



## AUGUST 2010

(For Private Circulation)

### PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

#### August

- 07 Dindigul : Beschi Illam : Superiors, Coordinators and Consultors Meeting
- 08 Dindigul : Combined Consult (Province and Chennai Mission)
- 17 Dindigul : St. Mary's : Vaigarai Board GBM
- 20 Dindigul: Beschi: R & R
- 21-22 Dindigul: Beschi: Secondary Education Commission GBM
- 28-29 Madurai : IDEAS : Social Action Commission GBM

#### September

- 03 Kuppayanallur: Loyola
- 03pm-04 Chennai: Loyola
- 05-09 Sri Lanka: Visit of JCSA (South Zone) Provincials
- 10 Chennai: Satya Nilayam: Visitation
- 11 Chennai: Chennai Mission Officials Meeting
- 12 Sun Tiruchi Zonal Meeting
- 15-16 Dindigul: St. Mary's: Visitation
- 17-18 Dindigul: Beschi Illam: Superiors, Coordinators and Consultors Meeting

### NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▣ **MNL Reporters:** Kindly send your news for the MNL to mdcuria@gmail.com. This will ensure your news finds a place in the MNL.
- ▣ **Fr Joseph Kennedy** would be making his Final Profession on August 15 at 10.30 am in Our Lady of Assumption Church, St Xavier's College, Palayamkottai.
- ▣ **Fr. Marivalan's** email: marivalan2010@gmail.com
- ▣ **Fr. Rajarathinam's** email: rajasjcppal@gmail.com
- ▣ **Fr. Louis Adaikalaraj's** new address: St. Joseph's Regional Seminary, No.4, Tashkent

Road, Allahabad - 211 001 - U.P. Ph: 94534-90515 (U.P.) 94444-51814 (T.N.) Email: adrajlouis@yahoo.co.uk

**DHANAM MOVEMENT WITH GOVT. OF TAMIL NADU (TANSACS)** is organizing a one-day workshop on "HUMAN DONATIONS" on 20 August 2010, Friday at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai..

Jesuits wishing to attend, kindly contact jerrysj1@gmail.com (The TANSACS will meet your TA too.)

#### ▣ SUPAM 2010

**S Arockia Dass J.**, St. Antony's Church, 2/265 Manapakkam, Chennai - 600 116; Tel: (044) 22523467, 97874-75343 (PP)

**S Innaci John V.**, St. Joseph's Church, Kongerpalayam - 638 506, T.N. Palayam, Erode Dt; Tel: (04285) 260476, 98650-97601 (PP)

**S Irudaya Valanarasu I.**, St. Adaikalamatha Church, Adaikalapuram, Kulamanickam (PO), Ariyalur Dt - 621 722; 96295-00741 (PP)

**S Joseph Ignaci G.**, Catholic Church, Kakka Thoppu, Behind Market, Mohanur PO - 637 015, Namakkal Dt; Tel: (04286) 255852

**S Paul Benedict S.**, St. Antony's Church, Dhamanur PO, Via Illodu, Gingee Tk, Villupuram Dt - 604 210; Contact: 96882-89775, 94862-17182 (PP)

### NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

#### LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI

Orientation programmes at the beginning of the academic year may be routine everywhere. While the routine may clip the wings of excitement and inspiration,

our community orientation was not so routine this year. With **Fr. Stanley**, the Rector of Andhra Loyola College, as the resource person, the orientation on June 12th and 13th was meaningful and interesting because the sessions were interactive and recommendations were practicable.

The newly-recruited and the junior teaching faculty had an orientation programme focused on Jesuit tradition, competence building and work ethics. Eminent scholars from IIT and corporate bodies addressed the entire faculty on work culture and ethics. During a half-day orientation, the importance and contribution of the non-teaching staff were recognized as the backbone of the administration.

**Fr. Ignacimuthu** was the resource person on June 11 for the orientation of the staff of Loyola Academy, Hyderabad. On June 22, while **Fr. Francis P Xavier** was at the Sacred Heart Seminary, Poonamallee to conduct a session on "Time Management" for the philosophers and theologians, **Fr. Emma** was at Nochiodaipatty to conduct a one-day workshop on "The Right Attitudes of effective Alcohol Counsellors" during a Counsellors' Training Camp organized by **Fr. Jayapathy** and the Capuchins. It was a welcome initiative by **Fr. M. J. Mahalingam** to print and sell colourful Loyola College notebooks to students.

Though LIBA's official inauguration of the academic year was on June 21st, an intense English coaching to some selected students was offered for two weeks since May 24th. From June 7th to 18th, all the first-year students had a Bridge Course with special focus on Math, Accounts, Computer and English. Fr. Emma, who has been appointed the Deputy Director of LIBA is in charge of the full-time academic programme and the non-teaching staff. Besides counselling, he is also involved in encouraging research and collaboration with industries for the welfare and training of LIBA students.

LICET (Loyola-ICAM College of Engineering and Technology) has received AICTE approval. Our ICAM (France) partners were with us for joint deliberations from July 21st – 25<sup>th</sup> and they also had a short meeting with Fr. Provincial on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Staff selection is over and we have been given green signal to issue LICET application for the management selection. We start giving application on August 9. LICET will be included for single-window counseling on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

*Emma*

### LOYOLA COLLEGE, VETTAVALAM

The different departments had the inauguration of their associations at the end of July. The Department of English organized a one-day seminar on the topic 'Improving Communicative Confidence'. **Dr. Peter Francis** and his team conducted the seminar instilling confidence into our students to speak in English.

On 31st July we celebrated the feast of our Founder in a grand manner. We are happy to serve our students who come from remote areas by providing for them three buses from this month.

*Poondi Rajan*

### ARUL KADAL, CHENNAI

At the invitation of the Centre for Social Democracy and the Human Rights Desk of Mannar Diocese **Fr. Raj**

**Irudaya** made a visit to Sri Lanka. He went to the war-ravaged areas and got first-hand information about the catastrophic havoc unleashed on the innocent Tamils under the guise of war against terrorism. He also addressed the Human Rights Seminar in Kandy to a group of priests and religious of Sri Lanka. His hour-long interview has been posted in the internet by Kumudum.com group, which highlights the present stark reality of the war-hit Tamils whose dignified resettlement and rehabilitation is being blatantly ignored and sidelined by the Government of Sri Lanka.

The deacons have plunged themselves into transforming their theologizing experience into pastoral action in the places of their SUPAM ministry from 12 July. **Frs. Maria Arul Raja, Raj Irudaya** along with **Schs. Lawrence** and **Jayaseelan** attended a two-day conference of Tamil Irai Iyal Mandram on 09 and 10th in Tamil Nadu Theological Society, Madurai.

Jesuit from Arul Kadal made a pilgrimage to the church of St. Ignatius at Roshanagaram, the only church dedicated to our Founder in the Madras-Mylapore Archdiocese. We had creative sung prayers specially meant for the children gathered over there by Fr. Maria Arul Raja. The scholastics had basketball and shuttle matches. The scholastics are out for a month to attend a course on the Meaning Systems of Subaltern Religio-Cultural Soil at FRRC, Palayamkottai and Laity Theology at Adaikalapuram, and then have their rural and urban immersion programme.

*Clement*

### LOYOLA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, RANIPET

With a heavy heart, we bade farewell to our beloved German volunteers **Mr. Turgay** and **Mary** who spent almost a year with us in Ranipet. Their presence made a marked difference in the lives of the students and the Jesuits as well. With their generous help, we have installed solar panels in the school, the Jesuit Residence and the Loyola boys' hostel. Thus our entire campus is now powered by Solar energy and has become "A Power cut free zone". Loyola Industrial School would be happy to provide not only consultancy for solar power installation but is also ready to undertake work orders from any of ours.

The feast of our Founder was celebrated on a grand scale. The **Most Rev. Soundararaju SDB**, Bishop of Vellore our honourable guest, inspired us to commit ourselves totally to the cause of humanizing the marginalized youth who step into our campus. An hour long cultural programme was well organized by **Fr. Arul Oli** and **Sch. Satyabalan**.

*Dominic*

### AHAL, KILPENNATHUR

There was a one - day programme for the investigators of the Thurambar/Puthirai Vannar movement conducted by **Frs. Aloysius** and **Eugene** at AHAL centre on 16th July. The Vice-Provincial of SDB addressed the gathering and encouraged the group to do better service and expressed his willingness to collaborate with Jesuits on social issues.

The AHAL team thanks Fr. Eugene for conducting a two-day study skills programme for our Arrupe Home boys. At the request of our community Fr. Aloysius

Irudayam helped us to think differently regarding our activities at AHAL.

**Fr. Joe Mike** gave us an exhortation on 27th July and enlightened and encouraged us to have a plan of action at AHAL in the light of the ideals of St. Ignatius.

Both LCV and AHAL came together on 26th July to remember our Founder at AHAL. We expressed our joy with a fellowship meal.

*Wenish*

## ST. JOSEPH'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, UTHAGAMANDALAM

The official visit of Frs. Provincial, PCF and the Chennai Mission Superior to our campus on 15 and 16th of July has spurred the staff and students with enthusiasm in every aspect of our work. As a tribute to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the mother Earth we inaugurated the grotto of Our Lady in front of our hostel. As a loving expression of our ecological concern the Fathers, staff and students planted saplings around the grotto. The II year students of the fitter and welder departments have successfully completed their examination. The admissions for the next academic year for the carpentry, fitter and welder courses are open and in the process. Kindly recommend deserving students to join the institute and be benefited. The next academic year will commence on 11th of August.

*Vasanth*

## DHYANA ASHRAM CHENNAI

On June 2nd our new Superior **Fr. Jerry** took charge. A whole day was spent to discuss three aspects of our life in DA: Community, Ministry and Finance. Out of our interactions a Vision Statement for DA emerged and it was promulgated. The event was fittingly called Dhyana Community Assembly. It was concluded with Eucharistic celebration.

On 20th June at 5 30 pm. the Golden Jubilee of **Fr Ephrem** started with the Eucharist. Fr Ephrem presided over the Mass and preached a homily with reminiscences. Fr Jerry was the MC. **Fr Antoniraj** from DACA and **Mr. Nirmal** a nephew of Fr. Ephrem felicitated the Jubilarian. Fr Antoniraj brought out the serene, cool and tranquil character of the Jubilarian, interspersed with humour in his own characteristic style. Three school children from the nearby Bon Secours Convent performed a short welcome dance. **Fr.S. Selvaraj** led the choir. **Br. Sadanandam** offered a tasty meal. Jesuits from houses in Chennai were well represented at the function.

**Fr.A.J. Thamburaj** preached a charismatic retreat in Hyderabad for Principals and Managers of Catholic Colleges in India. **Fr. Xavier Irudayaraj** preached an eight-day retreat to the Sisters of JMJ Congregation. Fr S.M. Selvaraj preached a retreat for deacons of the DMI Congregation and he is currently preaching a one-month retreat for a priest from Tuticorin Diocese. **Fr R.J. Raja** gave a course on Psalms to the Sisters of St Anne's Madhavaram.

Fr Jerry gave a Faculty improvement Programme at Catholic Centre in Bhopal. He was the animator of the Province Assembly of the Congregation of Jesus and Mary which was held at Mumbai. He addressed the overseas missionaries of 22 Congregations and taught

"How to ignite the hearts of the people of the land".

Yet another book of Fr Jerry titled "*Ilamai Irukkumbothu*" published jointly by TNBC-Youth Commission and Vaigarai was released by Bishop Soosaimanickam. So far 12, 000 copies have been already bought by all the Dioceses of Tamil Nadu.

Ignatian Family (IGFA) – 2010: Thirty Major Superiors (Generals and Provincials) of the men and women religious Congregations that have IGNATION INSPIRATION came together for a colloquium on 24<sup>th</sup> July at Dhyana Ashram. Fr. Edward Mudavassery, the POSA gave the keynote address cum homily at the Eucharist presided over by Fr. Provincial Devadoss. There was a panel sharing on Ignatian inspiration by Br. Jesudas, (Superior General SHJ) Sr. Agnes Xavier (General: CIC) and our own Fr.A. Victor, As Br. Jesudas could not be present for the same he sent a representative to read out his contribution. This was followed by deliberations, on (a) Elements of Ignatian inspiration (b) Common vision of IGFA and (c) possible forms of collaboration. To carry this forward, a core team will shortly be formed. Fr. Jerry deserves our congratulations.

Fr. Jerry addressed the Southern Regional Assembly of S.H Sisters on 16 and 17 of July at Nagercoil.

*Thamburaj*

## JESUIT PRE-NOVITIATE, VILANGUDI

In a cultural fiesta on the Feast day of St. Ignatius the pre-novices mesmerized the audience of religious, priests and laity numbering about one hundred. The cultural fiesta included 'True Priesthood' a declamation of Dr. Ambedkar, 'A fire that kindles other fires' a skit conceived by the joint venture of **Fr.Inigo, Schs. Philip, Clement and Viji Bose**. In the morning, we had concelebrated solemn Mass presided over by **Fr. Vitalis Diaz**, the golden jubilarian.

The pre-novices had a cycle picnic to Elakurchi. **Srs. Jayaseeli** and **Antony Pappa** of SHS were here to learn our way of proceeding to form their young formees. Fr. Inigo represented our Province in the Young Religious Convention 2010 at Tindivanam. A group of ten students from France has undertaken a housing project of **Fr.Ceyrac** Children Trust at Seanapathy in Thirumanur parish under the able guidance of **Fr. Arockiaraj**.

*Viji Bose*

## JESUIT JUNIORATE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

On 3rd July St. Xavier's community was at home to the juniors. We also celebrated the feast of St. Thomas together. On 7<sup>th</sup> **Fr. Dasappan** introduced us to gramapravesam and the way to understand the costal people in the ministry places.

**Fr. Pulickal** shared his experiences in the Holy Land. On 12<sup>th</sup> we bade him farewell as he moved on to Goa for his new assignment as Tertian Instructor. **Fr. Jacob Madukakuzhy** (KER) has succeeded him as the new Spiritual Director. Novena prayers to St. Ignatius began with various groups preparing special prayers. Surely it will help us to celebrate the feast of our Founder with renewed vigour.

*Williams Charles*

## DNC, PUNE

HARMONY, an eco-venture initiated by **Fr Robin Seelan** with the able assistance of **Sch Baskar** has geared up for a green and clean campus at DNC. In view of the feast of our Founder, his team organized a Tree Plantation Evening on 28 July. This process of establishing a right relationship with Nature has been well received by the Community. **Sch Prabu** is vibrant and innovative with the entrusted beadship of this semester for Philosophers. From 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July Fr Provincial was here for the POSA Consult and his annual visitation. Fr. Socius, too, paid us a visit taking time off from the meeting of the Socii held at Sanjeevan Ashram. Kudos to **Sch Stalin** for organizing various intra-collegiate literary competitions at JDV.

*Gladwin*

## VIDYA JYOTI, DELHI

**Frs. Arokiasamy** and **Leo** took part in the Colloquium of Bishops and Theologians held at Bangalore from 8th to 10th July organised by the Doctrinal Commission of CBCI. Fr. Arokiasamy participated in the World Conference of Catholic Moralists (Of the 600 participants, 30 were from India.) in Trent in July. He presented a paper on "The Challenges of the Common Good for Life in Common and the Public Square in a Pluralist World".

*James Suresh*

## BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL

On 26 June Fr. Dominic Savio took charge as the Socius to the novice master. The Community expresses its deep love and gratitude to **Fr. Cyril Mathew** for his dedicated service rendered to the novitiate as socius for the past three years.

The II year novices made a triduum from 28 to 30 June under the guidance of **Fr. Dominic Savio**. Fifteen I year novices, after completing their first probation with a triduum directed by Fr. Cyril Mathew, entered the novitiate with concelebrated Mass of the Holy Spirit presided over by **Fr. Arul Sivan**. **Fr. Chacko Valiaveetil** gave an illuminating talk on Indian spirituality to the novices.

**Frs. D. Jeyaraj** and **Arul Sivan** organized a training programme on "Preaching and Retreat" to the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. **Frs. Arul Sivan, Rex A. Pai** and **I.M. Joseph** conducted a course on "Discernment" for religious of different congregations.

**Fr. Alphonso Miranda** is in St. Joseph Hospital. **Fr. S.M. Savariraj** is undergoing treatment in St. Mary's Madurai.

*A. Vino Selukas*

## CIS, DINDIGUL

On June 25 the Formators' Course began. **Sr. Maria Arockiam, CIC** was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function. Without much ado a cascade of courses filled the past weeks: **Fr. Arul Sivan** (Time Management), **Fr. Dhanaraj** (Touching the Divine), **Fr. Joe Michael** (Liturgy), **Fr. I.M. Joseph** (Emotional Intelligence) and **Fr. Britto Peter** (Spiritual Direction).

*Dhanaraj*

## ST. MARY'S, DINDIGUL

Our higher secondary staff had a two-day orientation programme on 9th and 10th of July on the themes of minority rights and enhancing the self-esteem of the students. **Frs. Stephen Kulandai, Santhanam, Joe Xavier, Joseph Kennedy** and **Sch. Berchmans** conducted this orientation programme. **This programme has been organised in all our schools by SEC.**

Our elementary school staff had a one-day training on ELT methodology. Their participation was wonderful and enthusiastic. **Mr. George Fernandez** and **Mr. Charles**, our ELT teachers of St. Mary's, Madurai conducted this training on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

The GBM of our alumni association was held on 14th. The annual plan, including seminars and other useful month-wise action plans for the welfare of our school students, the poor and the needy people were unanimously approved by the members. The alumni have created a corpus fund of Rs. 2.5 lakhs to sponsor poor students in the school. This year the interest of this fund has been distributed to 11 deserving students.

As one of our yearly features and as a worthy preparation for our Founder's feast, we, the management, staff and the 10th yr and 12th yr Catholic students went on a pilgrimage to the church of St. Ignatius at Anantharayankottai on 29th. **Fr. Marivalan** gave a soul-stirring sermon during the concelebrated Eucharist with the people there. **Fr. Gerlin**, our campus minister made all the arrangements for the pilgrimage.

Intense preparations are going on for the 100th sports day of our school, slated to be held on 20th August. **Fr. Ignatius Britto**, is doing all the preparations for the unique fete with the active cooperation of the staff.

*S.M. John Kennedy*

## ST. MARY'S, MADURAI

The cathedral parish celebrated with due solemnity the Feast of Corpus Christi. **Fr. A. Joseph**, the Rector of Arul Anandar College delivered an inspiring homily, after which our Archbishop concluded the celebrations with the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. **Sch. Vargheesh** is helping our Parish team in the youth ministry: catechism classes for parish children and in the tuition study centres in different areas of the parish.

**Fr. Arokiaaraj** is taking all possible steps to give an overall formation to the Apostolic Home boys. **Fr. Jerry** who made a flying visit to our community, also addressed them with his inspiring exhortation.

*Bastian*

## ARUL ANANDAR COLLEGE, KARUMATHUR

AAC is becoming a great hub of innovation in computer networking facilities. In honor of our Founder's Feast on July 31 the college website was renewed with the latest and relevant information. A new statue of St. Ignatius of Loyola was erected on the campus on that day. We appreciate **Fr. A. Joseph**, the Rector for his single-minded pursuit in achieving these.

The 'Operation Zero-Failure' in the first year, a brainchild of **Fr. Xavier Vedam**, the Principal was launched very effectively. We had a one-month bridge

course for the first year students of both UG and PG courses. This major confidence-building academic venture had a telling effect and culminated in a grand cultural show of three hours in English.

Fr. Principal's touching gesture further introduced the midday meals in AAC. The management identified 200 economically poor and deserving students for the midday meals and for special training in studies. And a compulsory test in all the subjects is conducted for the students every fortnight.

AAC has introduced organic farming through vermicompost to revitalize cultivation by the department of RDS. This is a latest contribution of AAC to the farmers of this area.

*Kingsley*

## LATI, MADURAI

Community orientation was directed by **Fr. Michael Jeyaraj**. MCC also conducted an orientation to the newcomers. LASAC scholastics Berchmans and Richard made them feel at home.

LTI students have focused their efforts on the NCVT exams. The whole campus supports them to obtain maximum fruits possible. **Fr. Freddie** is the new minister of LATI residence and Fr. Wilfred is the new director of the Loyola hostel. Both LTI and Loyola hostel bade farewell to the second years with a fellowship dinner.

The Benjamin of the community **Sch. George** bagged the first prize in the Polytechnic College for his essay on 'Global Warming'. Fr. Basil presented a research paper titled "Popular and Folk Consciousness" on 8th July in a seminar organized by the Department of Guru Nanak Studies, Madurai Kamaraj University. **Fr. Wilfred** presented a paper on 'Climate change and Culture' at a seminar organized by the Dept of Christian Studies, Madras University.

*Wilfred*

## ST. ARULANANDAR, ORIYUR

The feast of the Canonization of St. John de Britto was grandly celebrated on 22 June. **Bishop Susaimanickam** celebrated the Holy Mass on the eve of the feast and blessed the statue of St. Britto gifted from Lisbon, inaugurated the St. Britto Social Service Society and a Marriage Information Bureau.

The Oriyur Community and the Parishioners bade farewell to the outgoing PP **Fr. Marivalan** on 23 May. The installation of the new P.P **Fr. Darwin** was held on 6th June.

Around 300 Catholic students of our H.S.S from Stds X and XII, together with the staff, went on a Pilgrimage to the church of St. Ignatius at Karkathakudi, 30 km away from here.

The Shrine developmental work is in progress and **Fr. Cyril** is making the work finer and faster.

Thanks to **Fr. John Lourdu** who gave us an orientation course motivating us to begin the new academic year with energy and enthusiasm.

*Magesh*

## DE BRITTO, DEVAKOTTAI

We started July with the visitation of Provincial. His concluding address to the community encouraged us to work with greater dedication and vigour.

During the Mass of the Holy Spirit on June 21 presided over by **Fr. Amalraj, Fr. Nedungatt** preached a meaningful homily on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This year for a change, we had the introduction of the Jesuit community to staff and students soon after the Mass.

On June 14 the Jesuits, staff and students prayerfully participated in the Novena and the Mass for the Holy Redeemer's feast in the Ramnagar parish. During the Mass we made special offerings meant for the church and for the poor students of the parish. The introduction, homily and prayers were based on the theme 'Youth and Society'.

We had a special function on July 23 to felicitate our staff who had toiled hard to achieve 100% results in the X and XII standard board exams. They were presented each a memento as a token of the management's appreciation for their cooperation.

'Kalvi Valarchi Naal' was celebrated on July 15. The chief guest's address was both enjoyable and motivating. He also distributed prizes to the winners of competitions and the school uniforms to deserving poor students.

*M. Selvam*

## ST XAVIER'S INSTITUTIONS, PALAYAMKOTTAI

The Mass of the Holy Spirit was celebrated on 2 July. A prayer service was conducted for the students of other faiths in the auditorium.

On 17 July we celebrated the Priestly Diamond Jubilee of **Fr. George Thottungal**. His 25 years in Africa, after his retirement, is a lesson for all of us on the Ignatian Magis. Being the Ignatian month we went on pilgrimage to Panjal (Perumal Parish), as part of our preparation to celebrate the feast of our founder. **Fr. S.P Savarimuthu** gave a one-month Ignatian Retreat to 12 novices of St. Anne's Sisters of Tiruchi. **Fr. G. Laurence Amalraj** conducted two sessions on 11 July on "Religious Community Life" and "What it is to be a Community Superior" to 35 superiors of St. Anne's of Tiruchi at Palayamkottai.

*Francis Xavier*

## ST. JOSEPH'S, TIRUCHI

The Golden Jubilee of **Br. Savarimuthu** in the Society of Jesus was celebrated in the Community on 11th July.

Around 1000 Catholic boys residing in New Hostel, S. H. Hostel and Bellarmine Hostel, made their one-day retreat on 17th July. They were divided into seven groups. Around 200 day-scholar Catholic students made a similar retreat on 18 July. **Fr John Peter Arulanandam** from St. Xavier's Palayamkottai guided them. **Fr. Baskar**, the Campus Minister saw to the meticulous arrangements for the retreat programme.

We had the annual pilgrimage to Holy Redeemer's Basilica on 20 July accompanied by the College band which added solemnity to the occasion.

All the 135 elected class representatives and student leaders of the students' council were given a two-day leadership programme on 15th and 16th July on themes like true leadership, self-esteem and team building. Also the student representatives were given a chance to air their views and suggestions for the improvement of the College.

**Fr.S. Mariadoss** participated in the UNDP Solution Exchange for Micro Finance Community-India conference held in Jaipur from 23 to 25 June.

In the School a week-long cultural feast was conducted. Over 1500 students participated and 234 prizes worth Rs.10000 were distributed. An orientation programme for the staff, both teaching and non-teaching, was conducted on 9th and 10th July. The football competition conducted to perpetuate the memory of **Fr. Joe Lawrence** by the Alumni Association was well contested with twelve teams participating and our School emerged the winners.

*Sebastian Anand*

## IDEAS, MADURAI

In response to our customary invitation to the women and men social activists of different religious Congregations for a social colloquium on the joyous occasion of Inigo's Feast, 33 of them attended the 8th annual event on 24 and 25 July on the theme "Our Efforts towards Women's Liberation in the Ministry of Social Change". Expressing happiness about the annual conduct of this event, the participants appreciated IDEAS for being a fruitful venue annually for religious social activists to renew and deepen their commitment to the cause of the socially excluded communities.

The 21st Thedal Arangam, a social documentary screening-cum-reflection programme held on 18th July, drew an unprecedented gathering of 85 students and religious women and men from Madurai city. In addition to the PSP session (Participatory Strategic Planning) we hosted seven Directors of our social centres on July 15<sup>th</sup>. We were happy to have with us two staff groups from these centres - the first group of 9 trainees were introduced into "Website Designing" from 12 to 14 July and the second batch of 11 participants also benefited from the programme: "Orientation for Social Activists" on 20 and 21 July. Apart from the 26 members of the Christian Marumalarchi Iyakkam who used the campus for their planning session on 3rd July, a group of 21 cadres of a Dalit movement had its one-day social analysis session on 26th June.

*Aloysius Irudayam*

## LAAS ILLAM, MADURAI

**Fr. Santhanam** led all the Provincials and the councillors of Gonzaga Sisters through a one-day conference on 'Effective Leadership' in Pondicherry.

The Youth Commission helped a group of young people in Devakottai to evolve strategies in addressing the issues related to caste atrocities. Two different follow-up programmes organized in Batlagundu for 35 youths helped them to design a short-term plan in uniting the youth force in their respective villages. **Fr. Philomin Raj** along with the PEAK team motivated 30 youths from Kookhal, Kodaikanal taluk, to follow the footsteps of Dr. Ambedkar in addressing the social issues. Fr.

Philomin Raj along with a lay colleague addressed nearly 200 youths in Rayagiri, Poovanathapuram and Mugavur villages near Rajapalayam on 2 different dates calling their attention to the spreading menace of Hindutva forces in their villages. The participation of young women in all those villages was commendable. At the initiation of the Youth Commission at least 50 affected women are coming together regularly on the 1st Sunday of every month without fail to share their experiences among themselves. It gives them great hope and confidence to face the social reality. On 25th July, Fr. Philomin Raj along with the Karisal team addressed 50 women in Rajapalayam highlighting various issues affecting women.

*A. Santhanam*

## KALANGARAI, NAGAPATTINAM

A three-day training workshop on the "Women's Movements" was conducted for the leaders of the 'Movement for the livelihood rights of widows and deserted women'. Around thirty women took part in the training.

Twenty-five widows took part in a rally-cum-demonstration organized by "Pengal Munnani" in Tiruchi demanding that the government take steps to implement the property rights of women, which had been denied to them for ages. **Srs. Flora** and **Sahaya Mary** of St. Joseph's Lyons accompanied the group both in the process of reflection and to the venue of the struggle.

A four-day field-based workshop was organized in Tharangambadi on 'Alternative Pastoral Ministry' for the fourth-year theology students of St. Paul's Seminary, Tiruchi. In this programme which was organized for the fourth consecutive year, thirty-five students took part. As part of the programme, a series of sessions on the realities of Dalits, fisherfolk and widows were organized followed by exposure visits and interactive sessions. On the last day, three parish priests shared their views on the challenges ahead of priests in the light of their experiences in the field of pastoral ministry. **Fr. Paul Michael** spearheaded the programme.

The feast of our Founder St. Ignatius was celebrated on 30th July in the company of the local diocesan clergy, religious, well-wishers and the staff of Kalangarai. **Fr. Amuthan**, director of the Retreat Centre, Vailanganni preached an inspiring homily. The participants of the feast apart from appreciating the Jesuit team for the meaningful organization of the feast expressed their genuine solidarity and support to all its initiatives in and around Nagapattinam.

**Fr.A. Irudayaraj** conducted a day-long session on, "Religious Commitment in a Consumeristic World" for the social action commission members of Servite Sisters at Tiruchi.

*A. Irudaya Raj*

## ARIYAMANGALAM PARISH

In the annual diocesan catechism forum of Tiruchi **Mrs. S. Gracelin** the H.M. and the staff of R.C. Middle School were very much appreciated for the spiritual and moral formation given to the students. The Cluny Sisters visited all the houses of the parish and selected the best green and clean houses and gardens. To create

an awareness of eco-friendly villages prizes were awarded to the best green houses, to the admiration of the villagers. The cultural week enthused the students to exhibit their hidden talents. Two-thirds of them participated.

*Felix Joseph*

## SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

For the last two months, on all weekends, the **LAAS team** in collaboration with the Secondary Education Commission of the Province, as a part of the orientation programme for this academic year, conducted one-day workshop for the staff of our schools on Minority Rights. The staff welcomed the initiative and felt enriched by the inputs

## MODELS

“MODELS” (Movement for Developmental Evangelization and Lay Spirituality) was started in 1997, under the auspices of the Jesuits of Madurai Province to form the laity for the mission and ministry. About 45 members, men and women, belonging to various walks of life, based mainly in Dindigul district, were introduced briefly to almost all the subjects of theology and spirituality and also to Jesuit history, etc. This team has been very active in rendering spiritual service in the parishes, with an Ignatian spirituality slant. Now, these lay ministers have been reorganized for our Apostleship of Prayer Ministry.

They had a one-day recollection at the Sacred Heart Residence, Beschi, organized by AP and EC (Apostleship of Prayer and Eucharistic Crusade). **Fr. D. Jeyaraj**, who was instrumental in initiating “MODELS”, feasted the participants to a well-received Ignatian thought and spirituality, centred around holistic human growth. **Fr. Dominic Savio**, Socius to the Novice Master, led them to the realization of their inner potentials and spoke on simple but innovative methods in our prayer and ministry. **Fr. Marivalan** explained to them the aspects of Apostleship of Prayer.

*Marivalan*

## KAZAKHSTAN MISSION

In this vast country I am the only Priest and Jesuit from India. This has both plus and minus points. Spending nearly three years in this Mission as there was a call for a volunteer from the **Most Rev Thomaz Peta**, the Archbishop of Astana, I can share something on this Mission. The country has opened the doors for Missionaries from many parts of the world and the Catholic Church has a Nuntiature, four dioceses and good number of parishes. The parish structure is the basic one from which Catholic Ministry works out and I am in Pavlodar Parish.

Three Jesuits form a community and our ministry is to offer Mass regularly in the centre and visit substations. The Catholic community is not very large but spread over the region. I spent time to study the Russian language and offer Mass in the centre. On different occasions I have been assisting the neighbouring parishes, one is 130 kms. in the west and another 70 in the east.

From time to time I have been reporting the events in “Jesuits in the Europe-Bulletin”. All the Jesuits in Russian region came together for a Regional Meet in Novocibirsk, Russia. The Meet was from 4 to 8 July, 2010. The region consists of five countries, Russia, Belussia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Kirghistan. Fr. General was here for the meet. After the meet there was a retreat in which I participated. After the end of the Soviet rule the region and this country face many challenges and chances to restore the life of Faith and Sacraments besides any number of social situations. Welcome to have a taste of Catholic life with a difference.

*MJ Victor*

## CHENNAI MISSION TASK FORCE ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

The task force had its first meeting of this academic year on 24th July at Loyola, Chennai. The members of the Mission Task force (**Frs. Bellarmine, Michael Joseph, Mark Stephen, Michaelraj and Manu Alphonse**), as well as **Frs. George Joseph, John Kumar, Anto, Michealdoss, Ignatius Amalaraj, Dominic, Maria Arul Raja, and Fr. Arockiasamy and Dr. Bernard Sami** (Migrants Ministry) participated.

Besides strengthening the already existing major Social Initiatives in the Mission, like Social Watch - Tamil Nadu, Dalit Human Rights Centre and AHAL, the task force has been given the task of encouraging and initiating new socio-economic involvements in the Mission Area.

After a review of the Strategic Action Plan, presented by the Task force at the Meet in February 2010, the members shared about the various initiatives that are coming up in the Mission.

Jesuit Migrants Services (JMS) had a modest beginning in the Mission, with the missioning of Fr. Arockiasamy for the task. As a preparation, he has been placed with Arunodhaya Migrants Initiative (AMI), for experience and apprenticeship. AMI has been involved for many years in the sphere of ‘Out Migration’, locally in Kalpakkam as well as in training, research and advocacy at State, National and international levels.

Ministry among alcoholics, started by and taken care of by our theology students and staff of Arul Kadal, has been going on in the dioceses of Vellore, Chengalpattu and Madras-Mylapore. They are involved in various activities, linked to the challenge of “constructing a culture of recovery from the culture of addiction”.

Extension Services in our major educational institutions (Loyola Chennai, Loyola Vettavalam, Kuppayanallur Institutions and Loyola, Ranipet) have been involved in various initiatives of linking our institutions to the concerns of people in the neighbourhood as well as imparting social consciousness to our students.

After sharing and discussions about the various initiatives, the members stressed the need for keeping up exploring possibilities of starting a Tribal Ministry in the Mission.

**Fr. Victor**, the Mission Superior, who joined the group towards the end, appreciated the work that had been done by the taskforce and encouraged the members to keep moving forward together, in spite of possible difficulties and frustrations on the way.

*Fr. Manu, Convener*

## NOCO – 80

We, the Novitiate companions of 1980 batch (**NOCO – 80**) gathered together on 10 and 11 July, to express our Gratitude to the Lord by celebrating our Companionship and Togetherness in the Society at St. Xavier's, Palayamkottai and at Irudayakulam Farm.

We, twenty-four, the largest and the fourth batch of Novices under **Fr. D. Jeyaraj**, joined the Novitiate. Seventeen of us pronounced the First Vows and after that one scholastic left the Society and after ordination **Fr. Pooranam** went to his Eternal Rest and hence we are fifteen in the Society right now. Of the fifteen, nine of us, **Amal, Anto, Arock, Britto, Ignacy, Paul, Stephen, Victor and Vinny** along with **Mr. Francis and Dr. John De Britto** who were our co-novices met together. We really missed the company of six of us, **Gilburt, Maria Joe, Masil, Mount, Sahay and Stephen Kulandai**.

Even though we have been meeting in the past periodically on various occasions after the Novitiate, this time we confined ourselves to the following three questions to ponder over:

1. What have been our happy moments / achievements in our life in the Society?
2. Which are our unfulfilled dreams in our life?
3. What would we like to contribute to the Society, Church and to the People?

We had in-depth sharing on these questions and we discussed the growth of our Province since we entered the Society and felt proud how our Province has been playing the role of being the Pioneer in various fields and reflected over the constraints and obstacles that hamper our growth.

We thank **Br. Xavier**, who listened to our sharing by sitting at the back and took care of us as a mother with love and affection. We remembered with gratitude **Fr. D. Jeyaraj**, our Novice Master, **Frs.A. Arulanandam** and **I.M. Joseph**, our Socii for forming us.

With a sense of gratitude to each other for the companionship, the enthusiastic participation and for the generous hospitality of SXC and Irudayakulam we dispersed to do our ministries more enthusiastically.

*A. Arockiasamy*

## INIGO AND BUDDHA: POINTS OF CONVERGENCE

Celebrating this in this predominantly Therevada Buddhist country makes the feast of Inigo very significant. Both Buddha and Inigo come from warrior clan. Both had a young age so different from what they would become later. Both had a deep spiritual experience that changed their lives. Both worked on the various 'spirits' at work in the human mind.

Both understood the impermanence of many things and sought something enduring.

Both worked on the mind (and soul) for long hours, looking for answers within.

Both were deeply touched by an experience. The description of that experience is almost verbatim similar to one another.

Buddha went on to found the Sangha; Inigo went on to found the Society.

Both gave compassion as the guiding force in human relationships.

Inigo looks so Eastern in his methods when viewed through a Buddhist lens.

But he also departs in personal relationship with God and Jesus.

He worked through human problems with the guidance of the Spirit.

He is a cross cultural Holy Man.

May he continue to inspire all of us.

*C. Amal*

## NEW RELEASES

**கருவூலக் காப்பாளர் புனித சூசை** Fr. R.S. Amalraj, Nanjil Pathippagam, Nagercoil, pp. 86, Rs. 38/-

**Zen: Ancient and Modern** Fr. AMA Samy, Vaigarai Pathippagam, pp. 233, Rs.100/-

**Priesthood To Whom...?** Fr. Xavier Irudayaraj, Claretian Arts & Media, Chennai, pp. 71 Rs. 50/-

**"33% ?"** Fr. Jebamalairaja, Muhil Publication, pp.54, Rs. 15/-

**உணர்வும் உலகமும்** - வாழ்க்கைக் கல்விக்கான நூல் Fr. Vedanayagam, Vaigarai Pathippagam, pp. 128; Rs. 40/-

**Suggested Reading:** Two books describing the inspiring stories of two strongly evangelical couples coming to the Catholic Church.

1. Scott and Kimberly Hahn : Rome, Sweet Home
2. Stephen K. Ray : Crossing the Tiber.

Indian Reprints available of : Family of Faith Foundation 70-A Hill Road, Bandra, Mumbai 400 056

## ABIDE WITH THE LORD

**Fr. John Almeida** (BOM), 51/29, on 24 July

**Mrs. Veronica** (49), elder sister of Fr.A.S.Amalraj on 22 July

### STOP PRESS

**Fr. Amalraj Selvaraj** (R.S. Amalraj), 83 died in the Lord on 24 July. More details in September MNL.