



**AUGUST 2012**

*(For Private Circulation)*

**MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL**



**FREEDOM THROUGH DEPENDENCE**

In August, we have two important celebrations on the same day: Independence Day and the Assumption of our Blessed Mother. It is a good occasion to reflect on the message of these two celebrations, namely, the true meaning of freedom. Definitely Independence Day is a day of great joy for all of us, when every citizen cherishes his/her freedom. At the same time, we are aware that we can enjoy our freedom only when others allow us to enjoy this. In the same manner, others can enjoy their freedom only when we allow others to enjoy their freedom. In the process, all of us realize that our freedom is not unlimited. Our freedom is limited and it is inter-dependent. Our life itself is one of inter-dependence, which all of us practice, willingly or unwillingly, knowingly or unknowingly. In fact, inter-dependence is a universal requirement, for there is no human person who is totally free.

As Christians, we can

understand the true meaning of human freedom from the example of our Blessed Mother. This feast of the Assumption commemorates the consummation of the liberation of Mary. For a religious, these two celebrations give a unique insight into the meaning of freedom within religious life. As religious, we have consciously decided to place ourselves within a particular framework of proceeding. To be a religious means to be like Mary, our Blessed Mother. Her freedom consisted not in the proclamation of her freedom or liberation. Her true freedom started when she surrendered herself to the will of God. By surrendering she became free. By making herself the handmaid, she became the Mother of God. By emptying herself, she attained total liberation. Her Assumption is nothing but the consummation of her journey towards full liberation.

A Jesuit is a dependent person, say our documents. For example: "All should faithfully exercise dependence upon superiors, both in seeking permission and in giving an account" (Statutes on Religious Poverty 27-1). Further, "economic openness and dependence on the

community for income and expenses are indispensable for a life of fraternal poverty. From the community we receive what we need; to the community we give everything that comes to us ..." (GC 34, D. 9:9).

When I chose to become a Jesuit, I deliberately chose to place myself within the framework of the Jesuit way of life, through my vows and commitment. Once I have chosen this way of life, my freedom consists in fulfilling the requirements of this way of life. Whenever, I fulfill these requirements, I grow in true freedom and move towards my full liberation. If I go against the Jesuit way of proceeding, I make myself a slave to my own selfish desires and become less free and move away from my ultimate liberation. Thus, my dependence on the Jesuit way of proceeding is my way of experiencing true freedom, which will lead me to my ultimate liberation, like that of the Blessed Mother.

Faternally,  
*Sebastião L. Raj, SJ*  
Provincial

## Appointments:



### Fr. Provincial has appointed

#### NEW CO-ORDINATORS FOR 7 MINISTRIES:

*Brothers:* Br Arockiadoss Michael; *Communications:* Fr Stephen Martin; *Finance:* Fr Selvanayagam; *Formation:* Fr Raj Irudaya; *Secondary Education:* Fr Albert Joseph; *TVET:* Br Ignacy Augustine; *Youth:* Fr Joseph Ignaci. Those who continue to be Co-ordinators are *Dalit:* Fr Devasagayam Manickam; *Pastoral:* Fr Darwin S. Michael; *Social Action:* L.R. Michaelraj; *Spirituality & Dialogue:* Fr J. Thamburaj;

Sch Francis Xavier A., who was assigned to PEAK for his regency, has been transferred to Kuppayanallur due to health reasons.

## Provincial's Programme:



### AUGUST

- 03 Coordinators Meeting – Beschi Illam
- 04 LS/TL and Coordinators -- Joint Meeting – Beschi Illam
- 05 LS/TL Meeting – Beschi Illam
- 06-08 Finalizing the Budgets
- 08-13 Accompanying the Provincial of France
- 14 Workshop for SH Brothers, Sirumalai
- 15-25 Finalizing the Budgets
- 18 Meeting: Campus Ministers (Colleges/Schools/Tech. Institutes) – Beschi Illam
- 19 Consult
- 20 Meeting: Admonitors to Local Superiors -- Beschi Illam, Dindigul
- 26 Visitation: Fr. George Pulparambil – Shoranur, Kerala
- 26-27 Informal Visit: Ooty, Mettupalayam, Makkampalayam
- 28-29 Meeting: FSPM Superior General, Provincials and Councillors, Coimbatore
- 30-31 Informal Visit: Salem and Sendaraipatti

### SEPTEMBER

- 01-02 Meeting: Young Priests before Final Vows – Shembaganur
- 02-03 Visitation: Perumalmalai and Palamalai
- 04-06 Visitation: LTI
- 08-09 Workshop for JMJ Superiors, Guntur
- 10-11 Visitation: Ranipet
- 11-13 Visitation: Kuppayanallur, Palliagaram, Ongur
- 13-14 Visitation: Vallam
- 15-16 Visitation: Manalur and Ayyampalayam
- 17-19 Visitation: Poondy, Vilangudi, Kumbakonam
- 19-20 Visitation: Nagapattinam
- 22 Consult
- 23 Meeting: Regents – Beschi Illam
- 24-25 Meeting: CIC Superior General, Provincials and Councillors, Madurai
- 26-27 Visitation: DACA
- 28 Meeting: Supamites
- 29 Ordination – St. Mary's, Dindigul

## Announcements



### SPIRITUAL ANIMATION COMMITTEE (SAC):

As indicated in the Action Plan 2012, Fr Provincial has appointed the Spiritual Animation Committee (SAC) with the following members: Coordinator of Formation Commission (Fr Raj Irudaya), Coordinator of Spirituality and Dialogue Commission (Fr James Thamburaj), Fr Dunstan Vinny Joseph and Fr Paul Pragash. Fr. Raj Irudaya will be the Convener of SAC and Fr. James Thamburaj will be the Assistant Convener.

SAC will organize programmes meant to help our spiritual growth, like common retreats, workshops and seminars. It will provide information about spiritual renewal programmes available in the country, assist faith-sharing sessions, when requested by any community, publish new community prayer books, find retreat preachers for the common retreats, and identify spiritual ministries that can be taken up by Jesuits of the province. It will also organize every year at least one course related to spirituality and spiritual ministry – such as, retreat direction, retreat preaching, Ignatian Spirituality, etc. Further, with the help of SAC, the Editor of MNL will explore the possibility of bringing out Supplements to the MNL, on matters related to spirituality.

### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COMMITTEE (PTC)

As indicated in the Action Plan 2012, Fr. Provincial has appointed the Professional Training Committee (PTC) with the following members: Fr Joseph P. Christie (Convener), Fr V. Joseph Xavier (Asst. Convener), Fr S. Mariadoss and Fr Godwin Rufus. This Committee will organize various a) professional training programmes on leadership, financial management, human resources management, administration, public relations etc.

(continued on p. 3)

## Announcements



(continued from p. 2)

These courses are aimed at capacity building of Jesuits entrusted with responsibilities such as Principals, Secretaries, Headmasters, Correspondents, Hostel Directors, Campus/House Treasurers, House Ministers, Estate Managers etc. PTC will organize also b) courses or workshops on self-analysis, community building, social analysis etc for the benefit of individuals and communities; c) exposure programmes within Tamil Nadu and outside.

### GRIEVANCE CELLS TO BE REVIVED

Soon the Grievance Cells, formed some time ago, will be revived and new members will be appointed, both at the level of each educational Institution and at the Province level, to address the grievances of the staff members and students.

### ASSESSMENT OF MINISTRIES

The Assessment process of our Ministries and Formation has been set in motion, at the joint meeting of the Superiors, Team Leaders and Coordinators. Frs Joseph Christie (Convener), Francis Jeyapathy, Pushparaj Gnanasamy and Albert Joseph will form the core Team to coordinate the assessment, which is expected to be completed by the end of January 2013.

### SUGGEST A NAME & WIN A PRIZE

The province curia are looking for a good, appropriate name for the new Curia building. It should be in Tamil, have just a word or two, and appropriate for the headquarters of the Madurai Jesuit province. Send in your suggestions through e-mail to the Socius. The person who sent the name that is finally chosen after consultations will win an attractive prize.

### NEW ADDRESS OF FR CORREYA:

Fr Leopold Correya, SJ, Divine Mercy Seminary, Pasumpon Nagar, Karumathur - 625 514, Madurai Dt.

## “No need for a GC now,” says 70th Congregation of the Procurators

### 9 JULY: THE OPENING DAY

The Congregation of the Procurators began with a Eucharist. Fr General, in his homily, said, “We are sinners yet called to dance, sing, pray and carry on our mission”. After an informal session that explained the historical background of Congregation of Procurators, the delegates met in Conference groups and proposed names for the Secretary and the Steering Committee. In the afternoon session, the names of the members of Steering Committee and the Moderators of the sessions were announced and approved. Prakash Louis was one of the six steering committee members.

### 10 JULY: DE STATU SOCIETATIS

In the morning session, Fr Francisco Javier Alvarez de los Mozos, the delegate from Loyola Province and the Secretary of Social Apostolate in the Curia was elected the Secretary. After this, Fr General presented the De Statu Societatis (The Status of the Society). It examined how the mandates of GC 35 have been implemented, particularly those regarding 1) the Society’s call to greater universality 2) governance, especially by naming a Commission to study province structures; 3) the central governance of the Society, especially the reorganization of the secretariats; and 4) mission, in answer to the Pope’s invitation to go to the “frontiers”.

Fr Nicolas then dealt with some areas he considered important, namely “our life in the Spirit; our apostolic dynamism; our life together in community; vocation promotion and formation; our relationship with the Church; and finally a word about creativity in the Society.” After personal reading and reflection on the De Statu Societatis, the delegates shared their reflections in the language groups. The evening Eucharist for the English language group was the responsibility of the South Asian Delegates.

### 11 JULY: REFLECTIONS ON THE DSS:

The third day was spent on reflecting about the De Statu Societatis. Fr General answered questions from the delegates on various issues. He lingered on a few topics like ‘Sentire cum Ecclesia’, work at the frontiers

and Africa as an apostolic preference of the Society; discernment and the conditions needed for it to be true and credible; and the two areas on which the Church expects much from us - spirituality and the intellectual apostolate.

### 12 JULY: SOCIETY’S MISSION

The third day was devoted to the reflection on the three dimensions of our mission - The Service of Faith, Promotion of Justice and Collaboration with Others. Arun de Souza of Bombay and Jose Ignacio Garcia of Castille made their presentations. Then the delegates shared their reflections in language groups and in the aula.

### 13 JULY: VOTE ON GC & AFRICA

The voting whether to have a General Congregation or not took place today. The Procurators decided almost unanimously by a secret ballot that it was not necessary now to convoke a General Congregation. The rest of the day was devoted to sharing and reflections on Africa and Madagascar. At the morning session three experts shared their views on Africa. In the afternoon, the delegates gathered by Assistancies, with one or more African procurators present. The day ended with an African-style Mass.

### 14 JULY: COMMUNITY LIFE

The 6th day was spent entirely on reflections on our community life. Fr Andreu Oliva de la Esperanza, from the Province of Central America (El Salvador), spoke about community as mission, followed by Fr Michel Nader, from the Province of the Near East. Later the Procurators gathered in language groups to share their reflections. Fr General then shared his reflections.

### 15 JULY: CONCLUSION

In his final allocution, Fr General offered “simple reflections” on the challenges that await the Society. He stressed the importance of creativity to respond to these challenges. After thanking all those who contributed, Fr General declared the 70th Procurators’ Congregation closed. - **Prakash Louis, SJ**



## Events



### ARUL KADAL, CHENNAI

The staff and student-representatives of Arul Kadal attended the General Body meeting of “தமிழ் இறையியல் மன்றம்;” at St Paul’s Seminary, Trichy on 13,14 July. Arul Kadal hosted a fellowship dinner to all the Jesuit Brothers at which the golden jubilarian, Br A.P.Jeyaraj, was honoured. Br Thomas organized the programme. At the memorial service for Fr S. Arokiasamy, SJ on 20 July Fr Provincial, Sr Leema Rosario, Superior General of Sisters of St Anne, Madras, Prof Bernard D’Sami and Mrs. Malar, niece of Fr Arok and Fr Sahayaraj, SJ spoke on his great qualities and his valuable contribution to theology. Fr. Baskar Antony was the compere. Fr. Maria Arul Raja presented papers at DePaul University, Chicago and ECC, Bangalore. and spoke at a Conference at Papal Seminary, Pune. - **A. Victor Desoza**

### BERCHMANS ILLAM, CHENNAI

Six new scholastics from Sri Lanka and Africa have joined the community. Fr Joseph Xavier gave us the orientation and Fr Henry celebrated the Holy Spirit Mass to mark the beginning of the academic year. Fr PCF reminded us of our roots and past glories during his contact visit on 8 July. Sch Arul came up with a Quiz program on St Ignatius to prepare the students for our Founder’s feast. - **Manoj**

### BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL

On 8 July novices participated in the Eucharistic procession of the Dindigul diocese. Beschi hosted a series of meetings – for Treasurers on 12 July, the GBM of Finance Commission on 13 July, and for the new superiors and team leaders on 15 July. Fr Maria Jeyaraj is back in Beschi, after his stay at the Fatima Hospital, Mettupatti for post-surgery care. On 25 July

the Beschi community went on a pilgrimage to the parish church at Anatharayankottai dedicated to St. Ignatius. CIS organized a one-day seminar on Ignatian values for 55 lay people on 29 July. - **David Francis**

### CARMEL SCHOOL, NAGERCOIL

Thanks to the efforts of Mr M.Arul Rajan, the NCC Officer, our school’s NCC (Army wing) garnered four scholarship awards from the government and 21 students have benefitted. The Study Center for 9 - 12 class students began on 4 June. The 55th De-addiction camp by JMAADD was successfully conducted on 4 – 24 June and the family members of the recovered patients expressed their joy and hope for a serene future. On 16 June, a group of teachers from the Student Counselling Services of our school had a one-day orientation on ‘the need for accompanying students’ under the guidance of Fr Jayapathy and Sch Richard Hiruthayaraj. On 22 June, Msgr V. Mariadasan, Vicar General of the Kottar diocese, presided over the Holy Spirit Mass for the staff and students. JMAADD staff were invited to give an awareness programme for the ITI students in K. Pudur, Madurai, on 25 June. An awareness play on the ill-effects of alcohol was staged in our campus to enlighten the staff and students’ families on the dire consequences of drugs and alcohol on 26 June, the International Day against Drug Abuse. The tireless efforts of Bro Paul Chinnappan in promoting the cause of the Servant of God, Devasahayam Pillai, have played a big role in the announcement that the Pope will proclaim him a Martyr on 2 Dec 2012. - **Jeya Baskaran**

### DE BRITTO, DEKOTTOI

On 30 June a multi-gym, costing Rs. 1, 20,000, and gifted by our Alumni Association was blessed by Fr Tagore, Superior and opened by the Alumni President, Mr Nedunchezian, Superintendent of

Customs, Chennai. The Director of the Alumni Association, Fr John Gualbert explained the importance of the gym in the campus. A committee, headed by the Head Master, Fr Ignatius Britto and assisted by Fr Stany, A.H.M., organized a spectacular cultural week. On the occasion of the feast of St Ignatius, the community, led by Fr Martin, organized a Bal Mela for the neighbourhood children. On 13 July Fr Thomas Alex and his colleague, Prof Leo conducted a staff orientation programme that resulted in some very useful and challenging proposals. - **Martin**

### DHYANA ASHRAM, CHENNAI

The third IGFA meeting, held on 21 July, drew 56 members (38 Jesuits, 8 religious Sisters from four different congregations and 10 lay people). Fr Jossie D’Mello, SJ of the Karnataka province presented two much-appreciated papers ‘Contemplation to attain love’ and ‘Ignatian God of the contemplation to attain love’. The annual GBM of spirituality and dialogue ministry was held on 22 July. 19th annotation retreat for the laity especially, especially our staff, coworkers and students, and revamping neighbourhood ministry and campus ministry were proposed. Fr Provincial stressed that we should focus on eco-spirituality, justice spirituality and the spirituality of collaboration and spiritual ministry to the diocesan clergy. — **Xavier Irudayaraj**

### IDEAS, MADURAI

Social Action Ministry’s EUDAC Project (Empowerment for Untouchability and Discrimination Free Arunthathiyar Community) started off with the first set of awareness-cum-consultation programmes held on 05-08 July in two places: at IDEAS for 32 Arunthathiyars from Sivakasi and Ottanchatram taluks and at

Vadipatti for 40 Arunthathiyars from Kodaikanal and Virudhunagar taluks. Forty-one social activists belonging to different congregations enthusiastically responded to our invitation to celebrate the feast of St Ignatius with us by participating in the annual two-day colloquium held at IDEAS on 28-29 July. After studying the TNBC document 'Regional Pastoral Plan of the Catholic Church, Tamil Nadu-2008', we reflected on the current social trends in Tamil Nadu and formulated a mission statement to guide us in our social action ministry. - **Aloysius Irudayam**

### **KARISAL, ALANGULAM**

Fr Kulandaisamy, the Team Leader, gave an orientation to the animators of evening study centres of KARISAL on 1 July. We had the community orientation on 9 July. A training program on 'Indian Constitution and Criminal Laws' was conducted to selected young Dalits of Sathur and Sivakasi taluks on 24 July at KARISAL Centre. We hosted the monthly meeting of priests of Srivilliputhur vicariate on 19 July. - **Manuel Savariar**

### **LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI**

Thanks to the contribution of the scholastics and the new C.M. (Campus Minister), Fr Sekhar, the celebration of the feast of St Ignatius and the novena was meaningful and educative. The college Outreach, directed by Fr Anto, organized a program to distribute scholarships to the poor students in nearby slums. The chief guest was Mr. Mahadevan, the proprietor of Hot Breads, a socially committed person.

Francis P Xavier conducted an orientation course on Jesuit History of Education for the faculty at St Patrick's High School, Secunderabad and a three-day workshop on Time Management at CIS, Beschi Illam. Ignacimuthu's book on biotechnology has seen a second edition after 15 reprints. He spoke at a conference organized by Helix Info Systems, Chennai. Emma and Dr. Srinivasa Raghavan

from LIBA conducted a two-day workshop on Towards Excellence in Education for 35 Principals from various schools in Goa. - **Emmanuel**

### **LOYOLA ACADEMY, VADAMELPAKKAM**

Our teachers and parents interacted during class-wise parent's meets. Parent's representatives were elected in order to form a core committee which will take important decisions for the growth of the school. Cultural week (loyolant '12) was held on 2-6 July. On charity day each class came up with a food stall and gave what they earned for charity. On 7 July we hosted a thanksgiving dinner for the Jesuits who have helped us on 17 July 38 of our Jesuit brothers visited us. Fr John Kennedy is busy in giving CCE (continuous comprehensive education) training to our school men and others as the government now insists on CCE. The presence of Fr Provincial and Jesuits from Loyola, Chennai for the feast of our founder made our students, teachers and parents very happy. On this occasion the school band was inaugurated. The students of Loyola Academy gave a much-appreciated cultural performance. Fr Provincial inaugurated Trinca Ilam, the new Jesuit residence and Fr Victor, the mission superior blessed it. - **Valanarasu**

### **LOYOLA COLLEGE, VETTAVALAM**

The non-teaching staff of the college along with their families went on a two-day tour of Ooty in June. The alumni of St. Joseph's ITI, Ooty provided hospitality. Frs Igi and Ravi, the organizers, joined them in the trip. Praying for rain, we are deepening the wells. Construction of the college auditorium is going on at a slow pace, due to heat and lack of labourers. We felt encouraged by Fr Provincial's informal visit. The first batch of third-year students has passed out of the college and we are busy recruiting staff for various departments. The college reopened for the senior students on 18 June with an inter-religious prayer service. On 23 June Prof Paulraj of Sacred Heart College, Thirupathur, gave the staff a training session on Team Building. Earlier the new staff had a refresher course along with the staff of Loyola, Chennai. They are

grateful to Frs Henry and Wenisch for the training and hospitality.

The outreach program, directed by Fr Arul Ravi, started on the day the college re-opened. The number of evening study centres has gone up from 22 to 30. On 14 July Fr Jothi trained our staff to teach interpersonal skills.

- **Eugine**

### **LTI, MADURAI**

Community orientation was held on 7 July with an introductory talk by Fr Maria Louis and the sessions were moderated by Fr Singarayar. On 24 July we were all taken by surprise when the State Minister for Trade and Employment, Mr. C.T. Chellapandian entered the Campus unannounced for an official inspection of the Institute. His entourage included the Mayor of Madurai Corporation, the Regional Joint Director of Technical Education and quite a few local party bigwigs. The Minister inspected the different trade units and spent quite some time interacting with the students. Before he left, he was all praise for the excellent infrastructure, the neatness of the campus and the overall training given to the students. On 25 July the Loyola Community College reopened with an orientation programme conducted by the LASAC Team. On the same day LTI hosted a get-together of the Madurai city Jesuits for which 60 Jesuits turned up. The event began with a Recollection Talk by Fr. Casimir Raj, and a short prayer service and ended with a delicious dinner. It was a beautiful evening that brought us together and helped us relax and renew contacts. - **J. L. Pragasm**

### **PAATHAI CENTRE, VALLAM**

The summer coaching camp 2012 has enhanced the capacity of 282 students in six districts of the northern part of Tamil Nadu. It was made possible through the collaboration of Jesuits, Gonzaga sisters, diocesan priests and many others. Sch Vargheesh

Antony gave a one-day orientation to the Paathai hostel students. At the community orientation on 4 July we finalized the action plan for the new academic year. The orientation ended with a pilgrimage to the shrine of Mazhai Malai Madha at Acharapakkam. At the alumni meeting on 7,8 July, which turned out to be a significant moment in our history, the alumni promised to take up the Paathai hostel program and tuition centres in the future. Frs. Yesumarian and Arockia Dass addressed the alumni. Schs. Robinson and Alton organized this meeting successfully.

On 21 July Fr Stany, JESA Secretary and Fr Michael Raj, JMPSA Coordinator visited Paathai Centre and DHRC for a fruitful interaction. - **Alton**

### **ST ARULANANDAR COMMUNITY, ORIYUR**

De Britto Community joined us for the recollection on 19 July, preached by Fr Moolel. In the second week of July, we had AISCCO (Arulanadar Inter Sectional Cultural Competitions). Staff orientation for both primary and higher secondary, held on 21 July, was conducted by Br. Thiruthuvam of Montfort (for primary) and Fr. John Kennedy, the principal of Loyola Academy, Vadamelappakkam (for higher secondary). Our staff and students joined us for the annual pilgrimage to St Ignatius church, Karkathakudi on 28 July. Fr Sales met the hostellers in batches and motivated them to live meaningfully and study successfully. - **Stephen Robert**

### **ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, TIRUCHI**

Our school celebrated Kamaraj's birthday with an oratorical competition on 11 July. Mr Devakottai Ramanathan was the chief guest for the function. On 30 July Fr Paul Pragash, SJ spoke to our students on St Ignatius. On 9-11 July school's Alumni Association conducted the fourth Fr Joe Lawrence Memorial Football Tournament in which 14 Schools participated.

To commemorate the centenary celebrations of our college's Botany Department (1912-2012) three memorable events - signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Botany Department and K.S. Varier's Ashtanga Ayurvedics (P) Ltd., installation of UGC and DST Major Projects, and 43rd Rev. Fr Balam Memorial Lecture took place at SAIL Auditorium on 24 July. As a peer team member of NACC, Fr Albert Muthumalai visited RBNB College, Shriampur, Maharashtra on 25-28 July. Fr S. Mariadoss, SJ defended his doctoral thesis successfully on 27 July, at Loyola, Chennai. To celebrate our Founder's feast, we had the annual pilgrimage to Holy Redeemer's Basilica on 24 July. To end the use of plastic flex posters in the college campus a mega LED screen was installed near Lawley Hall on 30 July. The feast day of St Ignatius, 31 July, turned out to be a historic occasion when Fr Rector blessed and opened St Theresa Girls Hostel for our women students.

Fr Francis Thamburaj has started MAM (Meditation in Action Movement) at St Joseph's. Its 'Stem Wing' will have students sitting in meditation for an hour. The 'Life-Line Wing' will combine meditation with services like blood and organ donation. On 3 July it organized a blood donation program in which 150 students donated blood. The 'Blossom Wing' will combine meditation with services like helping physically and mentally challenged people in the city. The 'Healers Wing' will combine meditation with services like meeting terminally ill patients, inmates of Homes for the Aged and prisons. On 3 Aug a function was held at Lawley Hall to inaugurate these two wings. Sr Maria Kamalam, the principal of a school for physically handicapped, and Sr Josephine Ligory, the principal of a school for autistic children, presided over the function. - **S. Maria Packiam, Francis Thamburaj**

### **ST MARY'S, DINDIGUL**

St Mary's Community, Dindigul had its Orientation Programme on 7 July at Manaloor when we planned for the coming year. Cultural Week celebrations

began on 2 July. The school's Alumni Association of Dindigul had its Patron's Day celebration on 14 July with more than 200 former students. Dr R.K. Thangaraj was the Chief Guest. Teachers and non-teaching staff went on a tour to Kutralam on 21 July. Staff and students joined the Jesuits in the pilgrimage to St. Ignatius Church, Anandharayankottai on 27 July.

- **Jaya Prakash**

### **ST MARY'S, MADURAI**

On the Sports Day, well-organized by Br Kulandairaj, the march past and the mass drill won the applause of the audience. Sch. Annaraj and Fr Felix Joseph empowered the hostellers with a programme on motivation and self awareness. Fr Felix Joseph, who has been the guiding force behind the e-mail programme, 'God's Loving Message,' celebrated its first anniversary along with his friends and collaborators, through a prayer service.

In preparation for the feast of Corpus Christi Fr Jebamalai Raja gave a talk to the parishioners on the importance of the Blessed Sacrament. On the feast day, at the morning Mass 50 children received their First Communion. In the evening Archbishop Peter Fernando of Madurai led the Corpus Christi procession and Fr Madurai Anand preached an inspiring homily. Fr P.S. Arul and his team organized the events successfully. On the feast of St Ignatius, handbills exhorting the people to 'Love Nature, Praise God' were distributed.

- **Felix Joseph**

### **ST XAVIER'S INSTITUTES, PALAYAMKOTTAI**

St Xavier's hosted the GBM of the Secondary Education Commission on 30 June and 01 July. On the second day of the meeting, Frs Britto Vincent and Danis Ponnaiah talked on ecology. St Xavier's College made history on 29 June by conducting the Students' Union Election online for the first time. This initiative is the

brainchild of the new Principal, Fr A. Joseph. On 6 July Dr Dhananjayan, senior Professor and Head, Dept. of Folklore was the Chief Guest at the inauguration of the Students' Union. Our school's Sports Day was on 20 July. 28 July was a day of spiritual renewal for all the Catholic students of St Xavier's through retreats meticulously organized by Fr Joe Arun, the Campus Minister, and his team.

Xavier Institute of Business Administration (XIBA) is getting ready to welcome its first batch of MBA students in August. While the new building is in progress, Fr Louis Xavier, the Administrator, and Fr Joe Arun, the Director, are trying hard to attract applicants through radio advertisements, handbills, posters and letters to all the parish priests of five dioceses.

On 26 July, during the novena to our holy founder, we went on a pilgrimage to the church of St Ignatius, Kurumbanai. On 27, we had an exhortation given by Fr L. John. Fr Gilbert Camillus has been approved by the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University to guide doctoral students in the department of English.

- Sahayaraj Vijayan

### VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

We, the 'pancha pandavas' of third year Theology students at Vidya Jyoti, did a month-long course on basic Hindi by Fr Sebastian SJ at Barbiga, a mission station in Patna Province. It is Fr Britto Peter, who arranged this course. On our way to Delhi from Patna, we visited Banaras, the religio-cultural capital of India and were enriched by its ancient traditions and religious customs. We are grateful to Fr Russal, IMS for his generous hospitality. Having reached VJ on 7 July, 2012, we spent the next day orienting ourselves to the VJ community. We had a Requiem Mass on 20 July for Fr Arock, our moral theologian who taught at VJ for many long years.

- Clement

### XAVERIANA, THOOTHUKUDI

The Sports Day on 4 July was presided over by Mr Kalairajan and ARAS Danabalan, our alumni and leading industrialists. The Alumni Association arranged a one day seminar for X and XII standard students on 'Scientific Study Techniques'. It also arranged an eye camp by Dr Agarwal Eye Hospital for all students. Mr Puthaneri Chellappa was the chief guest for *Kalvi Valarchi Naal* on 15 July. To prepare for the feast of

St Ignatius, we made a pilgrimage to the Church of St Ignatius, Ignaciarpuram, and to the shrine of Our Lady of Snows. There were also essay and poetry competitions, a quiz on St Ignatius and the Society. 150 Higher Secondary students attended a two-day workshop offered by the Anglade Institute for Natural Sciences at Shembaganur in three batches. The staff had a four-day tour to Bangalore and Mysore. Our school's cultural troupe gave a variety entertainment program at the shrine of Our Lady of Snows. - Rajan



## Letters from Abroad:

### CYRIL SURESH WRITES FROM BRAZIL:

"Having completed one year here, I feel happy for the way my Jesuit vocation is enriched by the guidance of effective formators, the support of trustworthy companions and the cross-cultural missionary exposure. I had the joy of cooking Tamil food to my theology companions and they enjoyed it eating in plantain leaves! When I was asked to give a presentation about Jesuit mission in India, I explained the interreligious context, the Dalit reality, the missionary legacy of the French Jesuits to the Madurai Province and vocations in India. Now my companions say they are inspired to visit India, especially Tamil Nadu. As Fr Provincial says in his message in the MNL (June '12), the third era of the Jesuit Mission in Tamil Nadu has begun. I feel proud to be in the threshold of this new era calling for greater generosity."

### TONY WRITES FROM THE HOLY LAND:

"Last year at the time of Easter our community reached out to the poor Muslims. This year we wanted to help poor, handicapped Christians in Bethlehem. Our cook, who comes from Bethlehem, helped us in identifying 30 really needy families to whom we gave food materials and some money. Our House which stands close to the Holy Sepulchre is pretty old and needs urgent repairs. We have started renewing the garden and painting the rooms. While doing all this manual work, I recall the manual work we did in the novitiate and smile."

## Abide with the Lord



Fr Anil Lucas Macwan (GUJ) 54/34 on 22 July  
Fr Jozef DeCuyper, (RAN) 92/72 on 27 July  
Br Scaria Vadaparam (KAR) 95/58 on 5 August



## Experience

I was at Manresa for 35 days. I was lucky to get a room which was just opposite to the river Cardoner. So every morning the first thing I did was to open my window and watch the river. I prayed for a deep spiritual experience similar to St Ignatius' river Cardoner experience.

In his *Autobiography* Ignatius describes his experience in these words: "One day, I was going to a church which stood just over a mile from Manresa...The road ran next to the river. On my way, occupied with devotions, I sat down for a while with my face toward the river... As I sat there, the eyes of my understanding began to open. It was not that I saw some vision, but I understood and knew many things, spiritual things as well as things about faith and learning. This was accompanied by an enlightenment so great that all of them appeared to me to be new. This was such that in the whole course of my life, through 62 years, ... I do not think that I received as much as I did on that one occasion."

Will God give me a similar experience? But nothing happened. On the final day I stood there watching the river, then slowly I closed my eyes. I felt great peace and joy. Strangely I started experiencing the river flowing within me. I felt the river and I are one and the same. The river taught me the greatest lesson of my life: 'Like the river that flows towards its destination, I too flow towards my destiny.'

- Vinny Joseph



## To laugh

Sister: Where do you think God is?

Student 1: In heaven.

Student 2: In the tabernacle.

Student 3: In the bathroom.

Sister: My goodness! What makes you think so?

Student 3: Because every morning, ten minutes after my father goes in, my mother pounds the bathroom door, shouting, 'My God, are you still there?'

## Memories

In 1970 the Sacred Heart College of Shembaganur celebrated its diamond jubilee. But we then belonged to the old world when we did not have a telephone at the disposal of the community. Fr. Thomas Mannumel was then the Rector of the College. It so happened that at last a common phone was installed.

As he was about to make the first call he called some of us who were recreating near the minister's room to be around when he made the call. He thought for a while whom to call... After a few seconds he decided to call our neighbour in Kookal, Mr. Stool - whom the locals called 'Stool Durai'. After the contact was made Fr Mannumel asked Mr Stool to give a message to us who had just made telephonic contact for the first time in Shembag. Mr Stool rose to the occasion and quite appropriately said, "This is my message: BE GOOD BOYS!" Fr. Mannumel felt rewarded!

- A. Arulanandam



## Congratulations!

to **Francis Thamburaj, SJ**, who has started 'Meditation in Action Movement' (MAM), for students of St. Joseph's.

to **Joseph Arockiam, SJ** who has, for the first time, successfully conducted the Student Union elections *online* at St Xavier's.

To **Ignacimuthu, SJ**, who has been given a patent for his finding related to a process for isolation of a new compound to treat diabetes.

## Pray for



Br Cecilrayan, who is recuperating after a surgery for removal of a cyst in one of his kidneys.

Fr Arul Jeevan, who has been operated on for removing a brain tumour.