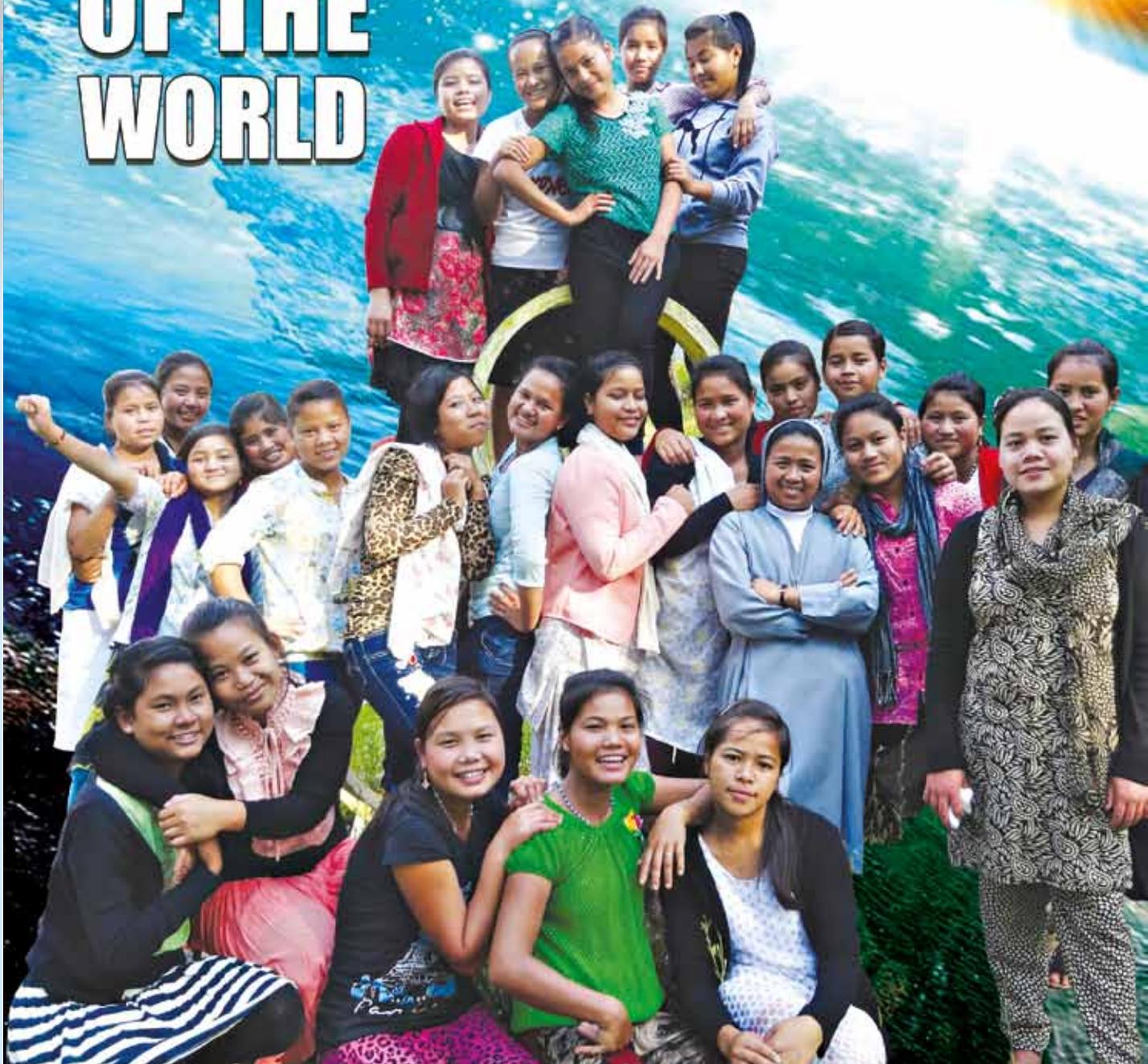


FMA-INS info

Vol. XVII No. 2 Newsletter – July 2015 Provincial Office – Shillong 793014 – Meghalaya

HOPE OF THE WORLD



CONGRATULATIONS



1st Rank in B.Sc. Biochemistry Honours (NEHU) – Sr. Mildaris Marwein



3rd Rank:
Lapdianghun Nongkhlaw
SSLC MBOSE
Auxilium Girls'
Hr. Sec. School, Shillong
&

7th Rank:
Monica Niengiithoi Tungdim
SSLC MBOSE
Auxilium Girls'
Hr. Sec. School, Shillong

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Sreyashee Bhaumik of Auxilium
Girls School Nandan Nagar,
Tripura - securing **1st Rank**
in Humanities stream in the
AISSEE in the State of Tripura.



20th Rank:
Naphisa Pde
SSLC MBOSE
St. Mary Mazzarello Girls'
Hr. Sec. School, Jowai

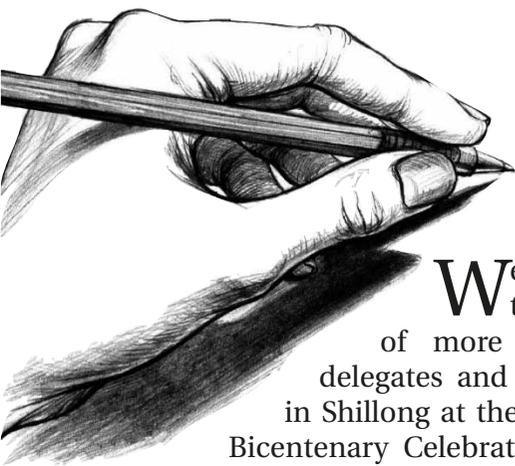
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Associate Editors : Sr. Teresa Kamsuan, Sr. Joplin Suchiang

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EDITORIAL

We had just witnessed the gathering of more than 1800 youth delegates and over 25,000 people in Shillong at the grand finale of the Bicentenary Celebration of Don Bosco's birth. Through an extensive activity-based programme, the youth learnt to dance and sing, pray and speak, think and act. They learnt some of the best ways of inspiring hope to others. It was not just a time of jubilation and celebrations for the whole Salesian Family but an 'opportunity to look back with gratitude' at the glorious past, 'present with confidence' and with 'expectant hope' for the future.

"Youth" means hope. Young people speak of hope to the world. They are full of vibrant ideas, joy and enthusiasm. Youth have the power to make choices. The destiny of our world lies in their hands. They embody the hope of the Church and the world of tomorrow. There is a lot to be thankful for in youth.

Our youth today however, are challenged with a "transitory" culture. They are faced with more changes than they can handle. The fear of rapid change is enormous with the technological advancement. They are flooded with information from diverse points. Everything about their world is moving and changing at a fast pace. It affects the young, robbing them of hope and even of life itself. The youth are confused with contrasting values.

Despite the challenges of his time, Don Bosco took up the task of saving young boys who were abandoned to the most evil influences. Success did not come easily. But under the guidance of Mary, he tailored into beautiful garments out of the raw materials: little Michael Rua, who idolized him, tough Johnny Cagliero, hardworking Johnny Francesca, self-willed Paul Albera, and several others – who would be the pioneers in the experiment of a new religious congregation. Don Bosco's secret of winning souls



was his unconditional love that inspired hope: "It is enough for me to know that you are young for me to love you."

In the words of Pope Francis to young people at Asian Youth Day: "Yet this is the world into which you are called to go forth and bear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the promise of his Kingdom." The Pope also exhorted them to carry the hope of Christ to a world that desperately needs it. Young people need a message of hope, one that says "you matter." Yes, our world needs that hope now.

Together with the young, like Don Bosco, we want to build a world where we all live together in peace and friendship: overcoming barriers, healing divisions, rejecting violence and prejudice. Let us strive to communicate a thousand-year-old experience of salvation in a way that makes sense for the youth of today.

Sr. Teresa Kamsuan

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The Missionary Charism of FMA in Northeast India with special reference to Shillong Province

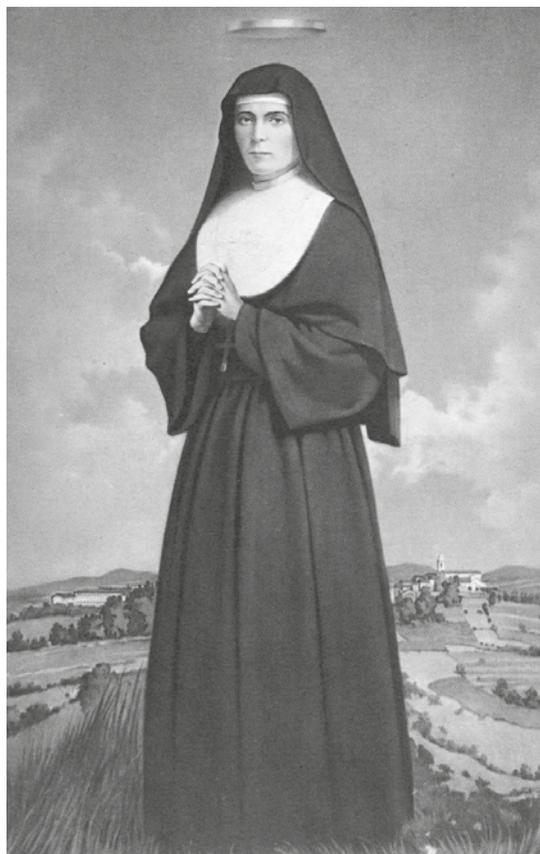
Sr. Manoda T. Sangma

The Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA), popularly known as the Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco is a religious congregation of Pontifical right, founded by St. John Bosco on August 5, 1872. Don Bosco had received a great many invitations to begin working among the girls as he was doing for the boys. It was only after receiving a clear sign from God that he eventually undertook the great task of founding the Institute.

Don Bosco's second religious family was born on August 5, 1872, when St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello and her ten companions from Mornese, a hamlet in Italy, committed themselves to God for the service of the poor girls. St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello the Co-Foundress collaborated very closely with Don Bosco following his footsteps along the path of sanctity. The Institute with its humble beginning at Mornese in Italy gradually spread its wings to embrace the whole world and is now present in 83 Provinces spread across 93 nations within the 5 continents, with a total of 14,000 Sisters working for the welfare of the young people.

The missionary dimension is an essential element of the identity of the Institute and is as old as the Institute itself. Resonating Mother Antonia Colombo, the former General Superior of the Institute: "Don Bosco founded the FMA Institute in 1872, when the longing to fulfill the missionary dream was aflame in his heart. He realized it in the first missionary expedition of 1875". Therefore, missionary enthusiasm characterized the new Institute and in Mornese their lives breathed a universal spirit. Animated by the missionary ideals of the Founder St. John Bosco and the Co-foundress St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello, who longed to be the first herself to leave for the missions, the budding Institute launched the

overseas missionary expedition in 1877, that is, five years after the foundation together with the Salesians as was envisioned by Don Bosco. Hence many FMA, afire with the love of Christ, left home, to proclaim the Gospel and witness to it with their lives.



Salesian Sisters in India

The FMA presence in India had a very humble beginning and looking back at this juncture one is just overwhelmed. 'The budding Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians has reached a milestone of 50 years in the year 1922. By then the Institute has grown and had reached 46

centres all over Europe, North and South America, Middle East and United Kingdom. At this point, the invitation came from India, requesting the Institute to an altogether new and mysterious experience of the East. The then Bishop of Madras-Mylapore Msgr. Theotonius de Castro pleased with the work of the Salesians under the pioneering efforts of Fr. George Tomatis was inspired to invite the FMA to offer a feminine touch to the Salesian Educative Charism in India. And so in 1922 a valiant band of 6 Italian missionaries, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians landed in Bombay on 22nd November and made the long train journey to Tanjore in South India, arriving there on the 24th November to be royally received by the Salesians and their boys. The six pioneering FMA, Sr. Catherine Marnetto, Sr. Consiglia Terricone, Sr. Teresa Merlo, Sr. Maria Angeleri, Sr. Luigia Appiano and Sr. Teresa Belestra were heroic women. Notwithstanding the numerous challenges of evangelizing a new country, an oriental culture, unsuitable climate, difficult languages, situations of stark poverty, they braved every obstacle and worked hard to establish the Institute on Indian soil. Being women of God, of solid faith and virtue, of courage and hope and being fired with apostolic zeal and Salesian joy and enthusiasm, they

established foundations in different parts of Madras and gradually extended their educative presence to every part of our great country. By 1929 there were six houses in all in India, depending on the Generalate in Italy. 1929 also marked the start of the Far East Province of the Institute comprising India, China, Japan and Thailand, till the year 1953 when due to development and even more due to tremendous distances the houses of Japan and Thailand were grouped into two different Provinces and the Indian Province was splitted into two.

The tiny seed that has been sown with faith and courage in the fertile Indian soil has penetrated deeply and grown through the vast field of mission, spreading itself into many regions in the country. Today, there are six Provinces with 182 houses, 1279 Sisters and 71 Novices. The passion of the “Da mihi animas cetera tolle” impelled the Sisters to sacrifice themselves with dedication and generosity.

FMA presences in India today (January 2015)

Provinces	Year of Establishment	Houses	Professed Sisters	Novices
Chennai	1946	41	320	8
Shillong	1953	26	213	20
Mumbai	1982	32	202	8
Kolkata	1987	22	149	2
Bangalore	1993	32	215	6
Guwahati	2000	31	237	15

The Presence of FMA in North East India

The Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA) have a pioneering history of 90 years in Northeast India. At the initial stage the Salesians felt the urgency of having the FMA to work along side them in their evangelizing-educating mission especially in Guwahati. Fr. Louis Mathias, therefore, wrote a letter to Mother Catherine Daghero, the then Superior General, requesting her to send at least six Sisters to the mission in Northeast India.

The six pioneering missionaries - Sr. Innocenza Vallino, the leader, Sr. Giulia Berra, Sr. Maria Bricarello, Sr. Clotilde Appiano, Sr. Antonietta



PIONEERS F.M.A. - NORTH INDIA (1923)

Rosetti and Sr. Cecilia Da Roit, were sent to India accompanied by Fr. Eugenio Mederlet, a Salesian of Tanjore, who was returning after his trip to Europe. They arrived at Bombay on December 4th and on the following day proceeded by train to Calcutta and from there to Guwahati arriving on December 8th - a significant day for the Salesian mission. Thus, the FMA presence in the North East India began since 1923.

The six Sisters took up the mission at Guwahati – the only centre for the entire Assam. The bungalow was in a dilapidated state, lacking in comforts and menaced by white ants. However, it did not impede the Sisters from initiating their mission. It was on these premises that they began an English medium school for the children of the Europeans and the Anglo Indians on February 2, 1924 and a vocational school for young girls. Gradually, the house became a home to the many village girls and orphans brought by the Fathers after their tours to the remote villages. The Sisters began their visits to the villages, started an Oratory, dispensary and mobile clinic. They started a regular Assamese school and boarding, professional school specializing in weaving and the “Catherine Daghero” Orphanage for boys and girls with a section for babies called “ Holy Childhood”. Thus, the first community was established in

Gauhati, now belonging to the province of Mater Ecclesiae, Guwahati, and the second community was established in Jowai in 1926 in the state of Meghalaya. Both the presences started off with orphanages and boarding facilities for girls from remote villages, elementary school, vocational training in weaving, sewing, dressmaking, embroidery and knitting, village visitation for religious education especially for women and assisting the sick. The beginning was not an easy task. To give a glimpse of the struggle of our pioneers an instance of how they reached Jowai. In the year 1926 immediately after the arrival of the second batch of sisters at Gauhati, Sr. Innocenza Vallino set off with two Sisters. A capricious mule carried the elderly superior on its back, part of the way. The sisters trudged on foot the distance of 55 km. from Shillong to Jowai – as there were no roads in those days. Their new home was a rough hut infested by rats at night. If the lodging was poor, the food!!! One egg being shared by three, meat a luxury and the sisters survived on pumpkins and sweet potatoes. The hard days bore fruit, for built on the sacrifices of our pioneers, stood St. Mary Mazzarello Convent- another High School with a Home, attached a Junior training course for teachers. It

had also flourishing Sodalities and Past-Pupils Association, conducted courses for lay catechists, and had an effective village uplift Unit. In Northeast India FMA presences are spread through the seven states comprising of two provinces; Shillong and Guwahati engaged in missionary work carried out through various apostolate.

The Sisters made regular visits to the Civil Hospital in Guwahati right from the first days of their arrival which later developed into Health-care services and a systematic presence and work in the hospital as staff nurses – an extraordinary undertaking in response to the needs of the place and the times. The presence of the Sisters was a source of consolation in the dying hours of many poor people. Eventually, the two Sisters: Sr. Eugenia Cazzuli and Sr. Luigina Saletta began to live in the hospital premises. The General Council was hesitant to assume the complete charge of the mission due to lack of personnel for medical services. However, after an agreement, two Sisters – joined the government hospital as Staff Nurses on January 29, 1932. When the Government allotted quarters for the Sisters, the community was formed in 1934 with Sr. Clotilde Appiano as Superior and two nurses - Sr. Eugenia Cazzuli and Sr. Ada Mc

Guire. In appreciation for her dedicated services Sr. Eugenia Cazzuli was awarded a silver medal on May 14, 1935 marking the silver jubilee of the coronation of King George of England. During World War II, the Sisters offered their services saving many souls and giving hope to many dying persons. In 1945, the Sisters were asked to take up the practical training of student nurses - this gave them the opportunity of giving a specific charismatic slant to their service. The same mission of health-care services for women and children as well as Nursing School was run for Ganesh Das, Hospital, Shillong. The Sisters took up the venture on May 24, 1946. Sr. Luigina Saletta and Sr. Margheritta Opezzo were the first ones to work in the hospital despite the various difficulties joined by other sisters later with the sole intention of doing good for the people (Sangma, 2008, p.95).

Another major contribution made by FMAs in the field of health care was the establishment of 'Rapsbun Nursing School', Shillong. Permission to begin the Nursing School was given in 1978, and the Assam Nursing Council accorded official recognition to it on September 24, 1979. In 1980 the School was officially recognized by the Indian Nursing Council. The first batch of nurses ten in number appeared for their first year state exam and stood first in the state with 9 honours and distinction. In the year 1983 this first batch of students passed out as graduated staff nurses. The nursing school became first standing in India during S.N.A Conference and Competition held in New Delhi in 1983. The students worked hard and stood first everywhere they went for any programme. Failures were not heard of in the school. Everyone, students and staff suffered and worked hard for their dream to be fulfilled. It was the only school of nursing, which had independent administration so it was called Independent School of Nursing till 1988. The first Staff of Rapsbun School of Nursing was Sr. Mary Sarkar, Sr. Theodora Lyngdoh and Sr. Elizabeth Eduttukaran, joined shortly by Mrs. Olivia Lyngdoh. Sr. Elizabeth Edattukaran,

FMA the Founder Directress and the Principal of the Nursing School worked undauntedly to make the wish of Archbishop Hubert D' Rosario realized and rendered her services for almost 10 years and the Province handed over this apostolate to the Holy Cross Sisters in 1988 harkening to surprising request made by Archbishop Hubert D' Rosario which was an unexpected happening when everyone was wholeheartedly involved in bringing up an institution which did not exist before under any meaningful title.

The presence of the Institute in the mission lands always carried a marked characteristic seal as it launched most specifically in the field of education in the different contexts. This was the principal focus of Don Bosco who said, "In the missions we must take care, in a special way, for the young people particularly those who are poor and abandoned". This is the hallmark of the FMA mission in Northeast India even as they embraced diverse missionary activities in response to the needs of the place and the time. In the living of the multi-faceted mission that was required of them, the strong educational perspective gave a specific charismatic slant to their work.

Generally, the principal work of the FMA was in the field of the running of orphanages, the education of girls, vocational training of young women and village visits for the education and faith formation of adult women. Such fields were spheres of life untouched and not contemplated in many parts of the region especially in the rural areas by the political administration. Thus, the educational mission of the FMA was an urgent need of the times to which they responded with great audacity especially through the opening of vernacular medium schools when they themselves hardly knew to speak the language.

The FMA can be rightly called the pioneers in the systematic village visiting mission in Northeast India which later on came to be known as the mission of the touring Sisters. In this field and in the marriage

preparation courses which were specific of the community of Tezpur, the focus of the Sisters was adult women and their formation not only in the area of faith life, but also the basics of literacy, domestic economy, home keeping, hygiene, child-care, maintenance of kitchen garden and fundamentals of health-care.

The significance of the services rendered by the FMA in this field can be further gauged taking into consideration that in the valleys of Assam, the formation of the feminine section was exclusively their mission since the women could not be approached neither by the missionary priests nor by the local male Catechists.

In the field of the mission of touring the villages, it certainly is essential to highlight the role played by the FMA in the formation offered to the Congregation of the MSMHC in living out the principal aspect of their charism. It emerges most evidently in the first years of the foundation during which together with the FMA touring Sisters they learnt the different aspects of such a mission. The first three Superior General of MSMHC Sisters were the Salesian Sisters namely Sr. Luigina Saletta (1955-1956), Sr. Teresa Villa (1956-1962) and Sr. Nelie Nunes (1962-1968).
(to be continued)

In & Around Our Province

New Presence in Cachar District Inaugurated

April 9, 2015 was marked as a red-letter day in the chronicles of Shillong Province. The day saw the solemn inauguration of Auxilium School at Mahadevpur, Dholai in Cachar District of Assam.



The long awaited day took off well though the previous days the weather turned unfair with strong storm and wind. At 10.00 am all the invitees, students, guardians and the people of

the area gathered in front of the temporary school building which was put up for this purpose by Mr. Prabash Das. After a short introduction by Fr. Joachim Walder, Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Parish, Kabuganj who is also the Principal of Holy Cross School Kabuganj, Sr. Marvella Shangpliang the Vice-Provincial of Shillong Province, cut the ribbon of the school building and formally inaugurated the new school. After this all present walked in to have a glimpse of the structure of the new school and the excited budding Auxilians went and occupied their chairs for a moment. It was all an exciting scene. Then all proceeded to the prepared pandal for the programme. Many people of the area numbering to around 300 attended the programme. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the lamp invoking God's blessing followed by a prayer led by Sr. Gemima Pohrmen one of the Provincial Councillors. With a sense of deep gratitude and recognition of the help and support received, few people who have distinguished their help in this venture were felicitated in front of all. Some eminent

persons of the area conveyed messages and good wishes. Fr. Joachim Walder gave a short but clear history from the conception of this idea to the present day status and mentioned some names who had been a means for this realization. One of the first persons being Mr. Subir Malakar who spoke to Father regarding their desire to have a Christian run school in the area. Shri Narayan Ghosh, retired teacher of BNMP & HS School expressed their joy in realizing their wish of having an educational institution in the area, which would cater to the educational need of the children around. Shri

Kolapataru Nath, retired teacher of Sarnalokhi High School, Narsinpur also spoke inspiring words summing up beautifully what education can do for persons. Instead Shri Pinak Chakraborty, teacher of BNMP & HS School emphasized on the need of quality education giving impetus to the new venture



of the Sisters. Sr. Marvella Shangplaing in her message also expressed gratitude to the people of the area and those involved in the process for giving us the chance and placing their trust in us and assured them that we will do the best. Lastly Sr. Marcellina Sangma, the Provincial Economer who had been up and down since

the beginning thanked everyone involved profusely mentioning their names and giving a minute detail of their contributions. At the outset of her allotted time Sr. Marcellina Sangma introduced the two pioneers of this mission to the gathering- Sr. Manoda Sangma and Sr. Eugenia Bareh, and felicitated them with a bouquet of flowers each and wished them good luck and God's blessings. The beautiful cultural items put up by the students of Holy Cross School, Kabuganj added beauty to the day's programme. Snacks were served for all who came for the inaugural function.

Auxilium School Dholai would cater to the need of local people of a mixed culture and customs consisting of Bengalis, Manipuris and a tribal cluster of Dimasas and Khasis. 26 students are now enrolled for Classes KG I and KG II and the nursery class with new admissions will begin in the month of September. It is an apt endeavour to mark the bicentenary birth of our Father Don Bosco. The Salesian Sisters Shillong Province is deeply grateful to Fr. Joachim Walder and acknowledges his constant help and support in this venture.

Sr. Manoda Sangma

Seminar for Women Zone III, Mary the Mother God, Umsning Parish

At the invitation of Fr. Tobias Kharngapkynta, Parish Priest, Sr. Bernadeth Sangriang went to Umsning Parish for a two-day Seminar for the Office Bearers of Women Zone III from the five Parishes of Bhoi District namely Umbir, Umsohlait, Mawlasnai, Mawbri and Umsning.

The programme commenced in the morning of 23rd May



with the invocation to the Holy Spirit, the Word of God followed by a short reflection. The topics Sr. Bernadeth dealt with were "The role of Women in the Church and in the Family" and "Mary, the Model of every woman". Being the Pentecost Sunday she also

spoke on the Fruits and Gifts of the Holy Spirit. After every session time was allotted for group discussion and clarification of doubts.

The two days of intense learning and sharing was crowned with the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Cornelius Khyriem and concelebrated by three other priests. In his homily, Fr. Cornelius highlighted the qualities of Mother Mary and encouraged all mothers of the family to emulate her virtues. To mark the importance of the month dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, a

Marian Procession was held. Sr. Bernadeth gave another talk on the Holy Family of Nazareth. This programme came to a close with the Benediction service animated by Fr. Tobias. Everyone went back home happy and satisfied at what they received from the seminar.

Sr. Bernadeth Sangriang



Experiencing Jesus the inexhaustible source of grace

We have come to Him and He has laden us with abundance of spiritual fruits. On June 5, 2015, the two communities- Auxilium Nandan Nagar and Pathaliaghat gathered together in the name of the Lord for a day of prayer and drew strength from Him, the inexhaustible source of grace, mercy and energy. His Godly and Divine presence through adoration, praise and worship, blessed the new dawn. This was followed by the meaningful presentation of Sr. Celine D' Cunha on "Community Tips" with some points as follows:

- Love everyone in the community especially the weak and the elderly
- Give chance and involve everyone
- Accept correction and challenges

- Consult and communicate,
- Be adaptable, collaborative, enthusiastic, emphatic, genuine, transparent, and consistent with your principles oriented.
- Praise one another.
- Be prepared to live with different people, different mentalities, different attitude and different background
- Encourage and show appreciation, for everyone's contribution counts
- Respect individuality
- Do not betray confident
- Prize the opinion of one another
- Concentrate on the positive points of the each individuals
- All are fallible - leave some margin for failures
- Show special care for the less expressive
- Believe in your community
- Everyday holds a possibility for miracles
- Some people come into our lives and leave footprints on our heart and we are never ever the same.

- In everything pray to God for strength and grace.
+ 2 love one another is
2 touch life
-
- 4ever

In the afternoon we went to the beauty parlour titled “Reconciliation” and were beautified by the Master. Our souls were in deed so beautiful and ready for the banquet at 6.00 p m by Fr. Jeevan Kennedy Svd. In his homily he recommended that we should

keep connected with Jesus continuously then our life will be meaningful.

We thank God for the gift of this beautiful day and we thanked Sr. Celine D’ Cunha for arranging this sacred gathering.

Sr. Rihun Sten



Our experience of the Intensive Juniorate in Guwahati

Oh! What wonderful days of our Intensive Juniorate spent at Auxilium Provincial House, Guwahati in which we the 23 temporary professed sisters of six provinces of India shared our life for ten months. Togetherness is a spirit of happiness, which has brought us in union with God and with each other. We have helped each other in all ways foreseeing to the needs of others, caring, sharing and accepting the uniqueness of each one.

The creative ways, new ideas, wonderful liturgy animation, cultural programmes have helped us to be more enthusiastic, active and cheerful.

Mission

As Pope Francis says, “reach out to the periphery and feel one with the people”. We will never forget the Sunday apostolate - visiting the families; sharing their joys and struggles, witnessing the suffering

humanity through the hospital visit and Parish animation where we enjoyed sharing the joy of the Lord to his people. We also become more courageous to face the challenge in our battle of life with strong convictions. The daily tuitions in the community, coaching classes for the children of Child Friendly Guwahati, a civil society initiative and parallel children at St. Joseph’s School, apostolate with the children at Ashalaya gave us the opportunity to be involved in our mission among the poor and abandoned children in the Salesian charism.

Outing: Outings were joyful moments of our lives during which we enjoyed the true family spirit in the company of each other both young and old. It helped us to refresh ourselves and continue our daily lives with fervour and generosity.

Faith exposure Program in Tamulpur:

One memorable event during the year was the Faith Exposure, where everyday we were inspired by Fathers, sisters as our

resources persons who spoke at length giving us the concept of missionary life, the love for the Word of God and the strategy to renew our religious fervour. The inspiring talks also taught us and gave us new insights on the evangelization in healing ministry and regarding works of charity. The language of love and the language of heart conquer all barriers as we visited the villages and we could proudly say that God is always with us in every moment of our life especially in the course of encountering with the people of other faith.

Above all we are grateful to God for the golden opportunity we had. A sincere thank you to our



Provincial, Animators and Sisters for arranging for us this unique programme of formation. Through this experience we go back to our respective provinces with better understanding on the challenges and the beauty of religious life in the footstep of our founders Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello.

*Sr. Graceland Wahlang &
Sr. Deihok Mukhim*



ECHOES FROM THE HOUSES

BELLEFONTE

Diamond years of Joyful fidelity – Sr. Catherine Susngi

23rd May was an auspicious day at Bellefonte as we celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of the religious profession of our dear Sr. Catherine Susngi. This day was marked by thanksgiving, jubilations and festivity.

At 10 in the morning the Eucharistic Celebration began with the solemn entrance procession. Sr. Catherine our Jubilarian approached the altar led by two pre-aspirants



dressed in traditional costumes accompanied by Sr. Carmelina Sun the animator of the house and her family members. The main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist was the Provincial of Silchar Province, Fr. George Maliekal and eight other priests concelebrated. In his homily, Fr. George told that Jubilee is the celebration of God's faithfulness and his loving accompaniment during these 60 diamond years of her religious life.



After the Holy Eucharist a felicitation programme followed where the novices, the pre-aspirants and some other communities staged few items to honour the Jubilarian. The program began with the opening chorus from the novices and pre- aspirants followed by other exuberant items. The

day concluded with a message from the Jubilarian in which she voiced out the overflow of her heart through a song. She thanked everyone profusely for journeying with her all through the years of her religious life.

The success of the day is attributed to the Animators of the different communities of our Province, our friends and well- wishers who have contributed and supported towards the celebration. A special note of thanks to the Sisters of Nongthymmai Community and the Postulants from Saiden who were present with us for the immediate preparation.

Bellefonte Community

Days of an encounter with the Lord

To have found God, to have experienced Him in our intimacy and to have lived in His real presence even for few days increases in us the conviction to say "Lord you alone is enough for me". We, the second year novices were indeed fortunate to experience the Lord during those few days of our prayer moment from 15th-17th June 2015 at Holy Redeemer Renewal Centre, Umroi. We have been blessed and enriched by His Word and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our personal encounter with Him brought peace and tranquility in our hearts; it has helped us to interiorize our relationship with the Person of Jesus and to focus our goals more and more on what is essential for religious life.

We take this chance of thanking our dear Provincial for giving

us this great opportunity and the community of Bellefonte for accompanying us with their powerful prayers. Special thanks go to our dear Mother Mistress for availing herself to be with us and for the great care for our spiritual growth. We therefore, implore God's choicest graces and blessings upon each one of them and we pray much for our Province that God may grant us with many more holy and zealous sisters.

2nd year Novices

Renowned Scientists from NASI, NER, Shillong visited Bellefonte Community College!!!

Three renowned fellow scientists from National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) North Eastern Region Local Chapter, (NEHU) Shillong: Professor Veena Tandon, Chairperson of NASI, NER, Professor P. Tandon, the former Vice Chancellor of NEHU, a fellow member of NASI and





Professor S.R. Joshi also fellow member of NASI visited Bellefonte Community College (BCC) on the occasion of the commemoration of 'World No Tobacco Day' on 29th of May 2015. They organized a programme on the occasion which was started by the ceremonial lighting of a lamp by the scientists, a teacher and a student to mark the Divine presence and also to extend the message: "A single lamp can light hundreds more just as one person of knowledge can share that knowledge with many more — each of whom in turn can bring light into even more lives".

This message had been concretized on this day as nine senior students participated in the speech competition on related topics to "No to Tobacco". They did share their knowledge and ideas to the rest of the fellow students through their creative presentation using the visual aids like charts and handouts as well. It was indeed a valuable and an unforgettable opportunity for them. Each of them did their very best in spite of very limited days for preparation. The sole objective of the programme was to create awareness among the young minds about the various risks and effects of tobacco consumption and in their turn should create the awareness in their families and in society at large learning to say 'No to Tabacco'. The scientists introduced themselves as a group of scientists from NEHU and enlightened them more on the topics presented by the students. They congratulated the institute and encouraged the students to share the message of the day with many others in their society. Rafialla A. Kharnaigor, Bashankupar Shadap and Ibajop Mary Rymbai were the winners of the speech competition and were gifted with valuable prizes

along with a winner certificate. The other six students were also awarded with a certificate of participation. As for the rest of the students, there was the drawing and the display of the charts on the same topics from which some students who depicted the best message were given prizes. BCC staff and students along with the Principal and Vice Principal of the college cooperatively coordinated the whole programme.

International Environment Day observed



Along with the rest of the world 5th of June, the World Environment Day was observed by the staff and students of Bellefonte Community College in its campus. On this day awareness programme was organized; some students gave awareness speeches to their fellow students on different environment related topics.

After the short programme, all the students were grouped for the cleaning drive. They cleaned up the whole campus and even on the roadside as well. The good part of the day was the summing up of the importance of the day when all the students and teachers again got together for the evaluation of the day's activity. Thereafter, interestingly, the teachers entertained them by creating further awareness

in the form of a spontaneous quiz from their science and environmental lessons related to environment and its protection. This was how the young students passed the day gaining a lot of awareness.

JOWAI

Tragic Accident



The early dawn of February 12 at 2 am, will linger on in our minds and hearts with mixed feelings of loss as we witnessed the store room of our house being reduced to ashes by the roaring fire, destroying many valuable things such as wood for furniture, carpentry and plumbing tools, benches, desks and chairs under repair, etc. on account of a short circuit. Porshia Rynghlem our house girl was the first who noticed the roaring flames at 2 am. She alerted Sr. Tistabha Bareh and other Sisters and ran to call the others. All of us together with the house girls, our driver, Mr. Bigilius Sohtun our carpenter and a group of the bigger boarding girls were upon our feet to extinguish the blazing fire. After one hour of work and understanding that we would not be able to manage on our own, Sr. Rosina Susngi, Animator rang to the Superintendent of Police, Mr. Herbert Lyngdoh,



asking him for the service of the fire brigade; thanks to him they came immediately to our aid. The first fire brigade arrived at 3.26 am and seeing the extent of the flames, the officer in charge immediately asked for a second one which arrived shortly. They worked earnestly till 5 am and it took them two hours to put off the fire. We are grateful to God for sparing our lives and those of the animals living underneath the burnt storeroom; it could have been otherwise if it was not because of His protection and care.

Inter-School Badminton Tournament

The 10th Interschool Badminton Championship organized by Jaiñtia District Badminton Association [JDBA] took place from 8-10 April 2015. The event was held at Chutwakhu Indoor Stadium Jowai and there were eight schools that took part in this. Even though we lack

infrastructure for the training of students in this event, our girls did well. In the U-13 Girl Single category Stefi Sympli of Class VIII won the coveted trophy and also in the U-13 Girl Double category Stefi Sympli and Pretty Mary Sumer of Class VII took the championship. Chandaka Kharsanchai of Class X and Prery Rose Lakiang of Class IX won the championship in the U-15 Girl Double as well as that of the U-17. Chandaka Kharsanchai won the Runner's up Single in the U-15 and U-17 category. We are happy that our girls have achieved this feat and we thank God and our Blessed Mother for this.

SSLC/HSSLC Results

The Meghalaya Board of School Education [MBOSE] declared the results of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate [SSLC] Examinations and that of the Higher Secondary School Leaving Certificate [HSSLC] Examinations on May 25. We rejoice and are grateful to God for the blessings He has given to our students. In the SSLC Sector - Ms. Nafisa Pde obtained the 20th rank with star marks and distinctions in five subjects. Out of a total of 111 students sent for the examinations 107 of them were declared successful.18

students passed with star marks; 53 passed in the 1st Division; 42 in the 2nd division; 1 in the 3rd division; 5 got a simple pass while 4 of them did not get through. The total number of distinction marks received are: Khasi - 43; Health Education - 41; Mathematics - 19; Science - 14; Social Science - 11; English - 6; Computer Science - 2. In the HSSLC Sector it has been a 100% success, this is even more remarkable since the students who come to us are all those who are not able to go elsewhere chiefly because of intellectual poverty. They were 65 students in all out of whom 9 passed in the first Division; 42 in the Second Division and 14 in the third Division. 6 of them obtained letter marks in Khasi; 3 in Education and 1 in Elective Khasi. The greatest joy was from the Evening School Sector where 8 were declared successful out of 14 students sent, with Wandaka Rabon obtaining Letter marks in Khasi.

A Past Pupil's God Experience

A Divine Retreat Centre at Ladrymbai was inaugurated and blessed. The Vincentian Fathers who have been invited to start this Centre in the Jowai Diocese will manage the Centre. This Centre has a very interesting background history.



Mrs. Ephrimon Dkhar now 83 years old is one of the richest persons of this trading town of Ladrymbai. Her daughter Jobly Dkhar had been in our boarding at Sacred Heart Convent Mawlai. While her Mother belongs to the Church of God Jobly belonged to no religion at all but was very attached to the Sisters and remembers our veteran missionary Sr. Luisa Miorelli with great affection. After completing her Class X in the year 1975, Jobly left the boarding and followed her own course becoming a very successful business woman, married and got a daughter - Saida Dkhar. Remembrance of the days at Sacred Heart Convent Mawlai, was a constant nostalgic experience and she wanted at all cost to embrace the Catholic faith. Her father and mother were adamant that she should not think of Baptism in the Catholic Church. The family business prospered incredibly but Jobly had a longing for the one happiness - Baptism in the Catholic Church. She had spoken of her desire to the two priests then working in Khliehriat, Fr. Henry Fantin Sdb and Fr. Joseph Fantin Sdb. However, considering the family status and the opposition of her parents they could do nothing. The desire almost tormented her; it was at 5 am on 8th October 1995 that Jobly had a very great surprise. Right there in front of her stood two European Sisters;



with their white 'modestina' so typical of the Salesian Sisters she once loved and lived with. She asked them why and how they come to be there. In response one of them took out a Rosary and told her that they had come to give it to her. She could not believe that this was real; she took it with love and then got busy to prepare some breakfast for the Sisters. They told her that they would first go to the Church and then come back. She saw them off and then busied herself with the best breakfast she could think of. At about 8.30 am, the doorbell rang and she rushed to the door believing that the Sisters have returned for breakfast. To her great surprise she found that it was Fr. Sylvanus Sngi Lyngdoh [the great Salesian Khasi Patriarch and ardent Evangelizer]. After having heard her story, he authoritatively asked her to get ready for Baptism, took Jobly along with her husband Pulit Singh and daughter Saida to the Church and they were baptized on that very same day. Though her commitment to her business, which was extending day by day kept her busy, Jobly had but one desire that her mother too should embrace the faith. In the meantime Saida grew up and became acquainted to Mr. Carmelo Lakiang, son of another fervent past pupil of ours Tina Lakiang who was herself a convert. The entrance of Carmelo into the family with his wedding to Saida on 30th December 2002 was a turning point in the faith life of the entire family. The presence of Carmelo in the family awakened all the former enthusiasm of Jobly for the Catholic Faith and all that concerns it. Mrs. Ephrimon Dkhar in the meantime got reconciled to her daughter's baptism but wanted to do something spectacular for her own Church. She wanted to do something to establish it permanently in the town of Ladrymbai. To this end



she set aside a hillock in her property and started building a big Church in the style of the other churches of the 'Church of God'. This was a concrete building complete in every way with modern architectural designs. Attached to this Church was a rectory for the pastors, sets of rooms for students [she wanted this to be the theological college for the Church of God], a public kitchen and dining hall, for use during conventions and gatherings. Everything was furnished in the best possible way - utensils, cutlery, linen, furniture - nothing was wanting. She wanted this to be her gift for the 'Church of God' before God calls her to himself and she spent crores of rupees to this end. Jobly, Saida and Carmelo in the meantime were fervently praying to the Divine Mercy for the joy of having their mother and grandmother in the same faith. The incredible thing did take place - just before this complex could be inaugurated Mrs. Ephrimon Dkhar expressed the desire to join her children in the Catholic Church. In the words of Jobly: "For fifteen years, I have prayed with supplication and tears and the Divine Mercy answered my prayers. Praise the Lord". It was a very great day for the Parish of Ladrymbai when on the 29th May 2011, the local Bishop [late] Vincent Kympat received Mrs. Ephrimon Dkhar into the Church and she in turn handed over to the Diocese of Jowai the whole complex now completed and furnished. It was the wish of the late Bb. Vincent to dedicate the structure to be a shrine of the Divine Mercy. Some adjustments were made so that the sanctuary resembles more of a Catholic Church. A statue of the Divine Mercy and that of Mary Help of Christians were installed outside the sanctuary and the place was being taken care of by the Parish of Ladrymbai. The untimely

death of Bp. Vincent prevented further progress of the plan. It was in the year 2013 that Jobly and her family went for a pilgrimage to the Divine Retreat Centre at Khetri, which was run by the Vincentian Fathers. As luck would have it, they missed the road and were quite late with their appointment to meet the Vincentian Fathers. Another block came on their way, just before they could enter the gate of the Divine Retreat Centre, a huge snake 7 ft long came and stood in front of their car with its neck and head held high. In great fear they closed all the windows of the car, switched off the engine and were breathless for fear. The snake seemed to challenge their entrance for some 5-6 minutes after which it bowed its head three times and then left the road free. It was with great excitement and fear that they entered the Centre, met Fr. Rony the priest in charge. The prayerful atmosphere of the place so captivated them, calmed their fears and anxiety and made them feel so secure that they asked Fr. Rony to come over to Ladrymbai and take charge of the Divine Mercy Centre which had been left almost isolated. Fr. Rony informed them that they should do so through the proper channel that is the Bishop via their Parish Priest. The then Parish Priest Fr. Sherman Khongshei visited the Centre soon after but the seat

of the Bishop being vacant the dream took time to be realized. With His Grace, Archbishop Thomas Menampampil, SDB, DD taking over as the Apostolic Administrator, things moved fast. The Vincentians were invited and they readily came, Fr. Kuriakose Menamkadath VC had been in the Centre for the last 45 days, renovating the sanctuary and giving a new face to the whole structure. Thanks to the help of Jobly and her family as well as the Parish Priest Fr. Stephen Francis and

the lay people. On May 31, in the presence of a big group of Vincentians, which included the General Assistant, the Vice Provincial and the General Financial Counsellor; a large group of religious priests and sisters, and a big number of faithful, the Divine Retreat Centre was blessed and dedicated to the faithful under the direction of the Vincentian Fathers. Jobly was overjoyed to see that a good number of Salesian Sisters were present from Jowai, Mawkyndeng, Lamyrsiang and Sutnga. It was a great joy for us not only to take part in this beautiful feast but also to listen to Jobly recounting to us the wonders the Lord had done for her and her grateful remembrance of our past missionaries. Praise the Lord!

Distribution of the New Testament

On 10th June 2015 the second day of the triduum to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, 200 of our Catholic students mainly from Classes VIII to XII received a copy each of the precious Book. In a meaningful celebration held in our chapel, [the incessant heavy rains made outdoor celebration impossible] the students along with their respective Catechism teachers – Sr. Esther Marwein, Sr. Theodosia Mawniuh gathered in the Chapel. Sr. Rosina Susngi animated a short prayer service during which the girls were led to reflect on: the precious gift of Baptism; the indispensable role of the Word in God to help us live as Christians and thirdly on the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The girls were devout and attentive, sang and prayed with all their being.

The New Testament in English was then distributed to all of them by Sr. Rosina and Sr. Esther, after which they all publicly and solemnly pledge to make the Word of God the Guiding Rule of their lives. Joy and enthusiasm was obvious on their countenance as they left the chapel. Thanks to the effort of Sr. Baragan Hilda, we received 200 copies of the New Testament for free distribution to young people.



World Day against Child Labour



On 12th June, 2015 the District Legal Service Authority in collaboration with the State Legal Service Authority organized a celebration of the World Day against Child Labour in St. Mary Mazzarello Evening School. The target group of the awareness programme is the students of the evening school. 150 of our students, both boys and girls from Class VIII to IX attended the programme, which was chaired by Mr. Isormon Rymbui, the Secretary of the District Legal Service Authority assisted by Mrs. E. Shabong, Judicial Magistrate First Class. The speakers of the day were Mr. Riwan B. Hinge, Advocate, Secretary of the Jaiñtia Hills District Bar Association, Jowai. He spoke on the children rights against exploitation especially at working places and various employment venues as guaranteed by the Indian Constitution. Ms. Riwa D. Kynjing, the District Child Protection Officer

gave a very clear explanation on the Children's right to Life, Education, Protection, and Participation. She explained about the different abuses to which children are exposed – physical, emotional and sexual and pointed out the various offices where the victims could appeal for protection and justification. Mrs. Bettcey Merry Toi, Labour Inspector from the District Labour Office, Jowai, gave a clear picture of the labour laws and conditions with regard to children. All the speakers exhorted the students to be conscious of their rights and report to the Legal Service Authority if and whenever they find themselves being victimized. Sr. Rosina Susngi then thanked the organizer for the enriching vision given to our Evening School students. After refreshment was served Sr. Josephine Rynksai encouraged the students to make the best profit from what they have heard. The programme closed with a theme song by all the students present.

Bible distribution to Families

In a very simple gathering we had the gifting of the Bible to 27 families on 16 June 2015 in our community. Sr. Rosina Susngi, Animator explained to them the purpose of the free distribution of Bible and how they received it. She asked those present, in case they already have one at home, to find out a needy Catholic family and gave it to them after they have made them understand the preciousness of the WORD of GOD. After a short prayer, a hymn



to honour God's Word was sung and the Bible was distributed to each of them. In the final message Sr. Rosina asked them to see that the WORD of GOD become their Light in times

of doubt, their shield in times of danger, their staff when the journey of Christian life seem demanding. All those who received the Bible were very grateful and happy. Thanks again to the hard work of Sr. Hilda Baragan.

Jottings from Jowai Diary

MAWKYRDEP

Vocation camp for the youth of Raid Madan



Following the invitation of the Lord 'Come and follow me' especially in this year of the Consecrated life. We have organized a one-day vocation program for the students of

class V above belonging to the Raid Madan Sub district in our community on the 28 March 2015 in collaboration with the family cell of the parish. We were very glad with the response of the 128 boys and girls who attended the program. The day started with the opening prayer by Rev Fr. Cyrus Syiemlieh the Assistant Parish Priest of Mawbri who is at the same time the President of the Family cell and Sr. Matilda Kharjana our animator gave the opening talk. The Sisters and two members of the family cell took up the sessions. The children were well fed with the various input sessions based on the life experiences of the sisters and also from the life of the different saints. Concluding the day, everybody participated in the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Cyrus Syiemlieh in the study Hall of our boarders. We hope and pray that from among these many would respond to the Lord's invitation as priests and religious.

Sr. Maria Wanpyntngen Sariang

Celebrating the Birthday of our Father

Our King of Kings Secondary School Mawkyrdep celebrated the Bicentenary birth of our Father and Founder Don Bosco on 30th April 2015 in our school campus starting with the Holy Eucharistic celebration which was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Leo Mary Lyndem the Parish priest of Mawbri Parish. In his homily he summarizes the life history of Don Bosco and shared few



things on the dreams of Don Bosco especially the dream of nine. Soon after the lunch break at 1 o' clock sharp we witnessed the cultural programme performed by the students like dance, song, march

past, mass drill and many other under the leadership of the teachers in charge. The presence of Rev. Fr. George Maliekal the Salesian Provincial of Silchar province as the chief guest, Fr. Leo Mary Lyndem the guest of honour, Sr. Marvella Shangpliang Vice Provincial, the Sordar, the Sisters of Nongthymmai and Ribhoi Region, all the parents of our students and many other invitees added joy to the celebration and they in turn relished the renditions of the day. The programme was adjusted in the best way possible and was beautified by the talk given by the chief

guest on the charism of Don Bosco “Da Mihi Animas Cetera Tolle” and he also reminded us the way Don Bosco helped the young not with blows but with Loving Kindness. After when everything was finished tea was served for everybody as a part of the celebration.

Mr. Kerlang Laloo (Teacher)

MAWLAI

Bicentenary of the birth of Don Bosco

The Bicentenary of the birth of Don Bosco was a very grand celebration in the Salesian Family. Many young people from different places of the Province took part in this Youth Expo. We were the privileged ones to be chosen from the school in which twenty of us represented as Delegates. We are grateful to the sisters who gave us the opportunity to experience this great event that took place in this year, which is a memorable event in the history of the Salesian Congregation. Different activities were held from 23rd to 26th April. Competitions like Choir, Quiz and Essay, football match for the boys, basketball for the girls were conducted on 24th April. We are very happy that we are the winners of the Essay and Quiz Competitions from the seven regions of the North East in the Salesian Province of Silchar.

Several input sessions were held. The speaker of the first session was Shri Sanjay Goyal IAS, Deputy Commissioner of East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya. His talk was on the youth of today, what the young people of this generation indicate. The second session was presided over by Dr. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Meghalaya Urban Affairs Minister. In her speech she stressed on the question “What can a person contribute for the State and the Country?” The third Speaker was Mr. Shaiphyrnai Phanrang on “Ignite a flame, spark a dream.” Shri A.K Nongkynrih, Head of the Department of Sociology in the North Eastern Hill University (NEHU) was the speaker of the last session and his topic was “Leadership towards Transformation.” He also gave few tips to success. In the evening an opera titled “Love conquers all” was presented by the brothers from Sacred Heart College. A group of small girls from the boarding took part in the play as dancers.

On the last day of the celebration we witnessed thousands of



faithful who thronged the Don Bosco mini stadium for the Holy Eucharist in honour of Don Bosco presided over by Rt. Rev Bishop Victor Lyngdoh of Nongstoin Diocese. It was a delightful day for all the young people, even though the weather was rather unpleasant.

The afternoon session saw the Cultural programme presented by the seven regions typical to their place. Concluding the day was a Moment with God, in which our school presented a Prayer Dance. It was one of the most enriching experiences for all of us delegates as well as the crowd who had come to take part in this great event.

Felinisha Syiemlieh (Class X)

Feast of Mother Mazzarello celebrated

‘Let every stitch be an act of love for God’ these words that come from the heart of St. Mary Mazzarello were the guiding force for the students, staff and the management of Sacred Heart Girls’ Higher Secondary School Mawlai as they celebrated the feast of Mary Mazzarello on 13th May 2015. Being the month of May, the month dedicated to our Blessed Mother and the year of the Bicentenary birth of Don Bosco, the items performed were based on the three important figures of the Salesian life. The different classes presented songs, skits and dances; all the items were related either to Mother Mary, to Don Bosco or Mary Mazzarello. The programmes started with much enthusiasm, which led the spirits of all those present to the throne of heaven in solemn prayer guided by Sr. Lydia Pala, the Principal. This was followed by the floral tribute to Mother Mazzarello. The thousand flowers representing each student, staff and Sister were placed at the foot of the statue of Mary Mazzarello.



We were privileged to have by chance representatives of Don Bosco, in the persons of Rev. Fr. John Kalapura SDB and Br. John Colombi SDB, in our celebration. The presence of the sons and daughters of Don Bosco made the feast of Mary Mazzarello more solemn. In his message, Br. Colombi reminded the audience that every smallest act should be done for the love of God and guided by Mother Mazzarello. He also stressed on the need for vocation in order to be able to continue the good work of Mary Mazzarello by being professed as Salesians Sisters.

The students and staff of Sacred Heart Girls’ Higher Secondary School Mawlai offer their heartfelt gratitude to the FMAs of Mawlai for holding such celebration, which revived the cheerfulness in everyone’s heart as, wished by Mary Mazzarello in this modern era which is devoid of gratefulness and cheerfulness. We are grateful to the FMAs for motivating the students in this great value – GRATITUDE.

Long Live Mother Domenica Mazzarello!

Mrs. Amabilis Susngi (Teacher)

Students excel in March Past Competition

The Mawlai Sports' Club inaugurated their Stadium located in Mawlai Phudmuri called Madanheh on the 15th May at 1.30 pm and on this occasion the club organized a march past competition of Mawlai schools. There were many schools who participated for the same and the chief guest for the day was the Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma and the guest of honour was Shri Zenith Sangma the Minister of Sports and Games. There were many other dignitaries like the local MLA, MDC and other officials for the function. Some schools



performed items like dance and singing. However, we the Sacred Heart Girls' School was overjoyed to become the winner team of the March Past Competition and received a beautiful trophy as well as Rs. 2000/- cash award. We thanked the School authority for giving us chance to take part and our P.T Master Sir Rolling Kharumnuid with the help of Sir Macbell Lyngdoh, who trained and followed us up every day. God bless all of them. "Long live Sacred Heart Girls'!

Shareen Lyngdoh - Class X

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus celebrated in the School

Sacred Heart Girls' School, Mawlai rose up in spirit of praising and thanking God on 12th June 2015 in a combined celebration of the feast of the School with the patron name of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Gratitude Day.

The day began with a well- animated Prayer service under the leadership of Sr. Brilis Thyrniang and all felt the grace of God pouring on all of us. This was then followed by the different items presented by the students of different sections of the School from Class Nursery up to Class XII. The Gents



teachers too performed their item with music and songs. It was great to see the teachers with their talents of music and song composition for the feast. Sr. Maristella Rynghlem, Animator gave a short message for the day and appreciated each one for the items and contribution for the Gratitude day. We appreciated the warm presence and wishes of Fr. John Kalapura Sdb, Bro. John Colombi Sdb and Fr. Gervasis Kozhupathadam Sdb on this day. Sr. Lydia Pala the Principal gave a vote of thanks, then sweets was given for all students and lunch for all staff.



Parents' Day Celebrations 2015

Sacred Heart Convent, Mawlai celebrated the Parents' day of the boarders on 13th June 2015 with grand celebrations in order to show their love and respect for their parents who have done so much for their integral growth.

The parents arrived gradually in the morning and were welcomed by their children. The formal programme commenced at 10.30 a.m with the melodious voices of the young people bursting out in a welcome song. Fr. Roland Kharkrang the former Parish Priest of Mawlai Parish gave some reflections for the parents on this day. From the part of the parents, Mrs. Pherila Biam and Mr. Ricaldus lawphniaw gave beautiful messages and voiced out the appreciation of the work done by the Sisters in the convent.

After the input session, a live extravaganza in which the boarders themselves were the protagonists took the center stage. They showcased their gifts and talents and the parents and guardians were thrilled to

witness the performance of their children and wards. At the close of the function, Sr. Maristella Rynghlem, animator thanked the Parents for their presence and cooperation in bringing out the best in their children



and appreciated the young people for their stupendous performance. As a sign of love and sharing, lunch was served for all present. Thus concluded the memorable day and gave more impetus to the Sisters in their educational mission and the children to strive to be the best they could be.

Sr. Bertina Kurbah

NANDAN NAGAR

Guide Camp 2015

I consider it a great privilege to be a Guide. Our Auxilium Girls' School, Agartala organized a Guides camp for three days from 17 to 19 May 2015 in the school campus. It was our 2nd Guide Camp.

Our camp started with the opening ceremony during which the Scout and Guide flag was hoisted. The division of patrols, appointment of patrol leaders,

distribution of duty cards, introductory sessions and finally the dinner followed. We concluded the day with a small Camp Fire where each patrol performed an item; we had a lot of fun together. Oh! What a jolly night!

On the second day we were on our feet by 5:30 am with B.P's six exercise, flag ceremony,

inspection and breakfast. After which we had a two-hour session by Sir Rajib Saha and then by Ms. Swarnali Singha. There we were taught about the Guide History, Guide Company, qualifications for being a Guide Captain and many more, we even had a very interesting mock drill on Disaster Management. Soon after lunch we got ready for the most awaited event - the hiking, where we were taken out for a new venture. What I liked was the singing songs along the road and merry-making as we walked all through.



us ahead. It all started with night game when one of our friends spotted a white figure moving in our school building in the dark. Everyone took it to be a ghost and got scared and panic. The atmosphere was very tense; some of the guides prayed, others were crying and unable to sleep or move anyway but still some were courageous. It was such a very interesting scene. Only later did we find out that the ghost was none other but our own Guide teacher Sir Sushankar Deb.



The last day of the camp was full of activities. It started with the all faith prayer, followed by the flag hoisting ceremony, breakfast and Open session and a thanksgiving program to show our love and gratitude towards our Sisters and Guide teachers. Our camp ended with the Flag ceremony at 2:00 pm. After that it was time to say good-bye with heavy hearts.

On reaching home we got busy preparing for the most exciting event of the Grand Camp Fire. There we had the joy of showcasing our gifts and talents through the performance. Teachers too joined us in songs and dance especially Sir Uttam Shil a very good dancer. There was also a surprise magic show by one of our teachers Sir Bijoy Acharjee. After much enjoyment and fun, the Camp Fire got over at 11:00 pm and we all went to sleep. But who knew that there was much more fun waiting for

We really treasure each and every moment of the camp. The right capsule taken in during the event made us feel good, fresh, healthy and strong. We can't forget the joyous moment spent together, the nourishing and tasty food we ate everyday. The disciplinary and moral values that we have learnt in the camp would definitely help us in the coming years.

We are grateful to our Principal, Sr. Celine D' Cunha for organizing this valuable camp. We are also grateful to Sr. Rihun Sten for her loving care and guidance all throughout the camp. We look forward to such camps in the future.

Bhitti Debbarma (Class IX B)

Three in one Celebration

Just as the electrons of an atom are held in place by the centrifugal force in the same way captains hold their group members' lace and inculcate in them the spirits of discipline and self-resistance. A captain is a driving force behind a team's success and now to wrap them in their duty coats, AGS celebrated the investiture ceremony cum Feast day of Mother Mazzarello and Birthday of Rabindra Nath Tagore on the morning of 8th May in our school arena.



A warm welcome was given to Prof. Tapati Chakraborty and Sr. Laila MSMHC the superior of Ferando Convent who were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. The melodious extravaganza with a note of welcome soared from the Auxilians' throat mesmerized and encapsulated everyone's mind. "Well begun is half done" following this maxim the lighting of the lamp, which symbolizes the victory of good over evil, took place.

An action song entitled "A woman of all time" encompassing the life of Saint Mary Mazzarello was chalked out which filled us with crystal knowledge about her jewel studded life. With a sense of achievement surging in their hearts the gathering listened with bated breath as our

beloved Principal Sr. Celine D' Cunha delivered a motivated speech urging the students to have a clear conscience while delineating their duties with responsibilities placed on their firm shoulders. She also spoke about the uniqueness of Mother Mazzarello a simple woman who took to heart to educate the girls for a better future and therefore she is a woman who full of dream and vision and is rightly called a woman of all time.

The gleeful eyes of the Auxilians as well as the guests present there were glued to the stage. The captivating songs and the enchanting dances left the gathering spellbound. The teachers of AGS had interwoven education and entertainment in the yarn of cultural filigree, which fascinated everyone present there in the morning.

The esteemed guests, Principal, teachers administered the oath and pinned the badges to all the school, house, club, Transport captains respectively. Donning the mantle of responsibilities, they pledge to discharge their duties to the best of their abilities. The momentous ceremony ended with the Auxilians rendition of "We can achieve"

Mrigakshi Saha (Class IX A)

NONGSTOIN

Opening of the Golden Jubilee cum Marian Procession



On 24th May 2015 the Cathedral Parish of St. Peter the Apostle Nongstoin marked the new milestone of 50 years of its service to souls. The community is fully involved in its preparation. The parish of Nongstoin being the first to receive the Light of the Gospel among all the parishes of the diocese is like a Mother to all the other parishes in the diocese. The occasion was solemnized with the presence of Mr. Kennedy Khyriem, MLA of Mawphlang constituency as the Chief Guest. He opened the Jubilee year by hoisting the Golden Jubilee Flag in front of the Church in the midst of many faithful who have come to witness with great enthusiasm this historical moment in their journey of faith. In his short speech the Chief Guest said that we should be grateful to all the missionaries who have toiled hard to bring forth the faith in

our region who also have suffered much in one way or the other to witness Christ. He further said that our faith should be firm as that of Peter who in spite of his limitations in following the Lord yet he proved himself worthy of his call to be his apostle and be the rock where Jesus built his church. After the opening session the band and the choir under the leadership of Mr. Iginus Nongtnger, the teacher of St. Peter's played and sang the Jubilee Anthem. Some of our sisters joined in the choir for this great occasion. Soon after this all the faithful walked in procession to the Church preceded by the Word of God being carried by Rev. Fr. Anthony Wahlang Sdb, Assistant Parish Priest, the symbol of 50 years tied up with the ribbons was also carried in procession to the altar by Sr. Lina Kharjana and all the different blocks and representatives of the different villages of the parish followed by all the faithful.

During the celebration of the Holy Mass Rev. Fr. Paul Lyngkot SDB, Vice Provincial of Silchar Province the main celebrant in his homily exhorted the faithful to have devotions and recourse to the Holy Spirit and to stand firm in one's faith. He invited the young people especially to be faithful to their baptismal call and to be the instruments of faith proclamation to other young people. Rev. Fr. Peter Syiemlieh Sdb Parish Priest, Fr. Anthony Wahlang Sdb, Fr. Gilbert Gel Bhoi Sdb and Fr. Cosmos Jyrwa concelebrated in the same. The 95 First Communicants prepared by Sisters and the teachers added more grandeur to the solemnity of the day. What is more exciting for us is that two of our boarders, Katrina Sohbar and Tubianglin Mawlieh received the First Holy Communion. We thank God for these two little angels who have received Jesus for the first time. In the afternoon at 1:30 pm the procession in honour of Mary Help of Christians was unanimously taken part by all the faithful with singing and praying the Holy Rosary asking graces from God through her intercession. At the end of the procession Fr. Bernard Pala SDB gave a talk on Mary the Help of Christians and then he also gave the Blessing of the Blessed Sacrament where everyone was satisfied to have spent the day in the company of Mary the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Sr. Beltiful Kharsnar

NONGTHYMMAI

Participation in the ICYM Peace Rally

The students of Auxilium Girls' Higher Secondary School with great enthusiasm prepared placards and banners and in a spirit of solidarity took part in the peace rally on 18th April organized by the Indian Catholic Youth Movement of Shillong Archdiocese.

The peace rally was called to voice out their concern over the attacks on churches and to protest against atrocities perpetrated on Christians in different parts of the country. Catholic faithful, students from catholic schools, religious men and women, politicians and people of good will took part in the rally.



Students and faithful with prepared placards and banners walked the street of Shillong in silent procession from state library premises and gathered at Calvary ground opposite the Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Shillong. Archbishop Dominic Jala and others addressed the gathering. The Prelate said that the idea behind the rally was to condemn a sin not a sinner and he and other speakers urged the central government and states government concern to see that religious freedom is respected and secularism is upheld in our country at any cost. Hymns on peace were also sung asking the God of peace to bless our land with peace and harmony and that everyone can love one another as brothers and sisters

World Gratitude Day celebrated

The feast of Mother General was celebrated on the 23rd April since the 26th being a Sunday. Longlive our Mother General! This was the slogan of the day. The feast of Mother General was well remembered and celebrated by the staff and students of Auxilium Girls' Higher Secondary School Nongthymmai, Shillong. The programme was prepared spiritually for a month reminding the students to pray

for Mother General, the head of our Institute to express our love and gratitude to her. The celebration of the feast began with a short and meaningful prayer moment animated by Sr. Joplin Suchiang. She invited everyone to thank God for the gift of Mother General and to pray for her, followed by a prayer dance and a song by the students from the Media Club. The whole programme was taken charge by the Media club and has done it splendidly well. During the programme Sr. Elizabeth Thannimoottil, Animator gave the message for the day and commented on the theme of the celebration "Grow and flourish with the young where God wants us".

Sr. Joplin Suchiang

Twin feasts celebrated at Auxilium Shillong

13th May is observed as 'Mazzarello Day' a day dedicated to St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello, the Co- Foundress of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. We, the Auxilians got the golden opportunity to honour and express our love to Mary Mazzarello. On this same day we also kept the commemoration of Mary Help of Christians since the 24th happen to be a school holiday.

Mazzarello Club was given the chance of animating the programme for the day. It was a very beautiful morning and we started our program by welcoming our chief Guest Sr. Hilda Barragan a veteran missionary. Sr Nathaniel Lyngdoh along with the Mazzarello Club led the gathering into prayer. The students paid floral tribute to Mother Mary and Mother Mazzarello; it was indeed a beautiful scene to behold, students expressed their deepest love to the two giant figures of our School. The different other items consisted of songs, action songs, skit and dance. Sr. Hilda Barragan gave a very inspiring message on '3keys' 'obedience, love, and discipline' which we should strive in our lives. Our program got disturb due to a heavy shower and we took it positively as God showering His blessing upon us and so the remaining program was continued the following day which was another beautiful day,



the actual day of the death of Mother Mazzarello, perhaps Mother Mazzarello wanted us to honour her on the real day. The skit by Mazzarello club was a thought provoking invitation to everyone to look deeply on one's own life and the way we deal with the poor and lowly. We do hope and pray that Mother Mary and St. Mary Mazzarello continue to inspire us to be able to emulate their virtues of simplicity, obedience, humility, dedication and deep love for God in our lives.

Naka Manbha Mylliem Pdah
(CI XII)



Tolling the Golden bells:

Ding dong bell!
Golden bells are ringing
gleefully
Announcing that it's a year of
jubilee
Of our dear sisters who serves
the Lord dearly

Auxilium Shillong decked in its festive mood celebrated the golden years of religious life of Sr. Theodora Lyngdoh and Sr. Estelle Rani on 13th June

2015, a fitting attire for a day of thanksgiving to the Lord for their gift to the community, province and the Institute at large.

The climax of the day was the Holy Eucharistic celebration presided over by the Archbishop of Shillong, Most. Rev. Dominic Jala Sdb with 22 priests who concelebrated. The Archbishop in his homily congratulated the Jubilee celebrants and highlighted the services rendered by them in the different fields for Gods' people and for

humanity. The choir with their melodious voices added solemnity and grandeur to the celebration of the Holy Mass and helped everyone to take part with devotion. Present on the occasion were many religious sisters and brothers, family members, friends and well-wishers. It was indeed a solemn occasion thanking God together for the great things He has done in the life of our sisters.

Soon after the celebration of the Holy Mass everyone was served a jubilee meal. The afternoon time saw the felicitation program prepared with much love by the Sisters, novices, aspirants, boarders and relatives of the Sisters, which added joy and colour to the occasion.

SAIDEN



The 30th May 2015 was indeed a remarkable day for our community as we celebrated the double feast in honour of the Bicentenary Year of the Birth of Don Bosco our Founder and the feast of St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello our Co-foundress that was postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The day started in a festive atmosphere with a solemn Morning Prayer, well animated by the members of Mazzarello Group, which helped us to pray more fervently than any other days. It was quite a busy day for us to prepare ourselves both materially and spiritually.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was solemnized by the presence of 6 Priests with Fr. Glorious Syiemlieh Sdb Parish Priest of Nongpoh, as the main celebrant. Fr. Glorious in his homily stressed much on the simple life lived by a village girl Maria Domenica Mazzarello who had great love of God and of her neighbours. He also added she could love her neighbours because she foresaw things beyond. Thus her great trust in God made her to have a strong desire to look after and work for the young girls even though she was not an educated girl herself. He urged us to follow her example and strive for holiness, as did our saintly Mother.

After the solemn Mass we shared in the family meal and Sr. Marvella Shangpliang, our Animator took the occasion to propose the vote of thanks to all the invitees. On behalf of the community she assured them of our prayers, which was followed by a prayer song rendition by the Postulants and Aspirants. Thanks to the Priests and religious from the 5 Communities: MSMHC Sisters from St. Stephan Convent, Fathers and Brothers from RRTC Umran, Claretian Fathers from Umsning Seminary, Fathers from Assumption Parish Nongpoh and our Sisters from Mawtnum Community for their solicitous presence and for their warm solidarity. May God in turn bless all of them through the intercession of our Saintly Father Don Bosco and St Mary Domenica Mazzarello our Co-Foundress.

Mariada Warjri and Baithiang Sten (Postulants)

UMDANG

The New Members of the Salesian Cooperators

31 May 2015 will always remain a memorable day in the annals of Umdang community wherein the four Aspirants committed themselves through the promise taking as full-fledged members of the Salesian Cooperators. Umdang sub-centre belongs to Nongstoiñ Unit.

Sr. Christina Kharkongor at the outset of the Holy Mass gave a brief explanation on the purpose and mission of a Salesian Cooperator and she urged everyone present to pray for four who would take the promise. The main celebrant of the day was Fr. Gaspar Wahlang the parish priest and concelebrated by Fr. Festus Shadap Sdb. In his homily, Fr. Festus gave a thought provoking reflection on the Holy Trinity being the solemnity of the same. He further made the people understand the responsibility of a Salesian cooperator and the purpose with which Don Bosco founded them. The most significant and moving moment for the faithful was the pronunciation of the promise and at the vote of thanks the new members expressed their utmost joy in being accepted into the Association of the Salesian Cooperators. After the Holy Mass they were congratulated with a song by the boarders of Auxilium Umdang and followed by the cutting of the cake in the convent and a fraternal meal was served for all who had come from far and near.



The promise day was coloured with the presence of Fr. Festus Shadap provincial Delegate SDB from Shillong, Sr. Christina Kharkongor Provincial Delegate FMA, Mr. Anthony Laloo the Provincial Coordinator and some members of the Salesian cooperators from Shillong and Nongstoiñ Unit.

The Aspirants were well prepared by Sr. Iris Suchiang the Animator of Auxilium Umdang all through the years of their Aspirantate and particularly on 30th May the eve of the promise day, the four members namely Mr. Alexander Puwein, Mr. Barnabas Mawsor, Mrs. Beronica Nongmin and Mrs. Tren Mawsor had a day of prayer and reflection before taking this new step in their lives.

Celebrating the Bicentenary of Don Bosco's Birth

The past pupils and the young people of Umdang parish joined Auxilium Convent Umdang on 6th May 2015 to celebrate the Bicentenary of Don Bosco's Birth. There were more than 300 people.

The day started with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Gaspar Wahlang, the Parish Priest, concelebrated by Fr. Charles Syiemlieh, the assistant parish priest.



After the meaningful celebration of the Holy Eucharist, a fraternal meal was served to all. This was followed by some spontaneous games where prizes were distributed to the winners.

At 2.00 pm, a special programme was organized in honour of Don Bosco who gave his entire life for the poor and the deprived youngsters of his time. The boarders of Auxilium Convent Umdang performed a beautiful mini opera, which depicted the life of Don Bosco.

The village youth too presented their meaningful and colourful items with much joy and enthusiasm for the love of Don Bosco. Mr. Nicholas Marwein, Professor of Nongstoin College, and a past pupil of Savio Juniorate, was the chief guest on this auspicious occasion. In his speech he enlightened everyone about the life and achievements of the saint relating his experience as a past pupil.

Sr. Iris Suchiang, Animator in her welcome speech too highlighted the life of Don Bosco emphasizing on his love for the poor and she thanked everyone for their collaboration.

The wonderful and memorable day concluded with a lively hymn to Don Bosco lead by the Auxilium choir and after which the place was resounded with slogans such as long Live Don Bosco! We Love You Don Bosco! Everyone went back home with joy and contented heart.

Sr. Risuk Dkhar

A MESSAGE



Through FMA-INS-info I express my most grateful “THANK YOU” to Sr. Isabella Suja, our Provincial, the Provincial Councillors, Sr. Carmelina Sun, Animator of my beloved community, the Sisters, Novices and our supporting Staff for what they have done to make the celebration of my Diamond Jubilee a truly memorable one.

I also thank all the Sisters of the various communities, Salesian Cooperators, Past Pupils, Benefactors, Pupils and friends for their valuable participation in the form of personal presence, gifts, greetings and above all for their prayers which I most heartily reciprocated.

A special note of thanks goes to Rev. Fr. George Maliekal SDB, Provincial Silchar Province and all the priests who concelebrated.

May God reward you all abundantly as I assure you of my prayer and ask you to remember me that I may make the best use of the few years the Lord will give me.

Thank you once again. Khublei!

Sr. Catherine Susngi

We seek peace, knowing peace is the climate of freedom
Dwight. D. Eisenhower

Sharing of General Chapter 23

The whole Province has received the gems that were brought from the General Chapter 23 by our two representatives Sr. Isabella Suja, Provincial and Sr. Rosina Susngi, Delegate. The sharing of the GC 23 was done for the Sisters of the whole province in five groups from December 2014 to June 2015.

Besides giving us a quick look at the various events of GC XXIII, the sharing was more centred on the Chapter document *Allargate lo sguardo* [Broaden your vision/horizon] Missionaries of hope and joy with the young. We were enthused with the underlying significance of the Icon of Emmaus as depicted in the painting of Elda Broilo, a Scalabrinian nun of Brazil. The points that we carried home were:

Like the disciples of the Emmaus – we narrated our experience as we listened to the actual call of God and looked at the world with hope.

We live at the time of great changes where hunger and thirst for God and spirituality is very strong and we are strongly invited to see:

- a. The Educating Community as a place of encounter and synergy.
- b. The Youth, our holy ground
- c. The need for a new style of animation and government

All these lead to Readiness to change our mentality through

- Our encounter with Jesus
- Rediscovering together the presence of God
- taking the part of the Young
- Seeing reality from a viewpoint of the side-lined (marginalized)
- Understanding authority and animation in its genuine sense
- Giving a renewed attention to formation
- Strengthening our skills at communication, which must be done courageously and truthfully.



Finally, Post GC 23 is a time to put ourselves onto a journey:

- To be transformed by the encounter
- Together with the Young
- Missionaries of hope and joy

And to have the courage to come together for Prophetic Action.

We have travelled along with the disciples of Emmaus and through the encounter with Jesus have opened up our eyes (vision) and broaden our horizons to the reality that confronts us in the day to day living out of our Salesian charism. We seek to be more authentic to our vocation as we heed the clarion call of GC 23 and make of every community, a home that evangelizes. May Mary our Mother accompany us in our journey to be missionaries of hope and joy with the young!

Don Bosco

Education is a matter of the Heart

Sr. Celine D'Cunha fma

Introduction

Fr. Duvallet, who was a close collaborator of Abbe' Pierre (Founder of Emmaus Movement started in 1949 to help poor, homeless people and refugees) in the work of re-education of delinquent youth, made once a significant appeal to the Salesians: "You have works, colleges, Youth Centres, oratories for young people, but your real treasure is one and only: the Pedagogy of Don Bosco. In a world in which youngsters are betrayed, drained, ground down and exploited, the Lord has entrusted to you a pedagogy in which the paramount aspect is respect for the young person, for his/her greatness and frailty, for his/her dignity as a child of God.

Preserve it, renew it, rejuvenate it, enrich it with all modern discoveries; adapt it to all the developments of the twentieth century and their ramifications that Don Bosco could not be aware of. But I beg you to keep it safe! Change everything, let your houses go if necessary, but keep this treasure and build up in thousands of hearts this way of loving and saving the souls of young people which you have inherited from Don Bosco." Very challenging words with a lot of significance!

What is this novel educational system? It is Don Bosco's way of pedagogical-pastoral art, since he translated the ardent charity of his priestly ministry into a practical form of the education of young people. Pedagogy is an art that requires a real talent. It is not a question of fixed or magic formulae, but rather a combination of gifts and intuitions, talents and abilities, observances and experiences, knowing one's time and capable of adapting them, that makes the person capable of an educational venture. That is the treasure that has touched the lives of millions of people and has had great results in 130 countries throughout the world. This proves that there is something perennial in the Educational method

of Don Bosco which is capable of transformation. According to Guy Avanzini, a French Pedagogue, "The pedagogy of the 21st Century will be either Salesian or not at all."

What is this Pedagogy that we call 'The Preventive System'?

The Preventive System can be termed as the sum total of the convictions, beliefs, celebrations, spirituality and lived experiences of Don Bosco with his young people and collaborators for a long period of about fifty years. It is not some kind of an abstract theory, but a specific way of living and relating, of being and doing, of learning and teaching, of praying and celebrating with the young people in a family-like atmosphere, with the aim of making them good and honest citizens, worthy of God and worthy of one's nation.

The Preventive System is the synthesis of the complete thought and pastoral action of Don Bosco, as such it is Spirituality – a way of life; it is a Pedagogy – a method of education; and it is a style of Pastoral action that cares for the integral (intellectual, moral, social, spiritual) formation of the young person.

More than being some kind of treatise, the Preventive System is something that can be most clearly seen in the life and action of Don Bosco. Nevertheless it can be part of the life and action



of anyone today who would wish to emulate Don Bosco.

In his first encounter with Minister Urban Rattazzi, Don Bosco presents his educational method as one of the most effective methods in the education and formation of young people, a valuable means of making them complete human beings.

Don Bosco's first encounter with Minister Urban Rattazzi

It was a Sunday morning in the month of April of the year 1854, about ten-thirty. The young people of the Boarding School with many who attended during the day were in Church for the second time. They had their prayer moments and were listening to Don Bosco, who was a wonderful orator, could keep his listeners spellbound.

He was narrating to them an episode from Church History. In the meantime, a gentleman came in through the main door of the Church, one whom no one recognized, not even Don Bosco. He sat himself down on one of the pews provided for those who came to the Church and stayed there listening to Don Bosco till the end. When the instructions were over Don Bosco went up to his room. The unknown gentleman came out and met the young people and asked to speak to Don Bosco. A brief dialogue followed between Don Bosco and Rattazzi.

Don Bosco: May I know with whom I have the honour of speaking?

Rattazzi: With Rattazzi.

Don Bosco: With Rattazzi! With the great Rattazzi, Member of Parliament, Former Speaker of the House, and now Minister of the Crown?

Rattazzi: Precisely.

Don Bosco: (Smiling) Then I had better hold out my wrists for the handcuffs, and prepare myself for prison dark.

Rattazzi: For heaven's sake, why?

Don Bosco: Because of what Your Excellency heard a few moments ago in the Church....

Don Bosco's instructions were of interactive type. He would ask questions, in turn his young people would answer and get some feedback. That was the way, Don Bosco made sure that his young people understood what was being explained at the same time would draw some lessons from the instructions he gave. That morning in the Church one of the boys questioned Don Bosco about the existing political situation and of course, Don Bosco clearly but prudently explained the situation to them.

After this pleasant beginning, there followed a serious conversation lasting nearly an hour. Rattazzi plying Don Bosco with questions, had him recite chapter and verse how the Institution of the Oratory, and the Boarding school attached to it began, what were its aims, how had it progressed, what results



did it achieve. Being as he was a good-hearted man, he gained such a good impression of it all, that from that day onwards, he became the advocate and defender of the works of Don Bosco. This was a real stroke of good luck for Don Bosco, since Rattazzi was continuing to become a man of influence; the Oratory had such a great support from him.

Among the various questions asked of Don Bosco by Mr. Urban Rattazzi, in the above-mentioned conversation, one concerned the means he used to keep order among the many young people who flocked to the Oratory.

Rattazzi: Does not Your Reverence have at his orders, at least two or three constables in uniform, or in civilian dress?

Don Bosco: I have absolutely no need of them, Your Excellency.

Rattazzi: Is that possible? But these youngsters of yours are simply no different from young people everywhere. They also will, to say the least, be unruly, troublesome, quarrelsome. What censures, what punishments to use then, to restrain them, to prevent disorders?

Don Bosco: Most of these young people are as smart as they come, as the saying is. Notwithstanding this, here we do not use violence, or punishment of any kind.

Rattazzi: This seems to be a mystery. Explain the secret!

Don Bosco: Your Excellency would know that there are two systems of education; one is called repressive system, the other is called the preventive system. The former sets itself to educate people by force, by repression, by punishment, when they break the law, when they commit a crime. The latter seeks to educate them with kindness, and gently helps them to observe the law, and it provides them with the most suitable and efficacious means for the purpose. This is precisely the system we use. Above all, here we try to inculcate in the hearts of the young the holy fear of God. We motivate them with love for virtue and horror of vice by teaching them their Religion, and with appropriate moral instruction. One directs them on the path of good and sustains

them with opportune and kindly counsel, and especially with the life of prayer and religion. Over and above this, we surround them, as far as possible, with loving assistance at recreation, in the classroom, at the workplace. We encourage them with kindly words, and at the first signs they are neglecting their duties, we remind them in a kind way, and recall them to a good way of behaving. In a word, we do all the things Christian charity suggests so that they might do good and avoid evil, ruled by a good conscience and supported by religion.

Rattazzi: Certainly this is the best method of educating rational beings, but does it serve for everyone?

Don Bosco: For ninety out of a hundred this system offers consoling results. On the other ten nevertheless, it has such a good influence as to make them less stubborn and less dangerous, because of which only occasionally do I have to send a young person away as untameable and incorrigible. So much so that in this Oratory, as in Porta Nuova and Vanchiglia, young people arrive or are brought, who either on account of a bad disposition or refusal to be led, or even those who through sheer malice were the despair of their parents and their employers and who before many weeks are out, were no longer the same; from wolves, so to speak, they change into lambs.

Rattazzi: It is a pity that the Government is not able to adapt this system for use in their penal establishment in which hundreds of guards are needed to prevent disorders. And the prisoners get worse every day.

Don Bosco: And what prevents the Government from following this system into its penal establishments? Bring Religion into it; set down appropriate times for Religious Instructions and prayers. Let the one in-charge give to these things the importance they deserve. Let God's Ministers (Priests) come in frequently, and let them mix freely with these poor souls and let them hear a word of love and peace, and then the preventive system will be well and truly in use. After a while the guards will have little or nothing to do, but the government will be able to boast that it has given back so many good-living and useful people to their families and to society. Otherwise it spends good money in order to correct and punish for more or less prolonged period difficult and blameworthy people, and when they will have been set free, it will have to follow them and keep them under surveillance in order to protect itself from them, because they are ready to do worse. I know well, that promoting this system is not a task assigned to your Excellency's Department. But a remark from you, a word from you, will always carry great weight in the deliberation of the Ministry of Public Instruction.

Given the favourable occasion, Don Bosco indicated to the Minister the usefulness of the Preventive System, especially in the Public Schools and houses of education where one is dealing with souls still innocent of sin, souls that willingly resound to the voice of persuasion and love.

Mr. Rattazzi listened with keen interest to these and other remarks of Don Bosco. He was completely convinced of the goodness of the system in use in the Oratories and promised that for his part he would cause it to be preferred to any other in the Government Institutions. (to be continued)



Dots per inch (dpi) - The number of electronic dots per inch that a printer can print effecting resolution. The higher the dpi, the higher the resolution.

Free circulation - A publication sent to customers without their need to pay for it.

Frequency discount - A discounted advertising rate that is given by media to advertisers for placing multiple ad placements within a given time frame.

Gutter - The blank space between margins of facing pages of a publication or the blank space between columns of text .

Insert - A one-page or multi-page print advertisement that is distributed and inserted into a publication.

Island Ad/Position - A print advertisement surrounded entirely by editorial and not other ads.

Key Number - A code placed in an advertisement to facilitate tracking data.

Magazine Supplement - A separately printed magazine section inserted into a newspaper. Supplements can be produced both locally and nationally.

Net Paid Circulation - A term used by ABC for the circulation of a publication to indicate the number of copies sold per issue both in subscription and newsstands.

Paid circulation - The number of printed copies that are purchased by readers in a given time period.

Pass-along readership - Readers of a publication in addition to the initial buyer. Also called Secondary Audience.

Preprint - Advertising inserts that are printed in advance of the regular press run and then combined with the final publication just prior to distribution.

Publisher's Statement - A notarized statement from the publisher of total circulation, geographic distribution, method of getting subscriptions, etc.

Readership - The percent or number of persons who read a publication or advertisement.

Readers Per Copy - Number of readers per one copy of a newspaper or magazine.

Regional Edition - A national publication's geographic-specific section that provides circulation in a certain geographic area.

Supplement - A newspaper section in magazine format inserted prior to distribution.

Tabloid - A newspaper format that's roughly half the size of a broadsheet newspaper. Approximate size of a standard newspaper folded in half.

Tearsheet - A publication page with an advertiser's message, sent to the advertiser as proof of accurate placement.

"If life becomes hard, soften it with random acts of kindness." - Michael Levy

“Young People Hope of the World”

Young people hope of the world
Shine bright like a star in front of all
The future is in your hands:
To lead the nation and rule over the lands.
Live your youthful life to the full,
Waste not your talents protect your soul.
Be on your guard from all temptations:
You may receive the eternal salvation

Truly to be young is a special gift
That every youth from God they receive
It is a life that God Himself has called
To be the hope and light of all.
Trust in the Lord at all time,
'midst of sufferings of every kind.
'coz with God you'll be a hero
Without God you'll be a zero

Give good example to the younger
generations
And be a blessing for all the nations.
Work for justice, not for glory and fame;
That forever the world will remember
your name.
Choose the right path in every moment of
your life,
Be good and God will be close at your side.
Then later on your future will be bright;
And forever you'll be happy in your life.

Bisilda Iawphniaw (Postulant)

Young age is the special gift of God
Let us praise and thank the Lord
Youth of this world you are our hope
Where our future continue to live with love

Young you are so bright
You are full of treasure inside
You who can change the world
For the betterment of all

Don't waste your time and capacity
Strive ahead though with much difficulty
Work harder with open mind
Walk further to all our land

Young people have the big responsibility
Sit not but work with dignity
Shake not your head when you see
Wake up and stand with fidelity.

Young people, hope of the world
Let not your life be lost in trouble
Live only for a short distance
The tomorrow will be your sweet
experience.

Merryhun Rynshon (Postulant)

FMA-INS info welcomes back Sr.
Isabella Suja, our Provincial to the
Province. Dear Sister we continue
to accompany you with our prayers
for your speedy recovery.





Inauguration of Dholai Mission, 9 April 2015



FIDELITY AND LOVE
UNTO THE END

Sr. Bernadette S. Sangma

Born : 17 March 1962

Professed : 5 August, 1984

Died : 27 April, 2015



PURSUING
THE
LORD
TILL THE
END

