



M. M. MUMBAI *voices*

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Province of St. Mary Mazzarello, Mumbai India (INB)
(Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco)



A New Wave of Joy in MM Mumbai



*Maiden Visit of
Mother Yvonne Reungoat to INB
1 - 10 March 2018*



**MOTHER WITH PROVINCIAL
SR. RITHA DORA THOMAS**



**MOTHER WITH SR. RITHA
DORA, SR. SUPRIYA NORONHA
& SR. RITA D' SOUZA**



MOTHER WITH THE COUNCILLORS

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‘Sometimes we are only given few minutes to be with the one we love and thousand hours to spend thinking of them.’

*This may be the similar feeling of most of us as we concluded the maiden visit of Mother Yvonne. It was a long awaited, and much looked forward to visit, because the visit of Mother General was happening after nearly 20 years. Indeed, with all the preparations, each of us was reminded of our own responsibility to our vocation and mission, and so was Mother’s message to each of us as she visited Bandra, Goa, Wadala, Lonavla and Gujarat. She spoke the message of love but above all communicated to us through her eyes. What did she see in MM Mumbai, in the Sisters, young people, Members of the Salesian Family? Mother envisaged **HOPE**. She hoped for more love, greater commitment, deep humility and immense love for youngsters. She came to us in the name of the Almighty, to tell us that in these troubled times; there is **HOPE** because we have **CHRIST**.*



*She came to remind us to rekindle the fire, shake off the ashes, add more wood, because we are called to wake the world in **HOPE**.*

*She came to us in the name of Mother Mazzarello, calling us and reminding us that we are a part of a great family, the Salesian **FAMILY**.*




*Mother came to tell us to **REJOICE AND CELEBRATE** because God is present among us especially as we love and care for the young at risk.*

Mother you came to MM Mumbai and you have conquered our hearts by your presence, may we too, like you, conquer the hearts of our youngsters and lead them to God.

Sr. Lavita E. Sequeira fma 

EDITORIAL

MOTHER SPEAKS TO HER DAUGHTERS...

-  *We must be sure that Our Lady continues to do everything, if we leave Her free range, if we allow ourselves to be guided by Her, even when She asks us to ‘dare’, to experiment new ways of evangelization.*
-  *We must praise God for the good that is done, that you do, and that will be done. This attitude of deep gratitude is part of the nature of our charism.*
-  *For just over 70 years you have sown the seed of the charism in these lands and you are called to continue in this call.*



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Trust In St. Joseph And You Will See What Miracles Are

He was a carpenter by profession, a dreamer, a simple man who believed entirely in the providence of God. His life centres on his creator and all that he demanded of him as a creature. His belief in his God surpasses all else in his life and no inconvenience was too big as far as God's plan had to be fulfilled. That is why he is still a mystery saint.

'Trust in St. Joseph and you will see what miracles are.'..... the emphasis is on trust. I always believe that St. Joseph is a "Jara hattke" saint. i.e. he is much different than other saints – his silence is louder than his words, his simple job sufficient to feed his family, his dreams, an important part of his travelling itinerary and his family was his social life.

He has no spoken words to his credit, no astounding miracles in his lifetime, no achievements to boast of. Yet the Church gives him the highest acknowledged titles: Husband of Mary, Foster Father of Jesus, Patron of the Church, Guardian of the Holy Family..... titles, no one can lay claim to! Not only the Church, but Yahweh chose him...Joseph do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife.....and from then on began his topsy-turvy life. One dream And he married Mary; a second dream and he left for Egypt, a third dream and he returned to Nazareth. The dreams, interspersed with the decree of Ceasar Augustus, takes him to Bethlehem. He was the chosen man to fulfil God's Prophecies. Do we realise that like St. Joseph, each one of us is called to fulfil the prophecies of God which will change the course of history?

So, in the light of these facts, can we boldly say : Trust in St. Joseph and you will see what miracles are? Many say that St. Joseph is a slow saint. I believe that trusting St. Joseph is a sure way to change one's life. St. Joseph was always my favourite saint and I entrusted to him my religious commitment and prayed daily for 'an interior life of prayer and silence'. I felt that nothing was really happening, but every now and then when older acquaintances met, they would remark how I had changed, that I looked more peaceful than before, that I had become less noisy and gradually it dawned on me that I was slowly but silently getting into the life of prayer and silence. I don't know about you, but for me it was one of the greatest miracles in my life and those who know me and my 'talking habits' will agree without doubt.

I understand St. Joseph as one who does not take the credit of "the Miracle" to himself. Rather, he infuses in his petitioner, the desire and the will to work on those aspects which will help attain that miracle in our lives, and, what is obtained through his intercession is long lasting. So, trusting St. Joseph is, in a way, trusting oneself, in

one's ability to be the change one wants to see. The miracles may not be the glamorous ones but they are surely the useful - to - life ones. So trusting in St. Joseph is quite easy. He makes no demands, but like the good carpenter that he is, he keeps on sawing, shaving and polishing till we become what God wants us to be. We cannot forget the fact that St. Joseph will ultimately help us to do God's will – silently and serenely.

There are many instances in the lives of our FMA sisters, wherein, they mention the protection of St. Joseph in the guise of an older man, assisting them in their travels, of student sisters who placed little chits at his feet, to help them in their exams and succeeded beyond their expectations, of sisters who kept an empty bread basket and on their return, found it filled with bread. You must have also heard of the special staircase in a convent, built by one single carpenter and one who disappeared without charging his fees. St. Joseph is a saint – behind – the – scenes, and it is right and fitting that we lean upon this saint, the dad of Jesus, the hubby of Mary and trust him not only to work miracles in our life but to enlighten our minds to recognise them in our daily movements of life.

So dear friends, just 'Trust in St. Joseph and you will see what a miracle you are.'



Sr. Elizabeth Coelho
Headmistress
Auxilium Benaulim, Goa



Woman for all times

MM Mumbai encounters Mother Mazzarello in Mother Yvonne.

Turning the pages of the Chronicles of our Institute we see that Mother Mazzarello understood, from the suggestions and example of Don Bosco, that visits can enhance communion between the Sisters and the houses. From that time, she became a pilgrim, constantly travelling, seeking to give birth to and consolidate communities where charity is lived, communities in a constant state of conversion, in which the love of God is felt and daily nourished, so that it can become a regenerating force for fraternal and apostolic life.

Her visits were lived as a time of communion, of encounter, of joy. She visited with love and was capable of noticing many little gestures and many needs, and she reached out to each one personally. She considered the visits as an opportunity for direct communication with her Sisters, with whom she did not have daily contact. (Taken from the excerpts of Ferdinando Maccono's, Saint Mary D. Mazzarello Co-foundress and first Superior General of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians II).

We experienced similar kinds of feelings in the recent visit of our dear Mother Yvonne to our Province from 1st March to 11th March. These days were filled with grace as she visited the different states of our Province experiencing and living the culture. Her visit was a time of empathy, of get together and of delight. She robbed the hearts of every sister, youngster, children and the lay collaborators through her vivacious smile and as she looked at each one capturing us in the camera of her heart. Each one who met her felt loved and accepted, and searched for an opportunity to be close to her.

In her address to the sisters she stressed on the importance of accompaniment, patient and listening attitude, zeal for vocations, being always available especially to youngsters, and like Mary, to strive to do God's will. She encouraged the children to be always joyful since that is what Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello want and that is the only way to sanctity.

To the novices and candidates her message was: "You are the special choice of Jesus. He chose each one of you

because He loves you. He called you to go to the young people. Consecrated life belongs totally to God. Each one of you is a unique flower with its own unique colour and a particular mission and Jesus chose you His flowers for this Institute. Your uniqueness

will give an identity to the Institute. Each one has to grow in her talents and potentials. Each flower has to bloom before it withers away. Be the light of Jesus which always radiates Jesus in all relationships. Live each stage of formation faithfully and live your life to the full. Be open to your superiors especially when you have to face difficulties. Jesus accompanies us with his grace when he entrusts us with his mission"

Her concluding message to the Sisters touched the hearts when she said, "The Sisters of the Mumbai Province will be very close to my heart since I came to know you a little better now in these 10 days. Continue your journey with new enthusiasm and passion, giving importance to vocations. Those who love never grow old because love makes everything new every day and you remain young when you love. Thank you for your missionary spirit, for your attentiveness to the needy and your mission among the young. My feet go towards the Mother house but my heart shall always remain in Mumbai Province. God bless you all".

Indeed Mother Mazzarello was truly present in our midst.

MM Mumbai will cherish your presence Mother Yvonne as we hear every heart resounding "We love you Mother."

*Sr. Priya Tauro - Administrative, Mazzarello Centre
Uttan - Maharashtra*



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A special Woman - Mother Yvonne

The hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world, is a saying that gains strength for the woman with every passing year! Women today rank among the top places in technical, engineering, digital and other institutions. They even rank among the world leaders as ruling authorities of nations. It goes without saying that women are making heads turn in whatever sphere they work or govern.

However, personally, it takes much more than an ordinary woman to impress me. You may think, that being a woman, prejudice or jealousy may be the reason. But I will disagree with you. Perhaps I am always on the lookout for the 'perfect woman' who will sweep me off my feet or knock me down lock, stock and barrel, and make me want to be like her! There have been one or two who have marked my heart and I hold them in great esteem to date.

Recently, Mother Yvonne, visited us in MM Mumbai and has managed to invade that place reserved for 'special women' in my heart. I had seen her earlier, but this time it was different. A look in her eyes gave the viewer an impression of sparkling eyes clearly reflecting God's love. She moved about like as if she had nothing else to do, making the others experience how important they are. She put up with all our instructions and made it easy for the organisers to blend protocol and friendliness. She made efforts to relate to us in English and made us realise that language is never a barrier, because it is the heart that communicates. She looked beyond the immediate and acknowledged each sister's and person's effort or role. Not once did she make us feel that she was carrying the burden of the entire Institute. She captured my heart completely when she laughed at herself correcting her translations errors. Her strength of character was seen in the messages of accompaniment, vocations and depth of prayer that she urged us to enhance in our lives. Her concern for the growth of the sisters and the



Institute was evident and she was a personal advertisement of the 'cheerfulness' that Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello exhorted every FMA to develop.

Somehow I felt the title of 'Mother' was apt for her..... because she was a mother at all times and to all peoples. She not only rocked the cradle, but she rocked our mission and she now rules our hearts.

Leaders today, should be the examples of simplicity, intelligence and human warmth; persons who are at home with their own selves and whose positive vibes make all the others enjoy the comfort zones that emanate. Mother Yvonne's visit left a warm feeling in my heart (in almost all the hearts) making me raise a silent and fervent prayer of thanksgiving to the Almighty for giving us a leader who is a woman, a sister and a mother, all rolled in one beautiful package called 'Yvonne'.

May the Lord bless thee and keep thee, Mother Yvonne, and may his light shine upon thee!

*Sr. Elizabeth Coelho - Headmistress
Auxilium Benaulim, Goa*

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10 DAYS JOURNEY OF MOTHER YVONNE



Day 1 - 1st March

The long awaited day finally arrived. Our dearest Mother General, Mother Yvonne Reungoat, arrived at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport Mumbai at 2.45 pm. Mother was warmly welcomed by our Provincial Sr. Ritha Dora Thomas, Provincial Economist Sr. Rita D'Souza, Provincial Secretary Sr. Supriya Noronha and a good number of Sisters.

At the Provincial House, Auxilium Centre, Bandra, Mother was welcomed by young people, Sisters, teachers and the support staff. She was greeted in traditional Indian style and escorted to the Chapel.

The 'Veni Creator' was solemnly sung and a hymn to Our Blessed Mother was intoned. Mother lit a candle in front of the statue of Mary and thanked Mary for her powerful help.

She joined the Sisters for tea and shared a light moment with them.





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Day 2 - 2nd March

Our beloved Mother Yvonne Reungoat, was warmly welcomed by the Superiors of the Goa-Karnataka region at the Dabolim Airport, Goa at 7.15 am. They then proceeded to St. Francis Xavier Convent, Benaulim where the sisters, students, past pupils, co-operators and ADMA members greeted her with flowers, smiles, cheers and song. It was indeed a colourful and joyful welcome.

We then met as one family around the Eucharistic table. Fr. Avil Rodrigues sdb, the Vice-Provincial of the Konkani Province was the main celebrant. Fourteen other Salesians concelebrated along with him. At 3.00 pm the sisters along with Mother proceeded towards Auxilium Convent, Caranzalem. Here she was in for another colourful surprise as the students escorted her with different dances. The sisters, the staff members and the co-operators joyfully greeted her with songs.



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Day 3 - 3rd March

Mother received an amazing traditional welcome at the Benaulim Auxilium High School gate as she was escorted to the beat of Goan dances. The Goan culture and heritage was beautifully displayed with the baker, the fishing community, the toddy tapper, the famous Goan Sausage Pav, and the potter happily greeting her.

Mother was then treated to a colourful cultural programme presented by the boarders and students of our houses. Mother had words of gratitude and encouragement for each student present. The programme was followed by the Holy Eucharist presided by his grace Archbishop Filipe Neri Ferrao, the Parish Priest Fr Lucio Dias and the Chaplain Fr. Eremito Coutinho. The Archbishop expressed his thanks to the Superior General for the mission carried out by the Salesian Sisters in the Archdiocese. He made a special mention about our presence at Sindoni in Daman, where the sisters work enthusiastically with the tribals.

Mother Yvonne then addressed the Salesian Family represented by co-operators, past pupils, the PTA, staff members and ADMA. She stressed on the fact that 'We are family', and together we must continue the mission of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello in reaching out to the young. She further added that our educative mission is both a gift



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and a responsibility that has to be utilised wisely. Though the members of the Salesian family are scattered all over the world, and belong to different languages, cultures and countries, we understand each other because we share the same Salesian Spirit.



In the evening the sisters of the Benaulim community along with Mother Yvonne and the Provincial set out for a short pilgrimage to the Shrine of Bom Jesus at Old Goa to venerate the relics of St. Francis Xavier. Fr. Patricio Fernandes SJ, the Rector of Bom Jesus community explained to them the history and devotion related to the place.



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Day 4 - 4th March

Around 4.30 pm Mother Yvonne accompanied by our Provincial Sr. Ritha Dora Thomas and the Provincial Councillors left for Auxilium Convent, Pali Hill, Bandra. The hills of Pali were resounding with joyful shouts of "Welcome Mother" as our beloved Mother Yvonne was given a grand welcome on her maiden visit as Superior General to our Province. The sisters and the exuberant Auxilians escorted Mother General into the portals of Auxilium Convent, Pali Hill, with fragrant flowers and an energetic display of Maharashtrian folk dances.

Mother Yvonne was overwhelmed with their breathtaking performance at the end of which she was invited to pose for a picture with the students. She then addressed the gathering and congratulated the students for their excellent performance. She affirmed that we are all part of a big family and to love people in the name of God is our mission. Her message to them was "I wish you to be always happy and search for occasions to make others happy". As a gesture of her love and affection, she looked into the eyes of each one present and asserted that they were beautiful and she loved them.

Mother Yvonne met the Salesian Family: the Co operators, the ADMA members, the past pupils, the teaching and the non-teaching staff. Mother spoke to the Salesian Family saying that though we come from different cultures, faiths, and traditions and yet the vocation and responsibility received by each one is the same – that of giving hope to others, especially the young and to form the future of tomorrow. Each group presented her with flowers and gifts as a token of their love and gratitude.



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Day 5 - 5th March



5th March 2018 is a memorable day for the Province of INB but especially for Auxilium Convent, and Mazzarello Youth Centre Wadala as they are graced with the motherly presence of our Mother General, Mother Yvonne, a memory that will be cherished forever by the two communities. The students of Auxilium High School, Wadala, extended a glorious welcome to Mother. The entire atmosphere was charged with overflowing joy and deep contentment. Mother proceeded towards the hall on the first floor of Mazzarello Youth Centre where the school children, teaching and non-teaching staff, the past pupils, parents, sisters and well wishers were eagerly awaiting her arrival.

In her message to the students, Mother advised them to be happy always and try to find ways of making others happy since joy and happiness were the hallmark of our saintly Founders, Mother Mazzarello and Don Bosco. Mother Yvonne met the Animators of the various communities of the INB Province in the AMAR media hall. The Provincial of the Salesians, Rev. Fr. Godfrey D'souza presided over the Eucharistic celebration, 15 Salesians and Fr. Aniceto Nazareth, the brother of late Sr. Edvige Nazareth a diocesan priest concelebrated and offered the Mass for the intentions of Mother Yvonne, assuring her of prayers as she guided the Institute along the path of Salesian sanctity. He expressed his great happiness at being part of one great big family and asserted that he was happy to be present for the celebration.



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Day 6 - 6th March



His Lordship Most Rev. Barthol Barretto presided over the Eucharistic banquet and began the Holy Mass by inviting the entire congregation to rejoice and celebrate at the presence of Mother Yvonne Reungoat. Mother Yvonne, Bishop

Barthol and all the sisters proceeded towards Auxilium School where the new inter-faith prayer room was to be inaugurated. The prayer room was blessed by Bishop Barthol Barretto, Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay and inaugurated by Mother Yvonne Reungoat, FMA Superior General.

The representatives of teachers, workers and students offered her a gift as a token of their love and appreciation. The students of the primary section staged a wonderful mime act on the theme "Save water, save life". Mother Yvonne was delighted to see their heart touching performance and in her few words of advice to them, she told the students to study well, have right convictions and be good and honest human beings.



Mother met the temporary professed sisters in the AMAR media hall in Mazzarello youth centre. The gathering began with a short prayer invoking the Holy Spirit to rain down wisdom and knowledge, thus enabling them to live the Salesian charism effectively.

Mother addressed the AYM gathering saying that Don Bosco would have been thrilled to see you happy and joyful because he always wanted the young to be joyful. Be a sign of hope for all and let your light shine before other youngsters to attract them towards the right path.

Later, a book release ceremony ensued wherein "Dream big, dream true" – a book written by Sr. Teresa Joseph fma, was released by Mother Yvonne. The first copy of the book in Braille was presented to Mr. Arun Kurkute who is sightless. Other Braille copies were also presented to Komal

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and Prashant. The copies have been translated in Marathi language by Mr. Bernard Rozario and Mrs. Olivia Rozario.

Mother was escorted to meet the most special and privileged lot – the YAR (Youth at risk). The children from Anmol shelter home, Anmol outreach, NCP and evening study class of the Mazzarello centre were present to meet and express their love and gratitude to Mother Yvonne. Sr. Moksha Antonappa co ordinated the entire programme and acknowledged the help and support provided by the benefactors to this noble cause by gifting them a token of love. A memento was also presented to the teachers and children to mark this memorable event of the visitation of our Mother General.

Later, in the evening, Mother visited the shrine of Don Bosco at Matunga. She also visited the underground crypt and prayed for the intentions of the Province, for the Institute and for each sister.





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Day 7 - 7th March

The sisters, students, the teaching and non-teaching staff were feeling blest with this visit of the Superior General of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians after a span of 20 years.

Mother Yvonne was escorted to a beautifully decorated 'rath' (chariot) and accompanied by Sr. Ritha Dora; she was introduced to the varied customs, culture and life of Maharashtra, very creatively depicted through tableaux presented by students across the campus. A troupe of graceful Maharashtrian dancers led the procession as the 'rath' wound its way across the campus.

Mother was welcomed to the Aspirantate by Sr. Cecilia Crasta, the animator of St. Joseph's Training Centre.

In the chapel, a prayer of welcome was raised to God for Mother Yvonne. After a quick breakfast, Mother met the third batch of sisters and in her talk to them, she stressed on the importance of accompaniment, patient and listening attitude, zeal for vocations, being always available especially to youngsters, and like Mary, to strive to do God's will.

An entertainment programme was presented by the school. Sisters from different communities, teaching and non-teaching staff members, Past Pupils, Parents' representatives and a few well wishers were present for the function. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Valerian Pereira SDB and concelebrated by seven priests. Mother Yvonne met the Novices, Aspirants and Postulants in the afternoon. Her message to them was: "You are the special choice of Jesus. He chose each one of you because He loves you. He called you to go to the young people. Consecrated life belongs totally to God. Each one of you is a unique flower with its own unique colour and a particular mission and Jesus chose you His flowers for this Institute"

Mother Yvonne, accompanied by our Provincial Sr. Ritha Dora, the Animators of Auxilium Convent Sr. Josephine Fernandes and St. Joseph Training Centre Sr. Cecilia Crasta, the Secretary Sr. Supriya Noronha and the Province Bursar Sr. Rita D'Souza travelled towards Ashish Bhavan



Social Centre, Kune. The boarders, villagers and Sisters eagerly awaited Mother's arrival at the entrance. The girls stood along the pathway to welcome Mother. Mother was greeted with the traditional aarati.

The children presented a beautiful prayer dance and a Hindi re mix dance after which Mother addressed the village people and children.





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Day 8 - 8th March

Auxilium Baroda was blessed with the visit of our beloved Mother General Mother Yvonne Reungoat. The entire educating community awaited her presence with great longing in their hearts. The students of the Gujarati medium school adorned with colourful attire welcomed Mother Yvonne in the traditional way. Mother entered the Chapel for a moment of prayer. She placed a lighted lamp at the altar as a mark of her radiating presence that lights up our lives. Mother Yvonne was then taken to the refectory where she expressed her sentiments of joy to be with the Sisters.

In the afternoon around 500 women from Baroda, Dakor, and Pansora gathered for the Women's Day Celebration at Auxilium Baroda. Mother Yvonne was felicitated with a shawl and a bouquet after which she was given a glimpse of the Gujarati culture through dances and songs. She was thrilled to see the women dancing. There was a short musical enacted by the SHG women of Dakor that depicted the achievements of women in different fields.



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Day 9 - 9th March

The students of the Gujarati and English medium schools staged a combined programme to showcase the culture and traditions of Gujarat.

What a grand sight it was to see her and the entire crowd watching her riding in the chariot. The atmosphere was so colourful, joyful and attractive. The students dressed in multicoloured 'chanya cholis' welcomed Mother Yvonne with dance, music and flowers.

Mother Yvonne was invited to address the gathering. She began by thanking all for the grand welcome, appreciated the culture that is rich in human values and praised the children for their performance.

She stressed on the role of girls which is very important in the social world for the future of life, for the future of peace and solidarity. She urged them to be true to the words inscribed on the school building 'to love one another'. She emphasized that we live our differences in daily life, the difference of culture, languages, religion etc., and to build a new society, a new world is the responsibility of the parents, teachers and Sisters.

Mother Yvonne reached Pushpanjali, Dakor at 11.30 am and was welcomed with garlands by Sr. Sunanda Solanki, the animator of Dakor and Sr. Melna, the animator of the SMI community, breaking of a coconut and a group of women carrying 'kalash' on their heads on either side of the pathway. She was surrounded by the Sisters, students, boarders, teachers and support staff of Dakor, Salesian Fathers, the SMI Sisters, and the Sister Disciples commonly known as 'behenjis'.

At 12.30 pm there was a solemn Holy Eucharist at the SDB Parish Church of Christ the King celebrated by the Archbishop of Gandhinagar diocese Rt. Rev. Thomas Macwan. The concelebrants were the Vicar General of the Ahmedabad diocese,

At 5.45 pm Mother Yvonne was welcomed with flowers, 'kumkum'. She was led in procession from the gate to the stage with a variety of lively dances performed by the school children, tuition children and the boarders of Jag Prakash Chatralaya, Pansora. They were draped in gorgeous



costumes beautifully decked to add colour and beauty to the occasion. The dignitaries were felicitated with floral tributes.

The presence of all the groups: tuition children, boarders, school children and Self-Help Group helped us to give Mother Yvonne a true picture of the mission in Pansora. The enthusiasm among those gathered was great. There was a lot of joy and happiness seen on their faces.



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Day 10 - 10th March

Mother Yvonne arrived at Pali Hill Bandra at 11.30 am and joined in the Eucharist Banquet at 11:45 am. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by His Lordship Rt. Rev. John Rodrigues Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay Diocese. The Mass began with Mother Yvonne and Sr. Rita Dora walking in procession to the symbolic fountain of water near the altar where, in a symbolic gesture of quenching the spiritual thirst of the INB Province and rejuvenating the Salesian charism, Mother Yvonne graciously poured water from her jar into the jar which Sr. Rita Dora was holding. All gathered prayed for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon Mother since it is through His intervention that the Sisters continue to accompany each other and discover ever new frontiers to improve and enhance their mission of love, especially among the young and the needy.



song and rhyme and wished her well as she concludes her visitation to the Province.

Her concluding message to the Sisters touched the hearts when she said, "The Sisters of the Mumbai Province will be very close to my heart since I came to know you a little better now in these 10 days. Continue your journey with new enthusiasm and passion, giving importance to vocations. Those who love never grow old because love makes everything new every day and you remain young when you love. Thank you for your missionary spirit, for your attentiveness to the needy and your mission among the young. My feet go towards the Mother house but my heart shall always remain in Mumbai Province. God bless you all".

The Sisters of MM Mumbai Province wished Mother Goodbye and bon voyage and affirmed "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world



After the Holy Eucharist, a power point presentation was projected by Sr. Teresa Joseph, wherein the various highlights of Mother's visits were shown. A melodious choir led by Sr. Aruna Castellino sang "Sono Grazie" thanking Mother for her gracious presence.

The Sisters, representing the States of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat and Karnataka dressed in the culture thanked Mother.

It was a time where the Sisters participated in the games with enthusiasm and creativity, characteristics of the Salesian spirit. The games were animated by Sr. Lavita Sequeira and each group creatively presented before Mother their



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remains and is immortal". Mother General's visitation to the Province of St. Mary Mazzarello is indeed an immortal act of love. The sweet memories of Mother's visit will definitely be etched in the hearts of the Sisters and in the hearts of those whom she encountered.

Thereafter Mother and the Sisters were invited for tea at the house of Mr. Vijay Chourarya, the benefactor of Pali Hill Bandra. Mother then proceeded to Auxilium Centre, Bandra.

On 11 March 2018 at 10.30 am the Provincial and some Sisters gathered at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai to wish Mother Yvonne Reungoat a safe and comfortable journey back home.





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Mother with the Animators
of MM Mumbai

*Thank you Mother for you maiden visit to St. Mary Mazzarello (INB) Province.
God be with you in your mission.
May you continue to inspire us like our beloved Mother Mazzarello.*

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Diary from our houses

6 JAN AUXILIUM, AHMEDNAGAR



In response to the riots that happened a few days ago in Pune, Mumbai and Ahmednagar, the young Auxilians pledged that they would grow into responsible citizens who will not allow themselves to be pulled into other's storms but instead be powerful enough to pull others into their peace. All in unison resolved to say "NO" to violence and "YES" to peace. The youngsters held 'peace placards' and were determined to become messengers of peace.

10 JAN LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR



The 50 young girls of Ujini Pimplegoan village had an inauguration ceremony of the beauty parlour for our college going students through the kind intervention and support of the Jana Shikshan Sanstha.

11 JAN PUSHPANJALI, DAKOR

The 59 VEP and NCP children were accompanied by Sr.

Sunanda Solanki, Sr. Pricilla Bhanga and four teachers to the Science City at Gandhinagar. These children are in Std. VII to Std. X. and belonged to different villages.



12-14 JAN VIJAYAWADA

The XIII South Zonal Conference was hosted by the Association of Salesian Co-operators



of INH Province. There were 7 participants from the INB Province. The theme was: Challenges of Salesian Co-operators in their Life and Mission vibrantly animated by Fr. Albert Johnson, the newly appointed South Asia Delegate for the Salesian Family.

Sr. Theresa Phawa, National Delegate, spoke on the Lay Ministry tracing briefly the history of the Salesian Co-operators. The other sessions centred on the theme were the 24 steps of PAL (Project of Apostolic Life) by Mr. T.K. Devasia, Formation in-charge for S. Asia, Role of Delegates. The Document on Economic Solidarity by Fr. Albert Johnson. Fr. Gilbert Choondal – Delegate of INK gave a presentation of Strenna 2018: "Let us cultivate the art of Listening and of Accompaniment".

12 JAN MARIA SHARAN, BABLESHWAR

The Central bank conducts workshop on agarbathi making (incense sticks). Under the leadership of Sr. Catherine Pereira, the animator, Mr. Pause the manager of Central



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Bank and Mrs. Shinde, workshop incharge along Mrs. Sunita Tribhuvan and her team came in to teach the women how to make handmade agarbathis . It was a ten-day workshop and besides learning the skill they also had input sessions on how to become strong women, awareness on bank schemes and other inspirational games which helped the women feel motivated.

On the Valedictory function many illiterate women have the joy of receiving certificates. One of them exclaimed "Today I feel free and happy because I have gained confidence and can stand here and speak; thanks for helping us come out of our homes and leave aside our pots and pans".

14 JAN MARIA BHAVAN, BABLESHWAR



Two programmes were highlighting the message of peace one for women and the other for children 12 and 14 Jan respectively. The main aim was to invite them to be messengers of peace. The place was not only lit up with

candles but with hopeful hearts who want to be channels of peace in this troubled world.

14 JAN MORNESE VIHAR, SULCORNIA



The statue of Mother Mary was welcomed with lighted candles and with happy hearts. The Rosary was well animated by the boarders and all joined to pray for various intentions.

15-22 JAN PALI HILL, BANDRA



The catechetical and value education week centred around the major religions of India Hinduism, Christianity, Buddhism, Islam and Jainism. The students conducted each day's prayer moment and creatively presented the importance on various religions.

18-25 JAN SJTC, LONAVLA

The Sisters and the candidates celebrated a 'Week of Prayer for Unity 2018'. The theme "Father, may they all be

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one". There were special prayers for unity among all Indian citizens of different faiths and cultures.

Candidates made a study of different religions such as Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Buddhism, Bahai, Zoroastrianism and Sikhism. They enlightened the community about their beliefs, founders, holy books and the main teachings.

19 JAN MARIA BHAVAN, BABLESHWAR



For the monthly programme, Maria Bhavan Milan nearly 40 children came and participated in a dance competition.

21 JAN DON BOSCO, KURLA



The annual celebration of the SALFAM Day was a gathering of Salesian Co-operators, Past Pupils, members of the ADMA, SDB and FMA numbering around 150, from the Units of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The Chief Guest was Fr. Savio Silveira, Vice Provincial, in the homily at the Eucharist, reminding the Salesian family that they have been chosen by God for a common mission. Fr. Dr. Joe Braganza, Delegate of the Kurla Unit, gave a lively presentation of the Strenna, "Let us cultivate the art of Listening and of Accompaniment".

Sr. Catherine Fernandes, FMA Delegate of the Salesian Family proposed a vote of thanks for everything and for everyone, especially to the Kurla team headed by Fr. Joe, the Past Pupils and Salesian Co-operators for the well-organized, enjoyable and truly Salesian day.

21 JAN AUXILIUM, BARODA



Around 37 past pupils from all our houses of Pansora, Dakor, Baroda and seven Sisters were present for the meet hosted the Gujarat region-wise Past Pupils meet.

22 JAN LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR





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7 members of the Salesian Co-operators Unit of L.V. Niwas Ahmednagar took their Promise at Don Bosco Church Savedi, witnessed by many parishioners, their families and friends, Salesian Co-operators, the Sisters with their boarders and students of Community College, Sr. Catherine Fernandes – Province Delegate of the Salesian Family, and the Salesian Fathers.

22 JAN AUXILIUM, BARODA



For the Value education and the Catechetical day each class presented programmes on the different themes like honesty, forgiveness and the like. The students of the primary section enacted the life story of Laura Vicuna.

22 JAN LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR



From the 22 of January onwards the women from different villages and urban areas celebrated and performed 'Haldi Kumkum' programme.

25 JAN DON BOSCO, KEDGOAN



The NCP and Project teachers had their one day training on the teachers the importance of being a teacher in the life of the students.

26 JAN MYC, WADALA



The 55 children of MYC NCP along with the Anmol and the evening children together with Sr. Anita Tairipascu, the teachers and volunteers took rally in our surrounding area. It began at 11a.m with the purpose of making the children aware about the situation that is arising in our states as well as in our Mumbai.

26 JAN LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR

The leaders of the NCP groups had leadership programme in Asha Kiran Institute, Ujini Pimplegoan. 54 leaders were present from the different villages like Jehur, Ujini Pimplegoan, Shivacha Mala, and Don Bosco colony.

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26 JAN MARIA BHAVAN, BABLESHWAR

NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural



Development) was invited to conduct the SHG Training Workshop on Bio-gas and its benefits for Rural Development. Mr. Rakesh Pangath an officer from NABARD and Mr. Prasad Khalkar who is an expert in Bio-gas and an award winner spoke to the 100 women present for the training.

27 JAN LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR



In the XV batch of the Auxilium College students, 33 young girls graduated from Auxilium Community College. They solemnly pledged to offer themselves wholeheartedly and serve the sick and suffering in the hospitals and at home. The honorable chief guest was Dr. Suresh Pathare, the Director of CSRD college, Ahmednagar, and the Guest of Honor was Sr. Moksha Antonappa. Fr. Baptist Monteiro, SDB, Sr. Aruna Castellino was also present for the celebration along with Mrs. Antonella, Mrs. Maria and 4 youngsters from Italy. The parents and relatives of the 2nd year and 1st year Auxilium Community College were also present to see their children graduating in their nursing Profession. Mrs. Antonella presented the nurses a token from the nursing council of Genova as a remembrance of her visit.

28 JAN AUXILIUM, CARANZALEM



The Goa Basketball Association invited two Spanish coaches, Carlos Manrique Ganuza and Adria Bernaus Cotonat to Goa in order to conduct special training camps for our young budding basketball players – both boys and girls.

2 FEB AUXILIUM PALI HILL, BANDRA

The tri monthly meet of the temporary professed sisters began with the Eucharist and was followed by a recollection for the full day. The animator for the day was Fr. Allwyn Nazareth SDB who emphasized on the Church document



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'The Joy of the Gospel'. In the afternoon Ms. Celine conducted a psychology test to check the IQ level and helped to realize their capacity to be and to do.



The following day Fr. P.D. Mathew shared his knowledge about social and current issues which are connected with Gospel. In his introductory talk he simplified the constitution of India connected with biblical and constitutional values.

2 FEB AUXILIUM, LONAVLA



6 students from Std VI, VII and VII were selected to represent the school at inter School Scrabble Competition. It was conducted by publishers Harper Collins at SNBP International School, Pimpri, Pune.

3 FEB LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR



Sports Day was organized for the project Zilla Parishad school children. They planned an important event for the children of 5 schools who are being helped by the Crompton and Greaves Company.

3 FEB AUXILIUM, NANDGAD



In the afternoon the 9 support staff members were present in the hall for the celebration of the Workers Day.

4 FEB AUXILIUM GIRLS' PROMOTION CENTRE, OROS

Rev. Fr. Leandro Gracious the Parish Priest of Don Bosco's Kudal, the chief guest Dr. Jawaharlal Henriques M.D. of St. Anthony's Hospital Research Centre Anjuna Goa, 5 Italian benefactors along with Sr. Joanita Antao, the Catholic Volunteers of Emmaus, parents and friends were present to grace the Graduation Ceremony.

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The 43 young nurses were fortunate to be trained in Spoken English, Work Skills and life Skills, as they also received a Diploma of appreciation and best wishes given by the Italian benefactors from the IPASVI Genova, Italy. The outgoing nurses received a book 'Dream Big Dream True' by Sr. Teresa Joseph and a little token of gratitude from the animator.

5 FEB AUXILIUM, CARANZALEM



Value Education Week was celebrated from the 5th to the 10th of February. The theme for the entire week was: The Love of God Urges Me On.

10 FEB MYC, WADALA



Sahayini Social Development Society along with college students of social work Nirmala Niketan organized an educational trip for 180 slum children of Wadala. They visited Veermata Jijabai Bhonsle Udyan, Byculla and the Zoo and Dr. Bhau Daji Museum.

10 FEB AUXILIUM, CARANZALEM



The boys won the Second Place while the girls won the Third Place in the State level Tug of War which was held at Campal Grounds, Panjim.

11 FEB ASHISH BHAVAN, KUNE



Around 50 parents gathered for the Parents' Day. The programme was centered on various themes such as Save the Girl, Educate the Girl, Develop the society and 'We are a Family'. Through dances and skit the children gave powerful message to the parents.



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11 FEB AUXILIUM GIRLS PROMOTION CENTRE, OROS



45 village youth participated in the formative programme for the 'Youth Day'. The day was filled with formative sessions, motivational talks and the like.

13 FEB MYC, WADALA



The NIOS students, the Sisters and teachers went to Pinewoods at Karjat was the annual picnic. Being the 13th of the month they decided to visit the famous Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at Karjat. The precious relics of young saints Jacinta and Francisco were kept for veneration.

14 FEB AUXILIUM YOUTH ANIMATION CENTRE, DAHANU

Due to the financial support from young friends from Turin, 32 youngsters received a gift of bicycles.

This was fruit of a joint initiative of the CBCI Office for



Dialogue and Ecumenism together with the FMA Province of Bombay and the AYAC community of Dahanu.

15 FEB AUXILIUM, NANDGAD



In the presence of the Provincial Sr. Rita Dora, Sr. Rita D'Souza, Provincial Bursar, Provincial Secretary, Sr. Supriya Noronha, the community was delighted to inaugurate the third floor of the Auxilium building.

17 FEB AUXILIUM, AHMEDNAGAR



The Catechetical / Value Education Day was celebrated for students of Std. I to Std.VIII. And 'Day with God' was animated for students of Std. IX.

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17 FEB AUXILIUM YOUTH ANIMATION CENTRE, DAHANU



50 Salesian Co-operators went for an annual outreach to Auxilium Youth Animation Centre Dahanu, including, Sr. Collette Gonsalves local Delegate of L.V. Nivas Ahmednagar, Mr. Ketan Gala President of the National Federation. Fr. Diego Nunes and Sr. Catherine Fernandes Delegates of the Salesian Family,

Sr. Mangal Kolge arranged a visit to Hadalpada village, where we came face to face with the stark reality of tribal life. The women and children gratefully accepted whatever we gave them; one of them reciprocated our gesture with typical simplicity by offering us a bundle of drumsticks. The Coaching Class children had come in large numbers, almost 110 of them, from far flung villages to welcome us with a short but lively programme including a classic Warli dance, with the help of Sr. Mary Antony and their teachers.

18 FEB MARIA BHAVAN, BABLESHWAR



During the monthly Maria Bhavan Milan a handwriting and a drawing competition was organized for 25 children of the vicinity.

18 FEB MYC, WADALA



Sr. Anita Tairipascu and the 16 children of NCP group visited the family of Nim Baptist. Nim is a special child, has lost her parents and she is taken care of by her aunt. She has her grandmother who 91 years old. The children bought biscuits, fruit, chocolates and a small gift to offer Nim.

19 FEB MYC, WADALA



Sr. Anita along with 9 volunteers and 44 NCP children went for an outing to 'Five Gardens' Wadala.

22 FEB AUXILIUM, CARANZALEM

Science cum Ecology Week was held in the School from 22nd to 30th February. The focus was on Environmental



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Awareness. Each day we had a different theme, namely - Care for creation, Water is Precious, Importance of Trees, Segregation of garbage, Conservation of natural resources and energy.

24 FEB MARIA SHARAN, KESHNAND



"Earth is our Mother and our Home" was the theme for the Anand Mela for the 200 children of the locality.

24 FEB MARIA NIWAS, KALATHUR



The Sisters and the children were invited for an outing to 'Akuna Matata Resort' by the benefactors.

24 FEB MARIA NIWAS, KALATHUR



The neighbourhood children who have benefactors helping them were invited for a time of fun and games.

25 FEB MARIA NIWAS, KALATHUR



Young people from Pilar, Shirva visited the boarding children along with Fr.Kiran Nazareth SDB. They conducted various games, taught them action songs and danced to happy tunes.

25 FEB LAURA VICUNA NIWAS, AHMEDNAGAR

Nearly 120 NCP and tuition class children students from the five villages went for a picnic to Devdari Resort.

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26 FEB AUXILIUM, LONAVLA

The Catechetical week that began on 16th February reached its culmination on 26th February as the school observed



catechetical day. Each class conducted the Morning Prayer assembly based on the values.

28 FEB MORNESE VIHAR, SULCORNIA



The Community Sisters and boarders bade farewell to the Std. X boarders. In gratitude the Std. X boarders thanked each Sister and boarder for playing an important role in their life and expressed their gratitude through song and dance.

28 FEBRUARY AUXILIUM, LONAVLA



Keeping in mind the theme of International year of Family the teachers and students of Std V visited families working at construction sites. The students gave away some eatables, toys and clothes to the people who needed it.

3 MARCH AUXILIUM, LONAVLA



In the Greenline Campaign Award ceremony 2017-18 Auxilium Convent Lonavla bagged the first runners up with a trophy and a cheque of Rs. 50,000/-. Nearly 75 schools participated in the competition. The Green Champ for the year was Ms. Sakshi Gaikwad.

3 MARCH AYAC, DAHANU

The tuition children had their Annual Sports Day. Nearly 90 students were present for the same. During the evening creative games were animated for them.



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17 MARCH AUXILIUM, LONAVLA



17 MARCH AUXILIUM, BARODA



65 AYM students visited the Blind School home-Pratapnagar. Most of the inmates were partially blind except for a few who were totally blind. The children there learn to read and write through the Braille system.

17 MARCH AUXILIUM, BENAULIM

24 youngsters of Std. IX marched out solemnly to take responsibility as leaders of the School for the new academic year 2018-19. The theme for the day was "Leadership - Life giving Waters". 14 young bubbling leaders of the Primary School were also invested.



As a reachout programme, students of Std IXA,B,C along with their teachers visited the Alpha Mission hope orphanage at Nagargaon and spent two hours with the children. This orphanage is a heaven of solace and comfort for the children who have a single parent and also for the orphans. The thirty young inmates of the house are all above five years of age. The two social workers Mrs. Jessie and Mr. Omega in the house were like angels of Mercy to these young and destitute inmates.

19 FEBRUARY AUXILIUM, CARANZALEM



The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Noel Menezes sfx. with the theme "Embark on your journey with the Lord" for the Std. X students. Placing their hands on them both Fr. Noel and the Manager Sr. Caroline D'Souza blessed them

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and invoked God's blessings of success and happiness as they embark on their journey in life. Later during the day, we had the initiation of the students into the Past Pupils association.

REPORT -BALMELA

Venue: Our Lady of Pilar Church, SINDONI

Organised by : Salesian Sisters and Pilar Fathers

Salesian Sisters in collaboration with Pilar Fathers organized the Bal Mela for the first time on 25th December 2018 at Sindoni. 450 children of the parish and nearby villages were given the joy of experiencing togetherness, sharing and caring. The Bal Mela proceedings started off with delicious breakfast served with much love.

At 10.30 am the inauguration commenced with warm welcome by Fr. Ramesh Mahala the Principal of the school. This was followed by lighting of the lamp by the guests. Dr. Pramod Kokre the local doctor, Village Sarpanch Mr. Vipul Sitaram Bhusara, Parish priest Fr. Raymond Monteiro and Sr. Esperanca D'Sa sister incharge of Auxilium Convent Sindoni. Prayer dance added colour to the prayer moment. Later beautiful badges with symbols of Christmas were given to children and groups were formed accordingly. Dr. Pramod Kokre in his speech recommended children to study well and be grateful to all that they receive. He stressed more on education and motivated the children to continue their education. This was followed by cultural dances, comedy show by different groups from the villages. Telegames organized by Sr. Moksha and team included the longest line, passing the balloon, acting on the stage as per the symbols, formation of live crib in the groups. All enjoyed chicken rice dal, pickle. Afternoon attraction was the stall games by Sr. Jaya Rodrigues and team from Anmol, Navi Mumbai. Each child was given sheet of coupons to play 10 different stall games. Children enjoyed playing the stall games and won prizes with joy.

19 FEBRUARY AUXILIUM, CARANZALEM



On the feast of St. Joseph, the patron of our institute and guardian of our family, Auxilium Caranzalem celebrated workers day in the school.

SPORTS DAY - SHIRVA



SCOUTS GUIDES CARANZALEM





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At 3.40 pm all were brought back to the groups. Final Dance performance by a group of girls expressed thank you to the organizers. The winners of telegames were given prizes. Ms. Amruti one of the participant thanked each and every one. Finally Rabhu and Ravina representatives of girls and boys groups expressed their impression of the programme. Bal mela came to an end with distribution of gifts to each participant. All had cold drink and biscuits each. The volunteers were acknowledged with token gifts by the sisters of Sindoni. Congratulations to Sr. Esperanca D'Sa and Sr. Lorina Bandya for their courageous initiative and enthusiasm in organizing the Bal Mela for the children. Sincere thanks to all the donors and volunteers for their support towards the success of the event. The children and young people expressed their views saying, this was the first time and we wish to have many more such events. The volunteers agreed to collaborate in the future to.

*By Sr. Moksha Anthonappa, Sahayini, Mumbai
Eco Activity of Auxilium Lonavla*

MY EXPERIENCE

Guwahati : The four Sisters Rita D'Souza, Savina Naik, Meenal Bhosale and Smitha Gonsalves ventured out from Mumbai to the distant North-East of India, to the city of Guwahati to participate in the 10th Faith Exposure Programme, organized by Archbishop emeritus of Guwahati Rev. Thomas Menamparambil and Fr. Varghese, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Guwahati. This event brought together around 700 participants, all young formeers i.e. Aspirants, Postulants, Junior Sisters and minor Seminarians as well as a few young Priests belonging to around 40+ Congregations and they were divided into 63 groups. It began with a solemn Eucharistic celebration followed by an introductory session by Fr. Varghese. "Don't be afraid, just stand still and watch; the Lord will walk with you today, the Lord himself will fight for you, stay calm" (Ex13:14). With this assurance of the Lord they began the programme with full vigor to move out to the assigned villages in the Garo hills.

The day began at 4.00 am with adoration, morning prayers animated each day by various Congregations, Holy



Eucharist, followed by a cup of tea with a few biscuits. Then they had 2 hours of continuous listening to the sharing of missionary life by several priests and nuns working in North East India. After an early lunch at 9.30 am, they moved to the respective villages with the groups and returned to the base at 4.30 pm in the evening. Once again we had to listen to 2 hours of sharing of missionary life. Supper was served at 9.30pm. Each evening, groups were assigned to present a cultural programme to the "missionaries" and the day concluded at 11.00 pm with a solemn Night prayer.

The villagers we met were really simple people like the people spoken of in the gospels. We went to give them Jesus through our thoughts, deeds and especially with our smiles and kind words, being assured of the unfailing promise of the Lord: "I will put my words into your mouth and I will direct you what to speak" (Jer 1:19). The Spirit of the Lord did work in us and through us, although language was a big barrier since the local people speak only the Garo and Assamese language, with no knowledge whatsoever of Hindi. However, we were able to communicate Christ and His love with our smiles and friendly deeds. We taught them action songs, played with the children, gave them some tips on hygiene and emphasized the need for education since a good number there are dropouts from school. The villages have a majority of Christians of the Baptist denomination, some Hindus and a few Catholic families. The Catholics willingly accepted and listened to us but a few Baptist families were reluctant to accept us. However, the Lord's words that "some will hate you because of me" (Mt 10:22) did come true during our visits to the families.

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However, this experience has really enriched us: to be missionaries in our own vicinity being an answer to someone else's prayer helps us to find answers to our own queries. For a zealous missionary who wants to make Christ known to others, language can never become a barrier because Love is the only language that can truly communicate Christ to others. We thank our Provincial Sr. Rita Dora for giving us the opportunity of this rich and wonderful experience and we also express our thanks to Sr. Elizabeth George, the Provincial of Guwahati Province and all her sisters for their warm hospitality and kindness towards us during our stay there. May the God of love fill their lives with His Love so that may you continue to radiate that love to all. "Lord we are the clay in your hands; use us as instruments to spread Your Kingdom of love".

Reported by Sr. Smitha Gonsalves fma

OUR EXPERIENCE AT THE TRIENNIAL EVALUATION FMA PCI –KOLKATA

24-28 January 2018 were days of grace for FMA India as the representatives of Sisters, lay people and the young of all 7 provinces gathered together for the Triennial Evaluation at the historical city, Kolkata, Dum Dum, the city of joy and the city of our beloved Saint Mother Teresa. The Salesian characteristics of joy and family spirit were very evident. There was a feeling of oneness and ease among all the participants.

The joy of meeting Mother General who greeted us like a real mother was overwhelming. We could feel the vibes. Her every word was impregnated with love and motherly care and her passion to reach out and accompany the young in the mission.

On the first day the liturgy invited us to blend together as 'WE' FMA India and not as individual provinces and this was seen and experienced right through the programme.

Each day began with the talk of Mother General. It was touching to see her make great efforts to communicate in English and to put forth her ideas and views in the way she wanted to. She did not take in the literal translation when it did not bring out what she exactly wanted to communicate to the group in that context.



Among many other things, Mother exhorted us to work for vocations as the future of the Charism in India is in the growth of vocations. 'The future of the Salesian Charism is in India', she kept repeating.

The unique aspect of this PCI evaluation was that the presentations of the answers to the Priority choices. For the first time the answers of all 7 provinces were collated and presented which saved a lot of time, repetition and boredom. It also helped us to understand the journey we have made as FMA India, our strengths and the issues needed to be strengthened as FMA India.

The presence of the laity and the young for all the days, for all the sessions and sharing was another unique feature of this PCI evaluation as they made meaningful and timely interventions and presentations and brought life into the group. The entire process helped us to know our strengths and what we need to work on in the future.

The presence of Mother General and 4 General councilors added depth and clarity. Their timely interventions and clarifications were appreciated.

It was a unique experience, where we felt at home with everyone and felt sad to part company. A well planned programme, unique in many ways, uniquely lived in the Salesian spirit. Long live FMA PCI.

*- Sr. Ritha Dora Thomas, Ms. Esther Pullanthara,
Mrs. Unita Patrao, Sr. Rita Lobo & Sr. Joanna Lobo.*



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ECO ACTIVITY OF AUXILIUM LONAVLA

The classes VII A,B,C conducted reach out activity in the society of Lonavla. The purpose of the activity was to generate awareness about the sustainability of the environment. So the students of Std. VII made nearly 2500 paper bags and cloth bags and distributed to the vendors, hawkers and the shopkeepers of weekly Friday market which runs in the Lonavla city. Children conducted a rally from the school to the market, raising slogans about not using non-biodegradable material and insisting people for using cloth and paper bags

Local press was also available. They took photographs clippings and interviewed children. Next day this incidence was published in the newspaper and telecasted in the local TV channel.

While on our way back to school, the CEO along with the other official of Lonavla Municipal Corporation invited the children to their office. They addressed and appreciated the student's initiative in this move.

The students were very enthusiastic and felt satisfied after conducting the activity.



CELEBRATING DON BOSCO

Don Bosco's feast was celebrated in a unique manner in Auxilium High School, Caranzalem. On 30th January, the eve of the feast we had a Bosco Dhamaka. The students had to purchase a ticket previously. We began with a Prayer Service combining the life of Don Bosco and Peace Day. We had games, snacks, a canteen and a dance session for the students who enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

On the feast day we started with a meaningful Service where we had a short enactment of the life of Don Bosco. The students of the Primary Section had their celebration on the 30th. This was followed by a mini fete with a coupon stall and different game and snack stalls. The prize stall was run by the sisters. The children could collect their prizes based on the number of prize coupons they won. It was indeed an enjoyable and interesting day. The profit of the day was to be given to the Parish in aid of the new Community Hall.



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CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR FMA-INDIA

VTC FACILITATORS - MARCH 2018

NDF-VTC

Wadala, Mumbai

MARCH 17 – 21, 2018

DAY 1: MARCH 17, 2018

The National Development Forum (NDF) - VTC Coordinators' meet was held on 17 – 21 March, 2018. The theme for the meeting was "Capacity Building" 17 FMA Sisters and 6 lay people from 6 provinces namely Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Shillong, Trichy and Guwahati participated in the workshop. The meeting started with Praise and Worship led by Mr. Schneider Mani, a youth from the Catholic Charismatic Group. Sr. Hilda Braganza (Superior, MYC – Wadala) welcomed all the participants on behalf of Sr. Provincial and Community, Sr. Isabella (NDF Coordinator) explained to us the purpose of this workshop, Sr. Moksha Mary (Director, Sahayini Social Development Society) thanked the participants for taking part in this workshop.

The session began with Mr. Antony Prabu and the ex-students of Web-Designing from Sahayini Social Development Society on Social Media. He equipped us with various topics such as YouTube, Webinar, Twitter etc.

DAY 2: MARCH 18, 2018

Mr. Sameer Kumar (Career Development Coordinator, Quest Alliance) was the protagonist of the day. His talk was on the Placement strategies, mobilization, etc.

Later, Ms. Renita Coutinho (HR, Organica Biotech Pvt Ltd) dealt with HRM (Human Resource Management).

DAY 3: MARCH 19, 2018

Mr. Chaitanya Kalyanpur conducted a session on EDP (Entrepreneurship Development Program).

DAY 4: MARCH 20, 2018

Ms. Rose Gomes an expert in Fundraising gave the participants a wonderful knowledge on how to get confidence in fundraising. She gave information and different techniques on how to collect local and CSR funds.

DAY 5: MARCH 21, 2018

The day began with an input session by Sr. Meenakshi D'Silva on "Countering the New Wine of Religious Fundamentalism".

The last day of the program brought all participants to show their gratitude to all those who have hosted, animated and assisted in the success of the workshop. Each province presented the action plan from all the sessions that took place for the past 5 days. A glimpse of the activities was shown in a video form to the sisters' present. Sr. Dayana Rodrigues from Bangalore province anchored the thanksgiving program. The participants thanked the hosting Provincial – Sr. Rita Dora Thomas and the Mazzarello Centres and Auxilium School Communities. Sr. Meenakshi D'Silva gave us the message through a video on Mr. Ratan Tata – 7 Rules of Success. The programme ended up with the hymn on Our Lady and the National Anthem.





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MY EXPERIENCE AT SAHAYINI SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY, WADALA

*"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference. – Robert Frost"*

The reason I started with a verse from Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" is self-explanatory, although I had always had many opportunities to make choices and choosing a path that would push the limits of my abilities; and it was here at Sahayini that I learned to extend my potential and unseen capabilities.

I had joined Sahayini as an English and Soft Skills Trainer in the month of April. I was feeling out of place since I had just moved to Mumbai and I found a place like home at Sahayini. The ambience and presence of the place was ever so welcoming. The most comforting experience I had was of helping students who were feeling displaced; they were from underprivileged and marginalized families. They were ones who influenced me and thus, I had decided and continued training in Sahayini as I know and believe that God has sent me here for a reason, to share my knowledge and resources with those who were limited with such essentials.

It was not only the students who had motivated me by their presence, it was also the Sisters of the Mazarrello Youth Community who had fortified my vision into a mission; because of them I had been inspired to redefine the passion I had towards students. When I joined as a trainer for Communicative English, Soft Skills and Life Skills, I learnt a great deal from Reverend Sister Rosaline especially on how to motivate myself, to be much audible and accessible in order to facilitate the students better.

All through the course of my 11 months in Sahayini, I learnt a lot about my shortcomings, my limitations and my weaknesses. Noticeably, in the first few months, I was very soft spoken and I had been motivated to change my outlook and enrich my personality. I also had witnessed a drastic change in the implications of the methods used for teaching ESL (English Second Learners), as my methods evolved to more of activity-oriented methods and fun methods of teaching. I learned how this NGO functions by understanding that it is a part of a much larger picture by



witnessing a function where many different centres of all over India collaborated in producing events for children. One such event was "The Diwali Dhamaka Event" which was conducted for orphan children where I had the opportunity to encourage my students to be volunteers and for me as well to be a judge for their drawing competition. I felt very privileged and honoured and at the same time humbled and blessed to be a part of such a great cause. I would also like to mention that I had many accounts to take students on Exposure visits, be as an acting placement officer, calling up companies and requesting for student vacancies. I had the opportunity students for interviews and getting them placed in companies: Two of our ITES students, Rosmary and Sony were selected on the first round at Hansa Direct Pvt. Ltd., Andheri. Another instance where students were taken for an Interview at PAMAC at Wadala and a student named Madhura is still working there. I have also had many opportunities where I had to take full responsibility for students and manage their travel and food expenses. I felt very capable after completing the assigned task and being responsible for others.

I am indeed very grateful to Sister Rosaline in every respect for the bountiful opportunities that were given to me. On the skill level, I have learnt how to multitask handling different batches at a time and I have learnt a great deal on Work Politics, which would defiantly help me to resolve any work related issues in future. All these recurring events at Sahayini have motivated me and changed me for the better. On a personal level and career wise and I am happy to take with me all the great experiences I had. Thank you Sister Rosaline, Sister Moksha and Team Sahayini for all the liberty, support and guidance that you have given me in helping me become a better trainer and a better person. Once again, I am most grateful to everyone in Sahayini for all that I was and all that I have become.

A new wave of joy in MM Mumbai

The Pics say it all !

ANNUAL DAY



DAKOR



PANSORA



MARIA VIHAR



SULCORNIA



MUNDHWA

PICNIC AUXILIUM LONAVLA





A new wave of joy in MM Mumbai

REPUBLIC DAY

LAURA VICUNA DAY



AHMEDNAGAR



CARANZALEM



DAKOR



BARODA



SHTC - NOVITIATE

SCC FAREWELL AHMEDNAGAR



MARATHI DAY LONAVLA



A new wave of joy in MM Mumbai

DON BOSCO



KALATHUR



NANDGAD



LONAVLA



SJTC - LONAVLA



MADANTHYAR

A new wave of joy in MM Mumbai

GRATITUDE DAY



BENAULIM



PALI HILL - BANDRA



CARONA



SHIRVA



KOREGAON PARK



SJTC - LONAVLA



MUNDHWA



UTTAN

A new wave of joy in MM Mumbai

WOMEN'S DAY



AHMEDNAGAR



KUNE



BABLESHWAR



MYC - WADALA



OROS

THANKSGIVING CUM FAREWELL - 19TH MARCH

The management and staff of Auxilium Baroda bid farewell to our outgoing clerical staff Mr. Suresh Dabhi and our Primary Teacher Mrs. Nirmala Periera on 19th March 2018.

Mr. Suresh completes 31 years of his precious service while Mrs. Nirmal completes 25 years. Both of them had a short and sweet programme with words of appreciation and gratitude, dances and songs. Sr. Philomena Lobo and Sr. Rita Lobo shared their views too extending their warm esteem and appreciation for their unflinching zeal and dedicated service towards the Institution.

Mr. Suresh and Tr. Nirmala then thanked the Management for what it has been to them over the years and fondly remembered with love and gratitude the memories of our past Sisters who toiled hard to bring up this Institution. All said and done was very good. God bless and keep them ever in His loving embrace.



जिंदगी लंबी नहीं,
बड़ी होनी चाहिए



Tribute to Indian Army...

Poem on Late Captain Kapil Kundu

*(who was martyred in the Pakistani shelling
at Rajouri)*

*The target all set and the gun being fired, I whoosh into the air
Then explode into a million pieces- all flung here and there!
A part of me finds a target soft-
A man proudly holding his gun aloft.
His flesh singing songs of the days that went by,
Going back to the times when he was a little guy.
His mind lost in books, devouring every word, every line;
Always the one to work hard, he'd excel and he'd shine!
The song cracked at the place where his father died,
He swore to grow and shine, even while heavy tears he cried.
The tricolor he wished to serve, to the army he was drawn;
For that he strove hard and worked his brain and brawn.
A year he had served and in a few days he'd be homeward bound,
Instead in a shower of my shards and a sea of my smoke he drowned!
His bones weeped for his sisters so adoring and for his mother with a
heart of gold,
For the caring wife he couldn't have and for the lovely child he couldn't
hold.
He bid them all good bye with a loving thought,
In dying for his motherland, solace he sought!
Soft but strong whispers of "Jai Hind!" in between his groans,
His wounds bled poetry and melodious songs in patriotic tones.
His dying cells reverberating the same words in every cry,
Life should be big, not long, Babu Moshai!*

Ashwini Nagda
(MBBS Intern at KEM hospital, Parel
Past Pupil of Auxilium, Bandra)

MOTHER WITH THE ASPIRANTS & POSTULANTS



MOTHER WITH THE NOVICES



MOTHER WITH THE ENTIRE GROUP



We, Sr. Hilda Braganza, Sr. Melissa D'Souza,
Sr. Antonette Rebello & Sr. Lavita Sequeira

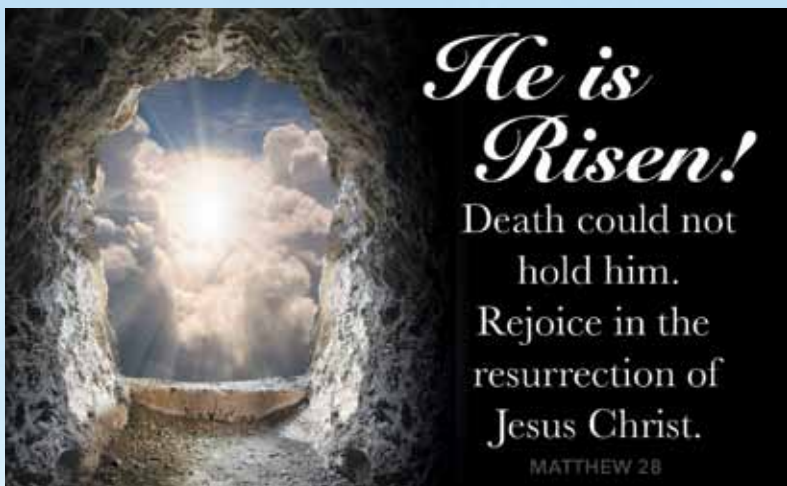


along with Mr. Cruz Fernandes (Genesis Arts) &
Ms. Suvarna Mulewar (Purple Arts)

**WISH EACH OF YOU A BLESSED EASTER.
MAY ALL THE CHOICEST BLESSINGS OF THE
RISEN CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALWAYS!**

We sincerely thank you dear Sisters and friends
for contributing to MM Mumbai Voices.

May the Risen Lord bless you and your families!



*He is
Risen!*

Death could not
hold him.
Rejoice in the
resurrection of
Jesus Christ.

MATTHEW 28



POPE FRANCIS' EASTER VIGIL HOMILY

**"In the resurrection,
Christ rolled back the
stone of the tomb, but he
wants also to break down
all the walls that keep us
locked in our sterile
pessimism, in our carefully
constructed ivory towers
that isolate us from life,
in our compulsive need for
security and in boundless
ambition that can make us
compromise the
dignity of others."**

For more information about us log on to

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