

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: A Day Filled with Gratitude and Praise



On October 31, 2024, a spirit of heartfelt gratitude filled the air across the Province of Our Lady of the Assumption in Patna, India. The day began with prayers of praise and thanksgiving at Lauds, leading into the solemn celebration of the Holy Eucharist, complemented by festive meals, exquisite decorations, and an overall vibrant atmosphere. The heartfelt greetings of our Sisters, Religious Priests, Parish Priests, and all those who share in the life and mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame in Patna highlighted the strength of our shared network, collaboration, and commitment to the reign of God. The event was further enriched by a colorful portrayal of the province's history by the junior students of Notre Dame Academy Patna, enchanting dances by the students of Hartmann Girls' School Patna, and performances by the girls from Asha Kiran--all of which filled Julie Hall with the sweet fragrance of praise and gratitude.

The joyful echoes of "Happy Jubilee" and heartfelt congratulations sparked infectious smiles throughout the day. In his thoughtfully delivered homily, Archbishop Right Rev. Sebastian Kallupura captivated the congregation, enriching the reflections on the life and mission of the Sisters, both past and present. Archbishop Emeritus William D'Souza eloquently highlighted the remarkable contributions of the Sisters across various ministries. Following these expressions of gratitude, we share some excerpts from the words of our own Sisters:

Today, through the example and ministry of those sisters of Chardon, hundreds of Indian Sisters of Notre Dame throughout the north and south of India continue to walk with their brothers and sisters, serving in schools, clinics, and parishes, in projects that empower women and girls, and other social services. Their loving care has not been limited to India and has extended in the past and present to East Africa, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Italy. - Sr. Mary Ann Culpert, SND, Superior General

It is with immense joy and gratitude that we celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of the Sisters of Notre Dame in India. Seventy-five years ago, on 31 October 1949, a small group of six dedicated Sisters of Notre Dame from the USA stepped onto Indian soil in Jamalpur, Bihar, carrying with them a legacy of faith, compassion, and education, which has forever shaped the landscape of education and service in our country. We honor their untiring commitment and the impact they have made on countless lives. - Sr. Mary Alice, Provincial Superior

May the legacy we honor today continue to inspire and guide us as we seek to live by the words of our Spiritual Mother St. Julie "How good is the Dear Good God" and place our unwavering trust in "God Alone" just as Sr. Maria Aloysia did. In their spirit, we march forward in hope to mark our centenary!