



MAY 2010

(For Private Circulation)

**JUBILARIANS' DAY
30 MAY AT 10.00 A.M.
BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL**

CONGRATULATIONS DEAR JUBILARIANS

50 years in the Society

Fr. Michael Alosanai
Fr. Dhanaraj Raphael
Fr. Ephrem Appadorai
Br. Gnanadickam Mariadas
Br. Savarimuthu Michael

60 years in the Society

Fr. Miranda Alphonso J.
Fr. Mampra C. Xavier
Br. Santiago Arul Maria

70 years in the Society

Fr. Miranda Apolline

50 years in the Priesthood

Fr. Diaz Vitalis
Fr. George Rathnasamy

60 years in the Priesthood

Fr. Thottungal George

**ALL JESUIT CONFRERES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
FOR THE CELEBRATION!**

RSVP: Minister, Beschi

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

May

05-13 Shembaganur: Province Retreat
14-17 Shembaganur
18-20 Shembaganur: Formation Meet
21-22 Shembaganur: Visitation
23-24 Perumalmai, Bodhi Zendo, Palamalai:
Visitation

25-29

Manalur, Ayyampalayam: Visitation

30

Dindigul: Beschi: Jubilarians' Day.

30 pm

Province Consult

June

06-08

Dindigul: Beschi Illam: Visitation

20

Dindigul: Consult

Status 2010
Fr General has appointed:

Fr. Marivalan Rayappan, National Director Apostleship of Prayer

TNBC has appointed:

Fr. Dhanaraj Raphael, Secretary, Commission for Ecumenism and Dialogue. (He continues to work part-time for CIS and stays at Beschi, Dindigul)

Fr. Provincial has appointed:

Fr. Ignatius Amalraj H., Superior, Loyola College, Vettavalam

Fr. Jerry Rosario, Superior, Dhyana Ashram, Chennai

Fr. Joseph Arockiam, Superior, AAC, Karumathur

Fr. Albert Joseph S., Acting Superior, Xaveriana, Thoothukudi

Fr. Francis Jayapathy, Acting Superior, Carmel, Nagercoil

Fr. Jerome Manyahi (AOR), Acting Superior II Block Jesuit Community, Loyola, Chennai

NAME	FROM	TO
Fr. Albert Muthumalai A.	Loyola, Chennai	Secretary, SJC, Tiruchi
Fr. Anbarasu Maria Raj	SXC, Palayamkottai	Tertianship, Shembaganur
Fr. Anthony Samy M.	St. Mary's, Madurai	Asst Manager, Perumalmalai
Fr. Antony Inigo D.	SUPAM	Dir Prenovices, VMI, Vilangudi
Br. Antony Simon A.	Perumalmalai	St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Arockia Raj Raphael	Kilpennathur	PP, Thirumanur
Fr. Arockiam S	SHC, Shembaganur	Shembag Superior & Perumal Manager
Fr. Arockiam S. Michael	Carmel, Nagercoil	St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Arockiaraj Gnanapragasam	Loyola, Chennai	Principal, Gonzaga College, Krishnagiri
Fr. Arockiasamy Antony S.	SUPAM	Migrants Ministry, Arul Kadal, Chennai
Br. Arockiasamy Kulandai	St. Mary's, Madurai	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi
Fr. Arul Irudhayam	Xaveriana, Thoothukudi	PP, Alavanthankulam
Fr. Arul P. Stanislaus	Carmel, Nagercoil	PP, St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Arul Ravi S.	AICUF, Tiruchi	Tertianship, Sri Lanka
Fr. Baskar Antony S.	Thirumanur	MTh, VJ, Delhi
Fr. Boniface Joseph (DAR)	Darjeeling	VMI, Vilangudi
Fr. Casimir Raj N.	Loyola, Chennai	Loyola College Management Adviser
Fr. Darwin S. Michael	Tertianship, Sri Lanka	PP, Oriyur
Fr. Devadhas Muthiah	Gonzaga Novitiate, Tindivanam	Carmel, Nagercoil
Br. Devadoss Muthusavari	Clive's, Tiruchi	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi
Fr. Devasagayam Manickam	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi	Loyola, Vettavalam
Fr. Dominic Jeyakumar M.	Catholic University, Milan	Team Leader, Loyola, Ranipet
Fr. Dominic Royce F.X.	Loyola, Vettavalam	Minister, Loyola, Vettavalam
Fr. Dominic Savio M.	SUPAM	Socius to Nov Master, Beschi, Dindigul
Fr. Fernandes Jesuadimai	St. Michael's, Palamalai	St. Mary's, Manalur
Fr. Fidelis Jeyabalan P. (AND)	SH Residence, Dindigul	Thozhamai Illam, Kanyakumari
Fr. Francis Xavier L.	Carmel, Nagercoil	Correspondent & HM, Carmel, Nagercoil
Fr. Gaspar Leonard A.	Loyola, Chennai	SHC, Shembaganur
Fr. Gunasekaran Rajaiah	Loyola, Ranipet	PP, Ongur
Fr. Ignatius Britto N.	St. Mary's Dindigul	Correspondent & HM, St. Mary's, Dindigul
Fr. Ilanko Xavier M.	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Tertianship, Sitagarha
Fr. Infant Kingsley A.	AHAL, Kilpennathur	AAC, Karumathur
Br. Jeyaraj Annaviar	De Britto, Devakottai	AAC, Karumathur
Fr. Jeyaraj Boniface	Loyola, Chennai	Principal, Loyola, Chennai
Fr. Joe Arun C.	Loyola, Chennai	Secretary, Loyola, Chennai

Fr. John Peter Bellarmine	Ongur	PP & Dir AHAL, Kilpennathur
Fr. Joseph Antony Samy G.	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi	Loyola, Chennai
Fr. Loyola Antony Savari	Kalangarai, Nagapattinam	BEd, SXC, Palayamkottai
Fr. Louie Albert A.	VMI, Vilangudi	ISI, Bangalore
Fr. Louis Xavier	SXC, Palayamkottai	Secretary, SXC, Palayamkottai
Fr. Manickam Visuvasam Soosai	SXC, Palayamkottai	St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Maria Bastin Durai	Puerto Rico	Loyola, Kuppayanallur
Fr. Maria Wensch S.	Arul Kadal, Chennai	PhD Studies & AICUF House Dir, Chennai
Br. Mariadoss Antonimuthu, E.S.	Loyola, Vettavalam	Minister, Paathai, Vallam
Fr. Mathew Cyril Antony	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Tertianship, Goa
Fr. Mount Joseph Selvan	St. Mary's, Madurai	Gonzaga Novitiate, Tindivanam
Fr. Panoor C. Joseph	Alavanthankulam	St. Michael's, Palamalai
Fr. Paul Pragash S.	Clive's, Tiruchi	Tertianship, Shembaganur
Fr. Peter Sengole	Loyola, Chennai	Minister, AAC, Karumathur
Fr. Pushparaj Gnanasamy	AAC, Karumathur	Principal, Ananda College, Devakottai
Br. Rayappan Susai	AAC, Karumathur	Beschi Illam, Dindigul
Fr. Sahaya Wilfred J.	Paathai, Vallam	LTI, Madurai
Fr. Sahayaraj John Stanley	Arul Kadal, Chennai	Tertianship, Sitagarha
Fr. Samuel Jeyaseelan	SJC, Tiruchi	Loyola, Chennai
Fr. Santiago Sebastian	SUPAM	AHAL, Kilpennathur
Fr. Savarimuthu Xavier	Clive's, Tiruchi	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi
Fr. Sebasthi John Baskar T	AAC, Karumathur	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi
Fr. Sekhar B. Vincent	AAC, Karumathur	Teaching/Sabbatical, Fordham, U.S.A.
Fr. Simonraj Antony	Alavanthankulam	Correspondent & HM, Alavanthankulam
Fr. Stanislaus Mariadoss	St. Mary's, Dindigul	St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Stephen Kulandaisamy S.	LAAS, Madurai	ISI, Bangalore
Fr. Stephen Lourdu Pragasam V.	St. Mary's, Madurai	St. Mary's, Dindigul
Br. Stephen Raj S.	St. Joseph's, Tiruchi	Minister, St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Stephen Selvanathan A.	SUPAM	AICUF TN Advisor, St. Joseph's, Tiruchi
Fr. Susaimanickam Sebastian	Sekkakudi	Poondi Madha Basilica, Poondi
Fr. Xavier Raj Antony	SHC, Shembaganur	APP, St. Mary's, Madurai
Fr. Xavier Vedam	Loyola, Chennai	Principal, AAC, Karumathur
Fr. Yesumarian L.	Paathai, Vallam	Team Leader Paathai & Dir DHRC

All transfers are expected to be effected by the first week of June. At the start of the academic year, each local superior is to submit to the concerned Bishop a list of the priests joining his community and make sure that they get their Faculties on the basis of their new domicile.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ **Fr. General Has Appointed:**

Fr. Vicente Durá Garrigues Provincial of the Province of Aragon.

Fr. Kurien Francis Vadakekara Provincial of the Province of Hazaribagh.

Fr. Thomas Layden Provincial of Ireland.

Fr. Jeyaraj Rasiah Provincial of Sri Lanka.

■ **Frs. Anbarasan Savariraj and Joseph Kennedy** are approved by Fr. General for taking their final vows. Prayerful felicitations.

■ **The Society in Numbers**

The Statistics of the Society of Jesus worldwide have been just published. The various tables present its

composition as of the 1st of January 2010. The total number of Jesuits is: 18,226; 12,887 priests (last year: 13,088), 1,589 brothers (last year: 1,674), 2,818 scholastics, that is the Jesuits in formation (last year: 2,925) and 972 novices (last year: 816). A decrease of 237 members was experienced from 1st January 2009. These figures show a small decline in relation to the previous year, when the loss was of 304 members. There was a small decline in the average age: in 2008 it was 57.44 and in 2009 it was 57.29. Table 6 presents an historical summary of the size of the Society from 1973 to 2010 that may be of interest. It offers the potential of tracking the trends of novices, scholastics, priests and brothers during these years and noting the differences year by year. For more and detailed information please refer to the printed edition or visit www.sjweb.info (for Jesuits only).

■ **Jesuitica**

Changing Times. When Pope Gregory XIII needed advice on how to revise the Julian calendar in 1582, he turned to a Jesuit mathematician at the Roman College, Christopher Clavius, who said, "Suppress ten days in the Julian calendar, and every 400 years omit the extra day of what would otherwise be a leap year." Even though English Protestants denounced it as a "Jesuit plot", it worked!

■ **ARTISTS' MEET AGAIN!**

At the initiative of **Fr. Britto Peter**, the PCF, Culture & Communication is organizing a 7-day Artists' Meet for Young Religious at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai from 1 to 7 June 2010. The Meet is co-ordinated by **Fr. M. Amaladoss** who organized such a meet several years ago on his own. This is not a seminar with talks. This is a time for young creative, talented Religious to come together, create and receive feedback from colleagues and guidance from experts.

The aim is 1) to bring together young Religious who are interested and talented in arts like music, writing and painting (sculpting) 2) to give them inputs in arts, aesthetics and creativity as well as time and inspiration to create in the field in which they are talented and 3) to give them feedback from colleagues and experts, so that they become better in what they are doing at present.

The Meet begins at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 1 June 2010 and ends with lunch on Monday, 7 June. The scholastics attending the Artists' Meet should bring along with them a few samples of their artistic, creative work – paintings, music compositions, lyrics, poems, short stories, articles, etc. If you need any additional information, please write to me: **Fr. M.A. Joe Antony**, SJ / Director / Culture & Communication / Loyola College / P.B.3301 / Chennai – 600 034. Email: candc@loyolacollege.edu.

■ **Fr. James Rodrigues** email: rodriguesjames1@gmail.com

Fr. Darwin S. Michael email: mdarwinsj@gmail.com

Fr. Prem Kumar email: peakprem@gmail.com

■ **BETTER BE SAFE THAN BE SORRY** : Often the MNL carries announcements of email address changes. Many of these address changes are due to the nefarious activities of fraudsters and cyber-crooks. Typically, one gets an "official-and-authentic-looking" email message ostensibly from Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail etc. asking to verify one's User Name and Password. NO company that provides email service will ever send an email message asking one for this type of verification of one's User Name and Password. Changes to User Name and Password are done ONLY by getting into one's email account and using the Options given INSIDE the email programme. Once one responds to the fraudulent email and divulges one's User Name and Password, the fraudsters get into the account, lock the user out by changing the password and send messages seeking money to all the addresses in the address book. Typically,

the message is that during travel abroad one has had his money and tickets lost/stolen and that a sum of money (say, EUR 1,400 or a similar amount in Euros or US Dollars) to be immediately wired to an address/bank account. Amazingly, some of ours are still ignorant of this fraud and lose their email account, their Inbox, Outbox, Address Book etc. More amazingly still, some well-to-do friends and benefactors of ours in Europe and elsewhere do send money as requested even without taking the elementary precaution of telephoning and finding out whether or not their Jesuit friend was indeed on a foreign trip. Let all ours who have email accounts protect them against fraudsters and cyber-crooks. And let all ours with well-healed friends, benefactors and admirers abroad warn them not to send money impulsively. Better be safe than be sorry!

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI

On 7 April, the foundation was laid towards constructing Loyola College Ladies' Hostel.

Overcoming constraints imposed by his retinal surgery, **Fr. Francis Peter** had a two-day workshop on Syllabus Design for the staff of St Aloysius College, Mangalore. The Humanities and Social Studies department of IIT Chennai has inducted him into its Research Cell. A group of teachers of English having attended an All-India training Trainer of Trainers that Fr. Francis Peter conducted between 10 and 20 April have plunged into action training two groups of NGOs and are determined to take the Right to Learn English (R2LE) campaign to the schools in the neighbourhood. The month would be rounded off with a two-day seminar for the scholastics of Karnataka on Effective English Teaching.

Fr.S. Ignacimuthu inaugurated the National Conference on Educational Reforms at Meenakshi College, Chennai on 23 April.

Fr. N. Casimir Raj, Director, Loyola Alumni Association, invites all Loyola alumni to pay Rs. 100 to Loyola Rejoice 2010 to be held at the college premises on 28 August. He welcomes suggestions to make the rejoicing purposeful. I am assigned the task of inviting specially past Religious Brothers and Sisters of Loyola.

A G Leonard

AHAL, KILPENNATHUR

The 9th Annual Day Celebration of Arrupe Boys' Home was celebrated on 27 February in a grand manner. **Fr. Elias** was one of the chief guests of the day. The audience appreciated the well-prepared and neatly executed cultural programme. Kudos to the inmates of Arrupe Boys' Home!

Women Groups comprising 78 members from Kilpennathur Parish celebrated Women's Day on 8 March. The celebration started with some fun games followed by Mass. The participants were conscientised through some documentary movies depicting the freedom and rights of women.

Fr.A. Victor, blessed and declared open the new Arrupe Jesuit Residence on 10th April. While the first

year philosophers conducted a prayer service, a short cultural programme at the end added colour to the occasion.

Rayappan

DHYANA ASHRAM CHENNAI

Br. Sathanandam is ably supervising the renovation work in Dhyana Ashram. We will have more rooms for those who come for retreats.

Ordination retreats for seminarians/deacons from Vellore, Nellore and Delhi dioceses were preached in Dhyana Ashram by **Frs. James Rodrigues, S.M. Selvaraj, R.J. Raja** and **Jerry**.

Fr. S.M. Selvaraj preached a 15-day retreat for seminarians in Shembaganur. **Fr. X. Irudayaraj** is preaching a one-month retreat in Tiruchi for St Anne's Sisters.

Fr. Thamburaj addressed a three-day Lenten Convention in the Cathedral of Tuticorin on the theme "Be Holy; for I am Holy". On the last day there were around 3000 participants.

Fr. Jerry was invited to conduct 8 formative programmes for lay women, men and also a Holy Week series in various Tamil parishes in Malaysia for a fortnight. He also facilitated a Province chapter in Bangalore and a General chapter in Mumbai. He gave special sessions on "Motivations for Societal Change" in the Madras School of Social Work. Further he addressed teachers of Government schools for differently challenged students.

A.J. Thamburaj

JESUIT PRE-NOVITIATE, VILANGUDI

The academic programme of the VMI for this year came to an end with a retreat for the candidates by **Fr. X. Savarimuthu**. The VMI premises during the vacation are being used by the new teacher recruits under the direction of **Fr. S.M. Kennedy**.

The pre-novitiate's maiden production "English for Enrichment" (DVD) brought in Rs.10,000/- which was handed over to **Fr. Thomas**, the Province Treasurer. With this little contribution, he has created a corpus fund for the pre-novitiate Bala-mala.

Viji Bose

BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL

From 1 to 4 April, the novices went to their ministry places and assisted the parish priests in the Holy Week celebrations. On 9 April they went to Mettupatti to witness the 'Pascha' enacted by the parishioners. On 16 April the second year novices received the ministries of Lector and Acolyte. **Fr. Arul Sivan** conducted a workshop on "Discernment and Decision Making" for the Superiors and the Provincial's team of the Congregation of St. Joseph of Lyons.

A. Leo Pereira

CIS, BESCHI

Thirty-five tertians belonging to five Sisters' Congregations attended a three-month Course in preparation for their perpetual vows. One more Sister joined this group for a long retreat which ended on April 8. **Fr. Dhanaraj** with the help of **Fr. Britto Peter** directed the long retreat. A special thanksgiving Mass was said at 11.00 a.m. on April 17, presided over

by Fr. Britto Peter, the Course Organizer. Twelve Sisters led a procession with dance, while all those who attended the Course followed with lighted candles symbolizing their growth in faith.

The Valedictory function of CIS took place on April 17, with a large attendance from all over Dindigul. **Fr. Wilson** OFM Cap presided over the function, delivered the presidential address and distributed certificates to the Sisters who attended the ten-month course this year. Though a very small group, their cultural performance was highly delightful.

Both the Formators' Course and the Tertianship came to a fine conclusion on April 18. We hope to start the former course in the third week of June.

Dhanaraj

ST. MARY'S, MADURAI

The Cathedral Parish arranged as part of the Lenten campaign a Free Eye Camp and Multi-specialty Health Care programme for the benefit of the poor in collaboration with the Damien Centre, Nilakottai, run by the Sisters of the CIC. In the evening of the same day in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Health Commission, a street play on the evils of alcoholism was staged by the famous Nigazh Theatre group.

There were two one-day retreats – one arranged specially for the Parish youth numbering 110 and another for the members of the Parish Council and the Pious Associations. The Parish arranged a Blood Donation Camp, in collaboration with the Medical Staff of the Govt. Hospital, Madurai. Though many offered to donate blood, only 32 persons were selected by the team. Our thanks to the efforts of **Fr. Mount Joe**, the Parish Priest and **Fr. Anthony Samy** his Assistant.

School and the hostel boys are given special coaching for reaping good results with ranks this year also. Our thanks to the untiring efforts of **Fr. Vincent Amalraj, Fr. Stephen**, and **Fr. R. Irudayaraj** who helped in preparing the students especially in a spiritual atmosphere.

The annual feast of the Rayapuram Parish began with the hoisting of the flag by Fr. Vincent Amalraj and came to a happy end with heavy rain followed by a well decorated Car procession of St. Germaine. Thanks to **Fr. S.P. Masillamani** and **Br. Arulanandam** who played a major role in the arrangement of the celebrations.

The house hosted the budget approval session for our communities specially of the southern region. Thanks to **Br. Arockiasamy**, our Minister for making the members of the various communities who came for the session feel at home. The house continues to play the role of Martha, in looking after the sick people from other communities who come here for medical check-up or for treatment. Thanks to **Br. Benjamin** who plays the role of the Good Samaritan!

Bastian

XAVERIANA, THOOTHUKUDI

Fr. I. Arul was very busy conducting mission retreats in various parishes of our diocese. He also gave a one-day retreat to the staff of St. Thomas Mat. Hr. Sec. School. "His retreat challenged the staff to become effective instruments of God." says **Fr. Albert Joseph**, the Principal.

Fr. Francis Sales conducted sessions on "The Newspaper Analysis and Value Clarification" to 800 students in St. Xavier's, Thoothukudi.

Kanal young writers forum was conducted in St. Mary's hostel, Madurai from 24 to 29 April wherein 5 students from each of our schools participated. Writers, thinkers, dignitaries in and around Madurai were the resource persons who enriched the students with new ideas. Congratulations to **Fr. Joe Xavier** for organizing the forum.

Francis Sales

ARUL ANANDAR COLLEGE, KARUMATHUR

The 40th College Day was celebrated on 20th April. On the 5th the innovation of optical fibre internet connectivity was established.

On 13th the outgoing students of AAC Women's hostel were given a grand farewell whereas the boys had their farewell function on 16th with colourful events.

Two German students deputed by UNO are in the College to study the impact of mobile communication on the individual and the group.

Fr.G. Pushparaj attends the first project group evaluation meeting of the Ministry of Science and Technology from May 4 to 6.

The Jesuit Management has instituted Awards of Excellence for the staff and students for their significant achievement and contributions during 2009-2010.

Antony Anand

ST XAVIER'S INSTITUTES, PALAYAMKOTTAI

The Diocese of Palayamkottai organized a Lenten pilgrimage to Puliampatti in which during the Way of the Cross at the 12th station **Fr. Vincent Britto**, shared his reflections. The message was fitting to the mood of Lent. On 11th March, **Fr. A. Arockiasamy** was invited to the Women's Christian College, Nagercoil, to be the Resource person for the State level one-day Mathematical Seminar on "Basic Concepts in Real Analysis" in which more than 250 students along with the staff from various colleges participated and appreciated the sessions given by him. Moreover, the following day, he was invited to Jamal Mohamed College, Tiruchi as the Controller of Examinations to participate in the State level one-day seminar on "Examination Reforms" and was asked to share his expertise with the other participants in the seminar. We appreciate to **Schs. Stalin and John Paul**, for presenting papers in the State level inter-collegiate seminars organized by AAC, Karumathur and S.A. College, Tirunelveli. **Fr. Lawrence Amal Raj** conducted two sessions of training programme on "Sanctity of Priesthood and Parochial Administration" to 160 pastors of Chengalpattu Diocese. He also conducted a one-day training programme on "Time Management and School Administration" to teachers from all over Tamil Nadu. **Fr.J.P. Arulanandam** preached an 8-day retreat for the CIC Novices at Madurai from 22 April to 30 April.

SXHSS: Our IX Std. Students stole the show in the exhibition conducted by the STAND of St. Xavier's College on "Science for Sanitation." Our campus witnessed the fusion of four neighbouring schools to hear the message of **Dr. Agnes** M.D on the

International Women's Day. **Fr. Yagoo**, our headmaster, accompanied the staff during the Lenten pilgrimage to Poondi and Vailankanni. He also released the second edition of the book on **Fr. Leveil** "மேற்கத்திய ஞாயிறு" on the "Leveil Day", 21st March, at Sarukani.

Our B.Ed Students visited the schools for the Deaf and the Dumb, the Blind and the mentally retarded, on 1 & 2 March. Students of Bioscience, History and Physical Science had one-day field visit to Tiruchendur coastal villages, Krishnapuram Temple and the District Science Centre respectively. The inauguration of IGNOU counselling for I & II year students was held on 7th March. **Fr. Amaladoss**, the new Assistant, coordinated the programme. Each subject club organized an extension lecture from 9th to 15th March on various topics including environment, virtual reality and modern trends in literature. Congratulations to our M.Ed students who under the guidance of Fr. Britto Vincent, staged a part of the play titled "Doll House" on 8 March the International Women's Day. The M.Ed students had a day of inputs by **Fr. Francis Xavier**, Loyola College, on Time Management. On 26th March the whole SXCE campus looked wonderful inviting the passersby to peep into the campus to see what was going on. XATEC – 2010, the inter-collegiate cultural competition was being held. More than 30 B.Ed colleges in and around Tirunelveli District took part in the cultural festival. Our students had a one-day spiritual journey on 10 April, directed by **Frs. Anbarasu, Irudayaraj** and **Fr. M. Arul**. They had a one-day seminar on Time Management by Fr. Lawrence Amal Raj. **Fr. Victor**, was very much appreciated for his practical techniques on student counseling.

St. Xavier's Hostel Day XAHOFEST – 10 was celebrated on March 7th. About 300 parents attended the function and participated in the parents' meet as part of the celebration. Fun games for hostel workers and for parents were the highlights of the celebration. Kudos to Fr. Danis, the Hostel Director and Fr. Xavier Antony, the Co-Director. On 8th March the International Women's Day was celebrated in SXC. The 87th College Day was celebrated on 20th March. Our congratulations to Fr. Alphonse Manickam. The State level Astronomy Camp conducted in our campus from March 22–24, was sponsored by NCSTC, DST & TNSCST. On 27th March a one-day seminar was organized with the collaboration of TNSCST and STAND on The Protection of Environment. At the request of TNSCST, the STAND organized an Exhibition on Science for Sanitation. The District Collector was highly positive about this exhibition. The College Alumni Association installed a new computerized E.C.G on 21 March in its Medical Lab. **Fr. Anbu** deserves our appreciation.

M.F. Kennedy

ST JOSEPH'S, TIRUCHI

Br.A. Kulandairaj, the Headmaster has arranged a summer sports camp for fifty of our School boys to train them in track and field events besides some games. The NCC outfit from the School has done remarkably well in the Combined Annual Training held at Perambalur and has won the overall Champion Cup.

The Lenten Retreat for the Catholic Former Pupils was organized by **Fr. S. Paul Pragash**, during the Holy Week. **Fr. I. Arul** preached the retreat.

The Department of Biochemistry organized a national seminar from 29 to 30 March on the uses of herbal medicines. On 9th April **Fr. S. Mani Valan** delivered an endowment lecture at the University of Madras on behalf of the Chair of Christianity. He also attended the Tamil Board of Studies at Pondicherry University on 23rd April. **Fr. Samuel Jeyaseelan** has gone to Mexico to attend the Colloquium on Education.

Br. S. Kulandairaj shows keen interest in bio-farming and as a first step has started Vermi composting and fish farming and has taken to these as his avocations.

Sebastian Anand

ICRDCE, CHENNAI

The Director of ICRDCE went to Papua New Guinea and spent a week there in April. The education Minister of the country has announced that 89 Community Colleges (CC) will be started in 89 districts of the country.

ICRDCE conducted the North Indian workshop at Ranchi from 6 to 7 April. Thirty-six members from 27 IGNOU Associate Community Colleges participated.

Xavier Alphonse

IDEAS, MADURAI

IDEAS was invited by the Province Social Action Coordinator, **Fr. Michael Raj**, to play host to 10 Jesuit Directors and collaborators from our social centres. Finalizing the Participatory Strategic Planning was the key item on the agenda for their deliberations. What a heartening scene it was to see from 9-11 April a big group of 33 summer camp coordinators, Jesuit scholastics and non-Jesuits, attentively participating in the three-day summer camp orientation programme! Assisted by his trained lay group, **Fr. Eugene** animated this orientation programme with success.

Fr. Michael Raj was at it again! Like last year, his two-week video workshop for 14 NGO staff and coordinators started in IDEAS with theory classes on 14th and will end with practicals at KARISAL on 30 April. Accepting the invitation from the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR), **Fr. Aloysius Irudayam** participated in the interaction session with 24 MPs at New Delhi on 21st April on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The purpose was to influence the Central Govt. through the MPs to enforce this Act effectively and to bring in the necessary amendments to this Act so as to make it more comprehensive and effective. It was on this occasion that the REPORT CARD, a performance assessment of the Govt.'s efforts to implement this Act, authored by Fr. Aloysius Irudayam and associates, was released.

Aloysius Irudayam

CHRISTIAN – BUDDHIST DIALOGUE

The Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific hosted a workshop for Jesuits engaged in dialogue with Buddhists and in the study of Buddhism, from 23 to

25 April, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. It was held in the beautiful Jesuit centre of Seven Fountains.

The Convener was **Fr. Mark Raper**, S.J. The idea came from the vision and urgency of Fr. General for such a meeting; one purpose was to set up some kind of a Jesuit-Buddhist Dialogue structure and to propose suitable candidates for the Secretariat for Buddhism. There were only ten participants, including Fr. Raper. Many could not attend on account of many reasons. The conference was basically for Asia Pacific, but they had also invited the South Asian Jesuits, and thus two of us from India, **Fr. Noel Sheth** and I, were there. The others were from Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia.

We began with a visit to a Buddhist university-cum-monastery, where the vice-abbot gave us a talk on Thai Buddhism and the problems facing Buddhism in the modern world. He pointed out that consumerism is the problem facing all religions in the modern world. On the last day we visited a Buddhist monastery where intense Vipassana meditation was the focus.

Both monasteries and their leaders were very friendly and open to Christians and to dialogue. Actually, both have been involved in arranging such dialogues. Both have been befriended by Chiara Lubich of the Focolare movements and through her initiated into dialogue and friendship.

Fr. Michael Amaladoss who was at the same time giving a course for the Theology students from Manila in Seven Fountains, gave us a talk which was deep and insightful. He pointed out that politics and casteism exploited religion for their own ends; that religious dialogue is basically a person to person affair and not of Church hierarchy or social works; that today many live in some sort of double religious belonging.

Fr. Noel Sheth gave a comprehensive talk on Buddhism, on its vantage point in today's world as well as its defects and problems. Fr. Bernard Senegal, a Canadian Jesuit working in S. Korea teaching Buddhism, spoke how Buddhism had transformed him. He, like Paul Knitter, claimed that he cannot live as a Christian without his Buddhism. He suggested even that today the Society has to undergo a re-founding by encounter with Buddhism.

There were personal sharings as well as suggestions for the future. In East Asia, befriending and working together with Muslims is of paramount importance; there is also a fast growing evangelical Christianity in China and other lands. Still, Buddhism is pan-East-Asian and underlies the psyche of the people and is also becoming a vital force in the West. Hence, Buddhist-Christian dialogue and cooperation are vital. We need to train young Jesuits for this mission. Hopefully there are already some young Jesuits doing Buddhist studies. Still more are needed. It was felt that those already in the field have to come together periodically for sharing in personal friendship and for understanding the problems and the possibilities and for collaboration. We Christians seem to be having answers all the time, which blocks and puts off people; what we need is finding a way of walking together with others in a spirituality of wayfarers and common pilgrims.

The convener, Fr. Mark Raper, was a great inspiration for us, and we were deeply grateful to him for his support and encouragement.

This was the first such meet, and many expressed puzzlement why the Society and the superiors had not earlier given thought to such a programme. Fr. Noel Sheth mentioned that in India there has not been so far such a meeting of the Jesuits working in the field of Hinduism.

AMA Samy

A letter for the beatification of Fr. Bernardo de Hoyos.

"On April 18, in Valladolid, Spain, Fr. Bernardo de Hoyos (1711-1735) will be beatified. He is considered the first apostle of the Sacred Heart in Spain. To recapture who he was and what he contributed, I offer some biographical information that should be understood in the religious and cultural context of the 18th century." Thus begins the letter written by Father General for this occasion. More than a century ago, in 1895, the cause for Father De Hoyos was introduced; due to many ecclesiastical vicissitudes and the political history of Spain, it was repeatedly postponed. Father Nicolás, in his letter, traces the major events in the very short life of the newly beatified who died on the 29th of November 1735 at the age of 24. He was recently ordained and in Tertianship at the time of his death.

"His reputation for holiness - the letter continues - spread immediately after his death. However, because of the difficult situation in which the Society found itself opposed by the Jansenists, the cause for beatification was not introduced at that time. Later the suppression of the Society would leave many projects unfinished. When the Society was restored in 1814 by Pope Pius VII, a strong devotion to the Sacred Heart emerged in the whole Church. In accord with the religious sensibilities of the time, the reborn Society dedicated itself to the spread and propagation of this devotion with significant results." The letter outlines the steps of this recovery of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, beginning with General Congregation 31st in 1965, through the generalate of Father Arrupe and the generalate of Father Kolvenbach.

Then Father Nicolás goes on: "Bernardo de Hoyos's passion for the Heart of Jesus faithfully corresponds to the devotion that Saint Ignatius felt for Jesus poor and humble, before whom he asks that our affections be moved in order to accompany Him in each step of His life: As companions with him on mission, his way is our way (GC35, D. 2, n° 14), so that in what we do in the world there must always be a transparency to God (GC35, D. 2, n° 10). On the occasion of this beatification, I invite the whole Society, together with our collaborators, to renew our personal love of Jesus Christ and to open ourselves to the grace of identifying ourselves with Him, so that in Nadal's words, we might understand with His understanding; will with His will; remember with His memory; and that our entire being, living, and doing be not centered in us, but in Christ (MHSI vol 90. p.122; GC35, D. 2, n°14), as the cornerstone of the particular vocation to which each of us has been called."

And finally Father General concludes: "May the Father who has hidden these things from the wise and the learned and has revealed them to the childlike (Mt 11, 25) through the intercession of Blessed Bernardo de Hoyos, grant the Society the grace of accomplishing

its mission of being in the Church a loving response to Him who was pierced by the pain and the aggressive injustice of a world in need of forgiveness and reconciliation."

ABIDE WITH THE LORD

Marydasan Kanakamangalam (CCU) 57/30 on 13 April at Kolkata

Ambrose D'Mello (KAR) 88/67 on 21 April at Guwahati.

Br. Selvaraj Uthiriam, S.J.

24.09.1928 – 29.03.1955

Br. Selvaraj passed away peacefully at 1:30 p.m. on April 7 at St. Joseph Hospital, Dindigul. He was 82. He had been ailing for some time from cancer of the bladder. At first he was taken to Meenakshi Mission Hospital, Madurai, for radiotherapy. When the treatment was over, he came back to Beschi Illam for rest and recuperation.



After a few days he developed bleeding in the bladder. It was not a good sign at all. He knew what was in store for him, but he was fully resigned to the will of God. He was not for going back to Meenakshi Mission Hospital again for radiotherapy. He was therefore, treated in Dindigul by a homeopath who successfully arrested the bleeding.

On Easter Sunday, however, he complained of acute pain in the abdomen and was taken to the local hospital. His condition worsened in spite of the best treatment locally available and he passed away peacefully on April 7 Wednesday. His body was brought to Beschi Illam and it lay in state in the parlour.

On Thursday at 9:00 a.m. the obsequies began with Fr. Provincial as the chief celebrant. **Fr. Jebamalai Irudayaraj**, Rector of St. Mary's Madurai (Br. Selvaraj had spent many years there) and **Fr. S.P. Savarimuthu** were at the altar as concelebrants. In his introduction Fr. Provincial reminisced his first acquaintance as a scholastic back in 1960's with Br. Selvaraj who was in charge of the shoe-room/tannery at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur. The Provincial expressed his gratitude to Br. Selvaraj for the invaluable services he had rendered in different houses of the Province.

Fr. S.P. Savarimuthu in his funeral homily drove home the outstanding qualities of Br. Selvaraj, a man known for his accountability, responsibility and attachment to the Society. In his free time the Brother practised Siddha by making the medicines himself and administering them to the needy in and around Jesuit houses where he lived.

After the body was blessed by Fr. Provincial, the last rites at the cemetery were performed by **Fr. D. Jeyaraj**. May his soul rest in peace.

Mampra