



# Disciples India

Email ID – [inpddmwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:inpddmwebsite@gmail.com)

01/07/2022

## A JOURNEY OF A DISCIPLE....



On July 12, 2022 we would fondly recall the 125<sup>th</sup> Birth anniversary of our dear Mother M. Scholastica Rivata. The best way to honor someone's memory is to tell their story. The story of every child that comes into this world is unique and irreplaceable in the project of God. God chooses people at various times to fulfill his divine plan.

The story of Orsola Rivata, a little girl from Narzole, a small village in Italy begins in the year 1897. She was like any other girl child who had her own joys and sorrows. Her greatest sorrow was the loss of her dear mother at the

tender age. Yet like other children of her age she did not wallow in self-pity and sit back to drown herself in sorrow. Even in her pain she knew how to take advantage of the situation by entrusting herself to the care of Mama Mary, the Mother of Jesus. As the saying goes "Like the Mother, so the daughter" she tried to imbibe the virtues and qualities of Mary as she grew up in age. This learning helped her later in her journey of Discipleship to remain in silence, ponder over God's Word and to surrender herself totally to the plan of God which He was weaving for her all the while.

When the time struck for her to be set aside by the founder to begin the Sister Disciples, she fully cooperated with the plan of God to begin the PDDM, to nurture and to give shape to it through her pain, sufferings and sacrifices.

In this new mission she was given the name Sr M. Scholastica. The name Scholastica means a 'Student or Disciple'. A student is a person of learning and learning never stops. A true disciple possesses a healthy dose of humility and a keen awareness of his or her own limits. Sr. M Scholastica a student and a disciple in the right sense learned all these virtues already from her heavenly mother and willingly sublimated it in the school of the Divine Master for the project which she was chosen.

God has a plan for each one of us. If we remain open to God's ways, his plans will find fulfillment in our lives too. Like loyal children of this noble mother let us continue to discover the plan of God unfolding each day in our journey of discipleship.

**SILENCE**  
is a source  
of great  
strength. 😊



**Sr. M. Regina Sebastian**

## SPIRITUAL RENEWAL & ON GOING FORMATION FOR CENTERIST

Fr. Bothom Patil, a Capuchin priest who preached the retreat was very practical in his approach. He dealt with topics like community life as an extension of God's family and our own family, Reconciliation a process of journey with Jesus on the way to Emmaus, Eucharist - God's gift for the life of the world, Perfection through practice of vows, importance of social media: uses and abuses and Mary as our model in our following Jesus Master.

Take away from the retreat for spiritual journey:

1. Look at the past, focus on future but walk in present
2. People change according to situation but you be yourself.
3. Having everything but possessing nothing.
4. What we need is not position but disposition.
5. Mission is our home not home our mission.
6. Inability to listen to the voice of others is the inability to listen to the voice of God.



7. And finally he concluded with the words of St Mother Treasa saying, “We are not called to be successful but faithful”.

**Sr M. Amita Mascharinas**



### **Media Education**

Every drop of water which falls on a stone creates a new shape to it. We were blessed to have a resource person in Sr M. Saly Muthuplackal who shaped us in giving Media Education. We live in the world of technologies and many of us are handling the modern gadgets in our ministries. We were made aware of its advantages and disadvantages, given some tips to use

it prudently and also cautioned not to be trapped by our ignorance in using these gadgets. We thank our Provincial team for providing this opportunity to create awareness among us through this seminar and Sr M. Saly for her availability and expertise.

The centrist meeting with inputs from Sr M.Celine Cunha the provincial superior was enlightening for our personal life and for the mission. The practical tips given by Sr M.Victoria Gaurea, Sr Florence Lark and Sr Precilla Patrao was indeed a shot in the arm for our ministry.

**Sr M. Sowmi Anto**

## **MY YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD SERVICE**

As I share my experience in the service to the priests, I am deeply grateful to God Almighty for calling me to be a Sister Disciple and assigning me with a particular mission of rendering my service to the priests, His ministers.

When I reminisce about my service to the priests in various places, I feel happy, content and being blessed by God. I began my priesthood service in 2002 keeping in mind the words of our beloved Founder Blessed James Alberione, “The Pious Disciples are the mothers to the priests from the time they join the congregation, their mission starts and it will never end, even at the death of a priest because their prayer continues even after their death”. This motivated me to remain at the side of the priests as a doctor, nurse and a helper. With deep love for them and with courage I carried out this ministry during these past 20 years.

Old age is known as the second childhood. When the priests become sick, they are helpless and our presence makes them feel good. When they want something, they become stubborn and I see in them a child. At these occasions I remember the words of our Founder who said, “The pious disciples fulfill for the priests the duties and services which Mary fulfilled for Jesus and the apostles. The collaboration with the priests is a grace, because you share in the merits which they obtain through preaching, through the celebration of the divine mysteries”.

Here I would like to quote the words of a senior most priest of the Archdiocese of Bangalore, about the services of the Sister Disciples to the Clergy Home.

“I feel very proud and happy to pen a few lines about the PDDM sisters at the Clergy Home, Bangalore. Most of us are in our second childhood and without them we seem to feel like abandoned children. Their spiritual life is exemplary. They are regular for the adoration and the visits. The altar is set for daily mass, well decorated for feasts. I am writing this on behalf of all the fathers. I am called the cardinal protector of the nuns. Any time during day or night, just phone up or ring the emergency bell, within minutes, they are there. I have never seen them putting on a long face. Daily we see them in the kitchen either cooking or giving final touch to the dishes. They, with the help of the workers, maintain the house, garden and everything. They are thorough with the rituals. If the celebrant is struggling to carry on the celebration, one of them goes to the altar to help him out. Their presence is felt everywhere. I, together with all the priests of Clergy Home, thank the superiors who have given these sisters to look after and serve the old babies who have seen very good life in our respectful places. We assure our prayers to them and thank them from the bottom of our hearts”. God Bless them!

**Sr M. Sahaya Melkias**

# NATIONAL PROGRAMME....

Three days residential “National Programme for Vocation Promoters and Minor Seminary Rectors” was held at NBCLC, Bangalore from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 which was organised by CCBI Commission for VSCR for South and Western Zone. The theme for the seminar was “Vocation Promotion in India: A Mission with Vision”. There were 179 participants including the resource persons. The seminar began with an Inaugural Eucharistic celebration by very Rev. Msgr. Joseph Jayanathan, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Bangalore. In his homily, he used a catchy theme namely “SIEZE the opportunity” through which he gave some strategies to be good vocation promoters.

The resource persons for the day were: Bro. Paulraj, Principal of CRI Brothers Institute of Theology, Bangalore, Sr. Jessy Merline SMMI Provincial of Bangalore Province, and Fr. Stephen Alathara, Deputy Secretary General, CCBI Centre, Bangalore.



The seminar became more interesting when three dynamic lay faithful shared their inspirational stories of their vocation to spread the Gospel through their unique ways.

Mr. Nigel Fernandez is the CEO of Asian Trading Corporation, Bangalore and he took the mission to publish many ranges of Catholic Bibles and spiritual books.

Ms. Maria Isabel Francis is in charge of YOUCAT and she is evangelising the youth through Youth Catechism (YOUCAT) and many more.

Mr. Piyush Pushkal is the Director of John 3:16.com Media Mission, Bangalore, a Hindu convert, who is zealously evangelizing the Gospel through a social media by uploading Gospel videos, talks of various church leaders and also launching a WhatsApp group for Catholic teachings.

The seminar was enriching for everyone who attended, for there were many thought provoking sessions which helped to bring out an Action plan. It was fruitful and we gained much awareness and insights through it. A Big thanks to Sr. M. Celine Cunha, our Provincial Superior and her team for giving us the opportunity to attend this seminar. Thank you!

**Participants:**

**Sr M. Josephine Rodrigues**

**Sr M. Celine Pamei**

## TESTIMONY OF SR PRISCILLA FERNANDES FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

**“THANK YOU LORD! PRAISE YOU LORD!  
ALLELUIA!”**

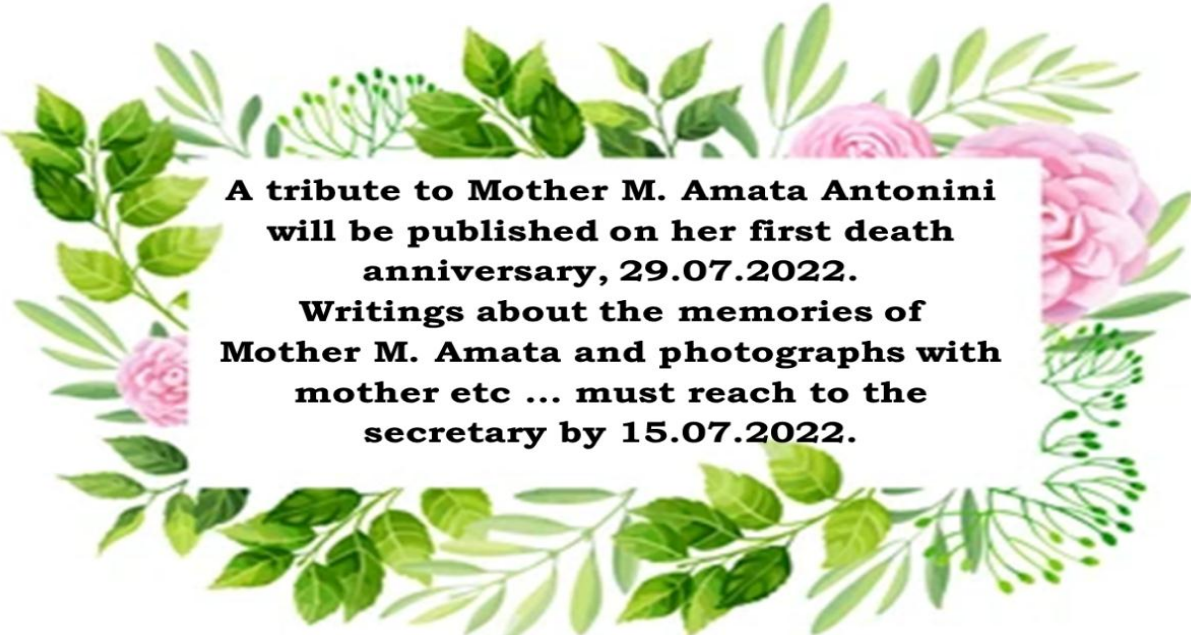
**THANK  
YOU JESUS.  
FOR ALL  
OF THIS  
LOVE.**

I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in April 2018. The doctor told me: it is advanced stage cancer; it is a galloping cancer which means fast spreading cancer. At that time CA report showed 72.93. From May 2018 to December 2018 six cycles of chemo were given to me. After that the cancer cells had come down to 15.89. Once again all the tests were done in April 2019 at that time the CA report showed 61.49. I was taken to the same doctor again who suggested me to take the chemo again. I heard my inner voice saying: **“No more chemo”**. I was so confident of my decision and told the doctor: “Please hold on, I will let you know”. After that I never went back to this doctor. Many

pressurized me to take chemo but I was firm in my decision and surrendered myself to the Lord, who is the greatest Healer. No matter what the doctor had said or what the reports were saying but **I claimed what Jesus said (1: Peter 2: 24) and kept repeating daily thousand times “By Jesus’ wounds I am completely healed”**. I kept listening to the word of God and my faith grew stronger day by day. In July 2019 the CA report showed 73.73. I continued my prayer in full faith. In October 2019 the CA report showed 203.3, I was not afraid what the report said. I kept believing in these words **“By Jesus’ wounds I am completely healed”**. In the same month it was the grace of God that took me to the Vincentian Ashram. It was 2nd Saturday of the month, I met Fr Thomas and made a good confession, he blessed me and then **I attended the Jericho prayer. During the prayer the priest announced 3 times a cancer patient is healed. I claimed this healing for myself and started thanking and praising God.** In December 2019, I had unbearable pain in the lymph nodes, so I went to another Doctor. He suggested me to do the PET scan. To my surprise the Cancer had not spread to any parts of my body. The Doctor suggested me only to operate and remove the existing lymph nodes. I was operated on 2nd January, 2020. From then onwards all the CA reports are very good.

My recent CA report of 13th, June 2022 shows 4.00 Cancer cells which is completely normal. **Millions of thanks to Jesus my Lord, Master and Savior, a Mighty Healer who has healed me completely by His wounds.**

**GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME AND ALL THE TIME GOD IS GOOD!**



**A tribute to Mother M. Amata Antonini  
will be published on her first death  
anniversary, 29.07.2022.**

**Writings about the memories of  
Mother M. Amata and photographs with  
mother etc ... must reach to the  
secretary by 15.07.2022.**