



# MNL



## Newsletter of the Madurai Jesuits

JUNE 2014

(For Private Circulation)



### MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

#### TOTAL DISPONABILITY AND AVAILABILITY

Dear Brothers,

We are surprised and we feel sad that our dear Fr. General has decided to submit his resignation. His communication says: "Several years have passed since my election as Superior General of the Society and I have recently reached the age of 78. Reflecting on the coming years, I have reached the personal conviction that I should take the needed steps towards submitting my resignation to a General Congregation".

At the same time, all of us are legitimately proud that he is able to take such a bold decision – a step clearly manifesting that he gives priority to the good of the Society and its welfare, even to the extent of renouncing his own position. Similar to what His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI and our former Superior General, Fr. Peter Hans Kolvenbach, did, our present Superior General, Fr. Adolfo Nicolas, has also

come forward to give up the role of leadership, making room for someone who is physically in a better position to take upon himself this responsibility.

This is definitely a clear sign of Ignatian discernment and indifference on the part of Fr. Adolfo Nicolas. He has given top priority to what is better for the common good of the Society. We salute him for this decision and pray to Our Lady of the Way, as he himself has suggested, to lead the whole Society in the direction in which God wants us to move.

We also learn a lesson from his humility, from his spirit of surrender to the Lord's will and from his great spirit of renunciation. We are called upon to develop the same spirit in our personal life - in our availability to the service of the Church, in our willingness to accept the mission assigned to us by our Superiors, with a deep sense of surrender.

Another lesson each of us can learn is this: I am in the Society just for one reason – to place myself before my Superiors and make myself totally available, to be used in the way the Lord wants to use me,

through my Superior. That means, I should be ready and willing to do *whatever* my Superior wants, *wherever* he wants to mission me and *whenever* my services are required – anything, anywhere, anytime.

At this juncture of history, when we have just completed the process of transfers and appointments, when several of us are moving into new ministries, new communities, new locations, and when we may have to deal with new companions and team members, let us adopt the same spirit of indifference, surrender and availability.

In this year of the commemoration of the restoration of the Society, we have one more opportunity to renew our inner disposition and re-orient it in such a way that we are able to re-dedicate ourselves to the service of the Lord in the Society of Jesus, in whatever manner he wants to make use of us.

Fraternally,  
*Sebasti L. Raj, SJ*  
Provincial

## Provincial's Programme:

### JUNE

- 02-19 Visitation of MDU men in Europe  
21 First Vows – Beschi Illam, Dindigul -- Consult (afternoon)  
28-29 Batch-Wise Meet -- I: Maduralaya (Batch I)

### JULY

- 01 GBM: Social Action Commission – IDEAS, Madurai  
02 GBM: TVET Commission – LTI, Madurai  
03 GBM: Pastoral Commission – Maduralaya  
06-07 TNBC-TNPCRI Joint Meeting – Salem-Yercaud  
10 GBM: Communication Commission – Maduralaya  
12 GBM: Secondary School Commission – St Mary's, Madurai  
13 GBM: Higher Education Commission – St Joseph's, Trichy  
16 GBM: Youth Commission – Maduralaya  
18-19 IGFA Meeting -- Dhyana Ashram, Chennai  
20 GBM: Spirituality and Dialogue Commission – Dhyana Ashram, Chennai  
22 GBM: Formation Commission – Maduralaya  
23 Consult  
27 GBM: Dalit Commission – Maduralaya  
29 GBM: Finance Commission – Maduralaya  
31 Feast of St Ignatius

## Chennai Mission Superior's Programme

### JUNE

- 02 Salem Committee Meeting at Oilpatti  
07 Mission Consult  
10 Tribal & Migrant Committee meeting  
12-13 Orientation Prog – Loyola Community, Chennai  
15 Social Analysis for "Vidiyal" Group  
18-19 Orientation Prog – Kuppayanallur Community  
21 Province Consult  
29 Orientation Prog – Vadamelakkam Team

### JULY

- 02 Prog at LICET  
05-06 Orientation Prog – Vettavalam Community  
13 Orientation Prog – Ranipet Team  
20 Mission Consult  
23 Province Consult

## Announcements



### Acting Provincial:

During the absence of Fr. Provincial from the Province, from June 02 to 19, 2014, Fr. Joe Antony, Socius, will be the Acting Provincial.

### Salary Review Committee:

Fr. Provincial has appointed a Salary Review Committee, to review the salary of the Domestic Workers. The report of this Committee is expected soon and the approved new scale of pay will be retrospectively effective from 01 June 2014.

### Domestic Workers:

Fr. Provincial has promulgated the new Service Conditions for Domestic Workers with effect from 01 June 2014. Copies of this Document have been sent to all the Local Superiors/Team Leaders. Fr. Provincial requests the Local Superiors/Team Leaders and all the other officials of the community to be guided by this Document in dealing with the domestic workers.

### Sorry, guests!

The main building of the **Jesuit Residence at Loyola, Chennai** is going through a major renovation,

likely to last for a year. Rooms available for guests have become scarce. So Loyola will not be able to host guests except by prior confirmed acceptance by the Minister. LCC regrets the inconvenience to 'ours'.

### New Jesuit Missal:

The English edition of the new Jesuit Missal (Proper Masses and Lectionary of the Society) is to be published by Gujarat Sahitya Prakash (GSP). While the contents are the same, various editions are available at different prices that range from Rs 600 to Rs 2,400. Those who want copies for their communities should contact GSP at booksgsp@gmail.com.

### New email ids, new numbers:

New e-mail ids: **Fr Korko Moses:** korkosj@gmail.com. **Vinny Joseph:** dvinnyjoseph@gmail.com. **Fr Boniface Jeyaraj's** new cell number: 80560-29860. **Fr Justin Emmanuel's:** 94431 47867.

### Left:

Two second year novices, Jayaseelan Antony Doss and Jermanoos Yesudhas, left the novitiate on 09 May 2014.

## APPOINTMENTS AND STATUS

**Fr General has appointed:**

Fr Arockiasamy Perianayagam the Rector of St. Mary's, Madurai.

**With the approval of Fr. General, Fr. Provincial has made the following appointments:**

Fr. Aloysius Irudayam: Superior of IDEAS, Madurai.

Fr. Amal Kulandaisamy: Superior of AAC, Karumathur.

Fr. Devadoss Mudiappasamy: Superior of SICJ, Trivandrum (by Kerala Provincial).

Fr. M.A. Joe Antony: Superior of Maduralaya, Dindigul.

**Fr. Provincial has made the following appointments:**

Fr. Leo Antony Tagore: Acting Superior of Beschi Illam, Dindigul.

Fr. Arockiasamy Xavier: Acting Superior of Clive's House, Trichy.

Fr. Joseph Kennedy S.: Acting Superior of De Britto HSS, Devakottai.

### Status List IV:

**Effective from 01 June 2014**

NAME	FROM	TO	MISSION/DESIGNATION
Fr Antonymsamy Antony	De Britto, Devkottai	De Britto, Devakottai	Correspond. of Sch. (additional)
Fr Cyril Anthonysamy	Gansoville	Gansoville	Project in-Charge
Fr Darwin Michael	St Arulanandar, Oriyur	Sabbatical	Studies in Spirituality
Fr Dhanaraj Raphael	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Spiritual Ministry
Fr Elias Maria	SHC, Shembaganur	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Spiritual/Pastoral Ministry
Fr Francis Xavier Raj	SHC, Shembaganur	Sabbatical	
Fr Ignatius Viyagappa	Satya Nilayam, Chennai	Loyola Col., Chennai (attached)	Spiritual Ministry
Br Irudayam Antony	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Minister (Additional)
Br Jeganathan Ambrose S.	Beschi illam, Dindigul	Clive's House, Trichy	House Maintenance
Br Jeyaraj Annaviar	AAC, Karumathur	St. Mary's Press, Dindigul	Helping in the Hostel
Fr Jeyaraj Boniface	SJC, Trichy	Loyola College, Vettavalam	Secretary
Fr Jacob Antony	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola College, Chennai	Director, ICRDCE & Lecturer, Loyola
Br John Bosco M.L.	Xaveriana	Loyola College, Chennai	Campus Administration
Fr Lawrence Amalraj	SJC, Trichy	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Sabbatical
Fr Lazar Savarimuthu	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola College, Chennai	Social Watch/Arts & Sci. Coll.
Fr Louis Arockiaraj A.	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola College, Chennai	House Director: AICUF
Fr Marivalan Rayappan	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	PP, Beschi Parish (Additional)
Fr Masillamani D. Antonimuthu	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur	Treasurer (Additional)
Fr Patrick Ravichandran	SHC, Shembaganur	SHC, Shembaganur	Minister and Treasurer
Fr Panoor Joseph	Manalur	Sirumalai Estate	Rest
Fr Selvaraj Susaimanickam	St. Mary's, Dindigul	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Reg. Dir.: Ap. of Prayer (Add.)
Fr Theruvil M. Mathai	Mettur Gate (St Mary's, Dgl)	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Rest
Br Titus Gopalakrishnan	Carmel, Nagercoil	AAC, Karumathur	Rest
Fr Xavier Alphonse	Loyola College, Chennai	Loyola College, Chennai	Senior Advisor: ICRDCE

## General Congregation in 2016 as Fr General wants to retire at 80

### - Letter to the Whole Society



Dear Brothers,

P.C. Several years have passed since my election as Superior General of the Society and I have recently reached the age of 78. Reflecting on the coming years, I have reached the personal conviction that I should take the needed steps towards submitting my resignation to a General Congregation. After obtaining the initial approval of the Assistants *ad providentiam* and having informed his Holiness Pope Francis, I formally consulted the Assistants *ad providentiam* and the Provincials, as our law requires (NC 362). The result of the consultation is favorable towards the convening of a General Congregation.

After having discussed the matter with my Council, through this letter I wish to inform the whole Society that, towards the end of this year, I will convoke the 36th General Congregation, to be held during the final months of the year 2016.

Therefore, the meeting of Provincials originally scheduled for January 2015 in Yogyakarta and convoked on 12 March of this year (Circular Letter 2014/03) is canceled.

Let us ask Our Lady of the Way to place the Society with Her Son on this journey of discernment that we now begin.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

**Adolfo Nicolás, S.I.**

Superior General

## Jubilee Action Plan - 2014

The faith-justice mission of GC 32 and the subsequent GCs have inspired us in the Province to adopt the specific mission policy of preferential option for the dalits and other marginalized communities.

Responding to the invitation of Fr Adolfo Nicolas, Superior General, on the occasion of commemorating the 175th year of the New Madurai Mission and the 200th year of the Restoration of Society, "... to experience the privilege and joy of serving the Church and the world, especially those most in need, through our *ministries*",<sup>1</sup> we re-commit ourselves to carry forward our mission to new and challenging frontiers, focusing on the most needy people of Tamilnadu. As Pope Francis says: "We may not always be able to reflect adequately the beauty of the Gospel, but there is one sign which we should never lack: the option for those who are least, those whom society discards".<sup>2</sup>

In response to these calls from the Holy Father and our Superior General:

a) We intend to build leadership among our option people while

supporting their movements and struggles for accessing rights within and outside the Church.

b) We commit to build institutions for their empowerment.

c) We would like to collaborate with Church related agencies and network with organizations and movements with similar vision.

d) We resolve to put in place mechanisms and structures to implement and evaluate our policies and projects.

Following the footsteps of our forefathers who had built up the New Madurai Mission with great zeal, sacrifice and love for the marginalized and, relying on God's grace, in the company of Jesus, we launch the following initiatives with Ignatian magis.

### CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF THE PROJECTS:

01. **Directly benefiting the most unreached among the marginalized people:**

a) The 76 sub-groups in the SC

Scheduled List and the 36 sub-groups in the ST Scheduled List and the most backward among the 68 sub-groups in the Denotified Communities List;

b) Women and youth of the SC, ST and De-notified communities and transgenders to be focused with priority concern;

c) Catholic laity who are socially and economically excluded from mainstream secular society.

02. **Critically relevant and useful projects** which will empower the option people, and support their movements to access their rights to sustainable livelihood, asset building and environmental protection.

03. **Pioneering initiatives**, avoiding duplication of apostolic efforts already undertaken by diocesan or religious congregations in the vicinity.

04. **Projects that will evoke in the province a sense of the "Ignatian Magis"**, a feeling of collective ownership, participation of many members and a desire for commitment to the marginalized

<sup>1</sup> Letter to the Society on *Commemoration of the Second Centenary of the Restoration of the Society of Jesus*, dated November 14, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> *Evangelii Gaudium*, 195.



people.

**05. Large projects** in terms of: (a) greater number of beneficiaries; (b) wider geographical reach; (c) collective community benefit; (d) generational impact; (e) long term perspective orientation.

**06. Spreading out our apostolic presence**, rather than concentrating them in certain geographical rural or urban locations.

**07. Concrete, definite and visible projects** that we can realistically do and achieve, capitalizing our experience, knowledge, competency and expertise.

**08. Financially viable and sustainable projects** so that the beneficiaries are able to enjoy the impact of our efforts and service.

**09. Focusing on eco-concerns and conservation of natural resource management (GC35)**, so that we are able to integrate development and environmental concerns

**10. Enhancing the status of the Church** by empowering the laity, and eventually benefitting the minority Church in the competitive world of political, economic, caste and communal (religion) interests.

**11. Projects that will motivate donors** within TN and in the country (individual donors, corporate sector) and that can generate funds from the Central and State Governments.

**12. Promoting lay partnership and networking with other agencies**, wherever it is possible and feasible.

## **PROPOSED ACTION PLANS**

### **01. Jubilee Scholarship Fund**

A Jubilee Scholarship Fund (JSF) will be established in June 2014 at the province level independent of the funds available in our institutions to provide scholarships to the socially and economically disadvantaged but academically bright students of our option people, with special attention on the students from the communities of Arunthathiyars, Puthirai Vannars, Tribals, Migrants, Refugees, Gypsies,

etc. Initially an amount of Rs. Ten lakh will be set aside each year for distribution as Scholarships to the candidates mentioned above and efforts will be made to increase this amount in the subsequent years. A committee will be appointed by Fr. Provincial to develop the policy with criteria and procedures for the choice of students for this scholarship and to select the beneficiaries every year. A system will be created to ensure transparency, objectivity and continuous monitoring of the progress of the beneficiaries.

### **02. Jubilee Housing Project for the Poor:**

To commemorate the 200 years of the restoration of the Society, the Province undertakes to construct 200 houses for the most needy and poor families from the dalit Catholics in the rural parishes run by the Jesuits. The contribution by the province for each house will be maximum Rs. 150,000 and the family concerned will have to offer its free labour, to the extent possible, for the construction of the house. By July 2014, Fr. Provincial will appoint a Jubilee Housing Committee (JHC), whose responsibility will be: a) to work out the details regarding the exact number of houses for each parish, the criteria for selecting the family who will get these houses, etc.; b) to ensure the proper implementation of this project. This project will be initiated in July 2014 and will be completed in five years.

### **03. Government Services Project (GSP)**

Government Services Project (GSP) has already been initiated in the Province in 2013 to mark the 175th anniversary of the founding of the New Madurai Mission. The GSP motivates the bright youth from our option communities to write the Civil Service Examinations (CSE) and prepares them to do it successfully, so that they become Indian Administrative Officers with the values that Jesuit Education imparts. The Province will set aside the required amount of fund to meet the cost for training, orientation programmes, study materials, financial support to the really needy students, etc.

### **04. Apostolic School**

To promote more vocations from the Northern Districts, an Apostolic School will be launched in Loyola School, Kuppayanallur, using the existing facilities. This project will be started in

June 2014. While the candidates will stay in the hostel along with the other boys, a Jesuit will be designated to take care of the personal, spiritual and academic life of these candidates.

### **05. Higher Education in the Diocese of Salem**

The Province has already initiated this process in 2013, on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the New Madurai Mission. The required land has been purchased and the committee has worked out the feasible programs. In June 2015, an Arts and Science College will be launched. Thereafter, steps will be taken for the establishment of a centre for entrepreneurial development. For this, a multi-dimensional model for the integral development of the people in that area will be evolved by June 2017 (similar to the model proposed for the Tiruvannamalai area). This project will serve the people of that area, with special focus on and preference to the students of the option people.

### **06. Higher Education in the Diocese of Dharmapuri**

At the request of the Bishop of Dharmapuri, the Province has already initiated the process of looking for a suitable plot of land around Harur. A committee has already been appointed to do a feasibility study that will help the Province to decide about the type of programmes to be offered in that place. Once the initial preparations are in place, the project itself will be launched in June 2016, first with some academic programmes, which will be followed by other programmes, as envisaged for the Oilpatty project. This project will serve the people of that area, with special focus on and preference to the students of the option people.

### **07. Social Ministry in the Urban Area**

This project will focus its activities in the urban areas/district capitals especially among the migrant labourers. This project will be first launched in Tiruppur in June 2014.

### **08. Thiruvannamalai People's Integral Development Project:**

The objective of this Project is the integral development and

empowerment of the people in Thiruvannamalai district. Vettavalam will be the Nodal Base coordinating two Area Centres: Loyola Campus and AHAL Campus.

**i) Loyola Vettavalam Campus:**

a) Arts and Science College – It is already in existence for the past 5 years, catering mainly to the education of the option people of the surrounding areas and this will be further developed and expanded.

b) Social Research Institute – Initial steps will be taken in 2014 to establish this Centre, which will focus on the following: i) undertake research -- on the people, their needs and issues related to their integral development; ii) get involved in advocacy and publications.

c) Taluk Tutorial Institutes – This will be initiated in June 2015 and will focus on the drop-outs and first generation learners.

**ii) AHAL Campus:**

This Centre will focus on the following projects/programmes for Dalit and Tribal men and women, Widows and Separated/Deserted Women, and also introduce one unit of JMAADD programme. Initially it will concentrate its activities in one or two taluks of Thiruvannamalai and contiguous areas and gradually extend its activities to other taluks in the district. The specific activities will include the following, some of which are already being implemented and the remaining ones will be initiated gradually:

a) Training for social and rights awareness;

b) Leadership and organization for collective empowerment;

c) Capacity Building: Skills development for employability (technical skills, soft skills, language skills...);

d) Livelihood Entitlements;

e) Entrepreneurial Development;

f) Programmes for alcoholic and drug dependants and their families (JMAADD).

**09. Madurai People's Integral Development Project**

Following the model proposed for Tiruvannamalai Integral Development Project, AAC, Karumathur will serve as another hub in the South coordinating various activities undertaken by IDEAS, DACA, LTI, St Mary's School, Madurai and Kadamalaikundru Parish. It will concentrate on one or two taluks in Madurai or Theni District. The objective of this Project is the integral development and empowerment of the people in Madurai and Theni Districts. AAC, Karumathur will be the Nodal Base coordinating two Area Centres: AAC Campus and IDEAS.

**i) AAC, Karumathur Campus:**

a) Arts and Science College -- already in existence for the past 40 years, catering mainly to the education of the option people of the surrounding areas.

b) Social Research Institute – Initial steps will be taken in 2014 to establish this Centre, which will focus on the following: i) undertake research -- on the people, their needs and issues related to their integral development; ii) get involved in advocacy and publications.

c) Taluk Tutorial Institutes – This will be initiated in June 2015 and will focus on the drop-outs and first generation learners.

**ii) IDEAS Campus:**

This Centre will focus on the following projects/programmes for Dalit and Tribal men and women, Widows and Separated/Deserted Women, and also introduce one unit of JMAADD programme. This Centre will concentrate its activities in one or two taluks in Madurai and Theni Districts and contiguous areas and gradually extend its activities to other taluks in the district. The specific activities will include the following, some of which are already being implemented and the remaining ones will be implemented gradually:

a) Training for social and rights awareness;

b) Leadership and organization for collective empowerment;

c) Capacity Building: Skills development for employability (technical skills, soft skills, language skills...);

d) Livelihood Entitlements;

e) Entrepreneurial Development;

f) Programmes for alcoholic and drug dependants and their families

(JMAADD).

**10. Social Research Project**

The focus of this project is to undertake in-depth studies of the impact of the preferential option for dalits, which the Province has been implementing during the past 30 years in its different ministries. These studies will cover each of our ministries – parish, social action and different levels of education. It will also undertake in-depth studies of the 76 sub-groups in the SC Scheduled List and the 36 sub-groups in the ST Scheduled List and the most backward among the 68 sub-groups in the Denotified Communities List in order to identify their social, economic, educational and political status today. Through these studies, the impact of our services to these various sub-groups and the direction or focus of our services in the future will be assessed, new initiatives will be identified and appropriate actions taken. IDEAS, Madurai, will be entrusted with this task and it will coordinate these studies and initiate the required steps, with the help of other social centres and our higher education institutes. The Province will provide the required financial support. This project will be inaugurated in January 2015 and it will be an ongoing project, as these impact study researches have to go on continuously in order to ensure satisfactory impact.

**Instrument for the Implementation of the Action Plan**

This Jubilee Action Plan 2014 will be launched on June 01, 2014 and a special Committee will be appointed by Fr. Provincial to monitor and to assess the implementation of these projects. Every year this committee will present a report at the meeting of the Local Superiors and Team Leaders, listing the progress, achievements, shortcomings, roadblocks, etc., so that the entire project will remain active and dynamic and make a genuine progress in the service of our option people, in the true spirit of Ignatian magis.

Fraternally,  
*Sebasti L. Raj. SJ*  
Provincial

**H**ow did the MDU Scholastics spend this summer? Fr PCF organized about 25 programmes meant for the different stages of formation – all aimed at spending the summer fruitfully. The programmes included capacity building, skill development, service and vocation camps, regents' meet, seminars on Jesuit Spirituality, History, etc. After completing their academic programmes or apostolic ministries for the year, the Scholastics conducted 24 summer camps in various places. About 175 lay people and Religious collaborated in this joint venture which eventually benefited more than 3100 students. A variety of camps addressed the different needs

# Summer Fruits

## Summer Programmes of MDU Scholastics

After the strenuous work in their respective places of camps and survey, the Scholastics gathered in Shembaganur for some days of rest, games and sports. There was a special quiz on the Suppression and Restoration of the Society and the Jubilee of the New Madura Mission.

India in the future and asked how the Jesuits would respond to them. Fr Donatus Jeyaraj presented the life and mission of Pope Francis and highlighted his creative, relevant, poor-centred, servant-modelled and pastoral leadership. Fr Arul Doss presented the situation in the past that inspired the missionaries to work with full vigour. At a general session chaired by Fr Arockiasamy Xavier many concrete action plans for the individuals, communities and province emerged. It was decided to bring out the new data on the undocumented Jesuit Missions and Missionaries as a book before the end of the Jubilee Year.

Fr Provincial oversaw the outgoing PCF, Fr Raj Irudaya hand



of students like coaching in English, social awareness, leadership and personality development, cultivating talents, etc.

In commemoration of the twin Jubilee a group of 17 Scholastics - divided into 8 teams - embarked upon a Jesuit Survey in 40 places of the New Madurai Mission where our forefathers toiled for God's greater glory. These happen to be today in 8 Dioceses. The main purpose of the Survey was to collect information and data about the forgotten, insignificant and undocumented missions and largely unknown Jesuits of the New Madurai Mission. The Survey was preceded by one week of intense study in the Province Archives and two days of orientation on how to collect, document and present the information and data. The Scholastics, ably guided by a team of historians - Frs. Arockiasamy Xavier, Aruldoss and Edward Jeganathan, collected many interesting facts from the people, rare documents and memorable relics with which an exhibition was organised.



On 16 May Mr Tamil Parithi, Professor from Periyar University, introduced the Scholastics to Tamil software and Tamil Wikipedia. He encouraged them to upload more and more Tamil documents of literature, society, Church, Society of Jesus etc in the internet so that these become available for the internet users across the world.

From the 17 - 19, the Scholastics had a 3 day workshop on the theme “தடம் பதிக்க தட(ய)ங்களைத் தேடி”. This was an attempt to unearth the past and respond adequately to the needs of the present. The reports of all the summer camps were presented and assessed.

The data and the findings of the survey on the undocumented Jesuit missions and missionaries of the New Madurai Mission were effectively presented and inspiring reflections were shared. The survey was not merely an academic exercise, but it was personally touching and challenging to the Scholastics. Dr. Bernard Shaw, Professor, Department of History, Arul Anandar College, presented to us the possible challenges we may face in

over charge to the new PCF, Fr Vincent Britto. The scholastics thanked Fr Raj Irudaya and offered their good wishes for his new responsibility as the Assistency Delegate for Formation.

After Fr Jebamalai Raja, CMS spoke, Fr Provincial talked about the universal aspect of the Jesuit mission and so the need to prepare ourselves for such a mission. He pointed out that this was the reason why the Province sent some for missions abroad, some for studies abroad and encouraged all to learn foreign languages.

From 20 May to 28 May the Scholastics had their annual eight day retreat under the guidance of Fr Thamburaj. Frs Cyril Matthew, Edward, Augustine and PS Arul assisted the retreat director in guiding the Scholastics. The summer camps and the Meet were ably organized and efficiently conducted by the first year theologians of Arul Kadal. We extend our sincere thanks to the Community of Shembaganur for providing us with all that we needed for these fruitful events.

- Pugazhendhi





## Events



### LEARNING TO DRIVE

On 27 April, an orientation programme was held for 10 volunteers and animators for the **AHAL** summer camp from 30 April to 11 May. Forty students from 15 villages participated in the camp, conducted in an easy, informal style. Parents were happy to see their children on the stage on the last day of the camp. Sr Licea, Mr Pushparaj and Peter were the resource persons for the camp. Field work and contacts have been intensified to revamp and restart the AHAL hostel for the school boys from June 2014.

Our scholastics from DNC and Sathya Nilayam came in two batches to AHAL Loyola Driving School to learn driving. - Selva

### NEW IN LOYOLA: LSSS AND LAY DIRECTOR

'Tempo Forte' is what the Jesuits of **LOYOLA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES** called the five days, spread over a few months, of intense, no-holds-barred, discussion on their ministry. The discussions were free ranging and ran their full course and resulted in concrete decisions and specific projects like the Loyola Students Support Services (LSSS). LSSS will provide financial, academic and personal support to students, particularly from our target groups. It will encompass counselling, mentoring, tuitions, and a host of activities that would provide platforms for self-articulation and for enhancement of self-

esteem. The spearhead of LSSS is Fr Joseph Antony Jacob. The LSSS centre was blessed and inaugurated on 22 May, 2014.

On 01 May, Dr R. Maria Saleth, took charge as the first lay director of LIBA. Dr. Saleth comes with a vast experience in international academic research and governance. He was Director of MIDS until March 2014.

Dr. Jose, the principal of LICET, has returned from his trip to Europe on 19 May. He, along with Fr Francis P. Xavier, made the trip to report to the funding agencies and explore further funds for the development of

camps were labelled EXODUS and DESAM respectively. Schs Udaya Prakash, Alwin, James and Bosco helped run these camps. \*The Outreach department of LC ran a camp for 150 students from the neighbourhood. Resource Centre of Differently Aabled (RCDA) hosted 30 students for a 15-day programme on computer skills and English. \*LISSTAR gathered 17 students from mofussil colleges for a programme titled: Alcoholism: Straight Facts and Direct Intervention.

Loyola College of Education, Chennai has won the 1st and 2nd



LICET. He attended also the biannual Joint Steering Committee Meeting at ICAM, Lille, France.

From 21 April till 11 May Loyola was abuzz with 450 students from our target populations from the neighbouring dioceses and 50 gypsy children benefitted from the facilities and faculty of Loyola as they learned English and had sessions on Personality Development. These

ranks of the Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University among 654 Colleges for the year 2012-2013. In the past academic year it had 200 students, some of whom were from Mumbai, Kolkata, Bihar and other North Eastern States of India. Fr Maria Packiam helped the students and staff understand and celebrate the twin Jesuit jubilees. The College



Day was celebrated on 03 May with Mr Tamilarasu, Managing Director, TKR International Group of Companies, Tuticorin as the Chief Guest. The College won laurels in several inter-collegiate competitions and State level sports meets during this academic year. It also organized national seminars on "Quality Assurance in Teacher Education" and "Digital Age and Employability". The College ended its academic year on 24 May, '14 with special coaching classes for the weaker students. The college has provided three special certificate courses on Life-Skills, use of ICT in teaching and employability skills. The college is aiming to become a national institute of excellence.

- Jayapathy & Xavier Alphonse

### MAY DAY WITH CO-WORKERS

The second year novices of **BESCHI ILLAM** went for their Home Experiment on 28 April and returned to Beschi on 06 May. \*The first year novices attended a 5-day course on Group Therapy given by Fr Antony Samy, OSM. The therapy helped them get healed of their negative experiences and start anew their community life with a lot of mutual understanding. They then had their Ashram Experience at Kombai from 6 to 13 April. \*Fr Ilanko Xavier directed an 8-day retreat to the Servite novices of Nallamanayakkanpatty. \*Reviving a custom of the late 1990's and, Beschi celebrated meaningfully the May Day and the feast of St. Joseph the Worker together with our coworkers and their families,

Games for children were followed by a Eucharist

and a grand dinner. Each family received a gift. This celebration inspired us to heed the call of GC 35 to put collaboration at the heart of our mission. \*On May 22, novices and a few others went on a Jubilee pilgrimage to Tuticorin and Manapad. In Manapad, they visited three churches and the cave where St Francis Xavier had stayed. Xaveriana community, particularly, Br M.L. John Bosco, provided excellent backstopping for this one-day pilgrimage. - Karlin Viju

### PURPLE SAGES BLOSSOM

Students of **LOYOLA, VETTAVALAM** are busy preparing for the Semester Exams. Admissions for the academic year 2014-15 are in full swing. On 21, 22 May, our college staff



and students went to all the schools in the region to canvass as well as to sell applications for admission. To increase the admissions this year, we have opened 'Admission Offices' in Gingee, Thirukovillur, and Thiruvannamalai with the support of the staff and students. On 13 May Fr Alphonse Manickam was invited by the Kerala Province to speak on 'Suppression and Restoration of the Society- Causes and Consequences,' at the Kerala Province Assembly at Christ Hall, Calicut. Five senior staff members of our college, attended the orientation programme at Nochodaipatti, Dindigul. To greet Fr Michael Alosanai who visited our community on 02 May the flower bushes called 'Purple Sage' (or

'Texas Sage') in front of the Jesuit Residence blossomed! It was a great sight! - Alwin

### 26 STUDENTS ABOVE 1000

As part of the **JRS-TN's** Summer Programme, Intensive English Coaching was offered in three places from 25 April to 6 May and from 6 May to 11 May. A total of 732 students from various zones participated and gained a lot. Ms Merita, MISEREOR Consultant, visited the Trichy Zone Summer Camp and interacted with the students. She also met JRS teachers and JRS field officers. \*Among 635 Sri Lankan Tamil students who wrote their 12th exams, Miss Nandhini from Arachlure Camp, Erode district brought laurels to JRS by scoring 1170. 26 students have scored above 1000. Fr Louie, Director, Fr Dominic, the new JRS director, and all the project directors of the four zones attended a 2 day-meeting at ISI, Bangalore at which Fr Elias helped them to study the Impact Study's suggestions to serve more effectively. - Mag Bay

### TO HELP RURAL AND TRIBAL POOR

The Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi organized a workshop in collaboration with **ICRDCE** at National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad on 15-16 May, '14 to introduce the Aajeevika Skills Scheme to Community Colleges in India. There were 48 participants from 11 States of India, while the resource persons were officials from the Ministry. As the result of this workshop, Community

Colleges, with the help of ICRDCE, will generate project-proposals to help the rural and tribal poor and the other marginalized groups. - **Xavier Alphonse**

### **SPECTACULAR PROGRAMME**

Students of Muthan Illam, presently run by the **KARISAL** Sangam, Alangulam, put up a spectacular cultural programme on the perilous and precarious life of the workers in Sivakasi's fireworks factories. Pothigai TV telecast it on May Day. Mr Muthukrishnan, Secretary of Karisal Sangam, and his team organized the show. \*103 students benefitted from a summer camp held from 11 May till 25 May. \*Children's Parliament was run by the JMPSA Staff to the students in 40 villages in Sathur and Sivakasi Taluks. \*We shifted the residence from Thayilpatti to Alangulam on 01 May.

- **Arockia Selvam**

### **MORE THAN 250 STUDENTS**

The 40th State-level summer camp organized by **LASAC** was held at De Britto, Devakottai from 30 April to 5 May. 251 students from 31 schools all over the state enthusiastically participated in this camp. At a function on 01 May, the chief guest, Mr Ramanathan, a well-known speaker, inspired the students by explaining the opportunities that LASAC makes

available to them. A mock election, debates and talent shows preceded the valedictory ceremony graced by Mr Ganesan, Judge of Devakottai Court and other VIPs. Certificates of merit were given to the students. The LASAC team is grateful to the Province administration and the De Britto community for all their support and help.

- **Sarathi & Doni**

### **FOR FREE EDUCATION**

**PAATHAI CENTRE, VALLAM**, in collaboration with the IACM and DHRC, conducted Summer Coaching Camps from 28 March to 3 May. Around 525 students ranging from 9th to 12th stds, who came from 5 northern districts of Kanchipuram, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, and Cuddalore benefited from the camp. On 14 April, in order to pay tributes to Dr Ambedkar on his 123rd birth anniversary, our cultural team along with IACM and DHRC cadres went on a rally from Kanchipuram by pass to Chengalpattu G.H. demanding for 'compulsory, uniform and free education to all in the student's mother tongue till 10th std' and raising slogans and performing awareness programs. Frs Yesumarian and Aruldass echoed this demand in their speeches. All the four Paathai Hostel students passed in their 10th std exam.

- **S. Regis**

### **CAMPS IN THE CAMPUS**

**ST. MARY'S, DINDIGUL** was bubbling with energy during the

summer with a variety of camps in the campus. It organized various camps like the slow learners' camp, sports camp, GSP camp and XII coaching camp. It also hosted camps like vocation camp for the X Std students, Kanal camp, DALTEA camp and AMUTHU camp. Nearly 600 students benefitted from these camps. Bishop Antony Pappusamy of Dindigul visited these camps and was highly appreciative of the institution for making its precious facilities available to the poor students. Our school secured 99.7 per cent pass in the XII std public examinations and 99 per cent in X Std examinations.

- **Paul**

### **XIBA'S FIRST BATCH OF GRADUATES**

The 64th Annual Sports Day of **ST XAVIER'S** B.Ed. College was held on 26 April. The chief guest, Dr Krishna Prasad, Principal of S.T.S. Hindu College of Education, Nagercoil congratulated the Physical Director for organizing the sports day so effectively and all the athletes. The 64th College Day was celebrated with Dr R. Perumalsamy, Vice-Chancellor, Noorul Islam University, Thuckalay and an alumnus of St. Mary's, Dindigul, as the chief guest. The World Book Day was celebrated on 28 April. Dr A. Ally Swarnam, Dean of Research, Bishop Heber College, Trichy motivated the students to

## **Abide with the Lord**

Fr Koshy K. Mathew SJ, (HAZ), 69/49, on 27 May in Ranchi.

Ms Siriya pushpam, 75, the elder sister of Fr Xavier Irudayaraj, on 07 May in Madurai.

Mrs Theresammal, 93, mother of Fr A Victor on 17 May in Dindigul.

Mr Arockiasamy, 95, father of Fr A Bosco (AND) and uncle of Fr A Victor on 23 May in Dindigul.

Mrs Philomina Tilak, 71, sister-in-law of Fr Leo Tagore on 30 May in Chennai.



develop the reading habit. The valedictory function of Mother Theresa evening tuition centre and the free computer training for neighborhood children was held on 16 May. A three-day workshop on E-content development was organized as part of the faculty development programme from 22 to 24 May. The B.Ed students had a one-day seminar offered by Fr Xavier Antony on empowering the teaching-learning process through ICT. The M.Ed. students had a two-day workshop given by Fr A. Victor on Counseling Skills.

**XIBA** concluded its academic year with a grand annual day – XIBA DAY 2014. Mrs Latha Rajan, Director, Ma Foi Strategic Consultants, Chennai was the chief guest. She appreciated the hard work and sincerity of XIBA students and released XIBA's first ever annual magazine and newsletter. As XIBA's first batch of MBA graduates leave the institute, Fr Joe Arun, Director, announced that 95 per cent of them have been placed in reputed companies like HDFC, ICICI, Vodafone, and Reliance. He was hopeful to get hundred per cent placement. Fr Danis Ponniah, Rector, appreciated the management of XIBA, the faculty and students.

- **Baskar**

## **BRO PAUL CHINNAPPAN SJ**

**18.06.1928 – 14.05.2014**

At 12.50 a.m., on 14 May '14, Br. Paul Chinnappan joined the company of saints, particularly, St Alphonsa and Bl Devasahayam to whom he had a special devotion. His health had been stable during the past 11 months of his stay at Beschi Illam, Dindigul. He wrote his memoirs with my assistance, watched Shalom TV's spiritual programmes and prayed for the Church and the Society. Quite unexpectedly, in the first week of May, he ended up in the ICU of St Joseph Hospital with several complications. He was scheduled to have an MRI scan on 14 May but the end came hours before it could be done.

Paul Chinnappan was the sixth among seven brothers. His father was Mr Swaminathan, a staunch Hindu who converted to Christianity. He was an asan (native doctor), catechist (upadesiar), a teacher and a community leader. His parents brought him up in devout Christian faith. Chinnappan was an active member of the Catholic Action group and taught catechism to the children in the neighbouring villages. From this he got his religious vocation and joined the novitiate in Shembaganur in 1952. He worked in the Shembaganur bakery, in a farm in Kerala (1956-1963) with the celebrated Italian Jesuit missionary, Fr L.M. Zucol, and, then managed our farms in Palayamkottai, Trichy, Dindigul, Singarakottai, Perumalmalai, Oriyur, etc. He was known for his total dedication to his work, a trait which he inherited from his beloved father.

Paul Chinnappan's greatest work began when he was transferred to Carmel, Nagercoil. From 1999 to 2013 he worked on the cause of Martyr Devasagayam. Week after week, he would go on Fridays to Kathadimalai, the place where Devasagayam was martyred, and return to Carmel only on Sundays or Mondays. There he

spent the time receiving the pilgrims, instructing them on Martyr Devasagayam and praying over them. He printed books and brochures on the Martyr in Tamil, Malayalam, English and Hindi and dispatched them all over the country. He also produced CDs, DVDs, etc. to promote the knowledge of and devotion to Martyr Devasagayam.



In Thozamai Illam, Kanyakumari, I gave him points for one of his annual retreats. When dealing with the Presentation of Child Jesus in the Temple I said to him: "Chinnappan, you will not close your eyes and wake up in heaven before you see martyr Devasagayam beatified."

Chinnappan did live to see Martyr Devasagayam beatified on 02 Dec 2012. I am sure that he is insistently asking God to send his Spirit on the church authorities to hasten the process of his canonization.

His Funeral Mass was celebrated on 15 May at Beschi Domestic Chapel. Fr Joe Antony, Acting Provincial, was the principal celebrant and Fr P.S. Arul was the homilist. Fr Elias Maria who is related to Br Chinnappan, Fr A. Mariadas, former VG of Kottar Diocese, and Mr Peter John, Chinnappan's nephew shared their fond remembrances of the Brother. Fr Mariadas pointed out that the day Br Chinnappan died happened to be the baptismal anniversary of Bl. Devasagayam. Fr Devadoss said the final prayers and, at the cemetery, Fr G. Felix, Chancellor, Kottar Diocese, said the final blessings before Br Chinnappan was laid to rest.

- **Maria Jeyaraj, SJ**





## SECRETS FOR WELL-BEING AND PEACE

Practice acceptance of yourself and what is. Practice gratitude for all that is about you. Practice letting go, letting your ego surrender, letting your defences down, relaxing into the arms of the universe. Practice acknowledging your smallness and existential loneliness in the universe. Let go of blaming yourself for the past or worrying about your future. Let it be.

Live a simple life. Recognize that you actually do not own or possess anything, and that being attached to possessions can lead to becoming dried up and barren. Attachment can crowd out and get in the way of joy, caring and loving, and your capacity to be free inside. Be on the lookout for how you can use your gifts to serve others and bless whatever you come across.

Mindfulness in the moment is at the heart of spiritual practice. Therefore being fully present and paying close attention to what you choose to do in the moment, and to what your experience actually is in the present moment, are attentions worth cultivating.

Purify your intention in everything you do. This is where self-knowledge, self-deception and roles can come into play. If you are doing good works but underneath is hidden the real aim of self-promotion, self benefit, or avoiding criticism, then the good works are lessened in your soul by the self-deception through which you fool yourself. In that way you damage your soul.

Humility is a basic spiritual practice. You are not the centre of the universe; your concerns are not the only ones that matter.

What you do to the outside world you actually do to yourself. If you cheat others, you cheat yourself. If you betray others, you betray yourself. To change the world you have to change yourself. Become the change you want to see in the world. Realize that you are connected to everything and everyone.

- **Geoff Price**

- in *Real Men & True Happiness*

## Memories



### THE JEWEL OF THE MALABAR PROVINCE

Many still do not know that Fr Louis Noel de Bourzès, SJ is the Father of Tamil Lexicography. It is he who initiated Beschi to missionary life at Kamanayakanpatti, remained his life-long friend and has attested in his letters to Beschi's poetic and literary talents. Beschi made use of the third (Tamil – Latin) Dictionary of Bourzès to compose his own work which was printed at Tiruchy one hundred years later. In the preface of this dictionary, Beschi devotes one paragraph to sing the praises of Bourzès, whom he calls the “Jewel” of the Malabar Province.

- **Prof. Xavier Raj**



## New Releases

திரை விமர்சனக்களம், அ. இருதயராஜ், சே.ச. வைகறை பதிப்பகம், 2014.

இயேசுவின் அடக்கத் துகில், மத்தேயு ஜெ. முலேல், சே.ச. ஆனந்தா புத்தக நிலையம், புனித அருளானந்தர் திருத்தலம், ஓரியூர்.

ஏழையரின் தோழமையில், மி.ஜெயராஜ், சே.ச. அப்டியாசு மையம், மதுரை.

**Society of Jesus and Social Justice, Michael Jeyaraj, SJ, IDEAS Publication Madurai.**

## Just for...



A Brit, a Frenchman and a Russian were viewing a painting of Adam and Eve frolicking in the Garden of Eden.

“Look at their reserve, their calm,” said the Brit. “They must be British.”

“Nonsense,” the Frenchman disagreed. “They’re naked, and so beautiful. Clearly, they are French.”

“No clothes, no shelter,” the Russian pointed out, “they have only an apple to eat, and they’re being told this is paradise. Clearly, they are Russian.”