## Report on Laudato Si' Webinar

Day 3: 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

Spirituality Perspective: The role of a teacher by Father William Zenith

#### Session 1:

I was fortunate enough to attend the session. I personally gained a lot from the session. Father said, "The beloved sometimes wants, to do us a great favour, hold us upside down and shake all the nonsense out. "It was an inspiring and enriching session.



Mrs. G. Srivastava

Today's session on Laudato Si' laid emphasis on consciousness. It taught us many meaningful things. Unfortunately I could not join early enough to attend the whole session due to the limit set by the application, yet the latter half of the session by Father Zenith on spirituality was enlightening. According to him we are chasing a mirage which is of no use rather we should sit for some time, give five minutes to ourselves and become aware of our own breath and emotions.

In the end during the question answer session sisters and teachers gave very relevant suggestions to implement spirituality in class with students such as putting emphasis on meditation. While answering the question asked by one of the teachers Sister Nirmala suggested how to combine spirituality in our teaching period. She said that we should have at least two minutes of silence in each period in the beginning as this will enable the students to focus and thus understand the topic better.

I would like to express my gratitude towards father Zenith, Sister Nirmala, sisters and teachers for this spiritual and introspective session.



Dr. S. Srivastava

Thank you Miss for giving us an opportunity to join the online session. It was very enlightening and enriching.



Ms. D. Srivastava

The webinar was quite an inspiring one telling us that most of our present day problems are because we are only Body conscious. The day people are Spirit conscious they will stop feeling all the negative and detrimental emotions like anger, hatred, jealousy etc.





Ms. Jayaswal and Ms. Shukla

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to attend the 'Laudato Si' session. I was fortunate to attend today's morning session. It was a great learning experience for me. Some points discussed in the webinar were:

- 1) Ecology is not simply about environment. Ecology is about everything that's around us.
- 2) We should admire the beauty of nature, be grateful and protect it and as teachers it is our responsibility to instill this love for nature in our children as well.
- 3) Brother also briefed us about St. Francis of Assisi who should be an inspiration to us for his love for nature. St. Francis was very close to nature and we should learn a lot from him.
- 4) He also emphasised on the importance of meditation in schools and in our lives which will help us to have a good control on our minds.
- 5) Towards the end, Brother shared with us some questions for reflection.

This kind of session is the need of the hour. Thanks Miss for making us a part of it.



Ms. S. Rastogi

I want to thank you for giving us the opportunity of attending yesterday's session. I was fortunate enough to attend the morning session. It started with a beautiful prayer by Ms Devopriya Dutta...Then taken up by Fr Zenith William...It was a wake up call. It was about what we give to Mother Earth. Father said it's the week of celebrating life." All the children of mother Earth let's love each other."

Later he explained about 1.CONTEXT OF CONTRAST

Between Globalisation and Marginalization.

2. Pollution and Climate Change.

through a beautiful ppt operated by Sr.Nirmala.

"The earth, our house is beginning to look more and more like an immense pit of filth" (Ls-25)

"These problems are closely linked to a throw away culture "(LS 22)

Father explained spirituality is inward journey to know one's true self beyond body and mind. It is to recognise that you are the Atmma(spirit).

We should recognise WHO I AM.Because of my teaching have I become more happy and peaceful. Then Father explained about the two levels of consciousness

- 1.Body consciousness
- 2. Spiritual consciousness

The interactive session at the end was also very informative.

The session ended with the vote of thanks by Ms Devopriya Dutta.



Mrs. K. Wasif.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to attend the mesmerizing 'Laudato Si' session'. I was personally blessed to attend yesterday morning's session. Father guided us to read ,write poems and to make good use of this time. He said that it's our responsibility to heal our own planet. I am really thankful to Father William and Sister Nirmala for the enriching session.



Mrs. M. Joshi

The webinar was inspiring and motivating. I learnt many things especially to live happily. It was started with a very beautiful prayer \*sarva manglam bhavtu\* Father said "we need to see the world with God's eyes and hearts" As I live my every day I will be now more cautious with my thoughts, intentions and decisions. I feel so much more positive and optimistic now. He has given some suggestions for teachers

- 1-Admire nature
- 2-Be grateful
- 3- Protect nature

I would like to express my gratitude towards father Zenith Williams , sister Nirmala and all the teacher for this enriching session.



Miss N. Dwivedi

I was fortunate enough to attend today's morning session of 'Laudato Si 'Father Zenith said our mission today is to establish right relation with God, with one another and with the creation. Father said true education is when we are true human beings.

He said Life is an art.

- 1.We should.admire nature.
- 2. Be grateful
- 3. Protect nature.

Nature can live without us but we cannot live without Nature. We should realise the spirituality of consciousness.

I thank you Ms.for giving us this opportunity to attend such an enriching and introspective session.



Mrs. A. Mehrotra

I attended the morning session of the Webinar, facilitated by Rev Father Z. William.

Taking forward the session from where he had left yesterday, he laid emphasis on the principle of St Francis Assisi of 'Communion with Nature'. Alongwith what Mrs Mehrotra n Ms Dwivedi have already mentioned, he stressed on a 'Shift in the way we think'. We need to identify ourselves as a brother and sister of the elements of Nature and try to do our bit in expressing our gratitude towards it, by either planting saplings, maintaining order in the world and very important 'Not to expect rewards for such deeds, as they are our DUTY'.

As teachers, he suggested us to introspect ourselves daily, even if it is for 5-10 minutes, also understand the emotional turmoil our students are facing in the present times and help them through MEDITATION sessions.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to be a part of this enriching session and hope I'll emerge as a more sensitive and responsible sister of our Universe!



Mrs. S.Dash

Attending the morning session was indeed a journey towards introspection.... Father emphasized upon spirituality and to spend time with ourself which will help us to know -true self beyond body and mind. He also told us how meditation will help us in keeping ourselves calm....and also in Conversion of heart and transformation of mind.

Daily practice of meditation in school can bring about amazing behavioural changes in children and thus eventually improving their academics.

Father's thoughts about how Human creation is as important as Nature so we should collaborate with Nature by

...Admiring Nature every moment and everywhere ....by being grateful towards nature.... Was something really thought provoking. Thank you Miss for giving us this opportunity.... something which I will cherish for a long time.



Mrs. S. Herman

I want to thank you for providing an opportunity to be a part of this session Laudato Si. I joined the morning session today. The session was spiritual, relaxing and informative.

I would like to share my experience with you. The session started with a prayer and meditation. Father Zenith revisited the thoughts shared in previous session and told us about the Saint Francis of Assisi, how he lived close to the nature and heart of people and how his teachings had an influence on Pope Francis' life.

He told us that the art of living close to the nature has relevance even in today's scenario. Living close to nature, hearing the voice of nature heals us spiritually, mentally and physically. He told us how, we as teachers can incorporate the values of meditation and self realisation and also share it with our students. We can play an important part in conversion of heart and transformation of mind.

He told us that nature of mind is such that if controlled through right values it can be our best friend but if left uncontrolled it can be our greatest enemy.

He concluded with laying stress on that we teachers, can prove to be remover of darkness and attain spiritual consciousness through meditation and ultimately realise that we are part of the divine. We must make room for value education in our life.

I'm grateful to have obtained this beautiful message and happy to see that we already are following the way to value education.

Thank you Miss,



Miss A. Singh

#### Session 2:

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to attend 'Laudato Si' session. Attended the evening session that was inspiring and motivating. The session started with the prayer. Fafter laid emphasis on establishing right relationship with God, with one another and with the creations. He told us that the care of environment affects the quality of our relationships with God, with human being and with creation itself. He told us that teachers are the remover of darkness and shadow of Brahman. It is teacher's responsibility to impart true knowledge to students so that they can attain peacefulness, happiness, inner freedom and self mastery. He concluded the session with the discussion of techniques to control the mind.



Miss N. Sahu

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to attend the Laudato Si session. I joined the evening session today. It was very inspiring and motivating. The session was started with a beautiful prayer. In the beginning sister said that nature is the biggest teacher. Father said that we human being have a huge family. Sun, water, air etc are the part of our family. He said that there are some points that we should teach our children-

Admire nature

Be grateful

Protect nature.

Father said that the mission is to establish right relation with God, with one another, with creation.



Miss V. Singh

The afternoon webinar session I attended was very enriching, insightful and introspective.

Rev. Fr. Zenith William acquainted us with the life of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of the environment. His was a life marked with compassion and benevolence for all .His life holds valuable lessons for us to act in unison, gather and be one family in taking care of all the creatures, the ecology so as to make this planet, our common home brim with joy and peace.

We, the educators are the removers of darkness and need to constantly guide our students to stay calm and focussed specially in times of confusion, uncertainty and turbulence.



Miss D. Gunjan

Day 7: 22nd May, 2020

Act Locally, Impact Globally

# Session 1:

I ,Jigisha Rastogi was extremely fortunate to attend an International Webinar on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020. I would like to express my heart felt gratitude towards the Mary Ward Sisters and Miss D.

Dutta, coordinator, Tanumitra for conducting and letting us be a part of this enriching and wonderful session that was all about enlighting us with the current situation of our Earth and provoking us to do something towards it.

In the session we were addressed as 'cousins' and Global citizens and were apprised to work towards saving our common home. Miss Francesca who was a representative of UN Youth, explained us the opportunity we have as young girls. She told us how young people work with great zeal and zest, acting as agents of social change because it directly affects their future. Sir Jimmy Tangree spoke very fervently and told us how greatly media affects us. Sabina Khatun reminded us of how much we owe to our mother Earth. On the other hand Mr. Blex Avevalo notified us about the 17 SDGs and explained us about our duties and how we play a significant role in our society. It is rightly said, a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

It was really a very energizing session and I am determined to play my role as an agent of social change and as a global citizen, and work towards a brighter and prosperous future.

I would also like to thank Miss Bunny for allowing us to attend this fruitful meeting and Mrs. Benedict and Mrs. Srivastava for guiding us.

Jigisha Rastogi

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St. Agnes' I Loreto Day School, Lucknow



I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mary Ward sisters for conducting a webinar on account of 5th Anniversary Laudato Si Week. This session was enriching and motivated us to make our move to achieve the grater goal. We were addressed by a team of knowledgeable panelists who shed light upon the theme of 'Act Locally To Impact Globally'.

Ms. Francesca Torcasio Barberis, an eminent youth representative at the United Nations made us realize how we as mellenials can act as agents of change. We can voice our opinions and stand for what we believe. We have all the resources at hand all we need to do is use them efficiently to save our biodiversity.

Mr. Jimmy Tangree, laid emphasis on how media can create awareness and also help people voice their opinion and problems. Media has a great influence on the masses hence we should be wise enough to use it correctly. He also encouraged as to put our vision into actions.

Miss Sabina Khatun, told us that it is important to strike a balance between our well being and environment. "Doing more with less" is an integral aspect of sustainable development. Today this pandemic has taught us how to live with limited resources at hand.

Mr. Brex Areavalo, is a environmental planner who is engaging young minds in organizations such as Ecojesuit. He told us how all the seventeen sustainable development goals are interlinked. He emphasized how we all can grow together and leave no one behind.

This session made me realize that all of us have the power within us to make a change. It is the need of the hour to nurture our 'common home'.

The Earth has been benevolent to us now it our turn to give back.

Las but not the least, I would like to thank all the Loreto sisters for organizing such an informative webinar. Together we can all light a candle rather than cursing the darkness.

Adisri Kapoor

X

St Agnes Loreto Day school, Lucknow.



The earth has come to a pause right now, fewer economic activities, fewer vehicles moving around and fewer people out on street. But does that mean the Earth, The Planet Earth has come to a pause? No. Instead the planet is working now, more than ever to heal itself, to recover the damage done by us, the human race that has easily claimed that the Earth belongs to the humans and not the other way round.

I feel extremely obliged and grateful to the Mary Ward Sisters and miss Devopriya Dutta, coordinator, Tarumitra, for conducting and allowing us to be a part of this very informative and interesting session on climate change and various sub-divisions of it.

The panelists of the session, Ms. Francesca Torcasio Barberis, Mr. Jimmy Tangree, Ms. Sabina Khatun and Mr. Brex Areavalo respectively, were indeed successful in bringing about a change in the mindset and thinking of us teenagers and motivating us to save our mother, our giver, our Earth.

Ms. Francesca was a United Nation Youth representative and she spoke to us about why youth or 'Generation Z' as she calls it, is the consistent generation to work towards climate change, global warming and various other aspects of saving the Earth. She said and I quote "What makes the Earth more than just a planet is us humans and we are the ones that can save it" and that did strike a chord within us all.

Mr. Jimmy spoke to us about how media can be influential to people. It not only serves as a medium of spreading a news, but also to influence and impact people to do their bit in a wider spectrum and giving us his example on the same, he said that through a radio show, he did his bit to influence people to not cut down trees and save the flora and fauna of a particular place.

Ms. Sabina was a spokesperson of our age, the youngest speaker on the panel and she was the one who was a role model for us. She spoke about the various ways to save energy and in turn save the planet by doing our bit.

Last but not the least, Mr. Brex told us in what simple ways can we work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and how they are inter- related. He told us that if we strive to work towards an SDG make it our motive, then little by little we can achieve it and all the other SDGs following. He said and I quote "Leave no one behind", and that was enough to get our minds working to think of ways to achieve our goal.

I would like to thank Sister Nirmala, Mrs. Bunny and the teachers for considering me to attend this webinar and for making me realize the gravity of the situation and for giving me a chance to work towards achieving the goals set for the world.



Samreddhee Jain

Firstly I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Mary Ward Sisters and Miss Debopriya Dutta, coordinator, Tarupati, for providing us the chance to attend this informative webinar, which proved to be an enriching experience for us students and gave us the chance to ponder upon the current scenario and problems of the world during this crisis through the medium of a 'webinar'.

The webinar was conducted on 22nd of May,2020 which was the 'Global Biodiversity Day' on the topic, 'Act locally, Impact Globally'. It was based on Laudato Si', the second encyclical of Pope Francis and has the subtitle,"on care of our common home ".The eminent speakers through their speeches and presentations not only shared their brilliant thoughts but also encouraged and motivated us to step out of our comfort zone and work for the greater good.

Ms. Francesca affirmed that the youth of today are crusaders and they have the power to affect a change . She presented the example of many young women like Mary Ward, Malala Yousufzai and Greta Thunberg,who worked to bring a change in the world. Mr. Tangree elaborated the fact that we need to voice our opinion and work to make a difference. Mr. Areavalo discussed the Sustainable Development Goals and that we must work in a way that we leave no one behind. Ms. Sabina presented presented some wonderful ways of practicing sustainability in our lives . She also talked about how the mankind's need are becoming their greed and thus, they are ruthlessly exploiting Mother Earth. Ms. Sabina at the young age of fifteen has significantly contributed which inspired me greatly .

The discussion offered the insight that the future of the planet lies in our hands and together we can make a change. The webinar instilled the hope that it is not at all impossible to make the world a better place to live in.

I would once again like to thank the Mary Ward sisters and Tarumitra for organizing this webinar and letting us to be a part of it. Lastly, I am highly obliged to be given the opportunity to attend such an informative session . I would like to thank Ma'am Bunny for allowing us to participate and Mrs. Benedict and Mrs. Srivastava for guiding us.

Ratika Srivastava

Class X

St. Agnes' Loreto Day School, Lucknow.



## Day 9: 24th May, 2020

# **Dialogue for Eco-Transformation**

#### Session 1:

Having attended the Laudato Si" session,I feel very privileged and want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of it. Sister Prabina's message was really inspiring, motivating and enriching. She spoke about so many things regarding our mother Earth and how we need to take care of our environment. Sr also mentioned about the 6 appeals of Pope Francis.(1) Dialogue of shaping the future of our planet. (2) Uniqueness of a person.(3) Symptoms and deep causes.(4) Close relationship between the cry of the poor & the cry of the earth.(5) The way we understand progress & development.(6) Lets begin a new lifestyle. She also spoke about what type of relationships should we share with others, and how we need to love and respect every living being. Our mother Earth has given us so much, in return we must take care & protect the environment. It was wonderful and amazing listening to Sister. Having attended a session like this for the first time was a great experience for me. Once again I would like to thank you Miss for giving me this opportunity.



Mrs. S. Wesley

Yesterday I attended the webinar session it was very interesting, enriching and a learning experience.

The key point of the seminar was Eco-transformation the kind of relationship I share with water, plants, animals and the connection which we have with our Mother Earth.

Thank you Miss for making us a part of it.

Regards!



Mrs. M. Lobo.

I was fortunate enough to attend today's session of Laudato Si'. Sister Prabina Rudun said that it's really important for us to set up a dialogue with one another and even we should dialogue with ourselves. Sister enlightened us with her message about what type of relationships, should we share with others. She spoke about the three models Dominion model, Stewardship model and kinship model. We need to examine ourselves to what relationship we build with others. Sister spoke about the six appeals of Pope Francis...

- 1. Dialogue of shaping the future of our planet.
- 2. Uniqueness of a person
- 3. Symptoms and deep causes.
- 4. Relationship between the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth.
- 5. The way we understand progress and development.
- 6.Lets begin a new lifestyle...

Miss her message was really motivating and inspiring. She spoke about how we can change the world we live in and how we should treat our planet Earth. We really need to respect and love everyone. Sister gave us such wonderful examples.... As sister spoke about the cry of the poor and in this pandemic the poor people have been affected the most.



Ms. S. Singh

I was fortunate to join the evening session. The session started with a beautiful prayer 'common prayer for the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Laudato Si'. It was amazing to listen to Sister Prabha. After the prayer she explained about the dialogue relationship models like dominion model, stewardship model and kinship model. She then asked about our relationship with others. She said that dialogue is important for all of us.



Mrs. Blyth

#### Day 10: 25th May, 2020

# Concrete action plan for Eco-friendly life

#### Session 1:

I would firstly like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Mary Ward Sisters and Mrs. Devopriya Dutta, coordinator, Tarumitra for providing us students the opportunity to be a part of such an informative and motivating webinar. I would also like to thank Sr. Nirmala for organizing this thought-provoking webinar. The webinar was conducted on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of Laudato Si', the second encyclical of Pope Francis.

The webinar was an eye-opening session for all of the spectators. The speaker for the session was Sister Ancy. She is a CJ sister belonging to Patna province and did her Masters in Social Work. The topic for the session was, "Concrete action plans for Eco-friendly life."

The session explored the various spheres of ecology and it was stated that ecology is not only about the environment alone, but economic, social ,cultural and finally the ecology of our daily life. Sister highlighted excerpts from the Laudato Si' to point out the fact that all of us must live together in peace and harmony with every small creature on the earth and that every person, whether rich or poor should be aware of the basic Human Rights they are entitled to. Through the various video presentations and articles it was revealed to that all of us need an ecological conversion as Pope Francis also stated and we can only achieve it when the marginalised sections of the society have their share of resources, wealth and power.

It also highlighted in the session that the 'Cry of the poor is the cry of the nature' and that today "two Indias" exist. One India which has all the privileges, has prosperity and has access to all the luxuries. The other India which faces the dehumanizing poverty and stumbles in basic. Thus, we as a nation have grown but the growth is uneven. Sister presented a few statistics that presented the true nature of our system and how we as "the future generations" must bridge the gap.

Sister affirmed us that even though there is a long way to go there and it will be a long journey towards the greater good we as promoters of change can achieve a world which will be a better place to live in. She elaborated as to how we need to understand the situation at the grass-root level and work to uplift our brothers and sister who are curtailed of their rights. For this she shared her to valuable suggestions as to how we should lead a simple lifestyle, conserve the environment, use only our part of the resources and not to exploit these valuable resources and look for ways to promote just distribution of natural resources ,act as eco-citizens and most importantly be the voices of the people who are deprived of the very basic necessities of life.

It was very rightfully stated that "God always forgives, man sometimes forgives but nature never forgives" so we must respect nature and all the beings, be it big or small or we will have to pay the price for our deeds.

The session ended on a positive note and sister encouraged us students to practice sustainability to bridge the gap, to raise awareness and to voice our opinion and work for the greater good.

I am highly obliged to be a part of this enriching and wonderful session. My heartfelt gratitude to Mary Ward sisters and Tarumitra. Lastly, I would like to thank our principal,Mrs.D.Bunny for allowing us to be a part of this webinar and sincere thanks to Mrs. Benedict and Mrs.S.Srivastava for guiding us.

Ratika Srivastava Class X St. Agnes' Loreto Day School, Lucknow.



Today was the concluding webinar of the Laudato Si week. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the Mary Ward sisters for allowing us to be a part of this insightful webinar and for instilling in us the qualities of love, sacrifice and acceptance. Today's session was conducted by Sister Ancy Thomas, an expert trainer on various social issues.

She eloquently brought forward Pope Francis's message written in Laudato Si to reach out to the remotest places and most vulnerable people. She elucidated how this a period of crisis and in the present condition the global society is suffering from inequality, poverty, injustice, unemployment and most importantly climate change. The earth has been deteriorating consistently and therefore it is time for us to act. She inspired us to 'Walk The Talk' and to emulate the principles of Laudato Si in our daily life to take care of our 'common home'.

She discussed with us how the global corona virus pandemic has completely changed the lives of the people. While this lockdown has proved to be a boon to the environment and animals, the human beings are the worst sufferers. She brought forward the terrible plight of the workers who have lost their jobs, dignity and are homeless now.

India as a developing country is flourishing and prospering day by day but some social, political, economic problems such as poverty, corruption, unemployment have constrained its development. She motivated us to be attentive to what is happening around us and to hear the cries of the poor. Solidarity between all the faiths and brotherhood is the need of the hour.

Sister stimulated us to lead a simplified life and reject consumerism. The current crises can only be solved by concrete response and decisive actions. We should create awareness against trafficking of women and children.

Today's session was indeed an eye opener for me to advocate for a peaceful way to promote personal dignity and to bring about a change. It was a matter of great honor to be a part of such an enriching session and gathering valuable yknowledge.

As Mother Teresa said "Not all of us can do great things but we can do small things with great love".

Adisri Kapoor X St. Agnes' Loreto Day School



Greetings!

I feel honored to have been a part of the gripping and spell-binding webinar of the Laudato Si' week on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May. It was indeed a compelling and entrancing one conducted absolutely flawlessly by Sister Ancy Thomas, a woman of great opinion, stand and thought.

Sister Ancy threw light on some of the inhumane damage done to the under privileged by the government not directly but passively. She brought forward the various problems faced by them such as unemployment, poverty, famines, poor living conditions and also illiteracy. Sister indeed showed us the true conditions of the migrant workers, labors and domestic helps wherein advocated the wrongs done to them by the government and later hidden from the public using eloquent words and phrases.

Apart from the serious condition of the greater population of our country, Sister also spoke about climate change and how is it affecting not me, not you but us all. Sister highlighted the fact that we should 'Walk the Talk', meaning, we should work according to what we say and preach because the real problem appears when we actually start working.

Sister also spoke about how the Covid-19 pandemic has staggered the entire world, but most of all the under privileged. She said that although the Earth is now greener and cleaner, there are millions of people suffering from famines, unemployment and all the other unimaginable crisis. Sister was successful in bringing out the human inside of us all by showing us the harsh reality and by using blunt words which were otherwise smothered with goodness and presented to us as if nothing was wrong.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Sister Nirmala for organizing this enthralling session which indeed impacted us and struck a chord of humanity inside us all. I would like to thank Mrs. Bunny for allowing me to be a part of this extremely informative and eye-opening session.

Samreddhee Jain

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St. Agnes' Loreto Day School, Lucknow.



## 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si' Week Celebration

#### Session 2:

I would like to express my gratitude towards the Mary Ward Sisters and Sister Nirmala for letting me be a part of the insightful and knowledgeable international webinar conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> May,2020 as a part of the Laudato Si' week.

Our respected speaker, Br. Steve Rocha was a child rights advocate, Founder Director of PRATYeK and the founder of the 'Nine is Mine' campaign. After stressing upon the importance of the natural resources bestowed upon mankind, he showed a video which reassured us that though we have been destroying our planet, yet, if we work together for a common cause, we are capable of replenishing it. He showed us an eye-opening video, that highlighted the critical problems and difficulties being faced by the migrant workers and farmers during the COVID-19 Lockdown.

Br. Steve explained what exactly human rights are, their importance and how they should be implemented. After taking us through a series of interactive activities, he pointed out that the real problem lies in our SYSTEMS. It is the SYSTEM that keeps the vulnerable poor. He said that this problem cannot be solved by just helping the needy, but rather getting to the bottom and working out the real difficulties faced by the marginalized sections of the society. His main idea to connect social problems with the school curriculum is a thought-provoking one. He does not want teachers to have dedicated hours long sessions on value education but to relate to the problems of the world with their subjects. He wants students to apply the knowledge gained in their classrooms in combating the world issues by questioning, analyzing and discussing.

Thus, his idea to embed justice in the school curriculum in a natural way so that the young generation gets to know how to shape the future of the world and give equitable rights even to the poorest of poor has impacted me immensely. This session gave me a different perspective to understand the people and the world. I feel highly obliged to have been a part of this experience.

I would like to sincerely thank Sister Nirmala for letting me be a part of this enlightening and enriching webinar. I would also like to thank Mrs. Bunny, Principal, St. Agnes' Loreto Day School for allowing us to attend this webinar and our teachers, Mrs. Benedict and Mrs. Srivastava for guiding us all through.

Ridhima Agarwal

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St. Agnes's Loreto Day School ,Lucknow.



I Jigisha Rastogi of class 9 A was extremely fortunate to attend an International Webinar on  $25^{th}$  May , 2020. I would like to express my heart felt gratitude towards the Mary Ward Sisters and Miss D. Dutta, coordinator, Tanumitra for conducting and letting us be a part of this informative and motivating session .

The meeting was led forward by Br.Steve Rocha who started the meeting very impactfully by saying a beautiful prayer .He explained how the Earth has been mistreated by us humans since the last 200 years , and how the bad consequences of these activities mostly affects the poor communities . He encouraged us to work together and to stop treating the natural resources like objects of profit .He shared with us some motivating quotes from the Laudato Si', a book by Pope Francis ,which galvanized us to work towards creating a better world . He illuminated us with some human rights that are now a days ingnored my the masses . He also defined the Human Rights criteria in a very inthralling way , by playing a game of crossward which was an eye opener and very absorbing for all. He also informed us about the SDGs and the MDGs in detail .

The session ,overall was very intresting. I learnt a lot from it. We all are instruments of god and we should work together in peace, and redefine the world in such a way the no one is left behind, and the terms like 'poor' and 'downtrodden' only lies in our in our history textbooks.

I would also like to thank Miss Bunny for allowing us to attend this energizing meeting and Miss Benedict and Miss Srivastava for guiding us.



Jigisha Rastogi

ΙX

St. Agnes'Loreto Day School, Lucknow.

I attended a very informative and enriching worship by Br. Steve Rocha.

It was an interactive session in which Brother discussed the ways by which we can include SDG 2030 into the curriculum.

Brother made us aware that we are facing a complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combat poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded and protecting nature.

We were told to live wisely, think deeply and love generously.



Ms. S. Gupta.