The Logo

As in the case of any evolution the Darwinian principle of “survival of the fittest” seems to succeed. The evolution of the PRSC logo came as a result of many discussions and reflections by the team well ahead of time. Once a consensus had been reached as to what we wanted to portray, our techno-savvy secretaries, Františka and Carla, gave it the finishing touches with the right shade, size and form. Bravo!
Great Emotional intelligence

Some of the very human, down to earth details of being “affectionate and efficacious” were seen in the emotional intelligence expressed in the introductory session in the afternoon of the 7th April. After Prisca introduced the technology and the technicians, Jane opened the session in which all our staff were introduced. The provincials had an opportunity to see in person Carla (Assistant Gen. Secretary) and Giovana (Finance Administrator) for the first time.

Mrs. Giovana Pisano is a “new girl” in the Generalate as she was introduced into her new job, by Benita and Christina Kenworthy-Browne, just a few days prior to the PRSC.

Low Sunday

April 7th, Low Sunday in the liturgical calendar, proved to be very “high” for us since it struck the right tone for the assembly first and foremost by the most inspiring introductory Eucharistic celebration. The homily by Monsignor Mark Langham threw a powerful challenge to us, “to be women of the resurrection, women not afraid to love.”

Sermon by Monsignor Mark Langham:

I don’t often go to parties these days, but when I do, am reminded why I don’t. Being a priest, people feel they have to behave in front of me, so they either gravitate away to the next room where they can have more fun, or worse they stay and tell me the tortuous story of their life and where it all went wrong. Meanwhile I can hear the people – the amusing, funny people –in the next room shrieking with laughter and having a wonderful time.

I am worried that this is what heaven will be like. Seated at an eternal banquet between saints ascetic and grave, talking theology for ever. I am on my best behaviour forever hearing peals of raucous laughter from hell where all the bad people – who are also fun and outrageous – are having a great time. Holiness and real life are, for most people, two separate things! Holiness is for church. It means self control, not saying or thinking certain things, denying ourselves. Real life is everything else –it’s ordinary and unpredictable; it allows us to be ourselves, and it is definitely more fun.

The readings today show, in different ways, how people react to holiness. We are told that the crowds were fascinated by the miracles performed in Jesus’ name by Peter and flocked to him in large numbers. But we are also told that none of the others dared join Peter. This is exciting stuff that is going on—but will it go too far? Might it not end as it did for John in exile on the island of Patmos because of his testimony for Jesus? That is why we tend to treat our faith with a touch of cynicism. We don’t want it to go too far. It is wonderful when it goes well, but should it start to demand difficult things of us, particularly if it asks us to stand up and stand out before others to give witness, do we not draw back? Given the choice, most people run a mile from too much holiness. Take Thomas, who for ever will be known as ‘doubting Thomas’. No giant of spiritual certainty, no example of perfect faith and witness, but rather someone who does very much what we would do. The disciples tell him the wonderful news that Jesus is risen from the dead and Thomas bursts out laughing. He won’t believe it. He wants proof. Which of us hasn’t wanted proof? Even the most solid Catholic among us has sometimes wondered: is it all worth it? Is God really there? Do I have to follow the Lord quite so radically? Is that what he is really asking of me?

These are good questions for you all as you begin your provincials’ conference. Your gathering takes place in the season of the resurrection, literally through the paschal candle, in the light of the Risen Christ. That is wonderful news, pure and simple, and floods your meeting with special joy. But knowing the importance that the Congregatio Jesu attaches to such meetings I also know that you will have some serious talking to do, that you will be asking those very questions posed by the readings—what in the light of the risen Christ are we called to
do? How are we to give witness to the risen Lord?
We can turn for guidance to the words of the new Holy Father, Pope Francis, just last Wednesday. He singled out the witness to the resurrection given by the women of the Gospel and women ever since who have had and still have a special role in opening doors to the Lord, in following him and communicating his face, because the eyes of faith always need the simple and profound look of love. While some of the apostles draw back, and Thomas doubts, the women bear ready witness to the resurrection because, says Pope Francis, “They are not afraid to love.” Women within the Church, whatever their calling are not afraid to love because they know the true cost and the true value of love. They do not calculate risk, they are not discouraged by rejection or suppression. They know that love is worth it.

I pray that your forthcoming conference may be a time when you show that, as members of the Congregatio Jesu, your work, your study, and your meetings are all filled with the spirit of the resurrection, that you truly show yourselves not afraid to love. In fact you will be bearing witness not only to the world, but to the Church itself.”

**Concluding session**

The closing session of PRSC 2013 once again was an invitation to hope guaranteeing continuity to the GC2011 theme, “called to bring hope.”

Jane Livesey proved to be a great dealer in hope as she shared her concluding thoughts with all the participants of the PRSC. She recalled, the words of Jonathan Sacks, quoted by Frances Orchard at the beginning of the first session, “Optimism is the belief that things will get better; hope is the faith that together we can make things better.”

Jane continued, “we did not see it as the task of the PRSC to get all the answers, but to ask the questions. To ask you (the membership) some of the questions that we are asking ourselves to check out that we really are discussing (when we “discuss among ourselves”) the most pressing matters that are the “signs of the times” for us as CJ in the first half of the 21st century; and to do that with hope, not optimism but hope as thus defined above.”

The topic of diminishment was very much a backdrop to many of the reflections. In this we were not without hope as we often heard the spirit of Mary Ward whispering, “the point about change of collective disposition with regard to new members and new vocations is that numbers are not the issue. What we need in these times are not “half women”. What we need are lives and witnesses that are contagious. That is better than recruitment. We need a collective willingness to move on from current and past realities to make new paths. What really matters is the mission. That is what he invites us to.”

Jane called our attention to Frances’ remark that after the suppression of 1631 only 23 members remained in Rome, and it was their union of minds and hearts that made them hope even when the human reality looked so bleak. “We did not see it as the task of PRSC to get all the answers, but to ask the questions; to ask you (the membership) some of the questions that we are asking ourselves. In this way we can check out that when we “discuss among ourselves” we really are discussing the most pressing matters that are the “signs of the times” for us as CJ in the first half of the 21st century; and that we do this with hope, not optimism, but with hope.”

**Spiritual Leadership and governance**

As a very apt conclusion to all our reflections, sharings and decisions Jane shared with us three quotations from Henri Nouwen that appeared in the daily bulletin from the Henri Nouwen Society in the days following our consideration of Spiritual Leadership and Governance. These were:

**Authority and Obedience**

Authority and Obedience can never be divided, with some people having all the authority while others only have to obey. This separation causes authoritarian behaviour on the one side and doormat behaviour on the other...A person with great authority who has nobody to be obedient to is in great spiritual danger. A very obedient person who has no authority over anyone is equally in danger.
Jesus spoke with great authority, but his whole life was complete obedience to his Father, and Jesus, who said to his Father, “Let it be as you, not I, would have it” (Mt 26:39), has been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Let us ask ourselves: Do we live our authority in obedience and do we live our obedience with authority?

The Authority of Compassion

Mostly we think of people with great authority as higher up, far away, hard to reach. But spiritual authority comes from compassion and emerges from deep inner solidarity with those who are “subject” to authority. The one who is fully like us, who deeply understands our joys and pains or hopes and desires, and who is willing and able to walk with us, that is the one to whom we gladly give authority and whose “subjects” we are willing to be.

It is the compassionate authority that empowers, encourages, calls forth hidden gifts, and enables great things to happen…

The Shepherd and the Sheep

Spiritual leadership is the leadership of the Good Shepherd. As Jesus says, good shepherds know their sheep, and their sheep know them. There must be a true mutuality between shepherds and their sheep. Good leaders must know their own, and their own know them. Between them is mutual trust, mutual openness, mutual care and mutual love. To follow our leaders we cannot be afraid of them, and to lead our followers we need their encouragement and support.

Gratefully Yours

The penultimate words of the PRSC, from me and from the team here, must be and are words of thanks, warm and affectionate thanks to each one of you for your service of the Congregatio, the whole Congregatio, not just your own Province or Region, through your present ministry of leadership.

Concluding thoughts from Jane

I would like to give you the last word in the PRSC, to each of you but just for yourself using Sr Beata’s cards of the Emmaus walk; what message do you want to be waiting for you when you return home? What do you most want to take back (1) for your own Province/Region (2) for yourself?

IBVM-CJ Leadership Conversation

The CJ–IBVM leadership Conversation took place on 1st June, 2013 at Casa Loreto in Rome. This was our second meeting this year. It was a well-timed opportunity to share our experiences of the Provincial conferences of both the branches, the CJ PRSC in Rome and the IBVM PSC in Chicago, happening more or less at the same time in April. The conversation began with a beautiful prayer service, calling us to become the compassion of the Lord. Besides sharing important reflections and decisions from the PRSC, other topics of mutual interest were discussed. Unfortunately, Cecilia and Elisabeth who were away at the time could not be with us. The next meeting is scheduled for the 14th January 2014.
WARD WORKS WORLD WIDE

Education Conference

"It might be a good idea if the various countries of the world, would occasionally swap history books, just to see what other people are doing with the same set of facts" said Bill Vaughan, journalist (1915-1977).

The Education Conference which took place in Australia, organized by IBVM Loreto Schools, gave us an opportunity to swap our experiences of Mary Ward history and spirituality in the context of our own international mission of Mary Ward education. It was a wonderful and enriching experience for us. There were 140 delegates from ten countries (India, Nepal, England, South Africa, Mauritius, Peru, Vietnam, Kenya, Ireland & Australia). The venue for the conference was Loreto Kirribilli which is a beautiful place facing the waters. The theme of the Conference was Ward Works Worldwide and the aim was to strengthen our shared commitment to Loreto and CJ education by building connections so as to achieve excellence in teaching, in leadership, in pastoral care and justice for women.

The first three days of the conference gave us an opportunity to visit three Loreto schools in Sydney. The students took us to their class rooms where we could interact with the children and the teachers. We were amazed to see that the lay teachers and the students were well versed in Ignatian spirituality and the spirit and charism of Mary Ward. Many of the schools have lay principals. We found that the class rooms are well decorated with teaching aids. Even the small children have their lap tops with them. We found that faith formation is given great importance in all the schools. The senior students are trained to conduct communion services.

We had talks and discussions on various issues such as: leadership; use of technology in teaching; health care and brain development; positive psychology in education and social justice. All were encouraged to make use of the social net working system. Various schools shared about the current issues in their schools. Sr. Shobhana, having had the experience of educating the young in the villages of Bihar shared her experience of education in the rural set up. All the CJ sisters attended the post conference programme on 27th and 28th based on Ignatian spirituality conducted by Mrs. Alex Gorman which enriched our personal relationship with God. We were very much taken up by the hospitality of the Loreto family in Australia. Our special thanks go to Sr. Marian Moriarty IBVM (Gen. Superior), Sr. Margaret Mary Flynn (Provincial Australia), Sr. Sandra Perrett IBVM (Vicar General), all the sisters and staff of Loreto Kirribilli and Mrs Kim Nass. We are extremely grateful to Sr. Jane Livesey our General Superior, and the General Leadership team for all the help received and to our Provincials and Regionals of COIN for making it possible for us to have this international, inter-branch, inter-cultural experience. We are very thankful indeed to Sr. Pratima CJ, for taking care of the practical details regarding our trip to this great event.

Report from COIN

‘Learn more, Serve Better’. A report by Sister Yamilet Veas CJ, Province Chile

During the holidays, encouraged by the motto “contemplatives in action”, a group of 54 young people, pupils and former pupils, of our schools ‘Instituto Santa María’ of Santiago and Chillán went to San Ignacio (VIII Region) to do some solidarity work. This experience was a training for social action for the students of our secondary schools. Through interaction with the peasants they discovered God in the simple life of these people, and learned to value everything that they have, and the desire to “learn more in order to serve better” grew in them. This was organized by our former pupils. This year they were accompanied by Sister Yamilet Veas and Katherine Claveria (Aspirant of the CJ).
The students were distributed in groups under the responsibility of two former pupils. The first day of work they visited several families of the sector, helping them in their daily chores, listening to them and offering them a smile, since the majority of them were elderly persons who lived alone and were sick. In the families they helped to clean the house, to weed the gardens, and they showed themselves ready and available to help in any need. They also visited a Centre for elderly poor people who are alone, and shared with the grandmothers and grandfathers and collaborated in helping to paint some parts of the house.

The second and third day they had the experience of peasant insertion; the young people had the experience of milking the cows, harvesting the potatoes, weeding the gardens, picking the fruit, cutting wood, etc. In the evening the students shared in small groups in order to gather and discern on the experience of the day.

The following are some extracts from students:

Cristóbal: “I never thought about how much of effort went into getting this sack of potatoes how difficult it was to get it, and this summer work made me see this, it made me live this experience.

Camilla: “I am sure that I have sincerely given my best these days. This reminded me about the fragility of life and what a satisfactory feeling it is to receive the smile from the heart of all those persons who opened their homes to us. Words are inadequate to describe how marvellous this experience was, which has left a great mark on me, a mark, which some call Jesus.”

Samuel: “There is no doubt that summer works is an activity in which pupils and former pupils of the schools of the CJ can share, enjoy ourselves and learn from. This is an opportunity to grow as young people concerned about society and about those who are less fortunate”.

Sebastian: “It is beautiful to see how a group of 54 young people arrived in the rural zone during their holidays, with the only purpose to give themselves completely to those who are in the greatest need. The days of work were fantastic, the environment which was created in each group was one of trust, friendship and companionship. Everyday there were new tasks to be done and, though we were tired, we faced them with the same energy of the first day. I met and knew wonderful people, who have values and ideals, similar to mine and I believe that this is due to the formation which is given to us in the schools of the Congregation…”

Pastoral Experience in Cuba

Sister Liliana Castro, Province Argentina writes:

“May God grant us the grace that we be grateful”, is the first sentiment that comes from my heart after my stay in Cuba, from December 1, 2012 to February 28, 2013.

I want to thank Sisters Teresa, Ana and Iuliana of the community of Rodas very much for the welcome and acceptance, for allowing me to share life as “companions in the Lord in dispersion”, and for enabling me to experience the richness of internationality. Sharing life (prayer, mission, daily life, the cleaning, the washing, the kitchen, the recreation, the encounters with religious life of the Diocese of Cienfuegos, the encounters with agents of Pastoral ministry, etc.), above all in prayer, close to the Tabernacle of such a beautiful Chapel was a real privilege. I could experience that this is what truly keeps the sisters united and gives them the strength for their mission. With the Sisters we lived a very “full Mission Plan”, in preparation for Christmas. Continually, I thought of the “First Christian Communities”; as the Cuban Bishops say: “we are concerned about so many of our brothers and sisters who do not know Jesus ... religious ignorance, so many towns and places without a church, without a religious symbol, without a place for Evangelization... so many churches which are closed day and night, because it is impossible for the priest...”
to arrive there, the lack of balance between the pastoral attention given in the large cities, and that given to the small towns and villages.” These strong intense experiences in the mission gradually filled my heart with faces, faces of children with great desires to know Jesus; of happy young people who need to know, to experience what an autocratic regime has hidden from them, and disenchanted adults, who gradually are encouraged to shake away the dust from their faith which they have kept secretly for the past 50 years. On some occasions, many of the faithful have given witness to Christ, by going to prison, by losing their life, by sacrificing a career, etc. Thus, beginning in the 90’s the Church in Cuba, passed from a “ministry of maintenance and preservation, to a missionary Pastoral ministry”.

The sisters who have been in Rodas for the past seven years are aware that the hour has come to accompany the emergence of a committed laity in inter-ecclesial and above all, extra-ecclesial tasks, making them aware of their work to be salt, light and leaven for this Cuban society. The tool or means which we can offer as a Congregation is the Spiritual Exercises. For me it was the central moment of this experience when Sisters asked me to carry out the experience of the “Ignatian way” in daily life, with a group of committed persons from the parishes of Rodas and Cartagena. They really were able to “feel and relish” the presence of God in their community of Holguin:

I shared life during two weeks with the “Monica’s” in Holguin, where I also felt very welcomed by Monica, Jara and Monica Cojan. The illness of the latter, allowed us to experience the benefit of having two communities in Cuba. The community of Rodas in great solidarity sent Julia-na, to help out in those difficult moments in Holguin. I am also grateful to that community because of its good disposition toward me; they allowed me to share the stage that they are living in the organization and knowledge of the reality of that diocese.

My stay in Holguin was another blessing, -even if shorter than that of Rodas – very fruitful and deep. The diocese is in the hands and the heart of a wise Bishop, Mgr. Emilio. The day I arrived he was celebrating 37 years of priesthood. I had the opportunity to share his rich and full life as a priest. I participated in the meeting of pastoral agents in the Cathedral and that of the animators of communities in Cueto. This is the richness of a diocese that has a real Shepherd, a father, a brother.

We celebrated the birthday of Sr. Monica Cojan, the same day that our dear M. Michael Pelli left for the House of God, she who was one of the pioneers in thinking of our presence in Cuba.

The summit of this experience was the visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of La Caridad del Cobre, Patroness of the Cuban people. There I felt very strongly that I had to place this people at her feet. I prayed especially for the five sisters who are here, and who, during these months, gave me the opportunity to see clearly a life completely surrendered to the Kingdom. Thanks to each one of them, and thanks to those who made it possible for me to make this experience of growth.
**“Two Days and One Night Program” in CJ Korea**

Sr. Hyacintha Chang reports:

From 9 March to 14 May 2013 we had a two days and one night programme in preparation for the celebration of 50 years of CJ in Korea in 2014. The Korean Province was founded from the Munich-Nymphenburg Province, Germany in 1964. The purpose of the programme was to share our experiences of spiritual growth, and to have some time to plan for the 50th anniversary. We divided ourselves into 13 groups, with the number of members ranging from 10 to 17. We found our own select spot and time on the three beautiful beaches. We were 173 participants (out of 203) which meant nearly all the members of the CJ in Korea participated in this programme except sisters who were sick, busy, or abroad. The participants really enjoyed the programme particularly when they looked out towards the sea, the beautiful sunset, and sunrise. It helped them to open up and actively share. The programme was composed of three sessions of reflections and sharing. The first one was ‘reflection on my personal religious life’, the second ‘reflection on the darkness in and hope of the CJ’ and the third on what we want to do for the 50th anniversary’. Prior to the first sharing, the sisters picked one among 12 puzzles and put the puzzle together. They shared their puzzle with group members, reading Mary Ward’s saying on the puzzle and keeping that in their minds. When they were given the puzzle as a gift, they were delighted. Korean province had made 12 different kinds of puzzles using Mary Ward’s Painted Life and postcards about her and adding her sayings on the puzzles. After dinner, we went to the beach and enjoyed the magnificent sunset. In the beginning of the second sharing, we expressed the darkness and hope of the CJ, using various kinds of materials including colorful clothes, strings, beads, gravels, and sticks. Later the symbolic presentations were explained.

We expressed our gratitude for each other and for the congregation. The team of Cecilia Shim, Hyacintha and Chang. Theresa Shin led the programme. On 6 June 2013 all the CJ sisters in Korea gathered together for the ‘Religious Family Day’. The day began with a solemn Mass in celebration of the 49 years of our presence in Korea. Bishop Augustine Kim presided over the Mass and gave a touching sermon: “Go back to the image of God’s creation; go back to Mary Ward’s charism; that’s what God wants and is the meaning of the year of jubilee.” During Mass, we offered our personal intentions for what we wanted to do for individual spiritual growth for one year.

---

**A Special Note of thanks from the Korean Province:**

We thank you for your prayers and expressions of concern when you heard of the road accident. On the way to the ‘Two Days and One Night Programme’ we had a traffic accident just in front of the tunnel on the highway. It could have been a fatal accident, but fortunately nobody was killed. There were five of us in the car. Sr. Alberto was seriously hurt in the accident: five of her ribs were broken and the broken ribs stabbed her lungs. Even though she is much better now, please continue to pray for her full recovery. The other four are alright now. Thank you all once again.

---

**Life Orientation Programme for the youth**

Lissy CJ, Allahabad Province

LOP- Life Orientation Program- is one of the yearly programmes conducted by ICYM (Indian Catholic Youth Movement) UP Region, with the aim of creating responsible individuals who will have the values of Christ as the foundation of...
their life and to promote vocations for the priesthood and religious life. This year it was the privilege of Lucknow diocese to host the 32nd LOP which was held at St. Paul’s Minor Seminary in Lucknow, from 20th May to 15th June.

During this one month programme ten selected students of classes X, XI and XII from nine dioceses of UP region gather at a particular place, where they are helped to interact, reflect, pray, discuss and analyze together so that they are able to develop a Vision for their life and be rooted in the values of Christ. With this objective, during the first half of the month, they were given many input sessions such as Christian Discipleship, Jesus the Role Model for Youth, Personality Development, Sacraments, Goal setting and Time Management, Boy-girl Relationship, Career Guidance, Sex education, Youth and media, Youth and the socio Political Scenario of India etc. In order to help them to grow not only as persons of competence but also as compassionate and committed individuals they were taken for a few exposure programmes such as the following:

Visiting the district jail in Lucknow to help them to grow as socially responsible individuals with a compassionate heart.

Voluntary service with the Missionaries of Charity sisters to create in them a loving and sensitive heart towards the deprived of society and to teach them to see the face of Jesus in each one. In two groups they visited Prem Nivas, Karunalaya, Shishu Bhawan, and the leprosy center run by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters in order to render their service to the inmates. Cleaning their house, washing their clothes, making their beds, giving them a hair-cut and shaving, cutting their nails etc. were tremendous experience for them. With the objective of bringing out the hidden potentialities of these young boys and girls and also to create an interest in learning the Bible and getting in touch with the social realities of our country a number of competitions were conducted during these days. Among these were: role plays based on Bible and social issues; Tableau; Group dance; Group singing; Talent search; Bible Quiz; learning the Bible quotations; and essay and poem writing on the LOP theme ‘Youth as Faith Witnesses’. For most of them it was their first attempt of participating in such competitions. We set aside a day as ‘Integration Day’ to help them assimilate all that they had learnt. They also spent some silent moments to evaluate themselves and write down their stories of transformation.

The lessons were taught not only through sessions but also through various activities. Each day began with ‘yoga’. The participants were divided into groups and duties were allotted to them such as animation before the session, reporting the previous day’s activities, preparing for liturgy, conducting prayers, cleaning the lecture hall, helping in the kitchen, preparing cultural programme etc. These responsibilities were entrusted to them to teach the art of teamwork, leadership and interpersonal relationship and practical lessons of cleanliness and altruism. The evening praise and worship sessions conducted by Mr. Joshua Howard, the Regional Youth President, and the three days Youth Retreat guided by the ‘Jesus Youth’ team gave these young people who had nearly forgotten to pray, a tangible experience of the LORD. 27 girls and 24 boys benefited from this one month programme.

It was indeed a unique opportunity given to me to work along with Rev Fr. Archibald D’Silva, the Youth Director of UP Region, and a team of ten members, and to be involved in this noble ministry of caring for youth. It was indeed a challenging experience, at the same time a privilege for me to be with these children, from various situations and backgrounds, for a month, to enter into their level and to understand them by being one among them. I thank Sr. Sumita, our Provincial Superior, for making it possible for me to be a part of this mission of caring for youth.

31 July - Feast of St. Ignatius

From our website

On the morning of 31 July, Pope Francis celebrated a solemn Mass for the feast of St. Ignatius together with his “fratelli Jesuiti” and about 700 guests in Il Gesu, the large Jesuit Church near Piazza Venezia.

Jane, Prisca and Elisabeth attended this Eucharistic celebration knowing that they represented the whole Congregation of Jesus by their presence. It was a very beautiful Mass in honour of St. Ignatius.

In his homily Pope Francis invited us all to
to put Jesus and the Church in the center of our lives as Ignatius did, to serve and to be humble. He concluded his sermon by wishing that our life’s journey be accompanied by the intercession of Ignatius and all the saints, who teach us to do all things \emph{ad majorem Dei gloriam}…

The text of the homily can be found at Vatican Radio.

At the end of the Eucharistic celebration Pope Francis went to pray in the little chapel of “Santa Maria della Strada” (Our Lady of the Way) who is the patroness of the Society of Jesus. He then went to pray at the tomb of Father Pedro Arrupe, the Superior General of the Jesuits from 1965 to 1983.

As always, however, he also took the opportunity to give a sign of his concern for the poor. Before the Mass he visited the Centro Astalli where the Jesuits and their collaborators care for the many refugees in Rome

The sessions began at 8:30 a.m. in the conference Hall of the novitiate building at Allahabad. As is customary the meeting began with a very meaningful prayer service, conducted by Sr. Carola. She directed us to focus our gaze on Jesus and allow ourselves to experience the love-filled look of Jesus and continue to let His gaze linger on us in the coming days of our meeting. After the prayer Sr. Sumita introduced Sr. Jane, the main resource person of this year’s gathering.

Sr. Jane led us into the deep spirituality of Mary Ward in the following four days. She covered the whole life span of Mary Ward but she did it so systematically, methodically through power point presentations that in just four days we got a thorough picture of Mary Ward’s life and spirit. The sessions were taken from the book, ‘Mary Ward, a Prophet of Hope’ which Sr. Jane has written. To create greater interest and enthusiasm in us she conducted a quiz which covered the entire course she had taken such great pains to teach us. The quiz was very interesting and exciting with the entire community as audience.

On 27th June two sessions on Community life were taken by Sr. Sumita which helped us to renew our conviction that Jesus is the centre of our lives. In the afternoon Sr. Carola spoke of the three vows giving us clarity on the topic.

In the evening of 27th, despite the shortness of time, we managed to enjoy a boat ride in the Ganges and after having snacks on the picturesque bank of the river we returned home and even paid a flying visit to the community at 32 Thornhill Road. We thank Sr. Sumita for giving us this golden opportunity to come together to share and learn. We are grateful to Sr. Maria and the community at 21 Thornhill Road for their warm welcome and for making our stay comfortable.

**Inter-province meeting of young CJs in India**

Report by a temporary professed of COIN (Conference of India and Nepal)

“Cherish god’s vocation in you, let it be constant, efficacious and loving.”

This was the first time that a combined Juniors’ meeting was held and we, the privileged ones, felt indeed happy and delighted to be together with our friends and batch-mates, some of whom we had not met for years. There were 18 of us—five from Nepal, five from Delhi and eight from Allahabad.

Participants from Allahabad, Delhi and Nepal
God’s Own Children
Sr. Sudha reports from, Gulni, Patna Province
In India particularly in Bihar, economically the poorest and socially the lowest are the Musahars and Domes. They are mostly illiterate. Socially they are at the lowest rung of the ladder. Culturally they are out spaced and psychologically excluded and politically voiceless. Initially we concentrated only on one village which was very close to us. We started with non-formal education classes. The response we received was very positive. Even teenage girls started coming for classes. More promising among them were sent to the parish school. It was the beginning of the awakening of a whole village.

To give opportunities for greater number of children I started with a residential programme for Musahar children in February 2013. The first group of children came from the near by Musahar hamlets. They come with a small open bag, containing all their belongings. They come in groups of 60 for 10 days for an intensive residential programme and their whole outlook changes. They become smart, responsible and ready for action. So far four batches have come form different villages. Even though some of them are school going children they do not know the alphabet or numbers. We have to start from scratch. We have to teach them to wash, to clean even help them in bathing. As each batch comes it is so hard in the beginning as they are free children of nature, and are not used to discipline. But they are very simple, loving, and contented. By the time they get disciplined it is time to go home. But we see a lot of changes within this short time. It gives so much joy and contentment to see changes taking place in the lives of those children and their mothers.

At the end of the ten days I meet the parents, to get them involved in the education of their children. After a break of 5 days the next set of children come for the programme. During these five days the teachers go to the villages and meet the children and the parents, encouraging them to go to school. I seek out any class ten adults, give a thorough training and make them village teachers to teach in the non-formal centers. To work for these marginalized of the society is a real joyful mission although this demands a lot of energy, commitment and love.

Generalate - Middle European Province
CJ Website-Report
From 3rd June to 3rd July our General Superior, Jane Livesey CJ, and the responsible General Assistant, Elisabeth Kampe, visited eight communities of the MEP and talked with 184 sisters.

The reason for this second of three consultation visits is the end of term of office of the present provincial superior, M. Angela Fries CJ in München-Pasing. The constitutions of the Congregatio Jesu decree thorough consultations to be held in the province, before the appointment of a new provincial. The second reason for this visit is of course getting to know all the sisters.

This time they went from Mindelheim and Augsburg via Neuburg am Donau, Eichstätt and Regensburg to Munich where there are three communities.

The visit in Augsburg coincided with the Feast of the Sacred Heart, the patron feast of both schools. The day began with a solemn Mass in the Cathedral. In the evening Mr. Gandenheimer, member of the city council issued an invitation for a tour of the ‘Goldenen Saal’. The highlight of the evening was the entry into the Golden Book of the city of Augsburg (see photos on next page).
A short visit to the Mayor Dr. Gmehling was included in the programme in Neuburg am Donau as well. The former school of the Congregatio lies in his immediate neighborhood and there are friendly connections between him and the sisters of our retirement home there. (see photos)

The last two pictures show the community in München-Nymphenburg and a visit in the archives which contain treasures from the history of the Congregation.

Zechmeister, a member of the MEP who is currently missioned in San Salvador, teaching in the Jesuit University of Central America, alongside colleagues such as Jon Sobrino SJ. Martha’s talk, entitled “The Authority of Those Who Suffer” was a most thoughtful and profound challenge to us all and in particular to our understanding of our vow of obedience and what that vow calls us to – or, more accurately, who it calls us to – the marginalised and those who suffer.

Martha’s talk will soon be available on the website in Spanish, German and English in the section Documents and Talks. Anyone who reads it, reflects on it and begins to act on it will be greatly enriched.


From 3rd to 8th May 2013 Sister Jane Livesey attended the International Union of Superiors General conference here in Rome. This conference happens once every three years and there are about 800 General Superiors attending. This year the theme of the conference was based on Matthew 20:26: “It shall not be so among you” – The Service of Leadership according to the Gospel.

A highlight for us as CJs was that the final talk of the conference was given by our own Sister Martha

Your Attention Please!

Thank you very much for the news items for this edition. Please send in news for the next edition to reach the editor by 15th November. Please could I request you to keep the size of the text to one side of A4 and kindly send the photos separately in jpeg format.

Thank You!