



HATIGAON TIDINGS

MSMHC GENERALATE - LITTLE FLOWER CONVENT, HATIGAON



Vol. 15.2

May - August 2016



JUBILEE OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

MSMHC Generalate, Hatigaon hosted the golden and silver jubilee celebration of 18 Sisters on 27 August. Welcoming the august assembly gathered for the solemn Eucharistic celebration of the day, Sr. Philomena Mathew, the Superior General said, "During this year of mercy, we want to sing the mercies of the Lord for the wonders that the Lord has accomplished in life of our three golden and fifteen silver Jubilarians; we want to thank the Almighty for the inestimable gift of their life and precious religious vocation which was indeed a journey with God." Recounting the blessings of God over

the past years, she stated, "It is a fitting moment to acknowledge in the name of the Church and the Congregation, their generous contribution, selfless sacrifices, inspiring life and profound faith which made them instruments of God's unconditional mercy and love to thousands ..."

The chief celebrant, Archbishop John Moolachira of Guwahati Archdiocese began the solemn celebration of the Eucharist with a note of appreciation to the Jubilarians for their life of commitment through which they added to the life and holiness of the Church. In his homily, quoting

Prophet Isaiah (61: 10), he called on the Jubilarians to become aware of God's special love and care. Speaking about the significance of God's call he said, "Our call is to delve deeper into the relationship and savour the fact that the Lord delights in us." "As a fruit of this love relationship we go out to serve Christ in His people," he added.

The beautifully decked hall, angelic choir and special prayers made the Eucharistic celebration meaningful and awe-inspiring. Followed by the Holy Mass was the time for special greeting, felicitation, cutting of Jubilee cake and sumptuous meal. (Cont'd on page 4)





FROM THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

Come, be my Light!

“Come be my light” was the personal invitation extended to Mother Teresa of Kolkata by Jesus her God, Spouse and Master. Being illumined by His light she set out on a journey as a beacon light, a candle in the wind. The lighted candle kept shining no matter how hard the winds of darkness, alienation, criticism and indifference blew over it. Indeed light shines in the darkness and the darkness could not overcome it (Jh. 1:5), because this fragile ‘woman of the gutters’ had cemented her entire life on the unshakable convictions of her life. She remained anchored on God the source of her life and light. For with You is the fountain of life and in your light we see light (Ps: 36:9). Anyone who has known the prolonged dark night experiences of Mother Teresa might ask: how could she be ‘His light’ despite the darkness she experienced? For she could hardly see the light of Christ as it was so blurred by the darkness caused by the experience of inner alienation, emptiness and abandonment. She felt that her soul was plunged into a darkness that was so dark and experienced a pain that was so painful.

The heroism of St. Teresa of Kolkata rests in the fact that she ‘lived by faith and not by sight’! She persevered in prayer with great fidelity despite the inner darkness she experienced. She accepted the darkness and learned to love it having discovered its great value: “I have come to love darkness, for I believe now that it is a part, a very very small part of Jesus’ darkness and pain on earth.” She learned to welcome it as a spiritual side of her work, and when she deeply accepted it, she was able to experience deep inner joy. “Today really I felt a deep joy – that Jesus can’t go anymore through the agony, but that He wants to go through it in me. More than ever I surrender myself to Him, more than ever I will

be at His disposal.” When she learned the beautiful, yet hard lessons of total surrender she was able to transcend the experience of darkness and see light, ‘above and through the clouds of thick darkness.’ The experiences of darkness could never claim power over her deeper self, the inner sanctuary which God so mysteriously preserved and safeguarded from the tyranny of corruption and despair. Therefore even in darkness the path was sure; there was no need to “find the way” but rather to “follow the way” that Jesus had already walked.

When she accepted the experience of interior darkness and disposed herself totally to be used by God, she was able to say with deep conviction “the darker the darkness the sweeter will be my smile at God.” This indeed is heroism of a virtuous life lived out in the ordinary circumstances of life with extraordinary love, fidelity and commitment which made Mother Teresa of Kolkata St. Teresa of Kolkata. As we join the entire world to honour this great saint of our day, it is fitting that we stop a while to reflect on our personal call to be bearers of Christ’s light to the world beginning with those living with us and around us. Do the experiences of light and darkness which Mother Teresa had in anyway correspond to our personal experiences of encounter with the reality of light and darkness in their multi-faced hues and shades? What do we do with the many big and small experiences of inner darkness we might come across in the course of our personal, community and apostolic life? Some of us might feel gripped by an interior darkness caused by a prolonged tastelessness for prayer and spiritual activities. While someone else may feel a sense of alienation from those we love and deeply care for: from the members of our own families, from the circle of



close friends and confidants, from the members of our communities or even from those whom we work with or the beneficiaries of our service. There may be a group of us who experience inner darkness as a result of grief and pain caused by the apostolic failures, personal failures, death of dear and near ones, personality conflicts, brokenness in inter-personal relationships, differences in character, world view and value system. There might still be yet someone who experience inner darkness due to the many stress, temptations, and attractions of the world which makes one feel altogether disillusioned in one’s vocation. Are we able to grasp the meaning of the many ‘dark night’ experiences we have as disciples of the Master, called to deny self, take up the cross and follow after Him? Or do we waste such graced moments and make ourselves victims of darkness by putting off the light of Christ within us? Do we consciously or unconsciously become slaves and agents of darkness? Have we the courage to confide in God and in those whom he sends on our way as angels of His love and mercy and keep trusting Him even when He seems to hide His face?

May St. Teresa of Kolkata, the saint of darkness as wished to be known intercede for us and help us walk in the light and be carriers of His unfading light.

Sr. Philomena Mathew
Superior General

FMA Mission Superior Visits Hatigaon

Sr. Lucy Rose Ozhukayil FMA, General Councillor, visited Hatigaon on 25 May. She interacted with all the members and shared the joy of being together as one family.

Speaking to the group of second year novices in Hatigaon, she stressed the need to become responsible for



personal life and mission. She also told them to make right choices in

life to become useful, beautiful and serviceable.

Conference of Superiors General, Rome

The conference of International Union of Superiors General (UISG) held at Rome on 9-13 May, 2016 upheld the importance of commitment to global solidarity for common good. It also marked the closing of the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the UISG as an organization. Sr. Philomena Mathew, the Superior General was one of the 870 members participated in the event which had



input sessions, sharing and meeting with Pope Francis.

The five-day long meeting reflected on the theme, "Weaving Global

Solidarity for Life." It was in response to the invitation of Pope Francis to a solidarity in support of the future of the planet earth and all its peoples.

Relief Assistance for Flood Victims

MSMHC Hatigaon, in collaboration with the Centre for Development Initiatives (CDI) extended flood relief service to the people of Chandrapur, Guwahti. More than 500 families of Kalangpar,

Nalani, Dhipuji, Garobadha, Dhamkanda and Kanapu villages were assisted with relief items such as rice, dal, biscuits and drinking water.

The plight of the people in the

flood affected areas was pathetic as they had to remain disconnected for almost two weeks.

Among this distressed group, the state of women and children were in worse condition.





Salesian Family of South Asia Meets at Bangalore

The major superiors of the Salesian Family, South Asia held a meeting at Don Bosco Provincial House, Bangalore on 29-30 August, 2016, chaired by Fr. Maria Arokiam, the Regional Councillor of South Asia. Sr. Philomena Mathew, Superior General along with three Provincials – Sr. Mercy Scaria of Bangalore, Sr. Mary Concepta Dkhar of Shillong and Sr. Daisy Jacob of Tinsukia participated in the meeting.

Fr. Maria Arokiam in his inaugural address spoke about the prophetic challenge of the leaders and called to reflect on their role and future impact. Highlighting some of the



significant strengths and concerns of the present, he called for enhancing collaboration among the members of the Salesian family in the south Asian region.

The group had an enriching time for sharing and discussion, during which was the presentations by different congregations on their mission, challenges and concerns. A PowerPoint presentation on MSMHC

was presented by Sr. Philomena Mathew, Superior General.

In the concluding session, the group drew up concrete plans of action with regard to migrant youth, family ministry, and a healthy ecological outlook. It focussed on the possibility of taking forward the mission statement which was drawn at the Salesian Family Congress held in September 2015 at Kolkata.

(Cont'd from page 1)

Jubilee of Religious Profession

The day concluded with an hour-long cultural programme jointly hosted by the Novices and the students of Little Flower School, which was attended by the Jubilarians, their

friends and relatives. The celebration came to a close with the message from the Superior General, Sr. Philomena Mathew. In her brief message, she exhorted the Jubilarians to continue their fervour in serving the Lord in His people. She wished God's blessings upon their years ahead and on all their endeavours.

The celebrations had begun on 25 August with the arrival of the Jubilarians, wherein the community of Hatigaon offered them a colourful welcome. Sr. Philomena Mathew, the Superior General along with Council

members welcomed each of them with 'Aronai' and flowers. The golden Jubilarians were specially honoured with 'Jhappi'. They were then solemnly led to the main porch of the Convent as the Little Flower School (LFS) band marched forward with joyful music and cheer. Followed by it was the welcome words by the Superior General and a short entertainment programme by the Novices and the Students of LFS. The community had also arranged a grand dinner and it was specially served by the Superior General, members of General Council and community.





The occasion of coming together did not remain in mere meeting and parting but it gave ample time to know about the Jubilarians. The hour-long presentation by Sr. Shiji James on the eve of the Jubilee day familiarised to all the life, call and mission of each one. Followed by it was a prayer service organised by Sr. Ancilla Jose, the Economer General and her team to thank God and pray for the jubilarians.

Prior to the Jubilee, the Sisters had their preparatory course from 1 August at Hatigaon. During their four-day programme at Guwahati, they were animated by the Superior General and the members of the General Council. They also spent a day at Divine Retreat Centre at Khetri, guided by Fr. Thomas Ettiyil, the director of the centre. From 5 to 25 August they were at Bethel, Barapani, Shillong, under the guidance of Sr. Mary Perunilam, the Assistant General. Besides the time spent for prayer, reflection and sharing, they were animated by different resource persons: Sr. Mary Thadavanal on Psycho-spirituality, Fr. Benoy Joseph MSFS on Religious Life, Fr. Abraham Thekkemury OCD on AMR method which is based on awareness, meditation and relaxation and Fr. Scots SJ directed their spiritual retreat.

The three golden Jubilarians remained composed, at the same time delighted for having come thus far. Sr. Betty Mathew, who has been a renowned educationist and a recipient of the 'best teacher award' in Barpeta District in 1998 feels happy and



contented for having moulded and shaped the lives of thousands of young children over the past 50 years. Today, she tells the young generation, "Be faithful to the congregation which has nurtured you and carry out the duties - pleasant or unpleasant, big or small, to the best of your ability."

Sr. Philomena Topno had been engaged in the primary mission of the Congregation since the beginning. Her adaptability to any situation helped her to accept the different faces of life with joy. She loved God above all else and experienced His closeness through the thick and thin. Today she is happy and



Sr. Anjela Tirkey has much to say about her experiences of long fifty years in religious life. She is happy for having done much in the faith formation of people wherever she was sent. She has many stories of having led many fundamentalists and significant individuals to Catholic faith. She is also known for having worked for settling families through her constant guidance, counsels and support. Sr. Anjela firmly believes that when all the members of the Congregation remain intimately united with Jesus, they will have the zeal, energy and enthusiasm to work for Jesus. Hence she wants all to carry within them the light of Jesus.

contented for having been able to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to her with diligence and care. Acknowledging God as her source of strength and support, she speaks much about the need to remain connected to God always. She tells, "Prayer should take the primary place in our life; we should find the fullness of our life with God."

The silver Jubilarians had the privilege to make a pilgrimage to the tomb of St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata after the jubilee celebration. The group set out for Kolkata accompanied by Sr. Mary Perunilam and Sr. Nancy Augustine on 28 morning and returned on 31 August.



Editorial

Witness of Divine Mercy

The universal Church is jubilant at the elevation of Blessed Teresa to Sainthood. The approval of Mother Teresa to be blessed and later declaring her a Saint was not surprising. By elevating her to the honours of the altar, the Catholic world affirms her works of mercy, which knew no bounds. Her unrelenting giving spirit made her reach out to the sufferings, victimised, abandoned and to all those in the periphery of the society. Her passion for souls and deeds of love befittingly places her as a model for works of mercy.

The inner urge to dedicate her life for the works of mercy by serving the poorest of the poor was ever agile in her mind. The misery and wretched state of her fellow beings disturbed her and compelled her to move out of her cloister and to begin to live for them. She stood by the needy, shared the anguish of the abandoned and took the pain of the other as her own. She had been at their service for many years with her medical, social and pastoral apostolate. Dressed in white and blue colours she served them; with faith, hope and love as her sources of energy; considering her vocation as a call to become a light; providing for the weak and poor as the goal and praying for the world that it will truly be a better place to live in.

Her works and life among the people has won her the title "Mother". She carried out the mission of alleviating the pain of poverty and hunger and spread the fragrance of peace and joy. She was undoubtedly instrumental in healing the wounds of our race. In her physical departure we have lost a real mother who cared for the unwanted of the society.

The real poverty that the modern world faces today is the poverty of generous and good will of the people. It is time to pray for the birth and emergence of new leaders who can feel the pulse of the unwanted, who stand for them and raise them to their lost dignity.

The Church, through the canonization of Mother Teresa re-affirms her holiness and her unparalleled works of mercy for the poor and marginalised. Thanks to Pope Francis who took this decision to signify the importance of Mother Teresa who lived every moment for Christ. As we look at this frontline champion of the works of mercy for inspiration, let us recognize the path she provides to break free constraints that stop the poor from living their lives to the full, to stand by them and act freely, and thus reach the Gospel of consolation to the ends of the earth.

Sr. Shiji James

TITBITS

INDEPENDENCE DAY



The LFS Family had a meaningful celebration of Independence Day this year. Hoisting of flag, marchpast, dancing, singing and a few competitions gave ample opportunity to be together to celebrate the day.

PILGRIMAGE TO FOUNDER'S TOMB



The two groups of Sisters after their retreat at Bethel in July made pilgrimage to the Founder's tomb at 'Peachlands'. The occasion presented a wonderful time to bring alive the memories of venerable Bishop Stephen Ferrando and to seek his intercession.

STUDENTS OF LFS VISIT OLD AGE HOME



Students of LFS, Hatigaon had a day with the inmates of an old age home at Pathar Quarry, Guwahati on 2 July. The visit was arranged as part of this year's summer camp. The interaction they had with the elders enhanced their understanding of family values and the importance of promoting genuine love and care in families.

Mass Awareness on Human Trafficking

The Centre for Development Initiatives (CDI) on the occasion of the International Workers' Day organised an awareness programme on 'Human Trafficking' for the people working in the tea gardens of Doomni in Baksa District on 1 May, 2016. Considering film-show as one of the best means to reach out to the target audience, CDI showed two short films: 'Green Paradise' by Pajhra and 'Chalo Delhi Sagar', by Chetnalaya. Both the films focused on human trafficking and elucidated the dangers of unsafe migration. An interactive session was organized at the end of the show to



raise issues and concerns of the village. Around 500 people participated in the programme.

Doomni in Baksa District is one of the source area of human trafficking for domestic work; hundreds of them keeps migrating for domestic work and other minimal work from these tea gardens.

Being aware of this situation, CDI was invited to organise the programme by the Women's Organization and Chai Mazdoor Sangh of Doomni. Earlier too CDI had organised programmes and workshops in the area on prevention of human trafficking and unsafe migration.

International Domestic Workers Day

On the occasion of the International Domestic Workers' Day, 16 June 2016, the Centre for Development Initiatives jointly with the National Domestic Workers' Movement and Ferrando Domestic Workers Alliance organized a rally at Dighalipukhuri, Guwahati, demanding the State Govt. of Assam for fixation of minimum wages for domestic workers, inclusion in the Social Security Schemes

such as provision of Ration card under the Food Security Act, 2013, implementation of RSBY, AABY, APY, PMJDY Scheme, etc. and constitution of a Domestic Workers Welfare Board under the Chairmanship of Labour Minister, Assam. Similarly, demands were raised to the Central Govt. to ratify the ILO Convention 189 on "Decent Work for Domestic Workers", and to protect the rights of Domestic Workers through a National Legislation.

Prior to the rally, a series of programmes were organized for the Domestic Workers, starting from 10 to 15 June 2016.

CDI Networks with District Legal Service Authority

The District Legal Service Authority, Nalbari District, invited the Centre for Development Initiatives (CDI) to collaborate with it for generating awareness on human trafficking. On 4 May, 2016 as the Legal Service Authority organized a programme on 'Victim Human Trafficking Compensation Scheme 2012' and 'Victim Human Trafficking Scheme 2015', CDI gave a 20 minutes input session on the scenario of human trafficking and migration in the tea garden.

Seizing the opportunity, CDI networked with Baksa District Administration for campaigning against human trafficking through a video show 'Tadap', which depicted how women are victimized for flesh trade. About 150 people participated in the programme.





Updating Programme for Staff and Students

Updating programmes for the staff and students of Schools in Garo Hills, Tripura and Sonapur were conducted by Sr. Jane Francis, General Councillor for Education in the months of June and July.

There was also a day-long programme for the High School Students of Matchagolgri, Tura, on 18



August and on the following day an updating programme was organised

for the teachers of MSMHC Schools in Garo Hills.

National Award for LFS Student



Anzer Ullah of Little Flower School, Hatigaon has been placed First in the individual Kumite for girls below 11 years in the 9th National Karate and Kobudo Championship 2016 held at Dr. J. Jayalalitha Basket Ball Indoor Stadium, Kilpauk, Chennai. The event was held on 14-15 August, 2016.

Kumite is one of the three main sections of karate training. It is the part of karate in which a person trains against an adversary, using the techniques learned from the kihon and kata.

Renewal Programme for Sisters

A two-week long renewal programme was held for the three batches (2003-2005) of Sisters at Bethel from 9 to 24 June, 2016. The entire programme was planned to give the group an experience of renewal, sharing and learning from each other. At the start of the programme the group came together for the celebration of the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian faith. Followed by this was the introductory session, during which Sr. Mary Perunilam, the Assistant General welcomed the group and briefed them about the entire days' programme. Commenting on the programme as one of the opportune times for self-renewal,

she urged the Sisters to cooperate with the graces of God and His blessings.

The group had input sessions by different resource persons: Sr. Philomena Mathew, Superior General on 'Consecrated Life' and 'Founder', Sr. Mary Thadavanal on 'Psycho-spiritual integration', Fr. Bitaju of the Holy Trinity Congregation on 'Journey to the inner depths', Sr. Mary Perunilam on 'On-going Formation' and 'Religious discipline', and Fr. Anto V.C. guided their spiritual retreat.

During the programme days, the group had a pilgrimage to the Founder's tomb at 'Peachlands', where they spent time in prayer, reflection and Holy Mass. They were privileged to get the chance to enter the Holy Door of the Cathedral of Mary Help of Christians, Shillong and the Holy Redeemer Retreat Centre, Umroi.



Programme for Sisters engaged in Pastoral Ministry

Sisters engaged in pastoral ministry in the provinces of Tezpur and Tinsukia had a three-day Pastoral Counselling programme on 27-29 May, 2016. Forty sisters from various communities participated in the programme which focused on a number of relevant topics such as year of mercy, Laudato Si, Liturgy and the Eucharist, Canon Law, marriage,



family counselling, YAC and WAC collaboration, communication skills and SCC. Sr. Christine Mynsong, General Councillor for Evangelisation was one

of the main resource persons of the programme. Fr. Francis Hembrom SDB, Fr. Sushil Marandi and Fr. Hippolatus K. were the others who animated the group.

Animation for YAC and WAC Office Bearers

The office bearers of YAC and WAC of Kolkata Province had a day of animation on 1 June. Sr. Christine Mynsong,

General Councillor for Evangelisation, along with other resource persons took the day's sessions. They spoke about the sacraments and underlined the importance of receiving the sacraments of reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. There was also a session on the year of mercy. There were 35 WACs and 40 YACs participants.



One-day Animation for Oratory Children



An animation programme for the oratory children was conducted by Sr. Christine Mynsong, General Councillor for Evangelisation on 22 May, at St. Joseph's Convent, Dimakuchi. There were about 150 children from in and around the villages of the mission. The sessions enriched the participants to understand the meaning of Holy Eucharist and were guided to live the faith they profess.

SCC Celebrates First Anniversary

The Small Christian Communities (SCC) in St. Xavier Parish, Umbir, Shillong celebrated the first anniversary of its formation on 17 July 2016. The mass gathering of the day witnessed the joy and unity that prevailed in the Church. 86 Lay Leaders who were trained in 'New Way of being Leaders' were empowered on the occasion. Sr. Martina Thabah, Regional Secretary of SCC, along with the Parish Priest and

the heads of various SCC units had been tirelessly working towards the success of the day's celebration.

The SCC units of the parish were assisted and guided specially by the SCC Regional Resource Team headed by Sr. Martina, even before its inception with the aim of making it a model parish of SCC. During the past two years they conducted several training programmes and workshops. The programmes were conducted first for the members of Parish Pastoral Council, the local village leaders, teachers, men and women and youth groups.





NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

Ethiopian Mission Centre Welcomes New Members

Srs. Losa Mao, Florencia Minj, Bridget Sangma, and Makrina Thongni set out for the overseas mission on 21 July 2016. They were warmly welcomed by Sr. Anney Jose and community at Meki, Ethiopia. Presently the new members are engaged in learning the language and culture of the people. They are enthusiastic and



eager to begin their mission at the new place at Arsinegelle, Ethiopia, where

the Congregation is invited to start a new community.

Holiday Programme for Children Mozambique

The missionary band of Ponda Do Ouro launched a programme called "Making the most of the school holidays" on 9 -16 May, 2016 for the school children at the Primary School campus. It was coordinated by Sr. Saroj Kindo with the help of Sr. Elizabeth Lemo and Bro. Domingo MSFS. The set package



of programme consisted of various activities that included spoken English, catechism, Gospel singing, action songs,

Bible Quiz, sports and hilarious games. There were also competitions and distribution of prizes to the winners.

Children's Day Celebrated

The Preschool 'Jardim do Sol' (The garden of the sun), run by the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales in collaboration with the MSMHCs at Ponta Do Ouro celebrated children's day on 1 June, 2016. The little kids through their active participation in the celebration made the atmosphere of the day lovely and glamorous. The programme began with a grand reception of the Local Chief, Mr. João



Tembe and other dignitaries by Fr. Jijo Thomas MSFS, the Director of the Preschool. There were also parents of the children present for the occasion.

The entire programme was filled with many colourful items from the children: action songs, dance, and skit.

Thanksgiving for Venerable Stephen Ferrando Hawaii

The MSMHC community at Aiea, Hawaii had a thanksgiving day for venerable Stephen Ferrando on 11 July, 2016. Fr. Arnold Ortiz of St. Elizabeth Parish, the chief celebrant of the Holy Mass, in his homily spoke about the heroic virtues lived by Bishop Ferrando and urged the Sisters to follow his footsteps. He presented Blessed Mother Mary as the perfect model of following Christ and as the powerful intermediary of all religious. He also enlightened the gathering about the intercession of those who have gone to eternity and the



support of those within the community around the world.

The presence of General Councillors, Sr. Christine Mynsong and Sr. Ancila Jose on the occasion added joy to the gathering. They were at Hawaii for the

canonical visitation since 27 June. Sr. Christine in her address to the august gathering expressed gratitude to all the close associates and benefactors of the Sisters and thanked everyone present on the occasion.



Swaziland Welcomes Apostolic Nuncio

His Eminence Peter Wells, the Apostolic Nuncio to Southern Africa along with Fr. Peter Ndwandwe, the Diocesan Administrator, visited Hope House on 7 July 2016. His Eminence had come to Swaziland for an official meeting with His Majesty, King Mswati III. They were warmly welcomed by Sr. Elsa Joseph and Sr. Susan Soren along with the staff members of Hope House.

Health Camp at Hope House

A free Health Camp was organised at the Hope House on 9 July, 2016 by the Taiwanese doctors- Dr. Rocky and his team in Malkerns, Swaziland. Welcome note by Fr. Martin and the singing of song 'You raised me up ...' by all present gave a meaningful start to the programme. The day-long camp benefitted the sick and needy people of Malkerns.





Annual Meeting of Salesian Family, Rome

The World Consultative Body of the Salesian Family which is made up of representatives of the various groups born of the charism of Don Bosco had the annual meeting on 27-29 May, 2016 at Salesian Generalate, Rome. Sr. Martha Do Rosario, Delegation Superior, along with Sr. Dominica Kasho participated in the meeting. The sessions were oriented towards family apostolate of the Salesian Family.

Rector Major, Don Angel Fernández Artime, Mother Ivonne Reungoat, FMA, Superiors Generals and the representatives of various associations of the Salesian Family were present for the meeting. The



Rector Major in his inaugural address commented on the beauty and wealth of the Salesian Family and called on the members to become aware of the responsibilities they have towards the Church and the society. He reminded them of their obligation to grow as one family through the testimony of

communion.

During the input sessions, Mons. Sigalini, Bishop of Palestrina shared his reflection on the Synod and the Apostolic Exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia* and Don Roberto Carelli in his session emphasized on the need of accompanying the families.

Summer Camp 2016, Piossasco



The premises of Church, 'Gesù Risorto' was filled with joy and cheer on 13 June to gather together 240 children for its 8th summer camp. The camp with the theme: 'UN ESTATE DA PAURA - A Summer without Fear' began on 13 June and concluded on the 1 July 2016.

This year's programme was exceptional as it was entirely planned and organized by the youth of the



Parish Church with the help of their elders, other responsible persons and Sisters. The entire atmosphere was filled with music, dance, laughter and mirth as the children of different age groups from various places flocked in with great enthusiasm and expectation to be together and to enjoy.

The animators accompanied the children and encouraged them to make the maximum use of the opportunities.

General Assembly in Italian Delegation

The members of the Italian Delegation had a general assembly on 3 May 2016 at Crocetta, Turin, during which Sr. Philomena Mathew, Superior General and Sr. Jane Francis, General Councillor for Education met the group. They also had a session each for the animators of the communities on 5 May, after which was the common gathering to discuss about the concerns of the delegation.

The Superior General and General Councillor for Education had been visiting the communities of the Delegation since 10 April. And the programme in the Delegation was concluded with the visitation in the community of Piossasco.

They also had gone to visit Srs. Lucy Augustine, Anita Albert and Susheela Basumatary who are rendering service to the aged in Köln, Germany.