

BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL, PROVINCE OF DELHI

# Dialogue

No. 115 (For private circulation only)

July-September, 2023



## 13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter

held from 06-09 September 2023 at Montfort Villa, Bhopal



Launching of the Province website  
by the Assistant General



XIII Provincial Chapter Preparatory  
committee in meeting.



## Editor's Note



The most significant event in our province from July – Sept 2023 was the successful organisation of the **13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter** from 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023. In his concluding remarks, **Rev. Bro. Pratap Reddy**, the Assistant

General was highly appreciative of the quality work done by the Chapter Preparatory Committee headed by Bro. Jose Thottiyil. Rev. Bro. Pratap Reddy added that they made complex things very simple. He also congratulated **Rev. Bro. Thampy Alex**, the provincial for the leadership given in all the areas of the Provincial Chapter.

**Rev. Bro. Provincial**, in his message to the province exhorts, “As we have just concluded our 13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter on the theme, ‘Montfortian Prophetic Presence in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’ let us reflect and see if St. Louis de Montfort were to be alive today, what would be his reaction to our present world?”

In line with the theme of our 33<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter, **Pope Francis** invites every baptized person to live as a modern-day prophet, live as a witness of Jesus to others. In his Angelus address on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 the Pope recalled that at our Baptism, each of us received “the gift of prophetic mission.” He further added, “A prophet is a living sign who points God out to others, a prophet is a reflection of Christ’s light on the path of his brothers and sisters.” He invites every baptized person to introspect and see if he/she lives as a witness of Jesus. He further asks, “Do I bring a little bit of light into the life of another person?”

**Bro. Sunil Kumar Ekka**, who had attended the recent MGA International Meet at St. *Laurent – Sur – Sevre*, France gives a write up about that Meet in this issue. He says that they had two days of preparatory programme at MSC, Bengaluru prior to their departure to France. The six days of intensive programme at St. Laurent was designed to give the Associates an experience of togetherness as Montfortians to

create synergy among the Associates. The participants found the sessions quite enriching and beneficial as they were dealt with by the experts on the spirituality and charism of our Founder.

The Oxfam Report dated 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 says that **11 people die of hunger each minute around the globe** and that the number **facing famine-like conditions** around the globe had **increased six times in 2020**. The report listed a number of countries as ‘**the worst hunger hot spots**’ including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen – all embroiled in conflict.

**Bro. N.A. James** from Tanzania gives us an idea of mob justice in this issue. It is the practice of justice by ordinary people without the sanction of law enforcing authority on a person or persons they think have committed a crime or any anti-social activity. This practice is more common in those countries where law and order are not in place or the law enforcing authorities are highly corrupt.

As in the previous editions of DIALOGUE, this issue also carries a hymn (No. 91) composed by **Bro. Emmanuel P.J.** This hymn is based on Mt.11:28-30 and II Cor 4:7-15. I would like to quote here the last stanza of it:

“Gentle Lord, you invite us to rest  
You free us from all our strife and strains  
You let us enter Princely realm  
Sans borders, burdens and beyond strains.”

I am glad to mention that the current edition of DIALOGUE also carries news from all the communities of the province except Raipur. It is very heartwarming to read the contributions from Vidyadeep, Bengaluru and Krist Jyoti College, Bengaluru besides the news from Eachinkadu and Sitagarh novitiates.

I take this opportunity to **sincerely thank** those readers who have taken trouble to give feedbacks about the previous edition of DIALOGUE.

Have a pleasant reading of DIALOGUE No.115!

**Bro. T.T. Mathew, SG, Editor**



## Message from the Provincial



Dear Brothers,

As we have just concluded our 13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter on the theme, 'Montfortian Prophetic Presence in 21<sup>st</sup> Century' let us reflect and see if St. Louis de Montfort were to be alive today what would be his reaction to this world. St. Montfort who lived in 17<sup>th</sup> &

18<sup>th</sup> centuries, was known for his devotion to the Virgin Mary and his contributions to Marian theology. It's challenging to predict how he would have reacted if he were alive today, as his response would have depended on various factors, including his personal beliefs and the context of the modern world.

However, we can make some educated guesses about how a devout figure like St. Montfort might have reacted to certain aspects of the contemporary world:

**1. Technological Advancements:** St. Montfort might marvel at the technological progress and communication tools of the modern era. He may see the potential for using technology to spread religious messages and connect with a global audience.

**2. Social and Moral Issues:** He might express concern about some of the moral and ethical challenges facing society today, such as issues related to family, the sanctity of life, and social justice. His reaction would likely align with traditional Catholic teachings.

**3. Inter-faith Dialogue:** St. Montfort might be interested in the efforts of contemporary inter-faith

dialogue and the pursuit of greater religious tolerance and understanding. He might advocate for

respectful dialogue and cooperation among different faith traditions.

**4. Marian Devotion:** Given his deep devotion to the Virgin Mary, St. Montfort might continue to promote Marian devotion in the modern Catholic Church. He might find ways to adapt and renew his teachings for the current generation.

**5. Charity and Service:** St. Montfort's commitment to serving the poor and marginalized would likely continue in today's world. He might support and participate in charitable efforts aimed at alleviating poverty and suffering.

**6. Environmental Concerns:** He might express concern for the environment and advocate for responsible stewardship of the planet, in line with the Church's teachings on caring for God's creation.

**7. Cultural Changes:** Depending on his views, St. Montfort might have varying reactions to changes in culture, art, and entertainment. He might appreciate aspects that align with Christian values while expressing reservations about others.

It's important to remember that St. Montfort's beliefs and actions would be influenced by the developments and challenges of the contemporary world. His response would be shaped by his faith, values, and the need to address the spiritual and moral needs of the present day, just as he did in his own time.

Hence dear Brothers, why not we as his followers do take up these challenges and act upon like the 21<sup>st</sup> century prophets? Let's try and be an ardent follower of St. Montfort.

**Bro. Thampy Alex, SG  
Provincial Superior**

## The Readers Write

**D**ear Bro. T.T. Mathew,  
Thank you for sending the Dialogue. It made interesting reading, though I did not know there were so many new institutions administered by the Brothers. Well done. God Bless.

**Mr. Joseph Pathiyil, Canada**

**T**hank you for the regular disbursement of Dialogue to

me. It enhances my knowledge on a regular basis. I am happy to know the progress of the Province in the right direction. It's been 17 years since I worked in Delhi Province. Dialogue helps me catch with all the Brothers and institutions.

Kudos to the Provincial and his team. Congrats to all the Brothers and staff at various institutions of the Province.

**Suresh Reddy Thumma,  
Hyderabad.**

**I** genuinely appreciate your willingness to contribute a soft copy of DIALOGUE no. 114 every direction possible. Your dedication and hard work have been reaching out near and far worldwide helping our BSG community to be connected closely with the updated

information. Applaud your journalistic skill. May God be with you at all times, Brother! **Chachaval Sudjai, Bangkok, Thailand**

**G**reetings. Thanks for the e-copy of IND Province Bulletin.

Congratulations for regularly bringing out the colourful and news-filled 'Dialogue'.

Keep up your good work.

Hope to see you in November in Yercaud. Kind regards, fraternally,

**Bro. Paul Raj, SG, Novice Director**, Eachinkadu Novitiate, Ondikadai P.O., Yercaud, Salem Dt. Tamil Nadu, Pin: 636 602

**R**espected Brother Mathew, Thank you so much for publishing a beautiful article about my Singapore tour. A wide spectrum of learned people might have viewed this. I am indeed very happy and excited about your nice gesture. Thank you very much once again.

With Warm Regards

**Dr. R. K. Mitra**  
Montfort Inter College,  
Mahanagar, Lucknow

**R**eceived the copy of 'Dialogue' April – June 2023 issue. I was extremely happy to read the Dialogue and to get know the remarkable service that our

Brothers are rendering in the field of education.

I feel, 'Dialogue' has increased its charm and glamour with varieties of contents.

Thank you, Brother, for sending me a soft copy of it.

Prayers & regards,

**Mr. Joshy Jose, Principal,**  
**St. Thomas' School (ICSE),**  
**Mangalamcarp, Chulliyode**  
**P.O., Sulthan Bathery,**  
**Wayanad, Kerala- 673592.**

**T**hank you for mailing me the dialogue, also adding the writeup I had sent. Enjoyed reading and updating the happenings in the province.

**Mr. V. J. Joseph, Chennai, T.N.**

## Pope Francis:

# Do you 'live as a witness of Jesus?'

Pope Francis spoke to an estimated 15,000 people about "the gift of the prophetic mission" during his weekly Angelus address.

Vatican City, Jul 2, 2023



Every baptized person is called to be a modern-day prophet, living as a witness of Jesus to others, Pope Francis said on Sunday.

In his Angelus address July 2, the pope recalled that at our baptism, each of us received "the gift of the prophetic mission."

The pope, addressing an estimated 15,000 pilgrims and tourists gathered in St. Peter's Square, said a prophet is not a kind of magician who can tell the future.

"This is a superstitious idea and a Christian does not believe in superstitions, such as magic, tarot cards, horoscopes, and other similar things," he said, lamenting that "many, many Christians go to have their palms read."

"A prophet is a living sign who points God out to others, a prophet is a reflection of Christ's light on the path of his brothers and sisters," he explained, inviting everyone to ask themselves: "Do I live as a witness of Jesus?"

"Do I bring a little bit of his light into the life of another person? Do I evaluate myself on this? I ask myself: What is my bearing witness like, what is my prophecy like?" he said.

Pope Francis gave his weekly Sunday address and recited the Marian prayer, the Angelus from a window of the Apostolic Palace.

He said not only are each of the baptized called to be prophetic witnesses of Christ, they also should welcome other Christians in their identity as prophets.

"It is important to welcome each other as such, as bearers of God's message, each one according to his state and vocation, and to do it right where we live — that is, in the family, in the parish, in the religious community, in other places in the Church and in society," he said.

"The Spirit," he added, "has distributed gifts of prophecy in the holy people of God. This is why it is good to listen to everyone."

His advice for making an important decision is to pray about it first of all and to call on the Holy Spirit.

"But then listen and dialogue trusting that each person, even the littlest, has something important to say, a prophetic gift to share," Francis said. "Thus, the truth is sought and the climate of listening to God and our brothers and sisters is spread."

People should feel accepted and valued because they are gifts, he said, not only because they say what we like to hear.

Pope Francis said we could avoid or resolve a lot of conflicts by listening to others with the desire to understand.

"So, finally, let us ask ourselves: Do I know

how to welcome my brothers and sisters as prophetic gifts?" he said. "Do I believe that I need them? Do I listen to them respectfully, with the desire to learn? Because each of us needs to learn from others."

After praying the Angelus, Pope Francis recalled the importance of continuing to pray for peace around the world.

"Even in this summer time, let us not tire of praying for peace, in a special way for the Ukrainian people, [who are] so worn out."

"And let us not neglect the other wars, unfortunately often forgotten," he added, "and the numerous conflicts and clashes that bloody many places on earth."

"Let us take an interest in what is happening, let us help those who are suffering, and let us pray, for prayer is the gentle force that protects and sustains the world," he concluded.



## St. Francis', Bhopal

Bro. Antonysam, SG

Greetings from St. Francis' School and Community, Bhopal and prayerful wishes to you all! A good education not only teaches basic life skills but also helps to broaden horizons, gain better perspective and teaches students to think for themselves. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to reason critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."

We had staff meeting and teachers' seminar on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The school staff meeting is actually a vital forum that fosters collaboration, professional growth and a shared commitment to the

success of every student. In the meeting together we exchanged ideas, strategies and strengthened our bonds as a cohesive team - all in service of creating a positive and nurturing learning environment.

Our school reopened on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 for 6 to 12<sup>th</sup> class students. The school gates swung open, welcoming back eager minds after a refreshing summer break. Like those butterflies returning to their favorite blossoms, students were excited to be back to the school grounds, filled with renewed enthusiasm. As the school reopened its doors, it became a painting of possibilities, where each student's potential is nurtured and guided towards a brighter tomorrow.

A heat wave is not merely a meteorological phenomenon; it's a sharp reminder of the pressing need to address climate change and protect our planet's fragile ecosystem. Thus, due to heat wave the M.P. government had declared holiday for students of 1 to 5<sup>th</sup> class till 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

The Van Mahotsav was celebrated in our school on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. The Environmental Day celebrations in schools serve as powerful platform to educate and empower the next generation about the importance of preserving our planet and instilling a sense of environmental protection. Through engaging activities, workshops and awareness campaigns, students and staff unite to take adequate action, promoting sustainable practices that contribute to a greener and more sustainable future for all.





Our students participated in the city level Yoga Diwas celebration on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023, at Lal Pared Ground, Bhopal. The International Yoga Day, honors the ancient practice of yoga and its numerous physical, mental and spiritual benefits. On this special day, people from all walks of life come together to participate in yoga sessions, promoting holistic well-being and embracing the harmony between mind, body and soul.



We had organized Annual Art, Science and Craft exhibition on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in memory of 350<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of our founder, St. Montfort. The school Art and Craft exhibition served as a captivating showcasing of creativity, talent and innovation, providing students with a platform to express themselves artistically and build self-confidence.

Beyond being a mere display, this exhibition fostered a sense of appreciation for artistry and craftsmanship, encouraging students to explore diverse media and techniques, nurturing their artistic potential. Through the process of planning, creating and presenting their artworks, students develop critical thinking, problem-solving and presentation skills, making the exhibition a holistic learning experience that goes beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023, we had election of House Leaders by students of class 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> standards. Electing School House leaders was a valuable democratic process that empowered students to take on leadership roles and actively contribute to the school community. This election process instilled a sense of responsibility, teamwork and accountability in students, adopting a positive school culture and providing them with opportunities for personal growth and development.

We had fancy dress competition for class 1 and 2 on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2023 and on the same day we also had solo dance competition for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> classes. As the stage came alive with a kaleidoscope of colors and creativity, the fancy dress and dance competition in school became a magical celebration of imagination and talent. In the rhythm of each graceful step and the glimmer of every costume, the students shined like stars, making the fancy dress and dance competitions a mesmerizing spectacle that left hearts filled with joy and admiration. All the winners were given prizes and certificate of excellence.

We had organized the investiture ceremony on 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2023. The Chief Guest was Advocate Mr. Enosh George Carlo who is a well-known lawyer of

Center and State governments concerning National Green Tribunal and served as a Special Public Prosecutor. He gave an inspiring speech for our children and honored house leaders with badges and handed over the flags. The Principal, Bro. Cyriac NT gave away the cash prize as award for our 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> class Board Exam topper students.

The investiture ceremony in school was an elegant affair, where young leaders donned their badges of responsibility, igniting a flame of hope and promise for a brighter future. Amidst an aura of pride and reverence, the investiture ceremony embraced a seamless blend of tradition and modernity, empowering the student council to lead with grace and distinction.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023, we celebrated Independence Day in the school. The 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Independence was a resplendent spectacle of unity and patriotism. The day began with the hoisting of the National Flag by Bro. Cyriac, the Principal accompanied by singing of the national anthem. The students participated in cultural programs, gave emotive speeches and sang patriotic songs which echoed the spirit of freedom. The day's celebration was a testament to the enduring pride and commitment of the people towards our nation's sovereignty.

Now a days, we have regular classes going on and every month we organize parent-teacher meeting wherein our parents interact with teachers to discover the academic progress of their wards. We had completed first term test and on 5<sup>th</sup> August and organized parent-teachers meeting. Wish you all a Happy and Fruitful Academic Year!

## St. Gabriel's, Jabalpur

Bro. George Pottakaran, SG

Greetings and best wishes to all the readers of Dialogue. St. Gabriel's Hr. Sec. School re-opened after the summer vacation on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 for the teachers. Teachers had two days of seminar on June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> by experts in subjects. The students were supposed to join the school on 15<sup>th</sup>, but the reopening of the school was postponed to 21<sup>st</sup> June due to extreme heat wave. The students came back

to the school with renewed enthusiasm and vigor after the long summer vacation. The campus became alive with various activities which were missing during the vacation. Along with teaching and learning, students also develop various life skills through various activities in the school; singing, dance, elocution, debate, extempore, painting, Rakhi making, sports, games, etc. are regularly organized to enhance their talents and skills.

The Independence Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August was celebrated with great enthusiasm and fanfare. On 14<sup>th</sup> August the students of Pre-Primary, Primary, Middle and Higher Secondary had cultural programs and on 15<sup>th</sup> August it was the turn of Class- XI to organize the Independence Day program. It was a day of great happiness. The students took pride in honoring the great leaders and freedom fighters; Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Subhash Chandra Bose, Bhagat Singh and many others who led from the front the freedom struggle of our country and the students promised to safeguard the unity, diversity and sovereignty of our nation.

5<sup>th</sup> Sept., the birthday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> President of India, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan is celebrated as the Teachers' Day in India. It is a day dedicated to teachers. The students showed their respect and regard for their teachers by felicitating them. The students of Pre-Primary, Primary, Middle and Higher Secondary organized cultural programs for their teachers and honoured them respectfully. Class- XII students took this opportunity to honor and show regard to not only those who are teaching them now but also those who taught them earlier in smaller classes. Some students who had passed out from the School also came to wish their former teachers. The local MLA, Mr. Rohani visited the school and honoured the teachers with shawl and mementos. He appreciated and congratulated the School Management and the teachers for the service rendered to the society. The day ended with a sumptuous lunch for the teachers.

The Cubs-Bulbul overnight camp was held in the school on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of September. Nearly 80 students from primary classes took part in it. Mrs. Bella Rajan, the Primary coordinator organized the programs well, with the help of other teachers. The program was so good that the children didn't want to leave the campus even after the camp.

The students of St. Gabriel's have been participating in the Jabalpur Sahodaya Schools Complex's sports and cultural activities regularly. They have already participated in activities like; Extempore, Mime, Elocution, Debate, Group Song, Chess, Table Tennis and Volleyball. The students stood 1<sup>st</sup> in Mime (VIII-XII), Table Tennis- 2<sup>nd</sup> in Boys and Girls (VIII-XII) and the Championship Trophy, Elocution- 1<sup>st</sup> and Chess- 1<sup>st</sup> (Under 14 and under 19) and the Championship Trophy. There are



many more competitions in the days to come. The students have just completed their 1<sup>st</sup> Semester examinations on 19<sup>th</sup> September. The PTM will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> October in which the results will be given.

Our community is quite vibrant and active. Our active participation in the School and Parish community is well appreciated. Bros. Emmanuel, Joy Joseph and George Pottakaran are actively involved in the school activities and are always available in the school. The four Young Bros. Firoj, Neelesh, Blasius and Anand; who attend the regular College, take active participation in the Parish activities like participation in the Small Christian Community prayers on every Monday, coordinating the Sunday Catechism for the Catholic students of the parish with MGA members of the parish, house visits, etc.

Bros. Emmanuel and Joy Joseph attended the Superiors and Principals meeting in Bhopal on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of July. The registration of half acre land next to the school is complete and these days we use it for parking the cycles and bikes of students. We also have registered in our name another seven and half acres of land next to the land we purchased earlier. Hence, we have a total of sixteen and half acres of land there now.

Bro. George Pottakaran had been to St. Laurent Sur-Sevre in France for the International Associates' Conference. He left for Bangalore on 31<sup>st</sup> July and after three days of orientation program there left for Paris on 4<sup>th</sup> August. The conference was held at St. Laurent Sur-Sevre from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August. It was an Inter Congregational meeting for the Associates. The conference was well organized and was very enriching. He had the opportunity to visit Lourdes and places related to our Founder, Montfort. He also had the opportunity to visit Frankfurt, Cologne, Limburg and Koblenz in Germany. He came back to community on 20<sup>th</sup> August. It was an enriching and memorable experience for him.

Bros. Emmanuel P J, George Pottakaran and Joy Joseph took part in the Provincial Chapter held at Bhopal from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of September. The Chapter was a very fruitful and rich in experience.

The Montfort Gabrielite Associates of Jabalpur met for a prayer session on 12<sup>th</sup> September and all the 36 members were present for it. The meeting





started with 30 minutes of prayer and there after Bro. George shared his experience of the International Associates Conference held at St. Laurent Sur-Sevre, France. Then the members discussed about some of the activities planned in the previous meeting held in July 2023. The members agreed to help three poor and needy students of our school with their school fees and necessary stationary items. They also have finalized a walking Pilgrimage to Infant Jesus Shrine at Holy Trinity Church, Bhawartal, Jabalpur. The date is yet to be finalized as it has to be on a holiday.

## Montfort, Delhi

Bro. James Pasala, SG

On 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 tree plantation drive was conducted in school. Eco-Club members & students of Classes VI to VIII participated in the drive.

On 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 welcome assembly (Primary) was conducted by students of Class 4-D. Motivational thoughts were shared by the students followed by a presentation based on the theme "Being Punctual."

On 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 special assembly was conducted by students of Class UKG- A to spread



awareness on importance of health.

On 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 the students of class 4 exhibited great skills and talents through the dance activity. There were contestants from all the four sections that showcased a variety of classical and contemporary dance forms. On 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 seminar was conducted for students of Class IX to XII on the topic, "Navigating



your Career Journey".

To beat the heat tang party of Pre-school and Pre-primary was held on 28.7.23. The teachers gave tang powder to children in their glasses. They added water and mixed it on their own. They drank the tang and enjoyed the party.

Students from Grades 1 and 2 Montfort School (Primary Department) enthusiastically participated in Show and Tell Activity on 02.8.23. This activity was organized to strengthen the verbal skills and to foster public speaking competencies of these young minds.

Story Enactment Activity was organized for classes III, IV and V on 9.8.2023. All the participants presented their stories creatively on the themes given to each class.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 special assembly was conducted on Independence. The assembly was infused with a burst of cultural vibrancy, as students presented a patriotic song, dance performances, and tribute to the freedom fighters.

In a mesmerizing display of boundless energy and uninhibited creativity, the youngest stars of pre-school and pre-primary recently took center stage in a delightful dance activity that left everyone in awe.

On August 21, 2023, an enthralling Mono Acting event took place in the Primary wing for students of Classes 3 to 5. The event was a celebration of creativity and talent,



showcasing young performers' ability to bring various characters to life on stage. The chosen themes for the performances included great personalities, historical characters, and mythological figures, adding an educational and artistic touch to the event.

The Primary Department of Montfort School felt proud to host its 26th Music Carnival on 23rd August 2023.

Pre-primary department had a Fruit chaat party on 24.8. 23. The teachers told the benefits of eating fruits. They encouraged them to eat fruits daily. Children brought fruits of their choice in the tiffin boxes.

Montfort School, Primary Wing conducted the Spellathon Competition on 26th August 2023 for Classes 1 and 2 and on 28th August 2023 for Classes 3 to 5. This activity gave learners a platform to learn spellings in different ways, enrich their vocabulary and develop the use of correct English. All the children tried to learn and spell the words correctly.

Inter-School Competition – Envisage 2023 was conducted on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. 17 schools participated in the competition with over 200 participants.

Raksha Bandhan or Rakhi is an important Hindu festival, dedicated to brothers and sisters. To commemorate the love shared between a brother and sister class 3B put up a spectacular lyrical play on this occasion.

Here To Parley! Inter School English Debate Competition was organized in school premises on 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

On September 4<sup>th</sup>, Teachers Day special assembly was conducted by the students of Primary wing, Middle wing, Senior wing.

On 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 a special assembly on the occasion of Janmashtami was conducted by the students of Senior Wing.



On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2023 National Council meeting was held at Montfort School, Delhi. After that the Provincial Chapter Preparatory Committee had meeting here on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2023.

On 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023 Provincial Council meeting was held here.

On 5<sup>th</sup> Sept we had teachers' day celebration in the school along with the students after which we had taken the teachers out for lunch in a restaurant. On the same day evening Bros. Joy Thomas and James Pasala travelled to Bhopal to attend the Provincial Chapter.

Bro. P.T. Joseph has not been keeping well these days and he is admitted in Holy Family Hospital, Delhi. Kindly remember him in your prayers.

## **St. Montfort, Bhopal**

Bro. Vijay Minj, SG

Greetings from St. Montfort Sr. Sec. School, Bhopal. After the summer vacation one day seminar for the Teachers was organized in our school on June 13, 2023. Teachers from classes Nursery to 12<sup>th</sup> attended it. It was sponsored by Navdeep publication. The resource person of the seminar was Dr. Samuel Roy. The resource person was welcomed by the Principal, Bro. Monachan K.K. A brief introduction of the chief speaker and purpose of the seminar was given by the Principal. At the end of the seminar Flora Fernandez, one of the teachers expressed our gratitude to Dr. Roy, Navdeep publications and to the Principal of the school through the vote of thanks.

The school is the second home of a student. Students spend a significant portion of their lives in school. All the students were assembled into the campus and a special assembly was conducted by the teachers of classes 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023. It was very touching to begin with a motivational prayer song and a special prayer thanking God for the excellent Board Exam results by the choir and senior coordinator Mrs. Jyoti V. Nair respectively.

"Success is not a matter of chance or a matter

of choice; it's rather a strong determination and will to achieve the desired goals."

With great pleasure and respect the Principal of the school was invited on to the stage to render his best wishes to the students for the season. He also welcomed the new Vice Principal Bro. Gregory Baa and the new staff members with bunches of flowers.



At this juncture of reopening, everyone was ready to hit the ground believing that there is no time to waste.

June 21st 2023 was celebrated as the Yoga Day with the theme ‘*Vasudeva kutumbakam*’ yoga for the welfare of all in the form of “one world, one family.” The day commenced with an outstanding assembly presented by the students of class 9th C with the help of class teacher. The topic of yoga “a way of living” in which they depicted the benefits of various Yoga Asanas and the great personalities in the field of Yoga. Overall, it served as a platform to raise awareness about the various benefits of practicing yoga.

St. Montfort School, primary wing reopened after summer break on 1st July 2023. Children walked into the campus for their journey towards joyous learning with bright and cheerful faces. Meeting their friends and exciting discussion added fuel to their energies for a sparkling start. The Vice Principal, Bro. Gregory Baa addressed all the students and motivated them for a happy prosperous & successful year ahead.

**Van Mahotsav Day:** “Trees are the saviors of our life”. On 3rd July, with the true spirit in the premises we celebrated Van Mahotsav in its special



morning assembly.

The special assembly started with the prayer followed by the special prayer song and

the Chief Guest, Mr. Rajesh Prasad Mishra, retired IAS Officer and State Secretary Bharat Scouts & Guides, MP, Mr. B.L. Sharma, State Training Commissioner, Scouts, Bharat Scouts & Guides, MP were invited for the occasion. The Chief Guest of the day motivated students to love the nature and explained how to bring awareness about the green cover around us. Students got a lot to learn.

The tiny-tots of kindergarten presented their love for the nature through an action song. Followed by a dance by the students of classes 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> where they depicted the importance of trees and gave the message to love trees.

### **Investiture Ceremony 2023 - 2024**

In an inspiring display of leadership and empowerment, St. Montfort School, Bhopal held its highly anticipated investiture ceremony on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023, marking significant moment for the institution and its members.



The investiture ceremony commenced with lighting of lamp by the dignitaries followed by prayer song amidst a sense of grandeur as students, faculty members, esteemed guests, and parents gathered in the school to witness the dawn of a new era. The premises were adorned with decoration reflecting the colors and emblem of the institution, symbolizing the unity and pride of the newly elected cabinet. Excitement filled the air as everyone eagerly awaited the official induction of the student council and the subsequent announcement of their respective roles by the school Principal Rev. Bro. Monachan K.K. He graced the occasion with his valuable message for the new leaders and motivated them.

**Speech Competition:** On July 15<sup>th</sup> the students of class 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> had the objective speaking activity in order to strengthen their verbal skills, and to foster public speaking competencies of their young mind.

**Seminar for Moms of Teens:** Under the direction of the science club and the school counsellor, a seminar for adolescent girls and their moms from classes 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> was organised on July 15. The seminar was conducted to concentrate on three main topics: 1) physical changes that occur during adolescence, 2) the importance of nutrition and exercise, 3) social and emotional changes.

**Fancy Dress Competition:** With the aim to nurture children's creativity, the fancy dress competition was organized on 19<sup>th</sup> July, at primary



wing. 60 students came forward displaying their vibrant costumes based on the themes. Students were all charming and it was really nice watching them dressed up in different characters and walk on the stage.

**11th Montfort Cup Inter-School Quiz Contest-2023 (ENQUESTA 2K23):** “The whole world is a laboratory to the enquiring minds.” The 11th Montfort Cup Inter School Quiz Contest (Enquesta 2k23) was conducted on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2023. It is one of the much-awaited inter-school competitions organized by the school for the past many years. 11 reputed schools from Bhopal city had participated in the event. The major objective of this event was to emphasize on the improvement of the intellect and General Knowledge of the students.

**Raksha Bandhan Celebration:** “Rakhi is not just a thread; it’s a promise of love, protection and lifelong companionship.” To profess the deepest and noblest of all human emotions, the festival of Rakshabandhan was celebrated on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2023, with much zeal and enthusiasm. The program was conducted in all the three sections. The mellifluous songs and the graceful and expressive dance performances added fervor to the assembly. The whole ambience was consumed in the festive mood.

**Special Assembly on Janmashtami:** To mark the birth of Lord Krishna, the school celebrated Krishna Janmashtami on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2023 with much zeal and pomp. The celebration began with a devotional and a melodious prayer song and with various programs. The event was a fruitful one with everyone’s hard work. It brought devotion, creativity and enjoyment all together.

**Teachers’ Day Celebration:** Teachers’ Day was celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> September at primary wing and second shift Hindi Medium in a worthy manner and with full enthusiasm and zeal. In the senior wing it was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023. Programs started by remembering Almighty and then paying tribute to Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. An array of dazzling dances, skit, and music in the form of masterpieces were presented by the students. The day became more remarkable and special with the official unveiling of the silver jubilee magazine by the Principal accompanied by the editorial team which displayed the journey of 25 years of the school in the city of Lake.

The second half of the day was undoubtedly again celebrated with pomp and grandeur. Rev. Bro. Thampy Alex, the



Provincial Superior, was accorded a warm welcome by the school Principal. A rainbow of marvelous dances, retro, songs, games, ramp walk were the highlights of the event. The efforts of the teachers were remarkable, and finally the program was concluded with a few words of appreciation by Rev. Bro. T. Alex, the Provincial Superior of the Province of Delhi.

## Montfort, Ambikapur

Bro. Johnson Beck, SG

On 26 June 2023 the school re-opened after the summer vacation. The earlier date decided for the re-opening was 16 June but due to extreme heat the re-opening was postponed till 26 June. On the day of re-opening, we inaugurated the new classrooms, which were started building in the month March 2023. The inauguration of the classrooms was done in the presence of the architect Mr. Arjun and blessed by Fr. Satish, our Parish Priest.



2<sup>nd</sup> July was filled with happiness and joy to celebrate the birthday of our dear Bro. Johnson. We celebrated the birthday together with the Brothers from Banea community and religious and priests from neighbouring communities. We started with birthday prayer conducted by Bro. Pankaj and thereafter we had a fellowship dinner.

On the bright and beautiful morning of 7<sup>th</sup> July the investiture ceremony took place in our school. It was to help students to develop leadership qualities within. The ceremony started by the welcoming of the Chief Guest, Rev.Fr. William, the Vicar General of the diocese of Ambikapur and lighting of the lamp.

Internal Assessment took place in our school from 11 to 13 July 2023. At first it was well informed well in advance by the Principal, Bro. Shaji Joseph to the staff regarding the assessment going to be held. On 11<sup>th</sup> July the Committee reached the campus. The head of the Committee Bro. Mathew Montfort, S. G, and the members Bro. Albert Abraham, Bro. Sunil Kumar Ekka and Bro. Edmond Soreng were welcomed in the assembly. In these three days Brothers checked safety & security measures, all the documents and observed class room teaching and made assessment. On the last day of the assessment Bro. Mathew Montfort gave positive feedback.

Independent Day was celebrated in our school on 15 August with great patriotism. The school campus was beautifully decorated. All the students and teachers had gathered in the school ground at 9.00 A. M. for Flag hoisting. On this red-letter day, the Chief Guest was Sheela ma'am, the senior most teacher. After that match-past and band performance took place followed by cultural programs.

An awareness program was conducted in the school on 16 August 2023 on the adverse effect of the use of tobacco. The program was conducted in the newly constructed hall in the presence of the Principal and a few teachers.

On 26 August 2023, we conducted the first capacity building program on "Basic Life Skills" under the guidance of Bro. Shaji Joseph. There were two resource persons, Miss. Maya Mishra and Mr. Vishal Kumar Pandey. The program started at 9:30 A. M. with the introduction of the guests and lighting of the lamp. Hundred teachers participated in this programme some of the teachers came from Holy Cross school, Carmel school, and Vivekananda school.

## Montfort, Lucknow

Bro. Neeraj Lakra, SG

After the summer vacation the school re-opened for the staff on 26<sup>th</sup> June. We had one-day seminar for the teachers on the same day. The following day the students also started coming to school despite the heat. From 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June Bro. T.T. Mathew gave a seminar on yoga, mindful meditation, phonetics and English language for the teachers of St. Mary's Convent School, Gulaothi, Hapur, UP. They were 34 altogether including 02

Sisters. This is an upcoming institution, run by the FSLG Sisters. The participants and the Management were highly appreciative of this capacity building seminar.



The birthday of Bro. T.T. Mathew was celebrated in an appropriate manner on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Bro. Suraj Xalxo also was given farewell on the same day. Special Mass, cake cutting, birthday greetings both by the members of the community and the staff of MIC, MKG, and Montfort Primary were the highlights.

Bro. Suraj Xalxo left for Vidyajyoti, Delhi on 2<sup>nd</sup> night for his theological studies and he reached there safe and sound on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

We had been blessed with intermittent rains from the last week of June. In the first ten days of July rainfall in Lucknow soared to 45% above normal.

On 8<sup>th</sup> July 'Baal Shivir' was organized for the students and parents of class VI from 4.30 to 6.30 pm in the college auditorium. Most parents participated in this programme. The parents were enlightened about the transition of their wards from the Primary level to the Secondary level and the related challenges. The children also were kept occupied with certain educative group activities in the playground.

Our community was delighted to host **Provincial Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> July**. Rev. Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial and all the five councillors were present. We also had a community meeting in the presence of the members of the Provincial Council. During the meeting the Provincial appreciated the community for its disciplined life and committed service in the field of





education. He also made a mention of the richness of the community in terms of the wealth personality of its members. He exhorted the community to look into the possibility of educating the children of the marginalized group in the 2<sup>nd</sup> shift in the school or adopt a slum and cater to their educational needs.

The **Benedictine Sisters**, our collaborators, celebrated the feast of their patron, St. Benedict on 11<sup>th</sup> July with a special Eucharistic celebration at 5.45 am and inviting the priests and religious of our parish for a fellowship meal at 7.30 pm. **Sr. Jayanthi Lakra, OSB** is the new member of their community in the place of Sr. Joisy, OSB.

Bro. Neeraj Lakra had been to his native place, Banea from 3 – 9 July to enter his name in the family Ration card.

Bro. Jinu Abraham attended the Local Superiors' and Principals' meeting held at Montfort Villa, Bhopal on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> July. Bro. T.T. Mathew attended the Provincial Chapter Preparatory Committee meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July in Bhopal.

The 77<sup>th</sup> birthday of Bro. Patras Kujur was celebrated in a fitting manner on 26<sup>th</sup> July.



The Women's Association of the diocese of Lucknow had organized a **Silent Solidarity March** on 27<sup>th</sup> July in Lucknow to show their solidarity with the persecuted Christians especially women of Manipur. Bros. Jinu Abraham and T.T. Mathew participated in it.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug we had the assessment of our school by the committee consisting of Bros. Mathew Montfort (Convenor), Jose Thottiyil, Joy Thomas, Albert Abraham, Mr. M.O. George and another 13 Principals/Senior teachers from the neighbouring schools. They were cordially welcomed by the students of classes XI & XII in the auditorium on 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug morning. Due to rain we could not have assembly outside. Bro. Mathew Montfort addressed and motivated the students to nurture high self-esteem and self-confidence by having the self-talk, "I want to do it, I can do it and I will do it". He appreciated the discipline of the school. Everything went well as they had planned and they observed the classes of all the 80 teachers and went through all the records of the school in two days. Bro. Mathew Montfort also went through the feed backs from the

parents, students, teachers and the support staff. The consolidated report of the assessment is awaited.

Bro. T.T. Mathew had been to Montfort Villa, Bhopal from 12 – 15 Aug to attend the Bursars and accountants' meeting followed by the Provincial Chapter Preparatory Committee meeting.

"Freedom in the air, patriotism in the heart." The 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of our nation was celebrated with due preparation in a colourful manner in our college. The hoisting of the National Flag by the Principal, enthusiastic march past by the NCC cadets (Army, Navy and Air Force), Scouts & Guides, Cubs & Bulbuls, the college band), a short & captivating cultural programme by the students, a patriotic speech by Dr. Padmini Pandey, PGT, Hindi, and a befitting message by the Principal were the highlights.

On 19<sup>th</sup> Aug we had the final inter-section solo-dance competition for classes 6,7 & 8. The performance was so absorbing that one didn't know how 90 minutes passed!

On 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept we had impromptu speech competition for classes VI to VIII. The topic of class VI was simple, Class VII was slightly complex and of Class VIII was the more complex. But all the students tried to speak without prior preparation. It was a test of their fluency in English language, reading habit and general awareness. Most of the participants articulated their ideas well in a logical sequence. On the same day we had conducted SPELL BEE competition for classes IX & X.

"Teaching is the profession that creates all other professions." On 5<sup>th</sup> Sept the Teachers' Day was celebrated in a colourful manner. The students honoured their teachers in manifold ways. We had a suitable cultural programme from 9.00 - 10.00 am. All the teachers were given uniform waste coats (2each) as Teachers' Day gift. The support staff also were given two sets of uniform.

On the same evening Bros. Jinu Abraham and T.T. Mathew left for Bhopal to attend the 13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter. Bro. Jinu returned on 10<sup>th</sup> Sept and Bro. T.T. Mathew on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept.

On 9<sup>th</sup> Sept SPELL BEE Competition was organized for classes VI to VIII. It was intended to encourage students to learn the correct spelling and thus improve their writing skill.

14<sup>th</sup> Sept was celebrated as 'Hindi Diwas' by the students of classes IX -XII in the first two periods. These students presented a high standard program highlighting the contributions of major poets like Harivansh Rai Bachchan, Pandit Jayashankar Prasad, Ramdhari Sigh Dinkar and Sufi poets like Mirza Ghalib, Amir Khusrau and others to Hindi literature. The chanting of their devotional and patriotic poems with emotions and apt articulation



coupled with adequate gestures kept the audience spellbound. They also enlightened audience regarding the sound system & pronunciation in Hindi. They also brought out the importance of Hindi language in nation building. The inspiration behind the celebration was Dr. Padmini Pandey, PGT, Hindi. At the end of the program, Rev. Bro. Jinu Abraham, the Principal highlighted importance of mother tongue in communication of one's feelings and emotions. He exhorted students who are interested in Hindi literature to pursue it in their higher studies and contribute to the further growth of Hindi literature. He also congratulated all the participants and the teachers in charge of 'Hindi Diwas' celebration.

## St. Charles', Sardhana

Bro. Rakesh Sharma, SG

Dear readers, greetings from St. Charles Inter College, Sardhana. The school re- opened on 3rd June 2023 after the summer vacation. Bro. Jose Thottiyil, the Manager and Superior & Bro. Rakesh Sharma were accorded warm welcome with a mesmerizing song and colorful dances, beautiful bouquets, saplings and hand-made cards in Inter College and St. Francis' Primary School. At the end Bro. Jose thanked the students and teacher in charge of putting up such a lovely programme. In his motivational speech he urged and wished them to bloom wherever they are planted.

On 5th July we celebrated the birthday of Bro. Philip Thadathil. On this occasion we had a devotional Eucharistic celebration. The students, boarders, candidates and co- workers also wished him on his birthday.



This year PTA Meeting was organized on 6th August, 2023 in the school conference hall. The meeting started with a prayer song. The main objective of the PTA is to help enrich the school environment, fix fees structure and provide the school management with the required support.



The staff and the students of St. Charles Inter College participated with great zeal and enthusiasm in the 'Tree Plantation.' Bro. Jose Thottiyil along with the staff and students of various classes planted saplings in the school campus to raise the awareness among the students. The drive was a huge success, enlightening the students with substantial knowledge of the environment and plants.

A health camp was organized in our school for all the students to spread awareness about health check-up and maintaining a healthy life. Doctors along with the medical team examined the students. After the check up some of the required medicines were also provided to the students.



**Independence Day Celebration:** We celebrated the 76th Independence Day with great patriotic zeal and fervor. We had separate programmes organized for Inter College and Primary School. Notice Board competitions were organized to mark the 76th Independence Day of our nation. Bro. Alex Diamond, Director of Montfort Bhawan hoisted the National Flag. This was followed by the grand parade performed by the school cabinet. The school choir did a phenomenal job by singing famous patriotic songs.



**Visit of National Council:** After the National Council meeting, Our Major Superiors of Indian Provinces paid a short visit to our community and went around our campus. Bro. Jose elaborated the history of St. Charles Inter College to them. Some of the members made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Graces.



We had a joyful birthday celebration of Bro. Balla Francis on 30<sup>th</sup> August with zeal and enthusiasm. We had a special Mass in the parish and he was wished by the school staff, students and candidates. The Brothers of Delhi sector were invited to share the love of Christ and for blessings to be showered upon the birthday baby.



The birthday of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan was celebrated as Teachers' Day in a dignified atmosphere by the entire student council on 4th Sept 2023 at Primary School and Inter-College levels. Students had put up colorful programmes as a gesture of respect and gratitude to their teachers. The program ended with the lunch along with the St. Francis' Primary School Staff.

## Montfort, Roorkee

Mrs. Lizy Philip

**Workshop on Artificial Intelligence:** The Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) in Roorkee organized an enlightening workshop for the school students, on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023. A group of 25 students from the senior sections participated with lot of curiosity and enthusiasm. They were engaged in hands-on activities which triggered their curiosity and thirst for knowledge in this field. Five students not only participated actively but also showcased their talent in the quiz competition. Their excellent performance led them to clinch the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize.

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The workshop empowered the students with knowledge about artificial intelligence. It also instilled in them deeper understanding of its application in our rapidly evolving world.

**Science Symposium:** Montfort School, Roorkee hosted its annual Science Symposium on



26<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. The topic was 'Chemicals in Everyday Life'. The event brought together students and teachers from various schools of Haridwar district. A series of engaging discussions and presentations highlighted the profound influence of chemicals on various aspects of our lives, ranging from the food we consume to the products we use in our homes. The symposium shed light on both the positive and negative effects of chemicals. The Guest of Honour, Prof. Kaushik Ghosh, from IIT, Roorkee was full of praises for the students for the hard work they put in to make the symposium a resounding success. The event inspired the participants to think critically and act responsibly in a world where chemicals play an integral part in our daily routines.

**G20 Impact Summit "Unleashing the Potentials":** A workshop cum seminar was organized at IIT, Roorkee in collaboration with 'Think India' on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2023 on the topic 'G20 Impact Summit – Unleashing the Potentials'. Forty-four students from classes X &



XII accompanied by 2 teachers were privileged to attend this workshop. The event was graced by the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Mr. Pushkar Singh Dhami. This two-day event saw a gathering of well renowned speakers. The theme of the summit was

one earth, one family and one principle which is based on the ancient Indian philosophy of *Vasudeva kutumbakam*. Through various sessions and interactive forums, the Montfortians were given the opportunity to explore and discuss strategies for achieving long term sustainable growth and development both on national and global scale. This unique workshop left indelible memories in the minds of the students.

**Amazing Experience:** Amlan Subuddhi of Class IX was honoured with a unique opportunity to witness live scientific experiments at Indian Space



Research Organization (ISRO) in Bangalore on August 25, 2023. He observed a series of fascinating experiments. He also marveled at the deployment of advanced scientific instruments to study the moon's magnetic

field, gravitational anomalies and seismic activity. He also witnessed researchers remotely operate robotic explores, aiding in the exploration of lunar regions.

Amlan says that the experience left him with a deep appreciation for the scientists and engineers involved in these endeavours. This was an enriching and enlightening journey into the world of space research.

#### **Inter School Chess Competition:**

On August 25, 2023, Montfort School, Roorkee hosted an interschool chess competition. Hundred enthusiastic students from various schools in and around Roorkee participated in the same. This event gave a platform for young chess prodigies to showcase their strategic prowess and love for the game. It was evident that the students had prepared diligently for this event. In the end, Montfort School, Roorkee emerged victorious, securing the coveted overall position.



**Independence Day:** Montfort School celebrated the 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2023, with great fervor and patriotism. Principal Bro. Albert Abraham hoisted the National flag. This was followed by various cultural programmes, recitation of patriotic songs, *nukkad* and other stage performances based on historical events.

In his address the Principal highlighted India's

progress in various fields, emphasizing the importance..... Mutual respect, unity in diversity and love for the nation. He further exhorted the students to work together to build an India which our forefathers had envisioned. He also invited everyone to strive for excellence in everything and keep the flame of freedom burning in our hearts.

**Teachers' Day:** "The task of a modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts." (C.S. Lewis)

Teachers' Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and reverence. The day was marked by a series of cultural programmes which included speeches, melodious song dances and heart touching poetries and skits. Students presented handmade greeting cards to the teachers. These gestures touched the heart of every teacher and reinforced the bond between the students and teachers.

The Principal Bro. Albert Abraham in his speech expressed gratitude to the teachers for their unwavering commitment to shaping the future of the students. He also advised the students to always respect the teachers. The presence of Bro. Gabriel Lakra and Bro. Prasant Kullu was a great encouragement for everyone. The management treated everyone with a sumptuous meal.

## **St. Montfort, Banea**

Bro. Sandeep Horo, SG

"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today." (Malcolm X)

On 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023, our newly appointed Principal, Bro. Edmond Soreng began his tenure enthusiastically by organizing a short seminar for teachers at the very beginning of new academic session 2023-24. As the regular classes progressed smoothly, all the students were divided in four Houses. They competed with each other in Football and Kho-Kho. Both the boys' and girls' teams participated enthusiastically. At the same time Short-Sprint track events were also marshaled successfully by Sir Mahipal Xaxa.

The final matches were reserved for the auspicious day of August 15, the Independence Day of our country. All the final matches were a treat to watch as the slippery playground saw many players falling awkwardly even before receiving the ball! Before that, on 9<sup>th</sup> August 'The Indigenous Peoples' Day' was also celebrated rather unenthusiastically with only a short program and an informational speech about the present-day shocking plight of our Tribals in Manipur.

The Independence Day was celebrated with much enthusiasm. A retired Army Official Mr. Thomas Kujur was the Chief Guest. He unfurled the National Flag and inspected the Parade. Excellent





Speeches in English and Hindi by two of our girl students, Ku. Albina Xaxa and Ku. Ayushi Yadav received much applause from the spectators. On 26<sup>th</sup> August we had an attractive “Investiture Ceremony” and oath of office pronounced by the School Captains, Vice-Captains, House-leaders and Class monitors, with formal ‘Beating the Retreat’ tune. At the same time the Bharat Scout/Guide recruits were also given ‘Deeksha’, membership oath-taking in the Scout/Guide Movement. At present, The Scout



Troop and Guide Company are gearing up for travelling to Roorkee to participate in the in the Montfortian Integration Camp under the able guidance of Sir Mahipal.

On Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, ‘St. Monica Diwas’ witnessed two of our young Brothers, Bro. Prem Murmu and Bro. Sandeep Horo matching steps with the Catholic Parish Council members leading the Entrance dance, and honoring our ‘Mothers’ of the Parish in the church. Both the Brothers cherished those moments by participating in the cultural program in honor of St. Monica and our mothers.



On Sept. 5, “The Teacher’s Day” celebration was meticulously organized by the students of our school. A number of attractive stage-shows really enthralled the teachers and the Brothers. It was

pleasant to see many of the new talents on the stage. All the teachers really felt indebted to the students’ love and respect for them. All the teachers were presented a gift packet each and a sumptuous meal after the program.



On 8<sup>th</sup> Sept, the Birthday of Mother Mary was celebrated devotionally by the CLC (Christian Life Community) students with a ‘One day’ Prayer & Mass program animated by Mr. Ajit Ekka and Miss. Maxima Toppo in the Parish Church. The Parish Priest, Fr. Sylverius Xaxa was the resource person for the talk. During his talks Fr. Sylverius emphasized on the significant role of Mother Mary in our daily life. He imparted the message that the CLC-iers can create a strong impact on the present-day youth who seem to be deviating from the basic faith and Marian devotion. All the CLC member students found themselves quite enriched and enlightened by those prayerful sessions. All the Brothers and the Staff are very grateful to our Parish Priest for his availability.

## Montfort, Mandla

Bro. Sunil Aind, SG



**International Yoga Day:** “Yoga is the journey of the self, through self and to the Self.”



The school celebrated International Yoga Day on 21 June 2023. The students of classes XI and XII gathered and the importance of practicing Yoga was explained to them. Thereafter they performed meditation, Surya Namaskar and various asanas under the guidance of our P. T. Teacher and other teachers. All the students participated in it with lots of enthusiasm.



**Seminar:** The school conducted a seminar for the students of classes VI, VII and VIII on the topic, “Life skills and Time Management.” The seminar was from 28 June to 4 July. It was conducted on alternative days. The resource persons were our own selected teachers who explored their knowledge & skill. Some activities also were organized as part of the seminar. It was quite successful.

**Investiture Ceremony:** “Leadership is not about being in charge, but about inspiring others to unleash their full potential.”

The school elected the Students’ Council for the academic year 2023-24. The chosen council took oath and officially assumed responsibility in the Investiture ceremony held on 7 July 2023. It was a very important day for the school as well as the students’ council as they promised to uphold the ethos and values of Montfort Sr. Sec. School and work as a team to take the school to greater heights.

**Birthday Celebration:** On 9 August 2023, we celebrated the birthday of Bro. Anand Kumar S., the Vice- Principal of the school. A special assembly was conducted in his honour. At the community level we had a special Eucharistic celebration organized on account of his birthday. It was followed by a fellowship meal.

**Independence Day celebration:** On 15 August 2023, Independence Day was celebrated with high vigor and enthusiasm. The students exhibited patriotism and paid tributes to the builders of our nation.



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**Teacher’s Day Celebration:** “Teachers are the backbone of any country, the pillar upon which all aspirations are converted into realities.” – A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

On 5 Sept. 2023, the school celebrated the Teachers’ Day. The students of class XII were appointed to conduct the program and students welcomed all the Brothers and the Teachers. The Principal addressed the students by his words of wisdom. A mesmerizing cultural program was performed by the students. They made the program so colourful and incredible.

## Montfort ITC, Khandwa

Bro. Pradeep Xalxo, SG

I am happy to share with you dear brothers some of the events that took place in our community during the last couple of months.

On 10<sup>th</sup> Aug we celebrated the birthday of our dear Bro. Suresh Ekka.

To make his birthday a memorable one we had invited the Brothers from Kusumkot community. In the same way we also had invited some of our neighbouring priests to share our joyful moments with them.

On 19<sup>th</sup> Aug we visited Kanjabera shrine to foster our devotion to Blessed Virgin Mary.

On 26<sup>th</sup> Aug Rev. Bro. Provincial along with the counsellors visited our community.

We thank the provincial team for their gesture of love and concern towards us.

On 29 Aug. Bro. Suresh Ekka went to write his B. A. III Yr. Examination to Mandla.

In this rainy season we had excess of rain. Due to heavy rainfall some of the trees had been uprooted and unfortunately one fell on our community building. We are glad that not much damage has been caused.

Bro. Pradeep Xalxo goes to St. Thomas’ School, Khandwa to teach in the morning hours. Bro. Suresh Ekka spends time in reading books and vegetable gardening. In the evening we join the IMS community for games.

## Montfort, Harinagar

Bro. Atish Bage, SG

Affable greetings to all the readers!

**Farewell:** “Every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end.” On 20<sup>th</sup> June the teachers of Montfort School had assembled for the farewell of Mr. Sunil Bhuriya (Sanskrit teacher) and Mrs. Kana Katara (Aaya). The teachers presented a short cultural programme in honour of them. Both of them shared their experiences working at Montfort School, Harinagar. During their sharing there was



mixture of sentiments of pleasant as well as unpleasant, as they were leaving the school. After the programme lunch was served for everybody.

**Community Meeting:** *"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."*

On 27<sup>th</sup> June we had the 1<sup>st</sup> community meeting of this academic year. During the meeting the Local Superior, Bro. Promod Tete gave a brief introduction of the campus as well as about the tribal area where our school is situated. Then he shared the responsibilities with the Brothers.

**Staff Meeting:** On 1<sup>st</sup> July we had a staff meeting. Bro. Promod, the Principal actively animated the meeting and shared his thoughts on the importance of the education and requested teachers to improve their soft skills.

**Welcoming Little Buds:** *"Welcome to my classroom; it's a great place to be."*

On 8<sup>th</sup> July there was welcome ceremony of the LKG children in the school. There was great joy in everyone's heart in welcoming them.

**Investiture Ceremony:** On 22<sup>nd</sup> July we had investiture ceremony. The Chief Guest for the programme was Mr. Dinesh Rawat, T.I. of Kakanwani Police Station. The programme came to an end in a satisfying manner in spite of bad weather.

On 26 August LKG and UKG students had a programme known as salad day. They were asked to bring at least one fruit from their home. The purpose of this programme was to find out the name of the fruits. After the programme they were served fruits salad. On the same day we had Rakhi making competition class-wise, from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>. The students participated in this with great enthusiasm.

**Independence Day:** *"May the spirit of independence bring positivity and progress to our country!"*

On 15<sup>th</sup> August we celebrated 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day in a spectacular way. The Chief Guest of the day was Rev. Fr. Kennedy Thomas, Secretary to the former Bishop. After the programme there was a friendly match between Harinagar and Dungripada staffs. After the match lunch was served for everybody.

**Arrival of Brothers for the Inspection:** On 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> we had the internal inspection team with us namely Bro. Mathew Montfort (Convenor) and

Bro. Albert Abraham along with four observers from local area for the inspection of our school. The inspection was done successfully and at the end, the school had organized a short welcoming programme in honour of them. Bro. Mathew Montfort inspired and motivated the students & the teachers through his talk.

**Teachers' Day:** *"A teacher takes a hand, opens a mind, and touches a heart."*

On 4<sup>th</sup> September teachers' day was anticipated at school with a lot of joy and enthusiasm. The Programme was organized by the students and it was



praiseworthy. Students welcomed teachers with Bhilli dance and the whole atmosphere was like that of a village. It was really impressive and mesmerizing. After the programme delicious lunch was provided for all the teachers as well as cabinet members of the school.

On 5<sup>th</sup> September, on the occasion of teachers' day, teachers spent their time with their respective class students and had lot of fun. After the interval, students organized fun game and volley-ball match for the teachers.

## St. Gabriel's Novitiate

Bro. K.M. Mathew, SG & Novices of Delhi Province

**Sitagarha Novitiate:** Loving and a fraternal "All small acts of love are expressions of Montfortian Prophetic Presence today."



Loving and a fraternal greeting from Sitagarha Novitiate. All the twelve novices and the staff are fully busy to create a web of positive and transformative relationship, on the model of the essence of our triune God, based on the unconditional and genuine love, radical acceptance, brotherly concern, and a transformative accompaniment, under the guidance Jesus our brother, powered by the Holy Spirit and deeply rooted in the charism of our Founder, St. Louis Marie de Montfort, and as a response to the signs of times today.

#### **Completion of Pond work:**

The vegetable cultivation in the vegetable garden could not reach its maximum potency due to the insufficient water supply. The construction of a pond near the football ground was in progress by the previous novice masters and novices, especially the contribution of Bro. Arockiaraj also has been remarkable. It was an unfulfilled desire of Bro. K.M. Mathew to build an open well near the football ground from the time he was the socius in 2017-18. So, construction of an open well in the pond was considered positively and the work in this regard was initiated as soon as he began his formation mission on 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2023. With the timely help of the National Council, and the hard work of the staff, novices and others, the construction of the pond with an open well in it was completed on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023. We believe this humble effort will empower us to expand the horizon of our organic vegetable cultivation and to grow in our relationship with our mother Earth.

**Farewell to Bro. Fuldeep Jojo:** It was 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and a day to say "Thank You" to Bro. Fuldeep for his great contribution to the novitiate for the last two years. We enjoyed his presence with us and his quality friendship with us. He taught us songs and some innovative skills on crafting and sketching.

We had fitting prayer service followed by a short felicitation programme. In this way the novices and staff expressed their gratitude to him. We concluded our programme with a fellowship meal.

**Arrival of Bro. Yesu Dass P.:** On 21<sup>st</sup> June we welcomed new Administrator, Bro. Yesu Dass to the novitiate with a flower bouquet and a melodious welcome song. We had a short prayer service on that evening in which we specially prayed for the intentions of Bro. Yesu Dass and wished him a pleasant stay with us.

**Construction of Cowshed:** We had started building a new cowshed near the vegetable garden in the month of May. Half work has been done already but yet to be completed. The labourers are trying their best to complete it. It has been shifted to the present site due the construction of MGA Bhawan there.

**Guest Lecturers:** We are blessed with the Jesuit tertian Fathers, who are very enthusiastic



and energetic to share their knowledge with various formation houses in the campus as part of their mission experience. We were very much privileged to have some of them to empower us with their knowledge and wisdom. They have already completed classes on Community Life, English Language, and Holistic Living & Health. We are thankful to them.

#### **Visit of Bro. Prathap Reddy, the Assistant**



**General:** Rev. Bro. Prathap Reddy, the Assistant General paid a visit to our novitiate on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023. His visit and interaction with us doubled our joy. We experienced his fraternal love which helped us to strengthen the bond of our community. He met every novice and staff individually. The novices had organized an appropriate prayer service in honour of him.

**Visit of Major Superiors:** Rev. Bro. K.M. Joseph, the National Formation Director, Bro. Irudhayam, the National Chairman & Provincial Superior of Trichy Province and Bro. Johnson, the Provincial Superior of Yercaud Province, paid a visit to our novitiate and helped us to grow closer in the likeness of Jesus and oneness with Mary. The talk of Bro. K.M. Joseph touched us spiritually and he wished us to become great Brothers in the society.





Bro. Irudhayam interacted with the novices and explained them about the Montfortian Prophetic Presence in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and motivated them to be prepared for the upcoming God's mission in their lives. On 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 2023 the novices organized an appropriate prayer service in their honour. We are grateful them for their visit.

## Eachinkadu Novitiate

Rahul Trikey (1<sup>st</sup> Year Novice)

**Inauguration:** The official inauguration of the new batch took place on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 in the presence of the three Provincial Superiors; Rev. Bro. Johnson, the Provincial of Yercaud, Rev. Bro. Irudayam Michael, the Provincial of Trichy, Rev. Bro. George Padikara, the Provincial Superior of Bangalore. It was a joyous moment and significant day for all of us. The candle procession from Marian Grotto, thought provoking message by Rev. Bro. Irudhayam and a divine prayer service conducted by Bro. Rajashekar, the Socius, exuded an aura of solemnity and devotion to the event.

**Welcoming the New Novice Master:** On 29<sup>th</sup> of June we welcomed our Novice Master, Rev. Bro. Paul Raj. The event commenced with a traditional procession led by the novices, meaningful prayer service and vibrant cultural programme. The outgoing Novice Master, Bro. P.T. George graciously handed over the responsibilities to his successor.

**Farewell to Former Novice Master:** Farewell is a time to give thanks and best wishes.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, we gave farewell to the former Novice Master, Bro. P.T. George. We had put up a short and sweet farewell programme. The staff and the novices expressed their gratitude in the form of special prayer, songs, felicitations, speeches. At the sunset of the day the communities of Yercaud bid a grand farewell to Bro. P.T. George at St. Louis Villa. Prayers had been rendered in his name and ended the gathering with a banquet. We, the novices and the staff rendered our thanks to Bro. P.T. George and gave him good wishes for his future mission.



**Monthly Recollection:** On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, we had our first monthly recollection. It was conducted by the staff. The theme was "One with God" (Art. No. 65). It was very meaningful, as Brothers had given us some key points to reflect and to ponder

over to experience the feeling of being one with God.

**Birthday Celebration:** On 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023, we were all fortunate to celebrate the birthday of Bro. Rajashekar, the Socius. It was a very fine day. We all wished him and prayed for his mission in the novitiate. We had cricket match on the occasion of his birthday. In the evening, we organized a short and fitting cultural programme.

**Classes on The Church History:** We had classes on history of the Church, from 24<sup>th</sup> July to 29<sup>th</sup> July. The sessions on 'The History of the Church' were given by Fr. Joe Francis. The classes were very interesting and he explained it in various methods to make us understand the history. These classes mainly emphasized the global impact of Christianity, highlighting stories from different cultures and traditions. We found him very friendly during the classes. Having attended it, we got more information about the History of the Church and how the church was established over the centuries.

**Ssgy Fete:** The Novices had been given an angelic task to sell the Raffle tickets for the Fancy Fete of Social Service Guild, Yercaud. We were indeed glad to contribute our service to the fete, which was held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023. All of us witnessed and accomplished our task with a sense of love and compassion towards the needy. We installed four stalls to conduct fun games in order to generate fund for the homeless and needy. This fete taught us the way to organize games and to interact with students. Moreover, it was a great experience for us to work for a noble cause.

**Independence Day:** On 15<sup>th</sup> August, we celebrated the 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day in a splendid manner. The Chief Guest for hoisting the flag was **Rev. Bro. John Xavier**. All of us marched to pay our homage and gratitude to the yester Heroes of our country and to show our patriotism for the nation. Inspiring Independence Day messages were delivered, and the Patriotic songs were sung to mark





the day and make it evocative. Above all, Independence Day was a time for us to express our gratitude for the freedom that our forefathers fought for. It was a day of remembrance, unity, and hope for a brighter future for the nation and its people.

**Novices Spread Joy at Local Old Age Home (Anbu Illam):** The visit to the Anbu Illam brought



lots of smiles and warmth to the elderly residents of the house. The novices engaged in heartfelt conversations with the elderly residents, singing songs, and listening to stories from their lives. The interactions created a bond between us and the inmates.

## M. Bhawan, Sardhana

Bro. Alex Diamond, SG

**New Academic, New Feather:** The new academic year commenced at Montfort Bhawan (MB), Sardhana on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. This year MB added one more feather on its cap as Bro. Philip



Thadathil joined us to be the new faculty member. He was welcomed warmly and expressed his eagerness to contribute for the growth of our candidates. His presence at MB made a huge impact in all the aspects of the formation activities. Being an experienced Brother, his approach and concern matters a lot and having him at MB will be a source

of pride throughout the lives of our candidates. We have 15 candidates (1<sup>st</sup> Year – 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> year – 9) from 6 States.

**Meetings:** Bro. Alex Diamond attended the **Local Superiors' and Principals' Meeting** at Montfort Villa, Bhopal on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. The take away from the meeting gave all the

Brothers more time to think about strategy and what they are going to execute as the head of the institution. They have learned that potential to real time success will require motivation, sacrifice and

unity as a community.

Bro. Rockey Kerketta attended the **Bursars' Meeting** at Montfort Villa, Bhopal on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. During the meeting, it was noted with great concern that the financial management needs to be addressed seriously. This meeting enabled a larger role for all the participants in transparency and good governance.

Bro. Alex Diamond, the Vice President of **CRI Meerut Zone** organized a Prayer Service for Manipur Brethren on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 at St. Francis' School, Baraut during their annual gathering. The fear is not entirely unfounded. Manipur has been in the throes of ethnic violence, close to a state of civil war, for over three months.

Praying for the victims of Manipur had a unique way of expressing our solidarity to all our brethren back over there. All the participants gave huge contribution towards Manipur incident.

**Visits:** After the National Council meeting at Montfort School, Delhi on 20<sup>th</sup> August, Bro. Irudayam, the National Chairman, Bro. Thampy Alex, the Provincial Superior along with few more Provincials and Brothers visited Montfort Bhawan,





Sardhana. It was a moment of immense pride to witness how all the Brothers were captivated by our hospitality and the presentation by our candidates. The gathering at MB, a grand and majestic affair, remains etched in everyone's memories. The candidates were inspired by their valuable presence, and will be walking the path they have illuminated for everyone's resurgence.



Bro. Gabriel Lakra was here at MB from 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. The candidates keenly listened to his words and looked up to his wisdom. His mere presence made a great help in all the activities of the house. As an experienced Brother, he shared all his knowledge with our candidates who saw in him an unwavering commitment to serve the society. Every moment of his life, every atom of his being, has been dedicated to serve the poor through education mission.

**Guest Lecture:** We had two days of guest lecture on "General English" by Dr. Thiruthurai, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Dr. Sakunthala College of Engineering, Vel Nagar, Chennai on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. His classes were highly appreciated by the candidates.

**Celebrations:** Bro. Alex Diamond was the Chief Guest and hoisted the National Flag on 15<sup>th</sup> August at St. Charles' Inter College, Sardhana. He was lucky indeed on that red letter day to make sure that the flame of patriotism burns in the hearts of soldiers, lighting the way for a better and brighter tomorrow.

Our candidates wished all the Brothers and Hindi Professor on 5<sup>th</sup> September on the occasion of Teachers' Day. The candidates presented beautiful hand-made greetings cards to each of them.

Our Candidates presented a group song on the occasion of the Nativity of our Lady (Parish Feast) on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. It was an exhibition of their talent.

**13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter:**  
**"Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law." (Prov 29:18)**

*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* –

these two words contain a deep philosophy. It means the world is one family. This is an all-embracing outlook that encourages us to progress as one Montfortian Family, enabling quality education, human empowerment and thus reach out to the people.

"The Provincial Chapter is the extraordinary assembly in which the co-responsibility of the

Brothers of a Province finds its widest possible expression." One of the missions of the Provincial Chapter is to prepare for the General Chapter.

XIII Provincial Chapter was held at Montfort Villa, Bhopal from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 on the

theme: "Montfortian Prophetic Presence in 21<sup>st</sup> Century".

The orientation of the Chapter was given by Fr. Valan Antony, SJ on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2023. He emphasized on "Reset, Realign, and Restart." The importance of the 5 P's (Presence, Participation, Partnership, Prophetic and Pilgrim) gave a broader perspective of our mission in 21<sup>st</sup> century. The *Instrumentum Laboris* was discussed in a detailed manner and brought about the major concerns of the Province and the Congregation at large. For the Province of Delhi, the XIII Provincial Chapter is not merely a high-level preparation for GC. As one of the Indian Provinces and a model of diversity, we also opened the doors of Montfortian Presence in 21<sup>st</sup> century at the Congregational level. The Provincial Chapter was meticulously planned and executed by Bro. Provincial Superior and his team. I am sure that our Chapter Capitulants would vouch for this. I am positive that we have contributed with utmost care and concern towards the Chapter which will be followed by actions plans and outcomes.

# Vidyadeep, Bengaluru

Bro. Alok Minj, SG

The communal spirit and unity among the Brothers and Sisters were tremendous during the celebration, apt for the occasion.



**CRI Brothers' Institute:** With immense joy and excitement, I present the events of Vidyadeep College, Bengaluru from July to September 2023.

**Sports Inauguration:** *"For good physical fitness and strength, sport is an integral part of life."* The sports inauguration was a vibrant affair, filled with an air of excitement and anticipation. On the 16th of August, we had the sports inauguration ceremony. As a source of inspiration Rv. Bro. Edward Francis, a remarkable sportsman, was the Chief Guest of this ceremony. It began with the welcome speech. The sports leader of our institute introduced games and common rules. Four groups were formed and the captains were selected by managers. After which the chief guest handed over the team flags and placards to the captains. After that a solemn oath-taking ceremony followed. The Chief Guest of the day encouraged and inspired the students to pursue greatness and excellence in the field of sports. Sports inauguration concluded with a friendly basketball match between 1st Year vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3rd year BRS students.

**Independence Day:** *"A country's greatness lies in its undying ideal of love and sacrifice that inspires the mothers of the race."* On the 15th of August, we celebrated Independence Day and the feast of the Assumption of Mary. The day began with the Solemn Eucharistic celebration followed by the hoisting of the National Flag. The chief guest of the day, Rev. Bro. Sevak Gabriel, SG delivered a stirring speech on the importance of Independence Day for us all. He stressed the virtue of brotherhood.

**Onam Celebration:** On 26<sup>th</sup> August We celebrated the Onam festival. There were a lot of external preparations before this day. The event broke out with a special Introductory Prayer and briefing of the audience about the significance of Onam. There followed cultural programs and activities organised by the Brothers such as folk dances, music performances, and group wishing songs. Several traditional games were animated by the Malayali community. Eventually, the grand Onam feast, known as "Onam Sadya" was shared.

**Monthly Recollections:** At the end of every month we conduct a monthly recollection in CRI. It is a wonderful opportunity to sit back from the whirlwind of daily tasks for a few hours of quiet

prayer, spent looking at God, the world, and ourselves. We had the last monthly recollection on 31st August conducted by the third-year Brother. We had the knowledgeable philosopher Fr. Pradeep, OCD, who enlightened us on the theme '**God of Justice, Peace, and Mercy**', which made a pleasant ambiance for the confession.

**Inter-house Competitions:** Inter-house competitions in our college are events or contests where different houses or groups within the college compete against each other. These competitions cover a wide range of activities, including sports, arts, and cultural events. They serve as a platform for us to showcase our talents, build teamwork, and foster a sense of camaraderie. On 29th August we started our football matches among the four groups. All the group members participated enthusiastically. This game went on till 7th Sept and on that day we had the **final** football match.

**Birthday Celebrations:** *"Birthdays are important and are a special time of year, celebrating the life and experiences of an individual."* In CRI Brothers' Institute the birthday celebration of an individual is a tradition and it is being encouraged. This involves *special birthday prayers* and *holy Eucharistic celebration*, giving thanks to God Almighty for the gift of the person whose birthday





is. In the course of these three months, we celebrated three Brothers' birthdays from the province of Delhi, namely Bros. Sevak Gabriel, the Superior of the institute, Alok Minj, and Amarjeevan. On 31<sup>st</sup> August, we had the monthly birthday celebration.

**Classes:** In the course of these two months (August to September) we had various courses like Indian philosophy, Biomedical ethics, Christology, theology of education, Mariology, Historical books of the Bible, etc. by expert Professors. Every day we are engaged with the assignments, class works and so on. At the end of every Course we are having exam. All these classes are enriching and helping us to know better the reality of life.

**Weather in Bangalore:** The climate in Bangalore is characterised by moderate temperature and is a major attraction for residents and visitors. We are in the season of monsoon, which lasts from June to September. Here rainfall is abundant, and the city is alive with lush greenery. While heavy rains cause some inconvenience, the cooler temperatures and the rejuvenation of nature make this a unique and beautiful time to be in Bangalore. Literally we are experiencing a refreshing monsoon with a pleasant weather. The favourable climate encourages outdoor activities and games like basketball, cycling, and visiting new places, further enhancing the ambience for study.

## Kristu Jyoti, Bengaluru

Bro. Binod Kerketta, SG



*"Let us always meet each other with a smile; for smile is the beginning of love." (St. Mother Teresa)*

Fraternal greetings from Kristu Jyoti College, Bengaluru. With joy and happiness, I would like to

share with you about the events which have taken place last few months here at Kristu Jyoti College.

On 7<sup>th</sup> June Kristu Jyoti College had the inauguration of the Academic Year 2023-24 and welcoming ceremony of the First-Year students. The program began with Holy Mass followed by a prayer song, lighting of the lamb, welcome dance. Fr. Sabu, the Principal welcomed the first-year students, and read the report of 2022-23. We have **256 students** all together including theology and philosophy, and in the **first year** we have **43** students: 36 brothers and 7 sisters and 13 staff members.

22<sup>nd</sup> of June the Monsoon Trophy tournament was inaugurated by 2<sup>nd</sup> year students. The matches are played batch wise. We played all the outdoor games. It was very engrossing and entertaining. The Monsoon trophy was wound up on 13<sup>th</sup> July.

### Bengaluru Darshan:

On 6<sup>th</sup> of July first year students had gone for Bengaluru Darshan. We have seen many famous places of Bengaluru namely Lal Bag, Museum, and some historical places. At last, we visited the Salesian Provincial House of Bengaluru province. We had tea there and spend some time there. Then we came back. The whole day we enjoyed a lot.

On 7<sup>th</sup> August the whole community had gone to Lourdu Nagar parish for prayers and Holy Mass. After Mass we had delicious dinner prepared by parishioners. After the meal the second-year *capo* gave vote of thanks to the Fathers and Parishioners.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August the official visit of Rev. Prof. Andrea Bozzolo (Vice Chancellor / Rector Magnificus of Pontifical Salesian University, Rome), Rev. Fr. Jarek Rochowiak (Secretary General) & Rev. Fr. Biju Michael from Rome to our college. We cordially welcomed them into our community. On 12<sup>th</sup> August, we had a cultural program in college in honour of them. The program began with Holy Mass followed by cultural program and lunch. After the program they spent some time with us. They shared about Rome and the students had many queries about academic studies and exams there.

On 13<sup>th</sup> August first year students conducted the patriotic dance competition for the poor children in Kristu Jyoti College. The participants had come from 11 tuition centers. Around 500 hundred children were there. Fathers provided the school bags for children. After the program we provided them with delicious lunch. Then Montfort School



bus reached them back to their houses. All the first-year students were appreciated by Fathers and Brothers.

**Daily Evening Ministry:** The first-year students in the evening after the game go for the village ministry by bicycle to teach the poor students. Every Saturday we conduct some games for children, and every Sunday Sisters' novices join with us and we go for Family visits. In the family we talk with them and pray for their families.

Daily classes are going on well. Here mostly we have Salesian Professors giving us classes. In a year we have three Semester exams. From 21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of August we had First Semester exams. From 9<sup>th</sup> Sept we commenced the second semester classes.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> year students had gone for retreat in different places. The first-year students had gone to Ajjanahalli (Karnataka) for village experience. Within one week we had numerous experiences. We visited some families and prayed for them. We also taught in government hostels and schools the basic English Grammar. One day from morning to evening we had gone for work in the village. Every day evening, we were having Kannada language class. On 8<sup>th</sup> of Sept, we returned to Kristu Jyoti College.

To share about the place of Kristu Jyoti College, Bengaluru, it is a calm and peaceful campus. The weather is so pleasant with greenery all around. It fascinates us to witness the blooming natural beauty of K.J.C., Bengaluru.

## Intercultural Community, Montreal, Canada

Bro. James Ekka, SG

Dear readers, Greetings from Montreal!

I was happy to visit the fourth Community named Saint-Lazare, situated in the region called 'Trois Rivières' (three rivers). There are four Brothers in the Community. On reaching I visited - Notre Dame du Cap (Our lady of the cape), Shrine of Our Lady of Most Holy Rosary. This shrine which

stands in the church campus is known for many miracles. It is said and believed that a historical Ice Bridge was formed in Saint Lawrence River to transport stones to build this shrine/ church. To commemorate this event, a bridge is built and named as Bridge of Our Lady of Rosary. The church campus is large with a beautiful set up with life size statues erected for the Way of the Cross and praying Rosaries. I also visited a Cemetery where our 62 Brothers are buried. One of these was a candidate who fell and died while playing football. I also visited the site where the house for candidates existed which is no more with the Brothers.

On 19<sup>th</sup> June the Community celebrated birthdays of Bros. Jean Francois and Jean Claude. Brothers Yves Ladoucer, Ronald Brissette and Leo Adam were present from Provincial House and Saint- Nicolas Community respectively.

The province had its Provincial Chapter on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June. All the Brothers were invited to attend and participate in the discussions and deliberations. The theme of the chapter was, Deliberation on 'Rule

International Community at Montreal, Canada.  
During the visit of the Superior General and the Assistant General







Visit to the Cathedral at Montreal

of Life and Constitutions' first draft'. The presence of Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, the Superior General and Rev. Bro. Pratap Reddy, the Assistant General was a source of inspiration and guidance all through the Chapter.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, the Garnier Community was blessed to have Superior General and Asst. General visiting us. After a meaningful prayer and Community meeting, the sharing of table fellowship was the culmination of their visit. The Superior General appreciated and thanked the Brothers for their varied apostolate.

July and August, two months of summer break was well spent. As part of my summer break, I had one week of stay in 'Harve Familial', just being with the nature. Each Brother according to his convenience took break for one week. The new session 2023-24 began from September. Though the summer gets over by 21<sup>st</sup> September, the weather has started changing. In the first week of September on certain days it was warm with 25 to 30 degrees Celsius. The regular showers that followed have already turned it into pleasantly chill weather.

## Montfort Villa, Bhopal

Bro. V.J. Mani, SG

The two major events organised in the Provincialate were the Local Superiors / Principals'

Meet on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July and the Bursars/ Accountant's training cum seminar on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of August.

For the first programme, we had a resource person, Mr. Edmund who briefed the group with the latest CBSE initiatives, requisites and rules for implementation. The first day, the coordinators also were invited.

The second day was allotted for highlighting the community projects as well as the reports from various commissions of the Province. Discussions followed had to improve the functioning of the above and conclusions were arrived at for follow up. The Provincial spelt out the guidelines for creating a culture of effectiveness and achievement. The stress was on the leadership role we play, calling for a paradigm shift in our functioning taking into account the changing scenario in the education front.

The second programme held in August was for the Bursars and Accountants. Experts in financial management, tax laws and related matters followed by our own auditors, gave input sessions on the first day. Next day, the Provincial along with the Bursars reviewed the accounting and financial system and proposed necessary changes and initiatives. The Provincial stressed on the imperatives of transparency and authenticity in fund management, at all levels. He said that the onus is on the Bursars for creating checks and balance system to prevent misuse. Coordination between the Local Superior / Principal and the Bursar will create the ambience for effective functioning. Detailed rules and norms were listed out for the Bursars and Accountants to create greater accountability.

The more recent event was the Provincial Chapter in preparation for the General Chapter. Rev. Bro. Pratap Reddy was the representative from the Central Administration. On all accounts, the Chapter was a success, meeting all its purpose. The Chapter document will soon be got ready for distribution to the communities.

Bro. Chacko has left for Sardhana on the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month. We accorded him a farewell, wishing him a fruitful mission in Sardhana. On 17<sup>th</sup> Bro. James KC joined the Provincial House community. Hearty welcome dear Bro. James.

# PNG MISSION

## St. Charles' Lwanga Sec. School, Port Moresby

Bro. Mathias Minj, SG

Greetings of love from the community of St. Charles Lwanga Secondary School, Port Moresby. By the grace of the Almighty, we are blessed with good health and keeping fine over here and remembering you in our daily prayers. Please do remember us too in your daily prayers. At present, we are facing dry weather in most parts of PNG. It is nearly four months since we got any rain which is causing rivers dry and affecting the water ways of transport in most parts of PNG.

### **Staff Picnic at Roku Mountain and Beach:**

After a hectic Term 2, it was relaxing when staff went out for a picnic. This opportunity provides for



building up family spirit, for bonding and connecting well with co-workers. It releases stress from our minds.

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, the Staff of our school had an outing to Roku picnic spot which is a fine white sandy beach along the Mountain coastline of the Central Province. It was a day full of fun, laughter and sharing of food. Everyone enjoyed themselves well and returned safely to the school.

### **Inservice Training for Teachers at St. Charles Lawanga:**

The teachers from St. Charles Lawanga Sec. School, Gerehu Sec. School, and Tokara Sec School participated in this in-service training program.

In the following week, National In-service training program was organized from June 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 for all the teachers in NCD. It is an annual event for all the teachers throughout Papua New

Guinea. The teachers have to participate in their respective provinces or districts. It falls on every first week of the Term – 2 Term break. This program is a refresher for all teachers nationwide. It provides an avenue for teachers to reflect and evaluate the first half of the schooling year. In addition, teachers interact and exchange ideas on common interest and specific areas of concern that hinders our teaching and learning.

The schools in the National Capital District were grouped into four clusters. St. Charles Lwanga was one of the four hosts and hosted three other schools in our campus. A total of 156 teachers participated in this week-long training.

Outside of NCD, every school has its own school-based in-services that is either conducted by a member of the teaching staff or a Professional from outside the school has invited. Apart from that, the National Department of Education also plans for a similar event in every first week of the term two holidays.

The trainings conducted during the in-service week is aimed at how best it can enhance teaching and learning in the fast- changing environment.

**Bro. Johnson's Visit:** - During the second Term Break Bro. Johnson from St Gabriel Technical Sec. School, Kiunga had come to Port Moresby on 5<sup>th</sup> July for his official work. After finishing his work at Education Office, he went to town and purchased some stationary items for the school. One day we enjoyed his company at Airways Hotel, and the following day (8<sup>th</sup> July) he went back to Kiunga.

**Bro. PT. Joseph on Medical Leave:** - In the community Bro. PT. Joseph was sick for a long time and was planning to go to India for medical treatment. After a long wait on 10<sup>th</sup> July he went to India and is staying at Montfort School Delhi and is having the treatment from Holy Family Hospital, Okhla, Delhi. We are praying for his good health and hoping him to come back to PNG soon. Bro. Benny T. L is doing well in the school and is appointed as school Bursar and is in charge of the school projects that were initiated by Bro. P.T Joseph. The Projects under constructions are: (1) The installation of electricity power Transformer exclusively for the



use of the school. (2) Four teachers' quarters. Most probably they will be ready by the end of November 2023.

**People Remembering Bro. M K Jose:** - Still the people of Gerehu remember Brother M K Jose for his humoristic stories. It seems Brother M K Jose has captured the hearts of the people living in and around the Gerehu Sector. We can see their expressions showing their emotions when they talk to us about Bro. M. K. Jose. Especially the mothers who supply lunch for the students, are missing Brother M K Jose here at Gerehu sector.



**School Re-opens on 10-07-23:** After the two weeks of term break students came back to school on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with fresh mind and an enthusiastic spirit. The teachers had kept the report cards ready and they called up the parents for meeting and distributed the report cards on 14<sup>th</sup> July in the morning session. Parents thanked and congratulated the teachers and students for the good performance both in the academic as well as in extra-curricular activities organized by the school.

**NCD Secondary School - Career Expo 2023:** The National Capital District Secondary Schools Career Expo is an annual event and again had taken place this year, 2023 from August 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. The event was held in the hall of Port Moresby School of Excellence. More than 30 Secondary Schools in NCD and Sogeri School of Excellence participated in it. The Career Expo attracted Government run schools, Church Agency Schools as well as Privately operated schools.

The main objective was to provide for all Grade 12 students in Secondary schools in the National Capital District an avenue where they can receive first-hand information about the tertiary institutions in which they can later apply while filling in their choices on the National Online Application System (NOAS).

A total of 24 Exhibitors from different Higher Educational Institutions in the country set up booths to market their institutions, and there were more than 30 NCD Secondary Schools and Sogeri SOE in attendance. This has provided a golden opportunity for an estimated 5000 Grade 12 students, who were able to collect much needed information.

A total number of 196 Grade 12 students from St. Charles Lwanga Secondary School attended



session I and the last session (5<sup>th</sup> session) on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August. Class Patrons of each class were asked to take care of each group in attendance.

**Mock Exams for both the Grade 10 and Grade 12:** Mock Exams have been conducted on time this year. The first one for Grade 10 was conducted in Week 5 (August 7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>) and the second one was conducted in week 8 (28<sup>th</sup> Aug – 1<sup>st</sup> Sept).

The first mock exam for Grade 12 was conducted in week 7 (August 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>) and the second one will be conducted in week 10 (11 Sept – 16 Sept).

**Listed below are the set dates for the Final National Exams:**

- Grade 10 will be conducted from October 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Grade 12 will be held from October 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.

Celebration as all of us know is the most important part of our life. This year on 15<sup>th</sup> August, we had a big group gathered together to celebrate Independence Day along with Indian Diaspora living in and around PNG. His Excellency Imbahekar Sundramurthy, Indian High Commissioner to PNG, invited all the Indian Diaspora based in PNG. His Excellency Imbahekar Sundramurthy in his message said, "People in a diaspora are often more religious than in their homeland. Outside of country, no matter which religion you belong, the heart recognizes its own Indian brothers and sisters." As a whole the program was well organized, we had many patriotic and cultural programs presented by the children of Indian Diaspora.

**Onam celebration:** Following week again on 27<sup>th</sup> August we had a big celebration at the same hall organized by the Malayali community in PNG. Variety of food was served. This celebration was possible because of His Excellency Imbahekar Sundramurthy, Indian High Commissioner to PNG, who provided the beautiful arena for celebration. We are very lucky to have such good people in PNG.

## **PNG Celebrates 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence:**

Celebrations in PNG are big events. There are seven famous festivals celebrated all over PNG, and Independence Day celebration is one of them. It is a



culturally rich celebration.

Any celebration in PNG, is not for one or two days but it goes for weeks and months.

On 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023, our students at school proudly celebrated the 48<sup>th</sup>

Independence Day of Papua New Guinea along with the people of the community

around the school. The day was especially marked for cultural show programs. They came wearing colorful PNG dresses, representing each province of the country. It was really a joyous and wonderful day for all of us. Various games and sports, debates were conducted after lunch and concluded the programs with sharing of food with friends and guests.



## **St. Gabriel's Technical Sec. School, Kiunga**

Bro. Lucianus Lakra, SG

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, the last day of the Term -2, we had the staff meeting, evaluating the progress of the teaching learning process as well as the performance of the students and teachers. Bro. Johnson, the Principal thanked all the teachers for the successful completion of the Term- 2 and gave a motivating input to continue with greater commitment in all aspects so as to bring a better result in performance of the students.

At the end of the Term -2 as per the educational calendar we were supposed to have two weeks of term break for the students. In the first week the teachers had the in-service training and they had the break in the second week. During the in- service week many Departmental Officials visited us and some of them took the sessions for the teachers, including Bishop Joseph Durero and Catholic Education Secretary, Mr. Kevin Joseph.

The school reopened for the Term-3 on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with vigorous teaching learning efforts by the staff and students. After the daily routine of eight teaching periods, extra remedial classes were organized for the Grade 10 and 12 students in preparation for the National exams. In addition to that weekends remedial classes also were taken by

the teachers. On 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023, P and C meeting was held in which a good number of parents came and gave their active participation in the planned program and agenda for the further improvement of the school and to achieve the best possible outcome for the students. Progress report cards of the tests of Term 1 and 2 also were given to the parents by the class teachers.

Out of 35 teachers, seven graduated teachers from Don Bosco Technological Institute (DBTI), Port Moresby are teaching in our school who organized a short but meaningful programme comprising of introduction, prayer and interesting fun games for the students on the occasion of 208<sup>th</sup> birth Anniversary of St. John Boso on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023. It was part of their Bosconian alumni reunion in which all those teachers shared their experiences and talents in a creative way. One of the famous quotes of Don Bosco, "RUN, JUMP, SHOUT BUT DO NOT SIN" was displayed. They started the programme by garlanding the portrait of Don Bosco and lighting the lamp by Bro. Johnson. All the staff and students enjoyed the short and sweet programme.



## Scout Guide Programme:



Making use of the well-trained resource of Bro. Lucianus, the school has included the Scout Guide activities as part of the extra-curricular programme. The students will have one hour class weekly to learn and practice the skills of the movement. We also conduct annually one residential camp to give the students an experience of camp life and to face the adventures and challenges. This year it was held from 26th to 28th June 2023 at St. Gabriel's Technical Secondary School premises. Total 44 students (24 boy scouts and 20 girl scouts) had participated in it. The patrol system was followed. Three patrols of boys and three patrols of girls were made. In this camp various theoretical and practical lessons connected to Scouting and Guiding were taught to the students like Scout sign, salute, motto, promise, law, march past, B.P. exercises, knotting, lashing, shelter making, first aid, fire fight, stretcher drill etc. Many adventurous practical projects were made and the demonstrations were done by the students, like Commando Bridge, Monkey Bridge, Seesaw bridge, Tyrer swing, View point watch tower, Monkey crawl, etc. The camp was conducted by Bro. Lucianus Lakra ALT (Assistant Leader Trainer) and Sister Selvarani under the patronage of Bro. Johnson Chacko, the Principal of the school in consultation with the Department of Education, Western Province. The guests and dignitaries who visited the camp were Mr. Charli Buia, the Province Education Coordinator, Mr. Ludu Gidu, Senior Secondary Inspector, Mr. Melcheor Dabuna, District Education Coordinator, Bishop Joseph Durero, Mr. Kevin Joseph, Catholic Education Secretary, Daru-Kiunga Diocese, Mr. James Hasan, Member of CMCA Holdings MRDC, Sr. Jean Adline, Bishop's Secretary, Bro. Joji Joseph, Administrator, St. Gabriel's School, Sr. Philo, DW, Sr. Cecilia, DW, Sr. Treesa, SMSM and some parents, and teachers. They appreciated the activities and encouraged the students. The main thrill and attraction of the scene were the adventure activities and campfire entertainment programs.



The following were the learning outcome of the camp: Practical use of Scout Law and Promise, Discipline, Smartness, Skills development and BE PREPARED for the Service doing the Duty to God, Duty to others and Duty to Self. The camp ended with all faith prayer service in which all the scouts joined together and prayed. Representatives of every denomination of Christians were given chance to lead the prayer according to their way of worship. The participants were thrilled and enjoyed the camp. Participation certificates given to all the participants signed by Mr. Noel Pinda, the National Administrator of the Scout Association of Papua New Guinea.

It is also a matter of honour that two of our students Michael Tommy and Shantha Pat Irudayanathan got the opportunity to attend the 25th World Scout Jamboree held at South Korea from 1st to 12th August 2023, as part of the Scout contingent of Papua New Guinea. On their successful participation and safe return, the school organized a felicitation function.

As far as the weather is concerned, Kiunga faced a sort of drought from the beginning of July to the first week of Sept 2023. All the rain water storage for drinking was finished and so we had to use the bore well that we made last year which was a blessing for whole school.



We, the three Brothers are fit and fine, play regular badminton game in the evening after the busy schedule in the school. We have a small group of international players hailing from India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Philippines. Our two collaborating SMSM Sisters, Selvarani and Treesa are also keeping fine and doing well.

# International MGA Meet 2023

Bro. Sunil Kumar Ekka, SG

**T**HE FIRST International Meet for Associates of the three congregations namely Brothers of St Gabriel, Company of Mary and Daughters of Wisdom whose Associates are known as Montfortian Gabrielite Associates (MGA), Montfort Associates (MA) and Friends of the Cross respectively, was held at St. Laurent-Sur-Sèvre, France where the basilica of St. Montfort is situated and the place of origin of the three Montfortian congregations. The Meet was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2023. There were 170 participants from the three congregations from 36 countries. We were 22 participants from India including the MGAs.

All the participants were accommodated at St. Gabriel's, the first school of the Brothers of St. Gabriel. For us Indian participants the programme began from 1<sup>st</sup> of August itself at Bengaluru when we all gathered for two-day programme prior to our departure to France. We left for France on 3<sup>rd</sup> August from Bengaluru. We also made use of the opportunity to visit Lourdes and other places of tourist interest in France. The 6 days of intensive programme at St. Laurent was designed to give the Associates an experience of togetherness as Montfortians to create synergy among the

associates. The programme was meticulously planned and executed to perfection. The programme included input sessions, sharing and visits to the places related to our founder, St. Louis de Montfort. The participants found the sessions quite enriching and beneficial as they were dealt with by the experts on the spirituality and charism of our founder St. Montfort. The purpose of bringing together the Associates of the three Montfortian congregations was to get them to know one another, forge links and share experiences. In other words, the aim was to encourage greater collaboration and synergy among the three congregations and their respective movements of Associates. There was a cultural fiesta evening meant to showcase the talents of the participants from different nationalities. We the Indians participated in it with a song. The associates were all praise for the organizing committee for the excellent arrangements and enriching experience of being together as Montfortians.

All the participants departed to their countries strengthened and energised with the blessings of St. Montfort to carry on the mission and charism of our founder with greater enthusiasm and a positive frame of mind in their respective places. ■

## Mob Justice

Bro. N.A. James, SG (Tanzania)

**I**am sure some of you at least have heard about 'Mob Justice'. It is the practicing of justice by ordinary people without the sanction of law enforcing authority on person or persons they think have committed a crime like robbing people of their goods or committing crime of rape of girls or women or any such anti-social activity. You hear about 'mob justice' mostly in many countries in Africa.

Because of poverty and other social evils many young people are jobless and do not have enough money for meeting their day to day needs of food, shelter and clothes. Therefore, they attempt to steal people of their money and goods like bicycles or motor cycles or valuable items like mobile phones or laptops. At some time or other several people would have lost their money or valuable goods due to this habit of some people mostly youngsters robbing them. Therefore, if anyone is found stealing or caught in the act of stealing or in the attempt to steal, the on-lookers pounce on that individual or group of individuals and beat them with whatever they get in hand like stones, iron rods or machete or other materials until serious wounds are caused to them.

They even put over them old rubber tyres and torch them to death. It is a way of giving vent to the anger or frustration of the crowd for some of them in the crowd would have had the misfortune of having stolen of their goods or money. Any onlooker feeling pity, if he tries to defend the person attacked, even that person also might be harmed or even burned alive considering him as an accomplice of the person caught. Therefore, there are instances of even parents of the person caught and meted out mob justice, instead of defending his son, will join the crowd in hurting that person lest he be accused of as an accomplice.

This way of meting out justice happens because very often when these persons are handed over to the police, they are found free after a few days of being in the prison because of the high level of corruption among the police persons. Therefore, people have lost faith in the law enforcing officers and are taking law into their own hands. For instance, if someone in the market place shouts at a person 'thief, thief', the whole mob will join and throw stones or iron rods or put over him a tyre and light fire until the



person caught is burned to death or bled to death. To watch these instances can be bone chilling or a feeling of helplessness.

When I was the Head Master of our school in Musoma in the year 2006, on the shores of the lake, Victoria, the second largest fresh water lake in the world, students were complaining about the loss of their bi-cycles. But we were not able to trace the thief. A few students lost their bi-cycles in the school campus. One day after the normal school hours at 2.30 pm I was taking lunch in Brothers' quarters when some students came to me rushing saying one person was being beaten to death in the school premises. I rushed to the scene knowing fully well that if something were to happen to that person, I as the Head Master would be held responsible in the eye of the law. Therefore, I stood between the person whom they were meting out justice and the crowd of

students who were beating the thief, who, some students saw him attempting to steal a bi-cycle. I tried to reason out with the students that we better hand over the thief to police and do not take law into our hands. Then they replied the police will let him off after a few days and probably after accepting some bribe. If I did not let him escape, I was sure they will do him to death. Therefore, I tried to help that person who was bleeding all over his body specially from his head, escape from that murderous crowd of students. I heard a few of them swearing that probably the Head Master also had a share in the booty. It is gruesome to see the scene of mob justice being meted out. Some of them are charred to death or bled to death. But Mob justice is against the law of any country but due to the wide practice of it the law enforcing authorities turn a blind eye to it and still continues in many African countries.▲

## Self-defence Training for Women

Under the aegis of Bharat Scouts & Guides, U.P. in collaboration with the Safe City Pilot Project of Lucknow, **self-defence training/workshop for women** was organised on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023 at the Head Office of Bharat Scouts & Guides, U.P. It was organised in coordination with the Education

Directorate of UP. In this training programme **Mr. Piyush Ratna Pandey, A.L.T, the Scouts Master of Montfort Inter College, Mahanagar, Lucknow** was invited to be the chief trainer. He was assisted by our Guides in charge, **Miss Nidhi Mishra**.



In this workshop two representatives from each District of UP were invited to undergo training so that they could be the Master Trainers in self-defence in their respective Districts. These Master Trainers are expected to organise self-defence training programmes for women in the cities of their respective Districts. We **congratulate** Mr. P.R. Pandey and Miss Nidhi Mishra on having been selected as resource persons for this workshop.■

## Hymn No. 91

**Chorus:** Lord I cherish the terms you deem  
To my reset redeem.

**Verses:**

1. Oh Gentle Lord your ceaseless burden  
Pre-ordained as per Father's design  
Designed you to possess a lowly heart  
Full of benign power and compassion
2. Oh Gentle Lord you started at twelve  
Your Father's affairs in hard toil  
Taught the essence of love and mercy  
Forgiveness full and repentance true.
3. Oh Gentle Lord we see your burden  
Enroute your way to death on the cross  
A transcript of your wisdom among men

Your victory lay in apt forgiveness.

4. Gentle Lord we arrive here with loved cries  
The cries continue at times in quiet  
Most times in anger, greed and spite  
Such are heavy burdens we carry.
5. Gentle Lord our burdens cause us grief  
That nag and torture without relief  
We meander for a shore beyond  
Let us embark on a tranquil space.
6. Gentle Lord you invite us to rest  
You free us from all our strife and strains  
You let us enter your Princely realm  
Sans borders, burdens and beyond strains.

**Bro. Emmanuel P.J.**

# 11 People Die of Hunger each minute around the Globe: Oxfam Report

(9<sup>th</sup> July 2021)

*Global warming and the economic repercussions of the pandemic have caused a 40% increase in global food prices, the highest in over a decade.*

Around two-thirds of them face hunger because their country is in military conflict.

CAIRO: The anti-poverty organization Oxfam reports that 11 people die of hunger each minute and that the number facing famine-like conditions around the globe has increased six times over the last year.

In a report titled "The Hunger Virus Multiplies," Oxfam said on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 that the death toll from famine outpaces that of COVID-19, which kills around seven people per minute.

"The statistics are staggering, but we must remember that these figures are made up of individual people facing unimaginable suffering. Even one person is too many," said Oxfam America's President and CEO Abby Maxman.

The humanitarian group also said that 155 million people around the world now live at crisis levels of food insecurity or worse some 20 million more than last year.

Around two-thirds of them face hunger because their country is in military conflict.

"Today, unrelenting conflict on top of the COVID-19 economic fallout, and a worsening climate crisis, has pushed more than 5,20,000 people to the brink of starvation," added Maxman.

"Instead of battling the pandemic, warring parties fought each other, too often landing the last blow to millions already battered by weather disasters and economic shocks."

Despite the pandemic, Oxfam said that global military spending increased by \$51 billion during the pandemic -- an amount that exceeds by at least six times what the U.N. needs to stop hunger.

The report listed a number of countries as 'the worst hunger hot spots' including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen -- all embroiled in conflict.

"Starvation continues to be used as a weapon of war, depriving civilians of food and water and



impeding humanitarian relief. People can't live safely or find food when their markets are being bombed and crops and livestock are destroyed," said Maxman.

The organization urged governments to stop conflicts from continuing to spawn catastrophic hunger and to ensure that relief agencies could operate in conflict zones and reach those in need.

It also called on donor countries to "immediately and fully" fund the UN's efforts to alleviate hunger.

Meanwhile, global warming and the economic repercussions of the pandemic have caused a 40% increase in global food prices, the highest in over a decade.

This surge has contributed significantly to pushing tens of millions more people into hunger, said the report.

**Compiled by  
Bro. T.T. Mathew, SG**

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**The next issue is to appear by 30<sup>th</sup> December. All the items received upto 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 will be included in it.**

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### October

07 Bro. Lucianus Lakra
18 Bro. John Minj
26 Bro. Edmond Soreng
30 Bro. Gregory Baa
30 Bro. Nilesh Minj

### November

03 Bro. Kartik Ekka
08 Bro. Benny T.L.
09 Bro. Joy Mathew
10 Bro. Joy Joseph
10 Bro. Jeet Francis
26 Bro. Emmanuel P.J.
27 Bro. Sunil Aind

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15 Bro. Joji Joseph
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23 Bro. Thampy Alex
23 Bro. James Pasala
25 Bro. Neeraj Lakra
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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**