

## **ST. ANN'S CONVENT, NILESHWAR, KASARAGOD, KERALA - 29.03.1940.**

St. Ann's Convent Nileshwar was established on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1940. The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann had opened a new house in Panja, Mangalore the State of Karnataka. The sisters who worked there kept ill-health, due to Malaria and as a result the Apostolate suffered. However the then Superior General Mother Emmanuel and Mother Clemenza the Provincial Superior could not allow this state of affairs to continue. They approached the Bishop of Mangalore, Rt. Rev.Dr.Victor Rosario Fernandes who offered Nileshwar in exchange. On 29<sup>th</sup> March 1940, two sisters of our Institute Sr.Correna and Sr.Tiziana accepted the call to serve the Lord in the person of the poor and the sick on the soil of Nileshwar which then belonged to Madras state and the Diocese of Mangalore.

The little house of Nazereth did not remain static but grew in wisdom and virtue. The sisters expanded their area of service to another field of activity and thus they opened an Elementary school on July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1942 with strength of 150 pupils. Sr. Esther took up the responsibility as the first Headmistress, Sr. Corrina was appointed as the Superior of the Community. Gradually the hard work of the Sisters, the school was established and the number of the staff and students increased. Several orphans and teachers were the happy residents of the convent. The sisters also took Christ's message to nearby villages through social and catechetical work. The people were helped by sisters physically and spiritually.



The School celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1967. In 1974 Sr.Elizabeth became Superior of the Community. Through her untiring effort she completed and inaugurated the Convent

building in 1978. A temporary building was put up near St. Ann's School for the Divine Providence English Medium School. A piece of land was purchased and the new building's work was started. In 2009 the ground floor and the first floor of the new school was completed and the classes from the temporary building was shifted to the new building.

On 8th December 2014 the Feast of Immaculate Conception of Our Lady was a memorable day in the history of Nileshtar Community. The Foundation stone for the new Convent building was laid by Rev.Fr.Binu Cleetus, the Parish Priest of St.Peter's Church, Nileshtar in the presence of our sisters, parishners, hostelites and well-wishers of the community. On 7th Dec 2015 a chapter was written in the history of the community of Nileshtar, that was the blessing of the new Convent by Rev.Dr.Alex Vadakkumthala the Bishop of Kannur. All the sisters from neighboring communities, Parish Priests from the Kanghanhad Forona, parishners, neighbours and well-wishers were present to grace this occasion. We shifted hostel inmates including working women and students to the old Convent building. Another joyful event was the laying of the foundation of St. Ann's A.U.P School on 10.10.2018. The beautiful building came up with the help of benefactors from U.S.A. On 28th February 2020 the building was blessed and inaugurated.



Another cherished dream of our dear Provincial Superior Sr.Thresa Cherian, was fulfilled for the laying of foundation stone blessed by Rev.Fr.Mathew Kuzhimalayil, Parish Priest of St.Peter's Church Nileshtar for St. Ann's Home for the elderly sisters on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019. We thank the Lord wholeheartedly for His Marvelous plans for our Community.



