



**AUGUST 2011**

(For Private Circulation)

**Message from the Provincial**

***Ignatius of Loyola: Master of Change***

We have just celebrated the feast of our Founder, Ignatius of Loyola. The celebrations were organized with great devotion and spiritual fervour in our communities and institutions. All of us were very enthusiastic and happy on this occasion. In the same spirit, I would now like to invite every member of the province for a serious reflection on our Founder. St. Ignatius was an ambitious person, a self-centred person, a person who looked for his personal glory and satisfaction. But, he was a person who had the courage to look at himself critically and discover himself deeply and own up his strengths and shortcomings. He also had the courage to ask the question, "If others can do so many things for God, why not I?".

That question changed him forever. He gradually gave up his personal ambition, self-centredness, the desire for personal glory and self-satisfaction. Instead, he sought the greater glory of God, the Holy Will of God and worked for the promotion of God's Kingdom. He underwent inner conversion, he changed his entire approach to life, he dedicated himself totally to the service of God and for the promotion of His Kingdom. He did only those things that were for the greater glory of God (AMDG), he went against his own personal likes and desires (*agere contra*), and he always strived for the better and the greater good (*magis*). His inner change and personal conversion led him to discover the Spiritual Exercises, which in turn changed the lives of hundreds and thousands of people later on. He was indeed a man of change, a change that promotes the greater glory of God, a change that takes one away from one's personal desires or selfish agenda, a change for the better or the greater good. He was indeed a master of change.

Our Holy Founder invites each one of us to look at ourselves courageously and critically and discover our inner movements, attitudes, aspirations, desires,

ambitions, etc. He invites us to make a radical change in our personal life for the greater glory of God. He invites us to adapt ourselves, personally and collectively, to the changed situations and needs. He challenges us to dare to think out of the box, to experiment with new approaches and new ministries, to take reasonable risks in life, to accept difficult responsibilities and missions.

The sole aim of a loyal disciple is and should be to imbibe deeply the same attitude and approach of his Leader and Master and live accordingly. Ignatius is inviting each one of us to bring about the required inner changes as he himself did and to rededicate ourselves to our mission and ministries as he did in his life time. The best tribute we can give to our Holy Founder is to ask ourselves the same question which he asked himself 500 years ago: "If others can do so many things for God, why not I?"

Yours fraternally,

Sebastia L. Raj, S.J.

Provincial

**Provincial's Programme**

August

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 06-07 | Contact Visit – Dhyana Ashram                               |
| 07-08 | Contact Visit – Arul Kadal                                  |
| 09-10 | Contact Visit – Berchmans Illam                             |
| 11    | Contact Visit – Satya Nilayam                               |
| 12-13 | Contact Visit – Chengalpattu Area                           |
| 13    | Meeting with Chennai Mission Officials                      |
| 14-16 | Dindigul  |
| 18-19 | Contact Visit – Vilangudi, Poondi, Nagapattinam, Kumbakonam |
| 20-21 | GBM: Secondary School Commission, Tiruchi                   |

21-23	Contact Visit – Vettavalam, Kilpennathur, Kuppayanallur, Ranipet
25-26	Contact Visit – St. Mary's, Dindigul
27	JAAT Meet, De Britto, Devakottai
28	Consult
29-30	Contact Visit – Udhagamandalam, Mettupalayam

### September

02	Meeting with the Supamites – Beschi
04	Meeting with the Regents – Beschi
05-08	Dindigul
09	Novena Flag hoisting and Mass, St. Mary's Cathedral, Madurai
10-11	Local Superiors/Team Leaders Meeting – Beschi
11-13	Visitation: Perumalmai, Palamalai, Manalur, Ayyampalayam
14-16	Visitation: Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur
16	Estate Managers Meet – Shembaganur
17-18	Below 45 Age-Group Meet – Beschi
19-20	Dindigul
21-22	Above 70 Age-Group Meet – Beschi
24	Consult
25-27	Visitation: Vidya Jyoti – ISI
28-29	Visitation: Hazaribag

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ⊗ **Pope Benedict XVI** has appointed **Fr. Jean-Claude Hollerich** Archbishop of Luxembourg. Fr. Jean-Claude currently Vice-Rector of the *Sophia University* of Tokyo (Japan).
- ⊗ **Fr. General** has appointed **Fr. Gerald R. Blaszcak** (NY) Secretary for the Service of Faith

### **Renewal of All Permissions:**

All those who have got special permissions from the previous Provincial for different matters are required to reapply to the present Provincial for renewing their permissions.

### **Provincial's email ID:**

The Provincial uses only one official email: **mduprovincial@gmail.com**. This email will be opened only by the Provincial. There is no other official email for the Provincial. Hence, all official emails should be sent only to this email. **The personal email of the Provincial is NOT meant for any official communication.**

### **JESWRITE MEET**

(Jesuit Writers' Meet)

**Sept. 24 & 25, 2011**

ASHIRVAD, Bangalore

Those who would like to participate,

contact Fr. Maria Singarayar,

Province Coordinator for Communication.

### ⊗ **Jesuitica**

**Ignatius and witch-hunts.** False allegations and malicious rumors featured large in Jesuit history from St Ignatius' time. He responded to a witch-hunt by facing it down. Because of his focus on the interior life of the individual, he was variously accused of being immoral, a heretic, an Erasmian, a Lutheran, or one of the *Alumbrados*, who claimed private illumination from God. He was imprisoned by the Spanish Inquisition for 42 days in Alcalá and 22 days in Salamanca. The same slanders followed him to Rome, so Ignatius asked the Pope for a formal investigation of all accusations against him, and a judicial sentence. When the judges formally declared him kosher, he asked that the names of his calumniators be suppressed, but had several authentic copies made of the sentence, to be used whenever God's work was threatened by slander (*AMDG Express*).

- ⊗ **Sch. Andrew Michael** has left the Society on 25 July

## NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

### **LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI**

All the five Loyola institutions including the Loyola Academy at Vadampakkam came together to celebrate the feast of our Patron, St. Ignatius. LICET has got the approval from AICTE for this academic year and has received the minority status from Tamil Nadu Govt.

'Nool Maalai' was jointly organized by C&C and IDCR on July 29. Dr. Francis X. Clooney, SJ, of Harvard spoke on *Love in Song of Songs and Tiruvaimozhi*.

**Fr. Francis Peter** conducted the plenary session on "Reflective Praxis" during the International Conference on Teacher Development at VIT, Vellore. On June 13th, he inaugurated the Kongu Chapter of ELTAI at Kongu Engineering College, Perunthurai. He also conducted orientation workshops in Kaveri institutions, Pune, and Sunbeam Schools, Vellore.

**Fr. Francis P Xavier** has been approved as research guide in Anna University of Technology. Nine ICAM students have come from France to spend a semester of internship at LICET. Fr. Francis P. Xavier

conducted an orientation programme for the Holy Cross Provincial Team (June 24-26).

**Fr. Ignacimuthu** served as a member of the selection committee in the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission for Group I services. The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of his book *Values for Life* by St. Paul's Publications is available.

**Fr. Christie** attended the 17<sup>th</sup> World Forum of the International Association of Jesuit Business Schools held in Universidad del Pacifico, Lima, Peru, in July.

*Emmanuel*

## ARUL KADAL, CHENNAI

The ambiance of joy and happiness in celebrating the feast of St. Ignatius was visible among the Arul Kadalaitees in their activities which included community games and soul-stirring novenas. There was a 'we' feeling when the whole community was involved in the process of enhancing the lives of the students of Loyola Hr. Sec. School, Kuppayanallur through retreat and personal guidance. Together with the community of Dhyana Ashram, we went on a pilgrimage to Ignatius' Church in Nemily. The campaign for collecting signatures to be sent to the UNO and the Government of India, initiated by the Task Force through Arul Kadal in collaboration with other religious congregations for the cause of Tamils in Sri Lanka is in full swing.

**Fr. Raj Irudaya** was in Sri Lanka on a preaching mission in Vankalai, Mannar Diocese, attended daily by about 5000 people. Apart from preaching, he and some PUCL leaders went about visiting the war-affected areas and people in Jaffna, Killinochi and Mullaitheevu. Earlier he conducted sessions on "Vision & Mission Today" in Bangalore for representatives of the Sisters of St. Anne, Chennai. **Fr. Maria Arul Raja** participated in the Consultation held in Pattaya City in Thailand on Social Advocacy for the Migrants and Indigenous People. He also presented a paper on "Encountering Violence" during the National Seminar on Reimagining the Face of the Other in the Dept. of Philosophy, AAC, Karumathur. On 21 July **Fr. Alangaram** gave a talk on *The Theological Significance and Pastoral Relevance of Inter-faith Dialogue today* at Sacred Heart Seminary Chennai. **Fr. I.M. Joseph** underwent a cataract operation recently.

*Viji Bose V*

## ICRDCE, CHENNAI

The ICRDCE organized from 13 to 18 June its 26<sup>th</sup> Teacher Training Programme in which 63 participants took part including 9 from Papua New Guinea. **Fr. Xavier Alphonse** has been appointed a member of the National Sub-Committee on Employability Issues constituted by the Union Planning Commission. The ICRDCE has released its latest book "Bettering the Best" containing the proceedings of the National Workshop on Quality Management of Community Colleges. We are glad that 261 students from 11

central prisons have been admitted to the Diploma Course of TNOU.

## LOYOLA INSTITUTES, KUPPAYANALLUR

On July 2, **Fr. A. Victor** stimulated the teachers with an orientation talk.

After a short break, the senior students of LTTI started their second year course.

The school annual sports were held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July. The following day, we with our staff went on a tour to Oganekkal, Mettur Dam and Thiruvannamalai. It was a good relaxation after the sports day. We paid a visit to AHAL community which hosted a delicious dinner.

*Joseph Arockiasamy*

## AHAL, KILPENNATHUR

On June 4<sup>th</sup> the regional meeting of PACNI-TN (Pastoral Care of Nomads in India) was held at AHAL. Nearly 15 groups participated in the brainstorming sessions. It was realized that the groups should work for the nomadic tribes independently with their proactive plans and execute them. It was unanimously decided that educating the children should be the focal point in the forthcoming years.

AHAL centre conducted a medical camp in collaboration with Puducherry PIMS hospital and ELITE Para-medical Educational Trust on 12<sup>th</sup> July in the parish campus.

*Wenish*

## PAATHAI HOUSE

On 9<sup>th</sup> July, we had an orientation programme for the Evening Study animators under the guidance of **Fr. Yesumarian** and **Fr. Arockia Dass. Sch. Robinson Antony**, the coordinator of study centres was introduced. On 20 July, a group of students from Netherlands led by **Fr. Adaikalaraj**, SDB visited both PAATHAI and DHRC. They highly appreciated our multiple works. **Fr. Santiago**, the VRO director and former Provincial of Andhra Pradesh inspired us by his visit.

*Robinson*

## LOYOLA ACADEMY, VADAMELPAKKAM

It was indeed a miracle: God's will and presence concretely manifested. After much waiting, struggles, anxieties, we got the NOC (No Objection Certificate) from the State government for applying online for affiliation for our school. The midnight 30<sup>th</sup> June was the deadline for online application for affiliation. It was literally at the eleventh hour that we got the NOC. It was a success story of united and collective effort by **Frs. Mark Stephen, Albert William and John Kennedy**.

Two things characterize our way of running the school here: collective-decision-making and transparency in administration. We discuss everything

with our staff and decide together and keep the parents informed of everything.

The total strength of the school is 234. We have LKG, UKG, I, II, III and VI standards. We have totally 21 well qualified and committed staff members. Out of the eight cottages in the Boniface Anbagam, we have been entrusted with the administration of two cottages. All the boys and girls, studying in our school stay in these two cottages. **Sch. Stephen** stays with the boys and guides them and **Ms. Rekha**, our Maths teacher, with the girls. In spite of his busy engagements in the parish, **Fr. Anandanathan** has been contributing his best to Loyola Academy, as the Principal.

Our LKG and UKG teachers had a one-day training in handling the tiny toddlers on 16<sup>th</sup> July. The training was organized and conducted by the Macmillan group. All our teachers had ELT training on 23<sup>rd</sup>. The ever vibrant ELT core group members of our Province, Messrs. Oviaan, Charles Durai and George Fernandez conducted the training. Teachers enjoyed and benefited much from this seminar. They assured us that they would try to implement the same methodology in all the subjects.

We are now preparing for the visit of the CBSE team. The team may visit us in January 2012.

*S.M. John Kennedy*

### LOYOLA COLLEGE, VETTAVALAM

The senior students welcomed the freshers with a variety of cultural items on 15 July. On 20<sup>th</sup> **Fr. Roy** of Vellore Diocese gave a lecture to the first UG students signifying the need to be eco-friendly.

On 29 July we organized a special programme involving five important activities namely: General check up, Dental check up, Identification of blood group, Blood donation and Planting trees in association with LIONS club, Vettavalam. On the same day we celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius. **Fr. Ignatius Viyagappa** gave us an inspiring talk on St. Ignatius.

*Poondy Rajan*

### BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL

We had a talk on natural resources by **Fr. Kasi Rayappa** on 29 June.

On the first of July, on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, **Fr. Sebastia L. Raj**, the Provincial concelebrated the Mass. The Institute of Sacred Heart of Jesus celebrated their feast day and the inmates had dinner with us.

On 12 and 13 July, Fr. Provincial made a contact visit.

From 13 to 17 July, a counselling course was given to 25 persons: Sisters, Scholastics and lay teachers.

**Fr. Prem Kumar** was given a warm send off as he left for Afghanistan on 26 July.

On 27 July, we went on a pilgrimage to Anumantharayankottai.

We conducted a signature campaign in favour of Sri Lankan Tamils highlighting their grievances.

*P. Anto Arputha Raja*

### JESUIT JUNIORATE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

It is now a month since the academic year began and we have got into the rhythm of the Juniorate life. Regular classes have begun along with co-curricular activities. After a short input by **Fr. Joe Pulickal** we started gramapravesam and weekend ministry. St. Xavier's Community, Thumba was at home to the juniors and the staff. The juniors presented informal cultural items. **Sch. Jeyaraj** did a *karagatam*, **Sch. Paulraj** and co. a *Kolatam* and the Madurai Juniors together sang a song.

In this international year of forests, the juniors have named fifty varieties of trees in the vicinity. **Fr. Antu Xavier**, an alumnus of St. Joseph's, Tiruchi, helped us in this venture with his expertise and experience. The forest looks greener with botanical and popular names.

*John Paul. L*

### JUNIORATE AND TERTIANSHIP, SITAGARHA

St. Stanislaus College community warmly welcomed Jesuit juniors: Joe Livingston, Susaipragasam and Nelsonraj on 27 June 2011. This is a historical event because this is the very first time Madurai Province has sent its juniors to Sitagarha.

We joined the band of 25 juniors from 7 Provinces. **Fr. Patras Tirkey**, the Rector and **Fr. S.F. Davidraj**, the Dean of Studies saw to it that we lacked nothing, felt comfortable and at home.

We commenced our juniorate life with Eucharistic Celebration by Fr. Rector on 1<sup>st</sup> July. The orientation programme conducted by the Juniorate Staff had enlightened us on the purpose of the juniorate, how to integrate our spiritual, intellectual and apostolic life and to know our companions well. We had a course on "Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm" by **Fr. Robert Slatery**, (HAZ) to enrich our learning and teaching skills as Ignatius had wished. St. Stanislaus College, having 81 members with three units: Novitiate, Juniorate and Tertianship began this academic year with the Mass of the Holy Spirit by **Fr. Francis Kurien**, (Provincial of Hazaribag). On the eve of our Founder's feast the Eco-Week, an Eco-awareness programme by Tertians, creative Novena of St. Ignatius, mass tree planting programme and Eco-Sensitivity Session were some of the highlights of the week. We prepared ourselves spiritually and physically to celebrate our Founder's Feast with all the religious communities nearby.

We had a one-week course on Communication Skills in English by **Fr. Michael Eather**, (HAZ) to embellish our oral and written communication language and to improve our memory power. On the

whole this month was very enriching for we are the north India with a different culture and atmosphere.

Our Tertians, **Fr. Anthony Samy** and **Fr Robin S. Seelan** request your prayers during their Long Retreat began on 01 August.

*Joe Livingston*

### **DHYAN ASHRAM, KOLKATA**

On 23 June, we, the three Juniors, reached Dhayan Ashram about 17 Kms from Kolkata.

At the commencement of our Juniorate activities we had three days orientation programme, organized by **Frs. Patrick Vincent, Gerard L. Rego** and **Patrick Eaton**, which brought us closer to one another. It also geared our spirit of vigour and zeal to explore and learn in the coming days. We had a one week course on "Ignatian Pedagogy paradigm" by Fr. Partick Vincent. It enlightened us about the various kinds of practices in teaching and learning and multiple intelligence.

In view of the preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius we had one day recollection on 23 July.

*A.Vino Selukas*

### **DNC, PUNE**

Classes began on 7th June; the orientations at DNC & JDV aptly set the tone for the academic year.

Sch. Francis Xavier is our new coordinator.

Congrats to **Schs. Gladwin** and **Thayriam** who have been elected as cultural coordinator and class coordinator respectively in their classes.

*Sathyabalan*

### **ST. MARY'S, DINDIGUL**

For the first time in the history of our school, **Selvan M. Parthiban** secured 488 marks in the S.S.L.C exam. The school organized a *Cultural Mela* in which very many students participated.

Our football team was the winner of the State level L. K. Lebbai Memorial football match. Around 200 alumni participated in the triple celebration: farewell to the outgoing office bearers, welcoming of the new ones and the GBM of the Alumni association of our school. The Association has adopted eleven poor students and has paid their school fees.

A special meet for the parents of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> std students of our hostel was organized to interact with the them and motivate them to concentrate on their studies. The Freshers Day was celebrated in the hostel.

*Singarayar*

### **ST.MARY'S MADURAI**

**Mr. Sahayam**, the Collector of Madurai District was given a rousing welcome by the Jesuit community, the school staff and the students; he delivered an inspiring talk based on his personal experiences.

A demonstration was organized in collaboration with other Christian denominations at Madurai on 22<sup>nd</sup> July to place the following demands before the Tamil Nadu State and Central governments: (i) to take immediate steps to bring a permanent political solution to the problem of Tamils in Sri Lanka, (ii) to implement the recommendations of the Ranganath Mishra Commission in order to protect the rights of Dalit Christians, (iii) to safeguard the rights of the coastal fishing communities, (iv) to get back Katcha Theevu from Sri Lanka. **Fr. P.S. Arul's** speech was very spontaneous and highly appreciated. **Fr. Jebamalai Raja** was one of the organizers. The community was represented by Fr. Rector and Sch. Vargeesh, besides some of the School staff in the Hunger Strike and Rally organized at Delhi for pressing the demand of the rights of Dalit Christians and Muslims.

The school had its Annual Sports Day. **Sch. Vargeesh** conducted a session on *Study Skills Method* and *Time Management* to the hostel boys. **Fr. Felix Joseph** in collaboration with a layman sends every day through email, 'God's Loving Message' as an evangelizing ministry besides his usual letters to the Editors. To receive God's Loving Message, kindly contact – sebasrimathi@gmail.com.

*Bastian*

### **ST XAVIER'S, PALAYAMKOTTAI**

**Fr. Donatus Jeyaraj** was with us on 25 and 26 June, to put us all on the right track through Community Orientation. He, aptly recalled the significant role that the Jesuit education ministry has played in the development of the world and inspired all of us to be fruitful in all that we do this year with Ignatian charism and to be healthy in our life as individuals and as a community.

On 24 June, Mother Teresa Women's Hostel meant for our College girls was blessed by Fr. Rector.

A one-week bridge course was conducted for the first year students to help them acquire the basics to do well in their college studies.

The NSS unit of the College organized blood donation camps on 6 and 7 July. More than 200 students donated blood.

The College paid homage to St. Ignatius on the eve of his feast. We also had the Parents' Meeting on the same day.

The SXHSS made a great effort to bring out the cultural talents of the students by conducting various competitions. **Fr. L. John** presided over the *kalai vizha* and *Nahaichuvai Selvar* **Mr. Pichumani**, from Suryan FM, Tirunelveli, was the Chief Guest.

The school had its 132<sup>nd</sup> Sports Day on 14 July.

**Fr. Alphonse Manickam** inaugurated the Students' Council of St. Mary's College, Thoothukudi on 4 July. He also gave the inaugural address on 13 July at the International Conference on "The Maritime activities of the Portuguese in India, with special reference to

the Pearl Fishery Coast”,. He was the Chief Guest at the graduation day ceremony in a local school on 23 July.

**Fr. Lawrence Amalraj** conducted an orientation course to prepare the management and the staff of the two SCAD Engineering Colleges for their accreditation by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) and one SCAD College of Education in Tirunelveli for accreditation by NAAC.

We are happy that our College of Education had its 60<sup>th</sup> doctoral viva-voce exam. Congratulations to all at SXCE.

Sahayaraj Vijayan

## ST JOSEPH'S, TIRUCHI

The Jesuit community gathered around the altar to thank the Lord for all the graces showered on the Jubilarians: **Frs. Joe Srinivasan** (60 years in SJ), **M. Arulanandam** and **X. Savarimuthu** (50 years in SJ). About six hundred guests were present to honour the veterans.

The leaders of the student community had a two-day leadership programme on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July. The students were trained in leadership, goal setting, value clarification etc. A much appreciated one-day programme for the non-teaching staff of the College was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July on 'Life Skills'. The non-teaching staff would like that such programmes be conducted now and then.

**Fr. Stephen Selvanathan** at the AICUF Secretariat for Tamil Nadu conducted a three-day programme from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July for the office bearers of different units in the State. The annual pilgrimage to Holy Redeemer's Church was held on 26<sup>th</sup> July. **Fr. Albert Muthumalai** emphatically pointed out that St. Ignatius and his first companions were pilgrims.

Different departments are arranging parent-teachers meeting with resounding success and rewarding in many ways. The parents are enlightened in many ways regarding the College life of their children.

The newcomers in the hostels and the college were welcomed with much fun and frolic on different dates. With all these we can say that the curtains have come down on admissions for the year 2011-12.

In the **Fr. Joe Lawrence** Memorial Football Tournament (8 – 14 July), our school ended runners-up. The School had a week of cultural competitions from 4 to 11 July. More than 2700 students participated. Various competitions in music, *rangoli*, acting, elocution and Thirukural recitation, were held.

The Annual Sports Meet of the School was held on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

To the cause of the Sri Lankan Tamils, we have contributed our mite by collecting signatures of some 6000 students in our school and college. They will be sent to the UNO and the President of India.

**Fr. Arockiasamy Xavier** is joining the faculty of St Joseph's College. A hearty welcome to him.

On 29 July **Fr. Jerry** exhorted the staff and students on the ideals of St Ignatius. He organized a blood donation camp jointly with Youth Red Cross and the Alumni Association and motivated the students to donate blood.

Sebastian Anand

## IDEAS, MADURAI

**Fr. Sahayaraj's** presentation on *Ignatian Advocacy, Lobbying and Networking* set the tone for our reflection and sharing in Nochiodaipatti on 01 and 02 July at the annual orientation of IDEAS, LAAS and KARISAL Communites besides conducting a one-day session for the Gonzaga Sisters at Vadipatty to help them plan their annual activities, he was in Chennai from 25 till 30 July to give a credit course for the Arul Kadal students on *The Role of Anthropology in Theologising*. The Servite Sisters were happy to have **Fr Michael Jeyaraj** with them for their one-day seminar on *Apostolic Spirituality* on 16 July at Nagamalai - Pudukottai. So too the Beschi community members at Dindigul who, in preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius, had him speak for their recollection on 28 July on *Jesuits and Women*. On 04 July, **Fr Stephen Martin** guided his team of media education trainers to conduct a one-day media motivation session for 900 students in Nirmala H. S. School, Madurai. He also conducted a one-day training on *Media Education and Consumerist Culture* for 50 JRS animators at Pagalpatty, Salem on 12 July.

The year-long dream of launching a new course on *Rights-based Advocacy and Lobbying Strategy for Social Change* became a reality for IDEAS on 9<sup>th</sup> July. **Fr. Sahayaraj**, with the help of experienced trainers, led a group of 20 men and 8 women cadres and animators from Arunthathiyar movements and NGOs into a week-long exercise to learn and cultivate this new approach for their future use. Appropriate to the current political wrangles over the *Samacheer Kalvi*, **Fr. Stephen Martin** screened on 24 July, as the Thedal Arangam's 26<sup>th</sup> show, a documentary film entitled "Enakku Kalvi Illaiya?" directed by Bharathi Krishnakumar. It was meant to help 36 Sisters and students to analyse the existing educational system in Tamil Nadu.

On 27 and 28 July, **Fr. L. R. Michael Raj** helped the lay staff members from 7 out of our 13 social centres, to reflect on their life experiences and be informed about social action ministry in the Province. Subsequent to the seminar on *Panchayat Raj* conducted by SAPI (South Asian People's Initiatives) on 27 June at which nearly 40 State level leaders and representatives from various Dalit and Tribal organisations participated, the Social Action Coordinator, Fr. Michael Raj and TN SAPI Coord. **Mr. Baskaran** came up with an exciting idea – to train potential candidates for the upcoming panchayat elections. Accordingly, a workshop was organized on

17 July at IDEAS Centre, Madurai for about 75 candidates planning to jump into the political fray.

The two-day colloquium, annually organized for the religious and priests in social action ministry before Inigo's feast, was held this year on 23 and 24 July. Planned by **Fr Michael Jeyaraj** and conducted by **Fr. Sahayaraj**, the programme had 35 persons reflecting on the theme *Civil Society Today: Challenges perceived and Responses envisioned*.

*Aloysius Irudayam*

### THOZHAMAI ILLAM, KANYAKUMARI

Fr. Provincial had his contact visit at Nagercoil on 29th July and came over here to bless and open a new building at Thozhamai Illam. We are grateful to **Fr. Ignatius Puthiadam** for getting it done. On 26th July we along with the members of Carmel Community celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius in our parish of Kovalam, **Fr. Vincent Britto** of Palayamkottai gave an inspiring homily, "How God was the catechism teacher to St. Ignatius guiding him to experience the mysteries of God in Christ; that is indeed the goal of each and every teacher of catechism, during this Catechetical Year 2011".

**Fr. Francis Vazhapilly** has done much to improve the facilities in the house. He gave a day of recollection to the MC Brothers at Kanyakumari. **Fr. Arul Sivan** gave a five-day course on "Self-Awareness" to a group of MMSI Sisters preparing themselves for their final Promise. He had another two-day session for a group of novices on Yoga and Meditation in Bangalore.

Many individuals want guided retreats at the Centre. On 31 July we had a gathering of the Religious and Diocesan clergy to celebrate the feast of our Founder.

*Josephraj*

### GANSOVILLE

On 19 July **Fr. Sebasti L.Raj**, the Provincial, was officially elected President of Gansoville (Gandhian Society Village Association) at the General Body Meeting chaired by its Vice-President **Dr. Victor A.Singarayar** held at Devakottai. Among the many activities and achievements listed in the report a few deserve a special mention. Gansoville has provided solid and supplementary *basic education* to all the school-going children and the dropouts through the teachers of the Evening Study Centres, in its 20 adopted villages. A one-day *Health Awareness Programme* on Indigenous Medicines was conducted at Kayavayal village. Around 100 saplings of coconut and 200 of banana were planted in order to create environmental awareness.

At the commencement of the meeting, one-minute silence was observed as a mark of respect to the deceased members: **Fr. Savariraj**, the former Secretary and **Sr. Leema**, SAT, former member.

*Stanislaus*

### MATHEW CYRIL FROM MYANMAR

We had the feast day celebration St. Ignatius of Loyola in two places: in Taunggyi where we have the novitiate and the other in Yangon where we have the candidacy. Many priests and Sisters were present for the celebration and made the day memorable and gave us immense joy.

I continue to be fine, happy doing good work here. Tomorrow three second year novices are going for their month-long *factory experiment*. At present we have with us 6 Myanmar scholastics who are doing their II year Philosophy studies in Indonesia. They are having their holidays now. Tonight they begin their annual retreat with me. So please keep us in your prayers.

So far I have not met **Fr. Mark Raper**, for he could not come here. And I am going to meet him on 24 Aug in Bangkok.

I am learning Burmese. It is very interesting. It has some words and even some letters of the alphabet exactly the same as in Tamil.

### NEW RELEASES

**God who Cares** Fr. R. J. Raja, Vaigarai Pathippagam, Dindigul, pp. 72, Rs. 40/-

**Youth Awake! Arise!!** Fr. Xavier Irudayaraj, Claretian Arts & Media, Chennai, pp. 64, Rs. 50/-

கனி தரும் வாழ்வு Fr. Xavier Irudayaraj, Claretian Arts & Media, Chennai, pp. 104, Rs. 50/-

முன்றாம் பார்வை (திரை ஊடகங்கள் குறித்த அலசல் கட்டுரைகள்) Fr. A. Stephen, Vetrimozhibooks, Dindigul, pp.94, Rs. 40/-

### ABIDE WITH THE LORD

**Fr. Thomas F. Tobin** (PAT) 85/56, on 31 July

**Mr. Francis** (94), Grandfather of Sch. Leo Anand, passed away on 29 June, in Dindigul

**Mr. John Baptist** (50), younger brother of Br. Ignacy, on 7 Aug. in Mettupatti

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## 25 SPIRITUAL AXIOMATIC SAYINGS!

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| 1. Give God what's right.....<br>not what's left.  | 14. Plan ahead.....It wasn't raining when<br>Noah built the ark.          |
| 2. Man's way leads to hopeless end....<br>God's way leads to an endless hope.                | 15. Most people want to serve God, but<br>only in an advisory position.   |
| 3. A lot of kneeling will keep you in<br>good standing.                                      | 16. Suffering from truth decay?<br>Brush up on your Bible.                |
| 4. He who kneels before God can stand<br>before anyone.                                      | 17. Exercise daily .... walk with the Lord.                               |
| 5. In the sentence of life, the devil may<br>be a comma, but never let him be<br>the period. | 18. Never give the devil a ride.....<br>he will always want to drive.     |
| 6. Don't put a question mark where God<br>puts a period.                                     | 19. Nothing else ruins the truth like<br>stretching it.                   |
| 7. Are you wrinkled with burden?<br>Come to the church for a face-lift.                      | 20. Compassion is difficult to give away<br>because it keeps coming back. |
| 8. When praying, don't give God<br>instructions.... just report for duty.                    | 21. He who angers you controls you.                                       |
| 9. Don't wait for six strong men to<br>take you to church.                                   | 22. Worry is the darkroom in which<br>negatives can develop.              |
| 10. We don't change God's message....<br>His message changes us.                             | 23. Give Satan an inch and he'll be a ruler.                              |
| 11. The church is prayer-conditioned.  | 24. Be ye fishers of men.....<br><br>You catch them and He'll clean them. |
| 12. When God ordains, He sustains.   | 25. God doesn't call the qualified,<br>He qualifies the called.           |
| 13. WARNING: Exposure to the Son may<br>prevent burning.                                     | ***   |