
A Day In The Life Of An Orphan

The Orphanage of the Society of Servi Domini is perhaps the brightest jewel in the crown of the Indian Mission. Run at present by four postulant sisters of the Institute of the Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart, it looks after ten girls between 8 and 14, seven young ladies between 17 and 28, two elderly ladies and is also the official guardian of eight boys who stay at Holy Trinity Priory. It is a truly wonderful work of compassion and the source of many graces for those who live and work there. Furthermore, in conjunction with the school, this noble undertaking is perhaps the single most effective means of forming souls for future vocations and for good Catholic families in India. The children live in a wholesome Catholic environment; there are no fashions, there is no fast-food, no electronic media (except perhaps the occasional film!) plenty of activity and a good amount of work too. Furthermore, the children are almost unique in that they are being raised free from the enormous social pressure of the caste system that exists in Indian society, a pressure which can act for the good at times but which also can be a cause of appalling evil.

Here, in a few pictures is described a day in the life of an orphan.

6:00am. Rise and shine (the sun does actually shine every-day).

6:30am. Early morning study.

7:00am. Anistas, one of our pre-seminarians, rings the bell for morning prayers and Mass (bottom left). On feasts of the 2nd class we have a Sung Mass (right).

8:10am Breakfast.

8:45am. Mr. Michaelas and the boys depart for the school in the "Tempo" (bottom centre) while Miss Marie-Blanche and the girls depart in the "Jeep" from the orphanage (bottom right).





9:00am Assembly and prayers followed by lessons. Miss Josephine checks Jacinta's exercise book (**above right**) while Mr. Xavier examines Mary Magdalene on her Tamil homework. He does not look impressed (**above**).

10:40am. At break time Jyothi sits next to Miss Arockia to discuss the day's events (**below left**).

10:55am. Two more 50 minute lessons follow. Joseph explains the mystical sense of the answers he gave in his catechism test to Father Brucciani (**right**) while at 12:34pm, it looks as if Theresa has run out of steam (**below right**). It must be time for lunch!

