



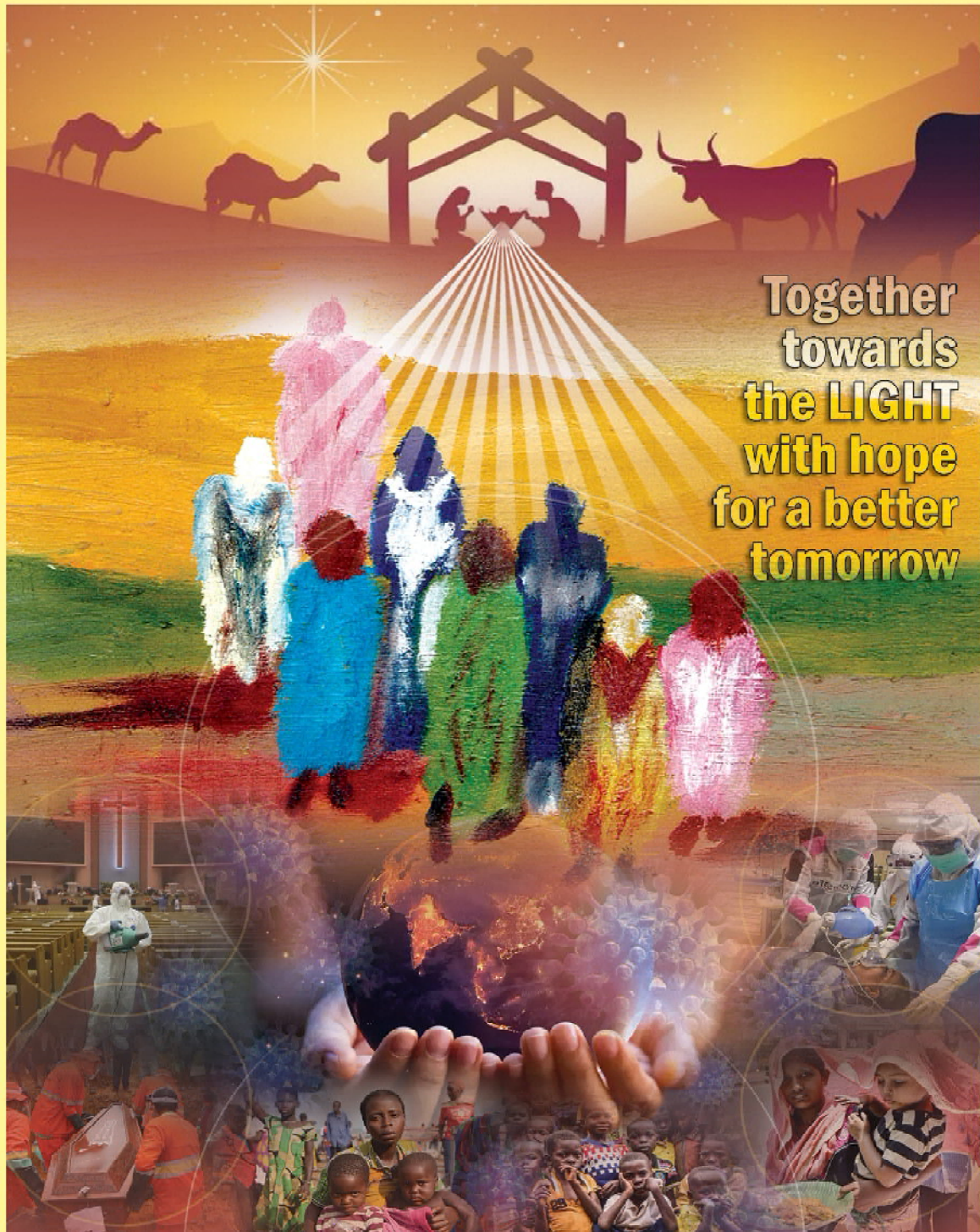
The

ENCOUNTER

Know... Grow... Flow into fullness

ROMA

December 2020 | Issue 4



Together
towards
the **LIGHT**
with hope
for a better
tomorrow



The Holy See

**APOSTOLIC LETTER: PATRIS CORDE (WITH A FATHER'S HEART) OF THE
HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON THE 150th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH**



Saint Joseph: The man whom heaven trusts

“YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH”

From 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021

PRAYER

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

(Pope Francis' prayer to St. Joseph)



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Editorial

Sr. Vijaya M. Udumala
JMJ Generalate, Roma



Speaking from a window overlooking St. Peter's Square on 15 Nov. 2020, on the fourth World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis urged Christians to discover Jesus in the poor, referring to the book Sirach: "Stretch forth your hand to the poor." Jesus admonishes us today to stretch out our hand to the poor. The poor among us plead us to repeat in our hearts: *Stretch out your hand to help us*.

Ancient *wisdom* has proposed these words "*Stretch forth your hand to the poor*" (Sir 6:7), as a sacred decree to be followed in life. Today, these words are timely as ever and help us fix our gaze on what is essential and overcome indifference. Poverty always appears in a variety of guises and offers us opportunity to encounter the Lord Jesus, who has revealed himself as present in the least of his brothers and sisters (Mt 25:40).

How many outstretched hands do we see every day?

A hand held out is a sign; a sign that instantly speaks of friendship, solidarity and love. In these months, when the whole world is prey to a virus that brought pain and death, despair and confusion, how many outstretched hands have we seen! The outstretched hands of health care personnel, public servants, priests, religious, volunteers and all people of good will who helped others in need. We could continue to speak of so many other outstretched hands, all of which make up a great litany of good deeds. Those hands defied contagion and fear in order to offer support and consolation.



Encountering those in need constantly challenges us and forces us to think. How can we help to eliminate or at least alleviate their marginalization and suffering? The ability to stretch forth our hand shows that we possess an innate capacity to act in ways that give meaning to life. This pandemic arrived abruptly and caught us unprepared, sparking a powerful sense of confusion and helplessness. Yet, our sisters' hands and many of our associates never stopped reaching out to the poor. This reaching out made us, all the more aware of the presence of the poor in our midst.

The pandemic experience has challenged many of our assumptions. We feel poorer and less self-reliant because we have come to sense our limitations and the restriction of our freedom. Our spiritual and material resources are called into question and we found ourselves experiencing fear and uncertainty. In the silence of our lives, we rediscovered the importance of simplicity and keeping our eyes fixed on God and the essentials of life. We realize that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others in the world.

In Christmas story we learn, how to reach out to the poor from our Blessed Mother, who received the gift of Jesus himself and gave Him to the world. Listen then, Jesus tells you: *“Do you know, I am the poor person. I am the poor, the migrant and the homeless”*.

Patris corde highlights “the creative courage” of St. Joseph, “the carpenter of Nazareth,” who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence. He had to deal with “the concrete problems” his Family faced, like problems faced by other families in the world, and especially those of migrants, all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty.” “Consequently, every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is ‘the child’ whom Joseph continues to protect.” From St Joseph, “we must learn... to love the Church and the poor.”

Through our recent encounters at JPIC Promoters Workshop and JPIC in JMJ Formation Conference, we heard the same message, to reach out to the poor

and protect the earth. *“Stretch forth your hand to the poor”* thus summons each one of us to responsibility and commitment towards our one human family. In this issue the same message rings out louder. Enjoy reading and be inspired to write your own story of touching lives!

The fifth issue of *‘The Encounter’* is due in June 2021. We look forward for your articles by email: cjmjencounter@gmail.com before 30 April 2021. Gratefully we acknowledge the contribution of our sisters for this issue. Special thanks to Christina JMJ for editing the manuscript and Gopi for designing elegantly this bulletin.

*This Christmas let us walk in solidarity
seeing JESUS in the face of the poor
Rebuilding lives in the fight against the pandemic
Wishing hope for everyone throughout
the New Year 2021!*



REMINISCES: Missionary Journey of *Mary Glowrey*

Sr. Mary Karickakunnel JMJ
JMJ Generalate, Rome



The Catholic Women's League (CWL) of Victoria and Wagga Wagga, Australia celebrated the centenary of Dr. Mary Glowrey's arrival in India during a virtual Meet on 27 November 2020. It was a momentous occasion where the General Council of the Congregation of JMJ and some of the family members including Sr. Mary Glowrey LCM, the daughter of Dr. Mary Glowrey's brother Gerard were present. Jane Munro, the out-going General President welcomed the participants followed by prayer led by Mary Long.

Rev. Sr. Innamma Yeruva, the Superior General of JMJ delivered an inspiring message on the event. Distinguishing Mary Glowrey as a 'unique gift of God', she said the Servant of God a 'good-for-nothing' was 'good for eternity with a lasting vision'. Further, she highlighted some salient features from the life of Mary Glowrey that had a great impact on Catholic healthcare, the Church and the world today.

Fiona Power, the Curator of Mary Glowrey Museum in Australian Catholic University presented a PowerPoint retracing Mary Glowrey's journey from Australia to India in 1920. Pauline Adams, the granddaughter of Lucy Connellan, the elder sister of Mary Glowrey shared about their visit to the Station Pier at Port Melbourne recently memorializing Mary Glowrey's departure to India from the same spot 100

years ago. Louise McGrath, the grand-daughter of Harold Glowrey, Mary Glowrey's brother read from a letter she wrote to the family in 1920 describing about her journey and the warm welcome she received in Guntur.



Mary Ferlin, the Museum designer, presented the Mary Glowrey Museum Christmas cards and souvenir booklet. Anna Krohn, the incoming General President and an ardent devotee of Dr. Sr. Mary Glowrey, who wrote many articles about her in *The Horizon* and other periodicals, expressed words of farewell.

In this article, I invite you to ponder over, on the struggle Dr. Mary Glowrey had undergone in discerning her call to go to India and the route she travelled. On 24 October 1915, when she experienced God calling her, to be a Medical Missionary Religious, Dr. Mary Glowrey MBBS was serving in three main hospitals in Melbourne from 1912 to 1919, as a Senior



MBBS Graduation
in 1910

Resident Surgeon and Refractionist Resident doctor at the Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital, Honorary Oculist at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital and Out-patient Physician at St. Vincent's Hospital besides her own private practice at 52 Collins Street, in addition to serving the victims of World War I.

The idea of going to India, for a brilliant doctor, a personality beyond reproach, with fine and excellent personal qualifications, a woman who already known for her indefatigable energy and determination was unbelievable. Mary Glowrey had her own difficulties with the arguments raised about her going to India, a place which was considered as an unhealthy country. But her response to them was that the need for medical mission was greater in such places. Another strong objection came from her friends who were genuinely concerned due to her weak heart as a consequence of childhood



At Victorian Eye and Ear
Hospital, Melbourne

rheumatic fever. To them her reply was that it was God's business to take care, if He really wanted her to do medical work in India.

Four years passed, yet Mary's vision of going to India was not realised. At that time, a lady doctor who was a widow with a child from India, wrote to Mary Glowrey advising not to join the Dutch sisters because they were very strong, worked too hard, they never went to the Hills for a holiday and as a result she was certain that she would never be able to go through with it all.

Mary Glowrey discreetly discerned her religious vocation over subsequent years and was convinced that it was God's will for her to go to India and she could not be deaf to His call. She wrote to her mother that there was so much work to be done in India and if she stays in Melbourne it remains undone. At the same time, she felt that leaving home would more than ever be a 'wrench'.

In 1919, she resigned from her office as the Foundation President of the Catholic Women's Social Guild with a secret plan to do her Master in Medicine which covered Medicine, Gynaecology, Obstetrics and Ophthalmology in order to be more efficient and effective in her mission. The degree was conferred on her on 23 December 1919 and a month later she left Australia on a longer journey as a missionary to India, being very well equipped as a woman's physician and surgeon, a dream fulfilled after nearly five years.



Mary Glowrey bid good-bye to the family at
Station Pier, Port Melbourne on 21 January 1920

The World War I was ended and Dr. Mary Glowrey was ready with all her preparations including an eight-day retreat with the Sisters of Mercy at the Convent of Mercy in Goulburn which was led by Fr. William Lockington SJ. She left her thriving career and sailed to India on 21 January 1920 from Station Pier, Port Melbourne, on board the *Orsova*. From Melbourne she travelled via Adelaide and Fremantle to Colombo. She arrived Colombo on Friday, 06 February and stayed at the Grand Oriental Hotel. She could have taken a train on the next day but wishing not to miss the Mass on Sunday she waited, participated in the Mass, made her Confession and on Sunday, 08 February evening, she took a train from Colombo to Talaimannar in Ceylon. The tiresome journey continued and from Talaimannar she had to travel about 22 miles by a ferry for two hours to reach the mainland of India. Then, she fetched another train and reached Madras on Tuesday, 10 February 1920.

Archbishop John Allen sent someone with a letter of welcome and he took her to the Presentation Convent at Church Park where the sisters received her with joy. Archbishop had gone to meet the Apostolic delegate (later Cardinal



On board the *Orsova*
on 21 January 1920

Giovanni Constantini) who was on the point of leaving India for Japan. In a short time, the Archbishop along with the Cardinal invited her to see them.

From Madras she set out for Guntur on Wednesday, 11 February 1920, by train via Bezwada (present Vijayawada) and reached Bezwada in the early hours of 12 February. In Bezwada, a teacher from Guntur



On her arrival, first she was taken to the chapel, where she saw a lovely statue of the Sacred Heart with out-stretched arms above the altar and on the sanctuary were the words: "*Magister Adest et Vocat Te,*" meaning "*The Master is here, and calleth for thee,*" which made a deep impression on her. Dr. Mary Glowrey joined the Society of Jesus Mary Joseph on 27 May 1920 and

met her at the station with a letter from Mother Elizabeth Helsloot, the superior of St. Joseph's Convent, Guntur, informing that he would accompany her to Guntur. In Bezwada they went to the Church, attended the Holy Mass celebrated by a visiting priest and then proceeded to Guntur. At Guntur, the only horse carriage of the town was requisitioned to take her to St. Joseph's Convent. Mary Glowrey was welcomed by the community of sisters at St. Joseph's Convent, Guntur with great joy on 12 February 1920.

entered the novitiate on 28 November 1920. Mother Assumptia van Ray was her formator during the postulancy and novitiate. She made her temporary profession on 29 November 1921, perpetual profession on 29 November 1924 and lived as a loyal, committed, spirit-filled religious in total humility and surrender to the will of God.



Citation of Appreciation

General Council
Congregation of Jesus Mary Joseph, Rome



SR. DIONYSIA ELANJIKULAM JMJ

We dedicate this *“Citation of appreciation”*, to you for your indomitable zeal for our Founder and for presenting to the Congregation the *“Spiritual Legacy of Rev. Fr. Mathias Wolff,”* and also your previous writings *‘The Pearl of Heritage’* and *‘The First Zealous Sowers of God’s seeds in the Indian Soil’*, *‘Tribute to Fr. Mathias Wolff’* and *‘Legacy of JMJ Congregation: Vision, Mission, Charism and Spirituality’*

We are grateful to you as well, for writing an updated version of *“Tribute to Mathias Wolff SJ”* by JMJ bicentenary year 2022.

To Sister **“D I O N Y S I A”** with profound gratitude!

- D** - Dedicated and loyal to JMJ formation ministry,
- I** - Igniting young JMJs with Wolff’s spirit’s sagacity,
- O** - One and only aim to live Mathias spiritual legacy,
- N** - Noble life with passion for Christ and humanity!
- Y** - Yeoman service to JMJ thru apostolic zeal ever,
- S** - Simple spiritual silent systematic life fervor,
- I** - Inspiring formees of past and present formator,
- A** - Admire your unflinching devotion to Founder!



Believe,
GOD makes it
happen!

Sr. Lucy Gade
Nirmala Convent, Kadapa



I can do all things through CHRIST who gives me strength (Phil: 4:13)

A great achievement is the result of allocating your time, effort, energy, and hard work; being open to God's will towards what you want to achieve. This was exactly my disposition, when I was transferred to Nirmala Convent, Kadapa in 2014 to work in Nirmala Hospital, which was almost at the verge of close as it was non-functional for a few years by then.

Although, I was a bit apprehensive about my mission in such a hospital, something deep with me said 'Fear not, I am with you!'. Yes, Jesus Christ, my life's anchor had not left me alone, but accompanied me so very closely to handle the situation in such a way that made a great transformation in the lives of so many terminally ill patients.

I remember the scripture verse – John 15:16: *You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit, the kind of fruit that will last and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.*

Is God going to work through me to bear much fruit and would whatever I ask in Jesus' name, be granted to me?

God's design for the future ministry in Nirmala Hospital was affirmative as I went round the town to survey, visiting the families and associating with people about what is the need of the hour to serve the people in this locality. I know then, the need for geriatric home was not a right choice as there are several already in the town. The Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, revealed His plan that there is a greater need to start a Terminally ill Patient Care Centre by which the chronically ill and incapacitated people are to be served. A great revelation of my loving God indeed!

Eventually, we took up the initial steps to begin the new ministry of caring for terminally ill with nine people. Believe and have faith in the promise of God. I prayed through the intercession of St. Antony (my family saint) to send at least 25 patients by the end of February 2015. My community joined me as well in this devotion. Miracles happen when you Believe! Precisely, by the end of February 2015, that too exactly after 25th February, miraculously 25 people were admitted. Truly, most of the admissions come on Tuesdays. From that time onwards patients have been increasing every year and now we have 60 inmates in our hospitality. We all witness the wonders of God and experience God's providential and protective hand on all the inmates of our hospice even during this COVID-19 pandemic. I believe, it is merely God's abiding presence among us (John: 15:4).

We have excellent staff with skilful hands to serve our clients with commitment. The predominant feature of our care is to reveal the love of Christ to our inmates - a place of tranquillity and peace! I am immensely grateful to God for making this new venture happen through my faith and intervention but all - for the glory of His name and for the solace of these suffering people of God.



JMJ Formation *for* Christ's Mission

JMJ Formation is a process of growing into the likeness of Christ. The primary aim of formation is to initiate the formee to discern God's unique *CALL* to her in resonance with the Congregation's specific Charism, Spirituality and Mission. MJM Formation is contextualized, integral and a continuous process of updating and adapting to the ever-challenging situations of the times and needs of the world. It beckons the formee, to a process of growing into the likeness of Christ.

JMJ Formees, desiring to live in tune with the Charism and Spirituality of our Congregation, are enabled to discern, discover and respond to God's call, - *to be always ready, to be sent out anywhere, for any ministry, any time; and be prepared to leave much that is dear and familiar to her, for the sake of the Lord* (Mathias Wolff). The missionary spirit of our Congregation demands, a continually Adaptable Apostolic Availability, with an ever-renewed search for doing God's holy will, for the liberation of humanity.

Formation is a lifelong process that includes both the initial and ongoing formation. In this article, I focus only on the formation of novices.

Formation in Noviciate: During the period of formation, a novice tests herself, finding whether the life chosen by her, as defined in the constitution, inspires and offers her the opportunity of realizing her ideals of serving the people of God through our Congregation. During this period, the emphasis is laid on the integration of formee's human, spiritual, intellectual and apostolic formation dimensions. In addition, she is guided through personal accompaniment to grow in a deep prayer experience of '*Contemplation in action, the Ora et Labora*' where she learns to live the components of interior and exterior spirituality of the Congregation.

Preparation for Apostolic formation: Towards the completion of the Canonical year, in our case the first year of noviciate, the novices are introduced to the apostolic formation, before they are sent out to the communities for such experiences in any MJM

Sr. Dionysia Elanjikulam
MJM Formation House, Bhopal



community and mission. Within the framework of MJM contemporary ministries of education, healthcare, social and evangelization, they are also introduced to various emerging and relevant ministries of the Church through:

1. Familiarizing personal reflection and theological dialogue techniques for effective and integral approach to MJM life through varied the interventions.
2. Teaching and integrating to respond to God's call to holiness as contemplatives in action to promote God's reign of justice, peace and love.
3. Launching and engaging *Laudato Si'* action plans to care for our common home – the Creation.
4. Teaching and practicing action oriented "personal and communal Ecological Conversion" and to listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the Poor.
5. Preparing to go forth as instruments of hope into the heart of the world - sowing hope for the planet and people.
6. Teaching to respond to the psycho-socio-economic challenges of victims suffering from sexual abuse, migrants, refugees, people at the margins and borders of the society.

The programme of the second year noviciate is organized in such a way, that they involve themselves in one of the ministries of the community. Here the theoretical formation of the novice will acquire concrete shape through MJM ministries. This year due to the pandemic our second-year novices might have limited chances to have experiences of working and living with the poor and marginalized.

In addition, novices are facilitated to develop personal responsibility for one's humane and spiritual progress, integration of prayer and work and above all a deeper conviction of one's call to follow Jesus and grow into His likeness. Let us accompany our formees through our prayer and blessings.



Sr. Dr. Lalitha Karanam
JMJ Provincialate, Hyderabad

"WITH THE LORD OF THE WORLD: FOR THE WORLD OF THE LORD"

With the Lord of the World; for the World of the Lord,
Invites every JMJ to intimacy with God,
Links you and me with God and humanity,
JMJ charisma flowing from divine to humane.

Divine love in me stretches out its wings,
To the poor, homeless, sick or stranger,
To the hopeless, silent or spoken,
To the misfortune, broken or burden.

As the sun spreads over west shelter,
I carry the whole world to the Lord protector,
Drawn to the Eucharistic Lord's abode,
To the Lord of the world never alone.

In Thy Presence, I offer my loaded heart,
The concern of my neighbour, pain of my patient,
Writhing cry of mother in labour, agony of terminally ill,
There flows from Thy throne grace abundant.

My filled vessel, I empty at Thy throne,
Apprehension of my colleague at work place,
Hunger pain in mid-sun of those beating stone,
Thirst of those walking miles to fill their pots.

Everything I carry to the Lord in the Eucharist,
Thou deeply listen from Thy mercy seat,
Comforting Divine presence filling my heart,
Boundless inner strength flooding up my spirit.

I pray with the Lord of the World,
Forever for the World of the Lord,
Like Jesus Mary Joseph; passion for God's mission
I move on Jesus' mission with compassion.

Prajwala Home: Glowing God's Eternal Flame

Prajwala means 'Eternal Flame'. I am immensely happy to share my mission in Prajwala Home, Vijayawada. Founded on 30 October 2010 by Sr. Tresa KVM our Provincial now, under the mentorship of Sr. Stella Maris, the former Provincial of Guntur Province, Prajwala is now 10 years. The drive to start Prajwala home was to flame the rays of hope in the lives of young girls and women who are exploited and abused in the Society. During this decennial period, the Eternal Flame of God's tender loving care guided us on this journey. As we celebrate the 10th anniversary, we lift up our hearts in gratitude and praise, for God's marvellous deeds and accompaniment.

Prajwala home was also called as Open Shelter home, initiated first in Satya Narayanapuram and later in 2013 it was moved to Krishna Lanka, Vijayawada. A second home Swadhar was established in Hanuman Junction in 2016 for women in difficult circumstances. Our shelter home started just with one inmate and now it accommodates 25 abused and victimised women and girls. Most of them have a history of domestic violence, illicit relationships or sexual abuse.

Objectives of Prajwala Shelter Home:

- To cater to the primary need of shelter, food, clothing, and medical treatment to women and girls exploited and abused.
- To care for women in distress, to regain emotional strength and appropriately rehabilitate them.
- To provide them legal aid and counselling, to build up self-confidence and self-esteem.
- To empower them to start their life afresh with dignity and conviction.

What do we do with them? We see them as people who have no hope to live. They are physically tortured and emotionally broken down. They feel rejected by their partners, family and significant others. The first thing we do is to build up their self-confidence and self-esteem through counselling, psychotherapy and behaviour therapy. Counselling sessions help them to

Sr. Jayaseela Thirumalareddy
JMJ Prajwala, Vijayawada



change their attitude towards life and bring significant positive change in their behaviours.

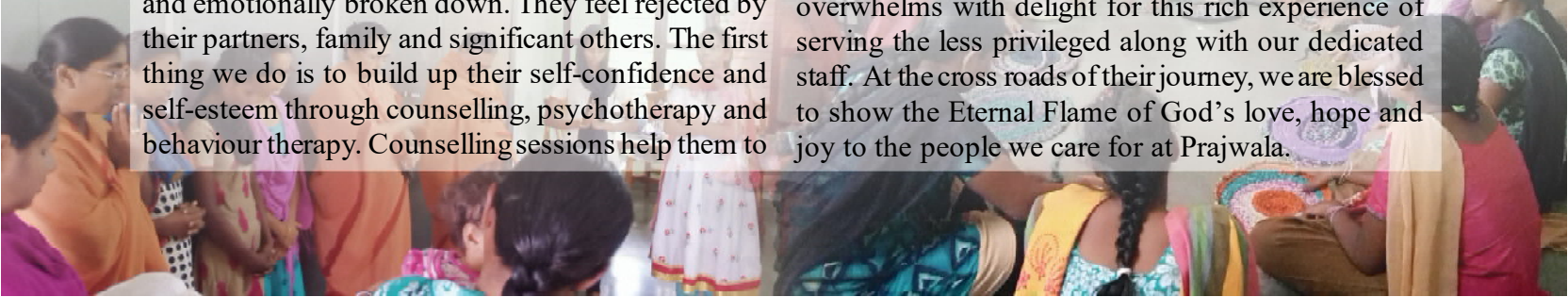


Once they go through this process, we offer them rehabilitation training like skill training in tailoring, embroidery, craft work, screen printing, making handicrafts, Jute bags etc. But for young girls who are school dropouts and beyond school age, we organize lessons and prepare them to appear for the final exams. Formal education also is given to children in school age through our JMJ Schools.

Life skills, motivational and moral education gives them hope and courage to reintegrate into their families. Once the inmates are confident to go back to their families and start anew, we summon the family and hand over them through Women and Child Welfare department and local police. We do follow them up to ensure that they do not return to the vulnerable situation again.

Pope Francis said: "I think of children and women who are victims of prostitution and human trafficking, are humiliated in their essential human dignity". Working with the victims enabled me to understand and help them better, sharing in their struggles and guiding them to regain their human dignity.

The women and young girls supported by Prajwala home are ever grateful for the love and care they receive from JMJ sisters and staff. My heart overflows with delight for this rich experience of serving the less privileged along with our dedicated staff. At the cross roads of their journey, we are blessed to show the Eternal Flame of God's love, hope and joy to the people we care for at Prajwala.



Empowering Catholic Families To become *Christ Centered*

Sr. Prem Kumari Hansda
Morning Star Convent, Raigarh



“The word of God is a source of comfort and companionship for every family that experiences difficulties or suffering. The triune God is a communion of love, and the family is its living reflection.”

- Pope Francis on Family

I am associated with the Archdiocese of Raipur since 2010. Currently, I am privileged to be a member of the Catechetical and Family Commission of the Archdiocese. It is my interest to listen to the poor and victimized, which eventually helped me to reach out to them through my involvement in archdiocese activities apart from my teaching in the school.

The Vision of the Family Commission is “Christ centered, loving, joyful, witnessing families, nurturing life.” Its Mission is “Promoting understanding and harmony among family members, empowering them to become living sanctuaries of the Gospel values, motivating them to be agents of transformation for Church and society.”

Visualizing the mission, the Commission is actively involved to spread the word of God, deepening the love and message of Jesus Christ, through faith formation of the Catholic families to become a domestic Church, sharing the Church's life and mission by living the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Being the member of the Commission, I am actively involved in Faith formation and Family apostolate. I kept in contact with the families and groups via online during the pandemic, and from this association I have come across many problems faced by Catholic as well as other known families like broken marriages, faith crises, shattered families, divorced, neglected elderly parents, drug addicts, unexpected serious illness, unemployment, sudden financial crisis, business failure, sexual and physical abuse and domestic violence.

We know that family is the pillar of the Church and society. A catholic family cannot live separately from society. On one side Catholics try to live according to Christian faith, but on the other side, they live in a sick environment full of corruption, divorce, free sex, free media and many more. Many Catholic families are infected by these maladies. Faith formation of children is on decline.

The role of Family Commission is addressing Pro-Life issues, training of couples for family movements and family apostolate, conducting marriage enrichment and preparation programs, promoting family spirituality through faith formation and sacramental life.

I had the privilege of working for Family apostolate, Christian parenting and Marriage preparation. This experience has been extremely rewarding. It has helped many families to understand the beauty and uniqueness of Catholic family life. My biggest advantage so far has been the power of presence and building relationships. Evangelization ministry is about building relationships with Christ and connecting with people.

The saga of these helping hands for the spiritual growth of faithful through various programs in the parish and school; involving in archdiocese pastoral care all these years is a matter of joy and humbling graceful experience of serving the Lord. All these in fact strengthened my faith to live my call to consecrated life joyfully and faithfully.



NURSES

the Heartbeat of Healthcare

Nurses are the heartbeat of any health system. Today, many nurses find themselves on the frontline in the battle against COVID-19, their support is vital and we need them in large numbers to keep the world healthy. To produce such competent and committed professional nurses is a great challenge in our Nursing Colleges today.

As a nurse educator, I feel happy to acknowledge that my students' progress is my greatest joy and contribution to the society is my utmost satisfaction. It gives me immense happiness to work with young nursing students, educating and training them to become professional nurses. Healing ministry demands from us commitment and discipline. It is so important to provide constant moral guidance and inspiring motivation to students to pursue through their academic and practice roles to develop into full pledged nurses.

My dream is to motivate every single young budding nurse who enters our institute with a passion and goal for themselves to serve humanity. My vision is to make St. Philomena's College of Nursing, a center par excellence in nursing education, which is geared towards the preparation of creative, caring, competent and dedicated nursing professionals to meet the needs of the society by an expression of Christian concern.

I wish to enshrine and embed the Spirit of our Founder – to devote themselves to God and love the profession through their commitment, providing compassionate care to the clients under their care. Nursing also demands that one should be always available because it is precisely a caring profession and every nurse learns to adapt to the patients' unique culture, language and religion. The present younger generation has innate abilities and creative minds, it is for us to channelize these gifts of God into their profession. I dedicate this poem to our past and present students who passed through the portals of every College of Nursing in the Congregation of JMJ.

Sr. Lourdu Mary Nagothu
JMJ Nilayam, Bangalore



The Heart of a Nurse!

Nurses are compassionate and caring,
With love in their hearts for all.
Forever extending a heart of mercy,
Always there when there is call.

Endless hours they stand on their feet,
Wondering, "Did I do my best
To help this patient get through this illness,
Ease their pain so they can rest?"

In their hearts you hear God's whisper
Through a nurse he sends his love.
Ever sensitive, kind and caring,
Souls as pure as a snow-white dove.

Angel, yes, she tends to be,
For her presence comforts me.
Concern for the sick shows on her face,
Her gentle touch, my fears erase.

Dear nurses, let's bring to God's service our intellect and insight, the science and art of nursing residing now within as we practice perfected skills and integrated knowledge. Science can be taught, but the elusive heart remains within the purview of each nurse, freely given in service to those cared for, made in the image of God. In the certainty of God's will, attuned to His heart, soar to soul's delight, knowing we bring a unique blend to professional practice.

*Nursing's highest form of art is the caring heart,
God's gift to those called.*



JMJ Charism in action during the Pandemic

JMJ SISTERS SERVING COVID VICTIMS AT MORNING STAR HOSPITAL



Sume Kurre Gulapi Nand Jyoti Kisku
Morning Star Convent, Raigarh

COVID-19 pandemic has not just threatened the health of millions but also wreaked havoc on the emotional and mental wellbeing of people around the world. Feelings of anxiety, helplessness and grief are rising as people face an increasingly uncertain future. Nearly everyone has been touched by loss, which raises a question: Is there anything people can do to cope with the emotional fallout of this confusing and uncertain time?

JMJ Morning Star Hospital, Raigarh was inducted by Raigarh District Administration to work with local government in the fight against the pandemic. JMJ went ahead to be in the forefront by setting a ward in our hospital to treat positive patients. In the beginning it sounded very hard and all were anxious. But our charism challenged us and stirred us to be available. When everyone looked for a secure place at home, we placed ourselves under the providential care of God. As we began attending to corona patients, we were gripped by a deep fear of being directly exposed to infection but we had the hope that God who has called us, will take care for us.



Trusting on God's protection we moved forward to serve selflessly. Dressed in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and serving for 12 hours was a very harsh experience. Donning the PPE from head to toe and staying in it for 12 hours meant no eating, drinking water or meeting even the needs. The flip side of the protective gear is that it does not allow flow of air. At times we felt as if we are about to faint. We were drenched in sweat and experienced dehydration and felt hypoxic by the end of the shift. Even with the PPE, there was anxiety as we entered the infected zone. With equipment oral communicate was also difficult but we continued serving our clients.

It was extremely challenging to care for such patients with diabetes, hypertension and other age-related issues. Providing them psycho-social support was extremely important to ease their worries and make them feel comfortable. We made sure that the patients were physically active. It helped them recover better. While trusting in God we found our fulfillment in taking care of the patients, watching them get better and returning to their homes. Patients recovering from the disease give us hope. It is a sign that we are winning this battle against covid-19 although it is not erased completely.

Patients were co-operative and followed Doctor's orders. They had the fear of losing life but thank God all of them so far recovered, being extremely happy and grateful to each one of us for the best of care they received at Morning Star Hospital. Our medical team sacrificed everything for the sake of the patients. While rendering our services to COVID-19 patients we heard them say '*Sisters are the images of God*'.

We thank the Almighty for calling us to the healthcare apostolate and also, we thank JMJ Morning Star Hospital Administrator Sr. Veronica Thattil who had been helping and encouraging us to give ourselves generously in order to continue Jesus' healing ministry through our noble nursing profession. We experienced the tremendous prayerful support of our sisters from the province that kept us going in our healing ministry.

The Spirit of 'UBUNTU' in the Time of Covid-19



An anthropologist proposed a game to the African Tribal children...

He placed a basket of sweets near a tree and made the children stand 100 meters away. Then he announced that whoever reaches first... Would get all the sweets in the basket! When he said 'Ready steady go!'...

Do you know what these children did?

They all held each other's hands, ran together towards the tree, divided the sweets equally among themselves, ate the sweets and enjoyed it.

When the anthropologist asked why they did so,

They answered... **UBUNTU**

Which meant :

'How can one be happy if others are sad?'

Ubuntu means – **"I am because we are"**

A strong message for all generations.

Let's have a **"Ubuntu"** Life...

I AM BECAUSE WE ARE!

The philosophy of UBUNTU is "a belief in universal bond of sharing that connects all of humanity."

Let us always carry this attitude within us, to spread happiness by sharing with others what we have wherever we are.



Ubuntu In the Time of COVID-19

*Ubuntu philosophy - we need to follow right now!
Ubuntu opens to us the doors to shared humanity.
Ubuntu should be at the centre of our response
in this time of crises.*

Ubuntu truly holds the answers to our problems

I am because we all are.

I am cared for, because we are all cared for.

I am safe, because we are all safe.

Together we can beat this virus.

Together we can save our world.

UBUNTU



An unassuming
Sister of **JMJ**

Sr. Nicolette Gayam
St. Mary's Convent, Nellore



*“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.
They are new every morning, great is Thy faithfulness.”*

A gentle cry was heard on December 15, 1942, in the family of Gayam Rayappa Reddy and Mariamma as their first-born child saw the light of the day! An unassuming child was born to love and serve God! I was named after St. Francis Xavier as Franciscamma. I am the eldest among four girls and Sr. Germaine JMJ is my younger sister. I did my primary schooling in my native village Patibandla and for high school I joined at St. Joseph's, Guntur.

During my stay in St. Joseph's boarding, I was deeply edified by the life examples of JMJ sisters who were very prompt to respond to the call of God in the form of bells. They were very obedient and prayerful. Their approach to every person was full of love and kindness, that planted a seed of vocation in me. Late Sr. Berchmens JMJ, my paternal grandmother nurtured my vocation.

A strong sense of attachment to the spirit of JMJ moved me to enter as an aspirant in 1960 and I made my temporary profession in 1963. I was christened as Nicolette and on 29 January, 1968 I made my final commitment. After the example of our Founder Rev. Fr. Wolff, the Lord has called me to work like a giant building God's kingdom of love.



Living and working side by side with our Dutch missionaries was another great experience of faith in my life. After my first profession, I was sent to Kurnool, to accompany our Dutch sisters to visit villages, to teach catechism, visit families, listen to people's problems and praying along with them. I admire Dutch sisters for their steadfast love for people and their sacrificial life in spite of weather and language barriers. They worked tirelessly to spread the love of Christ. This experience had a deep impression on me and I was motivated to follow them putting aside my education.

I continued my services in evangelization ministry in Guntur, Durgi and Siruguppa. With a deep spirit of commitment, I tried to be always available for any mission of the congregation. I was sent then, as a missionary to Rome to serve in Dutch College. On my return, I gladly took up housekeeping work in Bangalore and Goa. Now at the age of 78, God blessed me with good health, to serve him in Nellore, helping in the cathedral and visiting the sick in the hospital. In every community, I have always experienced the true spirit of JMJ. Understanding and co-operation, support and mutual trust helped me to be fruitful in my mission.

All through my life, I am completely engaged in catechetical work and during leisure help in tailoring and household work. I am always happy and satisfied with whatever work entrusted to me by the authorities. Being true to myself, I do everything with utmost love and concern, as I see the presence of Christ in every person. I wish to be joyful always, giving myself totally for the greater glory of God.

The Lord who called me and consecrated me for Him alone, accompanied me all through my life and His powerful protection guided me in every situation. I am ever grateful to God for His providence all through my life.

Pearls of Inspiration and Wisdom from Sr. Ignatius Yeruva

Sr. Usha Nekkanti
JMJ Prasanth Nilayam, Guntur



Little pieces of wisdom that go along way!

I am Sr. Usha Nekkanti working as a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital, Guntur. I am from JMJ Prashanth Nilayam community, where I have daily opportunity to meet our senior sisters and try to live their values. I am glad to share my encounter with Sr. Ignatius Yeruva, now 93 years, a great JMJ educator and evangelizer who is hospitalized.



Usha: Sr. Ignatius, good evening.

Ignatius: Very good evening Sr. Usha. I see a smile on your face and you look very happy today, what's the matter?

Usha: Sister, looking at you and your long happy life as a JMJ nun, I am curious to know something more about you.

Ignatius: With pleasure, I am always there ready to help the sisters and of course like our founder ever ready for souls... laughs.

Usha: Thank you. Let me begin then ... Who has nurtured your faith and vocation to JMJ?

Ignatius: My greatest inspiration is from aunt (mother's sister) Sr. Virgin Mary, a nun in St. Ann's of Phirangipuram. In fact, she too was impressed by the zealous life of JMJ sisters. At any cost she encouraged me to become a JMJ. Her sisters Sr. Virgo Maria and Sr. Anna Maria already joined JMJ Congregation and their virtuous religious life also inspired me.

With great desire to follow the Lord, I was attracted to JMJ sisters' way of life. Right from class three, I studied at St. Joseph's Guntur. The exemplary life of Mother Stanislaus the head mistress, Sr. Stephini my boarding mistress inspired me. From childhood the source of my faith is from attending daily holy mass.

Usha: How did you cherish and sustain your call for so many years? What is the secret of your happy and contented life?

Ignatius: From the Novitiate, I cherished my calling. Emulating the inspiration from some of our Dutch sisters, especially Sr. Elginio, my formator was a great experience. Their sacrificial life strengthened my vocation. Though I was not in touch with hospital work, meeting Dr. Sr. Mary Glowrey is a cherished memory. Mother Angelina, my superior for several years helped me to form my character. By God's gift being happy and hale is my way, and there is joy in radiating the same to others.

Usha: What do you like most in our Congregation?

Ignatius: I like most the Charism of our Congregation and the Spirit of Our Founder. I am happy to say that according to the needs of the Church, the Congregation has ventured into social and evangelization ministries.

I am very delighted to acknowledge that I had a great opportunity of working for the Church in Andhra Pradesh. Being specialized in Telugu, I was involved in translating Bible into Telugu language along with Bishop Gali Bali, Fr. Jojaiah Pudota S.J and Fr. William Patibanda of Guntur Diocese.

Usha: Do you want to say something of our Founder, Dutch Missionaries, Sr. Mary Glowrey and Sr. Stanislaus?

Ignatius: I would be glad to have this opportunity to speak about them.

FOUNDER: Dear Rev. Fr. Mathias Wolff, I am inspired by your apostolic zeal and spirit of ever ready to save the souls. Thank you for helping me to live like a giant and for the great spirit of apostolic availability and obedience of our first sisters. I hope you can see from heaven that majority of your sisters continue to be faithful to live these core values of the congregation for nearly 200 years.

DUTCH MISSIONARIES: Dear missionaries, your zeal for Indian mission, your love for the vision and mission of our Founder to spread the light of Christ on Indian soil is a great inspiration to us. Your sacrifice at the cost of never to look back to return to Holland, your lifelong commitment to live and die in India is an amazing fact. God has blessed your selfless efforts and we are now enjoying the fruits of your labour. We are eternally grateful to you for building up the JMJ Society in India.

DR. SR. MARY GLOWREY: Dear Mary Glowrey, Servant of God! Your presence in Guntur for 37 years is a miracle of God to save countless lives. Your zeal and passion for Christ's healing ministry and your undaunted spirit of availability and commitment express your incredible love for God and neighbor. I am very much blessed to have seen you and witnessed the works of your hands.

SR. STANISLAS SWAMIKANNU: My cherished memory – beloved Rev. Sr. Stanislas, I owe you immense gratitude for educating and moulding me to become an educator. You played an important role as my guide and nurtured my vocation. My bond with you is ever fresh even to this day. I highly esteem your very simple life style and authentic religious life, although you had high education qualification and rich family background. We salute you for laying a strong foundation for JMJ Education apostolate.

Usha: From your wisdom and experience what do you advice your sisters both young and old?

Ignatius: To the senior sisters - accept life as it comes cheerfully satisfied. Your happiness brings joy and blessings to the Congregation. Be grateful always, for through JMJ the Lord has cared for you. Our young with full of enthusiasm must look at us as source of inspiration and live their call authentically.

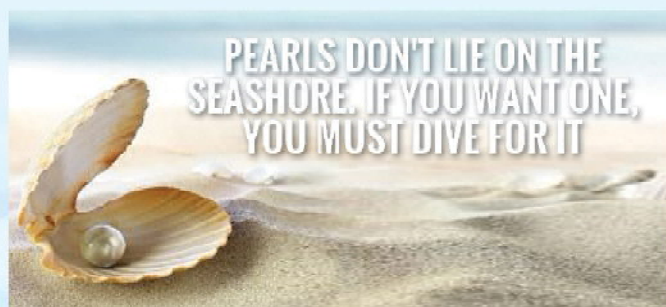
To the young sisters - You, the young sisters are the pillars of the Congregation and Church. You have the

opportunity to look to the future with hope. Live the spirit of the congregation with passion and apostolic availability. Be faithful to your commitment. Remember, the pleasures of this world are transitory and they never give you inner peace. Be faithful to personal prayer. As now we have various apostolates in the Congregation, prepare yourself as responsible people to continue the mission of congregation. Grow and live for the Church. Live joyfully, live simplicity and hard work.

Usha: What are your suggestions to GC, PC and those in authority? What is your vision for CJMJ?

Ignatius: At this age my suggestions to those in authority - kindly spend time praying to envisage the task entrusted to you by the Congregation. Hold on to God and live in unity as you have to guide the sisters to realize their role and responsibility in the Congregation. Take time in reading and reflecting the documents of the Congregation and the Church. Have respect for the elders. Be role models for the young sisters. Be faithful to God and His mission of redemption after the example of Jesus Mary Joseph. Do everything for the glory of God like our beloved Founder.

Remember, what our founder said – every JMJ Sister should be prepared to be sent out on God's mission ... I think such disposition is every important even today after 200 years of founding the Congregation. Such unconditional availability is needed now more than ever. We have so many poor people waiting for our presence and help. Our Congregation has to play a vital role in the Church and the world. I have great hope in our sisters that through living our charism and spirituality, we can move forward with faith to build God's kingdom love, justice and peace. May the Lord bring many members to continue the mission of the Church through our Congregation. I pray for all of you and our Congregation as I prepare myself to reach God's celestial paradise.



Charged with **PASSION** for Mission

My call to religious life in a missionary Congregation indeed is like a bolt from the blue. It all happened within a week to the surprise of all at home. Although not willing, I could finally convince my parents and proceeded to join the Society of JMJ at St. Joseph's Convent, Guntur, A.P.

As an Aspirant, I have a cherished memory of seeing Dr. Mary Glowrey, a great visionary and missionary of JMJ healthcare ministry. St. Joseph's School of Nursing was just started. Probably that's the time Dr. Mary Glowrey took up the multi-tasking job, working in the Hospital, High school as well as teaching medicine to the budding nurses while Sr. Peter Julian taught malaria treatment which was highly prevalent those days in Guntur.

Initially St. Joseph's Hospital admitted only female patients. School of Nursing yet to get recognition from the Government. So, the students had to work in Government Hospital for a period of six months, to appear for qualifying exams. St. Joseph's School of Nursing stands as the first Catholic Nursing School in Andhra Pradesh, training hundreds of nurses and staffing them both in government as well as private hospitals. Even to this day there is a lot of demand for qualified nursing staff trained at St. Joseph's.

I am privileged to recall the reminiscences of Dr. Sr. Mary Glowrey, the Founder of the Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI) which integrates the healing ministry of the Catholics across India. I had an opportunity to become an active member of the Association and worked unitedly with other catholic religious leaders in the country and abroad. I had the privilege of working as the President of CHAI for 7 years. It was a proud movement to continue the visionary work of Dr. Sr. Mary Glowrey.

During the General Chapter 1981, I was elected as the General Councilor from India. After completing twelve years of my office in The Netherlands, I returned to India in 1993 and the same year, I was appointed as the Provincial Superior of Hyderabad Province. During my term as the leader of JMJ,

Sr. Martin Maliekal
JMJ Shanthi Nilayam, Hyderabad.



I could explore different ways and means for the personal growth of the sisters and development of the mission. Those years of my office gave me a great challenge to redefine and evolve new ways of JMJ presence in the world.

I recall with satisfaction, the founding of 'Shanthi Nikethan' in Kurnool, the Care and Support Center for the HIV/AIDS patients as our Charism demanded. My happiest time is caring for these patients, who are abandoned by their families. I remember sitting with the dying patients, praying for them holding the Holy Rosary in one hand and with other hand making the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads reciting the Hail Mary until they breathed last. Such lived-in-experiences often left me with tearful eyes in silence and solitude. What gave me fulfilment is - when the new patient enters Shanthi Nikethan, he or she knew that they would be loved and cared for and that someone would say a kind word to them as they pass through this life to heaven.

God put into my heart a passion for caring of the children of the victims of AIDS. I had all the time in the world for them, to take them to my bosom, to feed, bathe and teach them. My only wish and prayer for them now is that the divine providence keeps them happy.

On realizing that I am over 90 years and my body is weakening, I responded to the call of the then Provincial Superior Sr. Celine Alapat, happily accepting to be transferred to JMJ Shanthi Nilayam in Hyderabad, to rest, relax and prepare for the Great Moment.



God's Protection and Providence

Sr. Dr. Tresa Bellamkonda
JMJ Morning Star, Raigarh, C.G



Born in Patha Reddipalem, Guntur district of AP on 5 Oct. 1942, I was a much-treasured child born after 7 years of my brother's death. My parents lost their first-born male child at the age of five and said that I was a gifted child of God, a fruit of their prayer. Sr. Stella Maris JMJ is my younger sister. At a young age I was inspired by my cousin Sr. Stephini Maria JMJ (late) to study at St. Joseph's Guntur. In spite of my father's unwillingness, I joined in 3rd class staying in boarding. After three months, I was admitted in St. Joseph's hospital under Sr. Dr. Mary Glowrey for typhoid. With no hopes of recovery, I was brought home. In utter helplessness and great sorrow my parents turned to God to heal me through the intercession of St. Alphonsa. Answering my parent's humble prayer, God blessed me with miraculous healing, of which my classmate Sr. Anna Gertrude JMJ is an eye witness. Sadly, a year later I lost my beloved mother in St. Joseph's Hospital during delivery. Situations moved from bad to worse. My father did not allow me to continue to study for two years, and later I was admitted in 5th class at St. Joseph's where my cousin Sr. Stephini was a great support to me.



I joined the Society of JMJ in 1958 after my S.S.L.C. After my first profession in 1961, my provincial offered me to choose a profession. I chose to join in nursing but after six months I was asked to go to college to study B.Sc. God's ways are different! In 1964, I was sent for medicine in St. John's Medical College, Bangalore. I completed MBBS in 1970. Since then I worked in various JMJ hospitals.

In March 1976, I was sent for P.G in C.M.C Ludhiana, Punjab. An incident which took place in May that year had changed my whole life. It was Sunday my day off. After holy mass, I was preparing for a conference, then I had an unusual call to come for duty as the duty doctor was ill. In five minutes, I reported on duty, helped my colleague with a hot drink and took to her room. Then a young girl of 15 years came to see me, whom I do not know. As I was talking to her I heard a loud noise like a bomb blast and something collapsing. At once everyone came running to me and said since you are a sister, God saved you! What actually happened was the roof of my room came down completely in ruins. I never saw the girl again. In this incident I realized God's plan to save me for a particular purpose (Jer. 33: 3) to spread the gospel message through healing ministry. If had I refused to go, I could have been dead under the rubble in that room. From then on, I rededicated my life to God and resolved never to say 'no' to anyone who needs my help at any time.

During my PG studies, I had to undergo two surgeries within 6 months in Hyderabad which left me with jaundice, due which I had to almost discontinue my P.G. Again I was miraculously healed and restored to health. A year later the then Mother General Sr. Louise van Laarhoven (late) encouraged me to complete my P.G. Hence, I went back to Ludhiana and completed successfully my P.G.

I thank God Almighty for His wondrous ways of love, support, care, goodness, providence and assurance of His presence. He has worked many miracles in my life. If have I to write it would be a book.

I am grateful to our Congregation, to all the sisters with whom I lived and worked for their love, encouragement, help and support.



*Obedience is God's
method of PROTECTION
for our LIVES.*

Incredible JMJ Tanzania Missionary

Sr. Lawrence Guvvala
JMJ Nilayam, Bangalore



Thanks to the Creator from the depth of my heart, for the sacred opportunity to be born at Patibandla, a traditional Catholic village in Guntur diocese, A.P, fondly called as second Jerusalem owing to its grand celebration of Epiphany. God blessed this land with over a hundred vocations to Priestly and Religious life.

I grew up in a very devote Catholic community of deep faith. My father instilled values of life and encouraged me to follow my vocation. My primary studies were with St. Ann's Sisters of Phirangipuram. Later I studied in St. Joseph's School at Guntur. JMJ sisters particularly Sr. Immaculata inspired me to join religious life.

As young JMJ sister teacher - My formation was in Guntur. By profession I am a teacher and served in Nellore from 1958 – 1961 and later in Guntur. I enjoyed being with children, instilling in them creativity and pleasant learning experiences. The smiles on the faces of children and their innocence often reminded me of what Jesus said: *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."* Poor students had a special place in my heart and I tried helping many such children to successful career.



As Missionary in East Africa - In 1961, I was sent as a missionary to Mwanza in Tanzania, East Africa along with Sr. Lucy Chiramal. In response to the invitation of Bishop Blonjous of Mwanza Diocese to educate the poor children of his diocese, our Society has sent out seven missionaries (5 Dutch and 2 Indian) to Tanzania to work in two places. Sr. Lucy, two Dutch Sisters and I were sent to Mwanza. I become nostalgic as I relive those wonderful days. As a young dynamic and courageous missionary, I always wished to be a true daughter of Fr. Mathias Wolff. I wonder, how I was able to render 12 years of service along with the Dutch missionaries, adapting myself to the local culture and language. My heart would exhale in happiness whenever I speak with my Dutch companions in Kiswahili, the local language of Tanzania. Such was the joy of my missionary life. My students kept in touch with me for many years after I returned to India. I have volumes to say about NYAKAHOJA (Holy Family) Primary School at Mwanza which is so dear to my heart till today.



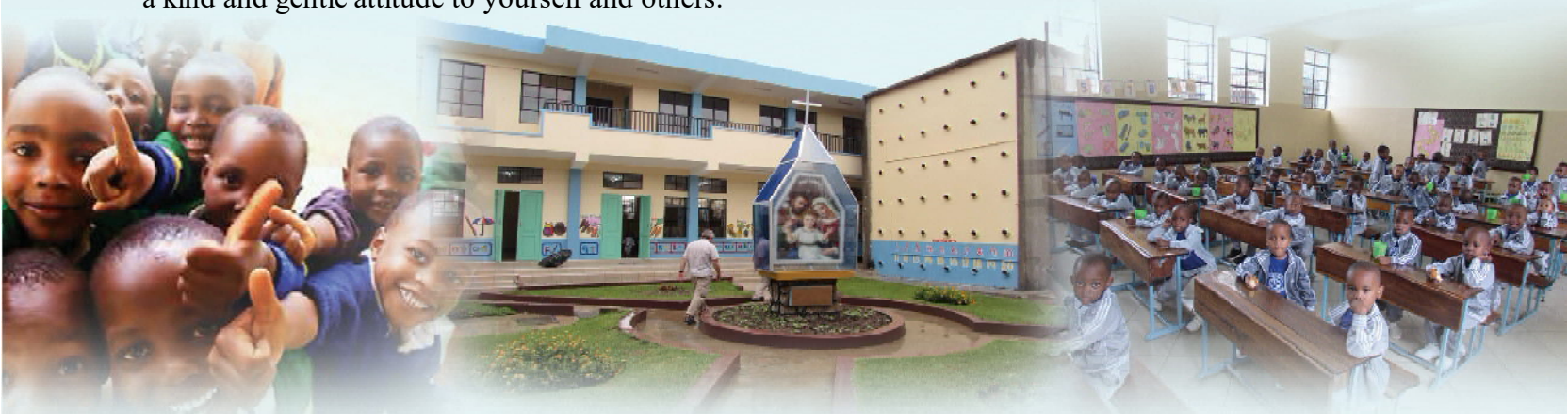
Life as missionary in Mwanza - My mission journey in Mwanza was something that still enthruses me. People were very good-mannered, respectful and supportive to sisters to develop the place. I enjoyed my life working in Nyakahoja School, Mwanza, because we lived with one spirit of JMJ -



Black, White and Brown together like in hymn we sing '*walking with Lord*'- *black and white and brown together walking, walking...*' Our school was developing well and reached to 7th standard at that time. All of a sudden, at a time when none of us even dreamt of it, we were asked to leave the country due to Civil War between Tanzania and Uganda. It was a dreadful moment to leave Mwanza with mixed emotions of sadness and gratitude. We had to just leave the Country only with our bag, leaving everything behind, donating to St. Theresa Sisters of Bukobo an African Congregation.

I was delighted to revisit my dear mission country in 2002, along with Sr. Greet from The Netherlands as the NYAKAHOJA School celebrated its 40th anniversary. After returning from Tanzania, God chose me to be an animator in several communities, being a loving sister to my fellow sisters. I tried to live the spirit of the Founder and our missionaries who set a great example of self-sacrifice for the sake of missions.

My humble advice to our younger generation: Be passionate for your mission. Compassionate to the poor. Responsible to live your commitment. Grow in deep love and loyalty to the Congregation. Emulate the rich spiritual legacy of the Founder. Always remember the apostolic Zeal of the missionaries. Be ready to be a missionary. Be generous in loving and caring others without counting the cost. Possess a broad vision with a kind and gentle attitude to yourself and others.



*Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

- Psalm 23:4



Pastoral Care during the Pandemic

How can we accompany people through this valley of anxiety, fear and death?



Here are 10 brief guidelines.

1. Monitor and follow the health guidelines. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and your state health department are monitoring the situation closely. Follow their guidelines. Stay healthy yourself. Model for others how to show up without panic. Providing basic and accurate information can be part of pastoral care.

2. Be a non-anxious presence. Being calm, emotionally present and free from anxiety inspires trust and provides the right kind of care in this pandemic. For caregivers to show up non-anxiously means managing our own emotions or anxieties. People borrow our calm and compassion to assist them in reducing their own anxieties.

3. Show up for people, even if it's not in person. "Avoid close contact" is becoming a mantra in this crisis, especially for people over 60. We can be connected with people digitally. It is not the same as being able to reach out and hold a hand. Yet, we are fortunate to have these viable options, so use them with care to offer support.

4. Listen in love. No matter what turn the pandemic takes, one of the most enduring and powerful gifts we can offer is to listen. By listening we embody the love of the sacred, the love of a wider community, the love of life itself. Compassionate listening is exactly what people need during the crisis.

5. Find ways to make community. The human desire to be helpful is incredibly strong. Although a crisis may lead some people to withdraw, it can also be a significant opportunity to pull together and support each other through organized, caring, and sustainable ways.

6. Help people to be hopeful. Find ways to remind people that God's loving presence and providence is there always. It can help us maintain a sense of hopefulness about God's loving presence in our lives, even when circumstances threaten to dim our hope.

7. Keep values alive. In times like this, our job is to call on people to live as best human beings in the world. It means to live our values, leaning into God's sustaining presence, loving our neighbours, and facing life or death with the same faith and values by which we faced life so far.

8. Don't be afraid to talk about death. Helping people grieve well—before, during, and after losses—helps them live better in every area of life. Making space to talk about death means expanding our capacities to live each moment as a gift.

9. Pray. Prayer greatly helps people who are apprehensive. Perhaps the better path is the prayer of participation. We participate in God's life and one another's lives by praying, by meditating in silence and renewing our sense of purpose, by bearing honest witness to the situation.

10. Take care. Remember that you, too, are a finite and limited creature. Tend to your own needs. Lean into your own community for support. And take turns with others giving care. Sabbath is not a luxury. Self-care is not selfish. As this outbreak continues to unfold, take steps to renew your own energy and hope in the Spirit of God.

by Eileen R. Campbell-Reed

<https://www.christiancentury.org//10-guidelines-pastoral-care-during-coronavirus-outbreak>

CALL TO LIVE FOR A *Purpose*

Sr. Maria Joseph Kumari
JMJ Convent, Thangellamudi



*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

- Jeremiah 29:11

Do you remember the day you left your home, parents and siblings? Why did you join in religious life? As years went on, what happened to your original zeal and enthusiasm to live selflessly?

As I pondered over my first desire to embrace religious life, I remembered what my formators said: *“Go back to the first love”*. It is the first love that instilled in me a desire to follow Him more closely, love Him more ardently. Living consecrated life in a radical way in the modern society is truly challenging. It calls for courage and enduring commitment to live the evangelical councils of poverty, chastity and obedience and follow the way of the Lord radically and stand for the values of God’s Kingdom.

When I entered the religious life, I did not know anything of the above. The only one thing I knew was that I want to live for Jesus and consecrate myself to Him alone. It’s my formators who taught me the essence of religious life - life of prayer, seeking union with God, total commitment, seeking and doing the Will of God and to respond to God’s call by living for Christ through radical discipleship.

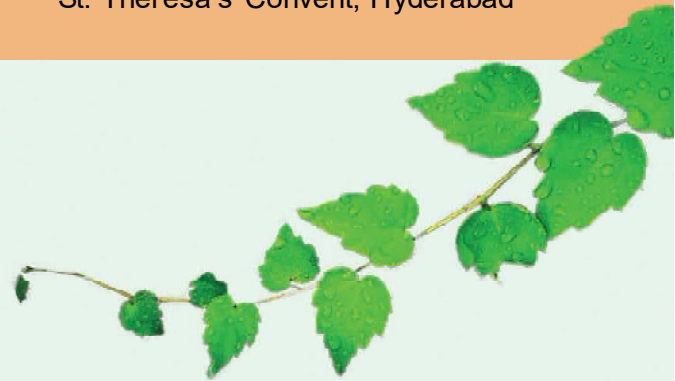
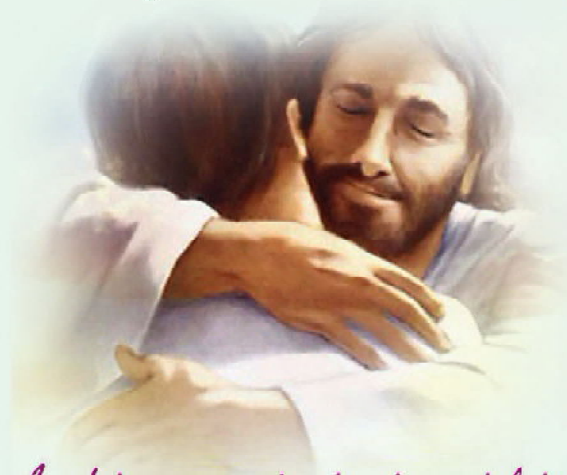
My journey as JMJ sister is not always a bed of roses but mingled with challenges and tests. Trials are inevitable in every state of life. Failure is another stepping stone to progress. Looking back to my experiences in life, I know that they have shaped me into a beautiful image in God’s service. *Gold is tested by fire, and human character is tested in the furnace of humiliation. Trust the Lord, and he will help you. Walk straight in his ways, and put your hope in him. Sirach 2:5-6.*

God is close to the weak, abandoned and insignificant persons in the Bible like Moses, Samuel, David, Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Peter, Paul and many more. He turned their weaknesses into strengths. Our founder Fr. Mathias Wolff, says concerning his sisters that, *“my wish for you is that not to make of you Christian daughters but I want you to become perfect religious by validating your call”*.

I thank God for the gift of Consecrated Life. I am so blessed to have been raised in a beautiful family where faith is not only taught, but practiced. I feel happy to admit that my vocation began to grow in the family of JMJ. Here, I first experienced the Lord’s personal love for me, a desire to give myself in love and service to others. I am ever grateful to the Congregation for the opportunities provided to advance in my religious life.

My COVID experience

Sr. Bandhavi Sikha
St. Theresa's Convent, Hyderabad



*The Lord is my companion in social isolation.
I am never alone. He gives me rest in the comfort of my own home.
He leads me along familiar pathways. And he restores my peace.
He leads me forwards, day by day through this strange existence.
Even though death and sadness are all around me.*

*I am not afraid, because You are with me.
You hold my hand, You steady my anxious thoughts.
You remind me, it's one day at a time.
I am well fed, in spite of all the turmoil.
I am blessed in an abundance of ways.*

*Surely You are with me, to quench my thirst for You.
Surely Your love, patience and peace will surround me.
Throughout this time of uncertainty and far beyond.
Your healing touch comforts me all the days of my life.
I am with you, and you are with me, always, to the end of time.*



Set apart to live **Consecrated Life**

Sr. Suvarna Kadiri
Jyothi Nilayam, Hyderabad



Consecrated means “set apart.” Those called to consecrated life are “set apart” by God for this particular way of life which expresses the deepest nature of the Christian vocation. In this “we see the hand of God who, in his Spirit, calls certain individuals to follow Christ more closely, to translate the Gospel into a specific way of life, to read the signs of times with the eyes of faith and respond creatively to the needs of the Church and the world” (Pope Francis, Letter to all Consecrated People).

World Day for Consecrated Life is celebrated on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the temple (2 February). The Feast Day was chosen by Pope John Paul II because it reflects how consecrated people offer their lives to God, in the same way as Mary presented Jesus in total service of God. This is expressed through the lived experience of the evangelical counsels (poverty, chastity and obedience) as a reflection and witness of the Kingdom of God.

In obedient to the Father’s call and by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, I have decided to live consecrated life following the footsteps of Christ, in order to devote myself to him with an ‘undivided’ heart. From Send by Lord on page 14, we read the lines concerning the spirituality of our congregation. Our Founder said: Like the Apostles of long ago..., today you are called to leave everything behind in order to be with Christ and to be at the service of God and people. In this way, God has called and chosen me to live JMJ charism, spirituality and apostolic zeal of the Founder, to make the mission of the Church shine forth, for the liberation of humanity.

Our Founder’s ministry was focused on the liberation of the Catholics of his time. He summed up his life in the words, “*Always ready for souls and I want to labour as a giant*”, for the liberation of the oppressed, poor and marginalized. In keeping with the Charism, we the sisters of JMJ are invited to be flexible to adapt and avail ourselves, in carrying out our ministries to

the needs of the Church, in Solidarity with the world. Being at the service of the Provincial Council and helping in secretariat is my present task, destined to me by the Lord. Carrying out this responsibility with utmost love and dedication, growing in deep intimacy with Lord through my authentic prayer life, fills me with inner strength and grace to live loyally my consecrated life.

On this sacred journey, I have many role models to follow. I like to read books on Saints, our Founder Mathias Wolff, Mary Glowrey, the servant of God and be inspired by their virtuous life. Sisters in the Congregation and many others who have lived extraordinary lives of goodness and holiness inspire and guide me to grow in holiness day by day.

I am very grateful to God for my special call to live as a consecrated religious. I experience the joy and enthusiasm that sustains and encourages me to progress in God’s service. I feel the power of loving and being loved by others. To be a person dedicated to God totally is a blessing that no one can take away from me. I am convinced that my love for God and my faith in His providence keeps me going. Whenever I go home and meet my family, friends, relatives, they always tell me, “You are blessed.” When I hear this, I feel truly blessed and gifted with an opportunity to grow in holiness and be a witness to the living Gospel.



I know... I am wanted by God

I am fortunate to be in the right place at the right time, that made a difference in my choice of life. Each time I think about how God has brought me here; I am amazed and filled with gratitude for the gift of my vocation.

With deep sentiments of thankfulness to God and the family of JMJ, I begin to share my 'Yes Lord' story. Precisely, I remember how my journey started; I was like any other girl desiring to choose the best way for my life. I had a little idea of religious life also slight aspiration to become a 'nun'. Everything was excellent in my life, until the day came to take a further step in life. I was perplexed and puzzled; confusion was not in choosing my vocation but rather in selecting the Congregation. My only prayer was, "plant me where I can bloom." I had a plan to join the sisters of Bon Secures as I did my schooling with them, but my elder sister was very firm that I join only JMJ. I gave her the chance to choose the Congregation and she chose the best one for me. Hence, I strongly believe that God wants to give me the best through someone, fortunately it was my sister.

With a firm conviction, I began my JMJ journey in 2011. Once I chose to answer God's call, I experienced a great sense of inner peace and confidence. At present, I am a sixth year temporarily professed sister. As I pen these lines, I relive the choice of my vocation, as God in His tender loving care has picked me up from so many, accompanied and molded me, skilled and led me through the years.

I am privileged to share an incident that deepened my vocation. It was the opportunity availed to me to write the profile of our dear Sr. Elsy Pulickal. I was indeed happy to write about someone whom I admired. Before I begin to write, I had to interview her with some questions to get right answers about her vocation and life in JMJ. I asked her what she felt about her vocation, did she make a right choice in her life and so on. Her answer was just this - "God gave us the

Sr. Reni Felishya
JMJ Preethinivas, Bangalore



intellect to think, reason out and make right choice, so I am in JMJ with no regrets rather only with regards because I know I made the right choice in my life," further she said "I am grateful to God for my call to JMJ and I live every day as gift of God who reassures me: "I am with you! I will never leave you!"



As I gazed at Jesus in the Sacrament that day – I raised my heart in gratitude for inspiring me through Sr. Elsy. Yes, God does accompany us through the events, people and experiences. I pondered, God continues to send good people to accompany and inspire us to live worthy of our call. I now realize that all of God's signs continue to point to the same reality: "I am with you! I will never leave you!"

The power of love is the beauty of the call to religious life. It's for me to launch into the deep, holding God's hand firmly, become authentic, live the call with integrity, live it in the fullness of its truth. And through all the challenges, twists and turns of life, I know still that God is with me as I journey through my Call. That too, to live as a JMJ nun, embracing the spiritual patrimony of the Founder and the apostolic zeal of the senior sisters. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13).

Song of the Spirit



I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving. (Ps 69:30)

Striding in the footsteps of my parents this small sail boat started to march forth with the breeze of God's spirit and faith which is instilled in me by the family. As a child, I used to accompany my mom to a nearby Mother Teresa's home and Sisters of Daughters of Charity. I was deeply moved by the spirit of love and compassion, above all the joyful sparkling eyes of the sisters and those ladies who serve them. I used to assist them and that was the moment I felt within me the joy of service. This joy has doubled in my life when I embraced religious life in the Congregation of JMJ. To be a sister of JMJ means much to me and I am truly grateful to the Lord for the gift of my vocation.

"Without me, you can do nothing" says Christ and "with Him I can do all things" assures St. Paul. Personalizing this word of God, I now affirm that I need God more than the boat needs breeze! I started sailing in the river of JMJ singing the loving mercies of the one who had called me. I passionately remember the delightful words of our beloved founder Fr. Mathias Wolff S.J. "He who is obedient, will always

Sr. Sowjanya Pathivada
JMJ Prasanth Nilayam, Guntur



be victorious and be blessed." Pondering on these words and accepting God's will, with an unflagging zeal and courage, I ventured into the beautiful profession of Nursing.

Nursing means not just a profession or job but an extension of human touch that counts; the power of touch is far more comforting to a faint heart than shelter and bread. Because, the shelter is gone when the night is over and the bread lasts only for a day, but the touch of the human hand and the sound of human voice sing in the soul constantly. I feel very satisfied that I am chosen to be a nurse, providing not just the physical but also emotional and spiritual care to my patients. By doing so, I experience abundance of happiness and worth living in the service of God through the service to humanity. I am convinced by what Jesus said: "I was sick and you looked after me... Truly, I tell you whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me" (Mt 25:36, 40).

One of my dreams as a child was, to become a well-known singer and musician. Ever since, I became a JMJ sister and later a professional nurse sharing in the Jesus' healing ministry, my dream became a reality, as I sing God's love every day, His life in me flows. My intimacy with Jesus and total commitment to Him is nurtured by my prayer in action. I find great inspiration from the lives of our Founder and Sr. Mary Glowrey, the servant of God as I move on my journey of faith and surrender.



Oh, my Prayer!

Sr. Regina Zangiti
JMJ KBK, Ghana



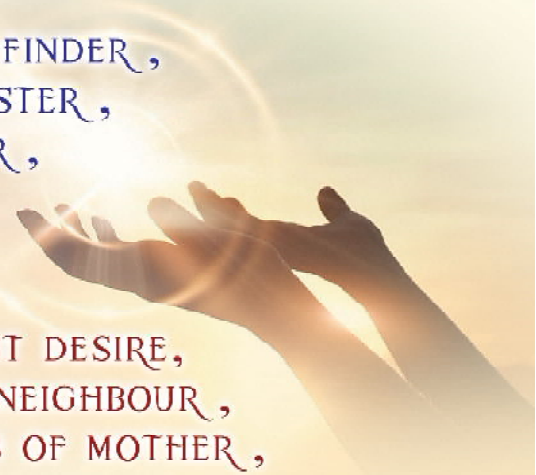
OH MY PRAYER !
JMJs PRACTICE YOU AS PATH FINDER ,
WORSHIPING THEIR SOUL MASTER ,
DEPENDING EVER ON SAVIOUR ,
RIGHTEOUS LIFE PROTECTOR .

OH MY PRAYER !
SPRINGING FORTH FROM HONEST DESIRE ,
FLOWING LOVE OF GOD AND NEIGHBOUR ,
FALLIBLE THOUGH FROM WOMB OF MOTHER ,
REST WE ON YOUR DIVINE POWER .

OH MY PRAYER !
TRANSFORMER OF WRONGDOERS ,
SUBSTRATUM OF JMJ COMMUNITIES ,
FOUNDATION OF OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES ,
AIDING US BY DIVINE INTERVENTIONS .

OH MY PRAYER !
INSPIRING MAXIMS OF DEAR FOUNDER ,
MEDIATING HIS INTERCESSION TO LIVE BETTER ,
KEEPING POOR PEOPLE OUR FOCUS EVER ,
LETTING JESUS BE OUR GOAL-KEEPER .

OH MY PRAYER !
CONNECTING OUR SOULS WITH CREATOR ,
INTERCONNECTING WITH EVERY CREATURE ,
RECREATE IN US LOVE TO NURTURE NATURE ,
PAYING HOMAGE EVER TO COSMOS DESIGNER .



My Life a beautiful CLAY POT

“There was a time when I was just a dumb lump of red clay. Then one day my master came. He took me, brought me home, rolled and pounded me on a wooden table. Again and again, he poked his fingers into me until finally I yelled out: ‘Don’t do that! Leave me alone!’ But he only smiled and gently said: “Not yet!”



Then, I was placed on a spinning wheel and suddenly spun around and around until I lost all my sense of direction: ‘Stop it; don’t you see that I’m getting sick? Quickly, take me from the spinning wheel!’ But the master only nodded in understanding and quietly said: “Not yet!”

Then, he placed me carefully into an oven. I never felt such heat. I yelled and knocked and pounded at the door: ‘It is hotter than hell - I’m burning to ashes. Please get me out of here before it is too late.’ I could only read his lips as he shook his head from side to side and silently pronounced, “Not yet!”

After I had cooled down, he carefully picked me up, looked at me and brushed some dust away. Then he brought the colours! The fumes were horrible! ‘Please... you have no mercy! Please, Stop it!’ But he only shook his head and said: “Not yet!”

An hour or later he came back and placed a mirror before me and said: “Look at yourself!” And I did. What I saw amazed me. ‘That’s not me!’ I said. ‘It is too beautiful...’ With a very compassionate voice he spoke: “This is what you are meant to be!”

LORD, you are our father. We are the clay, and You are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand says Isaiah 64:8. This is my experience – a clay in the hands of God right from my formation, then as junior sister.

Sr. Sowmya Salibindla
JMJ Convent, Gyaraspur, MP



I am in a new mission in Gyaraspur, Sagar Diocese in Madhya Pradesh. In the book of my life, Gyaraspur experience holds a prominent place. Surrounded by gorgeous mountains and greenery, JMJ School here is in its budding stage with 160 students up to class III. Our province leaders have started this school with a vision to eventually extend it up to 12th class, imparting high quality, Christian and value-based education in this rural area.



In every walk of life, I experience God following me like a mantle of light. As a teacher I am trying to unveil the hidden treasure in each child, shaping their future for a better tomorrow. We are four pioneers, residing in one of the wings of the school, sharing the common room, adjusting with minimum facilities, yet joyfully living this unique experience.



Truly, I am a clay in the hands of my Master potter whose touch in my life resonates amazing moments of turning points. I treasure my vocation as a precious and gratuitous gift from the Divine. God is the potter and we are the clay. He molds us and exposes us to just enough pressures, of just the right kinds so that we become a perfect piece of His fond image. Let your potter work on you!

JPIC gestures of Solidarity from the LAND OF GOLD

Sr. Anthony Mary Singasani
JMJ Convent, Yeji – Ghana



In tune with JIPC, JMJ Ghana region is contributing a lot after being aware of the cries of the earth and the poor. In appreciation to the call of our Congregation through the online workshop, all the sisters along with our lay collaborators have rededicated ourselves to generously serve the poor and sick in our care.

I like to underline the major activities in promoting the integrity of the humanity and the earth. To radiate the light of the Gospel, Catholic Teachings and JMJ Charism, our work begins each morning with inspirational quotes at morning devotion by our Chaplain.

JMJ congregation as a pro-poor Health care ministry is underpinned by: engagement, empowerment and support for the cause of the poor. For any community to qualify as a site for JMJ health facility, it has to be: underserved, remote from the urban community and population under below the poverty line. JMJ over the years has modeled out a number of interventions to render quality care equally to both rich and poor in a friendly and personalized manner.

For JMJ Mathias Catholic Hospital 'sick and poor fund' is set aside to enable people who cannot afford to pay their hospital bills. JMJ registers them with National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), so that they have access to same care as those who can afford. Furthermore, JMJ facilitates a welfare package for staff which allows them meet their medical bills regardless of the category. Members of staff are registered with the National Health Insurance Scheme together with their family.



JMJ Mathias Hospital identifies brilliant but disadvantaged students and sponsors them for higher studies in health-related programs within the country. In partnership with community leaders and other stakeholders, JMJ offers a number of liberating activities namely: Scholarships, Sponsorships and Community debar.

JMJ Ghana Region sponsors poor children at various levels of education (Primary, Junior, High and Senior schools). Also supports poor but brilliant students after completing Senior High School at KBK to pursue University courses of their choice including medical studies both within and outside the country.

JMJ communities are supporting under privileged domestic employees by assisting them financially in building up houses. We also assist some needy people in the community in small scale business such trading of their choices.

Yeji community is engaged in Prison ministry. We support the prison inmates conducting health camps, providing them food, clothing, detergents and footwear to enable them feel respected and loved. Periodically, our

community educates commercial sex workers, councils and rehabilitates them and transports them back home. In collaboration with the Lilliana Foundation we are caring for medical treatment and education of physically challenged and hearing-impaired children.

Most aged population suffers from chronic Diabetes and Hypertension to that effect, our JMJ hospital runs specialized clinics tailored to address these specific needs of the aged. There is also an eye clinic which addresses the visual needs of the aged and all patients requiring such services. A lot of blindness is as a result of cataract. Our team outreaches people in their locality and registers cataract cases. On well planned dates they are transported in our hospital Van at no cost to the patients to attend cataract camp and undergo surgeries free of cost. Ever since 2016 till date we have restored sight to over 5000 elderly.

For the drug addicts and alcohol dependents the mental health clinic is there to address these problems. The Anti- Retroviral-ART clinic sees the HIV/AIDS patients once a week on Thursday. JMJ health facilities are not just institutional, but community led outreach services to the hard to reach communities, reaching out to the poor in the rural and urban slums.

In summary the core values of JMJ namely – respect for human dignity, preferential option for the poor

and dignity of labour and care for our common home are what we promote through our health and education ministries to the needy, marginalized and neglected and thus we take upon ourselves to improve the living standard of the communities we serve.

Ghana growing Green

We are happy to let you know that JMJ Ghana is truly growing in our relationship with God of creation, with others, with ourselves and with our mother earth! In response to the cry of the Earth, every JMJ community in Ghana has become conscious and busy planting all types of fruit and flower bearing trees to restore, preserve and enhance the ecology. The under listed programs are our Clean and Green programs aimed at preserving the sacredness of mother earth: **Planting for Health, Planting for Life and Planting for Food.** These programs are implemented in collaboration with some selected schools in the community where the young children are educated on the importance of growing plants to a healthy life. Students are supported with seedlings to plant in their schools and homes and in areas depleted of vegetative cover.

At the inception of JPIC early this year, efforts are made to sensitize members of staff on the initiative. The clean and green program has been the practice in our campuses, with some staff dedicated to maintaining the vegetative cover.



**JPIC in action at
JMJ Social Service Centre,
NALLAPADU.**

Sr. Denin Mary Chiryankandth
JMJSSS, Nallapadu



JMJSSS of Guntur Province is the off shoot of the efforts of the Congregation of JMJ in its option for the poor and expression of solidarity right from 1980. The humble beginnings of pioneering social activists for e.g., Sr. Benigna, Sr. Josepha, Sr. Mercy Chacko, Sr. Francis Xavier and Sr. Rosaline Gade are emulated by quite a few sisters. We feel nostalgic to see, that furthering the efforts of the pioneers by the present generation of sisters, taking JMJ social apostolate forward, creating a great difference in the lives of the people under the banner of a full pledged organization of JMJSSS, establishing for itself a public image.



Kudos to Sr. Nirmala A, Sr. Joshi K, Sr. Denin Mary and their co-JMJ sisters and collaborators for reaching out with a message of Laudato Si through varied activities related to environment protection, and ‘going green’ in the areas of work among the people in rural hamlets. The efforts of JMJ SSS to prevent air, water and soil pollution and helping to grow own vegetables, reducing use of plastics, providing safe shelter and making positive impact on the Mother Earth in the following ways through different groups and programs are praiseworthy and examples to emulate -

- Bapuji Children Parliament distributed hundreds of plants and organic seedlings received through Forest Department to the villages to encourage and promote eco-friendly environment.
- Women leaders under JMJ Self Help Groups helped to distribute and grow Agri-related and Organic seedlings in their respective areas. The organic seeds are used for kitchen gardens.
- Gandhiji Children’s Parliament at Salepadu village brought the mosquito breeding problems to the notice of the Prime Minister, which led to the discussions and measures to control the mosquito menace in rural India.

- Responding to the cry of the Earth, we have observed the Laudato Si week long initiatives and Season of Creation programmes caring for Creation. We also take part in another movement - 'Fridays for Future Movement' a Global Campaign to 'Save Climate' started by 'Greta Thunberg' (Young Climate Activist) from Sweden.
- JMJ SSS participates every year in Vanamahostvam program organized by Guntur district collector. Divisional Forest Officer gives to JMJSSS 1000 plants every year to be distributed in the villages.
- Green mission: We encourage our women groups in the villages to grow 'kitchen gardens' by providing them organic seeds and manure to grow organic plants. 500 members in three villages planted these seeds and after harvesting they have also collected the seeds for re-plantation. Green mission accomplished by JMJSSS is appreciated and celebrated by the beneficiaries, public and local panchayats as well.

Preferential option for the poor is our priority. JMJSSS has always been very close to the poor people in many ways. We adapt underprivileged localities from urban and rural areas, empower them through our socio-economic interventions, initiatives for self-reliance of women through self-help groups, providing health care facilities, helping the elderly poor to get government pension, education to school drop-outs, aiding the differently abled children, providing shelter and rehabilitation to young women and girls in difficult circumstances.



Let Go of Yesterday

There's something beautiful about the trees letting go of their leaves in the fall. We know that this foreshadows fresh, new life in the spring. Likewise, if we let go of yesterday, we increase our life force for today. Don't spend your energy holding onto yesterday. Instead, use it to create a beautiful, new today!

Safeguarding Nature ! Securing Future !!

Sr. Luviza Miranda
JMJ Provincialate, Bangalore



Early this year, I attended a meeting of religious – the Sanyasa Sangama at Christ University, Bangalore. During the session one of the resource persons shared a quoted conversation between Buddha and a disciple, which inspired me much. I would like to share it here, as it can inspire everyone towards the preservation and protection of our mother earth.

Once a disciple came to Buddha and asked - Can I have a new dress? Buddha gave permission but next day asked the disciple...

Buddha: What did you do with your old dress?

Disciple: I am using it as my bedspread.

Buddha: What did you do with your old bedspread?

Disciple: I am using it as my window curtain.

Buddha: What did you do with your old window curtain?

Disciple: That is being used to handle hot utensils in the kitchen.

Buddha: What did you do with your old cloth used to hold hot dishes in the kitchen?

Disciple: I am using it to mop the floor.

Buddha: What did you do with your old rug that was being used to mop the floor?

Disciple: Master, since the rug was already tattered, we could not find any better use for it but as a source of wicks for the oil lamp.

The Buddha's approach to conservation may sound extreme to the present 'buy-use-discard-buy' generation, living in an era of rapid innovation and consumerism. But this approach of using things to the last thread awakes our conscious toward a greater responsibility of preservation, protection and safe guarding of our Mother Earth through our small and big acts of reusing and recycling the things we use for our living. Let's Save Environment! Save our Mother Earth!



Seven Laudato Si' Goals

The fifth anniversary of the encyclical comes in the midst of another watershed moment - a global pandemic - and *Laudato Si'*'s message is just as prophetic today as it was in 2015. The encyclical can indeed provide the moral and spiritual compass for the journey to create a more caring, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world. We have, in fact, a unique opportunity to transform the present groaning and travail into the birth pangs of a new way of living together, bonded together in love, compassion and solidarity, and a more harmonious relationship with the natural world, our common home.

The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development is happy to announce a Special Laudato Si' Anniversary Year from 24th May 2020 – 24th May 2021. We hope that the anniversary year and the ensuing decade will indeed be a time of grace, a true *Kairos* experience and “Jubilee” time for the Earth, and for humanity, and for all God’s creatures. The urgency of the situation calls for immediate, holistic and unified responses at all levels - local, regional, national and international. We need, above all, “a peoples’ movement” from below, an alliance of all people of good will. As Pope Francis reminds us, “All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents.” (*LS*, 14)

The Seven ‘Laudato Si Goals’

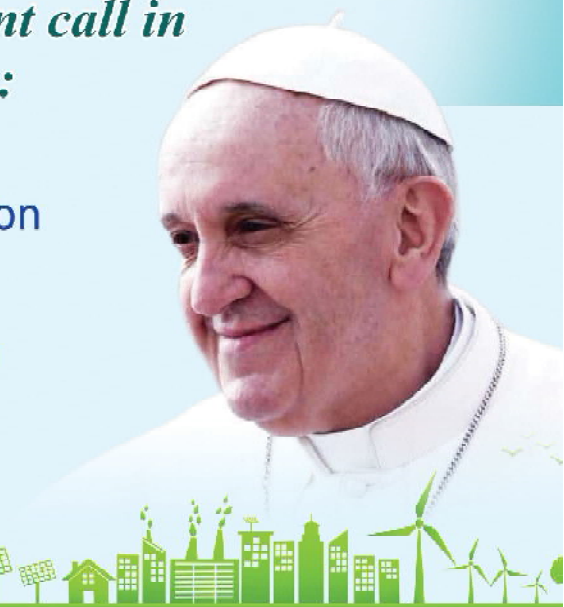
Truly, COVID-19 has made clear how deeply we are all interconnected and interdependent. As we begin to envision a post-covid-19 world, we need above all an integral approach as everything is closely interrelated and today’s problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis.” In order to attain this aim, the dicastery has planned out the Seven Laudato Si’ Goals (LSG) that address a range of areas related to sustainability and ecological conversion.

Read more: <https://www.laudatosi.org/laudato-si/laudato-si-goals/>
<http://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/laudato-si-special-anniversary-year-plan.html>

Answering Pope Francis’ urgent call in Laudato Si, I pledge to :



- Pray for and with creation
- Live more simply
- Advocate to protect our common home



1. Response to the Cry of the Earth

- Greater use of clean renewable energy.
- Reducing fossil fuels to achieve carbon neutrality.
- Protect and promote biodiversity.
- Guarantee access to clean water for all.



2. Response to the Cry of the Poor

- Defence of human life from conception to death.
- Protection of all forms of life on Earth.
- Special attention to vulnerable groups: such as indigenous communities, poor, migrants, women and children.



3. Ecological Economics

- Sustainable production,
- Fair-trade and Ethical consumption,
- Ethical investments in people and nature.
- Divestment from any economic activity harmful to the planet and people
- Investment in renewable energy



4. Simple Lifestyles

- Moderate in the use of resources and energy
- Avoid single-use plastic.
- Adopt more plant-based diet, less meat consumption.
- Greater use of public transport.



5. Ecological Education

- Re-design educational curricula for integral ecology.
- Create ecological awareness and action.
- Promote ecological vocation of young people, teachers and leaders of education



6. Ecological Spirituality

- Recover a religious vision of God's creation
- Encourage greater contact with the natural world in a spirit of wonder, praise, joy and gratitude.
- Promote creation-centred liturgical celebrations.
- Develop ecological catechesis, prayer, retreats, formation, etc.



7. Community Participation

- Promote advocacy and people's campaigns.
- Care for creation at all levels – from local to global.
- Encourage rootedness in local territory ecosystems.



JPIC Promoters Formation Workshop



Congregation of JMJ organized an engrossing online workshop on 'JPIC Promoters Formation' from November 3 - 6, 2020. About 250 JMJ sisters from India, Africa, USA and Rome attended sessions. Overall, the four days sessions were well structured and organized, moderated by Sr. Vijaya Udumala, the General Councilor. The zoom meet at USIG platform was efficiently hosted by Sr. Christina under the guidance of Sr. Florence, UISG expert.

The purpose of the workshop was realised by imparting the basic information on JPIC with an overview to Laudato Si', to facilitate our Provinces, Region and Community JPIC promoters to develop strategies that promote JPIC initiatives in the Congregation.

3 November 2020

The first day's sessions commenced with a prayer followed by key-note address by the Superior General Sr. Innamma Yeruva. She highlighted the key areas of the workshop - Launching Laudato Si', Sowing hope for the Planet, UNs Sustainable Development Goals and responsibilities of Promoters at different levels in the Congregation.

The day's sessions were dealt by an expert speaker on JPIC, Sr. Sheila Kinsey FCJM, the Executive Co-

Sr. Aruna Gopu
Bharatmata Convent, Raipur



Secretary, JPIC Commission, Rome. The four sessions comprise: *Call to Holiness, Overview JPIC & Laudato Si'*, *Sowing Hope for the Planet and Laudato Si'* & *Contemplation*.



Sr. Sheila emphasized that we need an integral approach as "everything is closely interconnected". Thus, JPIC is the conscious prayer and action to transform the world in the spirit of the Gospel through lives of justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation. Referring to JMJ spirituality and charism, she said, living the Laudato Si Goals namely: '*Response to the cry of the Earth, Response to the cry of the Poor, Ecological economics, Adoption of Simple lifestyles, Ecological education, Ecological spirituality, Community involvement & participatory action*' need to permeate in all JMJ ministries.

4 November 2020

On day two, Fr. Vincent Anesthasiar, CMF, Congregational JPIC Secretary, Rome presented two topics *JPIC and Religious Vows and UN Systems & Opportunity for the Missionaries*. Speaking on JPIC and Religious Vows, he challenged all with an insightful example to reflect on our life styles as Religious. Where do you belong! *To the Centre or the periphery?* Often, people at the periphery are the poor, deprived of their

basic human rights. Living religious vows authentically, should help us move towards periphery. Quoting Mich 6:8, he said – “*To act justly is poverty; To love tenderly is chastity; To walk humbly with your God is obedience*”. This movement to the frontiers or peripheries happens when we are prophetic listeners, discerning the will of God, becoming agents of change and prophetic spiritual community.

The session that followed next was on *UN Systems & Opportunities for Missionaries*. The key message was, the global problems that cannot be solved at the level of the country or congregation, missionaries have the opportunity to represent to the UN for global collaboration to effect global solutions.

Fr. Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam SDB, Coordinator of the Sector on Ecology and Creation at the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development has brought to us very practical ways of living the Laudato Si’ Anniversary Year Plan 2020-2021 & Launch of 7-Year Laudato Si’ Action Platform. He invited to walk with the Church and put Laudato Si’ into ACTION. He inspired by a simple metaphor of Honey bees – if honey bees extinct ... then what happens to humanity!

Further, Fr. Joshtrom shared innovative ideas about Laudato Si Living Chapels, LS Gardens, LS Tree initiatives, LS Plastic Bank, LS Bible Contest and the Roll out Plan for a 7-year Journey that provoked the participants. He also shared about Seven Laudato Si’ Goals (LSG) that open to us holistic approach of keeping vulnerable people at the centre of our care.

5 November 2020

Fr. Vincent presented a session on *UNs Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. Building on the principle of “leaving no one behind”, the UN emphasizes a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. The SDGs can be achieved through the **5 Ps** – People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership at all levels.

Fr. Kevin Hughes, MHM, Professor at St John’s Seminary & Missio, from Womersley, England, spoke on two relevant topics: *Church Social Teaching and Social Analysis: Pastoral Cycle - See, Judge, Act*.

The Church’s Social Teaching (CST) is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. With human dignity at its center, CST includes Call to family and Community participation, Right and duties, Dignity of work, Option for the poor and vulnerable, Solidarity and Care for creation.

Social Analysis: See, Judge, Act: It’s a reflection and action process for decision making. It is necessary that JPIC promoters examine justice and environmental problems very carefully, before they take action to solve these problems. Social analysis is a vital tool to uncover the root causes of social injustice.

Speaking on Networking and Collaboration, Sr. Sheila Kinsey proposed to strengthen networking & collaboration within and beyond the Congregation and to build on gifts and strengths of other organizations and NGOs as a means to promote greater inclusion and foster the spiritual gift of communion “we-mysticism.” Developing the capacity to act locally, regionally and internationally is vital in building relationships to promote common good of humanity and the creation.

6 November 2020

First session on *JPIC Congregational Framework & Promotor’s Responsibilities* was presented by Sr. Sheila. The key points include: JPIC is an attempt to live out the charism and identity of the Congregation. It needs to be integrated into the life of the Congregation to build the Reign of God of justice and peace. The task demands evangelical discernment of the social reality, identification of structures of injustices, determination of the root causes of the problems affecting the world and assimilation of teachings of scriptures, social teachings of the Church and congregational documents.

Personal reflection for JPIC Promoters is to use **JPIC Methodology: SEE, JUDGE, ACT** through insertion experience, social analysis, theological reflection and concrete action plan.

Best Practices: The Province and Region JPIC Promoters presented by Videos and Ppts very captivating and stirring presentations on Best Practices of Laudato Si and Season of Creation, moderated by Sr. Sheila. The virtual audience was left wonder struct viewing innovative inputs and Sr. Sheila appreciated the creative hard work done by the sisters in the Congregation.

JPIC Commitment: On behalf of the Congregation, Superior General Sr. Innamma Yeruva read out the JPIC Commitment, while others holding the symbols of commitment, followed in reflective silence. Excerpts of JPIC Commitment is as follows:

We, the Sisters of JMJ, commit ourselves to both personal and communal conversion, and wish to move forward together compassionately, in an integrated effort, in response to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the Poor. We go forth as instruments of hope, empowering the vulnerable people to human dignity, and safeguarding the creation.

In concluding remarks Sr. Innamma urged each member to be interconnected and interdependent, as we take forward JPIC initiate in a big way in our Congregation. She conferred honor to Sr. Sheila for

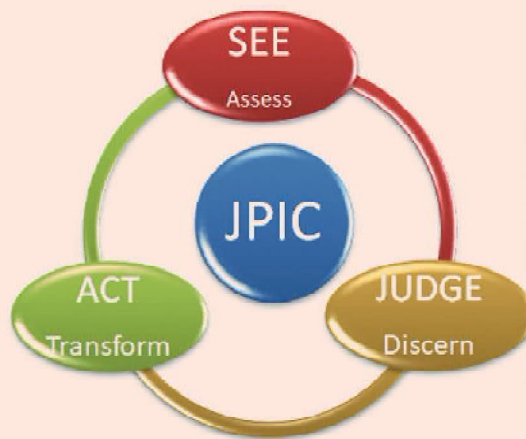
her valuable inputs and Sr. Florence, the staff of UISG for her technical assistance and Sr. Pat Murrey for consenting to use UISG Zoom platform.



Everyone was so deeply overwhelmed and impressed by the JPIC workshop outcomes and profoundly motivated to listen to the cry of the poor, to the cry of the earth and also the cry of the children to safe guard our mother earth for future generations.

The workshop culminated by thanking the Congregational Leadership Team, Superior General and General Council for their scrupulous and ultra-careful planning and implementation of the JPIC Workshop. A special note of thanks was accorded to Sr. Vijaya and Sr. Christina for well-ordered and perfectly hosting the virtual meeting at UISG Zoom platform. The meeting ended with a prayer singing joyfully *Laudato Si' mi Signore – Praise be to you, my Lord!*

JPIC Methodology : SEE, JUDGE, ACT



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE: JPIC in JMJ Formation



It is with great joy, I present an overview of two days (12-13 Nov. 2020) virtual '*Conference on Justice, peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) in JMJ Formation*' relevantly convened by our Congregational Leadership Team. This online JMJ Formators Conference offered the Formators a deeper understanding of JPIC and how to integrate the spirit of JPIC into initial and ongoing formation programmes in the Congregation. The Conference was attended by 70 sisters comprising of Provincial Superiors, Council in-charge for formation, Formators, Community animators, Members of International Spiritual Animation Commission and International Formation Team.

JPIC mission is to transform the world in the spirit of the Gospel through contemplation and sacred action, leading lives of justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation. The primary objective of the Conference was integration of JPIC in Formation programmes with special reference to Pope Francis' Encyclicals '*Laudato Si*' and '*Fratelli Tutti*'.

Day I: 12 November 2020

Sr. Rachel Oommen ICM, the vicar general of the ICM Congregation speaking from Rome, inspired the participants with experiential anecdotes on the topics

Sr. Punitha Margret Mulakuri
JMJ Snehalaya, Mangalagiri



of '*Formation for a prophetic religious life*', '*Formators*' commitment to JPIC in the spirit of '*Laudato Si*' and '*Integrating JPIC in different stages of formation*'. She emphasized on the paradigm shift in religious formation from information to transformation of the formees, giving them experienced based formation. Integration of JPIC in Formation should generate passion for God and humanity among formees. Referring to JPIC Formation Itinerary, she said option for the poor who is God's image, ought to be in-grilled in the formees right from the beginning.

Her sessions set a tone on the essence of consecrated life as Passion for God's Kingdom and Formation for mission of Christ, permeated by the Founder's Spiritual Patrimony and Charism of the Congregation. She invited the participants to reflect on - What is your profile as JMJ? What are the non-negotiables of your Congregation?

Day II: 13 November 2020

Sr. Patricia Murray IBVM, the Executive Secretary of UISG, Rome spoke on Pope Francis' new encyclical '*Fratelli tutti*' on *Fraternity and Social Friendship* and its application in Formation. Explaining the contents of the encyclical, she elicited upon using the *Pastoral cycle – See, Judge and Act* as a method of discernment using experience, social analysis, theological reflection and action.

Sr. Sheila Kinsey FCJM, the Executive Co-Secretary, JPIC Commission Secretariat in Rome, inspired the participants on '*New approaches to initial Formation*' asserting not to hesitate bringing in newness, in attitude, approach and process of formation. Referring to the document of the CICLSAL on Consecrated life: *New Wine in New Wineskins*, she said it's all about breaking through the structures and finding the way of the Gospel to be at the service of humanity.

Presentation of Formation Programmes: Formators from India and Ghana have presented creatively various stages of formation programmes using Ppts and Videos. The session was moderated by General Councillor Sr. Chandra Thainese. The Participants greatly valued the presentation and appreciated the formators for their commitment in formation ministry with an overview to integrate JPIC in JMJ formation.

The Way Forward: Rev. Sr. Innamma, the Superior General did make an appeal to consider this as a call of the Universal Church to listen to the cry of poor and cry of the earth and aptly respond to the signs of times by revitalizing JMJ formation programmes. She called upon the formators to update the Formation directory incorporating relevant Church documents and JPIC.

Final Remarks: Sr. Mary Karickakunnel, the General Councilor appreciated the formators for their indomitable spirit in JMJ Formation and encouraged every one for a renewed and transformed commitment. She expressed hope that this Conference would bring in, a definitive change and transformation in our formation programmes.

All the participants expressed gratitude to God and applauded the General Council for organizing an impressive and relevant Conference on JPIC in JMJ Formation that has made great impact on them.

The Conference ended with an affirmation to integrate of JPIC into JMJ Formation, focusing formation on mission with passion for Christ and passion for humanity and creation; responding to the call of the Universal Church to embrace the mission at the frontiers, rooted in contemplation and guided by the Holy Spirit.



Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

-Philippians 46



Interculturality and Leadership

Sr. Vijaya M. Udumala
JMJ Generalate, Rome



ONLINE COURSE: INTERCULTURALITY AND LEADERSHIP for Congregational Leadership Teams from across the globe was organised by the UISG in December 2020: 7-8, 10-11, 14-15, 17-18, from 3.00 to 6.30pm (Rome Time). The course was in English, French, Italian and Spanish with simultaneous translation.

Our Congregational Leadership Team is privileged to have attended this course along with 230 General Councils representing 90 Congregations from 60 countries. Coordination Team consisted of Adriana Milmanda SSpS, Patricia Murray ibvm, Roger Schroeder svd, and Tim Norton svd.

Themes: The following themes were presented by the experts integrating the sessions with personal reflection, small group theological dialogue and plenary sharing.

Interculturality: Terminology and Definitions; Intercultural Sensitivity; Interculturality & Religious Life Today and the reality of participants; Intercultural Journey of Jesus; Personality and Culture; Culture and Gender; Socio-centric / individual-centric: Power-Distance; Interculturality and Spirituality; Interculturality and Spirituality;

Congregational Charism/Heritage; Interculturality & Leadership and Interculturality and the Digital Age

Why a UISG course on Interculturality and Leadership?

“Interculturality is the vision and hope of mutually enriching and challenging relationships with people who are others, who are different from us. How we build the other is not by walls of discrimination and indifference but by bridges that promote the richness of cultural diversity in the spirit of the Gospel. The image we have used is the garden: how I can enter in the garden of the other, how I let others enter in my garden.” It’s about how we integrate our faith and our cultures in the congregations.

Every religious congregation following the way of the Gospel, “need to work on Interculturality as witnessing community and that process needs commitment, time, space and energy. We need to keep trusting in the Spirit, the same Spirit who accompanies us always, since the first Christian Community. We are all called to interculturality, with an intentional attitude of appreciation and respect for diversity of cultures.”

The salient features of the Course

- Creating awareness on the richness of Interculturality – in initial and ongoing formation, encouraging and celebrating the diversity, nourished by our spirituality and charism of belonging to an intercultural congregation.
- Creating respect for cultural differences allowing the different to be different, and developing processes that encourage openness to change and



transformation in community life and mission. Promoting within the congregation the appreciation for diversity of cultures, being attentive to minority cultures.

- Nurturing JMJ Charism which is very rich, dynamic and prophetic in terms of adaptability and availability for the sake of mission in different cultures and countries and promoting unity in diversity. Charism and Spirituality of the Congregation needs to be translated and incarnated into different cultures.

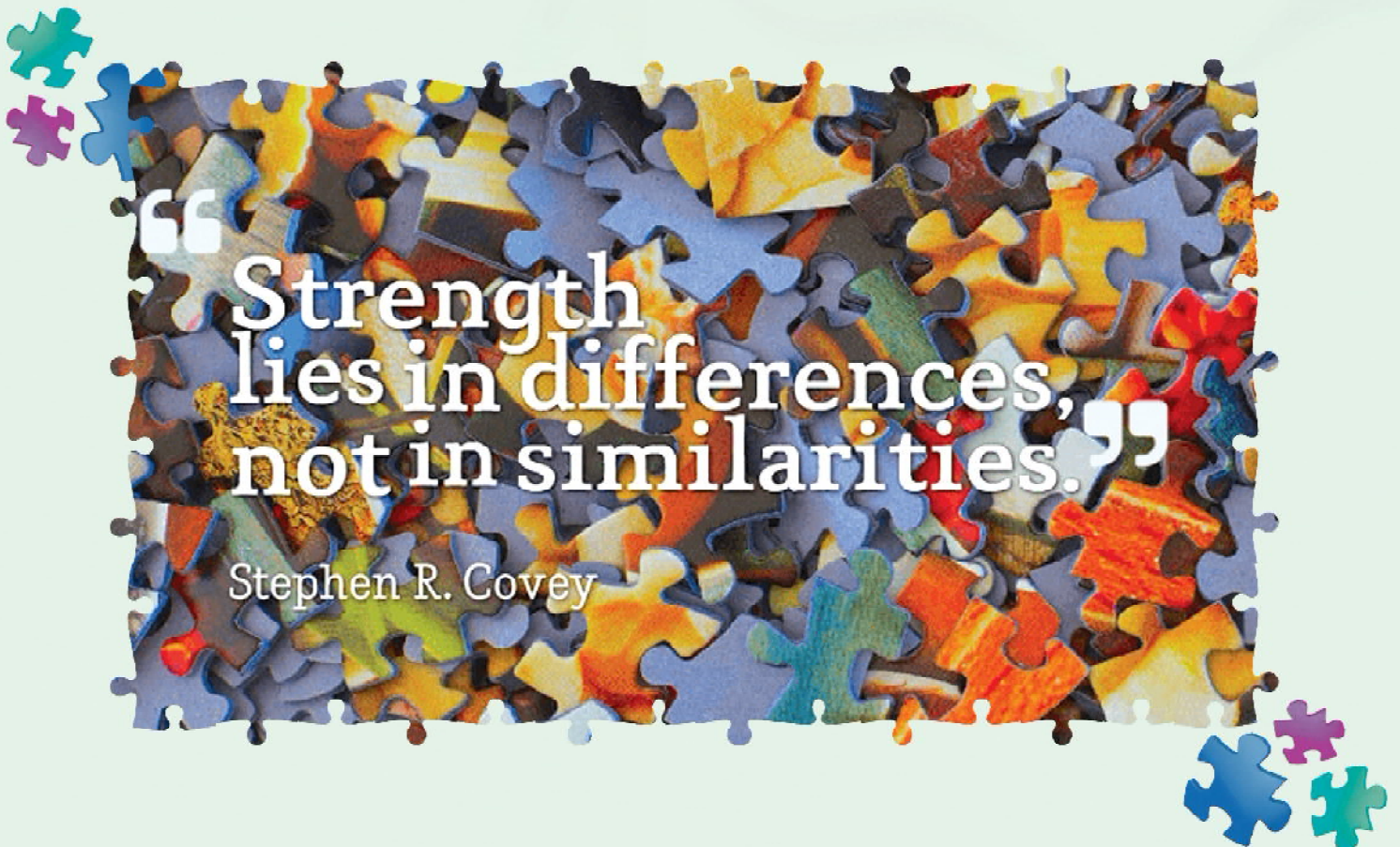
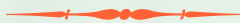
Finally, the present and future religious life to be intercultural and witnessing to the Gospel, we must accompany the members and promote spiritual growth by appreciating the Intercultural diversity: *Being supportive, sharing in collective mission, developing others, giving praise and appreciation for every culture, fostering mutual respect, motivating and bringing the best in others, recovering positively from failures and searching different perspectives.*

The outcome expression

We were a very good mixture of many Congregations and people with serious mandate for the Congregation, the Church at large and Religious life in the world. Presenters were outstanding. We deeply value and treasure all the speakers whose presentations have been very inspiring and challenging. Thanks to all the participants for sharing the life experiences. The exchange was so deep and productive. We have benefitted greatly from our time together.

Many thanks to UISG for such a wonderful gathering from our many parts of the world community and excellent organization! We are most grateful and hope to continue to walk on this lovely road of interculturality with all of you. Our experience of the two weeks is already an experience of interculturality - So true! Thanks for the experience!

The course ended with a warm note of - *"Thank you one and all for your enthusiasm, vision and sharing ... it is contagious!"*



JMJ Congregation's CROSS and RING



Portrait of the Pedagogic Chretienne, 1931

Father Wolff explains to the sisters all the figures in the painting as well the meaning of the symbols and invites sisters to compare their life with the original spirit of the Congregation.

What is the external identity of a Sister of JMJ?

Congregation's Cross and Ring

We wear a simple uniform, religious dress, adhering to the norms which bear witness to our Consecration. Our identity is recognized by our Congregation's Cross and Ring. (C. 47)

The cross she wears calls to her attention that she must always be prepared, even delighted, to endure much for the sake of her bridegroom.

The ring reminds her of her vow of fidelity. She must always bear in mind that, just as ring has no end, so also her love for Jesus may not have an end. (SBL, 79)

The Cross every JMJ Sister wears symbolizes

Love: *Christ chose to die for us, sinners, and this choice is made in love. God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners (Rom 5:8).*

Humility: *Christ's death was an act of His willful humility. Christ hung on the cross with a purpose. Jesus humbled Himself in obedience and died a criminal death on the Cross (Phi 2:7-8).*



Sacrifice: *Laying aside His Divinity, He was born a helpless baby, completely dependent upon others. During His public ministry, He faithfully carried out God's plan all the way to His death on the cross. (Rom 12:1-2).*

Service: *Jesus said "I did not come to be served, but to serve and to give my life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). Christ's supreme act of service was dying on the Cross so we might have eternal life.*

As Sisters of JMJ, we are constantly invited to die to our will, as Christ did. Our life's prayer taught by Founder Mathias Wolff is "*Change me into Thyself ... May my happiness on earth consist in fulfilling Thy holy will.*" Christ calls us to deny ourselves and follow Him through sacrificial service to others (Luke 9:23).

And just like Jesus, it is our responsibility to become symbols of love, humility, sacrifice and service involving ourselves in the Salvific Mission of Jesus.

Meaning of the imprints on the two sides of the Cross

Meaning of IHS (on one side of the JMJ Cross)

The Christogram IHS (Jesus Hominum Salvator) is monogram symbolizing Jesus Christ as Savior.

In 1541 Saint Ignatius adopted the *monogram IHS* as an emblem to represent his newly founded order, the Society of Jesus. JMJ Founder Fr. Mathias Wolff, being a Jesuit used this *monogram* on the one side of the Cross to indicate Jesus Christ as Savior of us all.



Hearts of Jesus and Mary on the other side of JMJ Cross

The joint devotion to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary formally started in the 17th century. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are mentioned explicitly in the New Testament. Luke 2:19 states: "*Mary kept all these things pondering them in her heart*", and Luke 2:51: "*His Mother kept all these things carefully in Her Heart*". John 7:38 refers to the heart of Jesus: "*From His Heart will flow rivers of living water.*"



Rev. Fr. Mathias Wolff a man of faith grew in devotions to the hearts of Jesus and Mary like many other holy men and women of his time, depicting the Heart of Jesus thorn-crowned and the Heart of Mary pierced with a sword. Hence, the JMJ Cross has this imprint, so that the sisters of JMJ practice this devotion to the two hearts of Jesus and Mary. By this devotion we pray that Jesus and Mary lead us to selfless love of God and neighbor.



JMJ Ring with the imprint of Crucifix

The crucifix image on JMJ ring represents the path of transformation. It reminds us of the narrow path that we constantly need to choose. It means to die and rise with Christ. We find this in St. Paul. "*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me*" (Gal 2:20).

Jesus' Crucifix proclaims that love is more powerful than hatred, compassion triumphs over oppression and vulnerability overcomes power. The Crucifix invites us to put our trust in God, even in the face of dismay, oppression, cruelty and death. God is with us. God feels and suffers deeply with us.

We wear the ring with the imprint of the crucifix as a sign of our total commitment to God following the path of Christ crucified faithfully till the end of our life.



Vatican Museums : Nativity Art

The depiction of Jesus' birth is itself a simple and joyful proclamation of the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God." These words of Pope Francis recall how the birth of Jesus has inspired generations of artists throughout history to evangelize through beauty.



The Nativity and the Annunciation to the Shepherds; Vatican Museum.

John of Paul (1395/1400 ca. 1482); The Nativity and the Annunciation to the Shepherds; Tempera on poplar; 1435 ca.; Vatican Art Gallery © Musei Vaticani

A splendid night-time scene of the Nativity and the Annunciation to the shepherds, in which St. Joseph is depicted as an old man, shown from behind as he sleeps next to a dead tree, which alludes to his exclusion from the birth of the Son of God. The two women near Mary—who are the midwives of which the apocryphal gospels speak—represent those people who believe (the woman who looks toward the Virgin) and those who doubt (Salome, who turns her back). In the background an angel lights up the sky appearing to the shepherds. But the supernatural light which radiates from the Child, placed humbly on the ground, is much brighter.

*"In the stable at Bethlehem, Heaven and Earth meet.
Heaven has come down to Earth.
For this reason, a light shines from the stable for all times;
For this reason, joy is enkindled there..."*

*With the humility of the shepherds, let us set out,
During this Holy Night, towards the Child in the stable!
Let us touch God's humility, God's heart!
Then his joy will touch us and will make the world more radiant."*

Vatican launches website dedicated to "FRATELLI TUTTI" encyclical

The Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development announces a new, intuitive website dedicated to Pope Francis' encyclical "Fratelli tutti" on Fraternity and Social Friendship.

The site, created in collaboration with the Dicastery for Communication, aims to "spread the message about the fraternity and social friendship of the Encyclical in a capillary way, deepening and making known all the aspects proper to the text and will be more readily accessible to everyone.

The site can be accessed from
www.humandevlopment.va or from www.fratellitutti.va.



www.humandevlopment.va
www.fratellitutti.va

Laudato Si' bears fruit : from the Living Chapel



A work of art constructed with plants, recycled material and musical harmony aims to reforest the planet, beginning in the heart of Rome, in support of the UN's **Trillion Tree Campaign**. It is the first Living Chapel in the Botanical Garden, a concrete fruit of the commitment to creation proposed by Pope Francis in "Laudato Si'".

Living Chapel under construction in Rome's Botanical Garden

The entire earth is God's house: Father Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam, Coordinator of the Ecology and Creation section in the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development says -

This Living chapel becomes a place from which arises the mission to disseminate plants and seeds that create thousands of trees here in Rome and throughout the world. This is the 'mother' chapel, the first 'Living Chapel', but we hope there will be thousands of these chapels throughout the world, which in their turn will spark the creation of Laudato Si' Gardens, Laudato Si' Parks, and many, many new trees, as is already happening, so that the planet might once again be covered in green".

Read more: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2020-12/laudato-si-story-living-chapel-rome-botanical-garden.html>

LAUDATO SI' GOALS



In the spirit of integral ecology, hope for the Earth and the Poor.

100
YEAR ANNIVERSARY
1920-2020

21 JANUARY
1920



One hundred years ago on 21 January 1920 Dr Mary Glowrey left her beloved family and friends in Victoria, Australia and began her journey to Guntur, India where she became a medical missionary. She's pictured on the Ship Orsova at Station Pier, Port Melbourne, on this day!

"It is up to Him to point the way and for me to follow"

"I feel more firmly convinced than ever that it is God's will for me to go to India"

- Mary Glowrey, 1919

"Thank God, I am at last safely here; God has been very good to me all the way"

- Mary Glowrey, Guntur, 13 February 1920

