

SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART
PROVINCE OF INDIA
NEWSLETTER



April 2019

NEWS FROM THE RISHIKESH (JEEVANDHARA ASHRAM) COMMUNITY

The year began with Sr. Josephine Pereira joining the community in July. She was to share in the ashram life, even as she studied for the second year Bachelor's degree in Social Work, through the Indira Gandhi National Open University. Hence the community comprised two rscj: Tureeya and Josephine.

This year was a particularly quiet one at Jeevandhara. We had three groups visiting and some individuals for retreat and quiet. Most of the visiting sadhaks were Indian. Besides a group from the U.S., we had only two foreign individuals from America and Sweden respectively. Tureeya acts as a liaison between our Christian sadhaks and the Hindu ashrams in the vicinity.

In June 2018 the CMI theology students came to have a dialogue with Tureeya on inculturation, theology and the Church in India.

Persons interested in the inculturation of the Church in India also dropped in to share views from time to time. Sisters Shanti and Mariaelena, members of provincial council, made an official visit in November.

On 2nd-3rd December 2018, Srs. Monica Esquivel (Bodo) and Daphne Sequeira, General Council members, visited Jeevandhara Ashram during the Central Team's visit to India as part of the Society's planning for its future thrust. Srs. Monica and Daphne visited one of the Hindu ashrams, namely the Shivananda ashram, and they also went around and saw something of Rishikesh, an important centre of pilgrimage for Hindus.

Sr. Anila Verghese, our Provincial, had scheduled a visit to Jeevandhara, Rishikesh, at the end of March 2019. However, this had to be cancelled because we had to attend to an urgent problem with the septic tanks, due to which we are not able to use the bathrooms while the work is in progress.

Keeping in mind our commitment to the poor and the marginalized, Tureeya continued to coach the two children, of our tribal helper, who are still struggling to cope with their studies in three languages – Hindi, English and Sanskrit – foreign to them.

Two friends of Tureeya have also volunteered to sponsor the two children for their school expenses. We are grateful to them as we are to the Indian Province, which contributes to the medical expenses of the girl child – of the helper – who suffers from epilepsy.

Tureeya



Central
Team
Visit



At Shivananda Ashram



At Shivananda Ashram