



MNL



Newsletter of the Madurai Jesuits

AUGUST 2014

(For Private Circulation)



MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

THINKING OUT-OF-THE-BOX

Dear Brothers,

There is a joke about the Jesuits: “Even the Holy Spirit does not know what a Jesuit will do next!” While this is only a joke, there has been a tradition of the Jesuits thinking creatively or in adopting new methods and new approaches to their ministries. We see this creative and out-of-the-box approach right from the beginning of the Society. The very foundation of the Society itself was done in a unique manner, as St. Ignatius himself was an out-of-the-box thinker.

Later on too, we have had several outstanding Jesuits who have dared to think out-of-the-box, such as, Robert de Nobili, Mateo Ricci, etc. Our own Jesuit brother, Pope Francis, has stunned the world by his out-of-the-box approach to his personal life as well as to his style of leadership. The whole world admires his life-style and his approach to leadership, which probably no one even

imagined before he was elected.

All these should inspire and spur us to think differently, to think out-of-the-box, even taking reasonable amount of risks, when there is a need to do so. This implies a bold and unattached attitude to our existing ministries and the methods we have been using to carry out these ministries. In other words, we should not get stuck with the routine manner of doing things and holding on blindly to what we are used to. Our Superior General, Fr. Adolfo Nicolas, has been repeatedly exhorting us to be ready to give up particular ministries, institutions or approaches, if we find any of them not contributing to apostolic efficacy. Thinking out-of-the-box also includes our disposition towards other Jesuit provinces, other regions of the world and the universal mission of the Society. Our new disposition and thinking should inspire us to be prepared to share generously our material as well as human resources with others.

At this juncture in our history, when we are commemorating the 200th anniversary of the restoration of the Society, we are called upon by our Superior General to renew ourselves

personally, renew our community life and have a fresh and bold look at our different ministries. We need to be bold, objective, factual and realistic, looking only at the needs of the people, the Society and the Church in today’s context. We should consciously avoid all types of sentimental or sectarian attachments, and renounce willingly personal agenda and desires. We should realize that what was good and useful at one period of time need not be so in another period.

Out-of-the-box thinking looks to the future, takes into account the fast changing scenario at the national and global level, gives high value to the changed outlook of the people and their new expectations for something new and relevant. Let us, therefore, liberate ourselves from any kind of fear or hesitation to think out-of-the-box and be prepared to take up new ministries and new approaches, for the sake of apostolic efficacy and the greater glory of God.

Fraternally,
Sebasti L. Raj, SJ
Provincial

Provincial's Programme:



AUGUST

- 01-03 TNPCRI Meetings -- LUMEN Institute, Tindivanam
03-04 Visitation: Tindivanam, Pondicherry
06-07 National CRI Executive Meeting – Bangalore
09-10 Batch Meeting II -- Maduralaya (1958-64 Batches)
11-12 Visitation: Maduralaya
14-15 POSA Consult-- New Delhi
16 Consult (Afternoon)
17 Meeting: LS/TL and Coordinators – Maduralaya
18-20 Visitation: Poondy, Vilangudi
20 Visitation: Kumbakonam
20-21 Visitation: Nagapattinam
23-24 Batch Meeting III -- Maduralaya (1965-1971 Batches)
25 Visitation: Kadamalaikundu
25-28 Visitation: SHC, Shembaganur
30 Ordination – SJC, Trichy

SEPTEMBER

- 01-02 Visitation: Kodai Hills (Perumal, Palamalai, Manalur, Aiyampalayam)
04-05 Meeting of South Zone Provincials -- Maduralaya
06-07 Batch Meeting IV -- Maduralaya (1972-79 Batches)
07-08 Visitation: LTI, Madurai
10-11 Visitation: St. Mary's, Dindigul
13-14 Batch Meeting V -- Maduralaya (1980-88 Batches)
15-18 Visitation: AAC, Karumathur
20-21 Batch Meeting VI -- Maduralaya (1989-2003 Batches)
24 Consult
25-27 Visitation: Loyola College, Vettavalam
28-29 Visitation: Kilpennathur

Chennai Mission Superior's Programme

AUGUST

- 08 Return from Sri Lanka
10 Mission Consult
16 Province Consult
17 Superiors' Meeting, Maduralaya
21-23 Salem and Dharmapuri
30 Ordination, Trichy

SEPTEMBER

- 07 Mission Consult
13-14 Batch Meet
17 LISSTAR Seminar
24 Province Consult
26 – 03 Oct Retreat Preaching

Announcements



New Status:

As the men assigned to Afghanistan could not go there, they have been given new assignments: **Fr. S.M. John Kennedy** has been assigned to Hazaribagh to offer English language courses to the Jesuit novices and others. **Scholastics Michael Panimaya Raj T. and Maria Valan M.,** are scheduled to go to Paris for studying French in preparation for their new JRS mission in CAR/Chad, Central Africa.

New Pay Scale:

Fr. Provincial has promulgated the new pay scale for the Domestic Workers. These new scales are retrospectively effective from 01 June 2014.

Tally Training Programme:

The Province Finance Commission, in collaboration with LIBA, Chennai is organizing the Tally Training Programme 2014 (TTP) for Jesuits of our Province. Our men - irrespective of age and status quo - could participate in the TTP which will be held in two slots of 3 days each: 26,27,28 Sept and 10,11,12 Oct. Those who want to attend TTP should attend both slots without fail. Those who do not attend the first slot in Sept will not be permitted to do the second slot in October. The expenses (boarding, lodging and course fee) would be borne by the Province. Only limited seats are available. So hurry up and book your seat by contacting the Province Treasurer through email (mdu.treasurer@mdusj.org) before 15 Aug.

Left the Society:

Sch John Magesh left the Society on 30 July '14.

Fr. Provincial has made the following appointments:

Fr. Marianathan Chinnasamy	Coordinator	Social Action Commission
Fr. Aruldoss Selvaraj	Coordinator	Dalit Commission
Fr. Maria Singarayar S.	Coordinator	TVET Commission
Fr. Devadhas Muthiah	Coordinator	Spirituality and Dialogue Commission
Fr. Paulraj Packiam	Coordinator	Youth Commission
Fr. Simonraj Antony	Director	Government Services Project (GSP)
Fr. Infant Kinsley A.	Editor	<i>Paathaigal</i>

Committees for Jubilee Action Plan:

Fr. Provincial has appointed the following Committees to implement the Jubilee Action Plan:

1. Monitoring and Follow-up Committee:

Frs. Christie P. Joseph (Convener), Jebamalai Raja and Aloysius Irudayam – to be responsible for the over-all implementation of the different programmes in the Jubilee Action Plan.

2. Scholarship Committee:

Frs Francis P. Xavier (Convener), Roosevelt Fernando, Joe Xavier P., Cyril Antonysamy and Marianathan Swamikannu – to study Jubilee Scholarships as well as all other scholarships now given by communities/institutions and come up with concrete proposals to streamline the scholarship distribution system in the province.

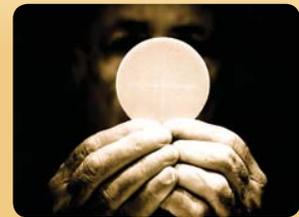
3. Jubilee Housing Committee:

Frs. Henry Jerome (Convener), Arockiaraj Raphael, Maria Joe, Arockiam Kuzhandai and Michaelraj L. – to work out a concrete framework on the basis of which this action plan can be implemented.

Renovation Work:

The province administration has carried out renovation works at Ayyampalayam Farm, Clive House, Trichy, and Berchmans Illam, Chennai. All these places sport a totally new look after the renovation.

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST MASS!



ANTONY MARKUS

03-09-2014
09.00am
St Joseph's Church
Soosaipuram
Ooty Diocese



PHILIP KUMAR G.

31-08-2014
06.00pm
St Antony Church
Tharamani
Chennai Diocese



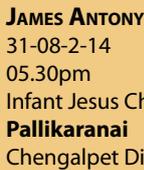
BERCHMANS M. JOSEPH

31-08-2014
05.30pm
St Antony's Church
Kurusady, Nagercoil
Kottar Diocese



SEBASTIAN CROSSIAN

31-08-2014
10.30am
St Ignatius Church
Kurumbanai
Kottar Diocese



JAMES ANTONYSWAMY

31-08-2-14
05.30pm
Infant Jesus Church
Pallikaranai
Chengalpet Diocese



JOHN PAUL K.

31-08-2014
05.30pm
St John De Britto Church
Allikondapattu
Vellore Diocese



SEBASTIN THANGADURAI

31-08-2014
05.30pm
St Michael's Church
Sengudi
Sivagangai Diocese



VJI BOSE V.

31-08-2014
04.30pm
St Michael's Church
Mylacodu, K K Dt.
Kottar Diocese





Events



AGENTS OF SOCIAL CHANGE

On 5, 6 July **AHAL** community had its orientation in Kilpennathur and Vettavalam. On 13 July Fr C. Marianathan guided **AHAL** animators and asked them to be “agents of social change.” On 13 July Frs M.F. Kennedy and Packiaraj gave a one-day recollection to the regents of the Northern Zone on the theme, “Work with the power of prayer”. Fr Gerlin and the Organizing Committee worked hard to make the feast of Sahayamatha on 27-29 May in the Kilpennathur parish very grand. On 14 June Fr C. Marianathan took over as the new Team Leader and the Parish Priest. People knew he was a follower of Pope Francis when he asked them to bless him with their prayers.

- **Selvandhiran**

REACHED 3000

With the admission of PG and M Phil students the student strength of **ARUL ANANDAR COLLEGE** reached 3000 on 07 July. Fr Eugene, Rector, Christ Hall Seminary was the main celebrant at the Mass of the Holy Spirit on 09 July. All appreciated the Jesuit administration for the smooth conduct of the student council election on 11 July. A healthy practice that got established this year was that before the announcement of the election results by the Principal, both the winners and the not-so-fortunate ones removed all the posters they had put up

within the college campus. The Madurai Corporation Mayor, Mr V V Rajan Chellappa inaugurated the Students Council on 23 July. Both men and women students celebrated their Freshers Day at their hostels. The Department of Physics arranged a UGC-sponsored National Conference on ‘Optics, Photonics and Lasers’ on 17, 18 July.

Fr Rufus SJ and Fr Anbu SJ worked hard to prepare the hostellers for the Jesuit Quiz. On 25 our community joined other Jesuits in Madurai during the Novena to St Ignatius. All in the community were with Fr Anbu when he unexpectedly lost his father.

- **Leonard**

PASTORAL CHALLENGES

The new academic year at **ARUL KADAL** began with the orientation on 12, 13 June ‘14 with talks by Fr S.J. Antonysamy, V.G. of Madras-Mylapore archdiocese and Fr Muthumalai, SJ, Rector, Satya Nilayam. Fr Roy Lazar of Madras University spoke on “The Pastoral Challenges of Families in Tamilnadu Context – A Theological Response”. The seniors warmly welcomed the juniors. The B.Th. Comprehensive Examination for the Deacons was held on 20, 21 June and all the eight of them passed and flew away with flying colors to their SUPAM places. Fr Britto Peter directed the retreat of the Provincial Team of the Bethlehemite Sisters at Bangalore on 23 -28 June. On 07-10 July Fr Alan participated in the Bishops-Theologians Colloquium held at NBCLC, Bangalore on “Pastoral

Challenges of the Family in the Context of New Evangelization”. He also addressed the Salesian seminarians at Kavaripeetai on *Evangelii Gaudium*. On 5 and 12 July the Scholastics animated the Kuppayanallur students. Frs Maria Arul Raja, Baskar, Schs. Vargheesh and Sarathi participated in the Tamil Iraiyyal Mandaram meet held at Trichy. On the 19 July the whole community participated in the IGFA annual gathering held at Dhyana Ashram.

- **Sarathi**

ENRICHED IN ALL WAYS

On the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on 27 June Fr Marivalan, director of the Apostleship of Prayer, briefly introduced his apostolate of the Sacred Heart. We began the new academic year at **BESCHI ILLAM** with the Mass of the Holy Spirit on 30 June. On the same day, we had the community orientation at which Fr A. Victor gave us some useful inputs on Jesuit community life, its joys and challenges.

After a brain storming session on the community’s strengths and drawbacks we evolved certain action plans for this year. The novices had a separate orientation session at which Fr Maria Packiam stressed knowledge of oneself, the Society of Jesus and God. In a bid to popularize Ignatian spirituality among the laity, Beschi Illam and Sacred Heart Residence jointly organized a 2-day retreat on 5,6 July in view of St Ignatius’ feast.

Nearly 70 lay men and women participated. With Frs. R. George, Francis Xavier Raj and Fr Stephen de Souza joining Beschi, our community has been enriched numerically, physically and spiritually.

The community went for an outing to Sirumalai on 12 July, when even the 'seniors' enjoyed the pure air and scenic beauty of our estate. The unexpected and sudden death of Mrs. Ezhil Gnamam, the younger sister of Fr Ilango, the Novice Master came as a big shock to all. Fr. P.T. Chelladurai was honoured on 17 July by the diocese under the auspices of துடி தமிழிசை மேம்பாட்டு இயக்கம் with an award for his contribution to Tamil Christian Music. Bishop Antony Pappusamy of Dindigul awarded him the title, "Tamilisai Chaandron".

Fr. Dhanaraj has finished directing 100 long retreats! The 100th retreat to the Rosarian Sisters was over on the eve of the feast of St Ignatius.

- **Mano Albert Einstein**

IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY

The ELT Staff of **DE BRITTO** had a one-day orientation programme along with their counterparts of Arulanandar Hr. Sec. School, Oriyur. This joint venture was well received by the participants. Fr Cyril and Mrs Tamilarasi animated our 10 and 12 std students on 12 July. Fr Susai Sebastian introduced to our staff the Ignatian pedagogy on 21 June. We are preparing for 'Fr Albert Machado, S.J. Birth Centenary Ever Rolling State Level Football Tournament' to be held on 29-31 July.

- **Yagoo**

IGFA 2014

The annual convention of IGFA (Ignatian Family)- 2014 was held at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai on 19 July, the weekend before the novena of St Ignatius. 94 participants graced the occasion. One third of them were Jesuits in spiritual ministry, another one third were Sisters associated with Ignatian spirituality, and the rest were lay women and men.

General Superior of Sacred Heart Brothers, Br Victor Dhas presented a well-received paper on 'Demands and Challenges of Ignatian Spirituality for the Modern Consecrated Men and Women'. Dr. Fr Samuel Savio of Madras Archdiocese lectured brilliantly on 'From Rituality to Actuality in the light of Contemplative Dimensions of Ignatius'.

These presentations did



The theme was 'Ignatian Spirituality for the Life of Consecration'. This focus resonates with the declaration of a special 'Year for the Consecrated' by Pope Francis. The year begins on 30 Nov



'14 and ends on 02 Feb '16.

The keynote cum homily was given by Sr Susheela, FSAG, the Executive Secretary of CRI-TN, at the Inaugural Eucharist presided over by Fr Thamburaj, Province-Coordinator of Spirituality. In the input-sessions that followed, the

trigger off a meaningful reflection - action process, followed by a fruitful interactive session at which essentials of major spiritualities were shared: Franciscan by the former Provincial, Sr Angeline, FBS, Salesian by Sr. Maria, FMA, Nanoian by Sr Rose, PBVM, Anne's by Sr Prakash, SAT and Lay spirituality by Mr Hari Krishnan. These mutually enriching sharings were climaxed by an inspiring input session on 'Attitude Shifts Needed Today' by Fr Rex A Pai, former Jesuit Provincial. The Chennai Mission Superior, Fr Jebamalai Raja then synthesised the proceedings of the whole day with an invitation for a life of radicality. Three books related to St Ignatius, Jesuits and Consecrated Life were released on the memorable day. The next convention is tentatively fixed for 17,18 July 2015 whose theme will be 'Indo-Ignatian Spirituality'.

- **Jerry Rosario, SJ**

INTELLECTUAL FORMATION

On 6 June we, the MDU scholastics and Fr Clement, reached **DNC, Pune**. On 07-08 June we had an orientation programme which ended with a city darshan. On 09 June we began the classes with an inaugural Mass on the theme 'dharma of Jesus', celebrated by Bishop Agnelo Gracias, the Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay. On 07 July Fr Raj Irudaya, the ADF, talked on intellectual formation to both the theologians and the philosophers and invited us to be creative. A faith sharing in living groups on 13 July paved the way to get to know one another deeply and to grow in universality. Fr Pavulraj Michael, Gregorian University, Rome, has come to DNC for a fifteen day spirituality course to the theologians. We, the MDU scholastics went to Khopoli parish, run by MSFS priests for faith sharing. It was really a memorable experience for us to share and to grow in faith.

- Solomon

BRAND NEW BASKET BALL COURT

School: At **LOYOLA SCHOOL, KUPPAYANALLOOR, LISCCO '14** (Loyola Inter Sectional Cultural Competitions 2014) was celebrated on Kamaraj's birthday. Thanks to Fr P.S. Arul, Mr. P. S. Jayaraj and Sr. P.S. Lilly sponsored prizes

for the cultural competitions and gave away the prizes as the chief guests of the day. Sports Day was celebrated in a grand scale on 28 July. Mrs Sumathi Gunasekaran, the President of Uthiramerur Town Panchayat and Mr Manimaran, the Inspector of Uthiramerur, were the chief guests and distributed the prizes for the winners.

Jonas Detemple, the German volunteer, helped our school realize its longstanding dream for a well-furnished basket ball court. Fr Joe Mike, the Superior, blessed and opened the court on 25 July.



JMAADD: JMAADD's alcoholic patients in treatment have begun to feel more at home, because of the able guidance of Fr George Joseph as counsellor. 15 recovering alcoholics received medals from him as a memento for their successful sobriety anniversary.

Parish: On the feast of St Ignatius the renovated church of Our Lady of Victory at Ongur was blessed by Bishop Neethinathan

NEED FOR QUALITY JESUITS

CHENNAI MISSION'S superiors, team leaders and co-ordinators met at Dhyana Ashram on 19, 20 July for a recollection guided by Fr Jerry Rosario. He emphasized the need to have more quality Jesuits who would attract the young and transform them as agents of social transformation. We felicitated the Golden Jubilarians - Fr. Jayapathy and Bro. Sadanandam and began our sessions which were effectively moderated by Fr A. Joseph. Each member shared the action plans and new initiatives prepared by their communities. The following challenges surfaced: Sustainability of our new initiatives - internal "Jesuit factors" affecting our ministries - need to equip our men with needed skills for new initiatives - sudden transfers of our men that jolt our works - need for a fundraising team that would effectively tap the resources both locally and globally - need for Chennai Mission Development office to work hand in hand with PDD.

On 18 July, Chennai mission hosted a high tea to many campus Jesuits in view of the feast of St Ignatius. Chennai Mission Superior gave a short update about the new initiatives and of Chennai Mission.

- Dominic Jayakumar

Abide with the Lord

Fr Shailendra Bara, SJ (RAN), 61/42, on 07 July in Ranchi.

Fr Stany Vas, SJ, 90/69, (KAR), on 07 July in Mangalore

Bro John Alphonso, SJ, 101/78, on 19 July 2014 in Pune.

Mrs M. Ezhil Gnanam, 42, younger sister of Fr Ilanko Xavier, on 08 July at Manalikkarai.

Mr Mariaraj, 76, father of Fr Anbarasu, on 18 July at Thiruvaramangam.



of Chengalpattu. He laid the foundation stone for a shrine of St Antony of Padua at Puliyur, a substation of Ongur Parish. He joined us for the feast day celebration.

- **Lawrence Arockiasamy**

SEARCH FOR ROOTS

IDCR, jointly with Loyola Campus Ministry, arranged an Interreligious Meditation and Prayer (IMAP) for the victims of the Maulivakkam building collapse. Students and faculty gathered spontaneously to pay homage to the victims. Together with History Department of Loyola College, IDCR organized a screening of a documentary "Yaadhum" by Kombai S. Anwar, an alumnus of Loyola. The documentary sought to search the historical roots and identity of Tamil Muslims and their contribution to Tamil culture and literature. That the show generated much interest was seen in the students' many sharp questions. Vincent Sekhar gave a speech on the possibility of peace in the conflict-ridden Gaza-Israel in a forum organized by Shabnam Resources, Chennai. Fr Amaladoss was in Australia to give talks at a gathering of theologians.

- **Vincent Sekhar**

G 70 MEET IN YERCAUD

G 70 met at the cool Yercaud on 11, 12 May. The members of G 70 are the Madurai Jesuits who joined the Novitiate

in 1970 and continue their companionship and solidarity through regular meetings. L. Michael Doss was the organizer of this year's get-together, attended by Brs Arulanandam and Thomas, and Frs Anandanathan, Freddie, Jerry, Jeyaseelan, Joe Antony, Michael Doss, Pushparaj and Mr J. Rosario. We spent both the days sharing our experiences and offering brotherly feedback to one another. Those were rare moments of joy when companions, who have journeyed together - as Jesuits and ex-Jesuits - for 44 years now, listened to and empathized with one another and felt assured we were not alone. During the sharing we emphasized that all of us in the Province, whatever position we may hold, should rise above our personal likes and dislikes and non-Jesuit affiliations and journey with one focus of AMDG and our option should be lived with joy and love - not with unbrotherly attitudes and animosity.

- **G. Pushparaj**

RANK AND GOLD FOR PRISONERS

55 participants from 42 organizations attended **ICRDCE's** 32nd Community Colleges Teachers Training Programme on 9-14 June '14 from which 10 Community Colleges will emerge in North India. ICRDCE has influenced the Central Government and UGC in framing the Bachelor of Vocational

MARIASUSAI SEBASTIAN, SJ

17.07.1917 – 13.07.2014

"My soul is thirsting for the Lord. When shall I see him face to face?" sang the Psalmist. These verses seem to capture the disposition of Br Mariasusai during the last days of his life on earth. He starved himself in order to hasten his journey to his Maker. He remained silent and prayed in the silence of his heart.



Mariasusai was born on 17 July 1917 at Oriyur. His parents were Mr Sebastian, who had been a school teacher and catechist in Burma, and Mrs Savariammal. He was the eldest in the family. His two younger sisters are alive. A niece, Sr Dhanam Mary, is an FSJ Sister.

Mariasusai entered the Society of Jesus on 12 Nov 1937 at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur. He pronounced his Last Vows on 02 Feb 1948. He served at SHC, Shembag, St Joseph's, Trichy, St Mary's, Madurai, Perumal Malai, Loyola Technical Institute, Madurai, La Providence, Kodaikanal, and S.H.C, Shenbaganur. His 27 years of efficient and committed service at St Joseph's form a golden chapter in his epic journey of 76 years as a Jesuit.

After working tirelessly for nearly 66 years, he was sent to Beschi Illam to have his well-earned rest. In fact, he rested and prayed for the next three years. After he sustained a crack in his thigh bone in June, he found it difficult to walk and was confined to the bed most of the time. On 13 July in the early hours of the morning, Br Mariasusai Sebastian, the oldest Jesuit in the province, had a cardiac arrest and passed away peacefully. The Funeral Mass in the evening was presided over by the Provincial, Fr Sebastia L. Raj. In the homily, Fr A. Ambrose who had been with him in Shembag as his Superior, touched on his inimitable qualities of doing everything with a smile, of gentlemanliness, and of his spirit of detachment and loyalty to the Society. He was laid to rest in the Beschi cemetery after Fr Leo Tagore, the Beschi Superior, said the final blessing.

- **Maria Jeyaraj, SJ**

Studies Degree Colleges (B.Voc Degree) and UGC Community Colleges. There will soon be 127 B.Voc and 150 UGC Community Colleges in the country. ICRDCE plans to conduct workshops to introduce the B.Voc and UGC Community College Scheme in the southern States in August.

The Mahatma Gandhi Community College, started in 9 Central Prisons of Tamil Nadu with help from ICRDCE, has trained 848 prisoners in the last three years in various trades, recognized by the Tamil Nadu Open University.

A prisoner from Puzhal prison has got the 1st rank in Four Wheeler Mechanism and another from Cuddalore prison has received the Gold Medal from the University in House Electrician course. The Department of Prisons has said it will continue this programme in collaboration with ICRDCE in different prisons of Tamil Nadu.

- **Xavier Alphonse**

MoU with TATA

For the first time the ITI students of **LTI, MADURAI** received the freebies the State government gives to students like a laptop, bicycle, school uniform, books, bus pass and a monthly stipend of Rs 500. On 5 July State Minister for Cooperatives, Mr Sellur K. Raju, distributed the laptops to our students in the presence of the District Collector. The Correspondent, Fr Maria Singarayyar, thanked the State Government and all the dignitaries. We have signed a MoU with TATA, on 8 July for a one-year non formal course in automobile training for school dropouts from poor



families. The students will be paid a monthly stipend of Rs 2500 for nine months with practical training in the ABT car companies. At the end of the training job placement is assured. All students of Fitter trade, in different batches, underwent training in Computer Numerical Control at SKIP House, Bangalore. Our students won the first and third prizes in the district level quiz competition for ITIs. They were the winners in ball badminton and runners up in volleyball in the district games.

- **George Raja A.**

TRAINING OUR TEACHERS

Province's **HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION** organized two training programmes for the self-financed faculty from our four Jesuit Colleges in May. They were trained to become effective teachers. About 40 men and 26 women lecturers attended. Initially most of them felt that the programmes stole days from their summer vacation, but as days passed by, they experienced the richness, importance and joy of participating in such programmes. They placed on record the rich contribution of each resource person and the meticulous planning by Province Coordinator Fr G.Pushparaj, and his team of Frs V. Joseph Xavier, Joe Arun, and S. Sebastian. Sr Venantia, FSJ, Superior, Alverna Retreat House and Dr Armstrong Anbarasu and

Dr Clement Lourduraj, the Conveners of the two training programmes did a great job.

- **G. Pushparaj**

50 THIS YEAR

District level meetings were held for Widows' Movement leaders, our staff and tuition teachers at **KALANGARAI**. We had a fruitful and meaningful chat with Bishop Devadoss Ambrose of Thanjavur. He encouraged us to continue our unique mission of working for widows and deserted women. This year our Community College has attracted 50 students. After a two-day orientation they were enthused to begin their training with lot of hope. - **S. Jayaraj**

APPROVED

On 2 June **LIS, RANIPET** received the approval from the Central Government's Quality Council of India (QCI) and National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET), thanks to the painstaking efforts of Fr Ignacy Arockyaa. Ours was the only ITI to be approved in the whole of Tamil Nadu for this academic year with the NCVT status by both the QCI & NABET. Our boys have come back after their two months of internship training in various companies in different places in Tamil Nadu. Fr Victor gave a two-day counselling course to selected staff of Loyola School, Kuppayanallur. - **Manick**

To ACCOMMODATE ALL

To accommodate the large number of students from all the five institutions in **LOYOLA, CHENNAI** Campus the Holy Spirit

Mass was held in Lawrence Sundaram quadrangle under a shamiana on 11 July. Fr Vincent Sekar had planned with great care the entire liturgy ensuring participation from every unit. In the third week of July, all the second year students were given an intense programme on Addiction Awareness.

LICET has become the only Engineering College to be given the status of an executive member in ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers). SPI Global (an international award winning company for best employment for 2014) has chosen 8 under this scheme and has employed 4 of them. At the Counselling in Anna University students started selecting LICET at 198.25 cut off (out of 200) and on an average the selection of cut off for LICET has gone up by 3.5. The bridge course started for the first years on 14 July. Two batches of students, accompanied by faculty members, did their summer program in ICAM at Lille and Toulouse in France and one more batch has gone to Comillas University, Madrid. The third batch of 18 ICAM students has come to LICET and they would do the course here till November end.

LIBA organized the Graduation Day for the One-Year Executive Programme graduates on 05 July '14. 125 graduates received their degrees. Fr Jayapathy, Rector, presided over the function and the Chief Guest was Mr K Pandia Rajan of Ma Foi Strategic Consultants Private Limited. The 10th year reunion of the

2002 batch of the full-time and part-time students of LIBA was organized on 19 July '14. Over 70 alumni and their family members participated in the event. 287 graduates received their degrees at the Convocation for the full-time and part-time PGDM graduates and the Executive Post-graduate Diploma Programme graduates, held at LIBA on 26 July '14. Mr Prakash Iyer, an eminent expert in corporate leadership, was the Chief Guest. - **Francis Jayapathy**

SCHOOL SYSTEM INTRODUCED

After he inaugurated the English Medium wing at **St. JOSEPH'S** College Hr. Sec. School, Trichy, Fr Provincial stressed we need to help our students critically analyse our educational system and prepare them to live as responsible citizens of a democratic, secular country. Fr Soosai Sebastian offered a one-day programme on "Jesuit Heritage and Ignatian Pedagogical



Paradigm (IPP)" to the staff of our schools in Oriyur, Dindigul and Devakottai. He also conducted a programme on "Pivotal Role of Teacher and Teacher-Student Relationship" to the teachers of Notre Dame CBSE School, Salem. Tri-Fest (Investiture ceremony of Students' Council members, Fine Arts inauguration and Welcome to Freshers) was celebrated having Mr Sailesh Kumar Yadav, IPS as Chief Guest. The School system was

formally introduced, clubbing all the departments into 6 Schools. UGC has sanctioned Rs.1.85 crores for 3 years to conduct two B.Voc Degree Programmes (Viscom Technology and Software Development). St. Joseph college was one of the 3 colleges given this honour in the first phase. On 22 July, the Jesuits, professors and students went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Redeemer's church to pray for the good health of all.

With gracious help from the Holy Cross Sisters Fr Francis Thamburaj has introduced 'Meditation in Action Movement' (MAM) at Holy Cross College, Trichy. Fr Ama Samy, Director, Bodhi Zendo, was the Chief Guest at the grand inaugural function on 8 July. The college has made meditation a part of the curriculum for all the students. - **Jesu Nesam**

JESUITS OF FOUR COUNTRIES

We, the five Madurai Jesuits are enjoying the culture and climate in **MYANMAR**, the Golden Land. We are cherishing the universality of the Society right here in our community, with members from Korea, Australia, Myanmar and Madurai. Fr Mark Raper, our Regional Superior, was here on 25 June - 5 July. It was a time of grace for all of us. Fr. C. Amalraj, along with Bishop Charles, visited Aung San Suu Kyi, the well-known political leader. Fr Vinny, the formation Delegate, directed a recollection for the Regents on 26 July. Fr. Paul C is teaching in the Major Seminary. Sch Leo is teaching in the 'New Dawn' school through IPP method. He organized a health camp for his school students on 09 July. Sch

Joe Livingston is doing a three-month course trying to learn the Burmese language. We had a community picnic to Chanug Tha Beach on 19, 20 July.

- Joe Livingston

SRI AT VETTAVALAM

THE SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SRI) at **LOYOLA, VETTAVALAM**, a Jubilee project of the Province and the Chennai Mission, got started on 6 July, with a day-long consultation attended by Loyola College, Vettavalam (LCV) and AHAL communities, the CMS and his Secretary. All felt that it is a timely and much-needed initiative. It was decided that the Institute would keep the operational areas of LCV and AHAL and the themes of Education, Empowerment and Entrepreneurship of the marginalized as its focal points. Though it will be autonomous with regard to its organisation, finance and personnel, it would work closely with LCV and AHAL, and the existing research initiatives in the Mission area, such as Social Watch, Tamil Nadu, LISTAAR and DHRC. A working committee has been formed to take the initiative forward.

The office of the new Institute is getting ready in the LCV campus and is expected to start functioning from 01 August. - **Manu Alphonse**

LAWYERS MEET

As the follow up of the Annual Orientation Programme, **IDEAS-LAAS** community met on 8 and 13 July at LAAS to decide the action plans for the next three years. On 24 LAAS organized

a Lawyers' Fraternity meeting, attended by more than 60 lawyers and law students, who discussed Art. 370 of the Constitution on the special status of Jammu and Kashmir. As is being done annually on the occasion of St Ignatius' Feast, 38 Sisters from 6 Congregations gathered at IDEAS on 26 and 27 for a two-day workshop. On the first day two eminent speakers Mr. Ashok, advocate and Mr. Chandra Bose, a Dalit movement leader, spoke on the post Parliamentary Election scenario at the national and state level and its repercussions on the state polity and the response of the religious personnel. On the second day Paul Mike elucidated on the spirituality of St Ignatius which was followed by the sharing of the participants on the specific charism and spirituality of their respective Congregations. The Jesuits and the lay staff gathered for Holy Eucharist on July 30 to celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius.

- Jeyaseelan

ESC IN ONE MORE PLACE

On 15 July **PAATHAI, VALLAM** team had its orientation guided by Fr. Jebamalai Raja, CMS, who also met the DHRC staff and the Paathai-IACM Evening Study Centre District Animators. We discussed the possibilities of taking ESC (Evening Study Centres) ministry to the next level. Bishop Neethinathan of Chengalpattu joined us for fellowship in the evening. About 30 students from two villages attended the Monthly Coaching Camps for the 10th students focussing on the upcoming public exams. On 24 July Paathai and IACM started an ESC in the village of Sogandi, an Arunthathiyar hamlet of Kanchipuram district with 25 students. - **Regis**

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

ST MARY'S, MADURAI Parish prepared more than 50 children for the First Holy Communion and the celebration was presided over by the Vicar General. The Corpus Christi Procession was led by the Archbishop of Madurai and Fr Stephen Martin preached the homily. JMAAD Team from Nagercoil conducted addiction awareness sessions for our 11th std students. After the orientation by Fr Thamburaj our staff have started buying a copy of the Spiritual Exercises. They went on a pilgrimage to Kudal Nagar guided by Fr Albert, the correspondent. During the Novena for the feast of St. Ignatius more than 50 Jesuits serving in Madurai District gathered in our campus for a talk by Fr G. Packiaraj and fellowship. - **G. Packiaraj**

METICULOUS PLANNING

School: **ST XAVIER'S** School lifted the trophy in the District Volley ball Championship and bagged the first prize in a State-level Basket ball tournament. Cultural competitions conducted on 7-14 July came to a conclusion with a valedictory function at which the chief guest, Mr. Chandra Mohan distributed the prizes. Three classrooms constructed with the help of the MP fund from Mrs Kanimozhi Karunanithi were blessed and opened by Fr Danis Ponniah, Rector, on 15 July.

College: A meticulous planning for the academic year formed the single agenda in the college-men meeting. Election to the student council was done through online

voting. Student council, all department associations and service organizations were inaugurated.

At the parent-teachers meeting the semester mark statements of the students were distributed.

A one-day orientation for the office bearers of the student council and the class representatives was effectively organized at XIBA by Frs Joe Arun and Maria Augustine and Prof John de Britto. XIBA has achieved 100% placement for its first batch of MBA students. A poster thanking the recruiters has attracted more students to apply for admission this year.

- Arul William

REDEMPTORISTS FOR THE FIRST TIME

THOZHAMAI ILLAM has received a facelift with a Crucifix fixed in all the rooms, holy pictures on the corridors and pictorial quotes in strategic points all over the campus. Thanks to Fr G. Arockiaraj who gifted to Thozhamai Illam most of the pictures that he had been collecting over the years and Fr M. Charles, the Administrator, had the pictures framed and laminated. Fr G. Arockiaraj guided the Orientation programme in three Jesuit Communities - Xavieriana, Thozhamai Illam, and Carmel. The community members participated in the various liturgical events during the Novena of St Ignatius in Kovalam and other neighbouring parishes of Kanyakumari vicariate.

For the first time, 30 Redemptorist Fathers from the

southern region came here for a 6-day retreat on 14-19 July. All of them, including their Provincial, appreciated our accommodation, hospitality and especially the prayerful atmosphere that prevailed in Thozhamai Illam. Fr Francis Sales helped to conduct the CRI meetings at Nagercoil. Fr Josephraj and some lay leaders organized three 5-day retreats and counselling sessions for the laity. About 100 attended each of these retreats, held at the Arul Vazhvu Retreat Centre, Kanyakumari, of which he is the Director. The Jesuits of Thozhamai Illam assisted him during these retreats.

- G. Arockiaraj

JOY DOUBLED

The inauguration of the new academic year at **ST JOSEPH'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, OOTY** was on 07 July. Thanks to the efforts of Fr Richard and the staff, more students from our vicinity have joined our School. Fr Jebamalai Raja, CMS, animated our community orientation on 10 July. On 31 St Ignatius's feast day Mass was presided over by Fr Antony Samy, the Vicar General of the Ooty Diocese. The presence of the Jesuits from Mettupalayam and Makkampalayam and many Religious priests and Sisters doubled our joy.

- Amirtharaj

15 FROM 8

The new academic year here at **VMI, VILANGUDI** began with 15 candidates from 8 dioceses of Tamil Nadu. Fr X. Savarimuthu celebrated the Holy Spirit Mass on 21 June and Fr A. Irudaya Raj conducted a two-day orientation programme. On 12 June, the pre-novices had a special course on

study skills and methods by Mr Maran, which the candidates found very useful.

- G.S. Thayriam

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLOUR

After a loving send off, it was a safe journey to **VIDYA NIKETAN**, South Indian Common Juniorate, Trivandrum for six of us, Madurai Juniors. We are 26 Juniors here, with 7 from Karnataka, 5 each from Kerala and Andhra, two from Dumka and one from Sri Lanka. So the Juniorate has both a national and international colour.

Both the present and former Provincials of Kerala were present for the inauguration of the academic year on 25 June. Fr M. K. George blessed the new refectory and kitchen. In the afternoon Fr Toby of Kerala began the three-day orientation and community building sessions. This was followed by Kerala Juniors teaching others Malayalam for survival and service. A diagnostic test in English was conducted on 28. After the memorable experience of the first vows, attending the final vows of Fr Paulson in Loyola, Sreekariyam on 05 July was a privileged moment to get to know the important places and junctions.

Diamond Jubilee of Fr Richard Sequeira of Karnataka on 12 was a grace-filled occasion. Voice culture, music classes, games, gardening and table reading have started in full swing with Fr Devadass, our new superior, at the helm of affairs.

- M.A. Sundar



SECRETS FOR WELL-BEING AND PEACE

The last mention Luke makes of Mary, in the Acts of the Apostles, places her in the Upper Room where the last events of the life of Christ had taken place and the first events of the life of the Church were taking place now. The apostles were there at prayer with a few women who had followed Jesus in his public life, all of them “together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus” (Acts 1:14). That is the best thought to leave us with. *Mary was there.* And that tells it all. Wherever she is, there will be peace and love and union and prayer. And there will be the Holy Spirit coming down on all with wind and sound and tongues of fire to give us life and faith and joy and zeal in receiving God’s grace in our hearts and desiring at once to share it with others. *Mary was there.* That is the blessing of our lives, the secret of our joy, the strength of our faith. In Mary we have a Mother, and in that heavenly, earthly, loving, caring, thoughtful and powerful Mother we go forth in life cheerful and happy.

- Carlos G. Valles, SJ
in *Our Lady of Joy*



Congratulations

to **Fr Dhanaraj R**, who has completed directing 100 Long (30 day) Retreats.

to **Fr Jebamalai Raja**, who became a ‘Doctor’ by defending his Ph.D. thesis on 04 July at M.S. University, Tirunelveli.

Memories



30,000 Toddy Shops!

There are converts still somewhat attached to heathenism. Four times a year is worship enough for them. But they will daily attend the toddy shop close by. The ‘drink evil’ is growing in Southern India. It affects today castes up-to-now abstainers, men, women and children. In 1907 the Southern Presidency alone had 30,000 toddy liquor shops – about one third of the liquor shops in India!

So many traps for coolies to make them squander the hard-earned annas needed by their wives and children! Besides, one-half, perhaps three-fourths, of the labouring community belong to castes whose social customs and religious beliefs tolerate the consumption of liquor. The problem - the great and growing evil of intemperance - merits the serious consideration of every well-wisher of the country. The number of shops must be reduced, their position be made less prominent, and early morning and late evening sale suppressed.

- Joseph C. Houpert, SJ
in *A South Indian Mission - The Madura Catholic Mission*

Just for...



“Who is your favourite character in the Bible?” asked Sr Clarissa. “King Solomon,” declared the little girl in the front row. The shocked Sister asked, “King Solomon? Why?” “I read in the Bible that he was very kind to ladies and animals, Sister,” said the girl. “It says Solomon kept seven hundred wives and three hundred porcupines.”