



MNL



Newsletter of the Madurai Jesuits

JULY 2014

(For Private Circulation)



MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

OUR MEN IN UNIVERSAL MISSION

Dear Brothers,

During the months of March, May and June, I visited our men studying or working in Myanmar, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Italy, UK, France and Austria. We have five men in Myanmar, four in Eastern African Countries, four in U.K., three in France, one in Austria, three in Italy. We are happy that this year six more of our men have been missioned to different places for their study – one each to Italy, France, Spain and USA and two to UK.

It was highly encouraging to meet these men, who are committed to their different responsibilities and are happy. I felt legitimately proud, as Madurai Province is privileged to send its sons to these places to study or serve. As we have been reflecting often, it is our turn to offer ourselves and our services to those who are in greater need. It is also

our turn to prepare our men to take up more and more universal missions and responsibilities. Definitely, we have a great role and responsibility in the universal mission of the Society.

The African provinces are in need of more Jesuits from outside. The Institutions in Rome definitely need more men from our Assistancy. It may be possible for Madurai to build up some kind of tie-up with the French Province. Our ministry in Myanmar may have to be continued for some more years, until the local Jesuits are in a position to stand on their own.

As we are reflecting on our role in the Universal Mission, we also think of the wonder ministry of several of our men in Afghanistan for the past few years. For this year four of our men were assigned. But we were faced with the shocking incident of the abduction of our dear brother, Fr. Prem. All of us, and several other well-wishers and friends, are praying for his safe and speedy release. All possible efforts are being made to get his safe return, with the help of civil authorities and others. Within the Society, well-planned efforts are

in progress. Surely, the Lord of history will guide us in these efforts. Speaking about this incident, Fr. General stated in Spain: “Prem Kumar in Afghanistan and Paolo Dall’Oglio in Syria are “first-class” Jesuits, very dedicated, and aware of the risks they face, but were unafraid.”

While we continue to pray for the speedy and safe release of Frs. Prem and Paolo, let us imbibe their spirit of courage, sacrifice and dedication. Let us try to realize that we are Jesuits not for ourselves but for the service of the people and the Lord of history. For this we need to grow in our universal outlook and perspective, along with our men working or studying in different parts of the world. Our Founder, St Ignatius, demonstrated this universal spirit by missioning Francis Xavier to the Indies. Let us imbibe the same spirit, as we celebrate his feast on July 31.

Fraternally,
Sebasti L. Raj, SJ
Provincial

Provincial's Programme:

JULY

- 01 GBM: Social Action Commission – IDEAS, Madurai
02 GBM: TVET Commission – LTI, Madurai
03 GBM: Pastoral Commission – Maduralaya
06-07 Salem and Yercaud – TNBC Meetings
10 GBM: Communication Commission – Maduralaya
12 GBM: Secondary School Commission – St Mary's, Madurai
13 GBM: Higher Education Commission – St Joseph's, Trichy
14 Workshop for the Leaders of FIHM Congregation, Trichy
16 GBM: Youth Commission – Maduralaya
19 Bangalore – GB Meeting of ISI-B
20 GBM: Spirituality and Dialogue Commission – Dhyana Ashram, Chennai
22 GBM: Formation Commission – Maduralaya
23 Consult
25 Meeting of young Jesuits in Higher Education – Dhyana Ashram, Chennai
27 GBM: Dalit Commission – Maduralaya
29 GBM: Finance Commission – Maduralaya
31 Feast of St Ignatius

AUGUST

- 01-03 LUMEN Institute, Tindivanam – CRI Meetings
04 Visitation: Tindivanam and Pondy
06-07 Bangalore – National CRI Executive Meeting
09-10 Batch Meeting II (from 1958-64) – Maduralaya
14-15 Delhi – POSA Consult
16 Consult
17 Meeting for LS/TL and Coordinators – Maduralaya
18 Visitation: Poondy
18-19 Visitation: Vilangudi
20 Visitation: Kumbakonam
20-22 Visitation: Nagapattinam
23-24 Batch Meeting III (from 1965 - 1971) – Maduralaya
25 Visitation: Kadamalaikundu
25-28 Visitation: SHC, Shembaganur
30 Ordination – SJC, Trichy

Chennai Mission Superior's Programme

JULY

- 05-06 Orientation Prog, Vettavalam, AHAL
06 Planning : Jubilee Action Plan, Vettavalam
10 Orientation Prog, Ooty
12 Orientation Prog, Ranipet
15 Orientation Prog, Vallam
18 Loyola Community at CM Office
19 Recollection: Superiors & Consultors, Dhyana Ashram
20 Superiors & Consultors Meet, Dhyana Ashram
Eve: Mission Consult, Dhyana Ashram
23 Province Consult
25 to Sri Lanka

AUGUST

- 07 Return from Sri Lanka.
09-10 Batch Meet, Maduralaya
14 Mission Consult
16 Province Consult
17 Superiors' Meeting, Maduralaya
30 Ordinations, Trichy

PCF's Programme

JULY

- 06 Formation Comm Meet, Arulkadal
13 Higher Education GBM, SJC, Trichy
22 Formation GBM at Maduralaya

AUGUST

- 4 - 9 Workshop, FRRC-SXC
17 LS/TL Coord Meet, Maduralaya
18 SUPAM Theological Analysis
27-29 SJC, Trichy
30 Ordinations, SJC, Trichy

Announcements

POSA Consultor and Chairman of South Zone:

Fr. Provincial has been appointed one of the Consultors of POSA and the Chairman of the South Zone Provincials.

A Second Jesuit Community in Trichy:

Fr General has decided to make **Clive House** as a canonically erected religious community. **Fr. Arockiasamy Xavier** is the first Superior (Acting) of this new community. The official name of the new community is "Clive House."

Training for Young Jesuits:

The Assistency is organizing a three-day Training Programme for young Jesuits in Higher Education, at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai, on 25-27 July 2014, both days inclusive. Our young Jesuits working in Higher Education are encouraged to participate in this three day training programme.

Batch Meetings:

The Batch meetings will take place in Maduralaya on the dates announced already. The Meeting begins at 09.00 a.m. on the first day, with the Holy Eucharist, and concludes with lunch on the second day. You are expected to participate in this meeting, according to your batch. If you are unable to attend your Batch meeting for any serious reason, please write to Fr. Provincial.

IGFA Colloquium:

The **IGFA Colloquium – 2014** will be held at 08.30 am to 05.00 pm on **Sat, 19 July at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai**. Topic: Ignatian Spirituality for Consecrated Life. Resource Persons: Bro Victor Dass, SHJ, Fr Samuel Savio, and Sr Pushpam, HC. For details contact: **Jerry**, Dhyana Ashram.

New:

Fr Raj Irudaya, Delhi: (91)70425 14964. **Fr Peter Xavier**, Bangalore: Karnataka: 094816 69967; Tamil Nadu: 094454 21544. Email id: peterxavierssj@gmail.com. **Fr Paul C. Jesuraja**, Myanmar: (95) 92500 15566. Email id: paulc13sj@gmail.com.

STATUS LIST V

NAME	FROM	TO	STATUS/DESIGNATION
Fr. Arulanandam Arockiam	St. Arulanandar, Oriyur	St. Arulanandar, Oriyur	Acting PP (Additional)
Fr. George Rethinasamy	St. Joseph's Hospice	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Rest
Fr. Emmanuel Arockiam	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola College, Chennai	Counseling Centre Project
Br. Jesudoss Raphael	St. Mary's Estate, Manalur	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Rest (health reason)
Fr. Pushparaj Gnanasamy	St Joseph's College, Trichy	St. Joseph's College, Trichy	Administrator of JIM (Addnl)
Fr. Rajarathninam Rathinam	LTI, Madurai	Kohima Region	Teaching
Sch. V. Stalin Joseph	St Joseph's, Trichy	St Xavier's, Kolkata	M.Sc. Astro Physics

Fr. Provincial has made the following appointments, with immediate effect:

NAME	DESIGNATION
Fr. Albert Joseph	LASAC Coordinator
Fr. Arockiam Kulandai	Pastoral Commission Coordinator
Fr. Aruldoss Selvaraj	Dalit Commission Coordinator
Fr. John Wilson J.	Acting Director of CIS
Fr. Marianathan Chinnasamy	Social Action Commission Coordinator
Fr. Maria Singarayar S.	TVET Commission Coordinator



Events



ACCEPTED JOYFULLY

A two-day community orientation programme marked the beginning of this academic year at Arrupe Illam, **AAC, Karumathur**. It ended with a picnic to Kurangani Falls. Every proposal of Fr K Amal SJ, Superior, for the building up of the community was accepted joyfully by the community, which has become smaller with seven members leaving and only three joining.

Fr Xavier Vedam, Principal, is working to improve the NAAC ranking (last academic year it was 3.66 marks out of 4.00). On 16 June all the staff members participated at the Orientation Programme, animated by Fr Emma, SJ from Loyola, Chennai. He stressed the need to develop the right attitude to achieve quickly even what seems impossible. Fr Rufus, Hostel Director, and Fr Anbu, Deputy

Director are busy finding rooms to accommodate the 650 boys and 350 girls who have joined our hostels. The Sr Vinci, SJA has assumed charge as the Director of the Women's Hostel.

Fr Maria Joseph Mahalingam addressed the General Chapter of the Sisters of St Anne, Madavaram, and the teaching staff of Tamilnadu Theological Seminary, Arasaradi. Five of the seven Jesuits who left for new missions this year were felicitated on 27 June, feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

- Leonard

FIRST VOWS OF 8 YOUNG MEN

On 24 May, we had a thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration to thank God for those who were leaving **Beschi Illam** - Frs Devadoss, Paulraj, Louie Albert, Antonysamy and Bros Jesudas, Joseph Raja and Mariadoss - and to welcome and pray for the new members - Frs Leo Tagore, Lawrence Benedict, Dominic and Bro Savarimuthu. It

was followed by a sumptuous dinner. On 29 May, we had the Province Jubilee celebration to felicitate all the Jubilarians of the Province. Fr Provincial presided over the Solemn Eucharist and Fr Ambrose Arockiam preached an inspiring homily and Sch Wenisch led the choir. In the felicitation function that followed, Fr Joe Antony, the organizer, felicitated the jubilarians and Fr Provincial presented to every one of them a lovely memento that bore the individual's name and photograph. A team, led by Fr Victor Roch, Schs Gladwin, Stephen and Wenisch co-ordinated the programme with verve and humour.

Novices Anthony Donic Raja and Arockia Amalan from Darjeeling joined the other novices for their vows retreat directed by Fr A. Victor. The new superior, Fr Leo Tagore took charge on

12 June and Fr Deva left for Thiruvananthapuram on 14. After the applications for education scholarships were scrutinized by a committee, scholarships for our workers' children and for the poor students of nearby parishes were distributed. The new novices arrived on 15 June and began their probation. Fr Wilson gave a day's orientation for CIC Madurai Province Commission members. Fr Mathai from St. Joseph's Hospice has joined the Beschi community. Eight second year novices pronounced their first vows on 21 June, feast of St Aloysius Gonzaga. Fr Provincial presided over the Eucharist, preached and accepted their vows. - **Mano A. Einstein**

TRIBAL & MIGRANT MISSION IN CHENNAI MISSION

Chennai Mission Superior convened a meeting on 10 June with a threefold objective: taking stock of our existing works for Tribals, guiding the newly appointed young priests to explore the possibilities of new ministries and to chalk out strategies for ministering to the tribals and migrants. Four groups that already serve them shared their experiences: Fr Arockiasamy, who has been working in Makkampalayam, spoke of his pioneering ministry among the migrants and Urali tribals. He shared about the initiatives like evening tuition centers, getting children admitted in various boarding schools, forming self-help groups among women and youth groups in the parish. On behalf of Fr Ceyrac Mission in North Tamil Nadu Mr Kanniyappan and Mr Albert shared their work among the Irular Tribals in about 30 villages around Tindivanam. They focus on the children and youth through evening tuitions

and summer camps and try to help people to avail the schemes meant for them. LISSTAR, the research wing in Loyola College, guided by Fr Jayapathy, organized a one-day seminar on Irular tribals, which drove home the necessity of such a mission among the tribals in Tamilnadu. LISSTAR visualizes in-depth study in the future. Frs. Manu and Kumar spoke on the advocacy and lobbying service done by Social Watch, Tamil Nadu and shared their expertise on the tribal component in the State Budget and other government programmes.

The participants also shared their views. Frs Kennedy and Jayaseelan will first study the areas of tribals and migrants respectively and suggest strategies for discussions in the future. CMS has appointed a new team to guide and support the Jesuits who will be working among the Tribals and Migrants.

- **Dominic Jayakumar**

WITH GREAT JOY

The Golden Jubilee of Br Sadanandam was celebrated with great joy and full co-operation of the entire community of **Dhyana Ashram**. Fr Anand Amaladoss has joined our community. Fr Thambu animated the teachers of St. Mary's Madurai. Fr Jerry gave an orientation programme to students of Loyola College and guided the 1st year philosophers of Sathya Nilayam on philosophizing. Fr D. Jayaraj, who underwent cataract and glaucoma surgeries in Trichy, he is recuperating. - **Xavier Irudayaraj**

NO LONGER TWO, BUT ONE

"An idea can change the world," goes the adage. The idea of uniting **LAAS** with **IDEAS** became a reality on 16 June. This matrimony of convenience with the aim of becoming fruitful and producing good offspring took place at the Holy Eucharist presided over by the outgoing Superior, Fr Michael Jeyaraj. The members of

the new, merged community had its first orientation programme on 28, 29 June at LAAS. Led by its new Superior, Fr Aloysius Irudayam, it was a fruitful exercise. Fr Paul Mike, the Director of IDEAS-LAAS has already moved with zest to conceive new ideas in order to deliver great results. The injured baby, Fr Santhanam is recovering fast and will be soon on his feet to resume his duties. With IDEAS as its partner LAAS will not be at a loss henceforth. - **Jeyaseelan**

RELIGIONS, POVERTY AND JUSTICE

In the past two and a half months I visited four countries and through lectures, classes, and personal visits I tried to introduce **IDCR** to Theology and Religious Studies departments in a few universities and to a few interreligious dialogue centres and groups abroad. Dr Leo Lefebure, Professor and Matteo Ricci Chair, Georgetown University (GTU), was instrumental in linking me to several individuals and institutions in China, Doha, and in U.S.A. Dr James P. McCartin, Director, Fordham Center on Religion and Culture has expressed interest in sending students to IDCR for an immersion experience. I met Fr Frank Clooney, Director of the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard. Dr Catherine Cornille, Chair of Theology Dept in Boston College, gifted her many books to IDCR library. I met the officials of Canisius College, Buffalo, which has been sending students to IDCR for inputs and to Kuppayanalloor for exposure. I stayed for about three weeks with Pastor Thomas A. Lynch, in the parish of Our Lady of Angels in Bronx, New York, to do Fordham library research on

my forthcoming book on Religions, Poverty, and Justice.

- Vincent Sekhar

FRESH BLOOD

School: The new members of our community, **Loyola Institutes, Kuppayanallur** - Frs P.S. Arul, George Joseph and Thomas Visuvasam and Sch Edward Lenin - were officially welcomed by the staff and students on 04 June, when Fr Thomas assumed office as the Head Master. Our school is very grateful to Fr Alphone William, whose dedicated service fetched always above 98% results in 10th and 12th std exams for the past 6 years. Last year the school obtained 97% in 12th and 100% in 10th std public exams. We are very grateful also to Br Bruno whose hard work made our campus ever green and artistic and to Sch. Francis Xavier whose motherly concern won the hearts of many students.

Fr Jebamalai Raja SJ, CMS, gave a two-day orientation to the community and presided over the Holy Spirit Mass on 19 June, when he officially inaugurated the Apostolic Home with five candidates under the care of Fr George Joseph. Fr Kumar Raja of Toothukudi Diocese, gave a two day orientation to our staff on 20, 21 June that proved very beneficial to the teachers.

Parish: Fr P. S. Arul took charge as the parish priest of Ongur at a Eucharist on 01 June. Thanks to Fr Anandanathan, and Fr Antony Inigo for their valuable pastoral service for the growth of Ongur Parish.

JMAAD: Nearly 50 family members of recovering alcoholics participated in the Summer Reunion held at Thennangur near Vandavasi. All of them experienced the joy of sharing their success stories, as JMAAD has helped their husbands to say, "No to Alcohol".

- Lawrence

25TH YEAR OF SERVICE

Paathai Centre, Vallam is stepping into 25th year of service in the Evening Study Centre (ESC) ministry. The jubilee began with the Summer Coaching Camp-2014 that started on 28 March and ended on 3 May. A logo and the motto of 'Education for Liberation' were introduced during the camp. We began the new academic year on a happy note as all the 10th std inmates of Paathai Hostel last year have passed with good marks. This year we have recruited 8 new students from remote places for 9th std with the aim of getting a larger



number of students to make use of our resources in a better way. Every year we facilitate rural and poor Dalit students to join various educational institutions according to their socio-economic capacities. This year we have guided nearly 150 students. On 07 June we had a meeting at Paathai Centre to plan the yearly program and responsibilities.

On 12th June, Frs Maria Joe and Dass celebrated the Holy Spirit Mass to invoke God's blessings on the Hostel Students. On 14, 15 June, we had an Orientation for the Paathai hostel students. Fr Louis from AICUF House motivated the students to study and become achievers.

- Regis

BLESSED AND OPENED

We started the new academic year at **Loyola Academy, Vadamelpakkam**, with an orientation programme for the staff given on 30,31 May by Mr Arul Raja on the Ignatian Pedagogy. On 31 May the newly-built compound wall with a second entrance, the bus-shed and the

room for the Non-Teaching Staff were blessed by Fr Mark Stephen, and opened by Mr Pedru, our watchman, Mr. Charles, our driver and Mr. Arul Selvam, our non-teaching staff. The construction of the 4th phase in the first floor of the Primary Block is at full swing. A summer camp was organized in Sri Vast Ashram, Pondicherry, for 37 of our hostel students from 25 March 11 May. The primary block has been 'solarized' fully.

- Deva A. Stephen

NO HOLIDAYS THIS YEAR

As the university examinations were held on 19 May to 16 June, we at **Loyola College, Vettavalam** had no summer holidays this year. The college reopened on the 18 June. Fr Eugene, the director of Campus Ministry, organized a meaningful inaugural programme. Fr Superior introduced the two new members of the community - Frs Boniface Jeyaraj, and Manuel Alphonse. Fr B Jeyaraj appealed to the staff and students to rededicate themselves to work for a fruitful academic year. Fr Principal insisted that the language of communication in the campus throughout the day shall be English. A good number of students from distant villages have joined the college this year. Many parents and students have requested the management to provide hostel facilities. A temporary hostel for the women is being set up within the campus. The presence of Bishop Soundararaju SDB, of Vellore added to our joy. On 07 June, Fr Dominic Royce offered a one-day orientation programme for the teachers of Holy Cross Hr. Sec. School, Rameswaram. - Alwin

TO CELEBRATE

On 13 June, Fr Soosai Sebastian SJ spoke to the staff of

Arulanandar H.S. School, Oriyur on effective teaching strategies. The teachers were encouraged to use audiovisuals and communicate always in English. On 14 June, during the community orientation, the members discussed the policy of transparency and other points raised by Fr Provincial in his memoriale. Pilgrims thronged the Shrine to celebrate the 67th anniversary of the canonization of St. John de Britto. - **Pon Ruban**

MORE THAN USUAL ENTHUSIASM

St Mary's, Madurai opened with more than usual enthusiasm, as we have for the first time in the school's history a layman, Mr. Maria Antony Britto, as the Headmaster. The month of May in the St Mary's Parish, was full of life with Marian devotional exercises. With the two new Assistants, Fr. Anandanathan and Fr Leo Anand, parish has become very active. The feast of St Antony was celebrated in some substations. We had the community orientation for two days led by Fr Arockisamy, Rector and Fr R. Joseph. - **G. Packiaraj**

FAREWELL TO THE FIRST LAY HEADMASTER

We bade a heart-felt farewell to the outgoing Headmaster of **St Mary's, Dindigul**, Mr David Xavier, the first layman to be the headmaster of a Jesuit school in the Province. We welcomed the new headmaster, Br Kulandai Raj. He is busy meeting staff and students to inspire them. St. Mary's organized a rally to raise awareness about the crucial importance of rain water harvesting. A one day training

programme in ELT Methodology was held on 17 June. Our school staff were highly motivated by the orientation guided by Fr Susai Sebastian on 20 June. Reviving an old practice of our school, we have started regular evening prayer service for the staff on every Tuesday in the school chapel. It was well-attended and appreciated by our staff. - **Paul**

LONG MARCH FOR JUSTICE

An important milestone in the history of struggle of widows for justice took place on 04 June at Loyola, Chennai. "Where are our Rights in Our Land of Freedom?" was the theme chosen for the first State-level



Convention of Widows organized by **Kalangarai, Nagapattinam** along with the Federation for Livelihood Rights of Widows, Tamil Nadu, Guild of Service, New Delhi and UN Women, New Delhi. More than 1300 widows from 10 districts of Tamil Nadu representing 10 different field-based organisations actively participated in the rally and Convention. Dr Mohini Giri, Founder, Guild of Service, Ms. B. Valarmathi, State Minister for Social Welfare, Ms. Sonal Jaitly, Consultant, EVAW, UN Women, and Fr. Francis Jayapathy, Rector, Loyola College spoke at the Convention. The Convention ended with the passing of 15 resolutions which demanded special laws and a ministry to safeguard

the rights of widows. The Jesuit community and staff of Loyola College rose to the occasion. They helped in many ways, met the expenses and put up with the inevitable inconveniences. Fr Paul Mike, founder of Kalangarai, worked tirelessly to make this Convention a great success.

Four students of our Community College from the batch of 2012-13 have won two gold medals. - **S. Jayaraj**

22 TERTIANS BEGIN THEIR PILGRIMAGE

The **Tertianship** programme at **Shembaganur** began this year on 27 May. We are 22 Tertiarians from different Provinces from India, Poland, Nepal, Russia and Sri Lanka with the loving accompaniment of the two Instructors, Fr Arul Sivan and Fr Michael Alosanai. The Sacred Heart College Jesuit Community warmly welcomed us with a grand dinner. On 7 June, Fr Edward Jeganathan, enlightened us on the history of Sacred Heart College and the great Jesuit mission in Kodai hills. As part of the preparation for the Long Retreat, we went on a pilgrimage to Vedaalai, the place of martyrdom of the Venerable Antony Criminali, the first Jesuit Martyr and St John De Britto's shrine, Oriyur, and the tomb of Fr Louis Leveil at Sarugani. We express our sincere thanks to the Jesuit communities of St. Mary's, IDEAS, LTI, Oriyur shrine and De Britto, for their generous hospitality. On 23 June we made our pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of La Salette. Fr Michael Alosanai, who celebrated the 40th anniversary of his priestly ordination on that day, presided over the Mass. We commend ourselves to your valuable prayers as we begin our month-long spiritual journey on 24 June.

- **Valan**

Abide with the Lord

Fr Anthony Paul Milledge (DAR), 90/68, on 09 June at Matigara

Fr John Dhanwar (RAN), 71/50, on 25 June in Ranchi

Mr Jebamalai, 67, younger brother of Fr I. Arul, on 16 June at Thiruvaramam.

Mrs Kaliammal, 70, elder sister of Fr Arul Sivan, on 25 June at Vattalakundu.

BRING US STUDENTS

The community of **St Joseph's Industrial School, Ooty** profusely thanked Fr Soosai Raj and Bro Ignacy for their dedicated service for the growth of the School. It accorded a warm welcome to the new team: Fr. Freddie, Superior, Bro Antony, Treasurer and Sch. Then Amirtharaj, the Hostel Director. In order to build rapport and understanding we visited the neighbouring religious communities. The third year students are preparing for their final examination in all earnestness. Carpentry students had their exams on 26 June. Admissions are going on for the next academic year. We request the help of all Jesuits in identifying poor, deserving candidates who can acquire valuable life skills taught in our Industrial School. - Amirtharaj

UNPRECEDENTED SURGE

College: This year, there was unprecedented surge in the number of applications received for admission to undergraduate courses at **St Xavier's, Palayamkottai**. The new indoor stadium funded by the UGC was blessed and opened on 16 June. Starting with Fr Alphonse Manickam, who applied for the project, many former and present Principals, Secretaries, Campus Treasurers and Rectors worked strenuously to see the Stadium completed. It is named after Fr John Mahe in recognition of his timely intervention that led to the foundation of St Xavier's College in 1923. In an attempt at promoting our collaboration with lay partners, the newly appointed

Deputy Principal, Prof. Dr. V.S. Joseph Albert (Retd. Professor, Dept. of English, St. Xavier's College) has been invited by the Management to take part in the deliberations at SXC Jesuits Meeting every month. And he took part in the first meeting held on 16 June 2014.

School: The hard work of the Headmaster, Jesuits and the lay collaborators in the school brought 100% results in the public examinations. A ten-day Summer Empowerment Camp was organized for the 11th and 12th std students on 25 April - 04 May. Around 50 Dalit students attended the camp organized in collaboration with the SC/ST Commission of Palayamkottai Diocese. Bishop Jude Paulraj of Palayamkottai was the chief guest at the valedictory function and he distributed the prizes and certificates to the participants. As part of new initiative from GSP (Government Services Project) of the province, a ten-day IAS/IPS Coaching camp was organized for our college students on 03-12 May. Mr. Nellai S. Muthu, scientist at ISRO, inaugurated the camp. 40 students, who attended the camp, felt they were well-prepared to face the civil services exams. Fr Sahayaraj worked hard to organize these two camps.

B.Ed college: A 4-day orientation programme was organized jointly by JRS and B.Ed. College for the staff of the JRS Evening Tuition Centers in the B.Ed. campus on 17 - 21 June. Fr Maria Augustine was the chief guest at the inaugural function and Fr. Thomas Alex presided over the valedictory function.

- William

DHAVAMONY MARIASUSAI SJ

07.11.1926 – 31.05.2014

Fr Dhavamony Mariasusai, 88/67, went to his eternal reward on 31 May 2014 in Chennai after a prolonged illness and disability. An exemplary man of commitment, devotion to one's mission and academic excellence,



he was a scholar of high repute, a prolific writer, a capable editor, and a revered professor. He spent a large part of his life (43 years) at the Gregorian in Rome, in different capacities as the Dean of the Faculty of Missiology, professor, doctoral guide, writer and editor for many years of *Studia Missionalia*. He was an excellent teacher and students thronged to his classes. His courses on Phenomenology of Religion, Comparative Religions, Classical and Modern Hinduism were the most popular ones. He taught at undergraduate, licentiate, and doctoral levels with ease and competence. He was also a visiting professor in USA and Canada.

Fr Dhavamony hails from Kuthalur, a prominent parish of the New Madurai Mission. His baptismal name was only Mariasusai. Since his mother got him after 12 years of prayer and penance she fondly called him Dhavamony (the pearl of penance). After he joined the Jesuits and completed his formation, he was sent to Rome to study philosophy. He returned to teach philosophy (epistemology) at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur, Tamil Nadu. Chosen to teach Indology at the Gregorian, he went to Oxford University for his second doctorate, before starting his career at the Gregorian. He returned from Rome seven years ago and joined the community of Loyola College, Chennai. Though reserved and withdrawn by temperament, with those he felt at ease he would speak of his achievements and publications, tease and joke, and allow himself to be kidded. Last two years, he was cared for by the Little Sisters of the Poor in Chennai. All through May, he suffered from fever and high sugar. The life of a scholar lived mostly in silence and solitude ended on 31 May.

- Joseph Sebastian, SJ



SECRETS FOR WELL-BEING AND PEACE

On 12 Feb 1944, thirteen-year-old Anne Frank wrote the following words in her now famous diary: "Today the sun is shining, the sky is a deep blue, there is a lovely breeze and I am longing -so longing -for everything. To talk, for freedom, for friends, to be alone. And I do so long to cry... but I can't. I'm restless, I go from room to room, breathe through the crack of a closed window, feel my heart beating, as if it is saying, "Can't you satisfy my longing at last?"

There is in all of us, at the very center of our lives, a tension, an aching, a burning in the heart that is insatiable, non-quietable, and very deep. Sometimes we experience this longing as focused on a person. Other times we experience this yearning as a longing to attain something. Most often, though, it is a longing without a clear name or focus, an aching that cannot be clearly pinpointed or described. Like Anne Frank, we only know that we are restless, full of disquiet, aching at a level we cannot seem to get at.

This restlessness, however, must never be seen as something that sets us against what is spiritual, religious, and of God. In fact this hopeless aching and lack of ease is the very basis of the spiritual life. What we do with the eros inside us is our spiritual life.

The tragedy is that so many persons, full of riches and bursting with life, see this drive as something essentially irreligious, as something that sets them against what is spiritual. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our erotic impulses are God's lure in us. Our spirits make it impossible for us to be static; we must move outside ourselves.

That movement outwards is either beneficial to us or destructive. When it is beneficial, we have a good spiritual life. When it is destructive, we have a bad one.

- **Ronald Rolheiser**
in *Spirituality for a Restless Culture*

Memories



"I SOLD A SILVER CHALICE"

In a letter written from Madurai (Madura) on 01 Dec 1700, Fr J.V. Bouchet, SJ wrote to Fr Le Gobien, SJ in France: "My only trouble is that I don't have the means to maintain more catechists who would help me to work at the conversion of souls. I cannot explain to you the sorrow I feel when I see people of other religions coming from different districts to ask for teachers to teach them the law of God, while I can neither multiply myself nor multiply my catechists because I don't have the means to provide for their support. "The little ones have asked for bread, and there was none to break it unto them." (Lam 4:4) I am therefore very much afflicted to see the ruin of souls for whose salvation Jesus Christ shed his blood. Alas, dear Father, is it possible to remain unmoved when we witness their loss? This year I sold a silver chalice to be able to employ one more catechist. You ask me what I desire. I answer, I want nothing for me, no, absolutely nothing. What I want, and what I beg of you for God's sake, is to procure for me as many alms as you possibly can for the support of these catechists, and be quite sure that to have one catechist more, or one less is of extreme importance."

- sent by **Prof. Xavier Raj**

Just for....



In the catechism class Sr Theo narrated the story of Adam and Eve and then asked the children to draw a picture that would illustrate the story. Little Fred was most interested and drew a picture of a car with three people in it. In the front seat, behind the wheel was an elderly man and in the back seat, a man and a woman. The good Sr Theo was at a loss to understand how this illustrated the story of Adam and Eve. A little annoyed, Fred said, "Sister, don't you see? This is God driving Adam and Eve out of the garden!"