



# MNL



## Newsletter of the Madurai Jesuits

MARCH 2013

(For Private Circulation)



### MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

#### MY MISSION = GOD'S MISSION

Dear Brothers,

Fr. Adolfo Nicolas, our Superior General says: Our mission is God's own mission. When this is applied to each individual personally, it is even more appealing and awe-inspiring, namely, I realize that my mission is nothing but the mission of God Himself. It is a great privilege to realize that I am called to take up the responsibility of carrying out His own mission. I feel so small and humble when I think of this unique privilege.

What does this mean in my daily life? Since my God is a God of history and He shapes history, I must also contribute my own little mite to human history and march along with Him in building and guiding history. As God is always with me and comes after me even when I try to go away from Him, I must learn to live in His presence always and should never try to hide

myself from Him. As God loves me unconditionally, I have to love Him and His people unconditionally. As God has sacrificed His only son for my salvation and that of the entire humanity, I must be ready to sacrifice myself to any extent. As God gives Himself to me, I have to give myself to His service. I must realize that my life becomes meaningful and precious to the extent I am able to give myself for the service of God and His mission, which always includes my service to the people of God. I become great by giving and sacrificing and lose everything whenever I try to gain or grab things for myself. What I do in my ministry is immaterial and unimportant, but the attitude with which I do what I am expected to do matters very much, as my inner disposition determines my closeness to God and His mission.

At this time of Lent, when we are preparing for the great feast of Easter, the realization that "my mission" is identical with "God's mission" is a rich spiritual experience and this truth should go deep into each one of us. In addition,

our response to the voluntary resignation of the Holy Father, should be one that deepens our faith, increases our sense of detachment, urges us to commit ourselves to a selfless service to the mission of God. Speaking about this historical event, our Father General has said in his communication, dated February 12, 2013: "We receive this announcement of the Holy Father with respect and admiration for his spiritual freedom, his humility, and his deep love for the Church". Fr. General concludes his communication with the following words: "let us recommit ourselves to the mission, which he [Pope Benedict XVI] has entrusted to the Society". Let this historical event and the Easter Festival in this Year of Faith, be an occasion for a deep and personal spiritual renewal and rededication, so that we are enabled to carry out **God's own mission in our daily life.**

Fraternally,  
*Sebasti L. Raj, SJ*  
Provincial



## Easter Greetings!

Fr Provincial and the members of the Province Curia  
wish every reader of the MNL  
a joyful and hope-filled Easter!

## Provincial's Programme:

### MARCH

- 05-07 Visitation: Beschi Illam
- 10-14 Visit to Taiwan, Hong Konk and Macau
- 16-17 Joint Meeting -- LS/TL and Coordinators – SHC, Shembaganur
- 18-20 Consult
- 23-30 Personal Retreat

### APRIL

- 02-04 Visitation: Ooty, Mettupalayam, Makkampalayam
- 06 Last Vows of Fr. Arockiam Kulandai – SJC, Trichy
- 08 Minor Orders of the Novices, Beschi Illam
- 11 TNPCRI-Executive Committee Meeting, Lumen Institute, Tindivanam
- 14-15 Consult
- 19-21 Visitation: Salem, Dharmapuri
- 24-25 Visitation: Province Curia



## Announcements

### Vocation Camps 2013

1. For 12 Std students from Southern Tamil Nadu on April 1 (Evening) to April 7 (Evening) at IDEAS, Madurai. 2. For 12 Std students from Northern Tamil Nadu on April 13(Evening) to April 23(Noon) at Loyola HS School, Kuppayanallur. 3. For 10 Std students on April 25(Evening) to April 30(Noon) at St. Mary's HS School, Dindigul. We earnestly request all Jesuits to encourage potential candidates to attend the Vocation Camps. - Vocation Promoters

### “Come and see!”

“We have recently given a facelift to Thozhamai Illam, Kanyakumari by remodelling some of our guest rooms and the conference hall. We shall be happy if our Province men could come down to our place to make their retreat or for private study or rest. You can also bring in groups of people and conduct retreats and seminars in our place. And, whenever there is no retreat going on in the premises, we can accommodate groups for a short stay (providing also meals, if asked for) during their visit to Kanyakumari. For details please contact: paulc13@ymail.com”

- Paul C. Jesuraja

## Transfer List I: Scholastics

NAME	FROM	TO
<b>UG Studies</b>		
S. Alwin Prakash M.	Kolkata	B.B.A.Vettavalam
S. Anto S. Antony	Kolkata	B.Sc. Agri, St.Mary's, MDU
S. Amith Shajan R.	Thiruvananthapuram	B.E. BI, Chennai
S. Arun Pandiyan A.	Thiruvananthapuram	B.Sc. Bot, SJC, Tiruchy
S. Jeron Francis J.	Hazaribagh	B.Sc. Plant Bio, SXC, P'Kottai
S. Joemarsh Leo D.	Hazaribagh	B.Sc. Comp. Sci, SXC, P'Kottai
S. John Peter	Beschi	B.A. Eng Litt. SJC, Tiruchy
S. Ragu Antony A.	Belgaum	B.Sc. Maths, Vettavalam
S. Raja Jesu Raj	Kolkata	B.E. BI, Chennai
S. Rex Reuban P.	Hazaribagh	B.A. Hist, AAC, Karumathur
S. Udaya Prakash R.	Belgaum	B.Com, BI, Chennai
S. Velanganni Stanislaus	Thiruvananthapuram	B.Sc. Phy, AAC, Karumathur
S. Zenith Lawrence M.	Thiruvananthapuram	B.Sc. Chem, SJC, Tiruchy
<b>PG Studies / Special Studies</b>		
S. Arul Henry William	Shembaganur	M.Com, Palayamkottai
S James Raja P.	Palayamkottai	M.Sc. Maths, AHC, Chennai
S. Baskar Yesumanickam	Kohima	B.Ed. SXC, P'Kottai

## Transfer List I: Scholastics

### Philosophy

S. Alexander Gnanapragasam	Thiruvananthapuram	SN, Chennai
S. Amalraj Mariasingam	BI, Chennai	DNC, Pune
S. Anto Arputha Raja P.	Belgaum	SN, Chennai
S. Arun Kumar J.	Thiruvananthapuram	SN, Chennai
S. Felix Sahayaraj	Thiruvananthapuram	DNC, Pune
S. John Kamilas T	BI, Chennai	DNC, Pune
S. Joseph Alexander R.	Thiruvananthapuram	DNC, Pune
S. Manoj Kumar Tharmam	BI, Chennai	DNC, Pune
S. Maria Anna Raj K	St. Mary's, Madurai	DNC, Pune
S. Rajasekaran A.I.	Kilpennathur	DNC, Pune
S. Salomon Antony Samy	Thiruvananthapuram	DNC, Pune
S. Vijin Antony Raj	Thiruvananthapuram	SN, Chennai

### Regency (I Year) New

S. Antony Anand S	SN, Chennai	PEAK, Shembaganur
S. George Stephen Thayriam A	DNC, Pune	VMI, Vilangudi
S. Lawrence Arockiasamy	SN, Chennai	Loyola, Kuppayanallur
S. Leo Pereira A	DNC, Pune	Myanmar
S. Mag Bay de Lawrence	DNC, Pune	JRS, Vettavalam
S. Maria Gohil Doss G	Guyana	Beschi Illam
S. Parthasarthy Naryanaswamy	DNC, Pune	LASAC, SXC, P'Kottai
S. Pon Ruban C	DNC, Pune	Perumalmalai (Estate)
S. Raphael Alexander G	DNC, Pune	PEAK, Shembaganur
S. Regis Antony Christopher S	DNC, Pune	Paathai, Vallam
S. Robinson Antony	Palayamkottai	Arulanandar, Oriyur
S. Selvendhiran Antony	SN, Chennai	AHAL, Kilpennathur
S. Sathyabalan Arockiasamy	DNC, Pune	Kohima
S. Xavier Antony Selvam M	DNC, Pune	Afghanistan

### Regency (II Year) Continuing

S. Arockia Selvam	KARISAL	KARISAL
S. Berkmans Kasparaj	Ranipet	Ranipet
S. Francis Xavier A	Kuppayanalloor	Kuppayanalloor
S. Jesu Raja Raju	Myanmar	Myanmar
S. Maria Viyhappan Gladwin	Vadamelpakkam	Vadamelpakkam
S. Swaminathan Krishnamurti	Afghanistan	Afghanistan
S. Vedha Stalin Joseph	Myanmar	Myanmar
S. Velankanni Arockiasamy	Nagapattinam	Nagapattinam

### Theology

S. Arockia Alton S	Paathai, Vallam	AK, Chennai
S. Christu Raja M	SJTI, Ooty	AK, Chennai
S. John Magesh D	Loyola, Kuppayanallur	AK, Chennai
S. John Michael V	AHC, Chennai	Theology Abroad
S. Michael Pugazhendi	SJC, Tiruchy	AK, Chennai
S. Prabu Francis	VMI, Vilangudi	Theology Abroad
S. Rayappan Innaci	IDEAS, Madurai	AK, Chennai
S. Sahayaraj Vijayan	SXC, Palayamkottai	Theology Abroad
S. Stephen Robert	Arulanandar, Oriyur	AK, Chennai
S. Vargheesh Antony M.	St. Mary's, Madurai	AK, Chennai

### SUPAM

S. Clement Jesudoss S.	VJ, Delhi	SUPAM
S. Jeyabaskaran Savariraj	Carmel, Nagercoil	SUPAM
S. Jeyaseelan Saminathan	VJ, Delhi	SUPAM
S. Lawrence Benedict V	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	SUPAM
S. Leo Anand M.A.	VJ, Delhi	SUPAM
S. Maria Felix Kennedy M	VJ, Delhi	SUPAM
S. Theresunathan Soosai	VJ, Delhi	SUPAM



## Events



### FIRST ALUMNI MEET

For the first time **AHAL, Kilpennathur** organized an alumni meet of its hostel students from the 2001 batch onwards. 35 of them attended the meet. Mr. Rozario, an advocate, addressed the gathering. The sharing of the alumni has been compiled and put together as a tabloid.

- Rajasekaran

### TUESDAY LITANY BEGUN

To prepare for the feast of our patron, St John D' Britto, Fr Joe Arun guided a special prayer service, and motivated the staff and students of **Arul Anandar College, Karumathur**, to nurture a positive outlook. Fr Mani Valan preached at the feast day Eucharist. On 11 Feb the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes the Jesuit community joined the hostel students in for the candle light procession and the Mass. That day also marked the beginning of the Tuesday Evening Litany to the Blessed Mother by the college community. A week-long 'Special Soft Skills Training' was held on 11-15 Feb to our staff and the outgoing students of our college. It was sponsored by an alumnus, Mr Amalraj, founder and proprietor of Soft Logic Systems Pvt. Ltd, Chennai. The Fr C. Montaud 8th Memorial State Level Hockey Tournament brought 16 teams of hockey players to the campus.

- Rufus

### BOUQUEST FROM PATRIARCHS

At **Beschi Illam, Dindigul** we celebrated the Republic Day with flag-hoisting by Fr Stephen Kulandaisamy and a message given by novice Hansel Arokiasamy. The second year novices were helped to see God in everything by Fr Korkonius Moses at his Dhyana Vanam. Fr T. Sahayaraj taught social analysis to the first year novices. Later the first and second year novices left for a month-long work and hospital experiment. We waited

at the portico to greet Fr Provincial on his birthday when he returned around 9 p.m. on 18 Feb, after his visitation in Myanmar. Two of our patriarchs, Frs Singarayar and Chelladurai offered him a bouquet, when we sang, "Happy birthday to you!".

- Ilanko Xavier

### LAURELS FOR LIBA

LIBA, **Loyola, Chennai** hosted the Mother Teresa Award ceremony, in which the venerable Shri Gopala Krishna Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and former Governor of West Bengal gave away the Mother Teresa Award for the Best Corporate Citizen to Shree Cements Ltd. On 9, 10 Feb LIBA celebrated a very well-organized two-day Management Fest called *Chrysalis '13*. On 16 Feb LIBA organized the Business Ethics Conference – BEACON 2013 on a relevant theme, 'Accountability and Responsibility'. On the Alumni Day, on 23 Feb, LIBA's alumni pledged to contribute money to help the poor students. The Social Work Department of Loyola College organized a mega Children's event in the campus on 24 Feb for more than 300 poor and slum children. LIFE put up a stall during the Chennai Science Festival 2013, highlighting its research



thrust areas. LICET and LIFE jointly organized a seminar on Research and Novel Solutions in Healthcare. The I.T. Department organized a national level seminar 'Flair '13' in which 40 colleges participated. LICET has started making use of the satellite programme, EDUSAT, for training the students for placement. Frs Henry Jerome, Wenisch, Ignacimuthu and Francis P Xavier were busy, giving talks at various functions.

- Emma

### KARAGATTAM AND OYILATTAM

DACA family day was celebrated on 27 Jan. DACA Day, with the theme "இயக்கச் சக்தியாய் எழு! உலகை வெல்", was presided over by Rev Dr Gnanavaram, Principal, Tamil Nadu Theological Seminary, Madurai. Fr Francis P. Xavier, Director of LICET, motivated the students to achieve great things in life by giving examples of great people. Fr Raj Irudaya, the PCF, appreciated our students for their many talents. There were Karagattam, Oyilattam, Kolattam, Sakkaikuchiattam, candle light dance, fire dance and finally a skit.

- Vedanayagam

### FILM AND FAITH

Fr Thamburaj of **Dhyana Ashram, Chennai** preached a recollection to the clergy of Chenglepattu diocese. He conducted a two-day seminar on 'cinemart'. Jerry, always on the move, animated supam meet in Kumbakonam. In Bangalore he trained about 60 sisters of 16 different congregations. He also spoke at a national seminar on inter-faith dialogue at Stella Maris and enthused the students of Loyola, Vettavalam. Xavier Irudayaraj directed the retreat for golden jubilarians of FSJ Sisters.

- Xavier Irudayaraj

### CONSTANT, CONCERNED ACCOMPANIMENT

Fr Elias of **IDEAS, Madurai**, is convalescing at Loyola, Chennai after his prostate surgery in Chennai. He is very grateful to his community member, Sch Ray who was his 'Archangel' when he was in the hospital and to Fr Jothi, Loyola Minister, for his constant and concerned accompaniment. Fr Philominraj spoke on unorganized youth to 15 Sacred Heart Tertian Brothers at Thomas Mount and animated 35 Social Action

Commission members of Trichy Province of the FIHM Sisters. IDEAS campus was busy and lively during the six training programmes held from mid-Jan till mid-Feb.

- **Aloysius Irudayam**

### TEACHING COMPUTER TO FELLOW SCHOLASTICS

Sch. Ponruban of **DNC, Pune**, organized a much-appreciated, week-long 'Computer Basic Course' for the DNC scholastics. Sch. Thayriam George won the third prize in an inter-collegiate essay competition organized by Schizophrenia Awareness Association, Pune. The MDU scholastics put their heart and soul in organizing the Inter-College Philosophy Seminar on 15 Feb '13. On 28 Feb the community said a memorable farewell to the second year philosophers.

- **Joe Livingston**

### PRAISE FROM PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER

One-day training on Basic English and Human Rights for the college and school students respectively were conducted by Sch. Raja and **JRS**-staff in Namakal and Thiruvannamalai districts to make students aware of their rights. Fr Louie visited the camps in Tuticorin and Villupuram for performance auditing of JRS works. A team of US officials from Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM) visited Cuddalore district and evaluated the impacts of Summer Camp and Teacher-training with the parents and JRS-teachers. Impressed with their sharing, they promised help. Mr Deenabandu I.A.S., Principal Commissioner, Department of Rehabilitation, lauded JRS for its service during the official meeting of NGO heads.

- **Raja**

### SPECTACULAR SHOW

N. Muthamil Selvan, a 12th std student of **Loyola, Kuppayanallur** has made us all proud by winning the second prize of Rs. 8000 in a district-level inter-school competitive exam. Our students put up a spectacular show and exhibited their diverse

talents in the grand **ELT Mela** held on 4 Feb. The Chief Guests and the **ELT Coordinator** were much impressed by the programme, which demonstrated the effectiveness of the **ELT** project in **Kuppayanallur**.

- **Magesh**

### TRIBAL CULTURAL FESTIVAL

**LAAS, Madurai** organized a paralegal training for the second batch of women on 1-3 Feb at IDEAS. In the Tribal Cultural Festival organized by **PEAK-ISI Bangalore** and **SAPI-TN** at **Mulaiyar** in **Kodai hills**, Fr. **Santhanam** and **Advocate Tamil Nidhi** addressed hundreds of Tribal people on practical strategies to realize their rights enshrined in **Forest Rights Act -2006**. **JESA south zone meeting** was organized by Fr. **Michael Raj**, the **Zonal Coordinator** at **ISI, Bangalore** on 16,17 Feb. Around 30 participants from four southern provinces revisited the social action apostolate and resolved that the social action centres should move from service mode to right-based interventions.

- **A. Santhanam**

### SHIFTING TO NCVT

As part of the process of upgrading our Institute, **Loyola Industrial School, Ranipet** with the **NCVT** certificate Fr **Ignacy Arockyaa** met the officials of **Quality Council of India, New Delhi** and is busy fulfilling other requirements. He also gave a 5-day workshop on **Media Spirituality** to the **PBVM Sisters** and preached a one day retreat to the students of **Loyola College, Vettavalam**. Fr **Marianathan** and Fr **Bellarmino** motivated our students in functions held in Feb. On 19 Feb, both the staff and students participated in the blood donation camp organized by **Christian Medical College, Vellore**.

- **Berkmans**

### FEAST FOR THREE DAYS

On 26 Jan the hostel day was celebrated in a grand manner at **Arulagam boys' hostel at St Arulanandar Shrine, Oriyur**. A short film made by our hostellers was released by the Chief Guest, Mr. M. Joseph Selvaraj, an alumnus of the hostel. The feast of **St. John de Britto** was celebrated for three days on 02-04 Feb. We were happy to receive **De Britto Community, Devakottai** on the first day of the feast. A big crowd

of devotees attended the feast day celebrations. Fr **Arul Doss**, Director of **SHEPHERD, Trichy** was the main celebrant on the feast day.

- **Stephen Robert**

### RE-IMAGINING DEVELOPMENT

35 youth of **PEAK, SHC, Shembaganur** attended the Training Programme at IDEAS, **Madurai** on 11 -14 Feb. Fr **James Suresh** and Sch. **William** attended the meeting convened by **South Asian JESA Committee** on 'Re-imagining Development' at **ISI, Bangalore** on 16 ,17 Feb.

- **Arul William**

### PREACHING TO PREACHERS

At the beginning of Lent Fr **Rex Pai** of **St Joseph's, Tiruchi**, gave a much-appreciated 3 day retreat to 100 staff of the **Divine Centre, Muringoor, Potta, Kerala**. Apart from a few priests and Sisters, these are mostly lay people - preachers, intercessors, media persons etc. Fr **S. Lazar** attended an Asia level Consultative Meeting, held at the **Asian College of Journalism, Chennai** on 8,9 Feb '13. On 15 Feb the entire team at **SJC Hr. Sec. School** celebrated the **ELT Mela** in a grand manner. The college successfully organized a two-week **Faculty Development Programme (FDP)** on **Entrepreneurship Training and Sustenance** for 68 staff from various colleges. While Fr **Albert Muthumalai** reviewed a project at **Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore**, Fr **Maria Packiam** spoke to **Bon Secours Sisters** on the role of faith in religious life.

- **Maria Packiam**

### RELEVANCE OF LOURDES

At the inaugural function of a three-day tourist festival focused on the city of **Madurai** on 8 Feb. Fr. **P.S. Arul, St Mary's, Madurai** waxed eloquent about the **Jesuits' contribution** to **Madurai** and the architectural beauty of the **Cathedral**. Four **Marian altars** were decorated in and around the campus for the

feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11 Feb and the candle-light procession was concluded with a homily by Fr P. Arockiasamy. on the importance of the devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes in today's scenario.

After four consecutive meetings of the Old Boys' Association convened by its Director, Fr. P. Arockiasamy with help from Fr Jebamalai Raja, and Fr. Albert Joseph, the final gathering was held on 26 Jan at Hotel Heritage Residency, Madurai in which nearly 60 alumni were present. Br. Kulandairaj, the Headmaster, invited the Association to take up people's issues. Fr D. Jeyaraj addressed a large crowd of parishioners on Vatican II. Fr Freddie, our Minister and Br Joseph, our Treasurer, have given a face-lift to the guest rooms, kitchen and scullery. Fr Felix Joseph spoke on the need for the Lenten season for a local TV channel. - **Felix Joseph**

### GRAND GRADUATION DAY

The annual visitation of Fr Provincial to **St Xavier's Institutes, Palayamkottai**, in the first week of February energized all of us. On 31 Jan St. Xavier's College hosted the release function of a short film called 'Kadhavu', a famous Tamil short story written in 1958 by the well-known Tamil writer, Ki.Rajanarayanan. On 12 Feb we had a spiritually enriching pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Antony at Puliampatti. At SXC, on 13th Feb, a representative from American Consulate from Chennai was invited to address prospective scholars and faculty on 'Fulbright Scholarship'. This was a rare opportunity for St. Xavier's, as access to such scholarships is usually available only to the colleges in metros. XIBA organized a one-day workshop on 'Research Methodology' for the scholars in Management Studies on 15 Feb. The 87th Graduation Day of the College was held on 16 Feb in a very grand manner, thanks to the creative efforts

taken by the Principal. Hon'ble Justice Mr. Sundaresh of Madras High Court, an alumnus of Loyola, delivered a soul-stirring speech and gave away the degrees. On 15 Feb Mrs. K. Kanimozhi, M.P. came to our school to lay the foundation stone for additional class rooms, to be built on an outlay of Rs 25 lakhs she has allotted from her local area development fund. For three days on 7-9 Feb our B.Ed students helped in cleaning up the Thamirabarani river.

- **Sahayaraj Vijayan**

### INTER-CONGREGATIONAL MEET

The candidates of **VMI, Vilangudi** had a three-day retreat under the guidance of Fr. I. Arul. Fr. Innaci John and Sch Prabu F participated in the annual meeting of South and West Zone Pre-novitiate Directors and Vocation Promoters held in Pedro Aruppe Institute, Goa. At Thirumaanur parish during the parish festival children received their first Holy Communion. Pre-novices participated with enthusiasm in the inter congregational meet held in Thanjavur and Kumbakonam. Their active participation and personal sharing with the other formees helped them to appreciate their life and formation here.

- **Prabu F**

### FROM THE COLLEGE

#### TO THE VILLAGE CHAPEL

Fr Vincent. Britto led Frs Igi and Eugene to a chapel dedicated to St Constantine in a parish near **Loyola College, Vettavalam**. The locals claim that the chapel dates back to the 1606 Athipakkam Jesuit Mission. The parishioners celebrate a sacred drama for three consecutive nights in the Tamil folk tradition of 'Therukoothu'. We were pleasantly surprised by the warm welcome we received from the people who were eager to get Fr Britto's blessings and spoke highly about his sitting with them to see the sacred drama enacted for three consecutive

## BR DEVADIRAVIAM MARIA ANTONY, SJ

07.08.1933 - 27.01.2013

Hailing from a traditionally Catholic family of Alagappapuram in Thoothukudi District, Br Devadiraviam Tamil Nadu, joined the Society



of Jesus at the age of 23. After his novitiate at Beschi, Dindigul, he was sent to Dr Meuller's Hospital, Mangalore for practical training in nursing. He was one of the few who were sent there from the Madurai Province. After this training course he became the infirmarian at St. Joseph's College, Trichy and Manalur estate. For many years, he was the infirmarian at St. Mary's School, Madurai where he proved himself to be a man for others. Always cheerful and jovial, he made others happy. His practical jokes cheered the sick. His motto was to be always happy and make others also happy.

But many would not know how he managed to be always happy and cheerful. He took copious notes from the spiritual books that he read and retreat talks that he heard, underlining the important things that he should remember and work on.

After he came to Beschi Illam in 2004 for complete rest, he was very regular in his religious duties. He celebrated his golden jubilee in 2006. After the jubilee Mass and felicitations, when he addressed the gathering, the audience roared with laughter at his jokes.

Towards the end of December 2012, he had a fall in his room and was admitted to St Joseph Hospital, Dindigul. A host of health problems ensured that he never recovered and he passed away in the early hours of 27 Jan '13. As Fr Provincial was away attending the CRI meeting in Chennai, the funeral Mass was presided over by Fr M.A. Joe Antony, Socius to the Provincial and Frs A Victor and Britto Peter were the concelebrants. Fr Albert Joseph delivered the funeral homily and Fr A. Victor gave the final blessing, after which Br Devadiraviam was laid to rest at the Beschi cemetery.

- **Xavier Mampra, SJ**

## Abide with the Lord



Mrs R. Lilly Pushpam, 74, eldest sister of Fr Stanislaus Rathinam, on 07 March.

nights. We plan to undertake a study of this rare folk tradition that is said to have a Jesuit connection. Fr Britto had actually come to be the Chief guest at the inauguration of LOYOFEST, a cultural festival of our college. - **Eugine Rosario**

### THREE DAYS IN KODAI

Fr Arulanandam, our Superior, at **Vidyaniketan, Trivandrum**, met us in province groups to reflect on past seven months' experience. Fr Roy Pereira, SJ of St. Xavier's, Mumbai gave us a talk to prepare us for the Lenten season. Fr. Britto Bonaventure, SJ guided us in the three day ecological course in Shembag. We are grateful to our communities at LTI, Shembag and St. Mary's, Madurai for their warm welcome, kind hospitality and the logistic support to reach Kodaikanal and return. - **Amith**

### SUPAM AT KALLAKUDI

On 30th Jan '13 in the presence of Frs I. Raj, the PCF, Jerry and Arockiaraj we, **Supamites** shared our experiences and reflections. While Fr I. Raj asked us to accept the reality and respond to it with the Jesuit spirit, Fr Arockiaraj spoke of ways and means to enhance our pastoral ministry. A few innovative ideas came from the group to celebrate the Lenten season and Easter meaningfully. In the presence of Frs Robin and S.Arockiam we had the evaluation of Jesuit formation. - **Richard L. Dass**

### THE ACTIVE IGFA-MADURAI

Dr Chandrakantha Jeyabalan, the Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Open University, presided over the valedictory function held in Loyola Community College, **LTI, Madurai** on 9 Feb and distributed the certificates to Kodai-Grihini students who had successfully completed one month internship. Fr Vinny Joseph and Fr Maria Singarayar felicitated the students and Fr Stephen J Muthu, Principal, delivered the key note address. On invitation from the Ministry of Human Development Fr Stephen J. Muthu attended an International

Conference on Community Colleges on 6, 7 Feb held in Delhi. IGFA-Madurai's co-ordinator, Fr Lawrence Gabriel, organized a seminar for Religious and laity on 24 Feb with Fr A.J.Thamburaj as the resource person. - **Singarayar**

### RETREAT, CD

#### AND CONFERENCE

Fr. Ignatius of **Satya Nilayam, Chennai** conducted a faith promotion retreat on 01-03 Feb at Nazereth Nagar in Chennai. His devotional CD 'Ezhuha Iraikulame' (24th volume) was released. Throughout Lent, Fr Ignatius is preaching retreats in dioceses of Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kottar, Tuticorin and Bangalore. Fr. Robin S. Seelan SJ presented a paper at an international conference at Doha in Qatar on 02-05 Feb. The second year scholastics have successfully completed their dissertation on different topics.

- **Amirtharaj**

### OLD MISSION, NEW STUDIES

The Workshop on Old Madurai Mission on Jan 31 and Feb 1 was very well organized and the attendance on both the days was overwhelming. 18 research papers on missionaries and on other areas of interest were presented by 6 Jesuits, 2 diocesan clergy, 1 woman religious, and 10 professors and scholars. It was a participatory workshop with lively discussions. Some concerns and recommendations were offered. We plan to publish the papers presented in the workshop.

- **Alphonse M.**

### BEING FRUITFUL IN MISSION

On 9 Feb Fr J. Arockia Dass of **Paathai Centre, Vallam** talked to the Coimbatore Presentation Sisters at Kolapaakam on 'Being fruitful in mission.' Fr Yesumarian conducted two workshops in Chennai on the rights of Dalit Christians in Feb. Special coaching camps for 10th and 12th std students of Cuddalore and Kanchipuram districts were organized in view of the public exams. - **Alton**

### CRITERIA OF ENJOYMENT

**IDCR, Chennai** arranged a talk by Fr Michael Amaladoss on the Status of Interreligious Dialogue

50 years after Vatican II and a Protestant theologian, Prof. Israel Selvanayagam from the Department of Religion at Gurukul responded to him. IDCR helped in arranging a talk by a Duke University professor on Islamic Studies along with Satyanilayam and the U.S. Consulate in Chennai. IDCR-VISCOM organized a one day seminar on Media and Religion. Sadananda Menon, Jnani and other media experts spoke. Vincent Sekhar gave a presentation on the Criteria of Enjoyment from the Indian Aesthetic Points of View. He spoke on Eco-theology from the Jain perspective in a national seminar at the Centre for Asian Cross Cultural Studies, Chennai. IDCR has helped in revamping the PG syllabus and work-sheets on World Religions of the School of Human Excellence, Loyola College.

- **Vincent Sekhar, SJ**

### CHAPEL RENOVATED

On the feast day of the Patron of **De Britto, Devakottai** an inspiring homily was preached by Fr. Leo Tagore. Prizes were awarded to the student-winners of competitions conducted in view of "the Year of Faith". The Annual Day of our Alumni Association was celebrated on 2 Feb, under the guidance of Fr John Gualbert, the Alumni Director. Mr M. Raja Nayagam, MLA of Aranthangi, an alumnus of our school, shared his golden memories of this campus. The staff and students came together on 8 Feb to honour their beloved Head Master, Fr. N. Ignatius Britto on his retirement. He was well appreciated for having developed a cordial relationship with all the neighbouring schools and for encouraging students and staff to shine in co-curricular activities. On 11 Feb, the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes, Fr Sengole Vedamanickam, Parish Priest of Thangachimadam preached on 'Thayin madithan ulagam' On 24 Feb we had the blessing of the renovated campus chapel. The chapel is now more attractive and conducive for inter-religious prayer with beautiful paintings done by our own Drawing Masters and a new lighting and audio system. - **Amal**



## Experience



### MY SECRETS FOR WELL-BEING AND PEACE

Early in life, I picked up a friendship with Jesus. It kept growing as I sat in solitude in his company during those peak hours following Holy Communion. This is how when I came to choose a religious congregation to join, I could easily choose the Society of Jesus. The very name has magic in it!

For my pilgrim life, Abraham is my role model. His unforgettable answer to the question from his son on Mt. Moriah (Gen 22:8) "Yahweh Jireh" ("the Lord will provide") has been a guiding star in my life. I was uprooted several times in my life: from Travancore-Cochin (Kerala) to Tamil Nadu (S.J), from T.N to Italy (Theology), from Italy to Germany (Phys. Chem), from there back to India and then for the last three years of my academic service, to Sikkim (Govt. College). Every time it was a new language, new food, new climate and new people, resulting in silence and loneliness. But the Lord provided!

For my personal life, Bartimaeus (Lk18) is my hero. He had no eye-sight, but he used to the full his ears, mouth and limbs. Instead of complaining about what he did not have, he made the full use of what he had. So he walked with Jesus with his eyesight fully restored, praising God! For my public life Nathaniel (Jn 1:47) is my guiding star. Jesus praised him for his credibility at first sight: "a true Israelite without guile". In service, we must be true and honest, upright and impartial, and, of course, fearless. Many people have praised me; friends and co-workers appreciate me even today. And I can in no way reject their love. I only hope that Jesus will say to me too the words he told Nathaniel and I will see the heavens opened! I rely fully on his prayer and promise: "Father, that they be with me and see my glory" (Jn 14:3;17:24). And so I am not waiting for the doomsday, but for the Groom's Day! (See *Jivan*, Nov-Dec 2012). - Mathew J. Moole, SJ

## Congratulations



To the Jesuit team at LIBA, Chennai and their collaborators for being ranked 13th in the whole country and the fourth Best Business School in the South by the Times Group-TNS B-School Survey 2013.

To Alphonse Manickam, SJ on receiving the 'Best Educationist Award' from the Education Minister of Pondicherry Government, Mr. T. Thyagarajan. The award was given by two NGOs, 'Padasala - Transforming Schools' and 'Education Today-Kalvi Chudhar' magazines.

To Maria Singarayar, SJ who has been elected the Vice President of Tamil Nadu Aided Industrial Schools Association (TAISA) which has about 40 ITIs as members and is approved by the government to represent the needs of ITIs.

## Memories

### NEVER A MOMENT OF SADNESS - EXCEPT ONCE

Search through the catalogues of the Madurai Mission, old and new, and you will not find any European missionary who lived and worked up to the age of a 100 years – except one. That one is Fr Pierre Montaud. He completed his 100th year of life on 1 Sept 1989. Fr Pierre's younger brother, Clement, also joined the Society of Jesus and became a priest of the Madurai Mission. Fr Clement Montaud passed away at Dindigul on 20 Dec 1980 at the age of 86. Maurice Montaud, the brother next to Pierre, had served the French army as a colonel for many years. He was given the award 'Legion of Honour' and in the birthplace of the Montauds, a street has been named 'Rue de Montaud'. Reviewing his long missionary life in the Madurai Mission, old and new, longer than that of any other priest-missionary down from De Nobili, Fr Montaud reminisces that in all his life in India he had never experienced any moment of sadness – except once, when his beloved mother, in her last days, tried to get Fr General's permission for him to visit her. He was not allowed to do so, still "the good Fr Varapasadam", to quote Fr Pierre, graciously sent him and his brother Clement home for six months in 1968, long after their mother's death. - Frs S. Ponnad, SJ & Stanislaus, SJ

*Caritas*, July 1989



## Just for....

One day the parish priest was visiting the home of some parishioners who had a teenage son. The parents were worried about what career their son would choose, and so the priest said he had a simple test that could predict what would become of him.

He would put three objects on a table and let the young man choose whichever one he wanted to have: a Bible, a wallet, and a bottle of scotch. If the boy chose the Bible, he would probably become a priest; if he chose the wallet, he'd be a banker; and if he chose the bottle, he'd become a worthless drunkard.

So the parents called their son into the room, and the priest told him he could have whichever object he wished. When the boy promptly picked up all three, the priest cried out, "Heaven forbid! He's going to be a Jesuit!"

## New Releases



தவக்காலச் சிந்தனைகள், ஏ.ஜே. தம்பராஜ்.

வைகறை பதிப்பகம்.

வாழ்க்கைப் பாடங்கள், சேவியர் இருதயராஜ்.

நாஞ்சில் பதிப்பகம்.