



OCTOBER 2012

(For Private Circulation)

MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL



CELEBRATING AND RENEWING OUR FAITH

My dear Brothers,

As announced by the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, a special Year of Faith begins on 11 October 2012, which is the 50th anniversary of the opening of Vatican II. This will conclude on 24 November 2013, the Feast of Christ the King. Moreover, the next Synod of Bishops on 'The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith' will be held at the Vatican from 07 to 28 Oct 2012. The Tamil Nadu Bishops' Conference and TNPCRI have planned several concrete programmes to celebrate the Year of Faith in a meaningful way.

The Year of Faith beckons each one of us to renew our own faith life, both at the personal level and at the level of our community. We have been discussing, sharing and reflecting on the need for spiritual renewal. Fr General has emphasized very strongly the need for spiritual depth in our life. I invite each member of the province to use this occasion to look at one's own faith life, faith experiences

and faith expressions individually and collectively. As Pope John XXIII threw open the windows of the Church to permit fresh air to blow in, perhaps we need to open the windows of our own inner-self, so that we may be refreshed in our life of faith.

Our faith life needs to be integrated with our ministry as well. Every Jesuit ministry needs to be guided and inspired by the faith dimension of our life. The service of faith and the promotion of justice and ecology need to be carefully and consciously integrated.

In other words, meaningful justice or ecological ministry is not possible without a deep, active faith. At the same time, our faith has to lead us to give special attention to the justice and ecological dimension. We need to ensure an effective integration of the two.

During this Year of Faith, let us also take some concrete steps to promote faith in a special way in all our ministries. I invite all the communities to reflect collectively on this matter and plan out concretely how each community or ministry can celebrate the Year of Faith meaningfully.

Some possible ways proposed at the Assistancy level are: a) periodic celebration of the Eucharist with our collaborators and the beneficiaries of our ministries; b) wherever possible, giving faith-formation to our collaborators and the beneficiaries, in addition to whatever specific ministries we may be doing; c) organizing seminars or workshops on the importance of the spiritual aspect of life; d) organizing some pilgrimages for the collaborators and beneficiaries; e) collaborating generously with the parishes and the local CRI units in the various programmes related to the year of faith.

Through the personal renewal of our faith-commitment and through the special programmes for our collaborators and beneficiaries, let us endeavour to bring about true and meaningful celebration and renewal of our faith life.

Fraternally,
Sebastien L. Raj, SJ
Provincial



Two Permanent Committees



Fr Provincial has constituted two Permanent Committees:

1. BUILDING AND SPACE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (BSMC):

This Committee consists of: Frs Maria Joseph P. Christie (Province Development Director), Br E.S. Mariadoss, Fr Joseph Antony G. (Anto), Fr. Ignatius Amalraj, Fr. Thomas Amirtham. BSMC will be headed by the PDD and its main tasks are to study the feasibility and need of proposals for buildings, and examine carefully the utilization of the available space in different communities and institutions and give its observations and recommendations to the Provincial.

2. LAND AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE (LPC): This Committee consists Of Fr Selvanaykam Diraviam (Province Treasurer), Br S. Kulandairaj, Fr A. Joseph, Fr Maria Joe, and Fr M. Arulanandam. This committee, headed by the Province Treasurer, will study the various proposals for the sale or purchase of land and other properties by the Province or by any community or ministry and submit its findings and recommendations to the Provincial.

Provincial's Programme:



OCTOBER

- 02-04 Visitation: Vettavalam
- 04-05 Visitation: Kilpennathur
- 05 Visitation: Pondicherry
- 06 TNPCRI – Executive Committee Meeting – Campion, Trichy
- 07 Sivagangai Diocese: Silver Jubilee Celebrations, Oriyur
- 08-10 Visitation: SHC, Shembaganur
- 12 Consult
- 13-15 Visitation: Vidya Jyoti, ISI and our men in Jaipur and Allahabad
- 16 Visitation: Vadamelpakkam
- 17 Visitation: Satyanilayam
- 21-27 JCSA, Goa
- 28-31 CRI National Assembly, Hyderabad

NOVEMBER

- 02-03 Visitation: DNC, Pune
- 04-09 Visitation: Loyola College/Alberto, Chennai
- 10-11 Visitation: Berchmans Illam
- 15-17 Visitation: AAC, Karumathur
- 19-20 Visitation: IDEAS
- 21-22 Visitation: LAAS
- 24 Consult
- 25-27 Visitation: SICJ
- 28-30 Visitation: Carmel
- 30-01 Visitation: Thozhamai Illam

Announcements



SALARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

A Committee has been appointed to review the salaries of the management-appointed staff in all our institutions: Fr Jeyaseelan Thomas (convener), Fr G. Pushparaj, Fr Albert Joseph and Br Ignacy Augustine.

CATALOGUE - 2013

The Province Catalogue - 2013 has been despatched to all the communities (See 'Congratulations!' on p.8). On the Cover the blue-black area surrounding the map of Tamil Nadu symbolizes the spiritual darkness in the area before the French missionaries of the Madura Mission brought the good news of Jesus, the light of the world. Inside the radiant blue map you see De Nobili, the founder of the New Madura Mission. If you notice any errors in the Catalogue, please bring them to the attention of Fr Socius.

HURRY UP!

Please hurry up and register your name for Chris Lowney's Workshop on Heroic Leadership on 10, 11 Nov '12 at Dhyana Asharam, Chennai. Only a few seats are available. So write at once to Emma at emma.aro@gmail.com

FIVE IN ONE!

A few copies of a new book are available. Says Fr Deva, our former Provincial, "The advantage of this book is that it has the Decrees of 5 GCs (GC 31 to 35) in one tubby paperback. They would find the 50+ page Index of Topics of GCs 31 through to 35 particularly useful." Those who want a copy, please ask your Minister to contact Br Antony Pitchai.

NEW CELL NOS & EMAIL:

Fr A. Joseph Xavier (ISI, New Delhi): 98689-90320. Br. Antony (Appukutti): 86959-29580. Fr Charles Michael's new e-mail id: mcharles810@jim.ac.in. Don't send anything to his old e-mail id, which has been hacked.



Events



ARUL ANANDAR COLLEGE, KARUMATHUR

A lot of Jesuits in and around Madurai joined us on 08 Sept when we celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Fr Y. Raju, and enjoyed his forthright sharing amidst laughter and pain. Thanks to the effort by Frs Casmir and Kingsley the domestic chapel has been renovated. 14 original English plays were enacted at the Theatre Fest 2012 on 14 Sept. During the Pannai Thiruvizha on 18 Sept the department of Rural Development Science tried to make the local farmers and students aware of the need for organic farming, water harvesting and soil preservation. The highlight of the day was the sharing by Aiya Nammazhavaar, a respected guru of organic farming and Fr Jerry Rosario, a former RDS student. Youth Red Cross Inauguration and the N.S.S Day were celebrated on 18 and 24 Sept respectively. The member representatives from the M.K.University remarked that AAC ranks first in membership and the out-reach services.

- Rufus

ARUL KADAL, CHENNAI

First year and second year theologians had 'the immersion experience' from 13 to 31 Aug – the first years with the rural poor and the second years with the urban poor in Chennai slums. On 08 Sept we celebrated the 80th birthday of Fr R.J. Raja with a special Eucharist when we thanked God for his contribution to the Biblical apostolate. We collaborated with Amaipu Sara Thozhilalar lyakam, in distributing relief materials to the people of Srinivasapuram where a fire accident had destroyed hundreds of huts.

- A. Victor Desozo

BERCHMANS ILLAM, CHENNAI

In Sept we III years celebrated 50 years of Vatican II with street plays, 'Vatican Corner', a debate

and a musical play on themes related to Vatican II On 07 Sept. During the first term holidays, we had our cultural tour to Jaipur, Udaipur and Mount Abu, which proved to be a happy, enriching experience. We enjoyed the beauty of the place and the hospitality of Jesuits in Jaipur, especially our own Fr Sebastian Anand SJ (MDU), Principal, St Xavier College, Jaipur and Christian Brothers at Mount Abu.

- Jayaseelan

BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL

Our co-workers went on a picnic to Kodaikanal on 26 Aug and the Community on 19 Sept. After a brief stay at the hospital, Frs Mampira and Chelladurai and Brs William and Antony have come back to the community. The Regents Meet was held on 21-23 Sept. While the recollection was directed by Fr John Wilson, a seminar on youth ministry was organized by Fr Sahaya Philomin Raj. On 29 Sept the Committee for Assessment of Ministries and Formation in the Province interacted with the Conveners of various evaluation teams guided by Fr Provincial.

- David Francis

DHYANA ASHRAM, CHENNAI

Fr Jerry preached two retreats for Bishops and priests of 3 dioceses in Penang and Johor in Sept. Fr D. Jeyaraj gave a seminar on Jesuit paschal history to Tertiaries and the Dhyana Ashram community on the occasion of the celebration of the restoration of the S.J. Fr Xavier Irudayaraj took classes on 'Home Catechisms' and New Evangelization to the laity. Fr Thamburaj conducted a two day seminar on sacraments to the laity. At a healing service in Besant Nagar shrine, he anointed more than 5,000 people, assisted by Catholic Doctors and Nurses.

- Xavier Irudayaraj

ICRDCE, CHENNAI

ICRDCE Team attended a regional consultation organized by the Ministry of Human Resources

Development which intends to start 200 Community colleges in India, 11 of which will be in Tamil Nadu. Nine Community Colleges in Villupuram and Vellore Districts, sponsored by the Centre for Rural Health and Social Education (CRHSE), Yelagiri Hills were inaugurated on 30 Aug '12. Fr Xavier Alphonse was the Resource Person for Young Lecturers Programmes held at Madurai, Mysore and Kottayam and on 8 Sept spoke at the Principals Conference organised by the Regional Office of UGC in Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad.

- Xavier Alphonse

IDEAS, MADURAI

A group of 18 participants from Dalit movements and NGOs benefitted from the annual training on Social Analysis directed by Fr Jebamalai Raja and Br Ray on 01-10 Sept. With Br Ray providing logistical support, Fr Aloy trained 20 Arunthathiyar field investigators on 13-16 Sept to collect data on forms of untouchability, discrimination and atrocities in Kodaikanal, Ottanchattiram, Sattur and Sivakasi taluks. Fr Michael Jeyaraj taught a course on Religious Governance at CIS. Fr Elias served as resource person on Social Trends & Analysis for 45 young men on 22-23 Sept. Fr Philominraj trained 24 rural women and NGO animators on Legal Knowledge and Skills on 27-30 Sept.

- Aloysius Irudayam

JUNIORATE, KOLKATA

We are 15 Juniors (8 from Kohima, 2 from Kolkata, 2 from Darjeeling and 3 from Madurai) here. A major highlight of the recent months was the novena and the celebrations of the feast of St Ignatius. A course offered by Fr Irudaya Jothi on 14-17 Aug at Udayani Social Center enabled us to become aware of

the socio-economic reality of the State of West Bengal. On 18 Aug we had a darshan of Kolkata city. The Juniorate is full of life and activities.

- Alwin Prakash M.

LOYOLA, CHENNAI

NAAC visit to Loyola College was very satisfactory because of the cooperation of the students, staff and non-teaching staff. The preparations were guided by Fr B. Jeyaraj, the Principal, Fr Arockia Samy, the Deputy Principal and Fr Albert William, the Secretary. The department of IQAC headed by Prof Bernard D'Samy deserves special commendation for their excellent and meticulous work. September has been the month of cultural competitions - Loyola College's *Ovations*, LIBA's *Libarated* and LICET's *enGenia*, all superbly organized.

LIBA students organized on 01 Sept a high-level one-day conference called HR Conclave. LIBA-Informatics Centre organized a five-day training programme for field animators of Bon Secours Social Service Society (BSSS) on 17-21 Sept. It was sponsored by National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The programme was inaugurated by Mr S.S.Palanimanickam, Central Minister of State for Finance. Fr K. Amal, Rector, Loyola, Fr S. Peter, Director, LIBA and Sr Angeline, Bon Secours Provincial offered felicitations. Besides the annual retreats for various groups, the campus choir led by Sch Banaba and Wenisch are contributing to the spiritual atmosphere of the campus. Fr Jayapathy's sharing on the Procurators' Congregation was both eloquent and inspiring. Fr Francis P Xavier gave a series of 10 lectures on science at Satyanilayam. He delivered the keynote address at a seminar at Gonzaga College of Arts and Science for Women at Kathampallam on 14 Sept. Fr S. Ignacimuthu was the Chief Guest for a national conference held at FLAME, Pune. On 20 Sept he inaugurated

the Bioinformatics conference at RVS College, Coimbatore.

- Emma, Peter Xavier

PAATHAI CENTRE, VALLAM

In a seminar conducted for the students from the northern districts Fr Dass explained "the History of Education in India". IACM cultural group had a special training at Paathai Centre from 19 to 21 Sept. Dalit Christian Rights Movement (DCRM) organized a seminar titled 'The Jubilee Year of Vatican II and the Lives of Dalits in the Church' in Loyola College campus, Chennai, on 22 Sept. Fr Yesumarian, in his key note address, stressed the need for reservation for Dalit Christians in the church-run institutions. Sch. Alton was invited to conduct a workshop on Yoga to the first year philosophers of Satyanilayam from 26 to 28 Sept.

- Alton

SATYANILAYAM, CHENNAI

Fr Robin presented a paper titled, "Is religion alternative to religion?: Response to Ambedkar's views on religion" at a national seminar in Pondicherry university on 27 Sept 2012. Fr Ignatius organized a three-day retreat for the laity on 'Mission and message according to the gospel of St John'. Sch Vinu Selukas, who has been elected the first year representative, was present with the staff during the NAAC visit on 24 Sept 2012.

- Selvendhiran

SHC, SHEMBAGANUR

Parents' Meets were conducted in all the three hostels of PEAK on 20-23 Sept. On 27 Sept the Tertians came back after their one month Ignatian experiment in various places with rich experiences. After three months of fruitful pastoral and evangelisation work in the islands of La Reunion and Mauritius Fr Edward Jeganathan was back home on 29 Sept. Fr Anbarasan guided our ordinandi in their 8-day retreat before ordination at Christu Nagar, Dindigul and Fr Vinny Joseph directed a retreat for the Coimbatore Presentation Sisters at Nagamalai, Madurai.

- Arul William

ST ARULANANDAR COMMUNITY, ORIYUR

We organized the Parents' Meet for the hostellers on 02 Sept. To celebrate the Teachers' Day in a fitting manner every teacher was honoured by the students. On 7 Sept the feast of Our Lady of Health was celebrated in a grand manner. Bishop S. Edward Francis, former Bishop of Sivagangai, was the main celebrant at the Mass and Fr M.A. Joe Antony preached a soul-stirring homily. Fr. Darwin SJ, the parish priest, helped by the community, organized everything effectively. On 12 Sept Fr Jayapathy shared with us and the De Britto community his experiences and inspirations from the Procurators Congregation. On 16 Sept Fr Jerome Kulandaisamy preached a one-day retreat to members of the CRI.

- Stephen Robert

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, TIRUCHI

A book written by Fr M.Arockiasamy Xavier, titled, *From Charity to Justice* and published by LAP Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany, was released on 07 Sept. On 31 Aug, ECO organized a one-day environmental awareness programme for the all the middle school teachers of Trichy educational district in our school campus. In order to make the celebration of the World Ozone Day on 10 Sept meaningful Fr Rector inaugurated planting tree saplings in our school premises. On 15, 16 Sept, Mr Sivapathy, State Education Minister, and the officials from the Department of Education were in our school for issuing online appointment orders to selected teacher-candidates.

- Maria Packiam

ST. MARY'S, MADURAI

The parish festival this year began with a shiny, new attraction in the campus - a 50-foot bronze flag post. It was blessed by Archbishop Peter. Fr Thamburaj animated the

parishioners with spirit-filled talks. A blood donation camp organized by the parish youth, hospital visits by the members of Vincent de Paul Society and the Confirmation of 155 children by the Archbishop were the salient features of the festival. On the final day all the parish priests, Frs P.S. Arul, Bastian and Wilfred, were honoured for their committed service to the people throughout the year. Fr Felix Joseph conducted a one-day seminar to all the heads of educational institutions of Servite Sisters on the theme, 'Challenges of Education today'. Fr Jebamalai Raja coordinated a ten-day Social Analysis Course at IDEAS for activists from various movements.

To express solidarity with the struggle of the Idinthakarai people against the nuclear power plant the community participated in a candle light procession and a fast, held on different occasions under the leadership of the Archbishop. Fr Arul Jeevan, who is happy to come back to St Mary's, is grateful to Loyola community, Chennai for all its contribution to his speedy recovery. Electronic cameras have been installed inside the church and in the residence for greater security.

- Felix Joseph

ST XAVIER'S INSTITUTES, PALAYAMKOTTAI

College's Annual Sports Day was celebrated on 1 Sept. The members of UGC Autonomy Review Committee, who visited the college on 14, 15 Sept, said they were impressed by the way the college has been using the autonomy. At the Inter Departmental Cultural Competitions, called INDECO on 20, 21 Sept Sch Sahay won the second prize in four out of five competitions he participated. The B. Ed. College was reopened for this academic year on 10 Sept and Fr Jesudoss conducted a two-day orientation to the students. Its Alumni Association organized on 25 Sept a splendid Teachers' Day programme in which a few other B. Ed. colleges also took

part. The Carmel community joined us on 21 Sept, when Fr Francis Jayapathy shared his experiences in the recently-held Procurators' Congregation at Nairobi, Kenya. As the entire district of Tirunelveli is facing an acute water shortage because of lack of rain, the campus ministry organized a special inter-religious prayer service for rain on 27 Sept at which leaders of all three religions participated.

- Sahayaraj Vijayan

The new flag post at St Mary's, Madurai



TN/JRS

Two new Arrupe Study Centers have been opened in Pambar and Perumalpuram. Sr Leema Rosario, SSA, Superior General of Sisters of St Anne, Madhavaram, was the Chief Guest for the opening of the Study Centre in Kasthambady refugee camp. She made a generous contribution of Rs 5 lakhs for education-scholarships for refugee students in the name of their Foundress, Gnanamma. On 12 Sept Fr John Bosco, SJ, the Secretary of SJC, Trichy was the Chief Guest at its 23rd Valedictory Day function and gave away certificates to the trainees. Fr

Thomas, SJ, Finance officer, JRS-South Asia and Ms Molly Mullen, the International Communication officer, were present for the function, after their meeting at the Dindigul office. Fr Martin SJ, a Tertian from the Dominican Republic province, taught English to students for a week. Fr Louie met teachers from different zones to energize them.

- Raja V.

VIDYANIKETAN, TRIVANDRUM

On 29 Aug we celebrated Onam, Kerala's most important festival, with a Malayalam Mass at which the significance of Onam was explained. During lunch King Maveli (a Junior dressed up like him) appeared, greeted us and gave away prizes. The next day we went to the city to witness the Onam celebrations and saw the concluding Onam pageantry on 3 Sept. Fr Jossy Rodriguez (KAR) offered a very helpful three-day course on psycho-sexual integration. On 08 Sept, the feast of the Nativity of BVM, two of our province men, Alex and Salomon and Pradeep of Andra made their first vows. We took part in the blessing and inauguration of a new building in Loyola School, Mukundara on the occasion of the golden jubilee of Kerala Province. On our way back we spent a few hours in Neyyar dam.

- Vijin

XAVERIANA, THOOTHUKUDI

Our community visited Punnaikayal, where the first Jesuit Headquarters for the South was established by St Francis Xavier. We had a homely Mass at St Xavier's chapel. Thanks to the hospitality of the local parish priest we had an enjoyable boat ride to the shrine of St Thomas in a nearby island. Our students took part enthusiastically in the week-long NSS camp with sanitation campaign, free eye and medical check-up. Our old chapel and the godown have been pulled down. A wall is coming up to separate the playground from the Jesuit Residence.

- Rajan

Letters from Abroad

FROM MYANMAR

What a pleasure it is to write to my Province men! They say "Even a journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step". We Jesuits have taken that first step in Myanmar. Even a few years ago freedom and justice in Myanmar seemed a dream. Now the country has seen dramatic changes and it is slowly opening up. People have begun to hope. The challenge of the Jesuits here is to build on that hope and consolidate the achievements.



By the grace of God we are now around 40 Jesuits from different countries. Among those from our Province Fr C. Amal is the local Superior, Fr Cyril is the director of Candidates and Schs Stalin and I are doing our regency.

Scholastics are now attending a three-month Burmese Language Course. Thank God, we are already able to read, write and to speak a little the local language.

Fr Cyril is doing his best for the Candidates to improve their English as well as their knowledge of the Society of Jesus, the Church and the Bible.

We had the Education Planning Commission meeting under the guidance of the Provincial of Asia Pacific Assistancy, Fr Mark Raper from 1 to 9 Aug. Fr Peter Francis from our Province was one of the Consultants. We are planning to build a new residence. The new situation has allowed us to reveal our identity gradually. For the first time we have published a newsletter, attractively designed by Stephen.

- Jesu Raja

FROM AFGHANISTAN

On 8 July I finally stepped into Afghanistan, the heart of Asia. On 29 July, Fr Peter Balleis, the JRS International Director, met us all and explained the goals to be accomplished by JRS in the years 2012-2015. In the evening we had the Holy Eucharist in the Italian Embassy chapel, the country's only officially permitted Christian centre of worship. On 30 July, I got my permit to work in Herat for JRS Afghanistan. That very day, I flew to Herat and I received a warm welcome from Fr Prem. After Kabul, Herat is the second largest city, comparatively, peaceful and safe. Our residence is located in one of the city's busiest streets.

The feast day of St Ignatius was a joyous and meaningful occasion for both Prem, who has fruitfully completed one year in Afghan mission, and me.

I have volunteered to teach Physics in the Herat University and in the Herat



Technical School. Recently I visited our three target schools in Guzara, Saideyi and Sohadat.

On the feast day of the Assumption of Our Lady, I gave my maiden-cum-Eid speech in Sohadat with the fervour of a free Indian who dreams of a free, peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan. My speech was in Dari, translated by a local staff. Most surprisingly, I received the appreciation of the Mullah of the village. After a month-long observance of fasting and prayer, the Afghans celebrated three days of Eid from 19 Aug. Prem and I visited our staff at their homes.

I am indebted to the Society and our Province. While I thank all my predecessors for preparing my way, I would also like to extend an invitation to all the Jesuits to join the mission of rebuilding this broken but beautiful nation.

- K. Swaminathan

FROM MAURITIUS

The Jesuit Community in Mauritius invited our Provincial and me to share the joy of the 150 years of Jesuit presence in the island, since during the 20th century several missionaries came from Madurai Mission to serve here. Fr Provincial delegated me to represent him. It was at the request of Bishop Collier that the first Jesuits had landed here to work with the indentured labourers from India in the sugar plantations here. Today people of Indian origin are around 60% in a total population of 13 lakhs, of whom some 2 lakhs are Catholics.

Various activities in 2011-12 marked the celebrations. Remarkable among these was the Mobile Exhibition on the Society in the world with a focus on Mauritius. A special feature was a seminar which attracted about a hundred young men and women from La Réunion, Madagascar, Rodrigues, Seychelles, France and even



Germany to reflect and pray with the Mauritian Ignatian Magis for 20 days. The celebrations concluded with the Solemn High Mass presided over by Bishop Maurice Piat of Mauritius and the homily preached by Fr Jean-Yves Grenet, Provincial of France. The Bishops of Mauritius, of La Réunion and of Seychelles would be grateful to receive young priests from our Province for the New Evangelisation!

- Edward Jeganathan

PRACTICE THE GENTLE ART OF BLESSING!

On *awakening*, bless this day, for it is already full of unseen good which your blessings will call forth. By doing so you will acknowledge the unlimited good that is embedded in the very texture of the universe, awaiting each and all.

On *seeing people* in the street, on the bus, in places of work and play, bless them. The peace of your blessing will companion them on their way, and its aura will be a light on their path.

On *meeting people* and talking to them, bless them in their health, their work, their joy, their relationship to the universe, themselves and others. Bless them in their abundance and their finances, bless them in every conceivable way, for such blessings not only sow seeds of healing, but one day will spring forth as flowers in the waste places of your own life.

As you *walk*, bless the city in which you live, its government and teachers, its nurses and street sweepers, its children and bankers, its priests and prostitutes. The minute *anyone expresses the least aggression or unkindness* to you, respond with a blessing, Bless them totally, sincerely, joyfully - for such blessings are a shield that protects them from the ignorance of their misdeed and deflects the

arrow that was aimed at you.

To bless means to wish, unconditionally and from the deepest chamber of your heart, unrestricted good for others and events; it means to hallow, to hold in reverence, to behold with awe that which is always a gift from the Creator.

To bless all without distinction is the ultimate form of giving, because those you bless will never know from whence came the sudden ray that burst through the clouds of their skies.

When *something goes completely askew* in your day, when some unexpected event upsets your plans and you, burst into blessing. For life is teaching you a lesson. Trials are blessings in disguise, and hosts of angels follow in their path.

It is *impossible to bless and judge* at the same time. So hold constantly the desire to bless, for truly then shall you become a peacemaker, and one day you shall behold, everywhere, the very face of God.

And of course, above all, do not forget to bless the utterly beautiful person YOU are.

- Pierre Pradervand
in his book,

The Gentle Art of Blessing
(St. Paul's, Mumbai, 2009)

- sent by Rex A Pai, SJ

மதுராலயா

மாநிலத்தின் புதிய தலைமையகக் கட்டிடத்திற்கு நல்ல பெயர்கள் சொல்லுமாறு அழைப்பு விடுத்தது. வருகின்ற பெயர்களில் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்படும் பெயருக்கு பரிசு உண்டு எனவும் அறிவித்திருந்தோம்.

ஆர்வத்தோடு பெயர்கள் அனுப்பிய அன்பர்களுக்கு நன்றியும் பாராட்டும்! வந்த பெயர்களில் சில: தாயகம், இறையாட்சியகம், மதுரம், மதுராலயா, அன்பகம், ஓனியகம், பணியகம், பசமை, கொடிமலர், நெருப்பு, தேனருவி, அருளருவி, தேன்தாது, தேனருள்கனை, தேன்கனை.....

இவற்றில் தேன்கனை என்ற பெயரைப் பரிந்துரைத்தவர் பாசமிகு அண்ணன் இஞ்சாசி. 95 வயதில் வியப்பிற்குரிய சிந்தனைத் தெளிவோடு, அழகு சிறிதும் குன்றாத முத்து முத்தான கையெழுத்தில் அவர் எழுதி அனுப்பிய கடிதத்திலிருந்து சில வரிகள்: "எனக்கு ஈமெயில் இல்லை. எனவே இந்த மடல். மன்னிக்கவும். நீங்கள் பெறவிருக்கும் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான பெயர்களோடு இதையும் சேர்த்து தெளிவு பெறுங்கள் - தாய ஆவியாரின் துணையோடு. இதுபற்றி நம் மதுரை செய்தி மடலில் படித்ததும் என்னைமுறியாமல் பரிந்துரை செய்யாத துண்டுதல் வந்தது - வேறு வேலை இல்லாததால்.

"அகம், இல்லம், மையம் போன்ற சொற்கள் 'ஸ்டாட்டிக்' ஆகத் தோன்றின. அருவி, கனை, ஆறு, ஊற்று போன்றவை 'டைனாமிக்' ஆகத் தோன்றின. தேன், அருள், ஓளி போன்றவை முதற்சொல்லாக இருக்கலாம். எனவே... தேன்கனை. தேன் உணவாகவும் மருந்தாகவும் இருந்து, மகிழ்ச்சி அளிக்கிறது. புதுச் செயலகமும் இவ்விதம் இருக்கும். இங்கிருந்து பாயும் இச்சுனை இங்கு மட்டுமல்ல, தமிழகம், தாய்நாடு கடந்து, உலகெங்கும் பாயும், இறையாட்சியை வளர வைக்கும்."

இவற்றில் தாயகம், மதுரம், மதுராலயா என்பவை கவனமாகப் பரிசீலிக்கப்பட்டன. தாயகம் ஏற்கனவே ஒரு அரசியல் கட்சியின் தலைமையகப் பெயராக உள்ளது. மதுரம் வெறுமனே ஒரு குணநலனைக் குறிக்கிறதே தவிர, இல்லத்தைக் குறிக்கும் சொல்லாக இல்லை. அதுமட்டுமல்ல, அது ஒரு பழம்பெரும் நடிக்கையின் பெயர். எனவே இறுதியில் வென்றது மதுராலயா! இதில் மதுரை மட்டுமல்ல, இனிமையும் அருளும் ஆன்மீகமும் உள்ளன.

இந்தப் பெயரைப் பரிந்துரைத்தவர் ஜி. எஸ். தைரியம். பாராட்டும் பரிசும் இவருக்குரியன! புனை நகரில் மெய்யியல் படிக்கும் இந்த இளவலுக்கு இம்மாத இறுதியில் அங்கு செல்லவிருக்கும் நம் மாநிலத் தலைவர் செபஸ்டீ ராஜ் பரிசினை நேரடியாக வழங்கிக் கௌரவிப்பார்.

Abide with the Lord



Fr Swami Shantananda (GOA) 63/43 on 21 Sept '12

Mr.D.Clement Alphonse (64), brother-in-law of Fr Dominic Royce, on 4 Sept '12



Experience



HE NEVER CLOSED HIS HEART TO ANYONE



Arrupe possessed the gift of establishing easy and deep personal relationships with all... In his presence each one felt important. He was one of those men gifted with the divine grace of believing and trusting the others even to the extent of consciously letting himself be deceived by them...

His doors were always open to all. He had no keys. Nay more, he would actually come out of his room to invite others to come in...

This passion of his for people and for communion with persons did not curtail his freedom to hold fast openly and publicly in many areas, to what he believed to be God's will. Obviously, conflict was inevitable. But neither his strong convictions nor the subsequent conflicts ever led to the closing of his heart to anyone. Ultimately it was the attitude of personal dialogue which enabled him to unite the dispersed members of the Society, even to reconcile what was seemingly contradictory.

- **Ignacio Iglesias, SJ**

(from *Pedro Arrupe Treasury*, Hedwig Lewis, SJ, GSP)



To laugh

With a cat sitting in the middle, the boys were talking spiritedly. The parish priest, who was passing by, stopped and asked them what the game was about. "We're having a contest, Father," the boys said. "Each one has to tell a lie. One who tells the biggest lie is the winner and he gets the cat." The priest shrugged and said, "Good heavens! When I was your age, I'd have never thought of telling a lie!" The boys shouted in chorus, "You are the winner, Father! You get the cat!"

Memories

Fr Constantius Beschi (Veerama Munivar) wrote on 29 Jan 1731 a letter to Fr Retz, who was elected General after the death of Fr Tamburini. Apart from writing about the sickness he suffered, he wrote a few lines about his loving relationship with Fr Tamburini.

He wrote: "I got the news of the precious death of the Most Reverend Fr Michael Angelo Tamburini. All of us mourned the loss of our common father; but I was particularly afflicted, as I was the object of his special love. He had received me in the Society; he had sent me to cultivate this portion of the Lord's Vineyard; and he had such affection for me, that even when there was no urgent business to deal with, nearly every year he used to write to me letters full of the most tender love..."

- **A. Arulanandam**



Congratulations!

to **Br Antony Pitchai**, whose meticulous, painstaking work helps us bring out the Province Catalogue every year.

to **Joe Arun**, who designed the cover picture of the new Province Catalogue.



New Releases

நாம் வாழப் பிறந்தவர்கள், அருட்தந்தை சேவியர் அல்போன்ஸ், ஸ்ரீ. வெங்கடேஷ்வரா பதிப்பகம், சென்னை, pp. 221

Hand in Hand with Mary, Fr R.J. Raja, Don Bosco Publications, Chennai, pp. 61, Rs.60/-

But I Say To You, Fr R.J. Raja, Vaigarai Pathippagam, Dindigul, pp. 72, Rs.50/-

Walking The Talk, by Fr Jerry Rosario, Vaigarai Pathippagam, Dindigul, pp. 72, Rs. 25/-