



Celebrating
YEAR
of
GRACE

Beatification of Marie Poussepin

**Dominican Sisters of Charity of the Presentation
Province of India**



BLESSED MARIE POUSSEPIN

BLESSED MARIE POUSSEPIN

Blessed Marie Poussepin, the Foundress of the Dominican Sisters of Charity of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin was born in Dourdan, France, on October 14, 1653 as the eldest daughter of Claude Poussepin and Julienne Fourrier. Although they were blessed with six more children all except Claude, the youngest, died in their infancy. Her Father, Claude was actively involved in all the parish activities and her mother, Julienne, was treasurer of the confraternity of Charity dedicated to the care of the sick poor and Marie accompanied her mother on her visits to the poor and sick. Marie, a gifted student, pious and open, attended the only school in the town, managed by a group of pious lay people.

The death of her mother when she was only 22 years old, was a tragic experience. This was followed by her father's critical financial problems, illness and death in the year 1683. The full responsibility for the family as well as business rested on her shoulders and she managed it successfully.

With dramatic setbacks generated by emerging industrialization, she became a model as an innovator of manufacturing techniques in her industry of making stockings, by introducing looms instead of hand knitting and using wool instead of silk which was more profitable. Her business was also a prospect for her to provide job opportunity for the young uneducated youth of the town. She contributed much for the economic and social development of the city of Dourdan. At the same time, she cultivated an intense spiritual life supported by charitable activities and the spirituality of the Third Order of St. Dominic. She even took Marie Olivier, a sick widow to her home and cared for her in her own room until her death.

Nevertheless, the Lord called her to a greater vocation. In 1696, after having heard about the ignorance and misery in Sainville, 17 kilometers from Dourdan, she decided to commit herself totally to the service of charity. Entrusting the enterprise to her brother Claude, she went to Sainville leaving her home, securities and the fame that surrounded her in Dourdan.

On November 13, 1697, Marie Poussepin signed an Act in front of the notary, in which she explicitly declares her desire to establish in Sainville "a Community of the Third Order of St. Dominic, for the benefit of the parish, for the instruction of youth and the service of the sick poor".

The Dominican spirit of Marie Poussepin's work is manifested through the solidity of its Institution. The spirituality of her institute is both Christo-Centric and Marian. She placed her Community under the patronage of Blessed Virgin Mary in the mystery of her Presentation.

Innovative for her time, Marie Poussepin wanted neither cloister nor solemn vows for her sisters: "go wherever you are called" to provide charitable services there. She established the first Dominican Community of women of apostolic life. From 1697 to 1742, she established twenty foundations in six dioceses.

After a long and totally committed life at the service of God, the family and society, the Lord called her for her well-deserved eternal reward on January 24, 1744, at the age of 90. The epitaph on her tomb speaks for her holy life "Here lies the body of humble, pious and charitable Marie Poussepin." The church officially recognizing the Holiness of Marie Poussepin beatified her, the social apostle of charity, on November 20, 1994 in Rome.

In 36 countries of Europe, America, Asia and Africa, the congregation faithful to the spirit of its Foundress, live the service of charity, through a great diversity of responses to the needs of the world today. The Congregation's first community in India was established in 1971 in Kuttikkad, Kerala. Now the Province of India has 17 communities spread out in 11 dioceses of 8 states of India and one in Bucheon, South Korea. Moreover, some of our sisters from India courageously offer their services in the International mission of the Congregation. The Congregation has journeyed throughout these 325 years of history with audacity and creativity. The calls of the Church to respond to the cries of our suffering brothers and sisters continue to challenge us to commit ourselves to be at the side of the poor. May we continue to answer these calls following the example of Blessed Marie Poussepin!

EDITORIAL

2020, is a significant year for the Dominican Sisters of Charity of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin all over the world, as we celebrate the year of grace for the beatification of Blessed Marie Poussepin, the Foundress of our Congregation. All of us are happy to receive or offer Mementos or Souvenirs that mark the important events in the lives of persons, institutions and organizations. We are delighted to present this Souvenir which is a tribute to Blessed Marie Poussepin. We have compiled in it the articles, poems and drawings from our sisters and those associated with us.



The scroll of the Charism of Marie Poussepin who lived in France from 1653 - 1744 is being opened, lived and experienced by us, her daughters and all those who are associated with us in one way or other. It is a picturesque presentation of the richness of the work of Charity of Marie Poussepin incarnated and inculturated in 36 countries during these past 325 years. Her call was and is “to be of service to the Church, to educate the youth and to care for the sick poor.” She started her community with an active mission in the 17th Century when an apostolic community for women was unheard of. Marie Poussepin was fully convinced that her mission was to love God and neighbour. Her rock-like faith, trust in the Providence of God, generous charity, merciful compassion, deep commitment, strong determinism and persevering patience are her gifts to us. We also pay homage to the sisters, who down through the centuries kept her vision and charism vibrant, in truthfulness and creative fidelity.

We hope and pray that Marie Poussepin’s love for God, generous gift of self and passion for mission expressed through these pages, may inspire and enlighten our readers and ignite the world with Charity. Our heart-felt gratitude to Sr. Deepa Moonjely, our Provincial Superior and her Council who took the initiative, encouraged and supported us at every step, to those who have contributed their writings and drawings and to all those who assisted us in different ways for the creation of this Souvenir to celebrate this grace filled year.

Thank you! Enjoy your reading and share in our joy and thanksgiving!

Sr. Lisa Kadambattuparambil O.P.
Chief Editor

Editorial Team members

Sr. Jini Joseph Mazhuvanchery O.P.
Sr. Anupa Nirot Toppo O.P.
Sr. Sheena Paul Thelappilly O.P.



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Message

SR. MARIA ESCAYOLA CORIS
Superior General



Rome,

October, 2020.

Celebrating this special Year of Grace for the 25 years of beatification of Marie Poussepin, Our Foundress, it is a call for each sister of the Presentation to assume responsibility to live her Charism in fidelity today. It is to return to that simplicity and unconditional charity that she lived and transmitted by her very life style, her way of being and her preference for the poor.

“Reflect seriously, ...Work more and more... do your best... and pray fervently to obtain the capacities you still lack” She is straight forward and expresses in profound faith, “God will not fail to grant you all that you need, provided that you conduct yourself in a manner worthy of obtaining it.”

This year of grace has accompanied us with the crisis of the COVID-19 with restricted movements, lot of time at home, distorted plans and uncertainty of the future. Every community and sister tried to use this time to study, reflect, pray and journey through this difficult time finding spiritual freedom and detachment.

Marie Poussepin became very alive in these times with many creative initiatives in the Provinces and communities with the participation of the sisters. Though keeping social distancing, we have become closer to each other through different electronic media and teleconference tools.

I am indeed happy to know that the Province of India is publishing a Magazine to mark this year of grace to honour Marie Poussepin, her spirituality and charism that constantly reminds us to live the fidelity to the Gospels. I Congratulate Sr. Deepa Moonjely and all the Sisters of the Province for this initiative which will truly bring life and vigor to the communities and mission.

Rome, October, 2020

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Sr. Maria Escayola Coris
Superior General





Message

Rome,
October, 2020.

"With joy, I send you my congratulations on the publication of the Magazine in honour of the Jubilee Year of the Beatification of Blessed Marie Poussepin. I have every confidence that it will be admired by your readers as we celebrate her great gift to us as the Foundress of our Congregation and to the world as a great Social Apostle of Charity.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge all the effort, dedication, and skill needed to put together this achievement. Thank you so much for sharing this beautiful Magazine with us.

Congratulations to Sr. Deepa Moonjely, Provincial Superior and all the Sisters of the Province of India as you continue to live and share with increasing enthusiasm and commitment the Charism of Marie Poussepin."

Sr. Joanna Fernandes OP
General Treasurer

MESSAGE



Rome,
October, 2020.

I am glad to know of your initiative to publish a magazine for the jubilee year of beatification of Blessed Marie Poussepin, our Foundress who inspired us to follow her example of holiness to do ordinary things with an extraordinary dedication, courage and total dependency on God.

Marie Poussepin lived through terrible times of war, epidemic and poverty... similar to today's reality of the pandemic Covid 19 and its consequences. However, she never lost hope, never failed her trust in the Providence, nor got discouraged because her focus was on God and His possibilities as the saying goes, "When you fix your thoughts on God, God fixes your thoughts". She was a woman who set her mind on things that are above, not on things that are on earth (Col 3:2) and for her contemplation of the reality in the presence of God became the change that transformed everything.

Celebration of this year offers us an opportunity to walk in her path following her spirituality and charism rooted in the love of God and love of neighbour in deep humility and charity. Her charity has its source in God, nourished by prayer, study and contemplation of the Word seeking only the glory of God and the good of neighbour. She expects everything from God and did everything with a sincere desire to please God in her journey of holiness. Pope Francis tells us, "anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness. We are challenged to show our commitment in such a way that everything we do has evangelical meaning and identifies us all the more with Jesus Christ" (GE 28).

I wish everyone and congratulate Sr. Deepa Moonjely, Provincial Superior and the editorial team for your dedicated and collaborated effort to make Marie Poussepin alive today and known to many by imaginative skill and creative writing.

God bless everyone!

Sr. Mariamma Paul Ollukaran
General Councilor



MESSAGE

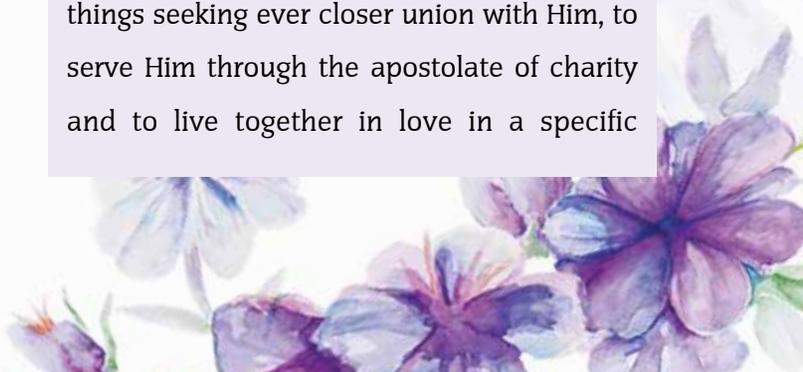


This year of grace for the beatification of Marie Poussepin is an occasion for us to celebrate and recall the marvellous ways in which God had been fulfilling His design for the salvation of souls through her and those who followed her. This is a golden opportunity for us to remember the life of this great holy woman, Blessed Marie Poussepin, 'The social apostle of charity' and reflect on our present with a vision for the future. I am extremely happy that we could do it in our own way and come up with this Souvenir which is an expression of our love and gratitude to God, Marie Poussepin and all our Sisters who have kept and continue to keep alive the flame of Marie Poussepin's charity.

What is charity? Is it just to help someone in need? Or is it an attitude or a goal of life? Charity is divinely infused into the soul; it resides in the will. According to St. Thomas Aquinas, charity is an absolute requirement for happiness, which he holds as man's final goal. For Marie Poussepin, charity was the aim of her life, to imitate Jesus Christ in His love for the Father and for all men and women. She truly exhibited through her life witness

the two aspects of Christian Charity: love of God and love of people, which includes both love of neighbour and one self. Marie Poussepin, known as 'Sister of Charity' let love of Christ gently stream through her. Hoping against hope and being urged by the charity of Christ, she made her convent a true school of charity, where her sisters exercised this charity joyfully, day in and day out. 'Totally given to God and neighbour,' this is what the people of Sainville said about her. "She gave to all who were destitute...she was very charitable for the poor and the sick." ("Marie Poussepin" by Bernard Preteseille, p. 235) In Matthew 25:35, we read: "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat... you took me into your home." Throughout Marie Poussepin's life, charity had been the secret of her actions, the deep motive of all her sacrifices. Her life of charity is an example of Christian life for all to follow.

For us religious, our 'Call' is a challenging threefold invitation: to love God above all things seeking ever closer union with Him, to serve Him through the apostolate of charity and to live together in love in a specific





religious community with those who have received the same call. As we celebrate this year of Grace for the Jubilee of the Beatification, let's introspect and see whether our life reflects these three dimensions. Our fraternal life in community is a place of forgiveness which is 'true charity' according to Marie Poussepin. We are called to live together in a community based on firm faith. We don't choose the other members of our community. We are brought together to live in love and unity. When we form ourselves to be a closely-knit community, we will become an effective sign of the love of Father and Son within the Trinity. So let our fraternal community, chosen by God, nourished by forgiveness, apostolic charity and love for God, be a witness and proclamation of the Gospel.

This year of grace for the 25 years of the beatification of Marie Poussepin, Our Foundress, is a time of thanks giving to the Almighty for what He has done by letting the Church raise the Servant of God, Marie Poussepin to a higher honour of holiness as Blessed. Let us gratefully remember all

our sisters who had been faithful to the charism of Marie Poussepin down through the centuries. Our gratitude goes to all who have offered us prayers, support and assistance

On this momentous occasion that must go down in the history of our congregation, I extend an invitation to everyone to pray in thanksgiving for the gift of this woman of great hope, ever renewing trust in the Providence of God, strong faith and courage, who dared to leave Dourdan, go beyond borders... to Sainville and establish a Dominican community for the service of charity.

Hearty Congratulations and a big 'thank you' to Sr. Lisa Kadambattuparambil and the team, for their hard work to bring out this beautiful Souvenir! Cheers to each one who came forward to share her/his precious memories, experiences, reflections, prayers, stories and blessings! May these efforts, inspirations, graces and blessings bear fruit in abundance in our day to day lives!

Sr. Deepa Moonjely OP
Provincial Superior



THANK YOU, MOTHER FOR YOUR PRESENCE

During my initial formation I started to gather information about Marie Poussepin and soon I understood clearly that she is the Foundress of our Congregation and that I should try to live the kind of life she wanted from her sisters. Some of her teachings that made an impact on me or rather, that I tried or desired to put into practice were: "Charity is the soul of the Congregation,- Keep the presence of God in all your actions, -Speak to Him often and speak about Him often, Keep the purity of intention in all that you do, Interior mortification is more important than exterior mortification". She warns us against petty devotions which will hinder us from developing solid devotions that will lead us to Jesus. She gave herself to do charitable services. The novices must learn to look at Jesus and develop an intimate relationship with Him and follow Him closely. We have to accept humiliations and become humble. On the day of her profession the novice will serve at table to show her desire to be the servant. She loved the poor and wanted us to live poor. She did everything for God alone. Love through labour is one of her mottos. She trusted in the Providence of God. Yes, I knew these theoretically; but the reality of my life was very different. But soon I started to have a desire to live like her.

While studying as a young professed sister, one of the requirements for our studies was to present a work on the Charism of the founders or foundresses of our Congregations. This is when I got interested to do research on Marie Poussepin and study about her on my own personal initiative. But I was very disappointed to find that there was nothing much written about her and the Congregation in English. I struggled a lot, since my imagination, intuition and knowledge of few words in French, could neither clarify my doubts nor answer my questions. Yet, I believe, because of my great desire, prayer and trust in God, I was able to discover Marie Poussepin and her Charism in my own way. This experience made me realize how ignorant I was about Marie Poussepin and the Congregation and it left me with a permanent attitude to search and learn more about her. Soon, in a few months, on my way back to India, I had





the privilege to be at our Mother House in France for three months, during which I could make a fast visit to Sainville; I learned few more words in French and swallowed up every little information I could come across about Marie Poussepin and our Congregation.

On coming back to India, in those early years of our foundation in India, very often in our Community sharing, we compared our foundation in Kuttikad to that of Sainville, as we could see some similarities. The struggles we experienced in our foundation in Kuttikad, as well as in opening our first few communities in other places, made me turn to her. During the first years of my mission as local superior and formator, I often looked at Marie Poussepin - 'the Superior' and Marie Poussepin - 'the formator'. Again, I was fortunate to spend four months in France during which God gave me the grace to make my personal retreat in Sainville. What a privilege to make a one - week retreat under Marie Poussepin's direction. I enjoyed walking with her in the streets of Sainville, going to the parish with her, walking in the garden and different places in the house and listening to her in her own room, in the chapel where she prayed and in the crypt, where she was buried. My short stay in Rome as a student, helped me to grow in my love for the Congregation as well as for the Church. Once more, God changed our human plans and offered me the grace to visit Sainville on my return journey from Rome to Bangalore. My prayer to Marie Poussepin was: 'Fill me with your spirit...that I may take it back to India.' 'Fill me with your spirit' 'Fill us with your spirit' had been often my prayer to her ever since. Back in India, in my mission of formation and collaboration in the animation of the Region, I felt closer to her as she was the superior and formator of her newly founded Community in Sainville. Inculturation of our Charism in India with creative fidelity was a great challenge and my prayer to her was to help me, help us in this great task. The mission of the animation of the Region, often led me to her either to share with her or to feel supported and comforted by her. Somewhere along the line, I developed a beautiful relationship with her as a loving mother who whenever I looked at her, smiled at me saying, 'You are my beloved daughter, in whom I am well pleased.' The four years that I spent trying to share the life of the poor and do all that charity demanded, helped me to reveal a little bit the feminine face of God to my brothers and sisters, following her example.





My three years in the USA helped me once again to grow closer to her as superior and formator. During the ten years in Rome I became more aware of the House that she has built, the Congregation that she founded. I became more convinced that she watched over it and my prayer to her was to continue to watch over her House.

While I spent five and a half years in Dourdan, in addition to sharing her life as formator and superior, I had the grace to welcome many to Marie Poussepin's house in her name and keep her house open especially for the Marie Oliviers of today. During that same period, for three years, the community of Dourdan could also receive many in her convent at Sainville. I felt that she was happy with our simple gestures to make her presence alive both in Dourdan and Sainville. During this time, I formed a habit of saying good morning to her every day, thanking her for watching over her houses both in Dourdan and Sainville during the night, and asking for her assistance to do our mission in those two houses throughout the day. In the same way, every night I would thank her for helping us to show her face to the people of Dourdan and Sainville and entrust the two houses and her House - our Congregation to her care and also ask for her intercession for those who have asked for our prayers.

Before leaving for India, I was again asking her to fill me with her spirit and was trying to say good bye to her; but she assured me that she would be accompanying me to India and I believe that she is here with me...with us... Whether I am trying to fill my heart and mind with our history in India during the past 19 years, or trying to fly over the gap of 19 years or trying to be fully open to live the present moment, she is there with me. I continue to ask her to watch over her House, the Congregation, and her house in India, her houses in Dourdan, Sainville and everywhere. Through her intercession, may I, may we, remain ever open and available to answer the Lord's call, especially during this COVID19 pandemic. Thank you, mother, for your presence in my life, in the lives of my sisters and in the Congregation as a whole.



Sr. Reetha Mechery O.P



SHE SAW ... SHE RESPONDED: MARIE POUSSEPIN

November 1686

Dourdan was a prosperous town about 50 miles away from Paris, France. In the waning hours of the day the road was becoming busy with evening riders going for their promenade. Marie, a woman in her early thirties was walking down the street. She seems to be in a hurry as if she was late to reach somewhere. She carried a basket on her arms. She was not giving much attention to the riders and their carriages. She was focused on saying the rosary, as she always did when she walked alone, and pondered on the sorrowful mysteries of Jesus which she was meditating.

As usual Marie Poussepin was on her visit to some poor families. During her regular visits she carried a supply of food and medicine for those who needed it.

Marie was the only surviving daughter of her late parents, Claude Poussepin and Julienne Fourrier. She was born on Oct.14, 1653. She had a younger brother named Claude, whose all-round education was taken up by Marie as her responsibility. After her parents' death she took over the small workshop which her Father was not able to salvage, and by her hard work and her ingenious and industrious intuition she made it a successful business of making woollen stockings by introducing the looms. Her business was also a prospect for her to provide job opportunity for the uneducated youth of the town. At that point in time she was in a very good financial situation.

But that did not stop her from continuing her daily visits to the neighbourhoods where many poor people lived. In the footsteps of her kind and generous mother she continued to offer whatever help she could to the sick, the aged and the lonely. Her involvement in the parish activities, especially in the works of the Confraternity of Charity, presented the opportunity to be at the service of the needy. Being a member of the Third of Order of St. Dominic gave her the love for the Word of God, and added such a spiritual depth to her life which was already seeped in social consciousness of the signs of her time.

After her visit to a couple of families, she hurried back home. Her brother will be waiting for her. As he is very much involved in the running of the business, Marie had more time for her charitable works. Now her thoughts turned to her brother. He has grown to be a very responsible young man. He knows all the secrets of running the business justly and at the same time profitably. His future is quite secure. He has learned to be a kind and compassionate industrialist.

She smiled to herself as she remembered the young lady, Marguerite Vian, in whom Claude has been showing keen interest. Yes, she was a beautiful girl. Marie was happy to note her humble and polite way of behaving towards any one with whom she came in contact. She will be a fitting companion for Claude. She walked on with determination in her steps, as if some decision was formed in her mind.

Claude was waiting for her to come home after her visits to the poor families. They always shared about the happenings of the day. Claude talked about the events in the workshop. Problems of the young people who worked there; their problems were problems of the Poussepin family. Solutions had to be found. They talked on and decided to help them find ways to tackle their issues.

“Claude, I have something important to discuss with you. As I was coming back this evening I heard a whispering in my heart. It was a confirmation from the Holy Spirit that it is time to go ahead with a plan that was swirling in my mind.”





“What is it Marie, that you are harbouring in your mind that I am not part of?”

“Surely you are part of it. In fact, you are the whole of it. Or at least of Plan No.1

“Now I am really interested.”

“How old are you Claude?”

“I am 22; that is not news to you.”

“Yes. You are now a grownup man; successful in business, capable industrialist. You have learned the tricks of our trade. You are young and handsome and very much an eligible bachelor! Don’t you agree?”

“What are you hinting at Marie?”

Marie continued; “And I know there is one young lady who would be only too happy to hear a word from you to be part of your life. Am I not right?”

“Well...”

“Have you already asked her for her hand? If not, it is time. I like Marguerite. She is a very simple and at the same time capable young woman. Though young she deals with everyone maturely. She belongs to an honourable family. Her Father is a master carpenter. They belong to the same class as our family. Vian family and we, have been longstanding friends from the time of our parents; certainly, a fitting match.”

“What are your thoughts, Claude?”

“I do not hide anything from you Marie. You have been not only my sister and mender, but my Mother and my Father whom I did not have the fortune to know and love for long. You have sacrificed much to make sure that I have everything in life.”

With a deep sigh he continued; “Yes I do love Marguerite. She is a sweet and beautiful young woman. Marie, you have taught me from my child hood, to look not only on the exterior of the people but more so in the heart. Yes, I love her not only because she is beautiful, but also because she has a good heart. Yes, I would like to marry her someday, when the time is ready.”

“And the time is not yet?”

He regarded Marie with a deep concern for her in his gaze.

“What about you Marie? What about your future? You also would want to find someone who will be with

you for the rest of your life. Haven’t you thought of yourself?”

“I have been thinking of my future too. The first plan is settled, now plan No.2 is not yet formed completely. When it is, I will share it with you.”

After a few moments of silence, she continued; “May be you should take a walk to meet Marguerite. Once she is in agreement, we can go and meet her parents with the request; what do you say?”

“It seems everything is going too fast.”

“Are you not sure of your decision? Do you have any misgivings?”

“Not at all! I do not have any one else except Marguerite in my heart.”

“Then it is time to take the step.”

Claude needed a moment to put all his thoughts in order.

“Marie, I will take a short walk. When I come back, I will tell you my decision.”

Marie had taught her small brother since his childhood, to talk things over with Jesus who is his closest friend, before taking any decision or any important action. She knew that Claude needed some time to be alone with his Friend. She gave him an understanding look and a nod with a smile. She entered the house and spent time before her Lord and Master entrusting her brother to His guidance.

After an hour or so, Claude returned and informed Marie that he was going to meet Marguerite. Marie continued her colloquy with her Master.

It was with great joy that Claude returned after meeting Marguerite. She had happily said yes to his proposal. Claude sat with his sister silently for some time. Marie





turned and looked at him and just asked, “Yes?” Claude said; “Yes! Thank you”.

Marriage contract was signed on January 27, 1687 in the presence of a number of witnesses. All their relatives, cousins, uncles and aunts and friends, all were there for such an important event of the family.

In the marriage contract in which was listed all the assets which were brought by both parties, also was added a four-year contract of commercial association with his sister; a prudent and farsighted decision from Marie’s part to assure that Claude will continue to care for the business responsibly.

During the next half decade, they worked in close collaboration. And their business flourished. And Claude’s family grew.

December 1692

Marie walked quickly to reach the quarter of the town where she headed for. She heard the sound of a horse drawn carriage rushing down the road, which to her surprise, stopped at her side.

“Hello, Marie. You seem to be in a hurry! Where are you off to in such haste?”

A woman of about her age stepped down from the carriage and came running to her side.

“Oh, Hello Susanne, it is good to see you. How are you? How long has it been since we have met?”

Though she was concerned that she will be late to reach where she was going, Marie was happy to see Susanne, her childhood friend. Marie regarded Susanne with an appreciative gaze. Susanne was well dressed in a beautiful and elegant outfit as if ready for a party.

“Susanne, you look beautiful in that dress. Are you going for a party or something?”

“Yes, to Mr. Jacques de Lescornay. But, Marie, aren’t you coming? Surely you must have been invited for Marie Anne’s birthday party! Both of you were such good friends! We never saw one without the other!”

“Oh. That is true. I quite forgot about it. Surely, she had invited me for the celebration. But I had told Marie Anne that I will not be able to go for the party, as I am caught up with some family responsibilities. Please wish her for me, Susanne. During the Holy Mass I had offered her at the altar. May God bless her!”

“But now, Marie, you didn’t tell me where you are going in such a hurry.”

“Susanne, do you remember Madame Olivier? When we were children, she used to greet us always when we passed by her house on the way to church?”

“Yes, I do remember! Every time she had something nice to tell us. She used to give us fruits from her garden. How we looked forward to it. But what about her? ”

“Well, she is not so well now and she is alone. Her husband had died some time ago. Her son also passed away a couple of years ago. She is becoming weak and not able to care for herself. I am just going to see how she is. ”

“Marie, you have not changed! You are always at the service of anyone who needs help. I remember you as a child following your Mother, Madame Poussepin, wherever she went to take care of the sick and to give food to the poor.”

Susanne regarded Marie for a moment and turned her look away to the horizon with a nostalgic gaze and a deep sigh.

Marie noticed the sadness in her old friend’s eyes. She was concerned.

“Susanne, is everything alright? You seem to be upset? ”

“Oh, it is nothing Marie. It is just my fate; God somehow is paying back for my wayward life.

When I saw, you the memories of my wasted life came back to me. ”

“But Susanne, why do you say wasted life? Surely you are happily married to Fredrique whom you loved so much; and your beautiful children. I have not seen them for a while. They must be growing. The big household





you have to care for. Certainly, all that must give you a great sense of fulfilment. How can you say wasted life?"

"Marie, you know only the outward pomp and show of the family of Lord Fredrique. May be another time I will tell you the real story. Well now, I should get going. Can I give you a ride, Marie?"

"That is ok. Susanne, only a few meters now. But why don't you drop in to my house some time. We could talk of the old times. "

"I may take up on your invitation some time.... Au revoir"

Susanne walked to the carriage with hesitant steps. With a tilt of her head and a hand lifted to a wave, she got into the carriage. Marie watched her until the carriage moved on. The whole scene left her wondering. Her heart was moved with deep compassion for her friend. She sensed that things were not as glamorous as Susanne's outward appearance. She thought to herself: 'what really has gone wrong with Susanne's life? She has always been a vivacious and happy person and the life of the group or the party she was in'.

Meeting with Susanne had a very strong impact on Marie. She walked pensively to Madame Marie Oliver's house. Marie remembered the good times they had together as children. She was a constant presence in her mother's kitchen, tasting everything her mother made. How mother used to like this bubbling person she was. Marie felt sad to think that there is something not so right in her friend's life.

With a heavy heart she reached Marie Olivier's doorsteps. She stood there for a moment to calm herself. When the old lady heard the footsteps, in her weak voice she called out;

"Who is there? Is it you Marie? Why don't you come in?"

Marie entered the house but she had to make a herculean effort to be herself.

"I am so happy whenever you come. You bring so much peace with you; I forget my troubles and pains as soon as you come. You truly are an angel of mercy. "

Marie tried to put behind her mind the uneasiness she felt after meeting Susanne.

"Bon jour, Madame Olivier! How are you today? Are you feeling a little better? How is your leg pain? Were you able to get up today?" Sitting by the bed side of the invalid, Marie enquired.

"Oh, Marie I have so much pain everywhere. I just could not manage to get out of my bed. Why is the Lord leaving me on this earth to suffer like this? Why is He not calling me back to Him? I am no good for anyone on this earth any way. I am ready for Him. Marie, please pray that He will take me back. Surely, He will hear your prayer; you are such a holy person. You were an angel even when you were only a child."

Marie opened the basket she brought with her and prepared a plate with some bread and fruits and warm milk. She knew her patient would not have eaten all day. She helped her friend to sit up so that she can eat the food placed before her.

Marie understood the despair of the old woman. To be in that state of weariness and to be alone, she must be finding it too difficult to bear. She still tried to encourage her.

"Oh, Madame, why do you talk this way? You have done enough good deeds while you were able. Even now your every pain offered with that of Jesus has infinite value. Don't ever forget that. Now, drink this warm milk. You will feel much better. "

Marie continued reflectively; "All of us have our time allotted to us on this earth and we have our duties to fulfil. When we have lived out that span of time, the good Lord will send his angels to take us back to Him. "

"Are you feeling a bit better after drinking the milk? Would you like some bread? I have brought some oil to apply on your legs. The medicine I made will relieve you of your pain."

"Oh, thank you Marie; you think of everything. What would I do without you? You are truly the daughter of your mother. She used to be always there when the poor and sick were in need. "

Marie remembered how her mother used to hurry from the house with medicine and food when she heard someone was sick. She felt a tug of pain in her heart, as she went back to the memory of her childhood days with her mother. Oh, how she missed her!



Marie noticed that her friend was not looking too good. She seemed more worn out today. How will she be able to continue to stay alone in this house? She will need continuous care. She felt she needed to think of some alternative. But, what?

After making sure the patient was comfortable, she put the house in order, cleaned the room and kept a plate of food at her bed side.

It was time for her to move on. She still had a couple of visits to make. She kissed her friend and said;

“Madame, I should be moving on. I will come tomorrow. I will be praying for you. You will feel better now. Sleep well. Bonne nuit.

Marie’s heart was disturbed. As she walked down the road, she thought of the conversation she had with Susanne. Now she wished she had enough time with her friend. May be she would have shared whatever is bothering her. She took out her rosary and started to pray to Mary asking her intervention in the life of Susanne. She also placed her concern for Madame Olivier at the feet of Mother Mary.

Claude was at the door when she returned.

“How was your visit this evening? How did you find Madame Olivier? ”

Marie described to Claude the situation in which she found Madame Olivier. She expressed her concern about her being so sick and being alone.

“Claude, I am really concerned about her being alone all day and night. She is so sick, she is not able to move from her bed, let alone take care of her own needs. Something needs to be done for her. But what can be done? I have been thinking about it, as I was returning from visiting her. I go whenever I can, to care for her. But that is not enough.”

“But what can we do, Marie? We cannot be here and there at the same time. What are you thinking? When you come up with these kinds of thoughts, I know you have already a solution for the problem.”

“You are right Claude”; she looked at Claude with a smile. She continued; “When you see a sign which the Lord puts on our way, He also shows us the way to get there. He not only shows us the way but He

also accompanies us all the way. That has been my experience all my life. It is when we are filled by His Spirit that we see the signs. If He shows us the sign, He shows us the way and accompanies us all the way; we cannot but do what He is asking from us.”

“Marie, here you are again, speaking in riddles. I know you have a plan in your mind. Now, come on, let us have it out. ”

Claude sat quietly listening to his sister. He knew that this was not a thought of the moment. Marie had spent enough time with her Lord before she came up with any decisions. She had the wisdom and the gift of discernment which she has received from spending time at the foot of the Cross. So, he had nothing else to say but follow the wise direction she was offering him.

“I was talking to you about Madame Olivier. I would like to take her in to our house and care for her until she breathes her last breath. She can stay in my room; it is big enough. And I can be close to her. As I told you, when the good Lord gives us the grace to see something that is right in His eyes, we have the responsibility to accomplish it with all our possibilities; this is what He expects of us.

“Claude, you have been always concerned about my future. Now you are fully capable to carry on the responsibilities of our business. At this moment the Lord is calling me to take care of Madame Olivier. I feel in my heart that the Lord has something else in mind for me after Madame Olivier! No Claude, there will be no one else in my life except the crucified Lord and the people for whom He gave his life.”

Claude got up from where he was sitting and came and knelt before Marie and embraced her lovingly and said quietly “Marie, you are truly my mother, I love you and I am grateful to you for everything you have done for me and all that you have taught me. If the call for you from the Lord is clear to you, I will not stand against it. I will be there for you, to support you in all that you will be doing for your Lord and His people.

Both Marie and Claude were up early next morning as usual and left for mass in the parish church. This was their regular routine. They entered the duties of the day only after attending the Mass and spending



some time in the church for personal prayer. This gave them the energy to face the day with fortitude and right discernment.

When they returned home, they were surprised to see a carriage in front of their house. Who can it be? Marie asked herself. Both Marie and Claude walked hurriedly through the gate and entered the front yard. To her surprise Susanne was standing there looking a bit nervous. Though she had invited Susanne to visit her, she never thought that she will take her up on it so fast. But Marie was indeed very happy to see Susanne. She was concerned about her friend. This would give her a chance to listen to her stories and be able to help her. What was troubling Susanne? Marie wondered in her mind.

Marie always had an ear for all the troubled neighbours. Men, women and young people came to her with their troubles. She was always there for them. Her wise counsel was sought after, even in her younger age.

“Susanne, how happy I am to see you. How long have you been waiting? We had gone to the church. Actually, you were very much in my prayer as I attended the Holy Mass. Yesterday you left me a bit bewildered.”

“Marie, have I intruded in to your busy morning schedule? I felt I needed to talk to you. So I thought that before you get busy with your work, I will come. I know it is too early in the morning...”

“No problem, Susanne. I am very happy that you came. But first let us have some breakfast. Come, Claude will be waiting for us. ”

They moved to the dining room. Claude was waiting. Marie introduced Susanne to him. They had their breakfast with some light talk about the various events of the town. Claude finished his breakfast and excused himself and left the table to get ready to go to the workshop.

Now that Marie and Susanne were left alone Marie turned to Susanne. Susanne poured her heart out before Marie. She needed a listening ear. She was at a breaking point. They spent quite a long time together, as Susanne shared her concerns

Susanne got up to leave.

“Thank you very much for your precious time, Marie, it was really good talking to you. You helped me to look at my problems with clarity. I also understood that I need to get back to my faith and my life of prayer. I have been away from my God for too long. I have been too caught up with my luxurious social life. That is when family life started to go down the hill. How will I thank you for your prudent advice!

“No, Susanne! There is nothing to thank me for. What kind of a friend am I if I am not able to spend some time for you? ”

Marie embraced her old friend warmly. It was with great peace in her heart that Susanne left Marie’s House.

Marie raised her heart to the Lord in thanksgiving and praise, for she saw that the Holy Spirit truly came to Susanne with the grace of hope, for she was a woman in despair.

It was becoming clearer to Marie the way of life which God was preparing for her. Marie was ready to respond with her whole heart, as and when the Lord wants her. As she lived closer to the Lord, she was able to see what was right in His eyes and respond to His will whatever may be the sacrifices it may demand from her.

Marie moved to her daily tasks with the gusto and energy of a person filled and guided with the Spirit of Jesus, ready to face whatever the Lord had in plan for her for the day.



Sr. Rose Mary Kadampattuparampil OP



ARDENT LOVE

I love you Marie Poussepin
I love you Marie Poussepin

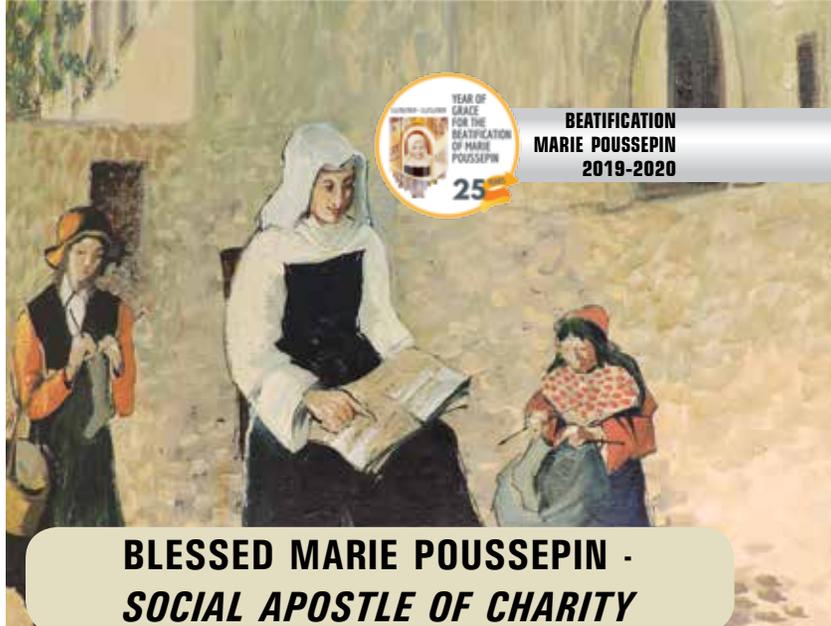
I love your humility, simplicity and honesty,
I love your wisdom, charity and fidelity,
That goes beyond boundaries,
Which lives beyond centuries,
I love you Marie Poussepin
I love you Marie Poussepin

The flame of love you lit,
Still burning in the world,
No one can put it out,
Burning and burning always.
I love you Marie Poussepin
I love you Marie Poussepin

I pray that this gives hope,
To many human hearts,
And light the lamp of faith,
In those who grope in darkness.
I love Marie Poussepin
I love Marie Poussepin.



Sr. Sandha Manjaly OP



BLESSED MARIE POUSSEPIN - SOCIAL APOSTLE OF CHARITY

Blessed Marie Poussepin was born on October 14, 1653 and her parents were Claude Poussepin and Julienne Fourrier. After her mother's death, Marie received the call from God and so left her comfortable life and went to Sainville. She saw what was right in the sight of God and responded. How did she respond? She responded by being a charitable person. Marie Poussepin helped the people who were in the darkness of ignorance, poverty and sickness. She gave hope for all those who were hopeless. She shared her house with a poor widow, Marie Olivier and took care of her till her death. I am so happy that our sisters are taking care of the poor people during this time of Covid -19, by providing food to families and saving their lives from hunger. I am deeply inspired by this.

Marie Poussepin helped the young girls to read and write, taking care of them as her own sisters and she equipped them for a living. What she had learned from her mother, she practised in her daily life. Since God worked in and through her, all her efforts became fruitful. She communicated with God in prayer and through her total dependence on God, she received grace and strength from Him to do the works of charity. She advises her daughters, "You are far from your house, be careful not to be far from your duty as well. You are out of the sight and of the presence of your superiors; do not forget that you are never far from the sight of your God." She calls us forth to be faithful to God as well as to our daily responsibilities. May Blessed Marie Poussepin inspire us!



Hiramoti Ekka, Novice



A ray of HOPE

Marie Poussepin... my favourite of all
A woman of prayer and confidence,
Answering to the call, left her home
To be a beacon for the people of Sainville;
Armed with charity and trust in Providence
Lived Charity among the needy
She became an oblation of charity,
And a Ray of Hope for all in Sainville

I think that the story of money plant and the cancer patient very well illustrate the life of Marie Poussepin. The story goes like this: A person was in his last stage of cancer and knowing that, he resigned himself to his closed room. Suddenly, his attention fell on a money plant outside his window. He noticed that its green leaves are turning yellow and was falling off one by one. He thought to himself that when the last leaf falls, he too would die. He shared this secret feeling with one of his closest friends, who happened to be an artist. He drew on the wall of his friend's room a money plant with green leaves while his friend was sleeping. It looked so original that the cancer patient could not make out the difference. Seeing, fresh and green leaves, life rejuvenated in the cancer patient. His friend, the artist bought in a ray of hope to the setting life of the patient.

When I look at the life of Marie Poussepin, I see her as a ray of hope for the people of Sainville. If it were not for her, the life of those people would have gone from bad to worse. I had many opportunities to meet people who were distressed and had lost hope in life. It has been my golden chance to listen to their problems and share their desperate conditions and be a ray of hope for them at the sunset of their life. I am confronted by categories of people with various family problems; Couples wanting to be separated, girls and boys running away, mixed marriages etc. God uses me as a ray of hope to meet the needs of all these people. I am grateful to be a true daughter of Marie

Poussepin and walk the path she had taken; the path of compassion and charity.

I have learned from my experience that giving is the best way to raise someone up. Giving means lending an ear to the lonely and depressed, a hand to the weary and burdened, prayerful support to the hopeless and confused, and bringing the socially excluded or withdrawn to the main stream.

Marie Poussepin, the "Social Apostle of Charity" had an intimate relationship with the person of Jesus. He was hope and strength for Marie Poussepin, as Jonah was for Ninevites. Marie Poussepin was able to draw the ever-green leaves in the life of many broken families. She used charity and livelihood programmes, as the paint to draw the ever-green leaf to keep the hope alive in the people of Sainville.

Marie Poussepin was an optimist. She refused to give up on people. I wish I become like her! At times, after spending 'reasonable' time and efforts, when people do not come up according to my expectation, my optimism disappears. I need to sit at the feet of Marie Poussepin and learn from her.

I have had real incidents of the intervention of Marie Poussepin in my life. Once, our parish council referred to me a couple who were living separate for few years. I had many sessions with them separately and together. They did not budge. Both of them were accusing each other. Finally, I admitted that my human capacity is limited and I need divine intervention. I entrusted this couple to Blessed Marie Poussepin. I sent them away with some suggestions and asked them to pray the prayer of Marie Poussepin daily. Next time when I met this couple, I came to know that they were happily living together with their two children. I am proud to be a daughter of Marie Poussepin. I pray earnestly that Marie Poussepin may be elevated to sainthood by the time we complete the silver jubilee year of her beatification.



Sr. Vinitha Pazhukkathara OP



She was a person, after His own heart
She was a person no longer self-centred,
She was a person, who did the will of God,
She was a person centred on Christ.

She realised He is the one to be announced;
She recognised she has to become another Christ
She was a person who lived the present with a gaze into the future,
She was a woman of centred on Christ.

She was God's viable instrument,
She was convinced of God's work in her life
She was willing to be melted and moulded
She was centring her life on Christ.

She was walking into the unknown in faith
She was responsible, accountable for what God entrusted her,
She was relying on God's promise as she surrendered
She acknowledged Christ as the centre of her life.

She was gifted and graced to respond,
She was able to read the signs of the times,
She sought in all, the Voice of God;
She was centred on Christ.

She took 'love through labour' as her Motto
She taught the same to the poor and the orphan
She served the people for love of Christ,
She proclaimed Christ as the centre of her life

She saw what was good in the eyes of God and did it,
She lived the virtues of Charity and love,
She offered compassion and mercy to those in need
She witnessed Christ centeredness by her life

She invites her daughters to walk with Christ in His sacrificial love,
She bids us to serve to others following her as model,
She invites us to live the charism creatively,
She advises to possess Christ as the centre of our life.

She inspires us to be persons of Joy, consolation, peace and serenity
She inspires us to be persons of generosity, resilience and creativity,
She inspires us to be persons of charity, and communion
She inspires us to embrace Christ as the centre of our life

She summons us to see the favourable time,
She recommends us to go beyond borders following the Master,
She points the way, the place, to restructure creatively the original vision
She Challenges us to centre our life on Christ and unfold her charism today.



Marie Poussepin,
an inspiration
to be
A
Christ
Centred person



Sr. Anney Chummar Maniyamkott OP



Marie Poussepin

is a mirror for her daughters.

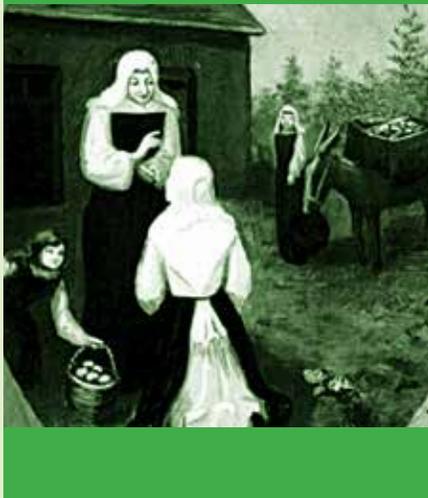
In the material world mirrors are used to reflect our physical images. Spiritual mirrors are people, experiences, challenges, tragedies which show us our spiritual maturity. The spiritual mirror truthfully reflects the consequences of our actions. Marie Poussepin, our mother Foundress is a mirror for us. She reflects the goodness of God by her very life and action. When I see her love for prayer, I understand the secret of embodiment of Jesus in her life. She imbibed in her the spirituality of St. Dominic: 'Speak to Him often'. I am challenged by this aspect of her life when I reflect on my monotonous daily routine. For Marie Poussepin, every day was something new. Daily she waited for the marvels of the Lord for her. She attuned herself to her God and she could live according desire of God. Now I see how she reflected God in her life. She was truly a mirror of God.

When I look at her actions with people, experiences, challenges and tragedies they reflect truly the Lord on the cross. When I glance through her life, I see her dealings with Marie Olivier with the tenderness of Jesus. Her great compassion towards the poor people of Sainville is truly a reflection of Jesus! I am so inspired by her endurance during her bitter experiences with the civil authorities and her own sisters, like Jesus who was before Pilate. How Marie Poussepin stands tall when great tragedy occurs! With her mother's untimely demise, she did not collapse but took the responsibility of the family in her hand and bravely went forward.

Did Jesus collapse when He heard the death of His close friend and cousin John the Baptist? He took further step of leaping into the ministry that John was doing. Jesus' life was a mirror for Marie Poussepin. Jesus' life was a bundle of challenges: from the society in which he lived and from religious authorities. But Jesus had only one aim that was to do His Father's will. Fear did not keep Him aloof. I can see how Marie Poussepin was absorbed by the personality of Jesus in her life. The economic failure of her father's business and his cowardliness to face it were big challenges for Marie Poussepin. But she trusted in the Jesus who gave her the courage to face these and to turn the business of her father to a success story. Marie Poussepin moulded herself to be a reflection of Jesus for her daughters. The Joy on her face shows that she is an integrated person who is absorbed in God. Confidence and humility were her hallmarks. Look at her face; she is sure of everything because the one who called her is with her. She knows that she is only an instrument of God. Her eyes are filled with compassion which is an over flow of God's compassion. Yes, I bow before you, Blessed Marie Poussepin, my mother because God called me to follow a person like you. You are a mirror of Jesus to me. My challenge and only desire is to become a mirror of Jesus and a mirror of you to others.



Sr. Philomina Pulikottil OP



Love of God and love of neighbour

Marie Poussepin, a woman of deep compassion was moved to see the misery of the people of Sainville. She did not get this gift of compassion into her blood by chance. She was taught by her mother. Her mother formed her from childhood itself to see the needs of the poor as her own. Gradually as she grew up, she took up the role of her mother to serve the needy of Dourdan. This experience helped her see the misery of Sainville. Inspired by providence, she took the bold decision to leave behind her familiar shore, Dourdan and sail into the turbulent sea, Sainville. That was the depth of her love for her master. This did not come all of a sudden. It was the result of sitting with God many hours and building a strong bond with Him. She believed that prayer is the channel of graces which produces virtue; nourishes the soul and illumines the darkness of her spirit. It is He who taught her that love of God and love of neighbour go hand in hand.

God did not offer her a bed of roses. But she could see the footsteps of her master; Jesus who had travelled that road before her. Then challenges and difficulties became opportunities to uplift the poor. How years passed, she did not know. She was kept busy serving the poor and enjoyed seeing the changes in the people: Miserable faces of God turning into joyful faces of God. She realized that her hard work and difficulties are nothing before the joy she saw in the people.

Her burning love for the poor and needy has really made an impact on me. Sometimes, it gets into my mind that I am asked to do such and such an apostolate and I do it. But Marie Poussepin is teaching me that I am not going there to do any work but to change it into a heaven where I can make the life of the people very joyful. This was the secret of Marie Poussepin's Joy. She did not work for her own comfort or satisfaction but was serving her Master's own people. She was always looking into the heart of Jesus, to make herself more beautiful for Him.

She is no more in this world but her spirit is alive and active in each one us. I want to commit myself to live 'love of God and love of neighbour' by continuing to stand with the most vulnerable where ever I am called. I will try to keep alive and active the flame of Charity of my mother, Marie Poussepin, in the hearts of many.



Sr. Premlata Sawner OP



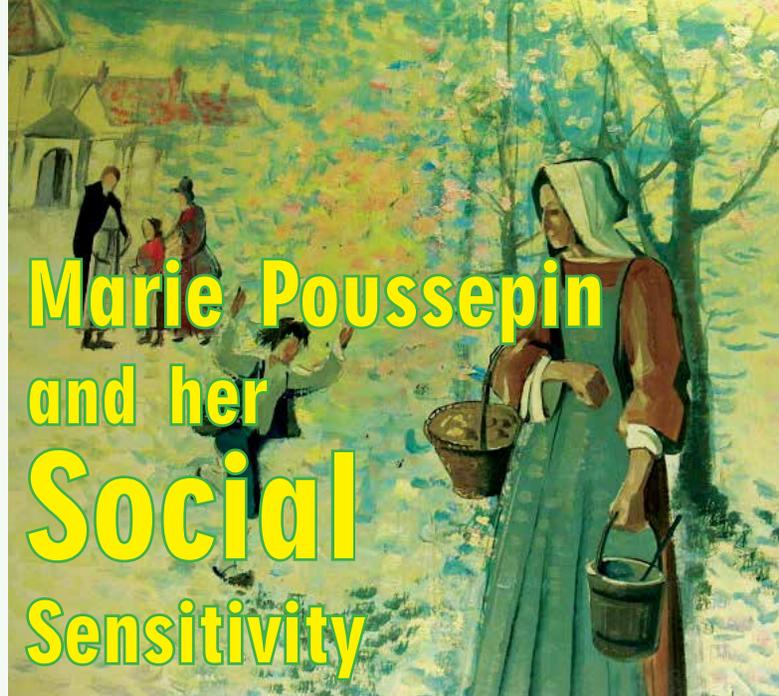
Sensitivity towards people who suffer was the predominant characteristic of Jesus. It was this sensitivity which urged him to go out of his way to work miracles: healing the sick, casting out evil spirits, giving sight to the blind, feeding the hungry multitudes etc.

Marie Poussepin our Foundress was also moved with sensitivity. It urged her to come out of her comfort zone-from Dourdan to the downtrodden of Sainville. Marie Poussepin was an ordinary woman who went through many hardships in life but was never drowned in her own problems. Amidst her own difficulties she was able to see the difficulties of others. She was an 'other-centred' woman. When we are concentrating on ourselves, we see our little problem as a mountain and will never be able to see others beyond our mountain. The 'other-centred' person is a down to earth person; she is in touch with the realities; she is restless and never at peace until she moves to do something for the suffering humanity.

Marie Poussepin saw the misery of human being; her compassionate heart gazed on the children who were orphaned because of the epidemics spread in and around the village. She was moved with compassion for the people of Sainville.

Marie Poussepin focused on the Providence of God alone. She put her whole trust in the Lord, "Kept the presence of the Lord in all her actions, spoke to Him often and spoke of Him often". She drew energy from the Lord. Her intimacy with the Lord had no bounds. Holy Eucharist was her life giving source. From the Holy Eucharist she received grace upon grace to break herself for others. Marie Poussepin left her progressive business and gathered her energy, talents, time and wealth for the people of Sainville. The more we give the more we receive from God. It is like the water in the well, the more people draw from it the more it gets filled with fresh and clean water. Marie Poussepin grew in generosity, sensitivity and charity day by day.

She became hope for the hopeless, mother for the young and old and teacher for the ignorant and she turned out to be a source to earn livelihood for many. She became a well spring for all those who wanted to follow Christ. We have to be touched by the misery of others. When we are indifferent, we miss the opportunity to be touched by the reality of the people; we will not be moved to have a change of heart or change of ways. But if we are disturbed by the misery of the afflicted, we will have dreams and



desires to do something good for our community and our fellow beings.

Our call as a religious, urges us to discover our identity as preachers of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of Blessed Marie Poussepin for today and tomorrow. We are called to be prophetesses in the society. The world around us is broken; there is no respect for human beings who are created in the image and likeness of God. We have forgotten the Creator and tried hard to take His place. But the signs of the time, especially COVID 19 and the natural calamities are teaching us, the human being to look into ourselves and return to the Lord.

Marie Poussepin followed the Dominican Spirituality "to contemplate and give the fruit of the contemplation." which is being handed over to us generation after generation; century after century. The valuable time we spend in prayer both personal and community, is a great source of strength to build up relationship with God and people and to take daring steps in life, going beyond boundaries.

Marie Poussepin is still alive through her daughters. The very many lives we touch from morning till evening are proof for it. May her holiness be made known to the Church and to the whole world through us! May we grow more and more as the daughters of Marie Poussepin to spread the fragrance of her Charism through our Congregation, 'The Dominican Sisters of Charity of the Presentation'. Marie Poussepin is alive in and through us.



Ashirwad Community, Dhulkot



BEATIFICATION
MARIE POUSSEPIN
2019-2020

MY CHERISHED

Memories...

The year 1994 marked a great milestone, a momentum in the life of the Congregation and in every sister of Charity of Presentation. A year of grace, filled with gratitude! Marie Poussepin was elevated among the Blessed in heaven. That year was a real gift of God for me since I was asked to go to France (to the Mother House) to attend the course in CEMP (Marie Poussepin Study Centre) along with Sr. Salina Parakadath. A privileged year for both of us. What a wonderful gift from Blessed Marie Poussepin! I am unable to express in words my joy of participating in the celebration of Beatification in Rome. A very rare gift! Long awaited day...The day the Church publicly proclaimed Marie Poussepin's holiness!

Let me share a small incident which took place during the beatification. Nov 20, 1994, St. Peter's Square and the surroundings were filled with the faithful to participate in the beatification ceremony of five Holy people and Marie Poussepin was one of them. Marie Poussepin was being recognized by the universal church for her holiness; another step closer to her sainthood. Pope John Paul II during the beatification ceremony proclaimed that Marie Poussepin is beatified with the title of "Marie Poussepin, Social Apostle of Charity". Her charity was appreciated and honoured this day. When we heard that our hearts were filled with joy. Sr. Marie Ascension, our Provincial, when we were still part of the Province of USA and an instrument for the foundation in India, who is in heaven now, was standing beside me. She cried aloud with boundless joy and gratitude. Her tears of joy were rolling down from her blue eyes made me too cry with deep sense of joy. I realized that how much she loved Marie Poussepin and how much she longed to hear the words of our Holy Father John Paul II that she is beatified. An inspiration for all of us to love Marie Poussepin with admiration and love!

The love of Marie Poussepin was made abundant by the Lord's intervention in her life. Her love for God and her brothers and sisters overflowed without frontiers through her charitable works in Sainville and neighboring places. She always trusted in the Providence of God and Her Love was only for Him and for His people. Her life is a light for my path and her love is a source of life for me.

"Whatever we have is very little, but if we give it to Jesus hands it becomes super abundance;" said by His Eminence Cardinal Oswald Gracias in one of his homilies during this time of Covid -19. These words of Cardinal were appropriate in the life of Marie Poussepin. Marie Poussepin's littleness of everything she offered in the hands of Jesus and He changed it to super abundance. With Jesus she was able to transform the poor ignorant village of Sainville. Give it to Jesus and trust in the power of His Words and deeds and He will make everything in plenty; she knew this secret very well, and she experienced it in her life. Beatification of Marie Poussepin still gives me the joy and gratitude and I cherish those sweet memories of the day. I continue to thank God for that great gift. I am very sure that she will continue to intercede for us, her daughters to keep up the same love and charity and serve the needy, going beyond the borders without reservation.

Let us imbibe her audacity and faith in announcing Jesus Christ by living out her Charism day by day...

BLESSED MARIE POUSSEPIN PRAY FOR US



Sr. Philomina Vengachottil OP



PORTRAIT OF MARIE POUSSEPIN

Your portrait, O Marie Poussepin,
Fills me with energy, so positive & powerful;
Your eyes are open & clear,
So full of light and love
They urge me on, "go with confidence!"
A gentle smile spread over your face,
Gives me the courage and energy,
Only a devoted mother can inspire.
I look to you with confidence,
You are with me at every moment,
You walk with me wherever I go,
You will pray for me to Jesus.



Sr. Mary Dominic Thattil OP

Keeping the presence of God in all her actions
She went beyond her own place.
She was a sweet loving and caring person
She sent her sisters to different regions.

Speaking to Him often, speaking of Him often
She shared her faith through joys and sorrows.
She learnt from Jesus to be gentle and humble
She became a gift of God's love and faith.

Seeing what was right in the sight of God
She knew the needs of the people and educated the young
Charity being the soul of the community
She lived in the heart of the world.

CHARITABLE MARIE POUSSEPIN



Sunita Tete, Novice





COME AND SEE



“Where is God? I cannot see Him!”

A question always in my mind;

“I search for Him everywhere,

Where will I find Him?”

“Come and see”, said Marie Poussepin

You can discover Him in your contemporaries,

In your family and dear ones,

In your neighbours, near and far.

Come and serve the Lord,

The Children at your countryside,

The youth by the wayside,

The old in the heart of the city.

Come and love the Lord,

The naked and the addicted,

The homeless at the city side,

The broken and the lonely.

Come and be my true daughters,

Keep alive the spirit of mercy,

For centuries yet to come

In all the corners of the world.



Sr. Anupa Nirot Toppo OP

Humiliation leads to Humility



Sr. Suchita Lakra OP

She bore the humiliations
with the weapon of love.

She healed the scars of humiliations,
with the balm of Joy.

She carried the burdens of humiliations
with the divine gift of peace.

She sublimated the situations of humiliations
with the sense of faith.

She calmed the fear of humiliations
with the tranquility of hope

She offers the fire of humiliations
to the divine fire.

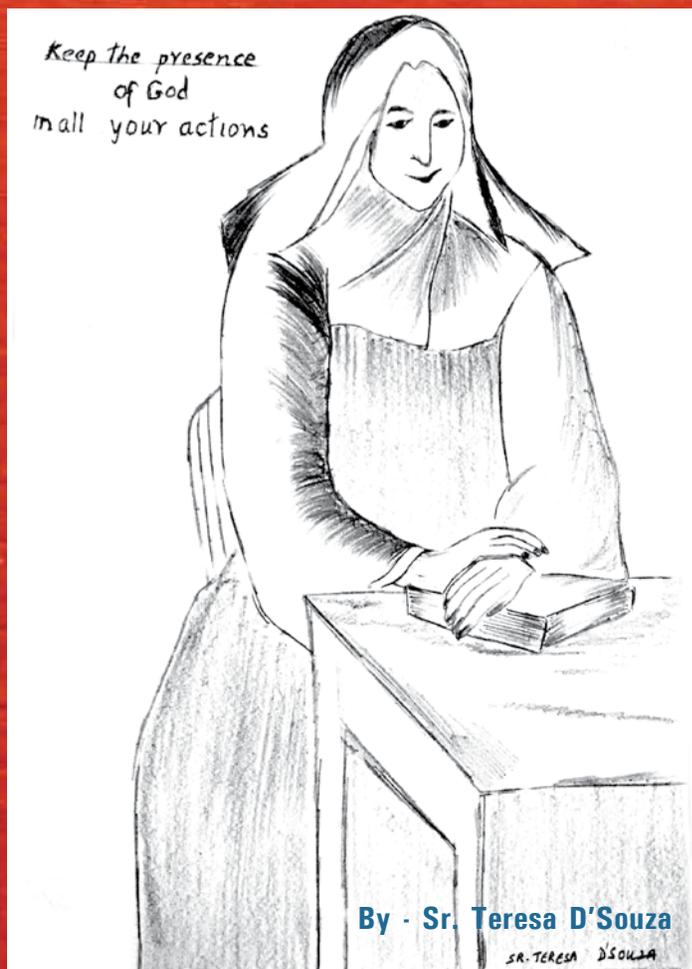
Yes, we too can ascend like Marie Poussepin,
the ladder of Humility through Humiliations!



Marie Poussepin, a woman of God,
Inspired by the Providence,
Moved by the spirit
Saw and did what was right in God's sight.

Compassion and merciful love were her hallmarks
Sick and poor, young and old
All casts and creed, Neighbours and strangers
She embraced everyone Family and Community,

Simplicity, work and poverty
Were the family traits she passed on
To her daughters who followed her
Generation after generation.



A TRIBUTE TO MARIE POUSSEPIN

Generosity was her attitude
Shared all with gratitude
Her wisdom and knowledge
Her gifts and talents, she gave it all

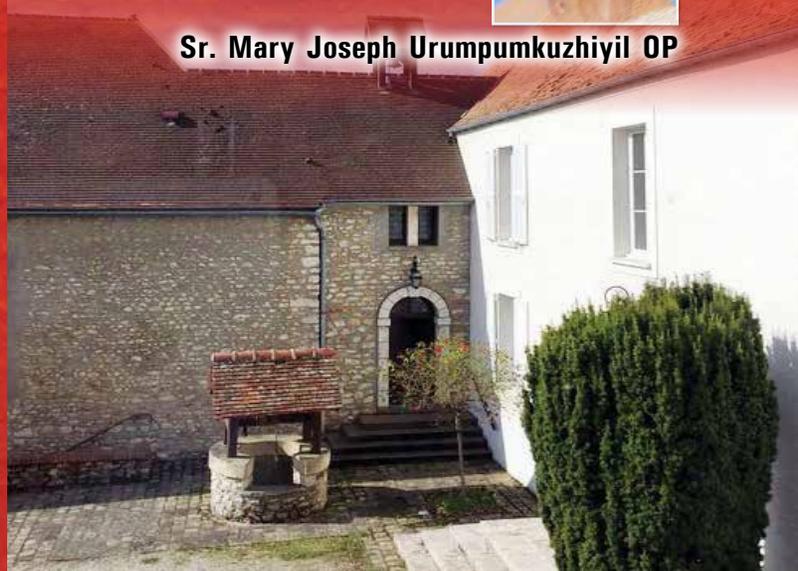
A woman of vision, convictions, faith and fortitude
She founded a Dominican community
Where charity was to be its soul
By caring, sharing, and bearing with one another.

A community that lives for Christ
A community of praise and thanksgiving
A community who witnesses to Christ,
Was her dear wish for her project.

To live our commitment to Jesus,
To live the evangelical counsels
To study and reflect together
This she exhorts her daughters.



Sr. Mary Joseph Urumpumkuzhiyil OP





Life is full of challenges and opportunities. I sometimes think that if I could just deal with the immediate problem, everything is over. But I have learned that life is not like that. When I resolve one problem, another one will be waiting around the corner. My temptation is to see these challenges as barriers that prevent me from carrying out the mission that God has given me. Now I am learning that in spite of these problems, what God wants from me is to carry on with my mission. For Marie Poussepin, challenges were not problems to be solved but opportunities to grow closer to God and become His instrument. She rightly understood that they were means to become 'His own'.

As I gaze into her life, I see that she had to face a lot of challenges one after the other. She stood tall in all circumstances facing them with divine courage. Struggles and difficulties of life formed her to become more like Him and commit herself fully to the Lord. They deepened her spiritual life and gave her strength to carry her every day crosses peacefully.

'Struggles are stepping stones to success,' was very much true in the life of Marie Poussepin. Her struggles and difficulties in life formed her to listen to the people of Sainville. Like Moses, Marie Poussepin heard the call of God; "I have seen the struggles of my people, whom shall I send" (Ex. 3:7). She felt an inner urge to help the people of Sainville. It was a call for her to leave behind all the comforts, security, and wealth and fame which she had obtained in the course of time. Yes, Marie Poussepin, a woman of deep faith crossed the borders of Dourdan and went to the peripheries of Sainville.

People of Sainville could experience the generosity and the selfless service of Blessed Marie Poussepin and they could feel that she did everything for the glory of God and for their good. This genuineness brought them to be closer to her and God.

The challenges and problems can bring out the best in me. It brought out the 'best' in Marie Poussepin. If her Charism is still alive after 300 years of hardships, wars and struggles, it is because she was able to impart her spirit to her daughters. She had taught them to hope against hope and to rely on the Divine Providence.

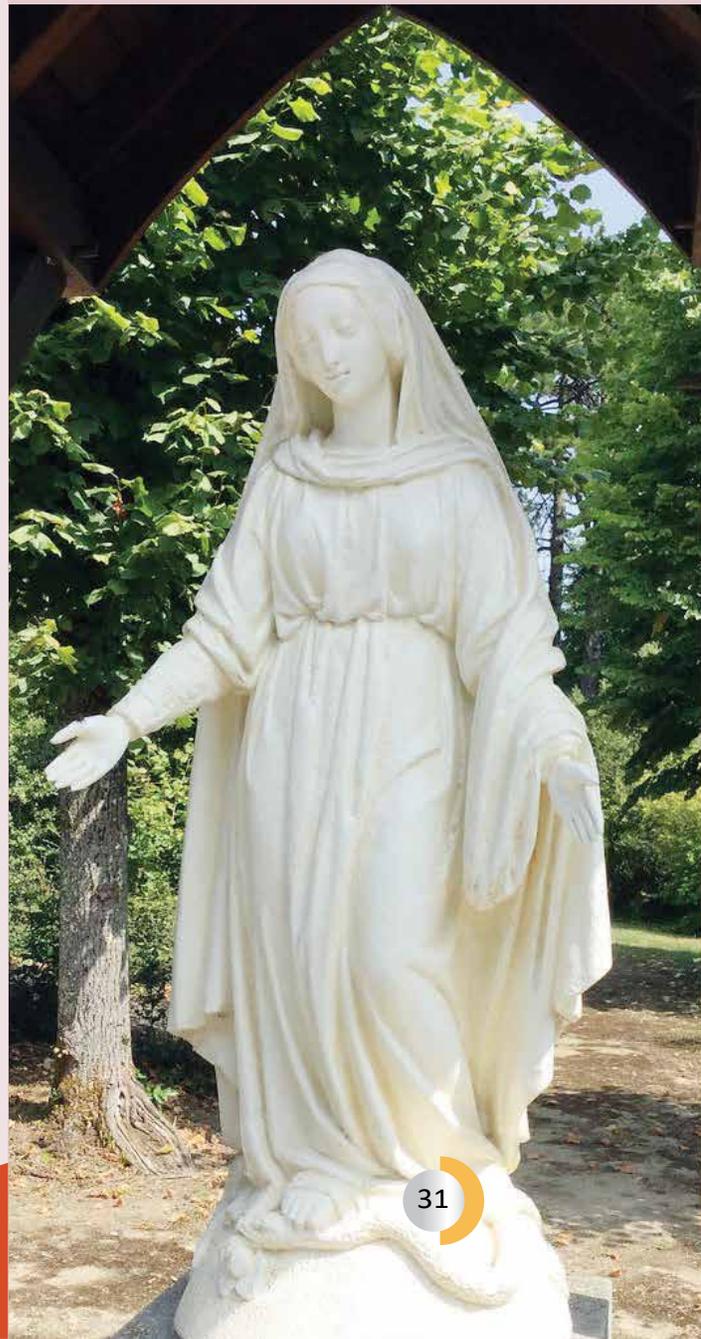
I have a lot to learn from her especially in handling the struggles and difficulties that come across in my personal life, community and mission. I look up to her in times of struggles and misunderstandings and she encourages me through her penetrating look. She strengthens me in my religious life to be faithful to my Lord.

Today, as the congregation is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Marie Poussepin, let us be ready to face the turbulence of this present time and become creative innovators by adopting new ideas, new thoughts and skills to respond to the needs of today.



Sr. Sunita Soreng OP

*Facing the
Challenges
positively,
is a
stepping stone
to the Divine*





Ordinary yet Beyond

We see contradictory forces at work in life and nature. Day and night, mountain and valley, summer and monsoon, sorrow and joy...the list continues. As I reflect, I find that in human life, acquiring a balance, or perfect equilibrium brings out the best. In the spiritual sense, this is the meaning of growing and reaching holiness.

During this Corona time I heard a story. According to the story, Corona was able to straighten out the world. Because of Corona all turned to God in prayer, all the members of the family are together, satisfied with the minimum, all are happy with food at home etc. So, God asks Corona, "How did you manage all these, I have been trying to turn the world around for more than 2000 years?" Corona answers, "Update your tricks! These people do not come in line with LOVE; they are worse than Vipers."

Our Mother Foundress had updated the methods ("tricks") in her time. She perceived correctly and applied correct tricks for the time. She was an ordinary woman without any extraordinary degrees according to worldly standards. But her life proved that she was a woman with a vision beyond. Without any show or proclamation, she did "what was right in the eyes of God." through her balanced life, she took care of her family in the best way, made the business become the best at that time, supported her father and saved him very silently, took care of Marie Olivier in her own room, handed over everything to her brother...



She accepted her second call with all the challenges. The establishment of the institute was not at all easy for her. But we see her getting supernatural assistance because of her

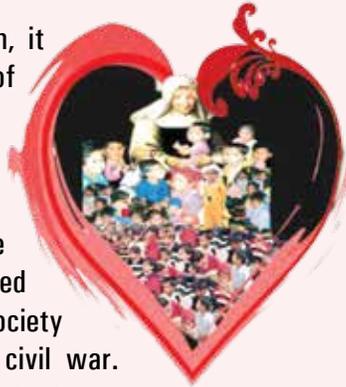
deep-rooted faith in God, calm and prudent approach and patience.

There is an old story which is very appropriate. Four PG students [Chemistry], who completed the course and were leaving the institution, asked their professor for a final advice. He asked them to do a project. They were asked to come back the next day after making a small figure of a human being. After much reflection all the four succeeded in completing the project. When they returned the next day, they had made the figure with clay, rock, cotton and sugar respectively. He asked them to tie each figure with a piece of thread and dip it in a test tube full of water for an hour. After an hour, he asked them to see what had happened. The first one pulled the thread out of water but the figure had disappeared and the water was muddy. In the case of the second, there was no change. The thread came out with the figure made of rock. The third one could not lift the figure out of water as it had become very heavy because it had absorbed much water. In the case of the fourth, there was no figure at the end of the thread, the water looked the same but it had become sweet.

The professor told them: "the figure represents each one of you and the water is the society around you. Do you observe what the effect of your presence? In the first case, the society is made useless, may be even beyond redemption. The second had the mind-set, 'Please don't disturb me; I in turn will not disturb you.' It did not have any effect on the society. The third devoured the society; this is selfishness at its peak.



But in the case of the fourth, it emptied itself for the good of the society and made it better. This is a great example of selflessness.”



As I reflect, I think that Marie Poussepin was inspired or urged to accept the call seeing the society which was devastated with civil war. Her presence made the society to recover from the chaos and come back to normal life, a better one in fact.

Contrary to the figure made of rock, Marie Poussepin was willing to give herself without reserve and also receive the help from others as in the case of the fourth figure. She always applied “give and take” principle. As Jesus called the apostles who were the least in the society, they joined to help Him also to continue His mission. So was the case with Marie Poussepin. We also see many others joining her for the good cause.

Devouring the society and exploiting the people were not her desire. Her principle always was like John F. Kennedy, not to think what the society can offer you, but always think what you can offer to the society.

“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies...” [Jn.12: 24] This was her goal. She wanted to give life, life to the full” [Jn. 10:10]. Wherever she was, may it be at home, in the community, in the society etc. “Charity was the soul...” Firm in her convictions, she believed and practiced, that whatever she did was for the Lord.

She always poses a challenge for me: To be steadfast in the love of the Lord and of my brethren. I do not want to compromise my deep convictions, even if I have to pay a high price for it. She is an example for me in my life. It is to serve the Lord in people and through people, in Love. Our beloved Pope Francis` golden words are very much true and our Mother Foundress practised it; “rivers do not drink their water, trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves, living for others is a rule of nature..... Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.” She has paved the way for me to be very simple and ordinary to reach `BEYOND`.



Sr. Sheena Paul Thelappilly OP

Marie Poussepin, woman of faith, attuned to the Word,
Leaned on the providence of God, is a legacy for us today.
Her overwhelming charity that cut the barriers of race, colour, and country,
Embraces us till this generation and even years to come,

Her determination to follow Dominican spirituality
Her fortitude to establish an apostolic Congregation,
Her boldness to stand by the marginalized,
Is it not a rich inheritance, for us, her daughters to own?

She entrusted us to the care of Mary in her Presentation,
She guides us to take creative steps, reading the signs of time.
People of her time saw her as a saint,
Our call is the same, to be saints, this is our tribute to her

We Salute you Mother at this time of Jubilee.

The Charism of Marie Poussepin, Our Heritage



Sr. Jose Mary Mookan OP



AN UNSUNG SONG

Gazing into an unknown future,
Holding tight the might of the Lord,
Carrying the greatest treasure, the Word,
Grasping the mighty hand of the Lord...She dared.

Nothing could hold her back,
Sickness or uncertainties,
Difficulties or disasters,
Nothing deterred her way...She dared.

She had a faith unmatched by any,
Her charisma hardly found in many,
Faith never shaken by tribulations many,
United with the Lord in circumstances any...She dared.

She did what was right in the sight of God,
Many trials tried to tear her from God,
Calmly she trusted in God,
Resolved to take all to God... She dared.

Her systematized charitable plan,
Modeled after Jesus' plan,
Holding on to Him in spite of adverse plans,
She made hers, the Divine plan... She dared.

Ever united with the Lord,
firmly rooted in the Lord,
Accomplished the work of the Lord,
Having formidable strength... She dared



The enemy could never withstand her,
Though he worked against her,
She Spoke of God in all of her,
With God in the depth of her... She dared

Her charity went beyond measure,
Drawing from the Divine treasure,
Created means to impart His treasure,
In new ways and measures... She dared

Eyes fixed on His Will,
Doing everything at His will,
Accomplishing on earth His Will,
Inspires to do His will...I dare

Centuries have gone by,
Continents, conquered by,
Flames of charity burning by,
Her daughters on their way go by...we dare

OH! Mother dear, we love you most,
As we live your path best,
Sisters lived their total most,
Now in heaven with holy host...They dared



Sr. Jini Joseph Mazhuvanchery OP



Henceforth, I sing eternally a hymn of praise...

A Healing Experience...

It was in the year 1994, the year Marie Poussepin was beatified that I joined the Congregation of the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation. As I began my life as an aspirant, I came to know about our Foundress. Later as a postulant I learned more from the book 'Face of God.' During my Novitiate, the learning was in depth, but she did not impress me much. All of a sudden, I fell sick and my hands and legs developed a few boils. It seemed like eczema. It worried me and I was tensed. I was reminded of my college days when I had a similar experience.

At that time in spite of consulting multiple doctors and switching medication from Allopathy to Homeopathy, I was not getting healed; things went from bad to worse. In spite of my praying hard, my condition did not improve. Finally, one day, we heard someone who sounded more of a street vendor shouting out that he could help people be cured from eczema with the help of a special pipe he had. My parents invited him and he felt pity when he saw my legs and hands. He cleaned well the infected wound with the help of a pipe. I felt comforted and relaxed. I was healed of my skin problem the very next day. It was truly an experience of the healing power of Jesus overflowing to me through that man. But him, we did not meet again when we looked for.

With all these memories playing in the back of my mind, I went to the picture of Bl. Marie Poussepin to pray and made a bet with her stating that if she wants me to be her daughter I should be healed of my sickness.

To my surprise, the boils disappeared. My joy knew no bounds. I began to develop a personal relationship with Bl. Marie Poussepin from then onwards. I had the privilege of attending the CEMP in France in 2014. It was an incredible experience for me. It was in Sainville that I really fell in love with Bl. Marie Poussepin. I was inspired by the sessions conducted by Sr. Dominique du Christ, on the person of Marie Poussepin with such passion that I really understood who Marie Poussepin is for me. I remember the days spending at her tomb praying to her. It was indeed a beautiful and unforgettable experience.

The daily prayer to our Mother Foundress that we pray in the evening with the community is a miraculous prayer for me. I enjoy praying it because it has a lot of depth and every word of it brings meaning to my life. Even today, whenever, a small boil or a rash appears in my leg or hand, I take time to sit before the picture of Bl. Marie Poussepin and I believe that her intercession heals me. Holistically this is my healing experience which strengthens my faith. She teaches me to take life with calmness and to accept situations as they come. She helps me to surrender to Jesus my worries and anxieties. She who knew how to overcome all odd situations in life is a great inspiration for me to trust in the Providence. May Bl. Marie Poussepin remain in our hearts always...Let's continue to ask for her intercession.



Sr. Anula Irvin Suguna OP



Humility moulds a person to surrender to God and others. No matter how talented, famous, educated, and rich we are, if we do not have humility, we are not worthy to be before God. Blessed Marie Poussepin was very convinced that she was only a poor instrument of God to extend His love and care to the neediest, who were thirsting for His love. The ego disappears before humility and lets God's grace enter.

Anil Kumar was a simple boy from a very poor family. After his studies he got a job in a bank, he felt that others disliked him and at times humiliated him simply because he was not handsome. He took it as a challenge and tried hard to come up in life. He was outstandingly prompt in his duties which caught the attention of the authorities of the bank. His Humble attitude won the heart of the authorities, so much so that his colleagues were very jealous of him.

The parents of Marie Poussepin had educated her to be in humble disposition before God and others. For Marie Poussepin, any experience of humility was a stepping stone to come closer to God. Her humble disposition opened her eyes to those who were humiliated in the society. This is the very reason that enabled her see the misery of the people of Sainville, when God called her to go there.

Trusting in the Divine Providence, she leaves behind everything to be with the most vulnerable. She chose to swim against the currents of the society. It took courage to leave the familiar place but she took the risk and moved to the unknown land. She was a courageous woman filled with the strength of the Lord. Marie Poussepin detached herself from the worldly attractions and attached herself to God in the poor. Soon she discovered that that it was not possible for her to do it alone. The retreats given by Fr. Mespolie a Dominican friar attracted her to the Dominican spirituality. It created a desire in her to establish a community of the third order of St Dominic with a few poor girls of the surrounding country side, for the service of the parish, to educate youth and care for the sick and poor. They were known as 'Sisters of Charity of Sainville'. This endeavour brought in a lot of trials and tribulations. She had to overcome obstacles like long waiting to get permissions from the ecclesial and civil authorities for her establishments; illnesses and crises in her community. She had the humility, courage and perseverance to continue establishing new communities never doubting on God's presence. It was not easy for Marie Poussepin but she drew God's attention in her humble attitude in prayer

This is what Marie Poussepin says in the Rule of Sainville about humility; "if you wish therefore, to arrive at humility, you should not turn away from that path of humiliation, for it is impossible to become humble if you cannot be resolved to see yourself humiliated" (R III, Page 33).

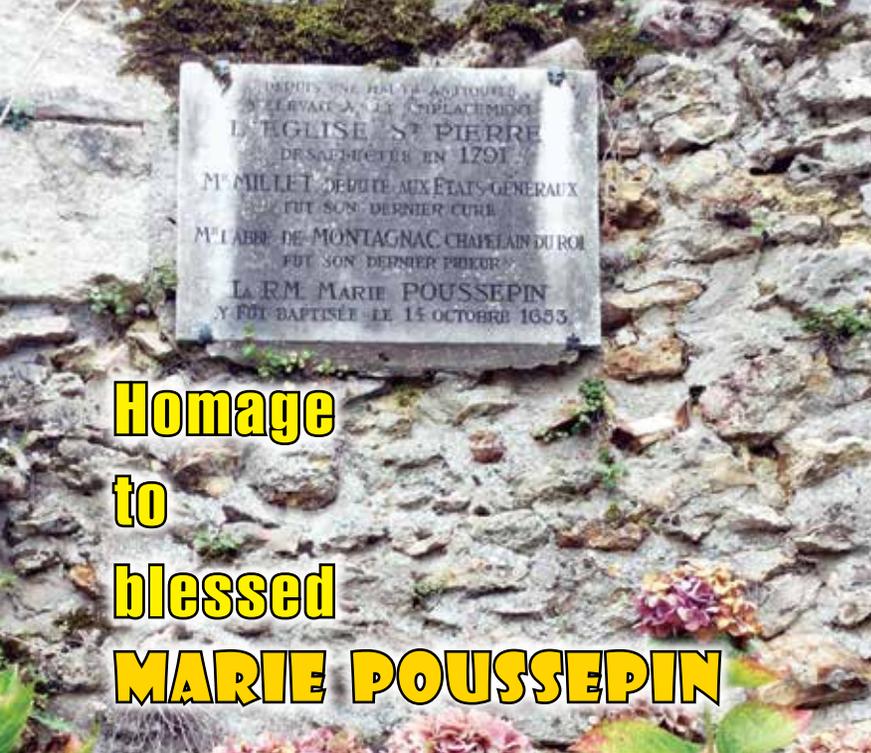
Whenever any trials, sufferings and failures come, I am called to embrace it in humility before God and others. Marie Poussepin is the best model for me to imitate her in humility and simplicity. I will try to practice it in following Jesus in the footsteps Marie Poussepin in my journey to proclaim his good news.



HUMILITY, MOTHER OF ALL VALUES



Sr. A. Clement Jenifer OP



Homage to blessed MARIE POUSSEPIN

Rare flower, found in rare places,
Silently they bloom and silently they fade,
A rare flower blossomed in the heart of Dourdan,
More than three hundred years ago- Blessed Marie Poussepin.

Gentle as a breeze, pure as a dove,
Was this French woman, woman of peace for all?
A heart full of compassion,
For the ailing and the poor.

Firm trust in the Divine Providence, come what may,
A tireless quest for God kept her burning,
Love for the poor, the hungry, the orphan,
The downtrodden and the sick, all for the glory of God!

Love and compassion flowed from your visage, Oh! Mother dear,
Divine Smile was the hallmark of your charity,
We your daughters, live your vision, through,
Our mission of giving Jesus to the world.

Woman par excellence, a rare flower of France,
You spread the fragrance of Charity far and wide,
Undiminished is your sweetness,
Unwavering, your faith in the Almighty.

Untarnished, your love for humanity,
Untouched by ambition or desire,
Continue to bloom for Your Master,
Through us, your daughters.



Sr. Latha E. OP



BEATIFICATION
MARIE POUSSEPIN
2019-2020

Hymn to Mother Foundress

Marie Poussepin, our foundress,
Your faith, hope and love inspire us,
How lovely to be your daughters,
Intercede for us your children.

Contemplation was your desire,
Charity, the Soul,
Daring, your ways and means,
To realize the project of the Lord.

(Marie Poussepin)

To know Jesus in prayer and humanity,
To announce Him through words and deeds,
To exercise charity with passion and love,
Is your Charism.

(Marie Poussepin)

Mother Mary your model,
Of fidelity and consecration,
St. Dominic your spiritual guide,
For your daughters here on earth.

(Marie Poussepin)



Sr. A. Jenet OP





Marie Poussepin was a woman of prayer, who kept the presence of God in all her actions. She allowed the Divine Master to work in and through her. She saw what was right in the eyes of God and did it. Her deep union with the Lord urged her to do the right thing at the right time with right intention. This is why she tells us to “keep the presence of God in all your actions”. She invites her sisters to pray at all times and with this continual prayer of the heart to do everything for love of God. The life in Sainville as narrated in the Rule, asked each sister to listen throughout the day to the voice of the ‘teacher’ who called her. For Marie Poussepin, daily life was an expression of her love of God and others; in other words, it was a reflection of her own inner life.

In the Rule of Sainville, Chapter 42 [pg171] Bl. Marie Poussepin explains to her daughters that the easy way to live their life was by following the daily schedule. Although I have read this several times, each time I am very much inspired and challenged by her and her teachings. Marie Poussepin explains every minute details of life from the time I rise till I go to bed. She stresses on the importance of silence and dressing modestly. There is time set up for the examination of conscience which requires an inner silence. Silence and interiorization are important elements of our daily life. Interiorization is not only a manner of living with God and for God but also a way to live for others, know them and appreciate them. This heart to heart gaze that comes from God sees the other with real compassion.

When I get up in the morning, I often forget to thank God, for the life and the new day He has given me. I try to welcome the new day joyfully. At times sickness and weakness of the body puts me in fear and sadness. Marie Poussepin’s life inspires me to sublimate everything for the love of God and to serve Him till the end and I find tremendous joy in it. I am inspired to see that the sisters find time, even in their busy schedule of work to raise their minds and hearts to God.

As we celebrate the 25th year of the beatification of Bl. Marie Poussepin, it is an opportunity to look at my life in the light of the life of Marie Poussepin and live authentically, witnessing Christ. May Bl. Marie Poussepin help us all to live a holy life.



Sr. Ann Padinjakkara OP



*Keep
the
Presence
of God in
All
Your
Actions*



Journey made in love and faith inspires others

Enveloped by the love of Jesus, Marie Poussepin left Dourdan for Sainville with passion and courage. She was tireless in her missionary spirit and fearless in the face of adverse situations and challenges and left for us a legacy of profound faith and communion with the Divine Master in the spirit of St. Dominic. She opened a path for us to tread. Marie Poussepin ventured firmly and constantly to conform her will to God's will. She learned to trust in the Providence of God from her childhood onwards, as He moulded her by leading her through difficult, yet not impossible paths and ways. When her mother died, she was only 22 years old and her brother was 10 years. She had to take care of her brother as well as household works; in addition, she continued with the charitable works that were carried out by her mother. She loved her Master by loving and caring for her neighbours in need. When life seemed to be coming back to normal, the next tragedy struck her, as her father lost the business and went bankrupt. He had to put the whole responsibility of reimbursing the debts on her shoulder and run away from the situation. Marie Poussepin took up this responsibility and gave a new direction to the business. Though she may not have understood that it was the loving hand of God preparing her to face bigger and greater challenges in the future, definitely she knew that He will never abandon her in her endeavours to reach out to the poor and needy. She did what the women of her time could never imagine or expect to do. She introduced apprenticeship which was unheard of, in her time. While making them perfect and skilful at their job, she didn't neglect their hungry stomachs. Equal importance was given for respect for the person and work. That is why it is rightly written on her tombstone that "Marie Poussepin saw what was right in the sight of God and did it". She became a beacon of hope for the hopeless and a light for all those who are in the darkness of ignorance. She always walked the way of truth, love and goodness in faith.

Her life always inspired and challenged me to grow in love of God and to be faithful and firm in my vocation. I remember, after my first profession I was assigned to Soganur community and was overjoyed to go there. My joy did not last long, when I realized that neither I could communicate with people nor I could respond to the prayers during the Eucharistic celebration, because the language was totally different than what I knew. When people came to me, I couldn't speak with them. I was discouraged, lost and upset. I started to question myself: "is it my vocation to be in this congregation and follow Christ?"

It is then that I turned to Blessed Marie Poussepin, looked at her life and saw how she stood firm in faith in the ups and downs of her life. Her compassionate love and prayer for me helped me to overcome the challenges. I became another person with a new insight and vigour. I took interest to learn the language and started to speak and read. I felt tremendous joy and started my mission in simple ways: visiting the houses, taking tuitions and doing sacristy work. I won the hearts of the people; the elders, youth and children, all of them reached out to me in my mission.

So, I understood that language is not a barrier when I have faith and love to work for God and His people. My experience of God was so overwhelming that it influenced my thinking, activities and relationship with God. I became a new person. "Those who are in Christ Jesus are a new creation." (2 cor. 5:17). I have experienced her love and concern at different times and in various degrees. I thank God for the gift of Blessed Marie Poussepin in my life and I am happy to be her daughter.



Sr. Pushpa Kujur OP



LEAD KINDLY LIGHT

LEAD KINDLY LIGHT



‘Jesus is the light of the world. In Him there is no darkness at all. We who live in Him are illumined by Him.’

Naturally Illumination removes darkness. When I choose to live away from Jesus, of course I decide to live in darkness. Then I am so blinded that I will not be able to see any beauty in His created things. When there is total darkness, I fail to find goodness in my brothers and sisters.

Who will illumine the darkness of my spirit? Who will remove the sorrow and trouble of my blindness? It is God who is the Light who can come to my aid. I have read in the Bible that those who approached Jesus with humility and prayer have been healed. Jesus Himself has given me the example of this attitude especially when He prayed to His father at Gethsemane. (Mt .14:32)

Even though I make tremendous progress in all aspects of life, unless I progress before God, I am nothing. Prayer opens for me a new horizon of opportunities to come closer to God and to His people.

The perfect example of this is seen in the life of our Founders, Blessed Marie Poussepin. She always walked in His light. She achieved much by walking under the guidance of His light. She experienced deep intimacy with God in moments of prayer and contemplation in the silence of her heart. This helped her to trust in His providence and to surrender everything, big or small to His care. The fruit of this is the gift of an illuminated heart. Once she was in the Light, her light radiated to all those around her. She brought light to the people who lived in the darkness of poverty, epidemic, ignorance and various oppressions.

I am called to be in Assam among the children as well as among the youth. Her advice to us, her daughters regarding children is very impressive. “Be filled with tenderness towards the children” she says. She also exhorts me to be gentle but firm, and not to show any partiality between the rich and poor. God holds me accountable for their souls. I realize that my human nature is weak. I am able to live her advice in my life only if I walk under the guidance of His light and if I am filled with light. So I can only pray ‘lead me kindly Light.’



Sr. Kochuthresia Myalil OP



Marie Poussepin My Queen

My heart is filled with a new song,
To praise my God, for the gift of 'my queen',
My mouth never ceases to proclaim
You are the daughter of the Almighty King

Marie Poussepin, my mother,
God chose you from eternity
To be the guide of His people,
To go wherever you were sent.

God filled you with His wisdom,
Gifts of understanding and discernment
You took inspiration from Him,
Did only what was pleasing to Him.

Your desire was to be with the Lord,
You sat at His feet and learned,
You were sent to Sainville
To teach, comfort and empower

You are a wonderful art of God,
You inspired many young hearts,
To follow in your footsteps,
And to announce Jesus Christ.

You walked with integrity
A beacon for your daughters
To travel the same path
To build the Kingdom of Peace and justice.

With your work God was pleased,
Now you are one with Him in heaven,
Intercede for your daughters,
To spread your charism, crossing the borders!

My heart is filled with praise and gratitude,
For my great queen, Marie Poussepin
I pledge to be your daughter
By my very life, today and always.



Sr. Jacline Dhanwar OP



MARIE PUSSEPIN FORMED BY HER MOTHER



I got this photo many years
back and I kept it in my Office book.

This is one of the pictures I liked best; Marie Poussepin accompanying her mother when she went for her charitable activities. One of the most exciting and challenging relationships on this earth is of mother and daughter. A baby is connected to the mother as if they are one soul. A mother is a gem of a person in one's life. She is the ultimate source of happiness for a child. She plays an important role in the formation of a child. The character and future of a child to some extent depend upon how they are formed by the mother.

Julienne Fourrier, the mother of Marie Poussepin had a solid Christian foundation and of course, she imparted it to her husband and her children and thus Marie got an opportunity to build a relationship with God early in her life. Her mother had extended her love for God by being a member as well as the treasurer of the Confraternity of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul. The members of this charitable organization gave much priority for the service of the poor and the needy. They even took care and accompanied the people ravaged by war and famine. Her mother used to take her little daughter Marie, whenever they went for any charitable activities. We can say that her mother formed Marie to be a good Christian, loving daughter, a caring sister to her brother, a sincere treasurer in the Confraternity of Charity, a charitable woman to the poor and needy, a noble Foundress of a Religious Congregation, a courageous and mature woman and a person who trusted in the Divine Providence of God.

The fact that Marie Poussepin was chosen 28 times as godmother in the two parishes of Dourdan is a sure sign of her holiness and Christian formation. In the year 1675 the untimely death of her mother, forced her to shoulder the responsibility of the family especially to be mother to her young brother Claude. She replaced her mother as the treasurer of the Confraternity of Charity. A gaze upon God and a gaze upon the poor were the two sides of a coin for her. Her love for the poor is nothing other than the expression of her deep-rooted love for God. She could not separate these both from her life.

Let us thank God for the gift of our mothers. They are the first school where we learn foundation of our faith. Our mothers have a great role in the basics of our life; the faith that they impart to us, form our character and personality. Let us also thank God for our heavenly Mother, Mary for her accompaniment and guidance. She walks along with us and teaches us the ways of her Son. "Hence forth all Generations will call me blessed" (Lk. 1: 48).



Sr. Lalamma Joseph Palamootil O P



Marie Poussepin filled with Holiness

Marie Poussepin mirrored holiness in all her actions. She learned it in the school of Jesus. Her attentive listening to the whisper of God in daily living moulded her into His likeness. It demanded from her consciously dying and rising to walk in His path. She transformed their family business into an industry by introducing machine to make stockings with wool. When people did business to amass wealth, she made a difference in her business by keeping the poor in her mind and made them partners in her success. She taught the apprentices the skills needed and paid them for their work. This is holiness taking flesh in the reality of her life. She found business as a means to further Christian charity. I try to imitate Marie Poussepin in my day today life by following her little ways of living Holiness.

Marie Poussepin's outlook of 'living Holiness' is entirely different than that of the world. It is a way of living where persons and situations are seen through the eyes of God. The possibilities for doing charity which she saw were not at all seen by many in her time. The very fact that she longed to live under the same roof as Jesus, shows her deep desire to be in union with Jesus. She even was ready to spend the income from her Patrimony in order to get the permission to keep the Blessed Sacrament and to celebrate Eucharist in the small chapel of Sainville. In spite of strong objection from the part of the Order and Ecclesiastical superiors, Marie Poussepin wanted to start a community of the Third Order of St. Dominic, with an apostolic goal which was not heard of at that time. She could do this precisely because she enjoyed communion with the Lord and believed that it was the special call that God had entrusted her with.

I am working with fisher folks. The cyclone of 2019 (Okhi) brought about a lot of disaster in my working area. Many people lost their dear ones who were the only earning members in their families. There are no words to express their sadness and feeling of loss. The situation of Sainville of her time which was hit by poverty and misery may not have been different. This gave me courage and inspiration to face these people with love and compassion. Like Marie Poussepin, I realized that their immediate need was for food and shelter. I brought this to the attention of our Provincial

team. Of course the 'widow's mite' that we could offer them was like an ocean for the poor people. Next thing was to be a psychological support for them. It certainly needed God's energy to listen to their heartrending stories. Well, I realized that it was God who worked through me. I cannot imagine that my poor self alone could do what I was able to do for them. It was God who gave me strength. Marie Poussepin included all in her circle without distinction. She is an example for me in my mission with my people. I feel privileged and fulfilled to be with this poor people who are very much away from the main stream of life. When I have to walk an extra mile with them, when I am confronted with inconveniences at my work place, I realize that it is only by being with the Lord, I can do it. Holiness means a process of emptying myself to be filled by God Himself. Our Mother Foundress is the best model. She could empty herself of all her likes, dislikes, judgements and prejudices and put on the mantle of the Lord. When she was confronted with the "Commodo et Incommodo" and Parish assembly, though it was because of jealousy, she was willing to let go off her judgements and embrace what they had to say. Even when she found that the ecclesiastical and civil authorities were hostile to her plan; she emptied herself of all her judgements of them and embraced all with equanimity. No wonder why she wrote, "They will have enough humility not to show any signs of dissatisfaction. They will banish from their hearts all resentment and all feelings against those who caused these sorrows. They will endure reprimands, irritations, rude remarks, and even the mockery, no matter where it comes from, without showing the least chagrin. They will consider themselves all the happier that they will no longer be humiliated with their divine spouse." (R.III pg31) It was her holiness which enabled her to have that composure and peace within her.

I am challenged by Blessed Marie Poussepin to live a life of holiness and make myself available for Him and His mission. It is my ardent desire that He may increase and I may decrease.



Sr. Mary Augustine Ookan OP



MARIE POUSSEPIN DRAPED IN THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD



Marie Poussepin, an ordinary person of an extraordinary life, is a gift to this 21st Century. Born in France, she is a person for all. Inspired by Providence she leaves her native town Dourdan, to a poverty stricken country side, Sainville, to bring to their life a spark of hope which she shared with her God.

Marie Poussepin was privileged to be born into a Christian family, for whom 'love of God and love of neighbour' was the golden rule of their life. The exemplary Christian life of her parents was a shield that safeguarded her life to build a deep relationship with God. At her young age itself, her mother sowed in her heart the seeds of piety and never forgot to teach domestic tasks including hand knitting of stockings. The mother always took her daughter when she went to visit the poor and the sick. Certainly, this influenced her when she saw Marie Olivier, the poor sick woman. Her compassionate heart moved her to take care of her in her own house till her death. Of course, she was very much predisposed by the example of her father who was a man of high moral values, committed to the parish.

"Trust in the providence of God" was the hallmark of her life. It was proved when she lost her mother while she was still very young. She also had to shoulder her father's business when he became bankrupt. Her daring and bold steps rooted in the providence of God, changed problems into opportunities for growth.

"Now was the hour" for Marie Poussepin to hand over the business to her brother and engage in the business of God: go in search of the lost. The guidance of Fr. Francois Mespolie, a Dominican, helped her to recognize God's plan for her: "leave Dourdan" a place where she received high esteem, comforts, security of life, appreciation, spiritual satisfaction for her charitable services and development of the business which she earned by her sweat and blood!

'Leave the comfort zone', cross the boundaries to a place that God has prepared for her, Sainville, a place of misery, a village ravaged by war, epidemics, and ignorance to say the least. 'Whom shall I send' echoed in her ears. She could not resist her beloved's cry for help. Marie Poussepin's courageous "yes" to this call is certainly our challenge today. Trusting in the Providence of God, she leaped into the ocean of His merciful love. From then onwards, all those whom she met there in Sainville were different faces of God for her. Her apostolic passion was the overflowing stream of her deep intimacy with her God.



The influence of Dominican spirituality was so strong in her that she formed a community of the third order of St. Dominic for the service of the church. A community solely for mission! 1713-1723 were years of deepening her trust and relationship with the person of God who called her. She had to continuously overcome mounted up obstacles, failures in her attempts with authorities, successive disappearances of the supports upholding her, illness and crises in her community etc. Even when possibilities for the very existence of the community were at risk, Marie Poussepin opened 6 new establishments. The untimely death of Noelle, a trusted companion of Marie Poussepin on whose name the property was registered, was a shock for Marie. After her death, no legal deed to guarantee security for the community and she had the fear of her family claiming the property and bringing about the ruin of the institute. The death of Gabriel Debilly, the excellent Pastor and a true friend of Marie Poussepin, who welcomed her to his parish in Sainville, affected her life deeply. Her deep affection and relationship with the Lord, who called her, helped her to stand tall in these trials and find new ways to face it. When human possibilities fail, God takes over. This is our Marie Poussepin, truly a woman inspired by divine intervention. That is why she calls herself a “weak creature” in the hand of God.

Letter of patent was an urgent need of the time, especially because she was getting seriously ill and her sisters were doubtful of their security. She had to take a courageous step to get her institute legally secured. After long trails and tribulation, she got the letter of Patent. And see what she says in her death bed: “I want to die in Roman, Catholic and apostolic faith entrusting my soul to God and I deliver my body to His divine Providence and to the Charity of those who care for it” (Positio).

If our congregation is what it is today, it is because of our sisters’ faithfulness to prayer, intimate relationship with their master, their deep trust in the Providence of God, their apostolic passion and commitment to the mission and determination to carry the charism of Marie Poussepin till the ends of the earth. As the scripture says, “I put before you, death and life”; amidst chaos and confusion, uncertainties and unimaginable future there is a road to tread, a road that leads to life. Let us soar high into the unknown where the Providence of God awaits.



Sr. Annamma Attathichirayil. OP



MARIE POUSSEPIN LED BY HER MOTHER

Marie Poussepin was born in Dourdan, France on October 14, 1653. Her parents Claude Poussepin and Julienne Fourrier had died when she was still young, leaving her alone with a brother who was very small. As every girl has a memorable childhood with her mother, so too, Marie. Being with her mother Marie learned to be who she was, a woman of courage, compassion and charity. Marie's father was a business man. Her mother served as the treasurer of the confraternity of charity in the parish until her death. Marie took over same responsibility after the death of her mother. She who had journeyed along with her mother at a very young age, had learned to administer her responsibilities with prudence and wisdom. Every little act that Marie performed was a replica of her mother's actions. She always claimed to be the mirror of her mother. Marie observed in silence her mother and all her loving acts and works of charity. Her mother, Julienne never forced Marie to learn anything but she only led her in love through her acts of love which were a basis for her future endeavors in life. This shows that "action speaks louder than words".

As a follower of Marie Poussepin, I will try to imbibe the godness of others and allow myself to become a guiding star for many who grope in the darkness of modernism. I resolve to live the charity and godliness of Marie Poussepin.



Sr. Saroj Tete OP

Marie Poussepin's Charity – an inspiration from her Family

Marie Poussepin was born on October 14, 1653 in a well to do family. She was taught Gospel values, prayers and above all, love for the sick, poor and needy. She was well taken care of by her parents. She saw all the charitable activities done by her parents who inculcated in her the same compassion for the poor and love for service. Her parents spent their time in doing good, as they believed that love of God can only be expressed through love of neighbour. They were well accepted among the people not only for their status but much more for their good example and holy living. Their life itself was an authentic witness of God's love. Marie Poussepin did everything with love and dedication with a smile on her face. Poussepin family attracted many friends and neighbours to the Lord through their life of absolute trust in God.

Marie Poussepin was a well-organized person and wanted her sisters to do the same. She believed that charity was the soul of the community and wanted her sisters to be charitable. She was a woman of courage and wished the same for her sisters. Above all she wants us to be people who love and care, especially the poor. We also need to trust in the Providence of God. We have to help the people with love, dedication and a smiling face. We have to be good examples for others by living holy lives. We must be compassionate towards others as she was. We ought to take care of the spiritual needs of the people. She tells us, her sisters that Christ should be the centre of our life. The world today is so self-centred that charity remains only in words and so, the challenge for us is to be a model for others by living a life of charity. In order to do this we need to trust in the Providence of God, by leading our life centred on Christ who is our perfect model and guide.



Elizabeth Ekka, Novice



Marie Poussepin,

A Gift to the Church and to the whole World

I am reminded of a poem by Melvin Banggollay, in which he says, "What I am is God's gift to me and What I become is my gift to God". I think it is very true of Marie Poussepin. At Baptism Marie Poussepin received the gifts of Faith, Hope and Charity. She treasured these gifts and continuously responded to this grace at different moments and stages of her life. From Baptism to death we can see a gradual and continuous growth in her spiritual life. Her life and zeal challenge me for a greater commitment in my daily life.

As a girl going with her mother to visit the sick and suffering,
Her gift was a gift of openness.

At the death of her mother
The gift of acceptance,

Facing the challenges of being a mother to her brother
The gift of Tender Love

As a treasurer of the confraternity,
The gift of sincerity and hard work.

Facing the financial crisis in the family,
The gift of trust in the Divine Providence

Confronted with of the downfall of family business,
The gift of her courage.

At the loss of her father,
The gift of her commitment to the Family.

At the chaotic situation of the business, entrance of apprentices, and improvement
The gift of organization and administration, a creative response.

Encounter with the sick and old, Marie Olivier
The gift of compassion.

Encountering the suffering of the victims of war, epidemics, ignorance,
The gift of her YES to the call of God.

When the seed of Dominican Spirituality conceived in her heart,
The gift of contemplation in action.

When she faced difficulties in her relationship with the bishop of Chartres,
The gift of hopeful waiting in spite of adversities

In her struggles to establish a Dominican Active community,
The gift of silent living of Dominican Spirituality.

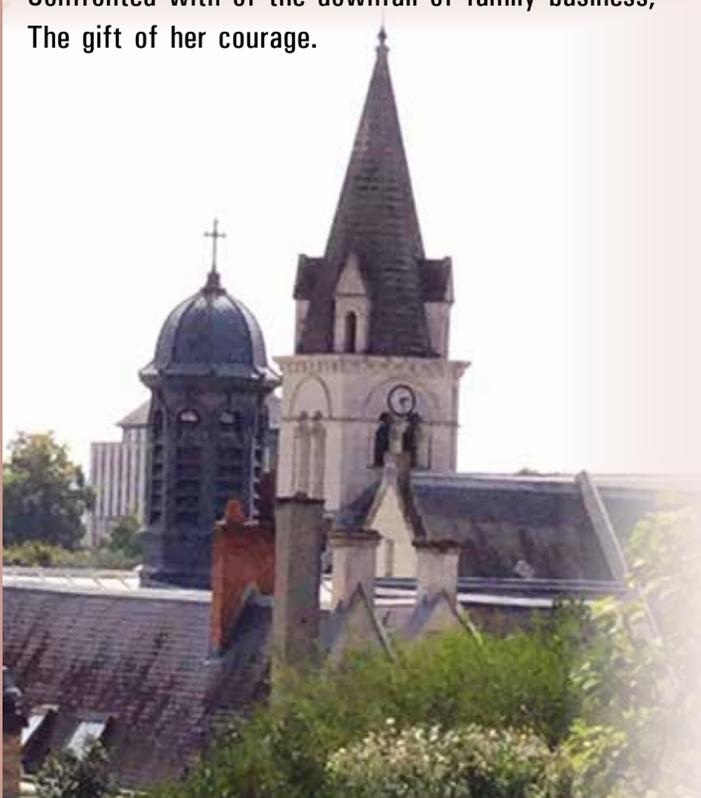
In her tireless efforts to ensure the stability of the community,
The gift of her trust in the providence of God and in her sisters.

Blessed Marie Poussepin is,
a gift of God,
a gift to God
a gift to the Church
a gift to each one of us.

Marie Poussepin, Intercede for us:
To be a gift to the community,
a gift to the congregation,
To the church and to the world



Sr. Daisy Rose Peenikaparamban OP





MARIE POUSSEPIN

A person of ordinary things

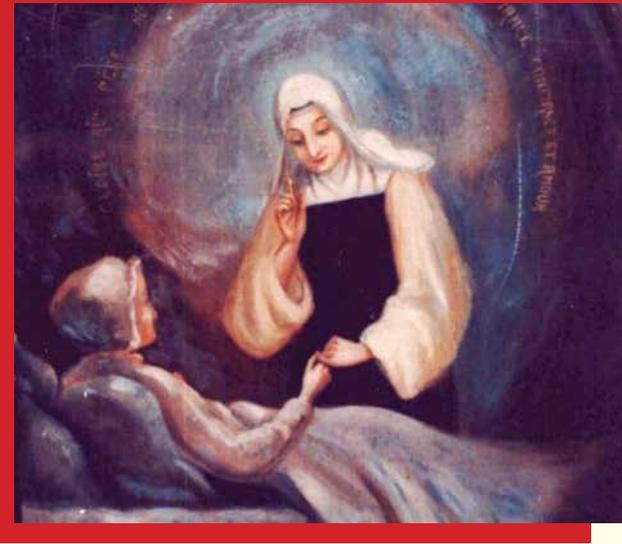
We, as a community, were reading the “Rule of Sainville”. One sentence that impressed me was this: “True perfection consists neither in austerity, nor in heroic actions, since few people are capable of them, but in the ordinary ones which reiterated with regularity every day, obtain for us many other merits, if animated by the interior Spirit which is their soul.” (R. XLII page 171)

For Marie Poussepin this is the shortcut to Holiness and an expression of Charity towards her neighbour. In fact the whole book talks about doing little things with full dedication and concentration.

For example, in the first chapter she points out something very important, “All His actions were done with the sincere desire to please God.” (R I Page 21) It is a reminder for me to do my small or big actions for the glory of God. Of course, at times we do things to get appreciation from our authorities or to satisfy ourselves. It is here that Marie Poussepin reminds us to do it for the glory of God as it puts us on the way to holiness.

There is a special call from Marie Poussepin for the so called ‘new gen’ or the ‘modern’ who believe in themselves or modern techniques. She tells us not to rely on ourselves for things far beyond our power but to hope in the help of the Blessed Virgin. Placing confidence only in oneself is the most dangerous thing and an attitude of a proud person. Our mother Foundress who was so capable of doing everything, humbled herself before the Lord and called herself as a ‘poor servant of God.’ I am very much attracted by this attitude of humility and I realize that this is a sure way to holiness.

We are in an era of friendships; friends are all truth for us, be it in the community or outside. Marie Poussepin exhorts: Mutual charity, which is a pearl in community life, should not be based on relationships or alliances, moods or favours or particular friendships. In my natural sense, I want to or like to relate with a person of affinity. She says to me that these are the enemies



or the deadly poison for my community life. Marie Poussepin repeats that true charity invites me to bear with one another in our weakness. Building relationship with those whom I do not like is the greatest charity and the narrow path to holiness.

‘I am the master of myself and the whole world’ is the motto of this modern world, especially the business world. Our mother reminds us of the words of Jesus: ‘Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.’ She affirms that those who are humble, draws God’s attention. What a contradiction of life!! I often put my trust in myself or on the created things. But our own mother says to us to try hard to put our trust in the true master who is meek and humble of heart.

Often enough the question arises in my mind, ‘Why should I obey him or her?’ because of my attitude, ‘I know everything. My way is the right way.’ Here, Marie Poussepin brings to my attention the words of St. Jerome: “All the virtues are summarized in obedience”. Marie Poussepin says that the sisters are to refrain from questioning the orders they receive or the qualification of the person giving them. Whatever or whoever says, it is God we are obeying. It is a challenge for me and I realize that only a holy person can own this attitude.

My friend has ‘this particular thing and so I should also have a better one’ is the culture in which I am living. It is to this culture Marie Poussepin shoots the arrow of St. Bernard’s words “It is not poverty but the love of poverty which makes us really poor”. It is the Spirit of poverty which I live, can measure my love of poverty. My relationship with my God in my interior castle will distinguish for me the spirit of poverty that I choose to live. No external forces can judge my spirit of poverty.

We are living in a ‘falling in love’ civilization. Everything and every relationship are O.K. Our loving mother

Foundress brings to our awareness the value of Chastity. Through chastity, she says, "they participate in the Angelic nature and the most vivid image of the Holiness of God himself" "Through chastity we become the spouses of Jesus Christ in a very special way." For that she asks us to 'Keep vigorous modesty in all our actions, at all times, alone or before others.' For me this is falling in love with my God and is the precious pearl that God has hidden in my earthen vessel.

'Work is prayer' the modern saying goes. Our Foundress says. "Prayer is the channel by which flow all the graces and all the gifts that we receive from heaven". She quotes her favourite saint St. John Climacus: "Prepare yourself for praying aloud by a continuous prayer of the heart". Even while we are working, we are called to make continuous prayer of the heart. Mercy Rosary, Jesus prayer are the means for me to keep the presence of God alive in me as well as to clean my mind from any unclean thoughts. That does not mean that I abstain from the common prayer to take up work. It is the other way around. Even the time of work is a preparation for my common prayer. 'No sin' generation. Every action is justified by modern theory. Marie Poussepin challenges me with the word 'purity of conscience.' It is to make myself so very sensitive to my thinking and doing that I may think and do according to His inspiration. I have to have clarity of thinking and doing. Because, as St. Paul says, the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion ready to devour me. So I have to be attuned to God always that I may walk in His ways.

It is very interesting to see how Marie Poussepin gives importance to what we consider as 'outdated'. For example: in the Rue of Sainville she gives importance for the daily schedule, role and function of each person and respect for persons. Fulfilling one's responsibilities, communicating positively, doing things in the appointed time, being present in the right place at the right time etc. are also important for Marie Poussepin. For her no action is for fun sake. Every action is to lead us to God. All these show that I need to discipline myself in every little thing; in a nutshell I can say that they are all enveloped in one word 'discipline'. I was looking for the meaning of this word discipline in the dictionary. It was interesting to see the opposite of discipline is chaos. God and chaos cannot go together. God can work through chaos and bring me to the Holy ground. As I pointed out in the beginning, our mother Foundress is a person of small and simple things. She makes it easy for me to follow her example in today's era. My sisters have lived the Charism of Marie Poussepin these past three centuries and have kept it alive. It is my responsibility and commitment to carry it to the next generation. I will be doing injustice to those who come after me, if I do not live it faithfully. So, St. Paul advises me to, "stand your ground with truth buckled around your waste, and integrity for a breast plate, wearing for shoes on your feet the eagerness to spread the Gospel of peace." (Eph: 6: 14-16.)



Sr. Lisa Kadambattuparambil OP

Marie Poussepin was a Charitable Woman,
Marie Poussepin was loving and caring,
Marie Poussepin was generous to the poor,
She spoke to Him often and often spoke of Him.
Marie Poussepin was very close to God,
Marie Poussepin was creative in her services,
Marie Poussepin was a humble woman,
She spoke to Him often and often spoke of Him
Marie Poussepin was very courageous,
Marie Poussepin was simple,
Marie Poussepin was faithful to her mission,
She spoke to Him often and often spoke of Him.

*She Spoke to Him Often and
Often Spoke of Him*



Manjula Soreng, Novice



MY EXPERIENCE

As a student of Marie Poussepin's Academy I would like to share my experience of Blessed Marie Poussepin.

As a small child I was brought to this school by my parents and we had a prayer in the lobby. I saw a picture of a Nun. I was confused about this picture; I didn't know who she was. Later I realized that it is the picture of "Blessed Marie Poussepin" in whose name our school is established.

Our school has finished colossal legendary decade just two years back. In the same year I got a golden opportunity to act the role of Marie Poussepin's father. I realized that even though her mother died, she started her journey with lot of faith and courage. Her father lost his business and ran away from the family. But Marie along with her younger brother Claude took the responsibility of their family business. She is a great inspiration for the world; I feel that she is filled with the blessings of the Lord. She had a lot of compassion towards the sick and the poor people. Her works are praise worthy, because she has done a lot of charitable works in her whole life.

By participating in the drama, I came to know more about her life and it has become an inspiration for me. When I look back my school days, I feel that this is the best school with good teachers and excellent facilities to grow up with good values. I saw compassion and love and dedication in my teachers and sisters who work in the Marie Poussepin's Academy. I am very grateful to Sr. Deepa Moonjely OP and Sr. Philomena Vengachotil OP who had been my Principals, for their constant support and encouragement in my growth to become a good student and to make my future bright.

This school has played a great role in my character formation, I am grateful to God for giving me a chance to become a part of this Marie Poussepin's Academy. I am very proud of this school and love my school.



**Wilfrd S. Xavier, Student of Class X
Marie Poussepin's Academy, Nagpur**



Marie Poussepin, the first sister with whom I fell in love



My first encounter with Marie Poussepin began even before I joined the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation. I had gone for a 'come and see' program at Jeevadhara, Kuttikad, the first foundation of the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation. Sr. Jussina helped me to discern my vocation. Before I left Jeevadhara, Sr. Mary Dominic called me and told me; "Resy, I give you the prayer of our Mother Foundress. You pray every day. She will help you to discern your vocation". In the beginning I never paid attention to it. I was busy with my studies. After my studies, I realized that the situations at home were not conducive for me to join as I had previously thought. I was afraid to express my desire to join the convent to my parents. When I understood that things were not in my control, I started to pray to Marie Poussepin every day, asking for her intercession. I told her, 'If it is the will of God, I will join this congregation. I will serve the Lord as your daughter'. I firmly believe that it is her intercession that helped me to take the courageous step to join the convent after 3 years.

Years went by fast and I am working in Marie Poussepin's Academy now. During the preparation for her feast on 14th October, I asked my students to draw the picture of Marie Poussepin. Many of them tried to draw the picture which they have seen in their diary. I have taught them speeches, small skit, etc. I took it as a means to communicate about her and her values to the younger generation. We come across many children, rich, poor, intelligent, clever, or weak and with different family back grounds and culture. Sometimes it is very difficult to deal with them.

The words of our Foundress, Blessed Marie Poussepin are constant reminders in my life. She has told us in her General Advices, "Be filled with tenderness toward the children that you teach". "The sisters who are employed in the schools will remember that they are obliged to fulfil their duty... not only for charitable reasons but also out of justice... they will do no less for the poor than for the rich and for those who have difficulty in learning than for those who learn more easily..." (R XXVII Page 134) "So that they may bring with them wherever they are called the knowledge of Jesus Christ and His mysteries and that they may enkindle in all hearts, if possible, the love for His Divine Majesty." (R XXVII Page 131)

Marie Poussepin had a broad vision for everything. She Trusted in the providence, surrendered her will to the Lord always. The heroic step that she took to leave everything and begin completely a new life at the age of 42 must be appreciated. Her readiness to plunge into the unknown simply shows her trust in the mercy of God and it generated in her wisdom and self-confidence. Her heart always longed to reach out to the poor and the sick.

When she left Dourdan and landed in Sainville, she realized that the main cause of their struggle and misery was ignorance. She started to give education for the poor girls to overcome this social evil. Marie Poussepin wanted to expand her works of charity by forming a community. She taught all who followed her the virtues of compassion and kindness and works of mercy. No matter how difficult the situation was, she did what was right in the sight of God at any cost. Whenever a problematic occasion arises and I feel that I am unable to handle it I am inspired by her words, "Do your best and pray fervently to obtain the capacities you still lack, God will not fail to grant you all that you need". I always ask for her intercession to have good health and to live my life as a good missionary.



Sr. Resy Peter Kanjirathinal OP



My journey with Marie Poussepin

I, being a teacher, always had in my mind to bloom wherever planted, and with God's grace I got an opportunity to be in the healthiest and friendly environment to work, it is the family of Blessed Marie Poussepin.

I was chosen to serve the institution in the year 2012; almost eight years have passed as in a blink of time. As I walk down the lane of memories, I still remember the mixed feelings of excitement and nervousness that I experienced at the time of joining the institution. The grace of Bl. Marie Poussepin was showered on me from day one through the channel of her believers and followers 'Dominican Sisters of the Presentation'. The Charisma of Bl. Marie Poussepin, her values and principles live long after her demise, making her spiritually alive forever.

The motto of Marie Poussepin's Academy is 'Commitment to educate lifelong learners,' which inspires many learners to learn and share their knowledge and I am one of the chosen to contribute my part for this noble cause. Bl. Marie Poussepin believed that education is the right of every human being and so emphasized and worked to make it real and it became a pathway for many lives to come together as well as live in peace and harmony.

It's a privilege for me to write about Bl. Marie Poussepin whose presence and blessings are abundantly experienced by each one of us in our lives. Her core values guide and conduct Dominican Sisters of the Presentation to serve day and night in Nagpur. Bl. Marie Poussepin's life had not only ignited many at the time she lived but also today it inspires thousands by the heritage she bequeathed to her followers – love for education, care for the needy and the commitment to serve humanity.



Seema Ghosh
Teacher, Marie Poussepin's Academy, Nagpur

**O LOVING
MOTHER**



**O blessed Marie Poussepin,
You are filled with compassion,
In the world of God's creation,
To spread the love of Jesus to nations.**

**O blessed, holy Mother,
You are a gentle potter,
No matter how weak we are
your love is greater.**

**O blessed Holy woman,
You chose to be mother of orphans
Teach us to be in passion,
To continue Jesus mission.
How gracious is your works?
Your focus was on your beloved, Jesus
Attracted many young hearts,
To tread the path of sacrifice**

**Direct me through narrow paths,
Hold me close when I cross limits,
Inspire my mind and heart, eyes and ears,
To sow the seeds of virtues in me and in others.**



Sr. Godlima Kullu OP



VOICES THAT CHALLENGE

The bells of St. Genvieve, of Dourdan,
Echoed the joy of Poussepin family
At the birth of a lovely girl,
Marie was to be her name.

Her mother Julienne, a noble and pious woman
laid a strong foundation for her faith,
That she might stand tall
In the ups and downs of life.

Many were the hurdles in her path
Mother's death and father's loss in business
All were testing moments in her faith life
God was her guide in the turbulent ocean.

An industrious woman, Marie grew up to be
Her flair in business made it a success,
Mother and Father, was she to her young brother
Claude had in her a mentor and a guide.

She taught him the truths of religion,
And the rubrics of solid business,
Claude became a man, just and gentle
Ready to shoulder his own affairs.

A woman of mercy and compassion
Charitable works were Marie's hobby
She spent her time with her God,
The poor and sick were her companions.

Then she heard the cry of her Lord,
"Marie, I see the misery of Sainville,
The desolation of the people there,
Whom shall I send?"

'Here I am Lord!' She responded;
It was the sign she waited for
She quickly set out to the land
which God had pointed out to her

She fell in love with the poor of Sainville,
They were the people of God, loved by Him
She dared to walk with her God
And His people were her people too.

Education, she saw, was the need of the time
Taught the youth to read and write, and skills as well
Cared for the sick with the balm of love and kindness
She equipped them with wisdom and knowledge.

"Whom shall I send?" The Lord whispers!
Do we hear to the cries of the present?
People afraid to go out; talk and smile
Yes, Covid 19 is our greatest challenge today.



Sr. Lissie Mathew OP



READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES, THEN AND NOW.....

The 'Signs of the times' is a phrase strongly associated with the Catholic Church in the era of the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. There was as an urgent need that the church should listen to and learn from the world around. In other words, it should learn to read the 'signs of the times'.

Our Lord Himself exhorts us to be open minded and respond to 'our present world', as He says in Matthew 16:3, "You know how to read the face of the sky, but you cannot read the signs of the times" So, 'Reading the signs of the times' would have been an integral part of His spirituality.

Jesus read the signs of the times from the point of view of a Galilean peasant. People were powerless and helpless as they were victims of huge structural violence. For Jews, the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem meant the destruction of their worship, their culture and their nation. Jesus' concern was not for the future of the temple but for the people of Jerusalem, especially the women and children who suffered so much at the hands of the Romans. He says in Luke 19:44, "they will dash you and your children inside your walls to the ground..." What He would have seen, was the spiral of violence in which the Galilean peasants were caught up. Since Jesus lived in the social scenario of the peasants, He knew too well that the Peasants were not only poor, but, were exploited and oppressed by the Romans, Herod and the rich landowners.

This call of the Lord was mentioned by Pope John XXIII, when convoked the council, in the statement *Humanae Salutis* (1961) and also in *Pacem in Terris* (1963). It alerted the church that it needed to address this theme to the world so as to remain faithful to its call. This certainly demanded a paradigm shift in its theological view.

Prophets are those, who are centered on God and tell God's plan for the future, not as fortune-tellers, but as people who are inspired to read the signs of their times. By acting on the wisdom of the prophets, we become disciples of Jesus.

Each saint is born at a specific moment in history with a mission, planned by the Father, to live certain aspects of the Gospel. So too, Blessed Marie Poussepin, a woman who, in the course of her life, recognized what her project had to be. She was able to take risks and give practical responses to

the signs of her time, without avoiding the responsibilities and not fearing failures. She took a concrete decision to leave her family, her place of origin, her resources and all that constituted her life. She moved ahead to follow the plan of God, trusting in His providence alone. She was there for the neediest, where misery was great, bringing a ray of hope through education, health ministry and pastoral care. Her first venture was to Sainville and the surrounding villages where because of war and epidemics, people were groping in the darkness of ignorance and sickness. She did not choose to be alone in her mission but inspired many young hearts, to collaborate with her and work as a team. She experienced God as a God of mercy and compassion, a God of love and forgiveness. Her merciful charity encompassed everyone: the sinner, afflicted, ignorant, sick, rich and poor.

What about us today? We are called to be God experienced persons and to be true prophets to see the signs of our times and to respond to the reality of our world today. Do we, as daughters of Blessed Marie Poussepin, our holy Foundress allow ourselves to be confronted by the 'new Sainvilles' of today, in our personal life, community, neighbourhood, society, nation and the world? We will be able to respond to our given reality, only if we are empowered by the Lord in our moments of deep contemplation. The Spirit of the Lord and the Charism of Blessed Marie Poussepin will enable us to be rooted in faith, overcome trials with hope and dedicate ourselves to the service of charity.

Blessed Marie Poussepin was a daring woman of her time, with a far-sighted vision and trust in the Providence of God. She lives today in many hearts, especially in us, her daughters. We too are called forth in our present reality to be a ray of Hope to the physically, mentally and spiritually ailing humanity. We are exhorted to bring life and liberation that spring forth from Christ and let the fire of her Charism inflame the humanity and Creation to 'restore the face of God' today.



Sr. Jacintha. Miranda OP



Sr. Renuka OP

MIRACULOUS INTERVENTION OF MARIE POUSSEPIN IN MY LIFE

"Keep the Presence of God in all your actions" (Marie Poussepin)

Blessed Marie Poussepin wants to remind us that whatever we do or say, do it in the name of the Lord and in a way acceptable to Him. She truly trusted in the Providence of God. Her parents who belonged to a dedicated and God-fearing family took care of her with love and keen attention, as she was the apple of their eyes. Her mother taught her the Gospel values, family prayers and above all, created in her love for the sick, poor and needy, by involving her in the activities of the Confraternity of Charity from her childhood. She learned from her mother how to completely trust in the Providence of God.

When she decided to dedicate her life for the service of the Church, it is very clear that she had total trust in the providence of God. Though there was difficulty in getting permission to start the Congregation, her undivided faith and trust in the Divine Providence made everything possible for her. Her fidelity and faithfulness to God is remarkable. In the General Rules Marie Poussepin reveals that she had a deep and intimate relationship with her God. I firmly believe that Marie Poussepin could deepen her love relationship with Jesus only because of her solid Christian formation.





Now I would like to share with you an unforgettable favour that I received as a result of praying for her intercession. In the year 2014, I received shocking news that my brother, Bro. Alphonse MMB was critically ill and was admitted in Amala hospital, Thrissur with an Aortic Aneurism. He was at the point of death. They asked us to transfer him to an advanced hospital. We took him to Sree Chitra Hospital Thiruvananthapuram with all life saving measures. I could not accept this news, since he was a healthy person. With a loud cry, I turned to the Lord in prayer. Suddenly, I heard a whispering: 'Pray to your Mother Foundress'. Immediately I called Sr. Philomena Vengachottil, the then Provincial Superior and told her to please inform all the sisters and pray for my brother through the intercession of Bl. Marie Poussepin. As I was returning from the hospital, I was continuously praying the prayer to our Mother Foundress.

The doctors of Sree Chitra hospital examined him and said that he is very critical and that he needs to undergo an urgent operation with hairline hope. Everyone agreed for the operation holding on to the little hope that they gave us and he too was ready for the operation.

The night before his operation, I was in front of the Lord and Marie Poussepin wrestling to save my brother's life. Similar to that in the movies, I heard the phone ring and I answered it with trembling to hear the bad news. But to my surprise, it was the opposite; it was good news. It was one of my brothers who was helping Br. Alphonse at his bed side in the hospital and he said that Br. Alphonse's bleeding had stopped. I thought whether I was dreaming or did not hear it properly. So, I asked him to repeat and he said the same thing. I kept the receiver down and cried loud before the Lord with tremendous joy and happiness.

Next day morning I hurried to the hospital. I could not believe my eyes; there he was sitting on the bed happy and comfortable. I enquired him what really happened, whether the news I heard was true. He then explained to us what happened to him on the previous night. He said that as he was sleeping at night, one sister came near him wearing a dress with white veil on her head. She pattered him on his back three times with a towel and said "Nothing to worry Alphonse" He turned to see who it was but she was not there. We told him that it will be nurses on duty, but he said that she was not a nurse as she knows them personally. When I heard the description of the sister with white head dress I thought of Marie Poussepin and I showed him the picture and he said that it was certainly she.

The doctors who were treating him came for their routine rounds and amazed to see the patient sitting on the bed and relaxed, they went through his case sheet and wondered, as to what had happened. They knew very well that it was not because of their medical intervention but because of something from above. That was all that the doctors, who were Hindus, could say. We in turn believed that it was certainly the work of God through the intercession of Bl. Marie Poussepin. Bro. Alphonse got discharged from the hospital the same day and went to his community and was proclaiming to all about the intercession of Marie Poussepin. Not only that, he made a statue of Marie Poussepin and placed her in the sanctuary. His faith in her knew no bounds.

Since then, my love for Marie Poussepin increased tremendously and I started to pray to her for the various intentions of the Congregation, Province and my own. I also encourage others to pray through the intercession of Blessed Marie Poussepin for their various intentions. I believe that she is already a saint in heaven. I wish and pray earnestly that she may be lifted to the sainthood by the Church soon. May Marie Poussepin continue to intercede for each one of us.



Sr. Jessy Peedikayil OP



SOW THE SEED OF PIETY IN THE HEARTS OF THE YOUTH

The virtue of piety can be defined as a way of behaviour that shows deep respect for God. According to Pope Francis, Piety is the recognition of our belongingness to God, a deep bond with Him, the relationship that gives meaning to our life and keeps us resolute in communion with Him even in the most difficult and troubled moments of our lives. During moments of communion with the Lord a person becomes aware of one's own nothingness and God's greatness. It helps a person to accept everything with gratefulness, both joyful and painful events, that come from Him. Yes, this great virtue was lived by Blessed Marie Poussepin who was totally reliant on God and this inspired her in 1696 to leave Dourdan a small prosperous town where she was born, to go and live in a village of Sainville which was ravaged by war, famine and epidemics. She had the courage to face all the difficulties and challenges of her life as she was constantly in touch with the Divine. Her desire was to give an original response to the needs of her time by imitating the life of Jesus as much as possible.

Growth begins by the sowing of a seed. That is true in the vegetable kingdom. It is also true in the spiritual kingdom. A seed is a very small compared to the plant and the harvest it produces. The parable of the mustard seed points out this in Mt. 13: 31-32.

In the same way the seed of piety was also sowed, nurtured and sustained in the life of Blessed Marie Poussepin from her childhood onwards and the growth of that seed of piety continued to flourish in and through her. She wanted to share "God" whom she experienced in the depth of her heart to all who came to her and to all whom she was urged to communicate. Therefore, Blessed Marie Poussepin along with a few girls of the surrounding country, started a community of the Third Order of Saint Dominic for the service of the Church, to educate the youth and care for the sick poor. She wanted that each of her sisters should desire become the expression of charity which our Lord Jesus had for His Father and all people. This was the real insight with which she formed the sisters and cultivated in them the virtue of piety. This virtue led them to know and announce Jesus Christ to the people.

Youth is the seed-time of life, and according to what we sow, we shall reap. In the young, habits have not yet taken deep roots; Prejudices have not yet influenced them and their view point. Jesus Himself eternally young, wants to give us hearts that are ever young. God's Word challenges us to "cast out the old leaven that you may be fresh dough" (1 Cor 5:7). In the youth of today there is hunger for knowledge, hunger for dignity, hunger for recognition, hunger for truth, hunger for God as it was in the time of Blessed Marie Poussepin. Knowing this reality Marie Poussepin directed all her energy in forming the young ones and they in turn were attracted by her. Thus within a short span of time she had many followers.

I too was inspired by her life especially in the way she dealt with the young ones and the way she took care of them. She was not only interested in their physical wellbeing but much more in their spiritual wellbeing. Being in different places I got the opportunity to share my God experiences with people especially by teaching catechism. I remember one such occasion when I was able to bring the whole family to Christ. In Duliajan I was asked to teach catechism and joyfully I accepted it. One of my students was a non-Christian but she was very keen on knowing Jesus and through her the whole family believed and accepted Jesus as their only Saviour. I was privileged to catechize the entire family. I help the young ones to cultivate the virtue of piety by giving them moral values and encouraging them to participate in the church activities and to read the scriptures daily. I also sow the seed of piety in the young ones directly and indirectly as I work with them in the parishes and in the educational field. I always look up to Bl. Marie Poussepin and seek her intercession when I am given such responsibilities.

As we are celebrating the jubilee of the beatification of Blessed Marie Poussepin, I believe that it is the faithfulness of our sisters that kept her spirit alive by serving God and His people wherever they have been sent. It is through the assistance of Blessed Marie Poussepin we; her daughters have reached out too many people in various countries. We are inspired by her to speak to God and of God, being filled with mercy and compassion. Her spirit of piety is alive in us and we continue to sow that seed of piety in the young generation in and through our life witnesses, bringing them closer to Jesus building trust and faith in Him alone.



Sr. Shanti Toppo OP



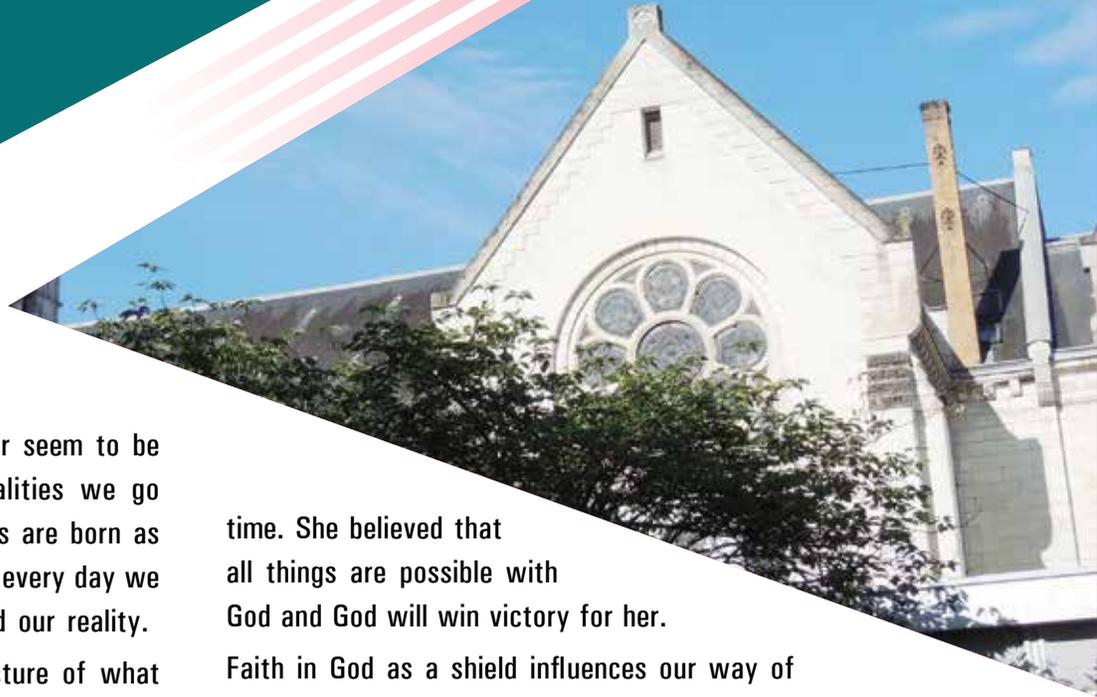
As we celebrate 25 years of beautification of our Mother Foundress Blessed Marie Poussepin I would like to compare it with the metaphor of a tree. A seed should be there for a tree to just pop up. Someone must plant the seed and someone must water it, someone fertilize and weed it. But only God can cause the seed to sprout and give it growth. In 1Cor 3:6 St.Paul tells, "I planted Apollo's watered and God gave the increase." The seed of the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation was planted by our Mother Foundress Blessed Marie Poussepin and watered by many hands and finally it is God who gave the increase. It sprouted in the land of France spreading its evergreen branches to 36 countries. It stands at present in our midst with roots in Christ alone, a strong stem in the spiritual guidance of Father Dominic, healthy branches of different Provinces, green leaves of lively communities, beautiful flowers and sweet fruits of sisters through the various challenging missions. All these branches, leaves, flowers and fruits are intimately joined to the trunk which is our Mother Foundress whose charism is alive today. The sap that flows through the trunk into each branch is the charism that has been entrusted to her by the Almighty for the entire humanity. This charism, the life-giving sap is coming from the root, Christ Himself whom we serve. Each branch, leaf, flower and the fruit have its own identity and uniqueness. Each one according to their capacity and ability bring forth the fruits. 25 years have passed after the beatification of our Foundress. I pause and wonder, 'As a consecrated person in this Congregation am I a fruit bearing branch in season and out of season or am I a fruit bearing branch according to the seasons of my comforts? Each one of us has the responsibility to sow the seeds of our humble service, piety and above all, genuine love for the Lord and neighbour in the hearts of humanity. Our Foundress has planted this life-giving seed, trusting in the Divine Providence and exhorts us to embrace Christ and be rooted in Him alone'. With this assurance let us bear the fruits of mercy and compassion and become streams of joy. Let us draw from the roots of the tree that we may be strengthened by the sap, give comfort and rest to the weary under its branches, console the broken hearts with cool breeze, cheer up the saddened with the fragrance of its flowers, delight the hunger of the poor with its sweet fruits.



Sr. Premalatha OP



The great warriors Jesus, Poussepin, Poussepinite



Although the words like war and warrior seem to be bygone terms, they are the hidden realities we go through in our day to day lives. All of us are born as warriors into this battle field of our lives; every day we fight against ourselves, our emotions and our reality.

Jesus the warrior brings out a vivid picture of what he suffered and fought against: anxiety, agony, torture, humiliation, abandonment, pain, exhaustion and death and resurrection. Because he was a willing warrior, we now enjoy the benefits of his victory, a victory that enables us to overcome our sinfulness, to defeat death and to live in eternity with him. The passion of Jesus shows the awesome "war" that he waged. "The Lord is a warrior; The Lord is his name." (Exodus 15:3) Marie Poussepin followed this strategy of Jesus, the warrior, faithfully and diligently waging war against the social vices of her time. God chose Marie Poussepin, a woman inspired by providence to leave 'Dourdan', a small prosperous town where she was born, to go and live in the battle field of 'Sainville', which was periodically ravaged by war, famine, epidemic, and ignorance to say the least. Marie Poussepin had to put on the whole Armor of God (Eph 6: 11-14); faith as Shield, truth as belt, righteousness as breast plate, gospel of peace as shoes, salvation as helmet and Spirit as sword in order to fight the battle against the evils of the society of her

time. She believed that all things are possible with God and God will win victory for her.

Faith in God as a shield influences our way of life. Marie Poussepin received a sure foundation in Christian faith from her parents. This ambiance of faith moulded Marie Poussepin to be a woman of faith and charity and influenced her 'to keep the presence of God in all her actions' and listen carefully to the clamours of the people of her time.

She wore Righteousness as breastplate by being obedient and living according to God's commandments; a way honourable to Him. Obedience places us at the very heart of the church and in the service of its mission of announcing Jesus Christ. Obedience and fraternity were lived fervently by Marie Poussepin especially when she devoted herself to the works of mercy. She always made God's will totally hers and tried to accomplish it with seriousness of love. Thus, the project of Marie Poussepin was an unfolding of paschal mystery, to accomplish prophetically the missionary project entrusted to her by God

She carried the sword of the Spirit with her being totally attentive to the inspirations of the Spirit at all



times. True perfection consists neither in austerity nor in heroic actions but in the ordinary ones, animated by the interior spirit which is one's soul. Marie Poussepin did all the ordinary responsibilities in an extra ordinary manner with a harmonious unity of mind and body to guide her life as well as her daughters in the mission of the church. The long-lived experience of her religious life as a Foundress, taught her how to face life with boldness and courage and respond to the signs of her time through the promptings of the Spirit.

Having the helmet of Salvation helped her to focus on Christ while spreading His love wherever she went. Cure of Ars once said "the saints are small mirrors in which Jesus Christ looks at Himself". Marie Poussepin was a true reflection of the infinite love of God on this earth. The villagers said "Our grandparents considered her as saint because of her goodness and her single mindedness.

Truth as belt around her waist lead her to follow the path of sincerity and truth of JESUS the TRUTH. Marie Poussepin, a woman of contemplation, heard the invitation of her Lord, left behind, her family and comforts, and reached out to the sick and the sufferings. Her ardent love for her master is seen in the care she gave to Marie Olivier, the poor and sick widow, until her death.

The gospel of peace was her shoes. Firmly founded on the Word of God she announced Jesus Christ and His mysteries where ever she went. Her love for the Gospel and her missionary zeal was so penetrating that it went beyond the boundaries of country, cast, religion and language.

The seed of charism of Marie Poussepin that flourished in Sainville almost lost its vigour with French revolution. The scripture which says 'if it is from God it will last', came true in 1803, when our dispersed 16 sisters met together with the dream of rejuvenating the project of Marie Poussepin with renewed vigour and dedication. Yes, the love and commitment of those 16 sisters made the plant grow once again with full strength. The congregation continues to be an expression of charity of Marie Poussepin in today's troubled and violent world. We have a big responsibility ahead first of all to root ourselves in the Lord and be a witness of Joy, as Pope Francis says, "Broken humanity is looking for joyful and peace loving religious."

Marie Poussepin lived as a warrior for Christ and died; now we her daughters; 'Poussepinites' are fighting against the evil of our own time and reaching out to the needy. Today the crisis of Covid-19 alerted each one of us to wage war against this pandemic. We share different roles; some as front liners, some as economic pandemic warriors to reach out with the provisions, masks and working with governments and the dioceses arranging for the migrants the ration and transport to reach them home. The spiritual warriors are knocking at the door of the Lord to come and extend His hand over this sick world as He did over the turbulent sea when he went with His disciples. Yes, we the Poussepinites are the warriors of our time, by being on the side of the "new poor".



Sr. A. Mary Jayanthi OP



I AM READY FOR THE ONE WHOM MY SOUL LOVES

My beloved saw me from afar,
He found me beautiful for Him,
Soil was ready in Marie Poussepin's garden
There, He planted me, His little Rose

He placed me under Marie Poussepin's care,
She watered this little plant of His,
By her teaching and her coaching
As she did for her young ones of Sainville.

She consoles me when I am sad,
She soothes me when I am hurt
She whispers in my ear that Jesus loves me.
Happy am I to be loved so.

She carries me with her as she visits the poor
Shows me how to help those in need
I am pleased I can be His instrument.
And I said, "I am ready with your help."

She showed me the thorns
O! Yes, they are part of me
So sad was I to see them there,
Mother held me close and whispered;

"See the thorns Jesus bore on His head!
The pain He bore was to save sinners.
Then I looked into me,
My God! I have so many!



Marie Poussepin smiled and said,
See, you can save many sinners,
Allow to be trimmed by Him,
Your beloved who loves you so!

I am afraid, I told her,
It will pain me, I flinched
Do not be afraid, she said
For He loves you and I am at your side!



Amali Josephine- Aspirant



Temperance of Marie Poussepin



Temperance is a virtue. It allows one to become a master of oneself and to control over one's emotions, feelings, likes and dislikes and desires. According to St. Thomas Aquinas "Temperance is simply a disposition of the mind which binds the passion."

Marie Poussepin practiced true and solid devotion to the Lord, imitating the life He led on earth. It was Jesus, who was at the heart of her life and inspired her to commit herself to the service of charity. She saw what was right in the sight of God and accomplished it. Only the one who is in control of oneself and the situations will be able to look at others and events as God see. A glance into the life of Marie Poussepin reveals to us how she practiced charity in the midst of worst of difficulties, problems, challenges and criticisms. She remained very calm and serene when her dreams shattered at times. When the approval of her institution was delayed by the ecclesiastical and political authorities, discouragement did not overpower her. She had to wait 12 long years for the approval. During this period, she was afflicted by serious illness and the sisters were wavering in their call. But nothing deterred her from pursuing what she knew to be the work of the Lord and which she had already begun.

She went ahead, taking on new challenges, as if the future was so secure, for she knew Him in whom she had put her trust. Being a woman of prayer, she lived a balanced life. She never allowed the situations to swallow her life; instead, she was the master of the situations with the strength of her true Master.

We often say that we cannot love someone whom we have not seen. Through CEMP I came to know Marie Poussepin personally which led me to have a special love for her. Some times when life does not get on as I wish, I am shattered; even when little things go out of my control, I get petrified or overwhelmed. One day when I got sick, I was so nervous and worried thinking that it was something very serious. Even after consulting doctors, I was not convinced of the negative report and was restless. I turned to Bl. Marie Poussepin who is an example of taking odd situations and difficulties peacefully and I came out from my worries. Slowly I became at ease within myself. When I was told that I had to undergo an operation, I was able to accept it and went through the whole process calmly. I was not only healed of my physical sickness but also gained an inner strength.

Marie Poussepin lived a life of tenderness, piety, compassion, and forgiveness. She reminds her daughters to be gentle, yet firm when especially dealing with the children. Marie Poussepin's tenderness made the sisters and the people in her time to experience God's presence. The reflective assessment of her very day situations helped her to live a balanced life and to master herself and go towards her final destiny. As true daughters of Blessed Marie Poussepin, let us continue to persevere in our call living the gift of temperance in this world of violence and be agents of peace.



Sr. Punam Lakra OP



BEATIFICATION
MARIE POUSSEPIN
2019-2020



Marie Poussepin and the Order of the Dominican Sisters in my life

Marie Poussepin, the Foundress of the Congregation of the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation and the Congregation itself have made a very deep impact on my life.

As we know, Marie founded the Congregation of Sisters of Charity in Sainville, France in 1696. She intended to establish a community of the Third order of St. Dominic, to educate the young girls, to care for the sick poor and to offer their service to the parish. At the time there were no Dominican Sisters who were actively involved in the apostolic work outside their monastery. Marie Poussepin wanted her community to be contemplative in the spirit of St. Dominic and at the same time actively serving the sick and the needy. Though she inculcated in her sisters the Dominican motto, to contemplate and share the fruit of contemplation to others, her dream of having the community to be incorporated to the Dominican order was not to be a reality until after her death. Now the Congregation is part of the Dominican Family.

Marie Poussepin was a woman with a great devotion to our Lady and especially the Rosary and she gave

Mother Mary in the mystery of the Presentation as a model and inspiration for her daughters to follow. She was also a very contemplative person and taught them to train themselves in the word of God. Simplicity, poverty and love of work are the family traits she bequeathed to her daughters.

My own encounter with the Dominican Sisters began with a tragic incident. I had to return to Bangalore after a brief stay at Sydney, Australia. I went there to become a resident of Australia to be with my son. But that plan did not work out for various reasons and I had to return to India and I took up residence in Bangalore. I was living alone.

I was in a great way drawn to the Sisters personally as they extended the hand of friendship to a lonely person. I needed to do some work and as I had experience in library work, Sister Rose Mary offered me a job of putting into Excel documents the books that the convent had in the library and to catalogue the body of books.

As I had done a diploma in Library work and worked with other libraries of a high reputation like Dharmaram



College and United Theological library, I found that working in a library would just bring a diversion for my mind I recall that the Order was founded to educate the girls in faith to be preachers and educationists. As a volunteer I was greatly impressed by the sisters who showed me concern and care

not only for my well-being but also that I should be organized in my work. At their vast library of good books, I learnt to appreciate these books as the work involved writing a synopsis of each book.

While I worked at the library, I also learnt the art of contemplation. I learnt from them the quality of kindness and the love of books. The Foundress has inculcated in the sisters the love for reading and enjoying the value of spiritual books. The Dominican sisters have a great vision in the field of study and contemplation on the word of God. I learnt the value of silence. The great value of silence and contemplation was instilled in them with many seminars and retreats, and I really learnt to admire the quality of discipline in the convent.

As all the sisters were always so friendly with me, I learnt to feel less lonely and got to enjoy their company. It was always so nice to be greeted at the library, with a smile of welcome. They extended to me the hand of friendship which I needed badly in my life.

As I was in total ignorance of the Dominican Sisters it was a great surprise for me that the Sisters were all specialists in their own fields. They have post-degree qualifications in many fields. This was a proof of the striking qualities that Marie Poussepin has instilled in the life of the Dominican sisters.

Marie Poussepin taught the sisters that work was worship and this quality I learnt from them by going to work in the convent every day.

I too learnt the work I was doing and the time I spent at the library was a time for me to increase my knowledge and belief in myself. I learnt that despite my years of living alone and without a family I should not brood on my life and get into a state of depression but learn the art of survival.

After working for a year, I was suddenly struck with a serious heart attack. As I was on the brink of death the sisters showed a lot of concern for me and came to visit me at the hospital. These visits gave me the strength to live. The quality of concern for people is instilled in the sisters and they showed a lot of friendship during my grave illness.

The sisters taught me that Christian life has one great quality of charity and generosity which should be in all.

The life of Marie Poussepin was very meaningful to me - a lay person who lead a life of enjoyment and was very frivolous in all. I did not know the Spiritual life and it did not have much meaning for me; by working in the convent I learnt the value of spirituality, friendship and hospitality.

Marie Poussepin was a spiritual woman of practical action. This was something that embodies the order that she founded. I saw and experienced this in my own interaction with the sisters who opened their hearts and hearth for me. I have learnt to lift my heart and soul to God and to implore Him for the help that I need. I have also learnt to deal with the difficulties of life with the faith and fortitude that Marie Poussepin embodied and that is daily lived by the Dominican Sisters whom I had the privilege to know.



Mrs. Aranha, Bangalore



THE RAY OF HOPE

The "Ray" means light coming from a point. In the year 1653 a ray of Hope was born in Sainville, France. This is none other than Marie Poussepin. At that time France was not so pleasant but ravaged by epidemic and challenging. Marie born in a devoted family grow up in piety and God fearing. She placed her total trust in God and He gave her strength to face the challenges, molded her more courageous and bold to go beyond borders. Her faith in God led her to find the ray of hope in him in the midst of all the circumstands. The darkness of the life, the loss of her father's business, death of her parents and the epidemic in country led her to see the ray of hope in Jesus more clearly.

In one of old picture portraits Mother Mary sits near a basin filled with water, the child Jesus plays but Mother Mary calls him to get in to the water that He can be bathed. In the life of Marie we could see that she was got in to the basin filled with water which symbolizes God who is filled with love and in him comes the hope, this made her to become a ray of Hope for many. Life ends when the person stop dreaming, hope ends when the person stop believing in God. She was ray of hope for the sick poor, who stopped believing God and lost hope in their sufferings, she took care of them and lighted their life with hope. She was hope for the young girls, who were with scattered mind, did not know what to do, she taught them knitting, find their livelihood and stand on their own feet.

The more Marie Poussepin came close to God in faith, the more she came close to others in love. Her own witnessing life teach us to see the ray of hope in Christ in every moment of our life, whatever may the situation is, to hold on Jesus for from Him comes the life and become the rays of hope for many.



Sr. Laly OP



Blessed Marie Poussepin is the Perfect Educationist

Jesus says by the fruits you shall know the tree (Mt 7: 18 – 19).

Religious, specially, we, the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation are called to be lights to the world; to let the light of Christ shine through us; to witness Christ by our life. . Action speaks louder than the words; we can impress people through words, but can inspire them only through our actions. To preach Christ today and tomorrow in the footsteps of blessed Marie Poussepin, is to go beyond the races, languages and countries and to witness Christ wherever we are called and whatever may Blessed Marie Poussepin is a perfect educationist. We see in the life of Marie Poussepin that she mastered herself in all that she did. She was ahead of her time. Being a business woman she knew to organize herself with discernment to do what was good and right. To be in communion with the poor we need to be poor, we need to witness compassion to the poor. Poussepin knew how to balance her life of prayer and mission. She was very much aware of the negligence in the education of young girls in the society in Sainville. Schools for educating young girls were lacking. She took initiative to educate girls, she taught them to read write and arithmetic, so that they could be dignified in the society. Water, medical care etc. were the basic human needs, she dug a well, it was open for all those who needed it. Through all these we can understand she was a person who responded to the basic needs of the people. Marie Poussepin's tenderness, effective modesty, piety, readiness, appreciation and encouragement made the sisters and people to experience God's real presence through her. She was a woman who was ready at any moments to help her sisters and the people which she leaned at her home, Dourdan. All these virtues show that she was able to master herself and grow towards her final goal. Let us continue to follow her footsteps to master ourselves at the service of God and the society.



Sr. Anita Tirkey OP



Marie Poussepin

Mother of the poor orphan children
Ardent in contemplation of the Word
Radiant in the love of God
Imitated the Lord of the poor.

Eucharist was the centre and strength of her journey
Prayer was the source of her life and mission
Overcame the troubles trusting in the providence of God

Union with the Lord and St. Dominic
Showed the example to imitate
Sensitive to the cry of the needy and rejected
Everything for God alone
Perseverance in hard work, poverty and simple life
Involved in the care of the sick and old
Nothing is impossible for her with God
May Blessed Marie Poussepin continue to be
our inspiration in our journey in this time



Stilna, Aspirant



Sr. Josephine Kuruthukulangara OP



We the flowers...

Flowers are bright and beautiful,
With their lovely fragrance,
Freely they share it with all,
And take away sadness and sorrow.
Marie Poussepin, the flower so delicate,
Spread the aroma of her charity with the needy,
Consoled the people in distress
And showed the way they ought to follow.
We, the beautiful flowers of God,
Taught by her what we are to do,
To continue the service of Charity,
And announce Jesus Christ all over the world.



Anita Kerketta



"... Know our Lord Jesus Christ
as perfectly as possible."

Rule XIX

By Sr. Renuka O.P.

Sr. Renuka OP



“To Share From The Abundance Of The Love Of Jesus”

Life is...unpredictable, especially when, one day when you wake up, you are faced with the dilemma of not knowing what is going to happen to your life thereafter. The tragic loss of my father as he went in for surgery, left my mother completely shattered - she, whose life completely

revolved around her husband! Suddenly there, I was faced with a situation where I had to quit a career that had reached its pinnacle in order to take care of my dear mother. Wouldn't such a situation not spark fears about a reality that one wasn't ready to face ?

In 1992, my life seemed to come to a halt when suddenly my father, the very cornerstone on whom the very foundation of my life was built, was removed and everything around me seemed to come crashing down upon me .

Well, it was at this crossroad of my life that I walked into the premises of the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation in Bangalore and Sr.Reetha Mechery opened the front door of the convent to me.

“The community will not confine itself to closing in upon itself the abundance it has received from Heaven. It takes the means to spread it abroad generously and abundantly” ... words from Blessed Marie Poussepin to her sisters.

Each day we are given the opportunity to show our faith to people around us and Sr. Reetha took that opportunity to share the abundance of her love for Jesus, as a nun. Seeing me at the main door she invited me in for a coffee and was able to communicate her convictions and helped me see the new road ahead that would lead me to “Jesus”. I left the convent enriched in spirit, carrying with me the books on the lives of St. Dominic, Blessed Marie Poussepin and Catherine of Sienna that Sr. Reetha had so beautifully encouraged me to read.

“With an increasing generosity, Marie Poussepin answered the demands of grace which were vigorously maturing her soul for the vocation held in stock for her.” “A Face of God” Page 26.

The years after this providential encounter with Sr. Reetha and her ongoing direction, the words of scripture, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.” (1Pt.2:6) came alive in my life!

As in the life of Marie Poussepin where increasing generosity and grace matured her soul for her vocation, I too was touched by her intercession for me that moved me from a broken life in 1992 where I had lost both my dear father and my good job ...to a life that was no more broken but was whole ,where now Jesus became the “ cornerstone of my life “ and I was able to reach out with His Love to the needy and also respond to the needs of the time- motivated by what the merchant Etienne Sausse had said about Dame Poussepin, that she “is filled with charity, especially for the sick and the poor whom she assists and to whom she actually gives food”.



Sunil Menon,
Lay Associate,
Dominican Sisters of Presentation,
Bangalore.24/08/2020



Forever my Intercessor – Blessed Marie Poussepin

It was exactly 8 years ago that I came to Marie Poussepin's Home for the first time, asking for an admission in the hostel. Little did I know about Dominicans and their way of life. All I wanted was a place to stay, a place to call home. Over a period of two months, from a blank page of not knowing Dominicans I progressed to learn quite a bit. Blessed Marie Poussepin's history and life were still unknown; all I could see on a daily basis was her image in the glass painting in the chapel which reflects two different faces of her. When you see her from inside the chapel, it's always a very calm and composed one. On the other hand, when you see her from behind the chapel, she has a very protective person's look. (My friend and I were once scared by her looks on the glass painting, when we tried to sneak peek into the garden from behind the chapel). From that day onwards, I always tell Marie Poussepin "Oh good lord, your look scared us," but over the tenure of my stay there, Marie Poussepin became my intercessor and one of my Inspirations.

Here's what I think of her personally and what I admire in her. The whole world is now trying to progress towards an era where women discuss a lot about women's empowerment, women's rights, feminism etc., Blessed Marie Poussepin has always stood by those values back then; her practice begins at home and she really stood up for her family and eventually for the girls and women of her society; she cared for the poor; she chose to be charitable. Her bold personality





is something to look up to. The personality of an individual is most often gauged from and by different aspects and parameters. She is a perfect example; she trusted in God; she surrendered herself to him; she hoped in him before anything else; she relied on the intercession of Mary throughout her life and she chose Saint Dominic as her role model. She stood by her values of being obedient, and charitable. This gives a complete picture of her.

When I went through her book, I could really sense the inspiration that comes from her; one can't choose to be charitable, faithful, and obedient at all times; it's a major challenge but it doesn't harm to take baby steps and that's what I try to do.

What do I imitate from Marie Poussepin ?

As much as she and St. Dominic loved Mother Mary, I love her too; carrying a cross is a Christian way of living; Marie Poussepin had carried different crosses throughout her life; when struggles come my way, I sometimes feel that it's the cross that I have to carry. Then you don't feel the pain when you have literally understood the purpose. Being charitable was her trait, her core. I try to do my best. She loved and lived for her family; she portrays a beautiful example of being a loving and caring elder sister and a loving and responsible daughter to her parents. For me, this holds a very close connection.

In the last 8 years, every time I said a prayer, I asked for her intercession; every time I said the litany, she was in the list (Blessed Marie Poussepin - Pray for us). So many times, people have asked me who was it that I prayed to and talking about her, makes me feel happy.

Every time I say her prayer, it affirms my faith and reminds me of the values I should hold closer to my heart over everything else. I am very positive about her intercession for me and I will forever be her daughter. But now, I'll have the saints fight for me because I love a ton of them without whose intercession, I feel lame. I pray that Blessed Marie Poussepin may join the Army of Saints soon!



Steffi Sylvester
Marie Poussepin's Home
Bangalore



BL. MARIE POUSSEPIN, A COMPANION IN MY BUSINESS

Growing up around the Dominican Convent in Bangalore, Blessed Marie Poussepin was not an unfamiliar face to me. I've often glanced at her portrait every time I went to the sisters to buy milk. I remember one-day asking Sr. Philo, "Whose portrait is that?" She said; "She is Blessed Marie Poussepin, our Foundress". Little did I know that she was going to have a great impact in my life!

Years passed, I got married and have a little baby boy. I started a business of my own. I was determined to do a job that I loved. I put my heart and soul into my little project. I had a plan laid out but at the back of my head I felt that I was sailing into a stormy sea. Although I had my family's moral support, I started to feel that I need a companion who knew my work to help me to grow in my business.

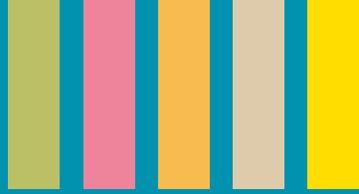
One Sunday after the mass as I was exiting the door of the church Sr. Anula came up to me and placed in my hand a prayer card of Blessed Marie Poussepin. She said; "I heard that you've started a new business, take this prayer of Blessed Marie Poussepin, she is a very successful business woman herself, she'll guide you in what you do". This truly was not a coincidence but a pure miracle, where I completely felt the presence of God; He knew my struggle, He knew what was in my mind and He knew I needed a companion in my business journey. Yes, He gave me Marie Poussepin to accompany me.

I took the prayer with me and placed it on my office table. Every morning I would pray the prayer and start my day at work. I did not see any magic happening immediately or overnight. But I witnessed my business growing step by step. It faced a lot of ups and downs; I might have not reached to a point of being a millionaire or even a well-known woman entrepreneur (if this is what is defined by the society as a successful person) but I am able to meet my needs and the needs of the needy. I am contented that I am guided by faith, I am guided by Blessed Marie Poussepin and she will do the rest joining with me and my efforts.

Annie

Art Walk Design Studio
My Address: No 15 "Marian Villa",
24th Cross, Kaggadasapura,
C V Raman Nagar Post, Bangalore 560093.





BL. MARIE POUSSEPIN: THE SOCIAL APOSTLE OF CHARITY



For more than a decade, I have been a part of Marie Poussepin's Academy, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India. Since the beginning, through the Sisters of this Institution I have experienced the warmth of love and care as a family member. When I slowly came to know the life of Bl. Marie Poussepin, I realised that it's her life which is continuously motivating and inspiring the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation to be the hands, feet and eyes of Jesus in this present world. Later, I even discovered that this Community is THE FIRST DOMINICAN APOSTOLIC COMMUNITY FOR WOMEN. There are various instances when I felt that the Sisters are not only rendering mere education to the students of this city and village, where it is located, but rather, are extending their hands even beyond...

The goal of the Dominican Sisters is to imitate by their conduct the life Our Lord led while on earth. This Christocentric characteristic is very evident in the life of the Sisters who are motivated by the life of Blessed Marie Poussepin. Though Marie Poussepin's Academy is not situated in a Christian area, thousands have come to know and experience Christian values of compassion and love through the Sisters and their collaborators.

Initially, it was difficult for us to pronounce the name 'Marie Poussepin' but today, many have come to know her through our Academy. I have been encouraged to deal with the students with love and gentleness with firmness, through the writings of Marie Poussepin which is displayed on the reception lobby of the school.

Bl. Marie Poussepin wrote: "Everything must give way to the care of the sick and infirm. It is Jesus Christ himself that we serve in their person." I, being involved in academics and administration, know many instances when students were given financial assistance due to financial difficulties of the parents. Every year, at various occasions and very especially during Christmas season, Sisters, students and staff share the joy of the season by sharing things and spending time with the needy and underprivileged. Whether it is Flood Relief initiative for Kashmir in September 2014, or Flood Relief in 2018 at Kerala or providing food and other much needed articles during the Corona pandemic, Blessed Marie Poussepin's Charism of Charity always motivates the Sisters and the Institution to move out of the comfort zones and be the helping & healing hands of JESUS.

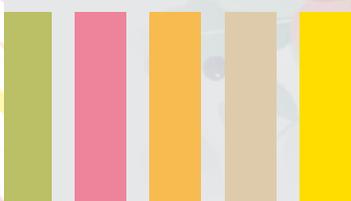
I feel privileged to be part of this missionary institution. Through the intercession of Bl. Marie Poussepin, may we be always inspired to have a Charitable Heart and unceasing Missionary Zeal...

Yours in Christ,



Jibin John
Supervisor

Marie Poussepin's Academy, Nagpur





नित्य प्रणाम

धन्य मरी पुश्पैन
धन्य मरी पुश्पैन हमारी
तू है संरक्षिका हमारी
तू है येसु की प्यारी
तू है नारियों में न्यारी
महान है तू जगत के सारी ॥

धन्य है तू महान -2
हम करते है तुझको नित्य: प्रणाम
हम गाते है तेरी गुणगान
जग में हो तेरी यशोगान
देश में गूँजित हो तेरी जयमान ॥

धन्य है तू महान -2
मोह माया छोड़ी
जोड़ी येसु से रिश्ता
अपनाई संकट का रास्ता
जोड़ी मानव से नाता ॥

धन्य है तू महान -2
आशा निराशा से घिरा
दुःख दर्द से भरा
मानव के लिए बनी मसीह का धारा
बनी प्रभु ख्रिस्त का प्यारा ॥

धन्य है तू महान -2
बतलाई धर्मबहनों को अपना
त्याग तपस्या प्रार्थना करना
धीरज से चलना आगे ही बढ़ना
जग में प्रभु का नाम रोशन करना ॥

धन्य है तू महान -2
तूने दी जग को अहवान
बिनम्रता का पथ अपनाओ
भटके हुआँ को राह दिखाओ
सबके मन में प्रेम का ज्योति जलाओ ॥

धन्य है तू महान -2
जिन्दागी है अनमोल दान
हम सेवा करें तेरे ही नाम
तेरा नाम ले हमें शक्ति देना
तेरा नाम गाएं हमें भक्ति देना
हे मरी पुश्पैन धन्य है तू महान -3



सि० सरोज खलखो



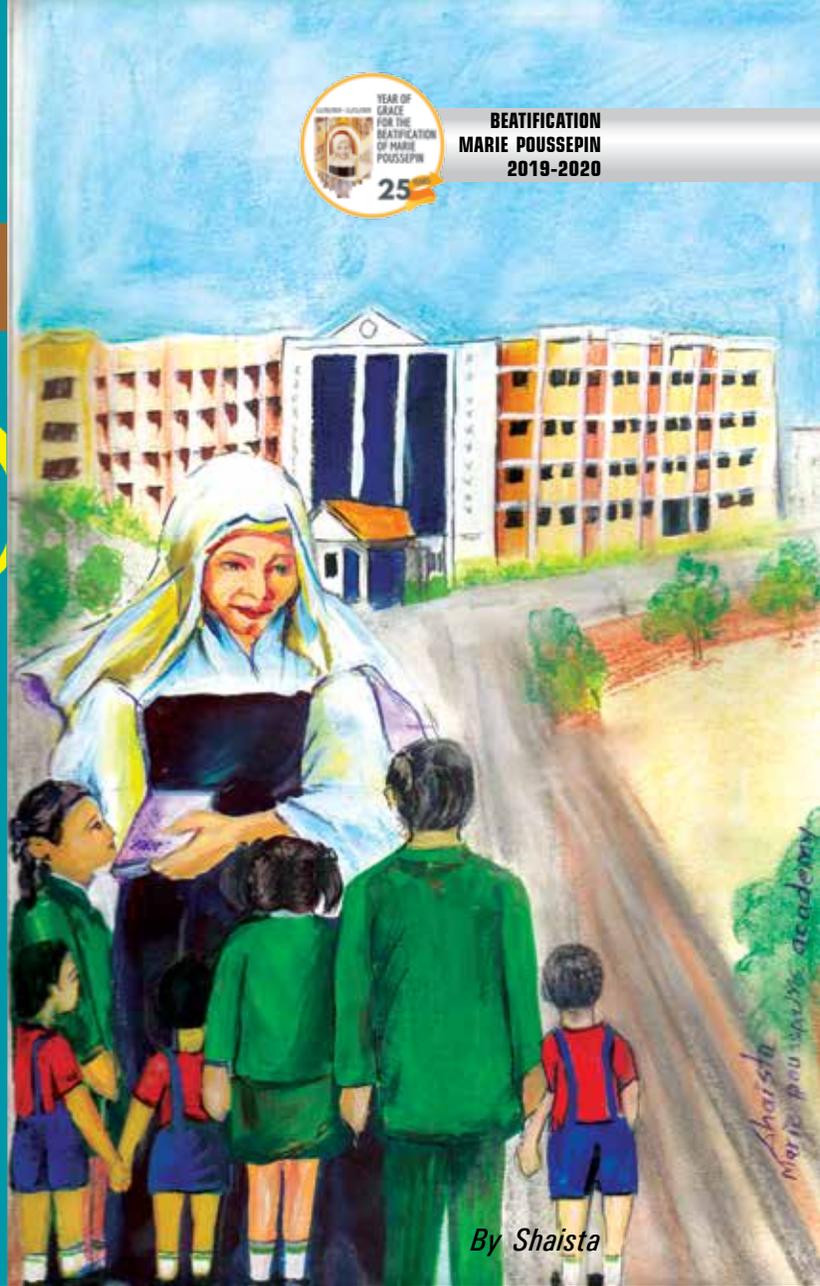
BEATIFICATION
MARIE POUSSEPIN
2019-2020

हर पल पल याद आती है

- री० हर पल पल याद आती है
खुशबू से महक उठती है
बार-बार मेरे दिल पुकारती है 2
उसकी नाम मरीपुष्पैन
1. दुःखी गरीबों में प्रभु को पहचानी 2
और उनके सहारा बनी
जीवन के हर कदम प्रभु में रखी 2
और उनके साथ आगे बढ़ी
 2. इच्छा बुद्धि से प्रभु के काम की 2
प्रेम का रास्ता सब को दिखाई
बिखरे जग में प्रभु का संदेश 2
तन - मन - धन सब दी अपर्ण
 3. बिनती प्रार्थना करना हमको सिखाई 2
दिल में विश्वास का दीप जलाई
जीवन के हर संकट प्रभु को चढ़ाना 2
ईश्वरीय कामों में आगे बढ़ना



Sr. Anima Tirkey



By Shaista

धन्य मरी पुष्पैन प्रभु की विश्वासी
सिखाई अपने धर्म बहनों को चलना
प्रेम भरोसा और विश्वास में।
कठिन से कठिन कामों को
धीरज से बनाई सहज
सेवा की गरीब दुःखियों की
ईश्वर के प्रेम को बाटी।
बतलाई अपने धर्म बहनों को
प्रेम में बंधे रहना
हमेशा ईश्वर से बातें करना
उनका ही अनुशरण करना
उसके प्रेम भरोसा लेकर आगे बढ़ना।



Teresa Agnes-Novice

प्रभु की विश्वासी

MARIE POUSSEPIN'S SONG

री. पहली दफा तू ऐसी मिली माँ
बन गयी सबकी प्यारी SSS
जीयेगे हम माँ तेरे लिए ही SSS
संभाले रखना हमें SSS
हे मरी पुस्पैन तू जिन्दगी में - 2
आयी है बन के प्रेम की धारा SSS

री. पहली दफा तू ऐसी मिली माँ
बन गयी सबकी प्यारी SSS
जीयेगे हम माँ तेरे लिए ही SSS
संभाले रखना हमें SSS
तरसता था दिल तेरा, येसु के प्रेम में
छोड के धन संपत्ति, लगी भ्रातृ प्रेम में
जिन्दगी थी तेरी, उसके बिन अधूरी
आ गयी तू पास उसके, करने उसे पूरी
चाहत में उसके, दुनिया को छोड दी - 2
उस बिन जीना मुमकिन नहीं

पहली दफा

तू है मेरी सफर, तू मेरी रास्ता SSS
जिएगे हम तेरे लिए, ऐ हमारा वास्ता

सागर सी दुनिया में डूब न जाये
लगता है डर हमें, हम खो न जाये
चाहत में तेरे सब कुछ छोड के - 2
आ गये बन के तेरे बच्चे SSS

पहली दफा

हे मरी पुस्पैन तू जिन्दगी में - 2
आयी है बन के प्रेम की धारा SSS



Khargone Community

മാർഗ്ഗദീപമാം മരി...

(കവിത)

മനസിൽ ഉണരും ഗീതമേ നീ
ഉള്ളോടണയ്ക്കും ഞാനെൻ മരിയെ
ജീവിതം കണ്ണീരിൻ കടലോളം നീന്തി
വിശുദ്ധി തൻ മാതൃക കാട്ടി മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ

നെഞ്ചെരിഞ്ഞു പിളർക്കുന്നിതാ
പട്ടിണിയാൽ ഉടുതുണി പോലും
നേരെയില്ലാത്തവർ
ഭൂമിയാമൊരൊറ്റ മൺകുന്നയിൽ
പിറന്നു വളരുമാ മക്കളെയും
ഉള്ളോടണച്ചോരെൻ മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ

വിദ്യതൻ അമൃത് നുകരുവാൻ
എത്തുമാ പാവം പൈതങ്ങളെ
വരവേറ്റതാമി മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ
നമ്മുള്ളിൽ തെളിഞ്ഞീടും വെളിച്ചത്തിൽ
അക്ഷരങ്ങളുമുതാക്കി മാറ്റിയ
വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ടവൾ മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ

എന്നുമെന്നോർമ്മയിൽ
തങ്ങിനിൽക്കും നീയെൻ
സുവർണ്ണ സൗന്ദര്യമേ
നിൽക്കേണമേയെന്നുമെന്നോർമ്മയിൽ
രോഗികൾ, പീഡിതർ, പട്ടിണി പാവങ്ങൾ
ഏവരെയും നെഞ്ചോടു ചേർത്തൊരമ്മ

ഈലോക ജീവിതം നന്മകൾ ചെയ്ത്
സ്വർഗത്തിൽ വസിക്കുന്ന പുണ്യാത്മാവേ
ഭൂമിയിൽ സാക്ഷ്യം വഹിച്ചപ്പോൾ
ഞങ്ങളും വരുന്നിതാ നിൻ വഴിയിൽ



വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ അൽ മായ സഭ
വി. മരിയ മഗ്ദലേന ദൈവാലയം
പരുത്തിയൂർ, പൊഴിയൂർ



ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് വിളക്കായി വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ അൽമായ സഭ



വിശുദ്ധ മരിയ മഗ്ദലേന ദൈവാലയം, പരുത്തിയൂർ ഇടവകയിലെ ഡൊമനിക്കൻ സന്യാസ സഭയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ 2017 ഒക്ടോബർ 14 ന് വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ അൽമായ സഭ രൂപീകൃതമായി. ഇതൊരു ദൈവവിളിയായി സ്വീകരിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് 40 അൽമായർ സഭയിൽ അംഗങ്ങളായി. വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാനെ കുറിച്ച് അറിയാനും പ്രാർത്ഥന ചെയ്തന്യത്തിലൂടെ വളരാനും ഈ സഭയിലൂടെ സാധിച്ചു. ദൈവസന്നേഹത്തിൽ വേരൂന്നി പരസന്നേഹത്തിൽ ആനന്ദം കണ്ടെത്തി ത്യാഗമനോഭാവത്തോടെ ജീവിതത്തിന് അർത്ഥം കണ്ടെത്തിയ മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ജീവിത വിശുദ്ധിയും ശുശ്രൂഷാമനോഭാവവും ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് പ്രചോദനമായി.

കുട്ടിക്കാലം മുതൽക്കേ തന്റെ അമ്മയോടൊപ്പം ആതുര ശുശ്രൂഷകളിൽ പങ്കാളിയാവുകയും കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകൾ ദൈവകരങ്ങളിൽ സമർപ്പിച്ച് ക്രിസ്തുശിഷ്യരായി വളരാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുകയും ചെയ്ത വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ കുടുംബം ഞങ്ങളുടെ കുടുംബങ്ങൾക്കും മാതൃകയായി. അമ്മയുടെ വേർപാടിനു ശേഷം കുടുംബത്തിന്റെ മാതൃസ്ഥാനം ഏറ്റെടുക്കേണ്ടി വന്നപ്പോൾ ക്രൂശിതനായ ക്രിസ്തുവിൽ അഭയം തേടുകയും അവശരിലും ദുഃഖിതരിലും പീഡിതരിലും ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ മുഖം ദർശിച്ച് ക്രിസ്തുസന്നേഹത്തിലും പരസന്നേഹത്തിലും വളർന്ന വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ജീവിതം ഞങ്ങൾ ഓരോരുത്തരുടെയും ജീവിതത്തിൽ പ്രാർത്ഥനാ ചെയ്തന്യവും പരസന്നേഹവും ആർജ്ജിച്ചെടുക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചു. ഏറെ താമസിയാതെ മാതൃസ്ഥാനത്തോടൊപ്പം പിതൃസ്ഥാനം കൂടി ഏറ്റെടുക്കേണ്ടി

വന്നപ്പോൾ വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ നിരവധി പരീക്ഷണങ്ങളും കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകളും ജീവിതത്തിൽ നേരിടേണ്ടി വന്നു. ഇത്തരം പ്രതിസന്ധികൾ ദൈവേഷ്ടമാണെന്ന് പൂർണ്ണമായി അംഗീകരിച്ച്, പിതാവിന്റെ വ്യവസായ രംഗത്ത് വ്യക്തിമുദ്രപതിക്കാൻ തനിക്ക് കൈമുതലായ ദൈവാശ്രയ മനോഭാവവും ആത്മദയൈര്യവും മറുപടി പിടിച്ചു, അങ്ങനെ വ്യവസായത്തെ കുറിച്ച് പഠിക്കുകയും വ്യാപാര രംഗത്തേക്ക് ഇറങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തു.

വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ഈ ജീവിത സാഹചര്യത്തെ കുറിച്ചുള്ള അറിവ് ഞങ്ങളുടെ കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകൾ വളരെ നിസാരമാണെന്ന തിരിച്ചറിവ് പകർന്നു തന്നു. ഒപ്പം ഞങ്ങളും ദൈവാശ്രയ ബോധത്തിൽ വളർന്ന് ആത്മദയൈര്യം ആർജ്ജിച്ചെടുക്കുക വഴി ഞങ്ങൾക്കും നിത്യ ജീവിതത്തിലെ പ്രതിസന്ധികളെ തരണം ചെയ്യാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്ന ആത്മവിശ്വാസം നേടാനായി. വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ വ്യത്യസ്തത നിറഞ്ഞ ആതുരശുശ്രൂഷ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ ഞങ്ങൾക്കിടയിലുള്ള രോഗികളിലും അവശരിലും ശുശ്രൂഷാ ചെയ്യുവാനുള്ള പ്രേരണ ഞങ്ങൾക്കുളവാക്കുന്നു. ഇതിലൂടെ ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ മുഖം ദർശിക്കുവാൻ ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് സാധിക്കുന്നു.



ആരോരുമില്ലാതെ യാതനയനുഭവിച്ചിരുന്ന മരി ലെലിയറിന്റെ ദുരവസ്ഥ വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാനെ വല്ലാതെ അസ്വസ്ഥയാക്കുകയും തന്റെ ശുശ്രൂഷ മരി ലെലിയർ പൂർണ്ണമായും അർഹിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് തിരിച്ചറിഞ്ഞ വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ മരി ലെലിയറിനെ സ്വഭവനത്തിലേക്ക് കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ട് വന്ന്

ഒരു വർഷത്തോളം പരിചരിച്ച് നന്ദരണത്തിനായി ഒരുക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ഈ ജീവിതാനുഭവം തിരിച്ചറിഞ്ഞ ഞങ്ങളിലെ ഒരു സഭാംഗം രോഗശയ്യയിലായിരുന്ന തന്റെ അമ്മായിയമ്മയെ നല്ലരീതിയിൽ ശുശ്രൂഷിക്കുവാൻ ആരംഭിച്ചു. അങ്ങനെ വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാനെ പോലെ ഈ സഭാംഗവും തന്റെ അമ്മായിയമ്മയെ പരിചരിക്കുകയും നന്ദരണത്തിനായി ഒരുക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു.

ഉപവിയുടെ സാമൂഹ്യ പ്രേഷിത എന്ന അപരനാമത്തിൽ അറിയപ്പെടുന്ന വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ ഇന്നും ലോകത്തിന് പ്രകാശമായും ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് മധ്യസ്ഥയായും വിളങ്ങിനിൽക്കുന്നു. ഈ പുണ്യാത്മാവിന്റെ മധ്യസ്ഥം ഒരു ഉൾവിളിയായി സ്വീകരിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് പാവങ്ങളെ സഹായിക്കുവാനും, രോഗിസന്ദർശനം നടത്തി അവർക്കുവേണ്ടി പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുവാനും, പരേതരുടെ ദവനങ്ങൾ സന്ദർശിച്ച് ബന്ധുക്കളെ ആശ്വസിപ്പിച്ച് പരേതരുടെ ആത്മശാന്തിക്കായി പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുവാനും, സാമ്പത്തിക പരാധീനതയനുഭവിക്കുന്നവരെ സഹായിക്കുവാനും, പാവപ്പെട്ട വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്ക് പഠനോപകരണങ്ങൾ നൽകുവാനും, ആശുപത്രികൾ - അനാഥാലയങ്ങൾ - വൃദ്ധ സദനം മുതലായവ സന്ദർശിച്ച് അവരോടൊപ്പം ആയിരുന്നുകൊണ്ട് അവർക്ക് വേണ്ടുന്ന സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യുന്നതോടൊപ്പം ആശ്വസിപ്പിക്കാനും പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുവാനും ഞങ്ങൾ സമയം വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നു. കൂടാതെ



ബൈബിൾ വായിച്ച് ഗ്രഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് സ്വന്തം ജീവിതത്തിൽ അത് പ്രാവർത്തികമാക്കാനും ഒപ്പം മറ്റുള്ളവർക്ക് പകർന്ന് നൽകുവാനും ഞങ്ങൾ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നു. ഈ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്കെല്ലാം പ്രചോദനമായി ഡൊമനിക്കൻ സിസ്റ്റേഴ്സും ഞങ്ങളോടൊപ്പം പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നു.

വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ മധ്യസ്ഥ പ്രാർത്ഥനയാൽ ഞങ്ങളുടെ അൽമായ സഭയിൽ നിരവധിയായ അന്ത്യമരണങ്ങൾ നടക്കുന്നു. ഏതാനും ചില സാക്ഷ്യങ്ങൾ:

- 1) സഭയിലെ ഒരംഗത്തിന്റെ ജീവിത പങ്കാളിയുടെ ന്യൂമോണിയ എന്ന രോഗത്തിൽ നിന്ന് രോഗസൗഖ്യം ലഭിച്ചു.
- 2) സഭയിലെ ഒരംഗത്തിന്റെ മകന്റെ വീട്ടുമാറാത്ത പനിയും മറ്റ് അസ്വസ്ഥതകളും മാറി.
- 3) സഭയിലെ ഒരംഗത്തിന്റെ ജീവിത പങ്കാളിയുടെ കിഡിനിയിലെ കല്ല് മാറി

ഇവയെല്ലാം വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ മധ്യസ്ഥതയിൽ നടന്ന രോഗസൗഖ്യങ്ങളാണ്. അങ്ങനെ വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ മധ്യസ്ഥതയിലൂടെ ക്രിസ്തുവിളക്കു വിശ്വാസം ഞങ്ങളിൽ ആഴപ്പെടുകയുണ്ടായി.





നിലവിൽ വ്യാപിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന കോവിഡ് 19 മാഹാമാരിക്ക് എതിരെ ഭവനങ്ങളിൽ ആയിരുന്നുകൊണ്ട് ഞങ്ങൾ ജപമാല, കരുണകാന്ത, വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ മധ്യസ്ഥ പ്രാർത്ഥന, എന്നിവ ചൊല്ലിക്കൊണ്ട് ലോകമെമ്പാടുമുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കായി പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു. എല്ലാ ദിവസവും കുടുംബങ്ങളിൽ മാധ്യമങ്ങളിലൂടെയുള്ള ദിവ്യബലിയും, ബൈബിൾ വായനയും, കുടുംബ പ്രാർത്ഥനയും, വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ മധ്യസ്ഥ പ്രാർത്ഥനയും നടത്തി വരുന്നു. ഇതുവഴി വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാനിലൂടെ ദൈവത്തിന്റെ നിറസാന്നിദ്ധ്യം ഞങ്ങളുടെ കുടുംബങ്ങളിൽ നിറഞ്ഞു നിൽക്കുന്നതായി ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് അനുഭവപ്പെടുന്നു.



വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ടവളായി സദ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചതിന്റെ ഇരുപത്തി അഞ്ചാമത് നിറവിലായിരിക്കുന്ന വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ജീവിതവിശുദ്ധി വരുംതലമുറയിലേക്ക് വേഗം എത്തുമാറാകട്ടെ. സ്വർഗ്ഗീയ വസതിയിലെ ഈ പുഷ്പം എത്രയും വേഗം അൽത്താരയിലെ കെടാവിളക്കായി പ്രശോഭിക്കാൻ ഇടയാകട്ടെ. എന്നും എപ്പോഴും ദൈവസന്നിധിയിൽ വ്യാപരിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് എല്ലാം ദൈവമഹത്വത്തിനായി ചെയ്യുവാൻ ആഗ്രഹിച്ച വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ശക്തമായ മാധ്യസ്ഥം വഴി നമ്മുടെ എല്ലാവരുടെയും ജീവിതം ദൈവാനുഗ്രഹത്താൽ ധന്യമാകട്ടെ.

വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ അൽമായ സദ വി. മരിയ മൺലേന ദൈവലായം പരുത്തിയൂർ, പൊഴിയൂർ



PARUTHIYOOR LAITY





നന്മയുടെ ഉറവിടമായ് വാഴും മരിച്ചുപോയ്

“അജ്ഞതയാകും അന്ധകാരത്തിൻ
ആണ്ടിരുന്നൊരു ജനതയ്ക്കായ്
വിജ്ഞാനത്തിൻ പൊൻവെളിച്ചമായ്
വിളങ്ങിടുന്നു മരിച്ചുപോയ്”

മനുഷ്യനിലുള്ള സമ്പൂർണ്ണതയുടെ ആവിഷ്കാരമാണ് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം. ആശയവിനിമയം എന്ന നിലയിലും ഒരു ജനവിഭാഗത്തിന്റെ സാംസ്കാരിക ചിഹ്നം എന്ന നിലയിലും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന് ഏറെ പ്രാധാന്യമുണ്ട്. കാലത്തിന്റെ മാറ്റങ്ങളെ അതിജീവിക്കുന്നതിനും ചിന്തകളെ ഉദ്ദീപിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും വിദ്യകൊണ്ട് സാധിക്കും. വിദ്യ അഭ്യസിക്കുക എന്നാൽ യാഥാർത്ഥ്യങ്ങളെ അനുഭവിച്ചറിയുക എന്നതാണ്. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം കാലാനുസൃതവും സാമൂഹിക വികസനോന്മുഖവുമാകണം. വിദ്യ നേടിയാൽ മാത്രം പോര, അത് ജീവിതത്തിലുടനീളം ഒരു ജീവിത ഗന്ധിയാകണം. മൂന്നനുഭവങ്ങൾ ആസ്വാദ്യമാകുന്നത് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലൂടെയാണ്. ശരീരം, മനസ്സ്, ഹൃദയം എന്നിവയുടെ സമന്വേദനമായ വികാസമാണ് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലൂടെ ലക്ഷ്യമാക്കുന്നത്. വിദ്യാസമ്പന്നരായ ഒരു പുത്തൻ തലമുറയെ വാർത്തെടുക്കുക എന്ന ലക്ഷ്യം ഉൾക്കൊണ്ട് അശ്രാന്ത പരിശ്രമത്തിലൂടെ ലക്ഷ്യ പ്രാപ്തി കൈവരിച്ച 16 ാം നൂറ്റാണ്ടിലെ ഒരു ധീരവനിതയായിരുന്നു വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിച്ചുപോയ്. ഒരുസാധാരണ ക്രിസ്തീയ ജീവിതം ആയിരുന്നില്ല അവളുടെ ലക്ഷ്യം. തന്റെ ജീവിതത്തിലുടനീളം ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ കരം തിരിച്ചറിയുകയും ദൈവസ്നേഹം പരസ്നേഹ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിലൂടെ പ്രകടമാക്കാൻ വേണ്ടി പ്രയത്നിക്കുകയും ചെയ്ത അവൾ ഭക്തിയുടെ നിറകൂടവുമായിരുന്നു. പരസ്നേഹം, ദീനാനുകമ്പ, ധീരത, ദൈവഹിതം നിറവേറ്റുന്നതിനുള്ള നിശ്ചയ ദാർഢ്യം, ദൈവഭക്തി എന്നീ ഗുണങ്ങൾ മരിച്ചുപോയിൽ വിളങ്ങി നിന്നു.

മരിച്ചുപോയ് സാൻവിലിലെ ജനങ്ങൾ അജ്ഞതയുടെ അന്ധകാരത്തിലാണെന്ന് തിരിച്ചറിഞ്ഞ് രോഗീശുശ്രൂഷയോടൊപ്പം പ്രാഥമിക വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവും നൽകി. കുഞ്ഞുഹൃദയങ്ങളിൽ ദൈവ സ്നേഹത്തിന്റേയും പരസ്നേഹത്തിന്റേയും വിത്തുകൾ പാകുന്നതോടൊപ്പം അറിവിന്റെ ആദ്യകുഴരങ്ങൾ കുറിക്കുന്നതിനും അവരെ സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ ഉന്നതങ്ങളിലേക്ക് കരം പിടിച്ചുയർത്തുന്നതിനും മരിച്ചുപോയ് ജീവിതം ഏവർക്കും പ്രേചോദനവും പ്രേരണയുമാണ്. പാവപ്പെട്ട ജനങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിത രീതിയും അക്ഷരജ്ഞാനമില്ലായ്മയും എന്നെ ആഴങ്ങളിലേക്ക് ചിന്തിപ്പിക്കുകയും അവർക്കായി സേവനം ചെയ്യുന്നതിന് പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. മരിച്ചുപോയ് ജീവിത മുല്യങ്ങളും സുകൃതങ്ങളും മാതൃകയും മാർഗ്ഗ ദീപവുമാണ്.



ക്രിസ്തുവിന്റെ കാലടികളെ പിന്തുടരുന്ന വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ സാൻ‌വിലിലെ പെൺകുട്ടികളുടെ ആവേശമായി മാറി. മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ പ്രായം കൂടിയ പെൺകുട്ടികളെ പ്രത്യേകമായി അക്ഷരജ്ഞാനം അഭ്യസിപ്പിച്ചു. സാൻ‌വിലിലെ ജനങ്ങൾ പാവപ്പെട്ടവരും പതിതരുമായതിനാൽ അവിടുത്തെ പെൺകുട്ടികളെ ദൈവദയത്തിൽ വളർത്തുന്നതിനും സ്വയംപര്യാപ്തരാക്കുന്നതിനും പ്രാധാന്യം നൽകിയതുപോലെ ഇവിടെ പരുത്തിയൂർ ദേശത്ത് പഠനം ഉപേക്ഷിച്ച് ജീവിത ലക്ഷ്യം കൈവരിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാതെ വരുന്ന പെൺകുട്ടികൾക്ക് സ്വയം തൊഴിൽ പരിശീലിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി കൈതൊഴിൽ പരിശീലനം നൽകി വരുന്നു. വിധവകൾക്ക് വേണ്ടി മത്സ്യബന്ധന വലനെയ്യൽ, മെഴുകുതിരി നിർമ്മാണം, പേപ്പർ ബാഗ് ഉണ്ടാക്കൽ, തയ്യൽ പരിശീലനം, ജപമാല നിർമ്മാണം തുടങ്ങിയവ നൽകി വരുന്നു. ഇത് ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് വരുമാനമുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിന് സഹായമാകുന്നു. കൂടാതെ ഇതിലൂടെ അവരുടെ കഴിവുകളെ വളർത്തുന്നതിനും പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും സമയം ശരിയായ രീതിയിൽ വിനിയോഗം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനും, നേടുന്ന വരുമാനം തങ്ങളുടെ കുട്ടികളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന് ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിനും, വ്യക്തി ശുചിത്വം, പരിസര ശുചിത്വം, അച്ചടക്ക മനോഭാവം എന്നിവയിലൂടെ കുട്ടികളെ വളർത്തുന്നതിനും പ്രാപ്തരാക്കുന്നു. കൗൺസിലിംഗിലൂടെ കുടുംബ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനും ആത്മ വിശ്വാസത്തോടെ വെല്ലുവിളികളെ നേരിടുന്നതിനും ക്രിസ്തീയ വിശ്വാസത്തിൽ വളർത്തുന്നതിനും വഴികാട്ടിയായ് മാറുന്നു. ഇവിടെ നിന്നും സ്വയം തൊഴിൽ നേടുകയും അക്ഷരജ്ഞാനം അഭ്യസിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തവരെ ഉന്നത നിലയിലേക്ക് കൈപിടിച്ചുയർത്തുന്നതിനും ദൈവവിളികളെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്.

എല്ലാം ദൈവകരങ്ങളിൽ സമർപ്പിച്ച് ശരിയായ ക്രിസ്തു ശിഷ്യരായ് വളരാൻ മരിപുസ്‌പാന്റെ ജീവിതം നമുക്കെവർക്കും മാതൃകയും പ്രചോദനവുമാകട്ടെ. ഒപ്പം ഈ ധന്യാത്മാവിന്റെ ജീവിതം നാം ഓരോരുത്തരുടേയും ജീവിതത്തിൽ എന്നും എപ്പോഴും തുണയായിരിക്കട്ടെ. സ്വർഗ്ഗദൂതരോടൊത്ത് സ്വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ വാഴുന്ന വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ട മരിപുസ്‌പാൻ ദീപമായി പ്രശോഭിച്ച് നാം ഏവരേയും നന്മകളാൽ ദീപ്തമാക്കട്ടെ. വാഴ്ത്തപ്പെട്ടവളായി പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചതിന്റെ രജതജൂബിലി ആഘോഷവേളയിൽ നാമേവരേയും ഈ ദൈവപുത്രി അനുഗ്രഹിച്ചാശീർവ്വദിക്കട്ടെ.

സിസ്റ്റർ ട്രിപ്പു ജോർജ്ജ്



DOURDAN

works of mercy
legacy from mother



trusting in the providence

gave herself to all that

charity inspired her

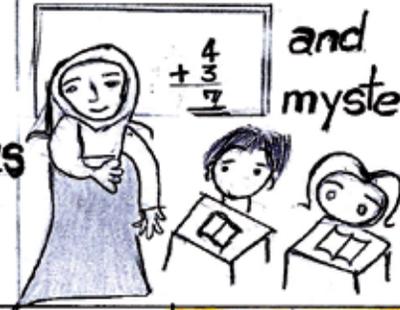
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ORIGINAL VISION

+ carry the knowledge of Jesus

and his mysteries



NEW SAINVILLES

burned with love

filled with

tenderness



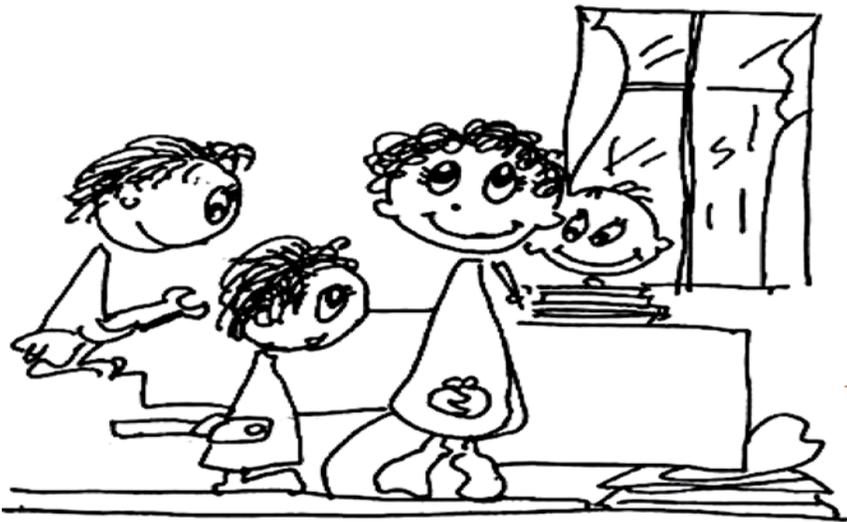
peace and reconciliation

beyond the borders

Deepa Khampely India

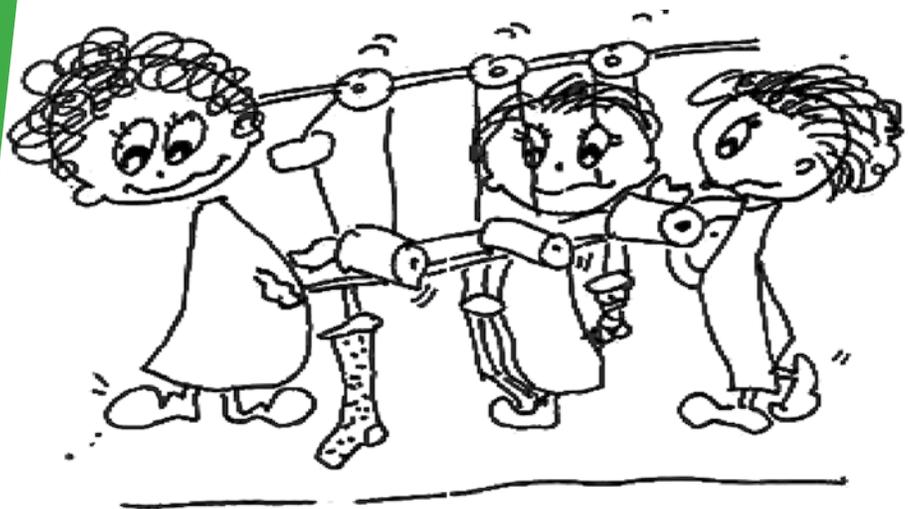


Marie's parents taught her the Gospel values and created in her the love for the sick, poor and needy from her childhood on.



During 42 years of her life in Dourdan, she contributed to the development of the society and brought changes in the field of industry.

It was difficult for Marie as she had to take up the responsibility of reviving her father's business. She who trusted in the providence of God was not discouraged. "Failure is the stepping stone to success". Her struggles in life made her strive for success both in business and in her personal life.





In 1691 though the business was flourishing she had to leave everything behind to concentrate on the charitable work..

In 1693 Dourdan was affected by the epidemic and all the prosperity of the city declined by this. People came to ask for Marie's help.

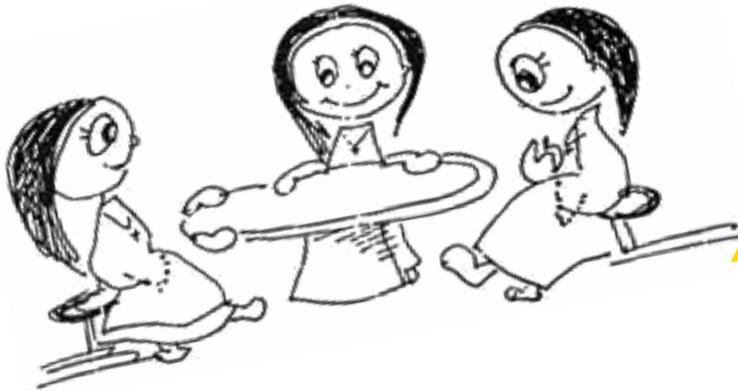
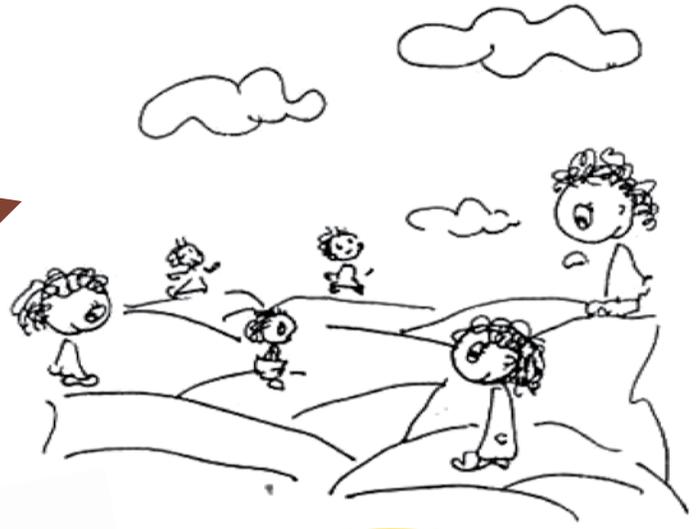


During her missionary journey, she met an old widow "Marie Olivier". Filled with compassion, Marie took her to her own home and cared for her till death.



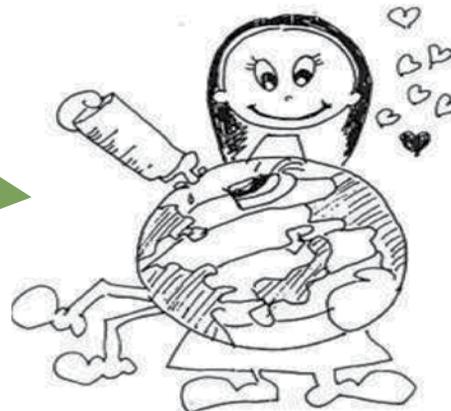
At the age of 42, Marie bid Goodbye to Dourdan leaving everything behind (her family, friends, success in business, comforts) and went to "Sanville" to serve and dedicate her life for the suffering humanity..

Marie inspired many young hearts and she chose some of the girls whom she taught, to collaborate with her mission. She empowered them to earn their livelihood..



In 1696 Marie Poussepin established "a community of the Third Order of St. Dominic for the service of the parish, to educate youth and care for the sick poor."

Daughters of Marie Poussepin where ever they go, proclaim the Gospel and live the charism of their foundress by serving the poor...





20 communities were established during her life time. Her daughters continue to be authentic in living the charism of their Foundress by charitable activities..

She was a woman with great convictions. In the year 1744 on January 24th she left this world entrusting everything to her daughters..



For Marie Poussepin, Charity was the only reason to establish the community. She left behind all that she possessed for the service of her neighbours



Today, Marie Poussepin speaks to each sister personally and invites her to continue her path to meet the needs of the people of today.



The French Revolution scattered the community in 1792.



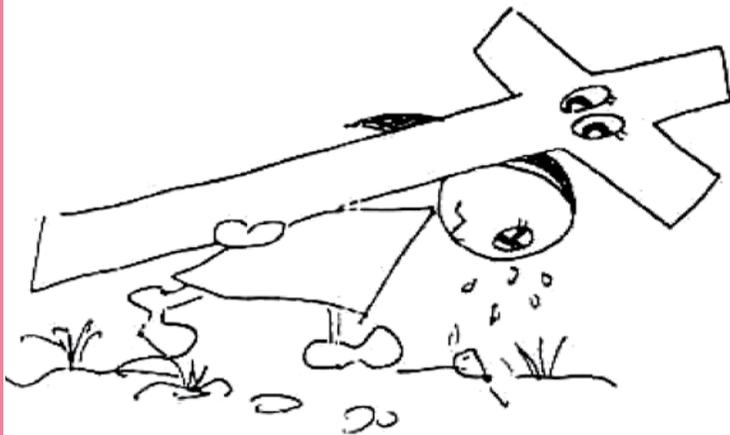
A new road opened in 1803. After the French revolution the Holy Spirit reunited few of the sisters in Janville and they were able to restart the work that Marie Poussepin had begun



Missionary Expansion of the Congregation:-

In 1867, sisters were sent to Spain. Six years later to Asia and South America - in 1873 to Colombia and Iraq. Later to other countries. In 1995 a community was established in South Korea

Dominican Sisters of the Presentation continue to be authentic to live the Charism of Marie Poussepin in different parts of the world..



Dominican sisters were sent to realize the church's missionary work through the Charism of Marie Poussepin. Dominican Sisters of the Presentation invites young women who want to follow Christ and dedicate their lives for the service of Charity.

We, the Dominican sisters of the Presentation arrived in South Korea on June 20th 1995. Our community belongs to the diocese of Incheon. We are situated in Bucheon city and belong to Sam-Jung- Dong parish.. Our Main mission is running a Day care called Dominican Charity Daycare since 1999 and the other mission is Group home called " Poussepin's home" (for the abused and abandoned girls) since 2008.





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