



8th December 2018

This is one of the biggest events of the year, celebrated jointly by the Home and School. A packed capacity of approximately 800 guests

19th December 2018

Christmas Party was organized for the boys by the Regents with creative games, carol singing, music, fun and entertainment. Lots of prizes and gifts were given and delicious food was served. The children really had a great time.



11th February 2018

Ten of our young lads of Std Fourth and Fifth received their First Holy Communion in our Chapel. The main celebrant was Bishop Dominic Savio Fernandes. The Eucharist was meaningfully celebrated. The children were trained for almost a year. Each child was allowed to invite 8-10 guests. Each child sat around a table with his family and snack boxes and soft drinks were served. The First Holy Communicants were invited to the stage to cut the cake.

PERSONNEL

The end of April 2018 was our time to say “goodbye and many thanks” to our Regent Bro Harold Quadros and the beginning of June 2018 was time to welcome the two new Regents Bro .Cris Veigas and Bro. Jordan Govind.

The Home is what it is largely because of the dedicated Staff that works round the clock to make every child feel at home. To the Religious Staff, simple and sincere thanks for their untiring efforts and unstinted service in the care and love of the children. During the year, the day to day running rested solely on the shoulders of the one Brother and two priests.

They were ably assisted by the two Religious Sisters from St Paul's Convent, the Office, Linen Room and Kitchen Staff which comprises, a Professional

greeted the Chief Guest, Bishop Allwyn D'Silva. One could sense the enthusiasm and excitement of our boys to present their talents before the audience. It was colourful and enthralling with songs, skits and dances. It is also a day when the boys wait for awards. Their hard work and initiative were acknowledged with awards and scholarships based on academics and overall behavior. All the guests, benefactors and well-wishers who attended the evening function appreciated the efforts put in by the Manager, Staff and Students.



A WORD OF APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE

Amidst these difficult times, our gratitude goes out to the donors and benefactors both big and small who with their financial aid has made our work very much easier and lighter. We owe our special thank you to the following:

- The Archdiocese of Bombay
- Priests of various parishes in the Archdiocese of Bombay
- The S.C.C. groups of various parishes
- Donors who have set up Scholarships and who have sponsored the School and Tuition Fees and Boarding and Lodging of our boys
- Team of Opus Dei for teaching Catechism to our First Holy Communicants
- The Rupanter Team and others groups for volunteering to conduct Faith Formation / Catechism classes for Catholic boys on Sundays.
- The various subject tuition teachers, music teachers and volunteers too many to mention by name
- The individual donors (too many to mention by name)
- The many schools: Campion, Convent of Jesus and Mary, Fort, St. Xavier's Boys Academy and Ryan International School

The financial support of so many was in more ways than one a reassurance and expression of their firm support and recognition of our work....an affirmation that is very much appreciated by us.

To the TRUST OF OUR LADY'S HOMES FOR BOYS run by the Catholic Church of Bombay goes our gratitude for the support and encouragement.

A good job is its own reward and a well - run Institution is its best advertising campaign! Even though the flood tide of inflation seems to be rising ever higher, we are not going to be deterred. We are going to set our plans and objectives for the next year to make our dreams come true for our children.

YOU CAN HELP BY WRITING / CALLING US:

- We pray for our benefactors four times a day and also during Mass. If you have any special intention we will be happy to pray for you.
- Send us your phone numbers and email addresses.
- If you have not received from us an official receipt for the donation, however small, sent by cash or cheque, within a month, please let us know.
- Your suggestions, ideas and advice are always welcome.

You can bring a smile on the boys' faces by sponsoring the following:

A meal on occasions like Birthdays, Anniversaries or any other occasions

Breakfast	: ₹ 5,000/-	School & Tuition	: ₹ 7,500/-
Tea	: ₹ 3,500/-	Boarding	: ₹ 17,500/-
Meal (Veg)	: ₹ 9,500/-	Scholarship	: ₹ 25,000/-
Meal (Non-veg)	: ₹ 13,500/-		

Cheques to be drawn in favour of 'Our Lady's Home for Boys'

Residents of India can transfer funds directly to: Central Bank of India, Naigaum Branch, Mumbai - 400014. A/c. No 1002042237

Foreign Residents may transfer funds directly to: Central Bank of India, Naigaum Branch, Mumbai - 400014. A/c. No 1002042248

IFSC code no. CBIN0281209

All donations are tax exempted under section 80G of the Income Tax Act

CONCLUSION:

The children of today are the citizens of tomorrow. The care and attention given to every child in the country is not a favor or an act of charity but, the pleasant duty of a country that is interested in forging ahead utilizing and training its manpower to the fullest.

Throughout another year, Our Lady's Home has continued its efforts to strengthen, expand and promote its services and activities. Still much remains to be done, but much more needs to be done to conserve what has been achieved.

For a Home, the goal is always a little further than we see it. It is a constant striving that keeps us alert to new opportunities and new visions. To fulfill these we need your encouragement and support.

God Bless you all.

FR. ELIAS D'SOUZA
DIRECTOR



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ANNUAL REPORT

2018 - 2019

INTRODUCTION



Within a few months, Our Lady's Home will be entering in to the 60th year of its existence. As we prepare for the Diamond Jubilee of this Institution, we look with pride as well as with humility, with love and understanding, with hope and joy. We strive to offer our boys the best, not just at present but, for the future as well.

Since its inception in 1960, Our Lady's Home has and continues to care for the orphaned, poor and destitute boys of all castes and creeds. With gratitude, we fondly remember the founders, Late Msgr. J. Lobo and his Assistant Late Msgr. Nelson Mascarenhas. The Home that began as the venture of an individual who had a heart for the poor, has now become the focal point of many a generous donor, the rallying point of many a dedicated worker and the point of convergence of the painstaking tutor, a persevering teacher and many an interested well-wisher who have made a candid option for the orphan and the destitute child. The span of almost sixty years has seen Our Lady's Home grow from strength to strength.



REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2018 - MARCH 2019

A Admissions

Letters to all Parish Priests and Assistants are sent in the month of December asking them to send deserving cases for admission in the month of January. Application forms are distributed through the entire month of January and are expected to be returned duly filled with all the required certificates by mid March the latest. This gives us a chance to check each deserving case.

Practically all cases recommended are usually through a Parish Priest. Occasionally some are recommended through Social Workers and / or sent from other Institutions. Total orphans get the first preference, then those with one parent alive and then for the very poor with both parents. One has to be academically inclined to be admitted.

To the boys, the Home is a place of opportunity. Hence, only those boys who can take advantage and use all the opportunities this Home offers would be the right type of boys who qualify for admission. If a boy can use only some opportunities, then he is not a total part of the home but, a fragment of it. At the time of admission the parent of the child is informed that the child's progress will be observed for a period of one year lest the parents feel that once a child is admitted he is assured of everything till he reaches the S.S.C.

B Boarding & Lodging

A large slice for the year's expenditure is on food. Where food is concerned it is said that "a child's eyes are bigger than his stomach". That is what is expected of normal children but what can one think of when it comes to deprived and orphaned children? These children tend to be more fussy about food and for psychological reasons consume much more than the normal child.

The boy's refectory with its mosaic walls, music system, marble flooring, stainless steel dining tables and plastic chairs gives the refectory a five star hotel appearance. Special care is taken to see that the boys are served hot, tasty, and a well-balanced meal. The nutritious food given to our boys at all times, has kept medical expenses rather low. Special provisions are always made for the sick. They get whatever diet is prescribed by the doctor.

Bright and airy, the study hall is equipped with

lights and fans. Each child has his own desk and chair. In the dormitories, the boys are made to feel very comfortable with fans, each has a bed, mattress and pillow and colourful counterpanes which bring to the dormitory a warm and delightful feeling.

Children who stay in our Institution are not in transit. They find here a home away from home. Having once made the option of giving the children a home, we have spared no pains to bring colour, fresh air and scenic surroundings that give a lift to drooping spirits.

Health and Hygiene C

We are proud to say that our yearly expenditure on medicals is not much. This is because of the high standard we maintain. We are extremely grateful to Dr. Bipin Jain who is our "House Doctor". A balanced diet, plenty of exercise and clean surroundings have given our boys a certain immunity and resistance to even the most common ailments.

Ruthless is the word for our efforts towards pest control, cleanliness and hygiene conditions. Every month the dormitories are fumigated. The places are sprayed with chemicals to keep bugs and cockroaches away and, pest control is done of the full compound to keep the rats at bay. Special lamps are used to keep mosquitoes away.

This year we had a few doctors who came and conducted a general health check up, dental and eyes testing for all our boys.

Clothing and Linen D

Our Home provides the child with the school uniform, games clothes and all bed linen he requires. Each child is given about three to four sets of clothes. All clothes and linen are sent regularly to the dhobi as there is hardly sufficient room for drying clothes and also because more than half the children are too small to wash their own clothes.

Most of the small boys' clothes are tailored in the Institution. Most of the bigger boys' clothes come in through donations. Where clothing is concerned, we are quite self-sufficient. The bed linen and counterpanes are partly purchased and partly donated.

E Academic Training & Performance

A healthy body supports a healthy mind. All our boys are given a chance to go to school. From the Kindergarten to Std VII all the boys attend our own school run by the same parent body, the Trust of Our Lady's Home for Boys. The boys of Std VIII upwards attend the neighbouring school, St. Paul High School.

No efforts are spared to make our little school a normal school and we are happy with the opportunities our lads get to develop their talents in our School that gives every student to take part in any competition it holds. In a system where the weakest student is encouraged with monetary rewards and citations and awards, we find that the boys bloom. No more do we follow the policy of the survival of the fittest. No more do we have rewards and scholarships merely for those who get the "highest marks" but for the "Most hardworking

F Formation

The present system of schooling seems to lay stress on knowledge and has not much of a chance to stress formation. Hence, Our Lady's Home outside of our lad's schooling makes place for many projects and programmes that would enhance their formative training.

Formation at Our Lady's Home spans a wide gamut of programs and activities.

Recreation:

Books and magazines are distributed to every child once a week from a library that has books graded for each class. Audio-visuals are screened from time to time and making use of the T.V to the maximum advantage the boy's minds are bombarded constantly with wholesome entertainment and general knowledge. To check in a most relaxed way whether all the inputs is sufficiently digested we have quiz programs. These quiz programs help us to gauge the boys' functional receptivity.



boy" and the "Most Deserving Student". Keeping the classes small we are able to ensure the maximum attention.

We are most grateful to Rev. Fr. Joseph D'Souza, the Principal of St. Paul High School for granting admission to every one of our boys to Std VIII and also for his personal interest in our boys.

This year, we had a lot of volunteers and honorary teachers coming in to teach our boys. All our primary boys were given tuitions the year round while for the boys of the secondary section, qualified tuition teachers were engaged to help out where certain subjects are concerned.

Counselling sessions were held on a regular basis twice a week for all the boys. Children who were weak in studies and those who had behavioral problems were given more emphasis.

Games:

Where there are boys there must be games, but when one has to make arrangements for over 100 boys it calls for good planning and precision, ample facilities and supervision. Every age group is catered to. There is ample equipment and just enough place for our 100 lads to play to their hearts content. Boys like to be with those of their own age and temperament but, as part of formation in community living we organize team games. Each team has a cross section of boys of all ages and capabilities. Soon they develop a concern for the young, the weak, the new etc.

Music:

Many of our boys are learning to play the drums, the violin and keyboard. Special tutors come to teach them once a week. Our children are very talented and put up a very good performance at our Annual Day celebration.

G Events at a glance

Training for events is yet another aspect of formation. We take every opportunity to get our boys perform on stage. In Our Lady's Home, every event is an opportunity to help our boys GROW.



14th June 2018

All the boys were back; once again, there was joy, laughter and noise in the Home with some crying and few others sulking among the new boys.



13th to 30th July 2018

A group of eighteen youngsters along with their organizer and a spiritual director from Spain spent about 20 days interacting with the boys of Our Lady's Home in the month of July. They taught the boys to play football and also presented them with jerseys and football. The children had a wonderful time with the Spaniards.

15th July 2018

The third Sunday in July was celebrated as Parents' Day with great enthusiasm and joy by the boys to honour and appreciate their parents' love and sacrifice for them. A lovely cultural programme consisting of a one act play, singing and dances was presented by the boys.



15th August 2018 and 26th January 2019

On both the National holidays, different boys were trained each year to sing patriotic songs and to speak fluently about our great leaders.



5th & 8th September 2018

September is a special month for us as we honour Our Lady, the Patroness of our HOME on the occasion of her Nativity and to honour the teachers on Teacher's Day. Both these events were celebrated with great interest spiritually and culturally. Special liturgies were organized to mark the occasions followed by games and cultural events including delicious food. The boys truly expressed their gratitude to Mother Mary and all the teachers including tuition teachers for their care, protection and guidance.

