within their group made the parents to become friends with other parents. Without any difference of language and religion they visited our chapel for prayer and shared their love through important events of their families. At the close of the academic year the parents said, sister we are one family. As I listened to that sentence I just recalled that it was possible only by prayer and beauty of the innocent hearts which brought them all together as one family. This also made me to experience that communion is possible in and through our life and ministry.

**Sr.Sahaya Mary Sandanam  
Rmakuppam**

Dear sisters, for the first time our five tertians had the chance to go to our dear Ven. Founder's Spiritual Spot – Martiallc – La Solitude for one month as part of their six months preparation for Final Commitment. They are coming forward to share their experiences in the form of interview:

**Helen** **Vinnarasi, what was your feeling when you first met the sisters in Martiallc? Were you able to mingle with them and adapt to the new atmosphere?**

**Vinnarasi** Yes. It was very good, and I felt the sense of belonging, because our sisters were waiting for us eagerly even though it was midnight. They welcomed us cheerfully at the airport itself. I experienced their sisterly, motherly love and concern throughout my stay. I had to adjust to the food and climate changes. I really enjoyed the accommodation and their genuine hospitality. I am grateful to the Leader of the Community Adela VANACLOCHA and all the Community sisters who were simple, dedicated, approachable, and sensitive to our needs. They guided us to know the inside and around La Solitude- **'Our Cradle'**. It helped me to increase my sense of belonging towards Our Big PBN Family.



**Helen** **How did you enjoy your international group living, and allow yourself to be interconnected with them?**

**Angel** We were 36 of us, from France, Spain, Argentina, Lesotho, R.D. Congo, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Poland and India. Though we were from different countries, we deeply felt we are committed to follow Jesus in the Holy Family way of life. I enjoyed talking by sign Language. We felt strongly our Ven. Founder PBN was with us.

For the purpose of this session we were divided into three groups. I was mostly touched by the Story of the River, Exodus, God Alone Spirit, Consecrated Life and Vows. Every session enriched and enlightened me to taste God's Love. Our living together connected us to God, People and Nature. As Pope Francis says "Where there are religious, men and women there is Joy, joy is born of Christ".

**Helen** **Along with your rich experience listening to one another and responding to the action of the Spirit, I would like to know whether you all had the chance of presenting the situation of the different countries.**

**Vinnarasi** Of course! We were asked to share the crisis we face in the society we live. Each country was well prepared to present in the General Assembly. We the Indian Unit presented in the form of 'Street Play' and we acted out some of the crisis such as poverty, unemployment, drug addiction, deforestation, child labour and migration. I was enriched by each countries' performance and I came to know some of the crisis were same as us ours. And some of them were new like terrorism, Gay marriage, Elderly people left alone etc... I am able to be aware of them and to commit myself to answer the needs with the loving, generous, and dedicated life. Yes the world stands in need of liberation my Lord; it still has to learn to love. As our dear Founder says "Let us love one another tenderly and create Communion wherever we are sent.

**Helen** **Hi Jini, I forgot to ask you about the very important and significant place in La Solitude. You are guessing it... Can you share please?**

**Jini** It is none other than the Island. It was really like a dream, I thought of pinching me to prove it. During my formation time whenever I heard about the Island, I had the desire at least to see it in the video, because I thought I will never get the chance to go to this memorable place. It is an unbelievable and amazing experience. It is our Good father's immense love for Mother Mary and how marvelously he honored her as Queen of this Island. The way he has constructed this Island was astounding, it is fully surrounded by different and various statues, like pilgrimage of the Holy Family. I really felt the presence of our Founder, because he could have walked around this place, mediation on the nature, praying for his daughters and writing our **First Rules**. On seeing all these I feel proud of our Founder's spirituality and Charism which took its roots in this beautiful land and I am really inspired to be his genuine daughter because I believe that our Good Father's blessing is always with me.

**Helen** **Philo would you like to share which was the most unforgettable place that you were touched by?**

**Philo** One free day our Founders' Hermitage was opened for all the sisters to see our Good Father's belongings. Mary SLAVEN explained about the various bibles and other books that our founder used for his readings, reflections and homilies. I was surprised to see the bed he used to rest at night specially to be alone. It was evident that our Good Father wrote all the rules, letters, homily and all reflections for retreats under the guidance of Mother Mary. When I saw the big statue of Our Lady I was struck to hear how our Founder carried this big statue at midnight on his shoulder for our First Foundation. This hermitage reminds me the loving memories of our Prophetic Founder his zeal and dedicated service for the growth of our Institute.

**Helen** **Lalitha, I am interested to hear about your tour around Bordeaux;**

**Lalitha** After going so far how can I miss Bordeaux, the birth place of our Ven.Pierre Bienvenu Noailles? I recalled his birth, baptism and the four events of his life at St.Andrew's Cathedral. I saw the big Baptismal Font, where He was baptized on the same day of his birth 27-Oct-1793. I was amused and surprised to see his courage to climb the high Church Tower when he was a young boy. I prayed at the chapel of Mount Carmel where on the Eve of his First Communion he seems to have had a deep religious experience. He was convinced of his first conversion. The parish of St.Eulalie at his home town made me to recall his group of Catechism of Perseverance from where our Family sprouted to live for God Alone.

The trip to Lourdes was a memorable and wonderful experience. I spent the full day in the presence of Our Lady. It was an admiration to see a sea of pilgrims from all over the world praying for the sick and suffering. The day was a blessing for me to increase my love and devotion to our Blessed Mother.

**Helen** **Were you able to see the Monstrance of the Miraculous Benediction and the tomb of our dear Founder?**

**Jini** Do you think sister, that we left Martiallc without experiencing the presence of Jesus the same Miraculous Monstrance? The day we entered there we were longing to see this Monstrance. We were told that the Blessed Sacrament was exposed everyday in this Monstrance from 3.00 to 4.00Pm and 10.00 to 12.00 noon on Sundays. I was recalling the day of the Miraculous Benediction and the word that was heard by Melody Peychaud. This increased my faith in the Eucharistic Jesus. As I turned to the left I saw the tomb which holds the saintly body of our Founder. I believe that he is interceding for us and making our prayers to be heard by God. I spent my morning and evening prayer time sitting at the feet of Jesus and the tomb of our

Ven.Founder. This gave me consolation and affirmed my vocation in the Holy Family. I could never forget this experience in my life.

**Helen** **Angel, being the first Contemplative Foundation and your first visit to this contemplative Monastery what are your impressions and what was your climax celebration?**

**Angel** Though we visited the Monastery now and then, on the last day of our session 27<sup>th</sup> May, Sr.Bernadette TAURINYA helped us to tour the Monastery. All our questions were explained clearly. I was surprised to see her powerful and recollected answers. Whomsoever I met I could see their gracefulness, gentleness, cheerfulness, prayerfulness and each one was vigorously occupied in her own duties. I am really proud that Malini JOSEPH and Rishmala MICHAEL have responded to their Contemplative call and find joy and fulfillment in their way of life. They took us to the interior part of the Monastery. I was stunned to see their personal solitude room. I am grateful for our Founder's vision and hard work to realize his dream that one Group will continue to praise and thank God for his Miraculous Benediction.

**Philo** I wish to conclude the climax of our stay there. Our renewal of vows coincided with the Jubilarians' Eucharistic celebration. The community Chapel was decorated in Asian style and we did not miss to put 'Kolam' (Floor decoration) at the entrance of the Chapel. All the Asian sisters took part in the singing and dancing. Jini NAYAGAM and Lalitha LAKKAPAMU did the Bharathanatyam to welcome Fr. Robino the celebrant and all the Jubilarians. The honourable 'Kumba Aarathi' – solemn welcome for the chief celebrant was done by Keetha. The Martiallc community did their best to satisfy all the participants and thank God for the wonderful service rendered by dear Christaline OCKERSZ – member of the community. After renewing our vows Mary SLAVEN who was responsible for us signed our papers and Fr. Robino too. The parishners were excited in witnessing for the first time the Indian Liturgical gestures. A family tea party followed. We really felt that we all belong to one family, the Family of God.

**Lalitha** On behalf of my group I thank our General Leadership Team who organized this renewal course at Martiallc. This '**Touch of La Solitude**' is a blessing in our life. We go forward to share this blessing with others. We are indebted to our Unit Leader Mary AROKIAM and her team for organizing everything for this God given experience. How can we forget Helen A'KATTAR for her loving accompaniment in this preparation. We thank all our sisters for the spiritual support given to us.

**[“My dear daughters you received many sign for your life at this time. I have placed your resolution under the protection of our Lady of All Graces. And I hope your Good Mother will help you to keep them” – PBN]**

**Sr.Lalitha Kumari**

**Sr.Maria Angel**

**Sr.Sagaya Vinnarasi**

**Sr.Mary Jini**

**Sr.Philomina**







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A decorative border of black ink-style floral and vine motifs surrounds the page. The border features elegant scrolls, leaves, and three butterflies. One butterfly is in the top-left corner, another in the middle-right, and a third in the bottom-center. The text 'Thank You!' is centered within the border.

**Thank  
You!**

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