

Laudato Si.....in action!!

Kolkata: The day we were all waiting for with bated breath, finally arrived. The Eco Carnival, a virtual fest organised by the Junior Section of Loreto Elliot Road was inaugurated by Fr. Robert Athickal, SJ on 10th November, 2020 at 9.30 a.m. This three hour programme was streamed live on YouTube. Interestingly, due to this pandemic, we got a glorious opportunity to involve nineteen Loreto schools from all over India and overseas (Bangladesh) in the programme. In keeping with the Laudato Si celebrations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the concept of constantly trying to bring about a serious change in mindset to protect the environment was effectively brought to into focus and reiterated by our very young participants.



It is not enough to merely put up a programme- to reach out to others with a strong message is not easy. The choice of events thus was well thought of and relevant. While "Recite to Preserve" was an original event, expressing ways to preserve the environment in verse, the "Environistas" was just as fashionable as the name sounds. We got the young girls and boys confidently walking the ramp, highlighting the

reusable and recycling aspect of waste material, resulting in stunning, creatively designed clothing. I am sure even Sabyasachi would have been inspired by our divas! Nature was celebrated in all its bloom through vivid renditions in "Nature Vibes". The presentation of songs and the dances was breathtaking. Education and learning must always go hand in hand and there is no age when we stop learning and growing. Here, was this one event, the "Botanical Healers", which explored the medicinal properties of plants and trees. It was surprising to note that the study of several uncommon plants had been taken up whose properties were unknown to us, as an audience.

While we speak of the events, we cannot but highlight the expressively read Prayer Service, the perfected Prayer Dance and the Theme Song. The theme song was not only an original composition but the way it was sung prepared us for the enlightening and entertaining programme that was about to unveil. We are proud to say that -thanks to the assistance of Fr. Arun Lucas, SJ of Chitranani and to our resource persons, we were able to organise a programme which was attended by an august on-line gathering, inviting an array of

appreciative and inspiring comments and messages from across the world - of special mention are the commendations from our UN representatives, Sr. Janet Palafox and Sr. Cynthia and Sr. Pauline from the JPIC office, Rome, among others. With the



blessings of the Almighty we had an almost flawless programme, thanks to the parents, teachers and students of all participating schools. A bow to the team of teachers of Loreto Day School, Elliot Road - Junior Section, headed by Sr. Marilla D'Souza, Principal who used her magical talent to create an exciting Eco Carnival.



Medical Properties of Neelin

Grows to a height of about 40-50 feet