

**"You will never change your life until you change something you do daily.
The secret of your success is found in your daily routine". – John C. Maxwell**

ANNUAL GATHERING OF TEMPORARY PROFESSED SISTERS 1st MARCH TO 23rd MARCH 2017

Introduction:

The first stage of Annual gathering for 1st & 2nd Year Temporary Professed Sisters began at Good Shepherd Convent, Andheri, Mumbai and lasted for a week. We were welcomed warmly by the sisters of the community and Sr. Mariam, our directress. A meaningfully prepared prayer service gave the direction for the days ahead.

The first day was spent on sharing the various experiences of the sisters with one another. On the second day Sr. Pushpa Louis enlightened us on the need to work towards justice and made us also understand certain laws given in the Indian constitution.

The sharing of Sr. Agnes Antony CCR on her joys and challenges of religious life helped us to appreciate our vocation and to be aware of the challenges it offers.

Sr. Mariam in her presentation explained to us the need for making right choices/decisions in life and taught us the preconditions for discernment. Towards the end of the one week programme we were fortunate to participate and celebrate the International Women's Day with our many mission partners, benefactors and beneficiaries at our Convent in Andheri. We were happy for the opportunity given to make some contribution on this occasion.

After a week we proceeded to Carmel Oasis, Karjat, where we continued the programme with the rest of the Temporary professed sisters. After a meaningful opening liturgy Sr. Mariam conducted ice breaking games which enabled us to get into the right disposition for the rest of the programme.

Spiritual Nourishment: The various meditations conducted daily and the Liturgy allowed us to get in touch with ourselves, with God and others. During the Eucharistic celebrations Fr. Monty S. D. B. inspired us on personal, community and social life. Watching occasionally faith based movies was an eye opener to know how our faith in God works wonders.





We were very much inspired by the life story of Sr. Christine Tan RGS from Philippines who was an icon for people during the martial law, inspired us to work for justice, to stand for one's own convictions and to persevere in all the circumstances of our life.

On our recollection day Fr. Xavier S.D. B deepened our understanding of the life of prophets basing his talk on the life of Prophet Jeremiah. I am only an agent; all the time I need to be tuned in with the will of God to make my presence a transforming one.

Sessions:

1. Discipleship & Good Shepherd values by Sr. Mariam motivated us to be stronger in our vocation, practice good values and come closer to God by deepening our faith. To be a true disciple of Jesus, we need to walk in the footsteps of our Master by the following: *abandon, immerse, depend on God and live in the community.*

Sr. Sabina Pathrose dealing with the topic on "Formation" from our Constitutions, brought to our awareness of our responsibilities as Temporary Professed Sisters. She also explained to us the 'Policy to deal with cases of sexual abuse' in church institutions which helped us to know about Internal Complaints Committee so that we could share this knowledge in the mission areas.

Sessions on **Financial Management** by Sr. Maria Rose gave us a taste to be accurate and accountable while dealing with money, power and resources. We learned about maintenance of records, planning & budgeting and accounting terms. We not only learnt about accounts but also learnt some values for our life such as 'to be transparent, truthful, disciplined and punctual'.

The Session on **Our Role in Nation building** by Mr. M.L. Satyan motivated us to know the positive aspects of India, UN Sustainable Development Goals, Human Rights, Child Rights, Self Esteem, Time management and How to stay positive in a TOUGH environment. It was a source of information and knowledge as the sessions had a lot of sharings, group activities and puzzles. Video on 'Pioneers of Change' widened our mind to respond to the burning issues of the time.

Day Out: A day out to 'Pine Wood' resort refreshed us as we played, danced and sang in the water and had lots of fun. It was a memorable day as each one enjoyed herself to the maximum in the water. The whole programme rejuvenated us and helped us to be constantly grateful to God for having chosen us to be instruments in His service. We are grateful to Srs. Pushpa, Resi and their community members for their warm welcome and extending all their support for the success of the meeting.

We are indeed thankful to Sr. Mariam Kulangara the gift of herself to each of us and her many years of loving service as Directress of the Temporary professed.

We warmly welcome Sr. Kala Hermanajilt our new directress.

Thanks to all our mission partners for all your care and support.

Temporary Professed sisters

