



SEPTEMBER 2011

(For Private Circulation)

PRIESTLY ORDINATION

Dear Friends,

We, the eight Madurai Deacons cordially invite you to our Sacerdotal Ordination at St. Mary's Cathedral, Madurai on 8th October 2011 at 5.30 pm. We gratefully remember every one of you for your grace-filled accompaniment in our formation. Trusting in the Lord who has called us to be *"the Life and the Way"* to all, we go into the world to realize his divine call in our ministry.

FIRST MASS



S. Babu Vincentraj
Church of Our Lady the Healer
Karumandabam, Tiruchi
09-Oct-2011
10.00 am



Ignacy Arockiasamy
Church of Our Lady of Health,
Silukkuvarpatti, Dindigul Dt.
09-Oct-2011
06.00 pm



A. James Suresh Kumar
St. James' Church,
M. Savariyar Pattanam,
Muthukulathur (Via)
09-Oct-2011
09.30 am



J. John Wilson
St. John's Church,
Keelamudimannar Kottai,
(Near) Aruppukottai.
09-Oct-2011
06.00 pm



A. Leolin Arockia Dass
St. Antony of Padua Church,
Sirunayakkanpatti, Dindigul Dt.
09-Oct-2011
09.30 am



Manuel Savariar
St. Antony's Church,
Karisalpatti, Dindigul Dt.
09-Oct-2011
05.30 pm



S. Maria Packiam
St. Ignatius' Church,
Pugailaipatti, Dindigul Dt.
09-Oct-2011
05.30 pm



G. Victor Roch
St. Antony's Church,
Kallukuzhi, Tiruchi
09-Oct-2011
10.30 am

Message from the Provincial

Mary our Mother, our Model and our Mediator

Dear Brothers,

September is the month of festivals in honour of our blessed Mother Mary, who is our Mother, our Model and our Mediator. The Feast of our Lady of Health is a very popular festival for all of us and all the people of Tamilnadu. I had the privilege of celebrating Holy Eucharist at the Shrine of Vailankanni on August 18, during my contact visit to Nagapattinam. The Jesuit Team in Nagapattinam joined me in celebrating this Holy Eucharist and we offered the mass for the entire province and prayed for each member.

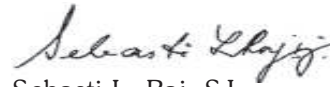
As St. Ignatius depended on Mary so much for all the favours he needed from the Father, all of us are equally dependent on her for our personal needs and the needs of our communities and our ministries. September is a month of a series of meetings in our Province, when we will first have the Superiors' meeting, to be followed by two age-group meetings. This will be the second phase of our collective efforts to reflect together, to discover ourselves together and to march forward together to build our province and to improve our life and our ministries. Definitely, it is an auspicious month, since this is a month when we celebrate the feast of our Lady of Health. Each one of us, both individually and as communities, needs to be healed, our ministries need to be healed, our plans and vision need to be healed. Above all, our relationship with one another needs to be healed, so that we can grow in union of hearts and minds. We need to grow as one province, united in the Lord, under his banner, carrying the only identity we have, namely, "Jesuit identity". Surely, we need the healing touch of our blessed Mother at this time, when we are going to meet in groups to reflect and pray together in our search to make our life and our commitment more effective, more meaningful and more credible. She is our mediator and therefore let us pray to her that she may obtain for us all the graces we need to make these meetings really fruitful.

Mary is also our model. The greatest thing she did in her life was to surrender herself to the will of God. Her surrender liberated her. Her humble submission of herself qualified her to become the Mother of God. In giving she gained infinitely, in submitting she became the mediator and in her selflessness she found her real glory and honour. From then on, she did not live for herself. But she lived for Christ and only for him. She found her joy in fulfilling what God wanted her to do.

All of us are fully aware that our true joy also lies not in acquiring things or holding position and power but in giving ourselves fully, serving selflessly and sacrificing without counting the cost. Let us once again renew our devotion to our Blessed Mother. Let us accept her as our model and try to imitate her ways of responding to God's invitations every moment of our

life. Let us pray to her constantly so that she obtains for each one of us individually and for the whole province collectively the grace of inner healing. May her prayers help each one of us to experience that inner healing, which in turn will inspire us to move forward jointly, with selfless motivation, in serving our people through our varied ministries.

Yours Fraternally,



Sebastia L. Raj, SJ

Provincial's Programme

September

02	Meeting with the Supamites — Beschi
03	Meeting with the Regents — Beschi
10-11	Local Superiors/Team Leaders Meeting — Beschi
11-14	Visitation: Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur
14-16	Visitation: Perumal Malai, Palamalai, Manalur, Ayyampalayam
17-18	Below 45 Age-Group Meet – Beschi
21-22	Above 70 Age-Group Meet — Beschi
24	Consult
25-26	Visitation: Vidya Jyoti – ISI
27-30	Visit to XIMJ, Jabalpur

October

01-02	45-58 Age-Group Meet — Beschi
05	SA Brothers Meet, DA, Chennai
06-07	Visitation: DACA
08	Ordination, Madurai
09-10	Visitation: LAAS
11	GBM: Pastoral Commission – Madurai
12-13	Visitation: LTI, Madurai
14	Sacred Heart Convention, Dindigul
15-16	GBM: Dalit Commission — Trichy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☐ **Superiors/Team Leaders Meeting:** The meeting for the Superiors and Team Leaders will be held at Beschi and it will commence at 9.00 a.m. on September 10. We will have the Holy Eucharist during the Session. The meeting will conclude by 13.00 hours on September 11.
- ☐ **Age-Group Meetings:** The Meetings for the "Below 45 Age-Group", "Above 70 Age-Group" and "45-58 Age-Group" will be held at Beschi, on the stipulated dates. All these meetings will commence at 9.00 a.m. of the first day. We will have the Holy Eucharist during the session itself. Each meeting will conclude around 17.00 hours on the second day.
- ☐ **Renewal of Permission:** Those who are still to write to the Provincial for any renewal of permission are reminded to complete this process at least by the end of September 2011.

PATHAIGAL

Those who would like to send **Pathaigal** to their friends and relatives are requested to send two or three addresses to Fr. Maria Singarayar, 94430-30464 (<vaigaraibooks@gmail.com>)

▣ **Sch. Joseph Eric Dunston E.** left the Society on 01.08.2011

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI

A new page in the history of Loyola College! The much-awaited hostel for women saw the light of day at the beginning of this academic year.

Frs. K. Amal and **Albert William** presented Papers on their research articles in “The International Conference on Image Processing, Computer Vision, and Pattern Recognition” held from 18 to 22, July in Las Vegas, the USA. Fr. K. Amal presided over the 11th Convocation Ceremony of Idhaya College of Education, Puducherry.

Fr. S. Ignacimuthu has been granted two major research projects from the Dept. of Biotechnology and Dept. of Defence, New Delhi. He was the Chief Guest for the national seminar of biotechnology at Maris Stella College, Vijayawada. He inaugurated the international conference on Insect Biodiversity at Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.

National Instructional Media Institute (NIMI) has solicited **Fr. Francis Peter's** help in preparing their text on Employability Skills. He has also trained the Placement team of Velammal chain of institutions.

Fr. Francis P. Xavier conducted an orientation programme for the faculty of Andhra Loyola Engineering College as well as a session on ‘Prayer and Community’ for the Superiors and Coordinators of Andhra Jesuit Province.

M.A. Emmanuel

DHYANA ASHRAM CHENNAI

Fr. Xavier Irudayaraj and Fr. Raja animated on 11th July the senior citizens in our neighbourhood to build up a fellowship. IGFA for 2011 was inaugurated with the keynote of our Provincial. The group discussions brought many new ideas, insights and suggestions for the future of IGFA. On 31 July we had a cultural evening. **Fr. S. M. Selvaraj** produced a Sound & Light show on Mother Mary ‘மாதரசி அன்னை’.

S. Selvaraj

ICRDCE

We have registered 261 prisoners from 9 central prisons of TN for admission to various courses recognized by Tamil Nadu Open University. We are also happy that the Working Group of Higher

Education for the formulation of the 12th plan has included the Community College Scheme which was finalized on 24th August 2011 at New Delhi. The sub-committee on Employability Issues is also considering seriously to suggest that a Community College be an intermediary course between the school and the College.

Xavier Alphonse

KUPPAYANALLUR

A group of environmentalists from “Pudhiya Thalaimurai” organized a programme in our school on “மரம் வளர்ப்போம், மழை பெறுவோம்”. We are very grateful to the students who have been coming from France to Ongur for the last three years. It is noticeable that they collect money from their area and help the poor to build houses. This year also we had 10 students in Ongur and 10 in Palliyagaram and they built 5 houses each in both parishes.

Sr. Clare ICM oriented the first year students of LTTI with different games, songs and exercises from 10-12 and for the second years on 27th. Thanks to her motivations through this orientation programme.

Sch. Joseph hoisted the national flag and inspired the students with his thoughts on the Independence Day. The 17th school annual day was held on 26th. **Mrs. Rajammal** was the chief guest. It is worth noting that she learned alphabets only in 9th standard. Now she is teaching English in a CBSE school. She is the first tribal woman to receive a national award from the President for the best teacher. She said in her address, “Today I am happier than on the day when I received the national award”.

Joseph Arockiasamy

LOYOLA ACADEMY, VADAMELPAKKAM

Bishop Neethinathan was the chief guest for the first ever celebration of the feast of St. Ignatius on 30 July. We had invited all the parents for the celebration. A good many turned up for the function. Our young buddies presented a well-prepared cultural show on that day.

To make the teaching and learning easy and interesting, we have installed a computer with 40” LED monitor cum TV in each classroom. Teachers have been trained and instructed to prepare the AV materials, suited to their lessons. These new gadgets will become completely operational soon.

S.M. John Kennedy

LOYOLA COLLEGE, VETTAVALAM

The third Annual Sports Meet was held on 20th. **Fr. Michael Doss** organized the event. On 25th and 26th the departments of Business Administration and English had their inauguration of association and seminar.

Poondy Rajan

JESUIT PRE-NOVITIATE, VILANGUDI

Bishop Antonisamy of Kumbakonam blessed the *nambikai kopuram* on 7 August at Thirumanur Parish. The pre-novices defeated the French students in a friendly basketball match. The latter had come for a third world experience. An eye-catching farewell programme was given by the villagers of Villiyannallur on 14th August. The pre-novices had a cycle picnic to Elakurichi on 15 August.

Frs. Inigo, John Innaci and **Sch. Prabu** conducted a one-day orientation for the 10th and 12th std students of Nirmala HSS, Ariyalur to help them come up in life with flying colours.

The Tri-fest of VMI, feast of our Founder, the Golden Jubilee of **Fr. X. Savarimuthu** and the Mini Academy of VMI was held on 31st July. The young and energetic battalion of St. Ignatius mesmerized the audience of religious, priests and laity numbering about 150.

The cultural fiesta included *annihilation of caste* a declamation from Dr. Ambedkar, 'The Merchant of Venice' a Shakespearean skit and folk dances. Three days of dance course to our candidates by Ms. Julius helped them to gain confidence. Fr. Inigo addressed the vocation facilitators of St. Anne of Tiruchi. On 23rd he conducted a one-day orientation for the students of Bon Secours College, Thanjavur. The efforts of our Superior **Fr. Ignatius**, in the paddy field make our house very beautiful. **Sch. Prabu Francis** attended a five-day counselling course at Beschi.

Prabu Francis

BESCHI ILLAM, DINDIGUL

Beschi and St. Mary's Dindigul Communities had an exhortation on the theme Jesuits and Women given by **Fr. Michael Jeyaraj** on 28 July. They celebrated together the feast of St. Ignatius. On 4 August, Beschi Community went for a picnic to Poondi and Kallanai. Some Jesuits from St. Mary's Community also joined them.

Fr. Rex A. Pai gave a six-day course on Discernment. **Novice M. Alwin Prakash** gave an eloquent speech after the flag hoisting on Independence Day. We warmly welcome **Fr. Dorairaj** and **Br. Selvaraj** who have joined our Community.

P. Anto Arputha Raja

MADURAI NOVICES AT ANANDA JYOTHI, GUNTUR

As preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius', we had a three-day seminar on Ignatian Spirituality by **Fr. Thamburaj (MDU)** whose power-point presentation on Ignatius' life enriched us.

Beyond Boundaries was the theme for the celebration of Ignatius feast on 31st July. **Zenith** our Sacristan looked after the chapel decoration and Mass arrangements wonderfully and made us feel the prayerful atmosphere during the Eucharist in the morning and the Adoration in the evening. Then we

presented an hour-long cultural programme highlighting the need for having our vision beyond our boundaries. **Nirmal** played the role of Jesus and **Velanganni** the role of a violent devil in the skit entitled 'The Eighth Day'. They were well appreciated for their wonderful performance.

On 7th August, we resumed our weekly ministries (on Sundays) in the neighbouring villages. We are also trying to pick up some Telugu with help of the children in these villages.

On August 15th the feasts of the Assumption of the BVM and the Indian Independence Day were celebrated with spiritual vigour and zeal. **Fr. Britto Peter**, our PCF celebrated the Eucharist and in his homily he asked us to take Mother Mary as our model. Fr. Britto took a week-long course on the psychological aspects of our life and taught us ways of being psychologically sound and growing in maturity.

Zenith

JESUIT JUNIORATE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The young minds and hearts of juniors enjoyed the many celebrations in July and August. With the theme *Our heart is bigger than the world* we commemorated the feast of our Founder in a grand way. The homily of **Fr. Scotus** was inspiring. On the eve of the feast with the help of **Sch. Royan**, our regent, we launched a new website (www.juniorswriters.cc). Madurai juniors Valan, Doni, Paul and Bosco have volunteered to make this venture a success.

A four-day course on *Film Appreciation* by **Fr. George** kindled our curiosity to learn well about films. The course on *Art Appreciation* by **Fr. Roy** helped us to look at the world aesthetically and come out with our artistic talents. As part of this course we visited the Art Gallery.

Nirmal A.

JUNIORATE, KOLKATA

On 31 July we had Eucharistic celebration presided over by the bishop of the diocese of Baruipur. In the evening the Juniors along with the novices of Calcutta Province put on a cultural show. More than 200 religious from various congregations attended the programme.

On 15 August we celebrated the Independence Day with the Holy Eucharistic celebration followed by flag hoisting. Junior **Selukas** gave an excellent speech on Independence Day. On 20 August we had an outing to Victoria Memorial and Indian Museum in Kolkata.

From 20 to 27 August we had a one-week workshop on "*Self Integration and Group Building*". It led us to make an intense exploration, a deep inner journey and a meticulous inventory of ourselves.

Vino Selukas

DE BRITTO, DEVAKOTTAI

We held our Sports Day on 13 Aug followed by a grand science exhibition on 18. There were 230 exhibits on display and some of them were selected for district level competitions. One of our students V. Kumaravel IX std has been selected as *Chutti Star* for the *Chutti Vigaden*.

The school alumni association organized the JAAT EC meeting in our campus on 27 August. Nearly 150 alumni attended it.

John Paul

ST. MARY'S, DINDIGUL

The School celebrated its 101st Sports Day and 88th Annual Day on 12th and 13th August respectively. **Dr. T. Sam Elango** and **Mr. A. Ambalavanan**, IAAS were the chief guests. Everyday in the evening, the 6th standard students are given extra thirty minutes to develop their basic reading skills both in English and Tamil. A one day workshop on 'short story writing' was organized by the Tamil literary association for 8th and 9th standard students. The Alumni association conducted a one day Sex Education Programme to 11th standard students. Our students **N. Perumal**, **P. Vignesh**, **P. Arul Murugan** and **S. Raja** were selected for the Tamil Nadu State Teams in Volleyball, Handball and Hockey.

Singarayar

XAVERIANA

Our school conducted Staff Orientation on 27 Aug.

The School Day was conducted on 12 Aug. Fr Albert conducted St Thomas Mat.Hr Sec.School Day with grandeur, the parents and guests were taken up with the cultural items.

Fr Provincial, during his contact visit, blessed and opened the new Auditorium plus library complex.

Our community members helped Our Lady of Snows basilica during the novena days. In this connection there was a grand games mela in our campus for over two weeks. Earlier the community and the catholic staff and students of our school did a padayatra to St Ignatius Parish Church. The feast of St Ignatius saw the bishop, priests and religious sharing our joy. We gave a slide show on St Ignatius (Thank you, Thambu). A new sump is under construction next to our residence. Fr Felix of St Mary's, Madurai, broke all records by giving 20 twenty-minute talks in two and a half days for Pavalam TV.

Xavier Rajan

ARUL ANANDAR COLLEGE, KARUMATHUR

About 20 alumni of the late 1980s made a fruitful visit to AAC and were happy to observe the academic and infrastructural improvements effected in the College. **Fr. A. Joseph** explained to them during the tea hosted by the Jesuit community the need to strengthen the alumni association.

Fr. Xavier Vedam has now started a coaching centre for the civil services aspirants.

Fr. Gilbert has joined AAC community after completing his Guyana assignment.

Leonard

ST XAVIER'S INSTITUTES, PALAYAMKOTTAI

As a preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius, the Community went on a pilgrimage to Nenmeni on 29 July.

The annual retreat was organized for all Catholic students in the College on 6 and 7 August. On 30 August *Hello FM* had an interaction with the students and organized awareness activities and various competitions.

St. Xavier's College of Education conducted an Intensive English Coaching Camp for the B. Ed. students from 18 to 30 August. It was meticulously executed by the College student-Jesuits.

The St. Xavier's School also had its annual retreat on 6 August. **Fr. S. P. Savarimuthu** and a group of Servite Sisters were the preachers. On 13 August a group of former students of 1987 batch came together and shared their experiences. In the afternoon a seminar was organized for our students and the students of nearby schools on இளையோரின் முழு வளர்ச்சி. About 1000 students took part in it and **Mr. Palanichamy**, IAS was the resource person.

On 25 August the Community celebrated the Jubilee of **Fr. Paul de la Gueriviere**. **Fr. Alphonse Manickam** attended the Planning and Evaluation Committee.

Sahayaraj Vijayan

ST JOSEPH'S, TIRUCHI

The Corpus Christi procession was held on 7 August. **Fr. John Peter** from St Paul's Seminary gave a soul-stirring homily to discover Christ in the poor and the needy. **Fr. Paul Pragash** gave a one-day recollection to the scholastics before the feast of St Ignatius.

The College Sports Day was held on 20th August. The sight of the physically challenged coming up to receive the prizes was very moving. Jeyaraman of our College representing TN won a Gold Medal in the 200 mts dash in South Zone Junior Athletes Sports held at Hyderabad. The Ball Badminton team of our College has done us proud by becoming the champions in Bertram Tournament at Loyola College, Chennai.

On 29 July, the Vocation Promoter and the Campus Ministry jointly organized an exhibition on the life of St Ignatius and the stamps released on the Society of Jesus.

This year being the International Year of Chemistry, the Department of Chemistry organized a two-day exhibition christened *CHEMEX-11*. There were 50 stalls of fun and frolic and children from over

60 different schools trooped in to see the exhibition.

The General Body Meeting of the Secondary Education was held here on 20th and 21st August.

A new batch of 30 students drawn from various departments is undergoing an Add-on Course under the aegis of the SHEPHERD Programme.

The Department of Forests and SHEPHERD Extension Department jointly organized the celebration of the International Year of Forests on 24 August as a part of the ongoing Silver Jubilee Celebrations of SHEPHERD. Saplings were planted to mark the celebration.

Inigo Illam, hostel for Dalits and poor boys situated in the Bellarmine Hostel premises is shifted to the old rice mill building. After a very long drawn out struggle, the School has got a separate water connection to meet its needs.

About hundred sportsmen of former years came to the campus and interacted with the administrators on 21 August. They put their heads together to find out ways and means to strengthen the Department of Sports and Games. The retirement of Prof. Kasi, the Physical Education Director was the immediate occasion to inspire the sportsmen to contribute their mite for their Alma Mater.

Fr. Sebastian Anand conducted a Ph.D. viva voce examination at St. Thomas College, Thrissur on 24 August. **Fr. S. John Britto** was invited for a conference on 24 and 25 August at Gujarat University. On 25 August under the aegis of *Christuva Ayvu Maiyam*, there was a special lecture on *Thembavani* by **Fr. S. Mani Valan**.

Sebastian Anand

DACA, MADURAI

This year the Teacher Training Institute is full due to good results produced from its inception. Welcoming the Freshers was held on July 25.

There are 17 new girl students to our Vidivelli home for the sixth standard. Twelve new girls from different parts of Tamil Nadu have been admitted to undergo Computer Training recognized by the Government.

This year Theatre Centre associated with National School of Drama, Delhi trains our sixth standard girls towards creative imagination.

DACA hosted the State level meeting of coalition partners at DACA campus on 29 July. From 23 districts in Tamil Nadu, one representative each working for the rights of conservancy workers attended. **Fr. P. Antoniraj** inaugurated the meeting with a keynote address on his own experiences in working for the rights of conservancy workers in the State. **Mr. Sylvain**, France, the programme officer of CCFD Asia Desk, was the chief guest.

Madurai City has 218 slums and the majority of the population here belongs to Arunthathiar community. In June and July DACA with the help of some students took a survey of 20 slums and identified 235 conservancy workers. After this it conducted a meeting for 125 conservancy workers at Madurai on 17 July, Fr Antoniraj inaugurated the meeting and called upon the workers to get organized for social liberation and claim their rights. **Fr. Rajarathinam** motivated them to realize their social, economic and political condition and prepare themselves for social changes. The participants asked us to show the way for getting good education for their children. Also they wished to form their own movement to fight for their rights. It was decided to bring all of them under one forum.

In Madurai City we have 18 Social Education Centres (SEC) in 18 slums for 527 children of Arunthathiar community. These children have been motivated to continue their education through the supply of school bags. Under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Yojana (SJSRY) Skill training programme Madurai Corporation has sanctioned two trainings at Viratipathu and Anupanadi in Madurai on Fashion Design and Embroidery and Computer software and hardware. Eighty girls have been given certificates and 50% of them have got jobs locally.

DACA in collaboration with the Madurai Corporation conducts Night Shelter for the homeless urban poor at Sellur. Now there are 50 rescued beggars from Madurai city. We are providing them food, counselling and skill trainings. Madurai Corporation provides health care in its hospitals. On 19 July the District collector **Mr. Sahayam** appreciated our efforts and encouraged us with the promise to extend support from the district administration.

An Italian team visited the Ceyrac Medical Foundation in June. There is an agreement and cooperation between Cure 2 Children (C2C) and CMF. The C2C is working on a project *Cure and Prevention of Thalassemia Major and related blood disorders in India*. The project will support HLA-matched transplants in low-risk needy patients as well as Thalassemia prevention by carrier screening and counselling.

Fr. Devasagayam organized a one-day seminar on Panchayat Raj at Oddanchatram on August 20 for 45 participants.

Rajarathinam

IDEAS, MADURAI

With 90 women and 114 men moving around the campus in August, IDEAS campus continued to bustle with a variety of activities. The interesting fact is that, besides the staff and animators of KALANGARAI and other NGO animators and trainers, a good number of participants came from Arunthathiyar movements: Thiyagi Immanuel Peravai and Kodai Malai Ambedkar

Makkal Iyakkam to develop their leadership skills, update their socio-political knowledge and chalk out their short and long term planning.

IDEAS team members, too, trekked near and far to offer their expert services. At a seminar on 10 and 11 Aug. for 100 students of St. Peter's College of Education, run by the Coimbatore diocese at Karumathampatti, **Fr. Sahayaraj** stimulated them to reflect on *Teacher as a Person and Teacher as a Professional*. He guided 30 CIC Sisters in Madurai on 21 Aug. to work out a value-based education module for the school students of their Amalavai Iyakkam. Another programme on 28 Aug. took him to Nagercoil to enlighten the OSM Sisters on *Globalization and its Impact on Dalits and Women*. On 8 Aug., 100 students of Justin B.Ed. College, Madurai attended **Fr. Stephen Martin's** session on *The Role of Media in Eve-teasing*. After the session on 20 Aug. for 25 animators of the media clubs at St. Teresa Matriculation School, Karur, he conducted a media education camp from 22 to 26 Aug. for 47 students of Grihini Community College, Shembaganur.

Besides animating and guiding the future planning of KALANGARAI from 02 to 04 Aug., **Fr. Aloysius** on invitation from the TNP-CRI Executive Committee attended its one-day consultation on 23 Aug. in Tiruchi to deliberate on certain problems that religious congregations have been confronted with in recent times. During a ten-day work schedule for NCDHR at New Delhi, he edited two advocacy documents: *Handbook for Parliamentarians on the SC/ST (PoA) Act & Rules* and *Alternative Report on the Status of Implementation of SC/ST (PoA) Act & Rules*. Social Action Coordinator **Fr. Michaelraj** visited AHAL and PAATHAI to review and reflect with the respective team members on their activities. Involved in training prospective candidates for the *panchayatraj* elections in the four selected taluks of Oddanchatram, Kodaikanal, Sattur and Sivakasi, he recently dispatched a 13-member SAPI delegation to Delhi to attend the national workshop on *Governance and Accountability Mechanism* from 28 to 30 Aug.

Our Administrator-cum-Minister **Fr. Sahayaraj** thought it best to send IDEAS-LAAS-KARISAL Community to Courtallam on 17 Aug to celebrate the *saaral vizha* and, of course, to cool their nerves and loosen their muscles!

Aloysius Irudayam

SACRED HEART COLLEGE, SHEMBAGANUR

From Aug 11 to 13, fifty-five selected members of different villages gathered for three days of Leadership Training at IDEAS, Madurai.

On the 18 August we, the Jesuits in Kodaikanal hills had a get-together and Community Mass in Perumalmalai.

It was a remarkable day for all the PEAK hostel children on 20 Aug. The new building of Siruvar Illam was inaugurated by **Fr. Leo** from Vidyajyoti.

The efforts of PEAK were shown by getting 55 ration cards and patta for 15 tribal people of Kubaraiyur in the lower hills of Kodaikanal.

TAIWAN

On 15 August, I completed one year in Taipei. And what could be better than to celebrate it with my family? I don't mean just the Jesuit family in Taipei but the family I was born into. My dear appa and amma were here to pay me a visit. And they were only too happy to see my conversations in Chinese with acquaintances, when we went around Taipei.

Another Jesuit scholastic, Romio Brahma from Kohima (already a Province, I believe) will be joining this year's batch of International Regents! Together, there will be four, one each from Brazil, Portugal, the United States and India. Meanwhile, the other Jesuit companions belonging to my batch have already left for Beijing. On my request, the Chinese Provincial allowed me to extend my stay in Taipei. During the summer I attended a camp with the aboriginal children of Nanzhuang. For them it was the first encounter with an Indian and the kids watched me as if I was an exhibit in a museum; it was strange but amusing!

I am slowly extending my ministries to local people, now that I manage to speak Chinese. I am building up friendship with the local people. On the other hand, I was spending some time renewing ties with Jesuit companions in India too. With the advent of Skype, communications have become convenient.

I am waiting to see Fr Provincial on his Contact Visit to Taipei as and when it happens!

Santosh

From Guyana

My travel from Chennai to Georgetown, Guyana was pleasant and safe. After a short break in London, I landed safely on 29th July or I would say 30th July at 1.00am. You may recall or might have read in the news papers or watched in TV that after half an hour of my landing, a Caribbean flight had a crash landing and got broke into two pieces skidding the runway in the same airport. Thank God there was no casualty. Thank you for your prayers. **Fr. Paul Martin**, the Regional superior and **Fr. Edwin** were there to receive me at the airport at the odd hour of time.

I spent a few days in Arrupe House in Georgetown in preparation just to get to know the people and the place and now I am in Berbice where **Fr. Gilbert** was working. As soon as I arrived here I had to look after and guide a week long summer course along with **Sch. Britto** of our province. I am slowly getting to know the nature of my work, the people and the surroundings. As I feel it is going to be a great challenge to be alone here quite often rather than the nature of the work.

Please continue to keep me in your prayers.

K. A. Augustine

NEW RELEASE**TAKING TEXT TO CONTEXT**

(A Festschrift in honor of Fr. T. K. John on the occasion of his 75th birth anniversary) Editors: George Keerankeri, S.J. & V.P. Srivastava; ISPCK / Vidyajyoti College of Theology (VCT) Delhi, Rs 350; for Copies: Vidyajyoti College of Theology, 4a, Rajniwas Marg, Delhi-110054 Email: <vjtrdelhi@gmail.com>

ABIDE WITH THE LORD

Fr. Mathew Moozhiyil (KER) 86/66 on 29 Aug
Mrs. Selvi, 37, Sister of Sch. Poondy Rajan on 21 Aug
Mr. John Bosco (51) brother of Fr. Paulraj Packiam on 1 Sept.
Mr. Arockiasamy (62) younger brother of Fr. Albert Joseph on 3 Sept.

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HEALING VERSES

(from Epictetus' *Manual*)

"It's not things in themselves
 That shake us with their tensions and their fears;
 But the misled opinions
 That hold down in their sway our mind's
 dominions.

Think of death, and it's clear:
 If its true face appears
 It does not lead to sorrow or to tears;
 And Socrates faced it without despair.

What makes death full of terrors
 Is only the deceit of our errors.

And if this holds of death,
 Which is considered earth's most dreadful passion,
 The same will now apply in any occasion.

And so, when in your vision,
 Your brain is shaken by misled illusion,
 Put the blame on the weight of your opinion,
 Not on the stray event,
 Which of itself is meek and innocent.

Again take care you observe this precept:
 The one who takes upon himself the rule
 To blame another, is nothing but a fool.

The one who blames himself and spares the rest
 Is just honest beginner in his quest.

Only he who, not even under pressure
 Blames himself or blames others,
 Is the wise and the prudent in full measure."

(Courtesy: *Why do I suffer when I suffer?*,
 Carlos G. Valles, S.J., pp. 11-12)