

Our very dear ROBBENS..MADELEINE...

GREETINGS and LOVE from PALANPUR
From all the Sisters and from your sponsor child.

The School activities are keeping the children fully occupied. August 15th. was the Installation of the School office bearers and 5th September Teachers day Celebration. The School was taken care of by the students, it was good to see the students imitate their Teachers.

The first terminal examinations are over and there is hope that they have fared well. It is a joy for me to write to you as Christmas and New Year will soon be on our door step.

Let me wish you a very Joy-filled Christmas and many Blessings for the New Year 2005. May Jesus and Mary watch over you and all your loved ones.

Yours in Jesus and Mary,

Sr. Josephine Mathew Rjm

Sr. Josephine Mathew R.J.M



A Happy Christmas

Your foster child Rekha Vasu Parmar is so happy to greet you for the coming X'mas and new year. I join her in wishing you a very happy X'mas and a Prosperous New year 2005.

Rekha Vasu is in class II and doing well. She is a smart sweet child. I am sending you a fresh photo of Rekha along with this letter. She takes part in all the activities of the school. She is enjoying her good health.

She has just finished her Terminal Exam and waiting for the result. After that X'mas celebrations, new cloths and going home for X'mas holidays. These are the exciting days for children.

Sr. Josephine Rjm

THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR 2005 - 2006

Convent of Jesus and Mary
Palanpur

Post Box No. - 31
Gujarat - INDIA.

June - 2005

our very dear, *ROBBENS MADELEINE*,

Greetings and love from your god-child and all the sisters of Palanpur community. The school has reopened on the 13th of June after the long summer vacation, and once again the Boarding and the school are resounding with children's voices and laughter.

We are happy to give you the good news that all our children have done quite well in their final exam and all have passed with good marks. This year, our school has gone up to class-6, so, all are very happy. The children enjoyed their long holidays with their families, but they are also happy to be back with us. We have many new girls in our boarding. Thank God our poor tribals are beginning to realize the importance of the education.

We hope this letter will find you and your family members in good health. We are very grateful to you for your help love and interest you take for your god-child. We are having a very hot summer and so far there is no sign of monsoon.

I want to inform you that Sr. Josephine who had been corresponding with you has been transferred and I; Sr. Shanti will be doing that work. Wishing you all the best and assuring you of our prayers and gratitude.

Yours affectionately in Jesus and Mary

Sr. Shanti

N.B.

Happy to give you some news about your god-child Rekha. She is fine and keeping in good health. She has passed in class II and now she is in class III. your god-child Rekha is doing well, very happy and active child, likes to dance. she told me that she enjoyed her holidays with her parents and they happy. This year we have started very extraordinary monsoon with lot of heavy rain; all the places in Gujarat are flooded people are without food & drinking water, because no electricity. I wish you all the best - Sr. Shanti

Convent Of Jesus And Mary
Catholic Ashram, Post Box No. - 31
Palanpur - 385 001

5th Dec '05

MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

My Dear, *Miss, Madeline Robbens*

It is the time of the year when we remember in an affectionate way all our family members and friends especially those who have touched our lives and the lives of all those we love.

During the lovely month of December we celebrated the joyful feast ever looked forward to by all, especially by the children. The great day . . . the birth of our Lord, who is the prince of peace, love & joy. May He fill our hearts, our families and our country with this peace, love and joy, to bring this kingdom of Peace wherever we are.

Now let us have some news of Palanpur. The children had their first terminal examination in September. More or less everyone managed to do well and are very happy. Then came the 'Nav Ratri', which means 'Nine Nights' of dancing the 'Garba' a typical folk dance of Gujarat. The children had left for home for Diwali holidays on 25th October '05. Diwali is the festival of lights a feast celebrated by all. After the holidays the school reopened on 16th November '05 and Catholic Ashram began to resound with the dear voices of our boarders. Now they are very busy with their studies and preparing for Christmas. This year we are preparing some dances and drama for the village program through which we give them the Christmas message.

On behalf of all the Sisters, Staff & Children of Palanpur, I wish you a very joyful Christmas followed by a peaceful New Year. May God our King of Peace shower these choicest blessings on your family members.

Yours affectionately,

Sr. Shanti

Sr. Shanti



Visit of the wise men

A Blessed
Christmas

મારા પ્રિય દર્મ મા

આપણા તથા આપના પરિવારને મારી નાતાલ
લેખક નવા વર્ષની સુભેચ્છાઓ.

તમે મારા શિક્ષણ માટે આર્થિક મદદ કરી છો
તેના માટે હું તમારી આભાર માનું છું
તમારા માટે પ્રાર્થના કરું છું

આભાર

તમારી દીકરી
રેખા

My dear godmother Mrs. Madeleine Robbins

I am so happy to wish you a very happy
christmas and a happy new year.

I am very grateful to you for your economic
help for my education.. I am praying every day
for you. Please pray for me too. Thank you.

With love & best wishes

Your loving godchild

Rekha

Convent of Jesus and Mary
Catholic Ashram, P.B. No. 31
PALANPUR 385 001
Gujarat; INDIA

12th July 2006

My dear Godparent,

Parmer

Your Godchild Rekha Vasu ~~Gama~~, has been promoted from Std. III to Std. IV. During the summer vacation, she helped her parents and worked in the field. She also spend a few days in her uncle's house and had a short holiday. Rekha and all in the family are in good health. They are grateful to you for your valuable help.

A new academic year has begun. We waited for the arrival of our boarders to bring life and laughter into our silent campus. The re-opening of the school for this new year was on Monday, 12th June. On the previous day the boarders started coming in singly or in groups. In no time the campus was filled with the happy chatter and laughter of our dear boarders. Now we have 105 boarders wheras we had only 80 last year.

The child you sponsor has been promoted to the higher class. Let us hope that she continues to study well in the new class. Education is perhaps the only means by which the Tribals can uplift themselves. Till now they are marginalized since most of them are ignorant and illiterate. Let us hope that in time to come the Tribal Community can be uplifted enough to join the mainstream of life in the Country.

Sr. Shanti who corresponded with you has been transferred elsewhere. From now on, I will be the correspondent.

Hope you and your family have a restful holiday this summer, far from the hurry and bustle of daily life.

May God bless you and your dear family for your kindness and generosity towards the poor and marginalized Tribals.

Yours sincerely,

Sr. Barbara Rjm

Sr. Barbara Lawrence RJM

Convent of Jesus and Mary
Catholic Ashram, PB 31
PALANPUR 385 001
Banaskantha Dt.,
Gujarat, INDIA

30th August 2007

My dear Godparent,

Hope you had an enjoyable time during the summer vacation. I hope both you and your family were blessed with good health during the holidays. The weather must be very pleasant now.

The new academic year of 2007 – 2008 began on Monday 11th June. All our girls in the boarding started coming back on the eve of the re-opening day of the school. We, the Sisters, were happy to see them return to the boarding. In no time the campus was resounding with the happy laughter and chatter of the children.

Your godchild Rekha Vasu Gamar, was successful at the final examination and has been promoted. She has kept good health during the summer holidays. Now it is the rainy season and the house gets damp. As a result, the members of her family suffer from respiratory illness.

On the re-opening day of the school, there was a Prayer service in which the whole school participated. We thanked God for all the blessings showered on us during the past year and we prayed for His guidance, help and blessings in the new academic year ahead of us. We specially thank God for the permission we received from the Education Department for the opening of the new Std. VIII. It is very difficult to get this permission. It involves innumerable visits to various Government departments for several months. This permission means that the children need not go to another school for their secondary school education. It is a big blessing, since most of the children will not continue their studies if they have to go somewhere else. Now they can be sure of continuing their education while staying in the boarding.

May God continue to bless you for your generosity and kindness. May He give you many opportunities to make your life happy and beautiful. The Sisters and all the children pray for you every day.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely,


Sr. Magdalene Falcao RJM

Convent of Jesus and Mary
Catholic Ashram, P.B. No. 31
Palanpur 385 001
Gujarat; India
12th Dec. 2007

My dear Godparent,

Christmas is just round the corner and we hasten to greet friends, benefactors and relatives, all good wishes and every blessing of God on them and their families. May this season of joy permeate your lives and make whatever you undertake bring more joy to yourself and to the others you associate with.

Your godchild Rekha Vasu Gamar, is doing well in her studies. However, she has to appear for the final examination in May 2008 and get good marks in order to go to the higher class. During the space of a few months a brother died and a new baby brother was born. The family is greatly consoled by the new arrival. The rest of the family is in good health

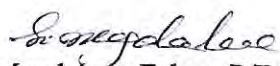
Now some news of our school: At the end of July, the Educational authorities requested the Principal of our School whether the Regional sports could be held on our school grounds. All the schools of the region responded positively and we held sports for over 1,300 school children for a whole day. All the students, invited guests and Government officials who attended the event were served the mid-day meal. It was a grand day for our pupils; they enjoyed it thoroughly.

The first terminal examinations were held in September. Most of our girls have done well at their papers. We feel happy to see the results, as these children, in most cases are the first ones in their respective families to get formal education in a school. Usually, the parents prefer that they look after their young siblings at home or graze their animals. We have to motivate the parents constantly to send their children to school.

Once more, I wish you a happy time during this festal season. I pray to Almighty God to bless you and your dear family in a very special way. May He in His goodness and mercy bless you with peace every moment of the New Year, 2008. May He inspire you to become a peace maker in your daily life.

With every good wish and prayer for a joy-filled holiday.

Yours sincerely,


Sr. Magdalene Falcao RJM
Correspondent

Convent of Jesus and Mary
Catholic Ashram, PB 31
PALANPUR 385 001
Banaskantha Dt.,
Gujarat, INDIA
5th Oct. '08

My dear Godparent,

Hope you had an enjoyable time during the summer vacation. I hope both you and your family were blessed with good health during the holidays. The weather must be very pleasant now.

The new academic year of 2007 – 2008 began on Monday 11th June. All our girls in the boarding started coming back on the eve of the re-opening day of the school. We, the Sisters, were happy to see them return to the boarding. In no time the campus was resounding with the happy laughter and chatter of the children.

Your godchild Rekha Vasu Gamar has been successful at the final examination and was promoted to the higher class. She has kept good health during the summer holidays. All the members of their families are in good health.

On the re-opening day of the school, there was a Prayer service in which the whole school participated. We thanked God for all the blessings showered on us during the past year and we prayed for His guidance, help and blessings in the new academic year ahead of us. We specially thank God for the permission we received from the Education Department for the opening of the new Std. IX. It is very difficult to get this permission. It involves innumerable visits to various Government departments for several months. This permission means that the children need not go to another school for their secondary school education. It is a big blessing, since most of the children will not continue their studies if they have to go somewhere else. Now they can be sure of continuing their education while staying in the boarding.

May God continue to bless you for your generosity and kindness. May He give you many opportunities to make your life happy and beautiful. The Sisters and all the children pray for you every day. *Sorry for the delay of this letter*

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely,


Sr. Magdalene Falcao RJM



Merry Christmas & Happy new year

Convent of Jesus and Mary
Palanpur 385 0
25th Nov. 2008

My dear Godparent,

Christmas is just round the corner and we hasten to greet friends, benefactors and relatives, all good wishes and every blessing of God on them and their families. May this season of joy permeate your lives and make whatever you undertake bring more joy to yourself and to the others you associate with.

Your godchild Rekha Vasu Gamar is doing well in her studies. Now some news of our school. We had Diwali celebration in the school where children enjoyed playing with the crackers. We also had Navratri celebration on the last day of the school. All the students wore their traditional dress for the Garba day and enjoyed playing Ras-Garba.

The first terminal examinations were held in September. Most of our girls have done well at their papers. We feel happy to see the results, as these children, in most cases are the first ones in their respective families to get formal education in a school. Usually, the parents prefer that they look after their young siblings at home or graze their animals. We have to motivate the parents constantly to send their children to school.

Once more, I wish you a happy time during this festal season. I pray to Almighty God to bless you and your dear family in a very special way. May He in His goodness and mercy bless you with peace every moment of the New Year, 2008. May He inspire you to become a peace maker in your daily life.

With every good wish and prayer during the season of Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Sr. Magdalene
Sr. Magdalene Falcao RJM
Correspondent

Many thanks for the photo and greeting card you send to Rekha. She was very happy. Belated Birthday wishes to you May God Bless you and all your dear ones. and give you long life. to some as you serve the poor and needy I no miki and parent I have met them in Anklav.
Sr. Magdalene

Convent Of Jesus And Mary,
Catholic Ashram,
Post Box No: 31
Palanpur - 385001
Gujarat, INDIA
20.08.2013

Dear Godparent Robbens Madeleine + Family,

I am very happy to communicate with you again about the progress of your godchild Rekha Vasu.
She is studying well and has gone to the next class XI.

In India We close academic year in April and begin the new academic year in June. In May they have their summer vacation. In April they have examinations and are promoted to the next class. In May they go home to their parents and return to the Boarding in June. This year the number of girls in our Boarding increased to 160 and it is a big job to feed and cloth them. We will not be able to do it if it is not for your generosity.

This year the summer heat all over India was great. In Palanpur the temperature went upto 46° or 47° celsius. Palanpur is very close to the desert region of Rajasthan called the Thar Desert (The Great Indian Desert) Due to this we have extreme climate. In winter the temperature goes down as low as 6° celsius. This year we are very happy as we had good monsoon rains in June, July, & August. These are the rainy months of India. Most of the cultivation take place at this time as the farmers in this region depend fully on the rain water. They cultivate cotton, oil seeds, groundnuts, castor, millets, maize etc. Our children in the Boarding come from the Tribal villages and most of their parents are illiterate farmers. Three of our sisters work in these villages to teach them better farming methods, literacy, medical help etc. In the next letter I shall give you some information about our school system.

Hope you had a nice holiday in August. We, our Boarders and your godchild pray for you daily. Thank you for all that you are doing for our children.

With many thanks,

Your Sincerely,

M. Gratia R.J.M.
Correspondent

(sister M. Gratia R.J.M.)

P.S. :Our e- mail Address is the following.
cjmpalanpur@yahooh.com

Please give us your e – mail address.

Rekha sends you love & thanks for all that you are doing for her. Next June she wants to leave the studies in our school and do a course in Home Nursing. So we will have to give you another godchild in June 2014.

M. Gratia R.J.M.

Convent of Jesus and Mary,
Catholic Ashram,
Post Box No : 31
Palanpur 385 001
Gujarat, INDIA



*I prayed for you in a very
special way at the Shrine
of Our Lady of Groves at Fardluna, India*

Your Godchild sends you greetings for Christmas in her
mother tongue Gujarati.

નાનાલની સોનેરી સલામ તમા
તમા વર્ષની શુભેચ્છા.

Your Godchild

Rekha Vasu

and all the sisters here

Dear Godparents, *Robbens Madeleine + Family*,
May the blessing of the Christ Child and His Mother be with you and everyone in your family
at Christmas and the New Year Of 2014.

The children will be going home for Christmas & New Year. They will be back on 2nd
January. Then they will have a Summer break of little more than month at the end of April. We
are at the best climate in Palanpur 30° C day temperature and 18° C night. Being close to the
desert region of Rajasthan the day temperature can drop as low as 7° C in January.

We have children in the Boarding from the age group of 5 to 17 years. They have 12 years
of education at school level. Classes 1 to 8 Primary education, 9th and 10th class is High School
education up to class 10th. Here they study 3 languages (mother tounge, Hindi, English)
Mathematics, Science and Social Science (History, Geography & Politics) At the XI and XII stage
they specialize in one branch either Science/ Arts / Maths. After this they enter degree colleges
and follow a 3 years of degree course. Those who take Science will branch off to medicine or
engineering. This is how the Indian education goes. At every stage there is an examination.

Dear friends thank you for helping us to educate these children. If it is not for you many
of our children from the poor villages may not be able to go to school. Education is the only
way to make them come up in life. All my sisters in the community join me in wishing you and
every one in your family VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR of PEACE, JOY and GOOD
HEALTH.

With best wishes and prayer,

M. Gratia R.J.M.
(Sr. Gratia R.J.M.)