



MNL



Newsletter of the Madurai Jesuits

OCTOBER 2013

(For Private Circulation)



MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

JUBILEE IN THE SPIRIT OF A PILGRIM

Dear Brothers,

We are getting ready for our pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Pondicherry on October 26, to commemorate the beginning of the New Madurai Mission. As we are aware, this is the time of joy and gratitude, while at the same time, it is also the time for spiritual renewal, re-dedication and revival of the spirit of the missionaries who have done so much for the growth of the Church in Tamilnadu during the past 175 years. Let us, therefore, use this occasion to celebrate the Jubilee meaningfully, while keeping in mind the spiritual dimension of this historical moment.

Further, all the communities and the Province have already planned certain concrete programmes to commemorate this occasion. Let us spend this entire year in the true spirit of the New Madurai Mission, launched 175 years ago. We feel humble to realize that we are the privileged

successors to those great and zealous missionaries, who did marvelous works with very little personal comforts and facilities. Today, we are expected to carry on the same mission in different ways, using effectively the modern technology and means of communication.

In the assessment of our ministries and formation, carried out during the past one year, we have picked up two major areas for concentration in all our ministries and in the various stages of formation. These two areas are: *commitment* and *competence*. During the community orientation, all of us have reflected about these two important aspects, which are integrally related both to our personal life and also to our ministries. During these deliberations, we have spent time to answer the following questions: What steps can we take at the personal level and community level to deepen our commitment to the people and to the apostolic work (the mission) so that we can make a qualitative difference in the lives of the people we serve? Secondly, how can we make our institutions/apostolate truly 'Jesuit' having the special characteristics and hallmarks of

a 'Jesuit' apostolate? Thirdly, how can we instil the spirit of *magis* and excellence in our lives and in the apostolates that we are involved in? Finally, how can we enhance our competence in carrying out our ministries?

The assessment report itself contains two major aspects: the roadmap, which each ministry should focus upon and the broad areas of concentration. Let us implement these in the true spirit of renewal, revival and re-dedication through personal reflection, prayerful discernment and assessment of ourselves in living our life as a Jesuit and in carrying out our ministries. Let us ensure that the Jubilee celebrations at all levels reflect these aspects visibly and effectively. Definitely this is the best way to pay true tribute and respect to our forefathers, who have toiled in the Lord's vineyard before us and to express our gratitude to them and to God for whatever we have inherited.

Fraternally,
Sebasti L. Raj. SJ
Provincial

Provincial's Programme:



OCTOBER

- 01-03 Visitation: Loyola College, Vettavalam
- 03-04 Visitation: AHAL, Kilpennathur
- 06 Government Services Project (GSP) Meeting, St. Mary's, Madurai
- 10-12 Visitation: VJ and other MDU men in Delhi area
- 13-19 JCSA Meeting, Delhi
- 20-21 Chapter Preparatory Meeting -- Holy Spirit Sisters -- Pune
- 26 Jubilee Pilgrimage to Pondy
- 27 Consult and Birth Centenary Celebration of Fr Paul Wenisch
- 28-31 Visitation: AAC, Karumathur
- 31 Last Vows of Fr Basil Xavier, Karumathur

NOVEMBER

- 01 Last Vows of Fr Darwin Michael – Oriyur
- 03 Visitation: LAAS
- 04-05 Visitation: DACA
- 06-09 Golden Jubilee Celebrations of CRI, Guwahati
- 12-19 Visitation: Loyola College, Chennai
- 20 Visitation: Ranipettai
- 21-22 Visitation: Berchmans Illam
- 23 LS/TL Meeting, Beschi Illam
- 24 Consult
- 25-27 Visitation: SICJ, Tirvandrum
- 28-30 Visitation: Carmel, Nagercoil



Announcements

Fr General has appointed:

Fr Frédéric Fornos, 45, from the French Province, the Director General Delegate of the Apostleship of Prayer and the Eucharistic Youth Movement. He will begin his new mission in 2014 replacing Fr Claudio Barriga.

Fr Brian G. Paulson the Provincial of Chicago-Detroit Province (CDT).

Fr Zaoro Hyacinthe Loua the Provincial of the Western Africa Province (AOC).

Fr Chiedza Chimhanda the Provincial of Zimbabwe Province (ZIM).

Fr David Rowan the Regional Superior of the South African Region (SAF).

Fr Cristián del Campo Simonetti the Provincial of the Chilean Province.

Changes in Governance Structures and offices:

Fr General has recently suppressed the independent Region of **Cuba** and the Region of **Maghreb**, which was dependent on the Province of France. While all the members, houses and works of Cuba Region have been integrated into the Province of Antillas, Jesuits in Maghreb will be integrated into the Province of Near East.

From 31 July the Provincial offices of Northern Belgium (BSE) and the Netherlands (NER) have been moved to one place in Brussels (Provincial House - BSE and NER, Koninginnelaan 141, Brussel, Belgio). - The headquarters of the Conference of Provincials of Latin America (CPAL) has started functioning from its new location in Lima (CPAL - Conferencia de Provinciales Jesuitas de América Latina, Avenida Fulgencio Valdez 780 - Breña, Lima 5 - Perú).

Chennai Mission Superior's Programme

October

- 01 Gathering of Scholastics in Mission, Chennai
- 02-03 Vettavalam
- 04 Kilpennathur
- 10 Meeting: Core Committee for Salem and Dharmapuri
- 11 Meeting: Jesuits in Social Action Centres (Mission)
- 12-13 Visiting Ceyrac's Ministries
- 15-16 Dharmapuri
- 19 Chennai Mission Consult
- 26 Pondy: Inauguration of the Jubilee Celebration
- 27 Province Consult
- 28 Meeting with Nandri Group, Switzerland

November

- 08-09 Makkampalayam
- 12-19 Loyola, Chennai
- 13 Loyola Governing Body Meeting
- 16 Chennai Mission Consult
- 20-21 Ranipettai
- 23-24 LS/TL Meet, Beschi & Province Consult

PCF's Programme

October

- 1-4: Assistency PCFs' Meeting, Bangalore
- 6-7: Belgaum Juniorate
- 8-10: AHAL, Loyola, Vettavalam
- 11: South Zone Regents' Meeting, LAAS
- 13-24: Assam, Darjeeling Novitiate
- 27-30: Vidyajyoti, Delhi

November

- 2-3: Vidyaniketan, Trivandrum
- 4: St. Mary's, Madurai
- 5: Vocation Promoters' Meeting, St. Mary's, Madurai
- 7-10: Formators' Counselling Course, Anugraha
- 11-22: Scripture Classes, Arul Kadal
- 23-30: Retreat, Nagamalai



Events



IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

The Staff and students of **Arul Kadal** participated in the Annual Meeting of Tamizh Iraiyyal Mandram at Sacred Heart Seminary, Poonamallee on 10-11 July. Guided by Fr Maria Arul Raja, the theologians animated a one-day Retreat to the Students of Loyola School, Kuppayanallur on 13 and 27 July. "The Immersion Experience" is the highlight of the month of August. The First years stayed with the rural poor and the Second years with the urban poor in Chennai slums from 5 to 26 Aug. It climaxed with a faith sharing and theologizing session with the staff. Sch Prabu Francis has joined the Arul Kadal Community. Fr Britto Peter gave a week-long course on "Affective Maturity" to the Novices of Andhra Province. We participated in the one-day workshop on dialogue organized by IDCR, Loyola. Two of Fr Maria Arul Raja's interviews were broadcast by Radio Vatican. His paper on "Subalterns Hermeneutics" was well received by the International Scholars at Murdoch University, Perth, Australia and he gave a lecture on "Biblical God and the Marginalized" at the CRI Theological College, Bangalore. On 18 Aug the second year philosophers from Satya Nilayam paid a visit to Arul Kadal and listened to Fr Robin's vivid account of the history of Arul Kadal. - **Christu**

COACHING CAMP

On 01 Aug Fr Arockiadoss from Pathai Centre spoke to **AHAL** animators on 'Ambedkarin viduthalai sinthanaikal'. During the quarterly holidays a special coaching camp was organized for the 10th and 12th std students of our study centre. - **Selvandiren**

THEATRE FEST

The much awaited Theatre Fest 2013, an interdepartmental English drama competition was held at **AAC, Karumathur** on 12 Sept, when our students staged 14 original scripts,

with the help of campus Jesuits in script writing, pronunciation and direction. Two UGC-sponsored seminars, 'Strengthening Values and Ethics in Higher Education' and 'Two Decades of Economic Reforms in India' were organized on 17-18 and 19-20. The Jesuit community organized an exhibition from the written materials of Fr Besse when the Jesuits of Madurai Zone gathered to celebrate the joy of Restoration and the Madurai Mission on 21 Sept at LAAS, Madurai. Fr. S. Mani Valan was honoured with the title 'Painthamizh Paanar' by Veeramamunivar Endowment, Madurai and the title 'Aiyvu Tamizh Arignar' by Madurai Catholic Christian Art and Literary Association. - **Rufus**

LOYOLA NAGAR: BRAND NEW AND BEAUTIFUL

On 18 Sept '13 Fr Provincial, accompanied by Frs Joe Antony and L.V. Kumar and Br Antony Pitchai, visited **Loyola Nagar** near Oilpatty, about 60 k.m. from Salem. We were much impressed by what Fr A. Joseph has been able to do in a short time - surveying the land, removing



encroachments, fencing and leveling the land and renovating two rooms that could serve as a temporary Jesuit residence. The 23-acre plot, at the foot of a hill, is green and beautiful. Fr Provincial prayed, blessed and inaugurated the temporary residence and named the area 'Loyola Nagar.' "The village nearby is called Oilpatty (not Aayilpatty), because of a 'Nattu Chekku' (grinding machine to extract oil)," says Fr Joseph. "The other village that is near is Mettala. I hear it is a derivative of Mettu Alamaram (banyan tree on a hillock). Earlier when people travelled by bullock cart, they used to assemble near this banyan tree and help one another to

go down to Rasipuram. Hence the place called Mettu Alamaram slowly came to be referred to as 'Mettala'. Now Mettala is a commercial center where all the villagers come daily to sell their produce." After the blessing about 100 people - neighbours and friends - enjoyed the dinner Fr Joseph had prepared. - **M.A.J.A.**

FOUND ON THE THIRD DAY

The First Year Novices at **Beschi Illam** successfully completed their first experiment - Pilgrimage to Veilankanni on 30 Aug - 04 Sept. On the same days, the Second Year Novices had their House Experiment. Four Second Year novices helped the Oriyur community during the parish festival on 08 Sept. At the First Friday adoration we prayed for peace in Syria and fasted on 07 Sept as requested by the Holy Father and on 08 watched video clippings of the peace vigil led by him in Rome on the previous day. Fr Ilanko was in Sri Lanka for 12 days to attend the Assisntancy Novice Masters' meeting. Bro Maria Susai, the oldest Jesuit of the Province, went missing from Beschi from the wee hours of 16 Sept. Search parties from Beschi that combed the Dindigul area had no luck. Thanks, however, to advertisements in the local news media, the Brother was found on 18 Sept at Silukuvarpatti and brought back to Dindigul. After a day of observation and rest at St Joseph Hospital, he is back at Beschi. - **Karthickraj**

TEACHERS HONOURED

On Teachers' Day teachers of **Carmel, Nagercoil** were honoured by Fr Anthony Arockiam, the Superior. Students expressed their gratitude through songs and skits. National Green Crops and Carmel Science Club organized anti-plastic day with a view to creating awareness of the evils of plastic and polythene products. Dr Sobana Raj, Founder of Friends of Nature, Mr Abraham Lincoln, Senior Science Teacher and the Headmaster

spoke at the special assembly.

Parents of students of Std.VI and Std. VII met the teachers and discussed the students' performance. A group of students went on a three days tour to Palani, Azhiaru, Thirumoorthy Forest and Ooty.

- Vincent Amalraj

CHRIST BHAKTAS WELCOMED

Dhyana Ashram community hosted around 100 Christ Bhaktas from Varanasi on their way to Vailankanni, welcoming them with aarati, flowers, sweets and a prayer service. Fr Thamburaj conducted two seminars at St Luke's Church, Anna Nagar on the Vatican II documents and the role of the laity. Fr D. Jeyaraj preached a 30 days retreat in Bangalore to Sister Jubilarians of St. Anne's Sisters, Madhavaram. Fr Devadoss goes to schools near by for counseling the students and teachers. Fr Jerry has been giving various creative variants of the Ignatian retreat, which he calls charism retreat, mission retreat, Chapter retreat etc. and offering pastoral counseling and skills for lay leaders.

- Xavier Irudayaraj

FROM 103 COMMUNITY COLLEGES

ICRDCE, Chennai organised a National Conference of Community Colleges in India in collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College, near Puducherry on 9-10 Sept '13. There were 160 participants from 103 Community Colleges in 14 States of India. Mr Dilip Chenoy, Managing Director, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), New Delhi offered valuable insights. At a function on 30 Aug '13 Fr Xavier Alphonse received the Rajya Ratna award given by National Integrity Cultural Academy Trust and the Peaks Magazine for his service to education.

- Xavier Alphonse

CITY JESUITS CELEBRATE TWIN JUBILEE

All Madurai city Jesuits gathered at **LAAS** on 21 Sept to commemorate the twin jubilees.



Fr Xavier Arockiasamy, presented the historical facts related to the suppression and restoration. Fr Vedanayagam and Brs Jeyaraj Annaviar and Aaron shared their memories of the heroic missionaries. Fr Anbarasu Mariaraj and scholastics of Karumathur had prepared charts on the facts and figures of New Madura Mission. The meet culminated with the Eucharist presided over by Fr Babu Vincentraj and Fr Victor Roch preached the homily. Fr L. Michael Raj had composed a jubilee song which was sung at the beginning. Fr Jeyaseelan was his usual hilarious M.C. A video on the activities and achievements of LAAS and JMPSA project was screened.

- A. Santhanam

PROCESSION GAINS INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR

At the monthly recollection at **Loyola, Chennai** on 14 Sept Fr Thamburaj enlightened the community members with 10 basic nuggets of Ignatian spirituality. The Chennai Mission Superior had a contact visit to all the institutions in the campus on 17. The specialty of this year's Corpus Christi procession celebrated on 20 Sept was that prayers and songs were multilingual and international and that each institution added a prayerful charm to the celebration. Cultural celebrations in LIBA (LIBA-Rated), LICET (enGenia) and Loyola College (Ovations) showcased the multifarious talents of the students reigned supreme in these events. A medical camp for the poor was organized through Outreach by Loyola students.

Two student-teams from LIBA have won the first prizes in Ad-mania at IIM-Ahmadabad and Bzzwings-Vista'13 held at IIM-Bangalore. While excellent speakers including Dr. M. J. Xavier spoke on various topics during the Marketing Conclave held on 26- 27 Sept, the LIBA-RISE '13 (Research Initiative for Scholars' Excellence) was held on 28. More than 100 scholars were present for this research colloquium in which the key note address

was delivered by Dr. Ponnaivaiko, the Vice-Chancellor of SRM University.

LICET, which is busy with the placement process now, has been accredited by LUCAS-TVS and chosen as nodal centre for training by the Indian Society for Technical Education. Francis P Xavier conducted a workshop for the administrators of St Anne's Congregation, motivated the students of Loyola, Kuppayanallur, gave a series of lectures at Satya Nilayam and delivered a lecture on 'SC/ST Politics and Development' at Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati.

- Emma

ON THE EVASIVE PEACE

IDCR organized a 1-day retreat for non-Christian students of Stella Maris, Chennai. Vincent Sekhar gave the keynote and concluding remarks. On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, Sekhar gave a lecture at Anna University, Chennai, on the gifts of Christianity to India and the Church's attitude to its religious neighbours. Fr Amaladoss went to Thailand for the East Asian Theological Encounter Programme to teach theologystudents drawn from various institutes in East Asian assistancy. About 70 people attended a 1-day ecumenical dialogue on documents from Vatican II and World Council of Churches on Mission and Evangelism. Fr Amaladoss, Prof Israel Selvanayagam, Gurukul and Rev Viji Varghese Eapen from the CSI Synod spoke. IDCR arranged a talk on the evasive peace in the Middle East by Hasib J. Sabbagh from Washington DC. It was co-sponsored by the U.S. Consulate and Propel Global, Chennai. The talk triggered a good discussion. Vincent Sekhar gave a presentation in a National Seminar organized by Arul Anandar College, Karumathur.

- Vincent Sekhar

RENEWED BY GRACE

September was a blessed month for the **Loyola, Kuppayanallur** community with the presence of Fr Provincial and Fr Socius. The visitation was a graced occasion and has given us a renewed spirit to serve our mission better. We felt energized by the encouraging presence of the

Mission Superior. Our super senior boys came up with flying colours in the zonal athletic events and have been chosen for the district level in 400 metre relay. The teaching and non-teaching staff went on a three-day tour to Coimbatore and Ooty on 23-25 Sept.

- **Lawrence Arockiasamy**

AFFILIATION UP TO X STANDARD

The highlight of our annual day at **Loyola Academy, Vadampakkam** on 10 Sept was a well-prepared cultural extravaganza. Fr Sebastia L. Raj, our Provincial, was the Chief Guest. Ms Nirmala, Principal, Mahindra World School, and an experienced guide and friend of our school, was the Guest of Honour. Mr. Claudias, Director of Woory Automatives, and a benefactor who regularly helps our poor students, was a Special Guest. We succeeded in our aim of making the maximum number of students appear on the stage to the delight of their parents. Till now we have had affiliation upto VIII standard. We applied to the CBSE Board for affiliation for XI and X standards. We are very happy to share the good news that we have now got the upgradation of our affiliation upto X standard from the CBSE Board.

- **Kennedy**

NEW BUILDING FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

15 Aug '13 was a significant day at **Kalangarai** thanks to the final commitment of Fr Irudayaraj, S.J and the blessing of the new building of St Joseph's Community College by Fr Provincial. These were witnessed by a remarkable number of Jesuits, priests and religious from the area. A one-day course on environment was organized for the staff of Kalangarai on 23 Aug with the help of Peace Trust. Sch Stephen S.J from Arulkadal who was in Puthur for his immersion experience, has paved the way for starting an evening study centre there.

- **Velankanni**

EVENING STUDY CENTRES

Animators from 5 civil districts of northern Tamilnadu actively

participated at the IACM-Evening Study Centre animators meeting at **Paathai Centre, Vallam** on 06 Sept and assessed the activities of our evening study centres. In collaboration with IACM we organised a two day orientation programme for the Evening Study Centre teachers on 21-22 Sept. Fr Jebamalai Raja, the Mission Superior, explained how to deal with the rural students and run the study centres successfully. Fr Louis from AICUF elucidated the hurdles in understanding the youth and their culture. Fr Yesumarian shared the struggles of his movement in its mission to eradicate illiteracy among Dalits. Fr Arockia Dass and Sch Regis planned and executed the programme.

- **Regis**

TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST

On Teachers' Day here at **St John de Britto School, Oriyur**, Fr P.S. Arul gave a meaningful message and the students felicitated their teachers. At the Basketball Tournament, part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations, 12 schools participated and our own St Xavier's HSS, Palayamkottai won the Champion Trophy. Fr Yahoo presided over the function. The feast of Our Lady of Good Health was celebrated in a grand manner, preceded by a novena well-organized by Fr Darwin. Our Novices from Beschi Illam helped in the feast day celebrations. Villagers came together to celebrate the Feast for the first time after the unfortunate incident in Oriyur. Temporary Parish Council and Execution committee have been set up.

- **Robinson**

JOSEPHITES GATHER IN NEW JERSEY

The community of **St Joseph's, Trichy** went on a pilgrimage to Kokkudi, an old Jesuit mission centre. Mr Tamilaruvi Manian, Chief Guest at the Teachers' Day function, gave a scintillating talk to our teachers and students. Fr Octavius, the parish priest of Vattavalem preached a well-attended retreat to our college staff. At the annual sports meet held on 27 Aug Mr Mohammed Amjad, the former international footballer presided over the function and distributed the prizes. A group of Jesuits and teachers of our school went on a tour to Kerala during quarterly holidays. On 4 Sept Fr Soosai

Sebastian conducted a workshop on 'Self-awareness and Personality Development' for 200 students of Loyola College of Education, Chennai. On 16 Sept Fr Igni gave a one-day leadership training program for the teachers of St Joseph's H. S. School, Coonoor. He also addressed the youth of the Archdiocese of Chennai. Nearly 82 students attended a Leadership and Personality Development program conducted at the State AICUF House, Trichy.

After attending the WUJA Congress held in Medellin, Colombia, Fr Mariadoss inaugurated a Chapter of our Alumni Association for Josephites in the USA in New Jersey. Around 16 families of Josephites came together on 18 Aug to relive their memories of St Joseph's. While 32 have enrolled themselves so far, we will try to enroll all of them.

- **Jesu Nesam**

CREATIVE CELEBRATIONS

The alumni of **St Mary's, Madurai** presided over the School Day and paid tributes to our dedicated staff of yesteryears. Bro. Kulandairaj, HM and Fr P Arockiasamy, AHM presented the annual report creatively through a power point presentation for the first time. Two alumni, Dr Balamurugan and Mr Stalin, participated in the Teacher's Day function and narrated the life-giving lessons they learnt from the great Jesuit stalwarts. All the teaching and non-teaching staff were honored with 'Ponnadai'. The committed Parish Team of Frs Arockiaraj, Bastian and Roch did a splendid job of organizing the parish festival of Our Lady of Dolours. Fr Joseph Selvaraj, VG, Madurai Archdiocese hoisted the flag. Archbishop Peter of Madurai presided over the concelebrated Feast Day Mass. Fr Rufus preached a thought-provoking sermon. The car procession of Our Lady drew a big crowd. The festival aptly culminated with 'Samapanthi' on the Parish Day where the Parish Team was felicitated by the parishioners. More than 50 boys and girls of the parish attended a seminar on 'From the Culture of Addiction to New Life' at IDEAS.

- **Felix Joseph**

SUN RISE SPOT AND SUN SET POINT

Thozhamai Illam is very happy to have the vivacious Br Tony Sinnamuthu as a new member of our community after serving in Jerusalem. Thirty north Indian Jesuit Brothers made a retreat animated by Fr James Rodriguez. The morning walk to the sunrise spot and the evening stroll to the sunset point, the sea and the surf, all helped them to experience God in his creation. Fr Sales has been elected the diocesan CRI treasurer and he moves around trying to revitalize the CRI units. Fr Cyril, with his rich experience of Zen and Ignatian tradition, initiated the minor seminarians of Marthandam into prayer life. Fr Josephraj is busy preaching two retreats at Madirai and Trichy. Forty CTC sisters had a faith formative retreat at Samayapuram directed by Fr S.M. Selvaraj.

- S.M. Selvaraj

600 WOMEN LEARN ABOUT BIO-FERTILIZERS

The Department of English of **St Xavier's, Palayamkottai** organized a two-day National Seminar on "Thesis-Antithesis-Synthesis: The Scope of Postcolonial Theory and Literature" on 02-03 Sept. Fr Gilbert, the Principal delivered the presidential address and also presented a paper on 'Woman as a Liberator' based on Nadine Gordimer's "My Son's Story". Dr S. Bevinson, Principal of Sivanthi Aditanar College of Physical Education, presided over the Annual Sports Day on 14 Sept. A two-day Inter Departmental Competition INDECO-13 was conducted on 19-20 Sept. M. Shanmugarajan, actor and Mr Joe D' Cruz, novelist, inspired the students. XIBA had a formal inauguration of the new academic year on 21 Aug at which the second

year students shared their fruitful experience. On the Teacher's Day, a thought-provoking debate was held at St. Xavier's Hostel, at which professors and students enthralled the spectators. Fr Maria Augustine had made all the arrangements. 600 women from 26 STAND-adopted villages came to the college to learn about bio-fertilizers and bio-gas energy and to participate in the inaugural function of the vermicompost project on 31 Aug. FRRRC organized a week-long training session on folk performing arts on 23-28 Sept for about 50 people. Fr Sahayaraj efficiently organized the programme.

The 28-day Intensive English Training Programme conducted for the B.Ed students by our B.Ed scholastics culminated with a valedictory function on 28 Aug at which the students put up a fabulous show. Fr Thomas Alex was the organizer. St Xavier's College of Education began the academic year on 11 Sept when the new Rector, Fr Danis Ponniah, and the new Secretary, Fr A.Lourdasamy, were introduced to the staff and students. Frs Amaladoss and Thomas Alex organized a Personality Development Programme for the B.Ed. students.

- Baskar

JAPANESE PROVINCIAL'S VISIT

On 2 Sept Fr Kajiyama Yoshio, the Provincial of Japan, shared with us here at **Vidyaniketan, Thiruvananthapuram** about the work done and the challenges faced by Jesuits of their province. We appreciated the short courses given by Fr Fermin (GOA) and Fr George Sebastian (KER) on Psycho-Sexual Integration and on Film Appreciation respectively. On 8 Sept the celebration of the feast of The Nativity of our Blessed Mother was led by the Juniors of Karnataka province. The Onam celebration on 14 Sept gave us another opportunity to learn the culture of Kerala.

- Naveen Kumar

INSIGHTS INTO PASTORAL MINISTRY

SUPAMites had their first theological analysis at Megalathur parish of Kumbakonam diocese on 18 Sept. Fr Arockiaraj, the **SUPAM** director, Fr I Raj, and Fr Alan enlightened us with their sharing and insights. We shared our experiential knowledge of pastoral work. Deacon Kennedy had seen to all the arrangements and Fr David, the parish priest and the crew from Nemam, made sure our stay was pleasant and our meals were delicious.

- Clement

NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE

On 5 Sept **JRS** opened a new Community Center in Kottur Camp, Kovai Zone. Teacher's Day was celebrated in all the camps on 5 Sept. Sch Mag Bay conducted English Coaching classes for 39 students in Mandabam Camp on 8 Sept.

- Mag Bay

FREE BICYCLES

A seven-day National Social Service camp took off at **Xaveriana, Thoothukudi** on 22 Sept. The students went about cleaning the streets, planting trees, bringing the sick for medical check-up etc. and creating awareness concerning health, cleanliness, avoiding drugs etc. Teachers' Day celebrations were organized by 12 std students. A friendly basketball match saw the teachers pitted against the students. The local MLA, Mr ST Chellapandian, who is also an alumnus, gave away free bicycles given by the State government to XI std students on 20 Sept. He also announced his second gift of Rs one lakh for the welfare of the students. The District Educational Officer gave a stirring speech to the students motivating them to strive for excellence in the X and XII std public exams.

- Rajan

Abide with the Lord



Fr Patrick D' Lima, SJ (PAT) 82/60 on 4 Oct '13.

Mr Michael Amaladass (73), father of Sch Vincent, Arul Kadal, Chennai on 25 Aug '13.

Experience

SECRETS FOR WELL-BEING AND PEACE

It was the day of my ordination. My father chose that day to tell me something that happened when I was a three year old boy. He told me that I was sick for a few days and so was given some herbal medicine. But it was of no use. A few days later some in my family found I was not breathing and my body was cold. They concluded that I was dead and wanted to bury me. Since my father was not at home that day, they decided to wait till he came back. Meanwhile a sanyasi (hermit), who used to visit my family, came in, asking for breakfast. He found all of them weeping. They told him, "Sivan is dead. We are waiting for his father to come so that we can bury him." The sanyasi touched my body and told my mother, "Your child is not dead. He will be someone special in the future."

After narrating this, my father told me, "Today I understand what the sanyasi meant when he said you will be someone special. Today you have become a 'Seedan' (disciple) of Jesus Christ." So I feel God has given me a new life - "a second life" - and therefore frequently express gratitude for this new life He has given me. I have got into the habit of seeing everyday in my life as a gift of God. So when I wake up, I say, 'Thank you Lord for this wonderful day, and I pray, 'Lord, this day of mine is your gift unto me and the way I live this day will be my gift unto you.' Before I fall asleep, I count the blessings that I received from God during the day and I thank God for them.

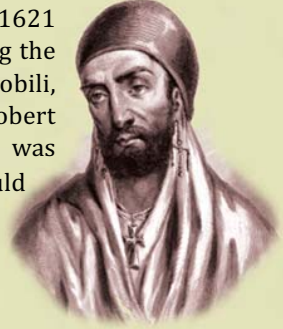
During my early stage of formation I was touched by the following words which have continued to inspire me. "Meditation is the best investment you can make. If you believe that health is wealth, then the time you set aside every day for your meditation will make you a joyful person. This is the kind of wealth that will enrich you in body and mind." I follow this in my life. I begin the day with yoga asanas, followed by pranayama and meditation. This practice has helped me to be aware of God's presence in my life and feel close to God. It is this sense of union with God that helps me be available to others and to help them experience peace and God in their lives. My life has been enriched by many people who have accompanied me in my life journey.

So I find my 'second life' meaningful and worth living.
- Arul Sivan, SJ

Memories

REMEDY FOR THE FEVER

Pope Paul V died in 1621 without conferring the red hat on Mgr. Sforza de Nobili, the younger brother of Robert de Nobili. Pope Gregory was of the opinion that he could wait a little longer for the honour. The young prelate went for consolation to Fr Mascarenhas, then General Assistant for the East Indian Missions, who told him the remedy that would cure his fever for honours was to join the Society of Jesus and embark for the Madurai Mission. Fr Robert de Nobili came to know this and wrote to Fr Mascarenhas: "The advice you gave to Mgr de Nobili to enter the Society and come to India to share my labours is very 'holy'. Meanwhile you might point out to him that the useless expenses he is incurring to become a Cardinal would be better employed in helping this Mission..."



- A. Arulanandam, SJ

(Source: *His Star in the East*, A. Sauliere, p.345)

Congratulations



• **Fr Joseph Arockiam**, who has done a remarkable pioneering work - surveying, removing encroachers, fencing and levelling of our newly acquired land near Oilpatty, Salem.

• **Fr Stanislaus Mariadoss**, on becoming a 'Doctor', having successfully defended his Ph. D. thesis on 16 Sept at Alagappa University, Karaikudi.

• **Br Rayappan Susai** and **Fr Paulraj Packiam**, whose tireless efforts led to the 'finding' of Br Mariasusai two days after he disappeared from Beschi.



New Releases

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