

## **ST. ANN'S CONVENT, ARUVANKADU, NILGIRIS, TAMILNADU – JANUARY 1958**



God willed that Indian Province should have a community on the hills. It was realized in 1958 January, during the tenure of Madre M. Emmanuel Quintarelli, who was the then Mother General, Rev. Bishop. Antony Padiyara who later became the cardinal received the sisters warmly and lovingly. It is Sr. Assuntina, the Provincial Superior of the Indian Province who took necessary steps to acquire Windermere the property consisting twenty acres owned by Salvation Army.

This Windermere had a cottage with several rooms on the top of the hill which was covered with young tea plants. Mother Clemenza came to Windermere along with Sr. Cesira and Sr. Barbera and opened an English medium School with few children. Sr. Alice Gnanamuthu, Sr. Barbera and Sr. Cesira were the pioneers. The first superior of the community was Sr. Irma (Italian). The famous factory in Aruvankadu is the CORDITE Factory. Sisters Adelphin and Zita rendered their service to the officers' children and Sr. Rossama assisted them.



In the year 1961 there was a turning point in the community. Mother Clemenza withdrew the sisters from the factory school as they were needed in our own institution. We began a high school with class IX. A modest single floor with four large rooms was put up. In the year 1964, class VI was started and the high school came to a completion, ie. VI – XI. This was a real blessing to the people of the locality. The school was recognized by the Tamilnadu Government in 1979. Sr. Josephine and Sr. Bridget were in charge of the school for some months until Sr. Josepha Manickam completed her studies and took charge as the Head Mistress of the school. In the year 1977, a Tamil medium Primary was started for the education of the poor children and the school was named after Mother Clemenza. In the year 1984, the St. Ann's High School was upgraded into a Higher Secondary School; Simultaneously an English medium section was functioning in all the classes.



The speciality of this community is all for the poor and they are rendering Yeoman Service to the poor people in and around.

