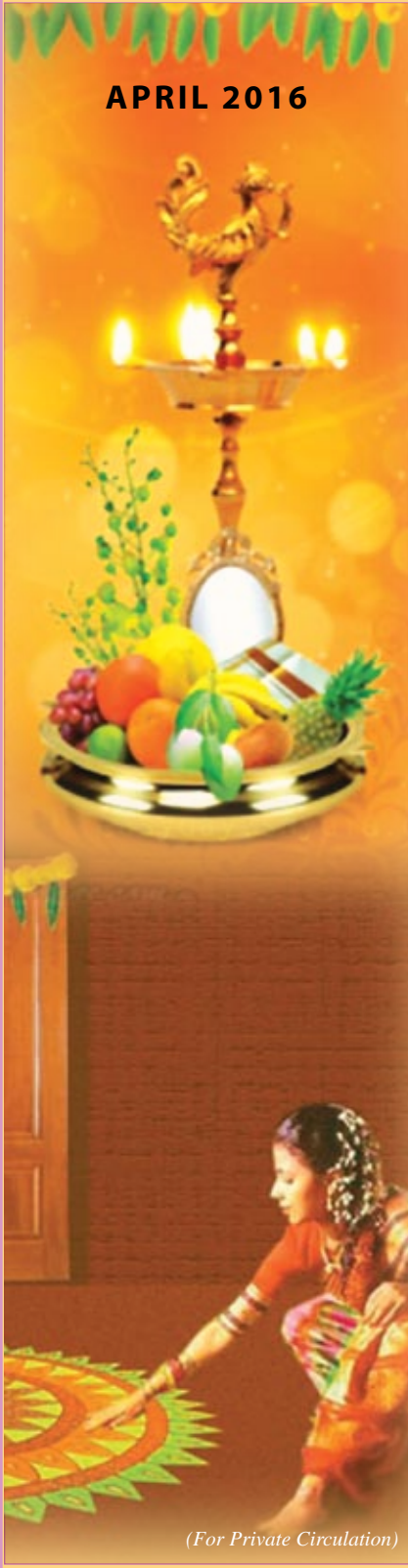




M N L

Madurai Jesuits' News Letter

APRIL 2016



(For Private Circulation)

Message from the Provincial



Our Approach and Inner Disposition

Dear Brothers,

On March 31, Fr. General sent me a personal note, in which he expressed his observations and comments about our province. This note is in addition to the official letter he wrote, on March 16, 2016, which is being published in this issue (*See p. 2*).

In this personal note, besides some other points, he touches on the need and importance of Ignatian discernment. He says: "The most important thing "is Ignatian Discernment. In it the place of Ideological factors has to be totally absent". He would like each one of us to give high importance to Ignatian Discernment, without becoming victims of ideological factors. According to him, Ignatian Discernment calls upon each one of us to operate "with clear objectives", which are "feasible". Further, while we pursue our objectives we "cannot use people (for or against) to achieve the objectives. In other words, it is not proper for us, as Jesuits, to use any pressure tactic, which is a political method and not the Ignatian method. Further, according to our way of proceeding, we should not try to achieve our objectives, "based on a collectivity", i.e. the strength of a mob or a crowd. Instead, the true Ignatian discernment has to be founded on "good reasoning".

He further highlights and emphasizes the absolute need for us to operate or function "with clear Christian values and way of proceeding". Thus, whatever we do should be "supported by truth, viability, wisdom and universality".

The third aspect, which Fr. General has emphasized, is that in everything we pursue we have to search "for the Will of God" and not our own personal or group interests. As he has

been saying repeatedly in his sharing with us, our mission cannot be our own personal desires, targets or goals. Instead our mission has to be always God's mission only.

In the light of the visitation of our Fr General and as a preparation for the forthcoming General Congregation, each one of us is invited to reflect over these phrases and ideas mentioned above. As Jesuits, we have only one approach – **Ignatian approach**, which has to be based on discernment, objectivity, God-centredness. We have a clear framework within which we are expected to operate, while we carry out our activities and programmes – **our way of proceeding**. We should therefore confine ourselves to Ignatian approach and our way of proceeding. We should always guide our people to take the right approach and the right way of proceeding. We should help them to understand that within the Church, we should not use political approach to achieve our goals – group pressure, political tactics, false accusations, anonymous letters, etc. All these are clearly against our way of proceeding. Ignatian discernment or Ignatian approach is totally opposed to any of these methods.

When we adopt the Ignatian approach and follow our way of proceeding, we will always be constructive in our comments and observations and we will avoid condemning or accusing our own companions and those in responsible positions. Such an approach and inner disposition in each one of us is the need of the hour, as only such an ambience in our communities will bring about the much needed union of hearts and minds. Let us all move in this direction.

Fraternally,
Sebasti L. Raj, SJ
Provincial

Provincial's Programme:



APRIL

- 04-08 Visitation: Beschilllam
- 11-12 Consult
- 14-18 Bangalore: Spiritual Animation Programme for Provincials
- 21-28 Visitation of MDU men in Myanmar

MAY

- 11-18 MP Province Assembly – Jabalpur and Pathalgaon
- 18-19 Formation Meeting – Shembaganur
- 20 Meeting of HMs and Correspondents – Maduralaya
- 21-22 1965 Novitiate Batch Meet -- Maduralaya
- 29 Jubilarians' Day – Beschi Illam (Forenoon)
- 29 Consult (Afternoon)

Chennai Mission Superior's Programme

APRIL

- 02-03 Sammanasur
- 09 Inauguration of Migrants' Shelter Home, at Koyambedu
- 11-12 Province Consult
- 16 Oorali Makkal Manadu, Satyamangalam
- 22-24 SAP, Dhyana Ashram, Chennai

MAY

- 06-08 Tindivanam
- 18-19 Formation Meet, Shembaganur
- 29 Jubilee celebrations, Beschi & Province Consult



CURIA GENERALIZIA DELLA COMPAGNIA DI GESÙ

Rev. Fr. Sebastì L. Raj, S.J.
MADURALAYA
Post Box 90
Beschi Campus, Karur Road
Dindigul - 624 001, T.N.
INDIA

MDU 2016/02
16 March 2016

Dear Father Sebastì Raj,

Peace and joy in the Lord!

Through this letter I wish to express my very sincere gratitude for the fine hospitality I enjoyed during my brief visit to Madurai Province and for the meticulous planning that ensured that I was able to engage Jesuits and others in programmes that brought much consolation.

My thanks to the local superiors and communities where I resided and participated in programmes. A special word of gratitude to Fr. Albert William who ensured that I was afforded VIP treatment at the airports and guided through the traffic which made my local travel a real pleasure.

With my wishes and prayers for you and the Province, I send also personal thanks to you and your Curia team who were principally responsible for the fulfilling experience of the men and work of the Province that I was privileged to have.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

G. Molloy
Adolfo Nicolás, S.J.
Superior General

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Announcements

Coimbatore Diocese invites Jesuits:

The Bishop of Coimbatore, Most Rev. Thomas Aquinas, has invited the Jesuits to take up a parish in his Diocese. We will be taking over the Porulur Parish from June 2016.

Spiritual Animation Programmes & Retreats for South Zone Jesuits - 2016

RESOURCE PERSONS	DATES	SAP/RETREAT	PROV.	PLACE	CONTACT PERSON
Julian Fernandes, Jossie D'Mello	March 28-29	SAP for Superiors	KAR	Prerana, Bangalore	Dion Vaz & Brian Pereira
R.C. Chacko	April 22-24	SAP for Superiors	MDU	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Arul Sivan & Vincent
R.C. Chacko	May 01-09	Retreat	KAR	Fatima Retreat House	Prashanth Madtha
M.A. Joe Antony	May 14-22	Retreat	KAR	Prerana, Bangalore	Arun Kumar
Jossie D'Mello	May 28-29	SAP	KAR	Prerana, Bangalore	Dion Vaz & Brian Pereira
Ignatius Tete	May 02-10	Retreat for Priests	MDU	SH College, Shembaganur	Arul Sivan & Vincent
Julian Fernandes	Aug 19-21	SAP	MDU	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Arul Sivan & Vincent
Julian Fernandes	July 11-13 July 11-19 July 20-22	SAP Retreat SAP	KAR SRI SRI	Prerana, Bangalore FRH, Lewella FRH, Lewella	Dion Vaz & Brian Pereira Stanley Phillips Stanley Phillips
Julian Fernandes	Aug 12-14 Sept 09-11 Sept 12-20	SAP SAP SAP	AND AND AND	Satyodayam, Secunderabad Satyodayam, Secunderabad Satyodayam, Secunderabad	Amar Rao / Kulandairaj Amar Rao / Kulandairaj Amar Rao / Kulandairaj
R.C. Chacko	Sept 02-03 Dec 05-13 Dec 14-15	SAP Retreat SAP	KAR SRI SRI	Prerana, Bangalore Manresa, Batticaloa Manresa, Batticaloa	Dion Vaz & Brian Pereira Stanley Phillips Stanley Phillips

N.B. Fr. Provincial urges every member MDU to participate in any of the SAP programmes listed above. The members are also encouraged to join the SAP Retreats. A few are welcome to participate in the SRI LANKA PROGRAMMES as well. Those who would like to go Sri Lanka, need the special permission of the Provincial.

Summer School of Music

Fr P.T. Chelladurai invites students for 43rd Summer School of Music. *Dates:* From 01 to 21 May '16. *Venue:* Satya Nilayam, Chennai. *Fees:* Rs 6,000. *Contact:* Fr P.T. Chelladurai, SJ/ Beschi Illam/ Karur Road/ Dindigul – 624 001. Cell: 94874 17445.

Visit JCSA website!

The official website of JCSA - www.jcsaweb.org - gives you plenty of information about our Assistency. Its activities and programmes, JCSA Directory, POSA's Circular Letters, Province Newsletters and SJ Documents are posted in the submenu Jesuits Only under the main menu 'Publications & Documents.' To get access to the

Jesuits Only section, you need to register yourself as a Jesuit. Click on the button Register on the top of the Home page, fill out the form and submit. Your suggestions to improve on the website will be appreciated.

- **Gabriel Tirkey, SJ**
Webmaster

New:

Fr Mani Valan has a new e-mail id: frsamvsj@gmail.com. His Centre for Christian Research (CCR) has a website: www.ccrsjcsmv.com.

Fr Ignacy Arockiasamy (Arockyaa), Loyola, Chennai, has a new cell number: 7373437375.

Left:

Xavier Stephen Raj S, a second year novice, left the novitiate on 22 March.

Transfer - List III

N.B.: All transfers/appointments are effective from 01 June 2016

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

NAME	FROM	TO
Sch Antony Anand	Loyola College, Chennai	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch ArockiaSelvam M	SJC, Trichy	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch George Raja A.	LTI, Madurai	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch Jesu Raja Raju	SXC, Palayamkottai	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch Mag Bay de Lawrence	LTI, Madurai	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch Maria Annaraj K.	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Paris, France
Sch Maria Viyahappan Gladwin A.	Loyola College, Chennai	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch Michael Panimaya Raj T.	Central African Republic (JRS)	Paris, France
Sch Rajasekaran A.I.	Loyola Academy, Vadamel.	London, United Kingdom
Sch Vedha Stalin Joseph	SJC, Trichy	Arul Kadal, Chennai
Sch Vino Selukas A.	SHC, Shembaganur (PEAK)	Rome, Italy

APPOINTMENTS

NAME	FROM	TO	DESIGNATION
Fr Alangaram Arockiam	Arul Kadal, Chennai	Berchmans Illam, Chennai	Acting Superior
Fr Alphonse Manickam	Loyola College, Vettavalam	Loyola College, Vettavalam	Secretary
Fr Arockia Dass J	Tertianship	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Treasurer & MA Theo. (Uni.)
Fr Arockiasamy Antony S.	Tertianship, Goa	SHC, Shembaganur	Director: PEAK
Br Arockiasamy Kulandai	SJC, Trichy	St Mary's, Madurai	Minister
Fr Arockiasamy Xavier	SJC, Trichy	Loyola College, Chennai	Principal
Fr Augustine K. Antonimuthu	Loyola Academy, Vadamel.	Loyola Academy, Vadamel.	Team Leader & Corresp.
Fr Boniface Jeyaraj	Loyola College, Vettavalam	Loyola College, Vettavalam	Principal
Fr Christie P. Maria Joseph	SHC, Shembaganur	Loyola College, Chennai	Director: LIBA
Br Devadoss Muthusavari	SJC, Trichy	Thozamai Illam, K. Kumari	Administrator & Treasurer
Fr Ephrem Appadurai	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Arrupe Illam, Mettupalayam	Administrator & Treasurer
Fr Francis Xavier Arockiadass	Supam	Kalangarai, Nagapattinam	Treasurer & Staff
Fr Ignacy Arockiasamy	Tertianship	Loyola College, Chennai	Director: LICET
Fr Ignatius Britto	Arrupe House, Mettupalayam	Beschillam, Dindigul	Director: CIS
Fr Innaci John V.	Tertianship, Sri Lanka	VMI, Vilangudi	Director of Pre-Novitiate
Fr Irudaya Valanarasu	Xaveriana, Thoothukudi	Xaveriana, Thoothukudi	Treasurer & Staff
Fr James Antonyswamy	St. Mary's HSS, Madurai	AHAL, Kilpennathur	Treasurer & Staff
Fr Joe Arun C.	SJC, Trichy	SJC, Trichy	Director: JIM
Fr John Wilson J.	Tertianship, Goa	SJIS, Ooty	Treasurer & Staff
Fr Joseph Arockiam	Gonzaga College	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Acting Superior
Br Joseph M Arockiam	St. Mary's HSS, Madurai	St. Mary's, Dindigul	Campus Treasurer
Fr Joseph Royappan	St. Mary's HSS, Madurai	Ayyampalayam Farm	Minister
Fr Joseph Xavier V.	SJC, Trichy	Thozhamai Illam, K.Kumari	Team Leader & LITES Proj.
Br Kulandairaj Savarimuthu	St. Mary's, Dindigul	De Britto, Devakottai	Campus Treasurer
Fr Louie Albert	Loyola College, Chennai	Berchmans Illam, Chennai	Minister & Treasurer

NAME	FROM	TO	DESIGNATION
Fr Loyola Antony Savari A.	St. Mary's, Madurai	Loyola Academy, Vadamel.	Campus Treasurer & Staff
Br MariadossAntonimuthu ES	Xaveriana, Thoothukudi	Clive House, Trichy	Treasurer
Fr Maria Packiam	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola College, Chennai	Dpty. Dir.: Entomology Dept.
Fr Michael Doss Lourdes	LIS, Ranipettai	LIS, Ranipettai	Team Leader
Fr Selvaraj Soosaimanickam	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Acting Nat. Dir., IHJ (Add.)
Br Stephen Raj S	St. Mary's HSS, Madurai	St. Mary's HSS, Madurai	Campus Treasurer
Fr Stephen Selvanathan	LIS, Ranipettai	LIS, Ranipettai	Dir.: LIS & Campus Treas.
Fr Thomas Alexander	Sabbatical	SXC, Palayamkottai	Principal: B. Ed College
Br Thomas Arulappan	Satyanilayam, Chennai	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Campus Treasurer
Fr Victor Roch G	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Loyola College, Chennai	Minister & Doctoral Studies
Fr Vincent Irudhayaraj M	Supam	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Campus Treasurer & Staff

TRANSFERS

NAME	FROM	TO	DESIGNATION
Br Aaron Michael	AAC, Karumathur	Beschillam, Dindigul	Rest
Fr Amalraj Savarimuthu	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	SXC, Palayamkottai	Manager: Irudayakulam
Fr Antony Robinson J.	VMI, Vilangudi	SHC, Shembaganur	Tertianship
Fr Arockiaraj Pushpanathan	St. Mary's, Dindigul	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Rest
Fr Dorairaj S. Joseph	Gonza. Novitiate, Tindivanam	LTI, Madurai	Spiritual Ministry
Fr Eronimus Santiago	Mandapam Parish (De Britto)	St. Mary's, Madurai	Spiritual Ministry
Fr Fernando Wellington G.	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	JDV, Pune	Ignatian Spirituality Course
Fr Francis Xavier P.	Loyola College, Chennai	DACA, Madurai	Staff
Fr George C. Joseph	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	DACA, Madurai	Staff
Fr Gilbert Camillus V.	SXC, Palayamkottai	Jaipur (Delhi Province)	Principal, St Xavier's
Fr Gunasekaran Rajaiah	St. Mary's HSS, Dindigul	Porulur (Coimbatore Dio.)	Parish Priest
Fr Infant Kingsley A.	Loyola College, Chennai	SXC, Palayamkottai	Staff
Fr Joseph Antony Samy G.	Loyola College, Chennai	SJC, Trichy	Staff
Fr Joseph L. Pragasam	Carmel HSS, Nagercoil	St. Mary's, Dindigul	Spiritual Ministry
Br Kulandairaj Antony	St. Mary's HSS, Dindigul	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Headmaster
Fr LourdurajArokiasamy	Dodoma, Tanzania	Berchmans Illam, Chennai	Spiritual Father
Fr Maliyakal Joseph S.	St. Mary's, Madurai	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Rest
Fr Maria Augustine	SXC, Palayamkottai	Palamalai Estate	Acting Manager
Fr Mark Stephen S.M.	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Staff
Fr Martin George	SXC, Palayamkottai	SXC, Palayamkottai	SXCE, Staff
Fr MichaelrajLourduRatinam	SHC, Shembaganur	IDEAS, Madurai	Staff
Fr Sahayaraj John Stanley	Innsbruck, Austria	Arul Kadal, Chennai	Staff
Fr Santiago Sebastian	Clive House, Trichy	St. Joseph's, Trichy	Ph. D. Studies
Fr Stephen J. Muthu	IDEAS, Madurai	Sabbatical	--
Fr Thamburaj James	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	St. Joseph's, Trichy	Spiritual Ministry
Fr Viaguladasan Manickam	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	St. Mary's, Madurai	Rest
Fr Victor Arulappan	Loyola Academy, Vadamel.	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Counseling/Spi. Ministry
Fr Xavier Irudayaraj SM	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	St Mary's, Madurai	Rest
Fr Xavier Raj Antony	St Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur	SJC HSS, Trichy	Staff: School



They met, they celebrated...

Celebrations, functions...

The Tamil Nadu State level meeting of 'Lok Manch' a national project of JESA was held at **AHAL** on 11-13 Feb. Eight Jesuit and non- Jesuit organizations from the Chennai Mission area participated and signed the MOU in the presence of Fr Jebamalai Raja, the CMS. A one-day meeting for the alumni of the AHAL hostel brought 35 participants. 'Fr Ananda Raj Housing Project' was inaugurated in the parish in the presence of his relatives on 21 Feb. More than 150 women participated in the Women's Day celebrations on 06 March in AHAL and Tindivanam.

JCERT, St Xavier's, conducted a three-day workshop on life development skills for students of St John's College. Fr Kennedy conducted a two-day workshop on IELTL (Integrated English Language Teaching and Learning) for 60 teachers of St Benedict's School, Bangalore.

Fr Thomas H. Smolich, SJ, International Director, JRS, visited **JRS/TN** along with Fr Stan, the South Asian Director. While the visit brought joy and hope to all the JRS/TN staff and the Sri Lankan refugee people, it helped Fr Tom understand the reality of the Sri Lankan Refugee camps in TN. JRS/TN team participated in the annual regional meeting on 16-19 March in Delhi to plan the strategic framework for 2016-2020. The meeting was guided by Fr Joe Xavier, SJ.

More than 250 widows attended the International Women's Day celebration at **Kalanganrai** on 08 March. This was the first celebration organized fully by the Movement for the Livelihood Rights of Widows after getting their Movement registered under Societies Act. All the main speakers were its leaders. Ten demands were read out at the end.

Loyola, Chennai organized a Panel Discussion on 'Political Awareness for Youth' on 23 Feb. Fr G. Anto, Director, Loyola Alumni Association took this initiative to enable students to cultivate social responsibility. President of Loyola Alumni Association and the founder of Vellore Institute of Technology, Dr. G. Viswanathan, was the moderator. The panelists were Mr E.V.K.S Elangovan from the Congress, Dr H.V.Hande from the BJP, and Mr Nallakannu of Makkal Nala Kottani. About 500 students and staff took part in the annual Lenten Penitential Walk to St. Thomas Mount on 28 Feb. On 07 March the WEPRO team of Loyola launched the official e-journals of the college - LAN (Loyola Academic Newsletter) and Loyola Insider,



and Loyola Campus News in video format. The College Day was celebrated on 16 March with Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Chief Justice, Madras High Court, as the Chief Guest.

Loyola hosted the meeting of Jesuits in Science and Technology in which 26 Jesuits from all over India and Sri Lanka participated. People representing various industries interacted with the researchers at *Entomology Research Institute*, Loyola. The German Consul General was the chief guest for the 2nd Graduation Day at *LICET*. Mr Charles-Etienne Verdier, CEO of Renault-Nissan, and Mr L Sudhakar of Hyundai were the guests for the LICET College Day.

On 06 March, **St Mary's** Co-cathedral parish, Madurai, organized a free medical camp for the parishioners. The school conducted an art camp for the students.



Abide with the Lord

- Fr Franklin de Souza (GOA), 83/65, at Mapusa, Goa on 06 Feb.
- Fr Sebastian Fernandes (KAR), 67/50, died in Bengaluru on 10 Feb.
- Fr Denis Coelho (KAR), (90/70), died in Bengaluru on 11 Feb.
- Fr Paul Valiakandathil (KER), 77/58, on 14 Feb in Calicut.
- Fr Roman Lewicki (PAT), 82/63, on 25 Feb in Patna.
- Br Miguel Fernandez, SJ (GUJ), 83 /62, on 09 March in Vadodara.
- Fr Theo (Theotoni) de Sales, SJ (PUN), 88/ 56, on 09 April in Pune.
- Fr V.S. Lourdu, older brother of Fr V.S. Raju, SJ on 07 Jan in Pune.
- Mr A.P. Susaimanickam, 77, older brother of Br Jeyaraj Annaviar, on 13 Feb at Batlagundu.
- Sr Lisia, 76, younger sister of Fr. P.K. George at Trissur on 04 March.
- Mr Arockiam, 72, father of Fr Britto Arockiam, Guyana, on 20 March in Rajakembiram.
- Mr Kulandaisamy, 94, father of Fr Royappan Kulandaisamy, Manalur, on 07 April in Chennai.





They have done it!

Something new, something good...

Beschi has entered a new era. On 21 March Fr R. George cut the ribbon and commissioned the new lifts. There are two lifts - one near the refectory and the other at Arrupe Bhavan to help our elders go easily from the ground floor to the first floor and vice versa. On 14 March we began having our daily Masses at 5.30 am and 6.00 am in the new chapel at Arrupe Bhavan, blessed by Fr General during his visit. The same day we began to have our daily evening prayer in the central hall of Arrupe Bhavan to facilitate the participation of our senior Jesuits.

ICRDCE, Chennai and Montgomery College, Maryland, USA, jointly organized a historically significant International Conference on Curriculum Development for the Indian Community Colleges on 03-05 March. It was followed by an 'Interface' between U.S. experts and Indian delegates on the 06 March. Eleven experts from U.S.A. were the resource persons and nearly 125 Indian experts attended. The Conference paved the way for more mutual collaborations between U.S. Community Colleges and ICRDCE associate Community Colleges, alignment and certification of our curriculum, rising to global standards, and exposure to study in U.S.A.

JRS/TN has formed 20 alumnae associations for the students of Life Skill Education with an office at Mullaikudi, Trichy. These will help them become self-reliant.

Five new houses built in **Kilpennathur** under the Jubilee Housing Project of the Province were blessed and opened by Fr Jebamalai Raja, CMS, on 19 March.

The National Framework for Institutional Ranking, an



Fr Francis Thamburaj, St Joseph's, has started the 'Mindfulness Meditation' program in Fatima College, Madurai, as part of his **Meditation in Action Movement (MAM)**. The college has made it a one-credit course with 100 marks. After a year-long training for the staff and students, a grand inaugural function (see pic) was held at which Fr AMA Samy, SJ, Director, Bodhi Zendo gave the presidential speech, highlighting the importance of mindfulness for the students. Later about 2,000 students marched in a massive 'Meditation Awareness Rally', (see pic) flagged off by the Chairman of Velammal group of institutions. The rally ended with a street play about the benefits of meditation and compassion for the society.





agency of the Ministry for Human Resource Development, has ranked **JIM**, St Joseph's, Trichy as 34th among all Management Institutes in the country.

LICET Team was adjudged the second best in the BITS (Plani) All India Competition on Waste Management projects. Ramya, final year ECE student of LICET, has secured a national rank in Indian Engineering Olympiad. On 11 March **Loyola Alumni Association**, Chennai, launched 'Paddaippaligalin Sangamam', an initiative to honour and encourage the LAA members who have authored books. Around 50 writers attended.

Loyola HSS, Kuppayanalloor, organized, with the help of Share and Care Fellowship, an NGO, a 'motivation evening' for the 10th and 12th students. Resource persons, including Fr Jebamalairaja, CMS, prepared them to face the exams with confidence. They generously sponsored the exam kits to all the students.

On 16 March the 172nd College Day of **St Joseph's**, Trichy, was celebrated as the Heritage College Day, because SJC was the only college in the State of Tamil Nadu to be awarded with the coveted Heritage College status. Fr Joe Arun played a vital role in organizing the day in a creative and meaningful way. 45 alumni, staff and Jesuit administrators who are above 75 years of age were honoured as Guests of Honour. Fr Francis Vazhapilly, SJ was the Chief Guest.

Fr Arockiasamy, Rector, **St Mary's, Madurai** blessed and opened the renovated Vincent de Paul building, the Parish Council Hall and some school buildings. These were dedicated to our great pioneer and the first Parish Priest, Fr Trinical. Fr George, Director, Britto Hostel, has set up a CCTV camera in the Hostel.



Correspondents:

Anto A. Raja, M.S. Jacob, Jayapathy, S. Jayaraj, Jesu, Manoj, G. Packiaraj, G. Pushparaj, Sam, Viji Bose.

Memories

Cross on a mountain

Pudupatti: Peymalei or the devil's mount is the highest peak in our district (50 miles south of Madurai). R.F. Provincial, during his last visit to Pudupatti, blessed an iron cross to be placed there. Fr Veaux and Fr Morere, escorted by eleven teachers and servants, went to fix it lately. The cross is now raised on a basement in masonry work, five feet high and having a surface of nine or ten square feet. May it shine on the three pangos of Sundranachiapuram, Srivilliputtur and Pudupatti which it dominates!

From Peymalei, henceforth to be called Silouvei Malei, one can distinctly see Kodaikanal, Shembaganur and Perumal.

Srivilliputtur: (from Fr. Audrain, dated 11.2.35) I have blessed the church of Krishnaperi, a gem, and baptized 42 catechumens. At present I am working in two other villages – Rettiapatti, eight miles south of Srivilliputtur, with 12, 15 or 18 families of Koravars. The Koravars look upon marriage as a mere bargain. The whole caste gathers together and in their presence the father of the bride receives Rs 40 from the father of the bridegroom. When the groom is no longer satisfied with the girl, he convenes the caste, takes back the 40 Rs which he had given and bids farewell to her who was once his wife. Tomorrow I will gather them all to make them sign a new contract: a) In accordance with the law of the Catholic Church, one wife only. b) Marriage is indissoluble.

(from *Caritas*, March 1935)

New Releases



Excellence to Godliness: Zen Meditation for Transformation, Francis Thamburaj, SJ, Fatima College, Madurai.

Saathikkalaam Vaarungal, S. Ignacimuthu, SJ, Mayura Publications, Chennai, p 135. Rs 125.

Leveil Adigalaarin Diary Kurippugal, Y.S. Yagoo, SJ, Vaigarai, Rs 40.

The Western Sun, Y.S. Yagoo, SJ, Institute of the Heart of Jesus, Dindigul.

Just for...



Policeman: "I have to book you for rash driving."

Saami: "Sorry, sir, I am learning driving."

"All alone, without an instructor?"

"Yes, sir, this is a correspondence course."

Secrets

for Well-being and Peace



Let us never lose trust!

What a beautiful truth of faith this is for our lives: the mercy of God! God's love for us is so great, so deep; it is an unfailing love, one which always takes us by the hand and supports us, lifts us up and leads us on.

In the Gospel of John (20:19-28), the apostle Thomas personally experiences this mercy of God, which has a concrete face: the face of Jesus, the risen Jesus. Thomas does not believe it when the other apostles tell him: 'We have seen the Lord.' It isn't enough for him that Jesus had foretold it, promised it: 'On the third day I will rise.' He wants to see, he wants to put his hand in the place of the nails and in Jesus' side. And how does Jesus react? With patience: Jesus does not abandon Thomas in his stubborn unbelief; he gives him a week's time, he does not close the door, he waits. And Thomas acknowledges his own poverty, his little faith. 'My Lord and my God!' With this simple yet faith-filled invocation, he responds to Jesus' patience. He lets himself be enveloped by divine mercy; he sees it before his eyes, in the wounds of Christ's hands and feet and in his open side, and he discovers trust: he is a new man, no longer an unbeliever, but a believer.

Let us also remember Peter: three times he denied Jesus, precisely when he should have been closest to him; and when he hits rock bottom he meets the gaze of Jesus who patiently, wordlessly, says to him: 'Peter, don't be afraid of your weakness, trust in me.' Peter understands, he feels the loving gaze of Jesus, and he weeps. How beautiful is this gaze of Jesus – how much tenderness is there! Brothers and sisters, let us never lose trust in the patience and mercy of God!

- Pope Francis

In *The Church of Mercy*

Ed. By Giuliano Vigini, ATC, 2014)