



Editorial....



My dear Sisters,

As we step into the month of June the liturgical calendar places before us two important feasts. THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI AND THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS.

The origin of the feast of Corpus Christi can be traced back to the Eucharistic devotion of middle ages. The Eucharist is the centre of our lives. In the words of Fr Arokiadass SJ (who was happy and full of life), "Yes, I am a happy man. The source of my happiness is the Eucharist." He continues, "for me saying mass is not a rule or a part of the time-table, it is an experience. I would never want to miss it. It is a meeting with the Lord. This meeting keeps me happy all through the day." Love is the centre of the Eucharist and the Heart of Jesus. The new law Jesus gave is not a set of rules, but surrender to a love, meaning moving from the house of fear to the house of love. Eucharist should be the centre our communities. Love should rule us. It is self-sacrificing generosity, a movement from self centeredness to other centeredness. As St John of the Cross used to say, "At the end of our life, we will be judged on love." St Augustine often stressed a unique quality of the Eucharistic food. When we receive Jesus in the Holy Communion we become part of Jesus. We become more Christ like, more patient and kind, more forgiving

and understanding, more surrendering, more self-giving and more loving. We still live our ordinary daily lives, but it is our Lord who inspires our motives, attitudes and actions. We begin to see people and events through the eyes of Jesus, think as He did. Therefore, our life in communion with the Christ should make our communities vibrant with joy and peace.

If we are God centred religious, we will not be power-hungry, cold, harsh, and not committed in a love. They are happy to serve, happy to live with any one, happy to move to new situations and settings, knowing that the One who called them waits for them in every new setting.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is a symbol of the boundless love of Jesus for humans. The devotion to Sacred Heart means totally committed to Him. This feast calls as to renounce the worldly values of **honour, prestige, status, power, glory, pleasure and wealth**. By striving to do the will of Jesus, however difficult we may find, it brings true and lasting peace. Let the celebration of these two great feasts with four hours of adoration enable us to build a loving community, where we are happy and feel cared for. All the best. Thanking you for the articles sent by the sub-editors, I remain, yours lovingly,

Sr Rose Therese B.S.
Editor

Remember to Pray for



Sr M Luke BS
D.O.B : 15-02-1934
D.O.D : 11-05-2018



Sr M Prudentia BS
D.O.B : 22-07-1944
D.O.D : 27-05-2018



Sr M Clarita BS
D.O.B : 03-08-1941
D.O.D : 07-06-2018

Western Province

- Sr Dumiana - Brother-in-law
- Sr Victoria Pais - Cousin
- Sr Elsie - Aunt
- Sr Agnes - Brother
- Sr Sheela Wagh - Grandmother
- Sr Aida Mercy Fernandes - Grandmother
- Sr Myrtle - cousin
- Sr Veronita - Brother in-law
- Sr Prima - Brother
- Sr Rita Flora - Mother

North East Province

- Sr Susan Maria - Mother
- Sr Prema Misquith - Brother-in-law

Bangalore Province

- Sr Margaret D'Souza - Mother
- Sr Therese - Brother in law

Mangalore Province

- Sr Doris - Brother
- Sr Grace Ida - Brother
- Sr Sadhana - Uncle
- Sr Lydia Shanthi - Uncle
- Sr Dympa - Grand Father

Northern Province


- Sr Oslie - Niece & Nephew
- Sr Elfreedia - Brother-in-law
- Sr Jyoti - Cousin, brother-in-law
- Sr Lavina - Uncle
- Sr Flavian - Cousin
- Sr Martha Nancy - Cousin

Southern Province

- Sr Arul Jenio - Father
- Sr Anugraha - Uncle
- Sr Sindhu - Cousin
- Sr Jayasheela - Uncle
- Sr Reena Thomas - Aunt
- Sr Rosalia - Aunt
- Srs Ann Maria & Franceline - Cousin
- Sr Felsiya - Brother In law
- Sr Annie Varghese - Brother
- Sr Tessy - Cousin and niece
- Sr Maria Tresa - Mother
- Sr Jency Sebastian - Aunt and cousin

Eastern Province

- Sr Suchita Kullu - Sister



The joy of belonging to Jesus

*The joy of belonging to Jesus
A delightful and joyful day
A beautiful and wonderful day
A memorable and enjoyable day
A day we the 8 blooming buds of Bethany
Pledged our love to our beloved.*

It was with joy and open hearts that we received the garments of holiness and proclaimed with the deep sentiments of gratitude in our hearts that we embrace Christ as our Spouse and despise the pomp and glory of the world. When the day dawned with all its beauty the walls of the power house, the tiny flowers in the garden and the beautiful butterflies flying around the plants and the trees along with us started to praise God our Creator.

On the early dawn of 11th April 2018, we disposed our hearts and minds for the great act of our joyful self-offering to the Lord to serve in the vineyard of our master. With the lighted candle

and Vows paper in our hands we walked towards the dwelling place of God whispering to him “set a seal of your love on my heart dear Lord, for we belong to you”. Our hearts sang the melody of gratitude as we entered the chapel with our parents.

The solemn Eucharist celebration was presided by Rev. Fr Alfred Menezes, director of Ryshivana. During the homily he exhorted us to love God and our neighbor and invited us to be joyful religious and to radiate that joy to the whole humanity. Rev. Sr Cecilia Mendonca, the Provincial Superior of Mangalore Province, received our Vows in the name of the Church. We felt that we belong to Jesus and it was an awesome moment. After the final blessing we were led to the grotto of our Lady to sing the Magnificat. We raised our hearts in gratitude to God for the great gift of his call, for the tireless labour of our formators, Sr Sharon, Sr Shalet D'Souza and Sr Evangeline to prepare us for this great day. We feel immense joy to be a part of Bethany family and pray that this joy may remain

in us forever. We remain grateful to Sr Juliana Monis, the Superior, and the sisters of the Rosa Mystica community for making all the arrangements to make our day a memorable one.



**Sr Vidya
& Sr Deepthi**
Rosa Mystica
Novitiate

Transformation unto Christ



Having spent nine months in the community with the desire in our hearts to renew ourselves, we the 31 first year junior sisters, from various provinces entered the Mother House on 1st February, 2018. It was a God given opportunity for us to come together to reflect on the theme of “Transformation unto Christ.”

We began our spiritual journey with great enthusiasm and zeal, being and experiencing the spirit of our beloved Founder. As Sr. Virginia and Sr. Hilarita accompanied us to our Founder's cottage and campus we entered into interior silence and felt the sacredness of the footprints of our Founder on which he walked and sanctified. We deemed it a great privilege to attend various courses on different topics, which not only gave us knowledge but also touched our inward being, strengthen our will power, awakened our hearts and minds to be transformed unto Christ, our Divine Bridegroom. The scientific paper we were called upon to do on various topics increased our knowledge and broadened our vision.

We were privileged to attend the retreat on “Charism and Spirituality” of our Congregation for the first time. It gave us invitation to contemplate on the compassionate love of God and to share with the poor and marginalized, as Founder desired and lived.

“Unity in diversity” was the theme of our stage programme. We discovered the beauty and

richness of each ones culture, and traditions. Having lived with one another we learnt a lot from each other and to approach and respect as a person.

Oh! How marvelous are the works of the Lord, He was indeed walking with us and interacting with us through one another. Though few were the months together, we shared a special bond, deeper understanding, trust and closeness to with one another.

We thank Sr. Erasma, our junior directress, Sr. Elizabeth the asst. directress, and Sr. Dona for their exemplary life, generosity, self- sacrificing spirit, love, care, concern and support, above all their great share in our vocation.

We owe our gratitude to our dear Sr. Rose Celine, our Superior General and Sr. Lillis, asst. Superior General and General coordinator for formation, for arranging this programme which enabled us to put away our old self and begin a new again. We acknowledge our gratitude to Sr. Cleopha, the administrator, Sr. Leena Periera, the Superior of the Mother house, and all the members of the Mother house community as well as Generalate family, for their contribution in our formation. As we go out into the world let our lamps keep burning with the oil of God's compassionate love, to all the people whom we come across.

Srs. Lavina and Seemalex
Juniors

Grace-filled and Memorable Moments



opening programme was held soon after the lunch with 10000 youths coming together from the 8 Dioceses of Paris, with their animators and also encircled by their Bishops in the underground Basilica of St. Pius X. Youths were familiarized to the theme by means of modern technology. With their iPhone they communicated online and it was diffused on the giant screen. So, it was a unique moment

*H*ave no fear, He is calling you" ("SOIS sans crainte, Il t'appelle"). With this theme, well reflected ahead of time, we got ready for the Annual Youth Pilgrimage and Youth Meet in Lourdes called FRAT meaning Fraternal held from 17th to 22nd April. On the 17th morning we were the privileged ones to be invited on the antenna of Radio Notre Dame for a direct emission on the Youth Meet FRAT. 2 animators, one in charge of the group and 4 youth were interviewed. Being one of the Animators, I was fortunate to be interviewed and take part in this entire programme.

On the same day in the evening we travelled to Lourdes and arrived on the 18th morning. We visited the grotto, Basilica, and had our Mass which already gave us the impetus to taste the bounty of the Divine revealed through our Blessed Mother in this holy ground. The solemn

where everyone had their voice to be heard. There was harmonious singing, expressing aloud the slogans and moreover every parish had their symbols or special signs. Each day there were group discussions with 5 steps prayer and at the end there was a query to be responded and come up with a suggestion which was immediately sent on the official web site of the FRAT. On the 3rd day all suggestions of different groups were pooled together and out of the 16 suggestions, they had to vote and finally 4 suggestions were taken. These were sent to the Bishops to present it to the Pope for the next Synod of Bishops in October on the theme based on 'Youth'.

During these days, all 10000 youth had twice a day coming together for Mass / Adoration/ Marian Procession etc. At other times they were permitted to visit memorable holy places, meeting people of different walks of life who



shared their life witness, group work on prayer, associations accompanied by their animators etc. They were availed with the opportunity of Confessions as well as a time of sharing and listening. Besides, the youth also were accompanied by Priests for the Way of the Cross.

Some of the singing groups were available to help during the programme. Their presence was a boost for the youth to benefit the maximum from this special occasion.

This event has special significance in this year as it marks the 160th year of Mary's apparition to Bernadette and 110th Youth Meet.

Personally, beside being an animator, my presence as a consecrated person has become a witness value to the FRAT. I was blessed to journey with such large number of youth, who have a vision and mission to live up to. Their openness, enthusiasm and quest for learning is highly edifying. I am grateful for this rare opportunity offered to me and for the learning which has added to my well-being.

“Grab the opportunity, take the risk and go ahead.” The Master Jesus will accompany you.

Sr Celine D'SOUZA
Cormeille, FRANCE

Installation Ceremony, Bethany Southern Province



May 24th 2018 was a red letter day in the annals of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany, as the installation ceremony of the Provincial Superior of the Southern Province and her Councillors took place. It was a day of rejoicing to the members of the Province. Sisters gathered in the chapel at the early hours of the day for a thanksgiving prayer hour for the outgoing team. At 10.30 am Sr Rose Celine, the Superior General,

installed Sr Santhosh Maria as the Provincial Superior for a second term. Sr Judy Varghese, Sr GracyIgnatius, Sr Priya Rose and Sr Daisy Mani are installed as the first, second, third and fourth councillors respectively. Breaking the Word of God from the Gospel of Jn 21: 15-19, Sr Rose Celine, the Superior General, called on the Provincial Superior and her councillors to grow in their commitment of love and service. She further mentioned to deepen our love for the Lord day after day.



the Province. She thanked Sr Tessy Maria, the outgoing Councillor, for her committed service to the Province for the past eight years.

Many sisters from the Province were present to witness this event and to pray for the team. Sr Rosalia the Local Superior expressed her sentiments of gratitude to everyone gathered.

Felicitation programme followed. The outgoing team was thanked profusely by Rev. Sr Rose Celine. She Congratulated Sr Santhosh Maria and the Councillors. On this auspicious occasion Rev. Sr Rose Celine expressed the great contribution made by Sr Santhosh Maria during her first term especially for starting the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Provincial house and yearly 40 hours of Adoration, involving all the members of the Province. She called upon them to collaborate and cooperate with each other and to work in union to make their service effective and efficient. She gave a clarion call to the sisters of the Province to maintain the spirit of simplicity, poverty and its pastoral spirit.

Rev Sr Santhosh Maria also expressed her sentiments of gratitude to the Superior General and her team for the encouragement and reassurance of support and guidance from them and from the Sisters of

Special note of thanks was extended to Sr Cleopha, who accompanied the Superior General and conducted the installation ceremony. After a meal of fellowship this beautiful event came to an end.

With the blessings of the members of the congregation and the well-wishers the journey of the new Province administrative team of the Southern Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany continues.



Call of the National CRI to move to the peripheries



The National Conference of Religious in India (CRI) was held on the theme 'Current Scenario, Move to the Margins' in Chennai at SRM University campus from May



27th to 30th, 2018 in which nearly 600 Major Superiors of religious men and women participated. The Bethany Congregation was represented by Sr Rose Celine, the Superior General, 5 out of 7 Provincial Superiors – Sr Jyoti, Sr Shaila, Sr Cicilia Mendonca, Sr Assumpta, Sr Santhosh Maria, and Sr Lilitta the Secretary of Women's section (CRWI). The presence of the Internuncio Archbishop Giambattista Diquattro from Delhi for four days added to the joy. He readily availed himself for personal meetings with him to discuss on any matters.

The days were enriched with talks from eminent personalities on Indian current social situations, challenges faced by the religious in India, issues of dalits, social media, and special information from Caritas India, St John's Medical College, and CMC Vellur by the Directors of the respective institutions. There was a presentation on CBCI document on women and a soul stirring testimony on Rescue and Rehabilitation of the victims of human trafficking. The daily Eucharist was celebrated by the Bishop of Berhampur Sarat Chandra Nayak, Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, CBCI Secretary General, Bishop Neethinathan of Chengalpet, and Archbishop George Antony of Mandras-Mylapore.

During the election held, the CRI elected their





CRI. The SRM University which hosted our conference was graciously thanked by the office bearers. The beautiful gathering was concluded with a message to go to the peripheries to meet the Lord. It was a wonderful experience to be together reflecting and listening to one another. Thus renewed in Spirit we move out to build better communities.

Sr Santhosh Maria BS
Provincial Superior
Southern Province

new office bearers. Our Superior General Sr Rose Celine is elected as the President of Women's section (CRWI) and Vice President of National

Inter-Province Renewal Programme 2018 **Be a Renewed Bethany Sister** **into Newness of Christ in the Spirit**

A memorable Inter-Province Renewal programme held from 3rd to 9th June 2018 at Bethany Institute of Resource Development (BIRD) at Umsning, Meghalaya was much appreciated by all the 32 participants comprising North, Northeast, and Eastern Provinces. The participants were warmly welcomed by Sr Joy, the Provincial Superior of Northeast Province, Sr Edleburgh, the provincial councillor and the sisters of the community of Umsning.

The seminar was enriched by the contributions of resource persons – Sr Joy, the Provincial, Sr Sandhya and Sr Edleburgh, the Provincial Councillors, Sr

Clara Mendonca, the Director of BIRD and Fr PD Johny sdb. They led us into experiencing the spirit of our Charism and Spirituality in its depth and challenged us to practise the 'vows' through





reorient and challenge us to journey ahead as a renewed Bethany Sister. As we are in the most vibrant stage of our life, we need to keep burning, burning for the Lord in our apostolate.

The participants were given a chance to visit Cherrapunji and Shillong for site seeing.

which we bear credible witness to the world by forming ourselves fully to live our consecrated life in Bethany's way; in the process encountering the joys and challenges of community life. Soaring high to emerge as a creative leader in Bethany and to obtain fullness of maturity in Christ we learn to integrate all aspects of life. Swimming against the currents of the digital world we resolve to use the digital media as a powerful tool in our mission. In all our efforts, practices and endeavours, it is prayer that keeps us going.

Topics dealt by the resource persons and paper presentations from some of the participants were apt to motivate, renew, rejuvenate, revitalize,

When we count the goodness of God what Bethany does to each member, they would be more than the grain of sands on the seashore. We acknowledge the guidance and support of Sr Rose Celine our Superior General in making the dream of Inter-Province Renewal Programme a reality. The seminar came to an end with a note of gratitude to Sr Shaila, the Provincial Superior of Eastern Province, Sr Jyoti, the Provincial Superior of Northern Province, very specially Sr Joy, the Provincial Superior of Northeast Province, and her team for their untiring efforts in organizing the programme and their encouraging presence all through the seminar.

Resting in his love- 40 hours



'There is a longing in me for you my God....'

With this hunger and thirst the sisters of the Southern Province spent delightful 40 hours before the Eucharistic Lord.

On 24th February 2018, as the night gave way to dawn, Sr Santhosh Maria, the Provincial Superior, exposed the Blessed Sacrament in the Provincial House Chapel. Then on, the sisters arrived with thirst to drink from the Divine fount to spend day and night with the Lord looking at Him intently, raising their hands and hearts in adoration. As per the allotment of the communities, the sisters dropped in and there arose continuous intercessory prayers, recitation of rosaries, mercy

rosaries, and prayers of worship, singing and reading of the word of God etc. Indeed these days were days of blessings for the Province and we believe, the whispers of prayers have reached our good God, making His benevolence overshadow the world, the society and our Congregation. We are sure that the blessings of this day have enriched the spirit of the Institute and of the people of God in the world. The adoration was concluded with the Holy Eucharist officiated by Rev Fr Reji SJ, the Superior of Christ Hall Jesuit community, at 3.00 pm on 25th February 2018. The sisters returned to their respective communities rejuvenated after a cup of coffee at 4.30pm.

IN SEARCH OF JESUS.....



Superior of Southern Province, presented the Cross and the Book of Constitutions to the newly initiated Novices.

A short felicitation programme was put up by the Second year Novices. They shared their experiences of the past one year through a panel discussion and depicted the importance of seeking God without any attachments through a skit.

June 6th 2018 was an important day in the history of Rosa Mystica Novitiate, Kinnikambla. Ten Pre-Novices were initiated into the portals of the 'Power House' with lighted lamps symbolizing their readiness to burn for Jesus their Lord and Master. A meaningful prayer service was organized by the Novice Directress Sr Sharon and assistant directresses Sr Shalet DSouza and Sr Veena Laveena. Sr Cicilia Mendonca, the Provincial Superior of Mangalore Province, initiated the Pre-Novices to the Novitiate. Sr Assumpta, the Provincial Superior of Western Province, gave the reflections on the Word of God and invited the Novices to abide in the Lord as the fish abides in the water. She also brought home the importance of Community Life by citing the unity and support of the Geese. Sr Santhosh Maria, the Provincial

Sr Sharon, the Novice Directress, welcomed the gathering. Sr Precilla Fernandes, the Provincial Councillor of Bangalore Province, greeted the Novices and wished them well. The presence of Sr Juliana Monis, the Superior of Rosa Mystica Convent, and the community Sisters doubled the joy of the Novices. The programme was concluded with a hymn to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sr Shalet D Souza
Rosa Mystica Novitiate.



Open Wide the Door



'My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour' (Lk 1:46)

14th June 2018 was a great day, as the Silver Jubilee bells of Sacred Heart Pre-Novitiate Behala rang. We the nineteen candidates hailing from different parts of India, entered the portals of the Sacred Heart Pre-Novitiate Behala. With our

Sr Bridget too reminded us to fall in love with Jesus and make this love grow stronger day by day.

We were felicitated along with Sr Clare the outgoing Pre-Novices directress, Sr Charilin the incoming directress and Sr Vijaya the assistant



hearts full of gratitude, we entered the Chapel with lighted Diyas in our hands and placed them before the Lord as a sign of our total surrender to the Lord. It was a grace filled moment for us as we took another step closer in preparation for our total commitment to the Lord.

Receiving a Cross and a chain individually from Sr Jyoti the Provincial Superior of Northern Province was the most touching and meaningful experience. In her message she reminded us to listen to God speaking to us in the stillness of our hearts and minds. She desired that we fall in love with Jesus, stay with Jesus and die with Jesus.

Sr joy shared the reflection on the Call of Samuel and she encouraged us to listen to the Word of God, to the voice of Jesus and to the other voices in faith. Secondly, she told us to build our spiritual life in faith like the house that built on two strong foundations of stone that cannot be shaken.

help and prayers. We thank Sr Jyoti the Provincial Superior of Northern Province, Sr Joy the Provincial Superior of North East Province Sr Shaila the Provincial Superior of Eastern Province for their constant care and guidance. We felt the presence and support of Sr Violet, Sr Diki, Sr Bridget the Provincial councillors and coordinators of Formation for all three provinces. We were encouraged by the presence of many sisters from far and near who joined us on this occasion. We gratefully remembered and prayed for our past Formators. With the help of Sr Charilin and Sr Vijaya we are happy to go ahead nourished by the heart of Jesus which is the fountain of love and mercy.

Irene and Shalini
Sacred Heart Pre-Novitiate
Behala, Kolkata.

Birthdays of Sr Refuge



The 99th birthday of Sr Refuge was celebrated on May 20, 2018 at Jyothi Nilaya Convent, Bangalore. A thanksgiving Eucharist was offered for her intention at which Rev Fr Xavier OP was the celebrant. After the Mass the Provincial team, along with the members of the community and the sisters from Bethany, Jayamahal wished Sr Refuge. She thanked everyone for the prayers and wishes. It was a memorable occasion for every one in the community.



A Memorable Leadership Training Programme At Bethany



51 sisters from all over India and Tanzania attended a five days' long Superiors' Training programme from 13TH- 18TH May 2018, intended to develop second and third line of leadership in the Congregation. In her introduction and

welcome speech Sr Lillis, the organizer of the programme, stressed on the importance of a local community and the local superior's role in promoting the holiness of the Congregation.



Sr Rose Celine, the Superior General, spotlighted the three 's' of Gospel leadership, namely, servant, shepherd and steward and expounded each aspect. Superior is the one who protects the charism of the Congregation, she emphasized.

The resource persons for day one were Sr Lillis, the Asst Superior General, and Sr Shanti Priya, the General Councillor. Sr Lillis dealt on topics, such as, Multiculturalism and Community life, Fr Founder, a model for enterprising steward leadership, whereas Sr Shanti Priya dealt on Constitution- the road map for a disciple of Christ; Tips for up keeping of the documents- the patrimony of the Congregation, and Tips for maintaining convent archives and holding community meetings.


The resource person for day two and three was Rev Fr. Philip msfs, the Vice Provincial of Guwahati Province, who dealt on personal empowerment to empower others. He dealt at length on Personality traits, Developmental stages, Stress management, Personal leadership styles, Conflict management, Generation gap and the methods of bridging it etc. Various exercises to assess one's personal leadership style too were part of the programme.

On the fourth day Sr Mariette, the General Councillor, spoke on Drinking deep from the Charism and Spirituality of the Congregation and the Founder. On the fifth day Rev Fr Baptist Menezes spoke on discernment and spiritual direction and Sr Sneha, the Province Procurator of Western Province took practical sessions on Temporal Administration. She also was the assistant organizer of the programme.

Prayer at Fr Founder's cottage, visit to the tomb of Fr Founder, prayer in the adoration chapel, organized recreation, evaluation, self introduction, the delicious dishes served, washing the dishes, prayer of anointing, made the Bethany lived in experience a memorable one.

Sr Joyce





A Demonstration to raise the Mission Bar

The seventeen junior sisters, including the newly finally professed, came together at Bethany Provincial House, Guwahati, for ten days' programme geared to reinvent Bethany's mission. It was held from 25 May 2018 to 4 June 2018.

On a sunny day, the special package was unveiled. The dynamic presentation of the resource persons, who introduced the uniqueness of Bethany's apostolate in the Northeast, captured the participants. Sr Joy, the Provincial Superior, enlightened on Personal integration, which is so very basic to any fruitful mission. Sr Sandhya, Sr Edleburgh, and Sr Carmine capacitated the sisters in the area of Pastoral Care, Education and Media, and Temporal Administration respectively.

Sr Leena Shareena gave a hands-on experience, through arranging practical classes at the Bethany School, and the juniors rated themselves in their skill and expertise. Sr Benedicta Aranha and Sr Sunithajyoti presented the relevant issues

in the social and health apostolate. A visit to the slums and to Bethany promotional schools among the migrants, rejuvenated in the juniors the elements of the Founding Charism- 'to bring good news the poor'.

Through practical sessions, the juniors realized the need to be creative and original in teaching the students through developing in oneself the needed skills. The tips on pastoral care helped the participants to commit their part in caring for the families in today's context, especially the young couples and broken families. The session on temporal affairs was indeed unique and it taught the sisters how to be transparent and accountable.

Each one said that she learned something new for her life and mission. Such an integration of experiences motivated them to be more like Christ, who was loving and compassionate, through both being and doing.

Sr Anandi Kerketta BS
Bethany Convent, Guwahati



Envisioning A Post Centenary Bethany

The 31st Provincial Assembly of the Northern Province commenced on 8 April 2018, on the eve of the Feast of Annunciation, on the theme: 'Open wide the door, let Him enter in'. It was a time to celebrate the life of the province. Sr Jyoti, the Provincial Superior, in her inaugural address invited the sisters to have Spiritual Conversation as Jesus had, at Bethany. One must transfigure work with

prayer she said, "We are here for love, with love. Humility and docility are the two props we need to enter into the Heart of God. You have been the face of Jesus; let us enter into the Hearts of Jesus and Mary".

Fr Richard SVD, the resource person, enlightened the members on the topic envisioning post centenary of Bethany. He proposed a new leadership to Bethany for the next century with

four words: WITNESS, PROCLAIM, INVITE AND ENGAGE. As leaders, we are to be a catalysts, inspiring everyone to do their very best, for the sake of the mission and out of genuine care and respect for the people of God. This also is a time for repentance for all that has gone wrong in the vision and mission of the Founder; and re-commitment to a new shared vision for the present and future of God's mission in the world.

Sr Lillis, the Assistant Superior General of the Congregation and the Postulator for the cause of the beatification of the Founder, enlightened the members on Mystical Contemplation. She urged us to practise the virtues of Charity, Humility and Detachment. She shared her deep experiences from her vast reservoir of knowledge calling us to behold ourselves in the beauty of God.

The talks during the Provincial Assembly were



followed by the presentation of reports of various apostolates by the provincial councillors. We thank our Provincial Superior Sr Jyoti and her Councillors: Sr Chantal, Sr Arpan, Sr Helima, Sr Violet and Sr Gracy D'Souza for their committed and dedicated service to the Northern Province during their tenure.

Sr VanithaVeena
Northern Province

