

## Prathipadu 1952

Prathipadu is a village and a mandal in the East Godavari District in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. It is a very beautiful village which is surrounded by hills on one side, and a national Highway with lush green fields all around. ***On 19th March 1952, a new community was born at Prathipadu.*** Beginnings were always hard. What these Sisters appreciated most was that they had a chapel with the Blessed Sacrament in the guest house. The priest at Annavaram was also their priest-in-charge. There was no church yet in Prathipadu.

***By 1951, a village called Kirlampudi offered a site for the Sisters to build a maternity Home for the poor.*** But it was not a suitable place for the work. However, two Sisters started to go to Kirlampudi every week to hold a roadside clinic and dispensary. They saw great apostolic potential in this village. But the project was filled with difficulties and they wanted to abandon it. But the villagers were not easily discouraged. It was only a substation of Samalkot. Very soon the Bishop, the Superiors at Waltair, the officials at Kirlampudi and Mr. Y. Appalaraju were in consultation to improve matters and set the proposed work on a sound basis. Mr. Appalaraju sold 6 acres of land to the Sisters for a reasonable price and donated the guest house in memory of his mother, the late Rani. The house consisted of one room with two verandahs. These were enclosed to form a chapel, a parlour, a godowns and a room for the Sister on night duty. The big room inside was used for everything else. Later on, another floor was constructed over this to be a dormitory for four but it was terribly hot. An additional room was made to be a refectory and a separate kitchen was also built. But all these took long time. ***As soon as the Sisters settled in this guest-house, turned into a Convent, Prathipadu community was established independent of Annavaram on 19th March 1952.***

1951  
St. Joseph's  
Maternity  
Hospital

1952  
St. Joseph's  
Convent

1954  
St. Joseph's  
Elementary  
School.

1967  
Leprosy Control  
Project

1978-1979  
OP  
Department

1979  
62 Leprosy  
Clinics

2000  
HIV/AIDS  
Care

2004  
Home/Communi  
ty Based Health

2006  
ART Pediatric  
Programme

2014  
English Medium  
School

2019  
St. Joseph's  
new Hospital