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Feast Day of Our Lady of Favours in Guru Mandir

GURU MANDIR, India - This year 2022, the Guru Mandir community has witnessed once again a great blessing from the Almighty through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Favours. From the time we renovated the grotto of Our Lady of Favours, numerous miracles have taken place. The faithful continue to visit this holy place as they find peace and solitude and experience the blessings of God. Last couple of years, Guru Mandir community could not celebrate this feast because of the existing government rules due to the pandemic situation. But this year, we felt the need to renew back the celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Favours on the 12th of October 2022, as we equally felt the interest and enthusiasm of the faithful to celebrate the feast.

Fr. Prem KUMAR SMM, Rector of the Guru Mandir community, meticulously planned and organized this celebration with spiritual preparations, as we had organized nine days of Novena in preparation towards the feast of Our Lady of Favours. We had the Montfortian Rosary and the Novena of Our Lady of Favours conducted every day before the Eucharistic celebration. The PPP brothers, postulants here in the Guru Mandir community along with the neighbouring religious sisters and the laity participated actively in the Novena and responded to this initiative with a lot of eagerness. We organized the Novena along with our farm community confreres Frs. Dias, Smith, John Marie and Guru Mandir community confreres Frs. Prem and Nashwin took up their respective novena days actively to preside over the Eucharistic celebration. Each of the confreres were assigned individually spiritual themes of Mother Mary to reflect upon during the novena days. They prepared their themes well and inspired the faithful through their meaningful homilies. We also had our own SMM guest priests who had come to con-celebrate the mass and pray for the faithful.

The feast day was colorful with decorations and spiritual preparation. We venerated Mother Mary with the decorated chariot. The faithful participated in huge numbers as we had the

chariot procession as the faithful carried the lighted candles, reciting the Montfortian Rosary. The holy mass was presided over by Fr. Arokia Swamy, the Parish Priest of St. Antony's Church, Gayathripuram along with ten concelebrants. The homily was preached by Fr. Nashwin who highlighted the importance of Our Lady of Favours biblically and spiritually. After the celebration Fr. Prem thanked the priests and the faithful for their consistent response and cooperation throughout the novena days and the feast day. The feast day ended with the fellowship meal provided by the Guru Mandir community. It was indeed wonderful occasion of gathering together for novena prayers, rosary procession and the fellowship meal.

We thank God for the blessings and Our Lady of Favours for her constant spiritual support and intercessions.

Fr. Nashwin, SMM