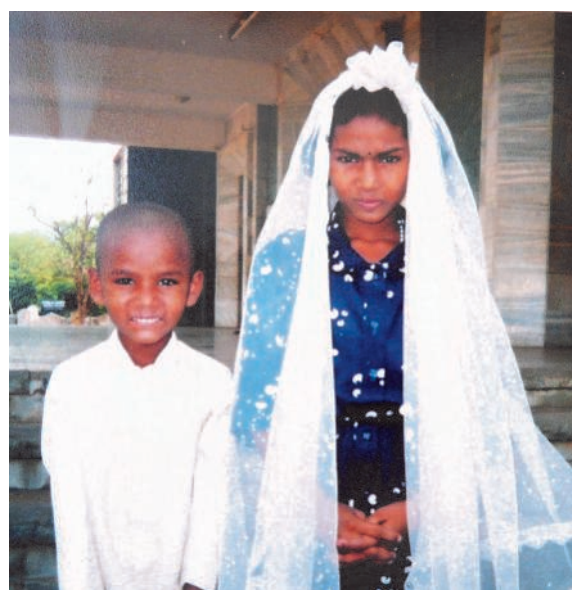
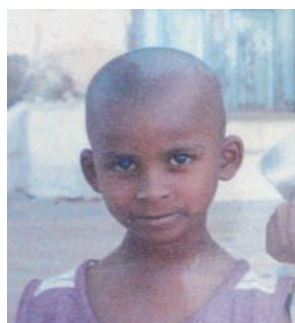


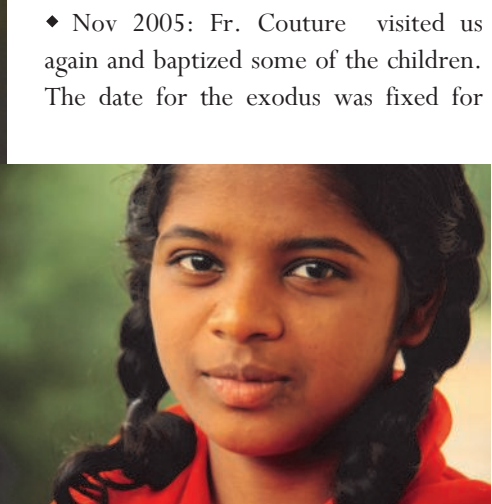
TEN YEARS OF COMPASSION

The Society of Servi Domini is the name of the orphanage and old people's home founded by Sr. Maria Immaculata as a lay woman in the year 2000. The Society became a beautiful part of the apostolate of the Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart when Sr. Maria Immaculata became a member of their congregation. Here are extracts from her own chronicle.

- ♦ 1st Oct 2000: With the help of friends and family, an orphanage and old age home was started in Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh
- ♦ 8th Oct 2000: First old man arrived.
- ♦ 9th Oct 2000: First old lady arrived.
- ♦ Sep 2001: We were taking care of 22 old people and 29 children. 2 people had died. We had picked up 7 very sick people from the streets and sent them to the Missionaries of Charity in Tirupati, my home town which is 90kms away from Cuddapah.
- ♦ Jun 2003: Visited Palayamkottai for the first time with Suchitra whose brother had found out about the Society by Providence.
- ♦ Apr 2004: Contacted Fr. Daniel Couture for the first time by email asking him for his guidance and advice.
- ♦ Sep 2004: Swarupa came to stay at the orphanage and help.
- ♦ 1st-2nd Nov 2004: Fr. Couture visited us for the first time in Cuddapah.



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♦ 10th-15th Jan 2005: Fr. Couture and Fr. Pagliarani visited us and gave us a retreat and blessed the new land we had bought for the orphanage.

♦ 18th-20th Feb 2005: Fr Xavier Ignatius from Tuticorin visited us and offered Mass for us. By this time we were taking care of 30 elderly and 51 children.

♦ 28th-30th March : Fr. Couture visited us to give us a chance to receive Our Lord. He arranged for me to visit two congregations in Europe as Swarupa and I showed interest in becoming religious.

♦ May 2005: I visited The Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Italy and one another congregation in Europe.

♦ 1st-3rd Aug 2005: Fr. Couture visited Cuddapah again and blessed the holes dug for the construction of the orphanage.

♦ 6th Aug 2005: Fr. Couture called after talking with Fr. Summers and asked us if we could move the institution to Palayamkottai, so that we could have daily Mass and regular sacraments.

♦ 7th Aug 2005: Agreed. All the construction work had to be stopped at Cuddapah.

♦ Nov 2005: Fr. Couture visited us again and baptized some of the children. The date for the exodus was fixed for

Society of Servi Domini ♦ 2000 - 2010 ♦ Deo Gratias

January. The children had already started to learn Tamil.

♦ 14th Jan 2006: All the things are packed into two trucks and sent off to Palayamkottai to await our arrival.

♦ 18th Jan 2006: Had Mass early in the morning and took the 8am train with 35 children and few old people. All the other children were given back to their relatives as they did not want to send their children with us so far away. The other old people who could not travel or who did not want to leave Cuddapah went to other old age homes.

♦ 19th Jan 2006: Arrived in Palayamkottai at 5am. Fr. Summers and his team picked us up. They took us to the big British bungalow owned by Muslims which they had cleaned and prepared for us. The girls stayed at the orphanage, the boys at the priory.

♦ Jun 2006: Fr. Summers opened a school, Veritas Academy, for our children.

♦ 13th Jun 2006: Two girls Rosalyn and Rosilda from Tuticorin joined us to help us and to try their vocation.

♦ 21st Aug 2006: Two Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart came to India along with Fr. du Chalard.

♦ Aug 29, 2006: Fr. Couture came and after discussions with Fr. Du Chalard it was decided to send me to Italy to become a nun.

♦ Nov 2006: The “New Land” was purchased for the girls’ orphanage.

♦ Jun 2007: I left for Italy. Marie Blanche of France had come in February to help to take care of the orphanage along with Swarupa and the Roses (Roselyn and Rosilda), when I was gone.

♦ Jul 2008: I returned after making my first vows as a Consoling Sister of the Sacred Heart.

♦ Sep 2008: The Roses left for Italy to commence their novitiate.

♦ 29th Nov 2008: The foundation stone laid for the construction of the first phase of the new orphanage by Fr. Du Chalard.

♦ 8th Dec 2009: The new building was blessed by Fr. Du Chalard.

♦ April 2010: The entire community of 2 sisters, 1 postulant sister, 2 elderly ladies, 8 ladies, 19 orphan girls and 8 village girls (school boarders) moved into the new building.

♦ Sept 2010: The Roses, now Sr. Maria Celina and Sr. Maria Theresa returned after making their first vows in the Mother House in Italy.

In these 10 years, a total of 45 souls have been baptised, some have passed away to the other world. Most of the elderly who have been baptised have asked for baptism after they have seen us at work. To tell the truth, in the beginning I did not have time to catechise them, but God in his mercy attracted those souls to Himself. From the beginning we were lucky as we always had daily Mass. Deo gratias. Ω

