



MARCH 2010

(For Private Circulation)

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

March

- 6 Dindigul: Province Consult with Fr Lisbert D'Souza
- 7 Kozhikode, JCSA
- 14 - 22 Chennai: Visitation: Loyola College
- 23-24 Chennai: Visitation: Berchmans Illam
- 25 Dindigul: Beschi: R & R
- 28 Dindigul: Consult
- 29 Dindigul: Combined Chennai Mission and Province Consult

April

- 11 Dindigul: EMS (English Medium Sections) Evaluation
- 16-19 Dindigul: Visitation: Beschi Illam

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

⊙ The POSA's Appointments & Transfers :

- Fr. George Mutholil** (KER), Director, Indian Social Institute, Bangalore
- Fr. Santiago Paul Raj** (KHM), Spiritual Director & Registrar, Satya Nilayam, Chennai
- Fr. Patras Kujur** (MAP), Spiritual Director, De Nobili College, Pune
- Fr. Anil Gomes** (CCU), Spiritual Director, Papal Seminary, Pune
- Fr. Stephen Ekka** (MAP), Spiritual Director, Satya Nilayam, Chennai
- Fr. Robin Sahaya Seelan** (MDU), De Nobili College, Pune-JDV Lecturer
- Fr. Francis Ezhakunnel** (JAM), DNC, Pune-Lecturer, Institute of Pastoral Management
- Fr. Augustine Perumalil** (DEL), Hekima College, Nairobi

Fr. Cornelius Ekka (MAP), Tertianship (Shembaganur)

Fr. Raj Kumar (AND), Doctoral Studies, Frankfurt

Fr. Valan C. Anthony (CCU), Doctoral Studies, Berkley, United States

Fr. Michael Amaladoss (MDU), Editor IGNIS

Fr. George Anthony (JAM), Secretary JEPASA

Fr. Pravin Severeakar (BOM), Registrar JDV (In addition to being Sp. Director)

Fr. Selvaraj Arulnathan (MDU), Indian Social Institute, New Delhi

Fr. Leonard Nevis Fernando (MDU), Editor Vidyajyoti Journal

Fr. George Gispert-Sauch (BOM), Editorial Assistant , Vidyajyoti Journal

Fr. Anthonydass (KAR), Afghanistan Mission

Sch. Lancy Dias (KAR), Afghanistan Mission

Fr. Patrick Arockiaraj (PUN), Staff, Satya Nilayam

The South Asia Assistency is grateful to **Fr. Samuel Rayan** (KER), **Fr. Paul Gueriviere** (MDU), **Fr. Mathew Aerthayil** (KER), **Fr. Albert M. Menezes** (BOM), **Fr. A.Santiago** (AND), **Fr. Tom Kunnunkal** (DEL), **Fr. Jerome Sequeira** (JAM), **Fr. Maria Joseph Israel** (CCU), **Sch. Leo Anand** (MDU), **Sch. Kanichi Linto** (KER), **Sch. Sahaya Jude** (CCU), **Fr. Paul Coutinho** (BOM) who have returned/will return to their provinces after rendering valuable service in the Common Houses and Missions of the Assistency. We thank also **Fr. Arokiasamy**, the outgoing editor of Vidyajyoti Journal.

- ⊙ On completion of his Tertianship at Raia, Goa, **Fr. A. Irudaya Raj** rejoins the Kalangarai team at Nagapattinam. Welcome back!

- ⊙ **PRERANA, Mount St Joseph, Bangalore**, offers a course on:

RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP. Dates: 2010 Apr 11ev. to 18 noon. Rs.2200/-(room, board & course) By: Frs. Fred D'Silva, Dion Vaz, William Sequeira & Charles Lasrado

Apply: Email: preranaisc@gmail.com or write to: Prerana, Mount St Joseph, IIMB Post, Bangalore 560076.

- ⊙ **ATMADARSHAN PROGRAMME**

Please Note: Registration and course fee is non-refundable. Board, Rs. 125/- per day, can be paid on arrival. Make all DD's in favour of *Atmadarshan* in Patna.

1. RETREAT WITH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN AND THE BHAGAVAT GITA

Fr. Pius Thekemury, S.J. and Sr. Jane, S.C.N. Dates: 5.00 p.m. June 07 to 5.00 p.m. June 15

Registration and course fee Rs 600.00

2. HOLISTIC AWARENESS RETREAT

Frs. J. Kunnumpuram, S.J., J. Kootinal, S.J., R. Schmidt, S.J., and Sr. Josita, S.C.N.

Dates: 5 p.m. July 10 to 5 p.m. July 22; Registration and Course Fee Rs. 1200

3. HOLISTIC HEALTH TRAINING & RETREAT

Frs. J. Kunnumpuram, S.J., J. Kootinal, S.J., R. Schmidt, S.J. and Sr. Josita, S.C.N.

Dates: 5p.m. August 05 to 5 p.m. August 17; Registration and Course Fee Rs. 1200

4. JOURNEY TOWARD WHOLENESS – TEN DAYS RETREAT

Frs. A. Puthumana, S.J., R. Schmidt, S.J., and Sr. Suja, S.N.D.

Dates: 5 p.m. August 20 to 5 p.m. August 30; Registration and Course Fee Rs. 1000

5. HOLISTIC INTEGRATION RETREAT

Frs. J. Kunnumpuram, S.J., J. Kootinal, S.J., and Srs. Alphy, R.A. and Suchita, O.S.U.

Dates: 5 p.m. September 02 to 5 p.m. September 12;

Registration and Course Fee Rs. 1000

6. RETREAT DISCOVERING YOUR INNER TEACHER

Fr. T. Mattapally, S.J.

Dates: 5 p.m. September 15 to 5 p.m. September 25; Registration and Course Fee Rs. 1000

ATMADARSHAN: Digha Ghat P.O. Patna 800

011, Bihar, Phone (0612) 2560537;

2560196, Mobile 9430032436

E-mail: adarshan@sancharnet.in

- ⊙ **Fr. Lourduraj Arokiasamy**, St Gonzaga Gonza Novitiate, Njiro, Korona, P.O.Box 1726, Arusha, Tanzania. Mobile: 255752966705, Email: lou45arok@yahoo.co.uk

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI

As Loyola College management sought to proceed on January 29, 2010, to submit before an expert committee constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu its views on Unitary University, several-times redrafted, incorporating suggestions from all people concerned, a section of the aided teaching staff blocked its way, opposing thus even the mention of the concept of unitary university status. After meeting with a delegation of aided staff at Dindigul, Fr. Provincial suggested, through a two-page letter on 6th February, that each Loyola Jesuit should play the role of a "bridge builder." He also paid an unscheduled visit to the Loyola Jesuits on 25th February and met on the following day the college staff including Jesuits. While the Tamil Nadu Government is clarifying to itself the Unitary University concept, Fr. Provincial has suspended acrimonious debate on the subject. Instead, he has called for a collective search and dialogue to evolve a vision for Loyola in 10, 20, 30 years from now. It is a moral obligation, he said, for the faculty and management to propel Loyola to its next stage of development. That development, he cautioned, should not jeopardize staff salary, retirement benefits, pensions, etc.

At the fourth edition of the Business Ethics Conference BEACON 2010 organised by the students of the Loyola Institute of Business Administration, **Mr Andrew T. Simkin**, US Consul General in Chennai exhorted the students not to lose sight of ethical principles. To keep Soaring through Sustainability (the theme of the conference), he suggested to the business community to adopt suitable measures to conserve natural resources. Rather than being competitive in nature, corporate governance and corporate social responsibility are complementary to each other, said **Mr.P. Murari**, advisor to FICCI in his Presidential address. As **Fr. Christie** brought out the special features of Beacon10, **Fr. K. Amal**, Rector did not fail to provide a word of praise to the student-organisers.

Loyola Economics Association for Development (LEAD), the Department of Commerce (Shift II) and the Department of Computer Science had each conducted an international seminar focusing on vital issues in February 2010.

Fr. F. Andrew successfully defended his thesis *Governance in Micro Finance Institutions* recently. **Fr. A.G. Leonard**, Chairman, Association of Economists of Tamil Nadu addressed the two-day AET Annual Conference – XXX at National College, Tiruchirappalli on 9th January, 2010.

Fr.B. Jeyaraj, Controller of Examinations, was the chief guest at the valedictory session on 2nd December 2009 at the Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology sponsored two-day state level inter-

collegiate students seminar on Chemistry for competitive examinations.

On 11th January, 2010, the department of Statistics conducted an International Conference on Statistics and Information Analytics (ICSIA 2010).

Fr. N. Casimir Raj, Director of Loyola College Alumni Association shared the joy with the previous Loyola Hostel directors and the college officials at the three-day annual get-together during January 22nd-24th 2010 of the LOHO 2010 at Chennai where 195 past hostel students including 125 accompanied by their wives and children assembled. On the same day **Fr Joseph Michael**, Superior of Kuppayanallur Jesuits thanked the LIBA alumni/ae for the gift of Rs two lakhs in 2008-09 towards the education of the students at Kuppayanallur and his joy knew no bounds as **Mr Janarthanan**, President, LIBA Alumni/ae Association presented Rs 2 lakhs as the first instalment of the promised enhanced contribution to the cause of education. **Fr. M. J. Mahalingam**, Coordinator, Loyola Dalit students has come out with a neatly presented brochure containing the various programmes that Loyola Emancipatory Action for Dalit Students (LEADS).

Fr. S. Ignacimuthu, obtained three patents on 8th Jan. He inaugurated three national workshops one on Molecular Biology Techniques at Stella Maris College, Chennai on 9th Jan., the second on millennium zoology at St Aloysius College on 21st Jan., and the third on Biotechnology at Christ College, Thrissur, Kerala on 23rd Feb. He is invited to serve as an expert member in the research council of TN Agricultural University and at the Board of Management of Karunya University, Coimbatore for a period of three years.

Fr. Jacob, Campus Minister, arranged on Feb 20 Annual Penitential Walk to St Thomas Mount. **Fr. Francis P. Xavier** addressed the national council of AICUF (Feb 5th) on: Leadership and Empowerment of the Marginalized. He was invited to moderate a panel discussion on: Women in Science and Technology, during an international conference on 'Women in Education' at Immaculate College of Education in Puduchery on Feb 6. He was invited to be a resource person for a workshop on: Scientific Writing at Women's Christian College on Feb 18 and he presented a paper on Making Sense of Scientific Data. He delivered a lecture on Missing Matter in the Universe on Feb 23 at A M Jain College, Chennai.

IDCR conducted for the third year in succession, India Study Programme on Indian Religions and Cultures for students and faculty of Canisius College, Buffalo, USA as a part of international student exchange and global academic collaboration. The group visited Loyola School Kuppayanallur for field experience.

IDCR initiated a debate with **Fr Jegath Gaspar Raj** of Tamil Maiyam on Festivals and Identities of Communities. It has begun a mini-project funded by MHRD on Festivals and communal harmony. IDCR has deputed two research scholars to gather data on Pongal festival in Chennai city suburbs, and music season in the city with the view to looking at their contribution towards building communities and promoting communal harmony.

Peace Rangers of IDCR conducted inter-collegiate competition on the theme of IDPs in Sri Lanka titled *Let My People Live*. In the finals, 32 bands participated.

Fr Xavier Vedam organized a function to close a month-long programme of study for students belonging to Winchester University, UK on Indian Society, Culture and Religion with visits to places of cultural and sociological importance in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Fr. G. Arockiaraj conducted the Sports Day of the College, the Murphy Memorial inter-collegiate Football and the G. Francis Memorial Hockey Tournament. He also organised Endowment Talks on 'Mother Earth, We Pledge to Preserve You'.

Fr. S. Sebastian, Principal conducted the Second Sports Day for the students of the Loyola College of Education with an Arjuna Awardee **Ms Vijayalakshmi**, as the Chief Guest.

A. G. Leonard

LOYOLA COLLEGE, VETTAVALAM.

On the feast of St. John de Britto the community went to the cave in Vettavalam where the saint was treated by the faithful for his injuries after being left half dead and celebrated the holy Mass. **Mr. Thillo**, a film maker from Germany, made a thirty minute documentary movie about our college students.

The Fire and Rescue Service of Vettavalam gave a Fire Demo to our students on 16 Feb. It demonstrated how the students should help themselves and rescue others in the event of fire accidents. Blood Donation camp (40 donors) was organized on 20 Feb.

The 1st College Day was celebrated on 26th February. **Dr. Amuldoss**, Former Registrar i/c, Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore presided over the function. The college also organized the parent – teacher meeting. A simple lunch was served to the parents after the meeting. We joined the staff for a one day outing to Sathanur Dam on 27th Feb.

Poondi Rajan

LOYOLA TRAINING CENTRE, RANIPET

We celebrated the Republic day with due solemnity. **Fr Vedanayagam** exhorted the gathering to continue to be patriotic in their daily life.

The 7th annual day of our school was held on 16th Feb in the presence of Religious, Parents of our students and well wishers with **Fr. Amal**, Rector, Loyola College, Chennai, as the chief guest. We had a variety cultural programme, including a skit in English, a sound and light drama “வானமே வசப்படும்” in Tamil and dance performances. Kudos to **Fr. Arul Oli**, along with our Schs. Christu and Michael, for making this day memorable! Fr. Amal exhorted the students to become highly motivated achievers.

I. Vedanayagam

DHYANA ASHRAM CHENNAI

Frs. S.M. Selvaraj, S. Selvaraj and **Jerry** provided during the evening Eucharistic celebration from 5th to 7th Feb, helpful inputs on “Ecological Concerns and Literary Contribution”. **Fr.X.**

Irudayaraj is helping **Fr Rex Pai** in giving a one-month retreat in Nilakottai. **Br. Sadanandam** is on his feet again after a severe viral attack. **Fr.R.J. Raja** gave a course on The Synoptic Gospels in Dhyana Ashram on 16 and 17 Feb.

Fr. Jerry was a member of the organizing committee and the head of the drafting committee at the Indian Priests Congress from 9 to 11 Feb attended by about 800 bishops and priests at Vailankanni. Owing to his initiative, fifty priests donated blood. He gave an exhortation to the clergy of Tiruchirappalli Diocese on 16 Feb which included Lenten reflections and information on donations of body parts.

On 7th Feb the general public appreciated DABEX 2010 (Dhyana Ashram Book Exhibition).

Thamburaj

AHAL, KILPENNATHUR

The inmates of Arrupe Home went on a one-day tour to Bangalore on 6th Feb. About 15 tuition teachers from our contact villages had a training programme on 20 Feb. As expressed by **Fr M. Devadoss**, Provincial on 22Feb, at the end of the Annual Visitation, the community resolved to redouble its efforts towards building up the poor and neglected.

Rayappan

JESUIT PRE-NOVITIATE, VILANGUDI

Fr. Britto Peter, the PCF opened Loyola Language Lab. The special Eucharistic celebration on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was presided over by the PCF, during which he brought out Fr. Arrupe's experience at Lourdes and the Society's special devotion to Mother Mary.

Now, VMI is clothed with a protective mesh against mosquitoes, thanks to **Fr.A. Thomas**, the Province Treasurer. The friendly visit of St. Joseph's community made us feel the warmth of Jesuit companionship. The pre-novices underwent an annual medical check-up to obtain fitness certificate to enter into the army of St. Ignatius. **Sr. Kanikai**, the administrator of Sahaya Matha Hospital, Pullampadi enlightened the pre-novices with her talk on holistic health.

The mood of parishioners at Thirumanur was upbeat as they celebrated the feast of St. John de Britto in the renovated church under the caring shepherd **Fr.A. Baskar**. The Rector of St. Joseph's College, **Fr.P. Susai**, blessed the church.

Viji Bose V

JESUIT JUNIORATE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Juniors had monthly recollection towards the end of January. The visit of **Fr. Britto Peter** our PCF was a moment of grace. The Academy Day was on 13 February on the theme "Fire That Kindles Other Fires". Juniors actively took part in all the cultural items including Vattapaatu and a short play "The Enchanted Shirt". Madurai juniors danced for "kolattam" and "oilattam".

The Ecological course was conducted by **Fr. John Britto**, the director of Anglade institute from 18 to 20 February in Shambaganur. We are also grateful to LATI community, Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur and

St. Mary's community Madurai for their warm welcome and kind hospitality.

Jesuraja

DNC, PUNE

Congrats to Sch. Thangadurai for the third prize he won in All India Essay Competition organized by ASSR of JDV. **Sch. James Raja** participated in the National Youth Seminar organized by Centre for Civil Society in New Delhi from 22-24 Jan. **Sch. Baskar** participated in the South Asian Youth Camp organized by Centre for Youth Development and Activities in Pune from 1-5 Feb. **Fr. Joe Arun** was with us as he offered an optional course in JDV.

DNC wore a festive look on 16 Feb as fifteen scholastics of various provinces were ordained deacons. We recently had a wonderful opportunity to interact with Nishkama Seva Dal, a Sikh volunteer organization. The Sikh culture, presented in Power Point presentation, speeches, dances and martial arts, not only enthralled the audience but also infused new energy into the quest for Inter Religious dialogue.

P. James Raja

VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

On 20 Feb **Archbishop Concessao** ordained 45 Jesuit Scholastics as deacons at the Millennium Hall, St. Xavier's school, Delhi. The Staff and **Sch. Manuel** from Arul Kadal were with us on that day. The newly ordained Deacons wish to take this opportunity to express their sincere gratitude to all those who have helped them walk thus far.

John

ST. MARY'S, MADURAI

The Centenary celebrations of the Britto Hostel began with the concelebrated Holy Mass followed by felicitations to the former Directors and Regents who served the Boarding and the Hostel in the previous years. In the evening there was a colourful social gathering of the inmates with their parents and chiefly marked by the presence of the inmates of the 1997 batch who happily shared their life experiences during their stay here. The present day inmates brought out their cultural talents thus bringing the festive mood to a happy end. Thanks to **Fr. Stephen**, the Warden, **Br. Benjamin**, his assistant and other co-workers.

The 156th sports and Annual Day of the St. Mary's Elementary School attached to the Cathedral Parish was also celebrated in a fitting manner. While the Mass Drill and other exercises were a veritable show of the physical talents of the school kids, their cultural programme became the cynosure of all eyes, especially of the parents who could see for themselves how their children grow in an atmosphere conducive to their overall growth process. Thanks to **Fr. Mount Joe**, the Correspondent, the Headmistress and other staff members who proved their organizing capacity.

The liturgical season of lent brought in the active participation of all the community members every Friday. The community members participated also in the Public Meeting arranged to welcome the *Pathayathris* from Kanyakumari to Chennai for pressing the demands of the Dalit Christians for granting the

same status and privileges that have been extended already to the Dalits of other minority communities such as Sikhs and Buddhists. **Fr. Jebamalai Raja** was one of the main speakers of the meeting.

Congrats to **Fr. Vincent Amalraj** who gave speeches on the FM radio on Motivation to students. With a group of diocesan priests and nearly 3000 people from Rameshwaram, Fr. Jebamalai Raja also joined the pilgrimage to Katchathivu to celebrate the Feast of St. Antony on 27 and 28 Feb. In the two day festival people from Sri Lanka and India had a joint spiritual journey.

Bastian

LATI, MADURAI

LATI organized National Environment Awareness Campaign on climate change focusing on the use of Solar Energy alternatives on 17 Feb. About 210 representatives from schools, colleges and NGOs, participated in the seminar. **Dr. Sarawathi**, Principal of Thiagarajar College of Preceptors delivered Chief Guest's address on the significance of solar alternatives for the current era. **Fr. Stephen J Muthu** explained the dynamics of the seminar. The experts from solar energy department highlighted the use of solar energy through their multimedia presentation cum demonstration.

Fr. Stephen J. Muthu addressed 50 village leaders, animators of Grihini and PEAK to launch a community college campus at Shembaganur. **Mr. Bose Croos** the director of SKIP who visited LATI campus, appreciated the new initiatives in the campus and promised Fr. Stephen to support the new initiates with new projects.

Fr. Basil was invited by M.S. University, Tirunelveli to present a research paper in a national seminar on "Popular Culture" and he presented a paper titled "Popular Religion and Popular Catholicism" on 13 Feb. He spoke to Arul Kadal theologians on 15 Feb. about agonies of Arunthathiyars.

I. Inigo

CARMEL, NAGERCOIL

For the Children's Digest D C L National Level I.Q. Examination, twenty seven students of our school appeared. Of them fourteen secured medals, and one received DCL Scholarship. A half day training was given by **Fr. L. Francis Xavier** to the teachers of Kottar Diocese, on how to teach catechism and value education effectively. Again he addressed the Samathuva Pongal Meet, organized in the Vasantham Convent by the Vasantham Women's Organization on the 5 January, focusing attention on women's liberation.

On the 11th of February, the Feast of our Lady of Lourdes, a solemn candle light procession in the evening, started from the church, went round the school garden, and ended in front of the grotto. Thanks to the efforts of **Br. Gnanadickam**, our Minister, a nicely decorated and illuminated sapparam with a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes was carried along. Our hostellers and the Little Flower School inmates made the procession with lighted candles, saying the Rosary

and singing hymns. At the grotto, **Br. Arockiadoss** preached an appropriate sermon and the Benediction was given by **Fr.P.S. Arul**. A new beautiful monstrance presented by **Mr. Martin**, father of one of our school students, was used for the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the grotto.

Minish Rajan, XI th standard student of our school, won the first prize in the elocution contest held for the Arignar Anna Memorial competitions at the district level. The prize included a cash gift of Rupees 3000.

The National Science Day was celebrated in our school on the 26 Feb with Projects Presentations. Fr.P.S.Arul was invited by the Bishop of Sivagangai as one of the resource persons to conduct live-in programme for the Diocesan priests.

S.M. Arockiam

XAVERIANA, TUTICORIN

Two army cadets of our school Siva Sundhar and Vignesh participated in All India Trekking Camp held at Guwahati, Assam. Cadets Dhiwahar and Vijay Anandh took part in the National Integration Camp held at Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, who stood first in all activities.

Both Army and Naval cadets cleaned the school campus and set the site for cycle parking. The 125th year school souvenir was released recently.

The unperformed dance drama of our school jubilee celebration was captured in a DVD and was released by **Fr. Ignacy**, the Headmaster. We appreciate the tireless efforts of our teachers.

Fr. Godwin Rufus of SXC, conducted a seminar on effective and creative English Teaching. It was very enriching, entertaining and educative with colorful video clippings and humorous presentation to 150 teachers of St. Thomas Matriculation Hr. Sec. School. **Fr. Albert Joseph**, Principal is very happy with the outcome.

Sales

ARUL ANANDAR COLLEGE, KARUMATHUR

From 29 Jan to 1 Feb the Department of English organized 'Theatre Fest' in which other departments too staged plays.

On 29 Jan **Fr.J.B. Trincal** Memorial Quiz competition for rural schools was conducted by the department of history. A two day UGC sponsored national conference on "Global Financial Crisis and its Implications on Indian Economy" was held on 28 and 29 Jan. Nearly 35 papers on various topics related to Indian Economy were presented.

On 17 the department of history conducted De Britto intercollegiate quiz competition. On 19 and 20 our staff went on a tour to Pollachi. The tour created a family atmosphere among the staff. On 28 and 30 the NCC students went on trekking expedition to 'Pothigai Hills'. Our college gets the broadband connection of 2MBPS dedicated lease line.

On 23 and 24 the department of Tamil organized 'Saaral Naadaga Vizha' to tap the talents of the students through dramas.

On 24 an English Workshop was conducted by **Prof. Francis Joseph. Fr. Sekhar** presented a paper on Religious Pluralism and Higher Education at the seminar organized by the Asian Centre for Cross Cultural Studies, Chennai. He also gave a talk on Narrative Methods of Teaching and Learning on Upanishads in a seminar organized at Chennai and his paper on Practical Anekanta was well received at a seminar organized by the Dept. of Jainology, Univ. of Madras.

On the same day Tagore Hall Day was grandly celebrated. A magazine compiled by the creative hands of Tagore Hall students was released by **Fr. Nirmal**, Provincial of Dumka who was here for his visitation.

Antony Anand

ST XAVIER'S INSTITUTES, PALAYAMKOTTAI

During the parents' meeting held on 29 Jan, the Rector and the Principal appealed to the parents to extend financial support to the new constructions of the Women's Hostel and the MBA Block. The Graduation ceremony was held on 30 Jan. **Shri. S. Loganathan** an alumnus of our college and Registrar, Pondicherry Central University was the chief guest. His address on the occasion was very inspiring and motivating. On 13th of this month every department had its Board of studies meetings. A workshop was organized from 22 to 24 of Feb by the Regional Field Unit of the National Testing Service of our college for college teachers on Items Writing. Fr. Principal was invited by the National Testing Service, Mysore to attend a strategy meeting on 18 and 19 of this month. **Fr. Alphonse Manickam** was invited as the NAAC peer team member for assessment (reaccreditation) of Govinda Dasa College, Surathkal, Mangalore.

More than 150 participants from various colleges from India attended the National Conference on Recent Advancement in Mathematics organized by the Department of Mathematics on 19 and 20 of this month. A two-day seminar was organized by the Department of Economics on the theme Nature and Future of Unorganized labourers in the context of the post LPG Scenario on 25 and 26 of Feb.

The students of the college of Education went on a three-day tour to Kochin and Kottayam and the PG students on a one-day picnic to Trivandrum. "கிராமப் பிரவேசம் - 2010" was held for our B. Ed students. They were staying at Kadambankulam, 30 Km away from Palayamkottai, for five days, from 24 to 28 Feb. There was a tearful farewell from the villagers to the students on the last day. During the camp, the Alumni Association of our college organized a free eye and dental camp for the village people with the help of doctors from Aravind & Lebia Hospitals, Palayamkottai.

Fr Leveil's Quiz program on Social Science and Science was conducted for the neighboring schools. The newly built "விரபாண்டிய அரங்கம்" named after the late **Mr. Veerapandian** our alumnus was blessed by Fr. Rector. A dental camp was organized for the school children by the Alumni Association. On 22nd of this month a team of five doctors organized a Homoeopathy Medical Camp. LASAC organized a seminar for south zone schools on 20th of this month.

Our school children brought fresh laurels by winning prizes in the cultural competition organized by Tamil Nadu Consumer Club.

On 26th January the community organized "Balamela 2010" for the children of our domestic employees, non teaching staff of the three institutions and Sri Lankan Tamils of Perumalpuram. The children made it a remarkable day. The children entertained the community members by their talents on the stage. Kudos to **Frs. Rufus** and **Xavier Antony** who organized this programme with the full support of the enthusiastic scholastics.

Maria Felix Kennedy

ST JOSEPH'S, TIRUCHI

The College arranged a National Conference on Information and Communication Technology, on 29 and 30 Jan. The conference was timely keeping in tune with the information boom we are faced with. Besides outstation participants all the staff members participated in the conference. St. Joseph's College is the first Arts and Science College in the country to have 10 MBPS bandwidth through Optic Fiber Cable. The campus is moving from conference to conference. The Department of Tamil had a National Conference on 4 and 5 Feb on the theme "Global warming and our responses" and **Fr. Ignacimuthu** put across the difficult concepts in lucid and chaste Tamil on the in-thing topic of "Climate Change". Mineral water plant for S.H. Hostel was commissioned on 25th Feb. The Centenary Volley Ball and Basket Ball tournaments were held between 5 and 8 Feb. The first ever **Fr. S. Lazar** Endowment Seminar of Arrupe Library was held on 22nd Feb. **Fr. John Bosco**, the Director of the Library, deserves our appreciation for holding this seminar in an effective way by bringing librarians and library science students together. **Fr. Rajarathinam** attended an orientation programme of National Planning and Administration for the select Principals of Minority Colleges from 23rd - 25th, Feb.

The feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was celebrated with gaiety and piety. The special feature of this year's celebration was that most of the preachers were from our community except for the opening and final day of the novena. The statue of Lady in a tastefully decorated car was taken round the roads skirting the college.

In keeping with the new thrust given to English Language Teaching (ELT), St. Joseph's College Higher Secondary School stole the limelight on 30th January when ELT Mela was conducted wherein students from 6th, 7th and 8th Standards congregated here numbering around 150 drawn from four schools of North Zone. Our school emerged the champion winning the coveted Arrupe Trophy. Congratulations to the Headmaster, **Br.A. Kulandairaj** and his dedicated team. Inigo Illam Day was celebrated on 6th Feb. **Fr. Albert Muthumalai** was the Chief Guest.

Grace 2010, the Fifteenth State Level Youth Prayer Convention, organized by Catholic Former Pupils Association and campus ministry team of St. Joseph's College between 19th-21st Feb sent spiritual vibrations through SJC precincts. The Arrupe Hall overflowed with nearly 1100 participants hailing from various

colleges in Tamil Nadu. The convention was inaugurated by the Bishop of Tiruchi who during the Eucharist preached an inspiring homily and addressed the participants in GRACE as 'people filled with grace'. Each session had its distinct contribution towards the overall fruitfulness of the Event. The feeling writ large on the face of every participant was that 'this is the work of the Lord and hence a wonder to our eyes.'

Kudos to **Fr. Paul Pragash** and his team for psycho-spiritually inspiring the young minds across the state through GRACE 2010. Earlier, the campus minister organized a pongal prayer service on 13th Jan and a special prayer service on 17th Feb, Ash Wednesday, assisted by departments of English, Economics and HRM respectively.

On the graduation day, an address book of the outgoing students and scholars was released by the Rector. The Alumni guest house was opened by **Mr R Murugan**, the president of the Association and blessed by **Fr.P. Susai** Rector on 21st December. All the registered alumni/ae from far off places are eligible to stay overnight on moderate payment.

Sebastian Anand

IDEAS, MADURAI

The campus appeared to be a haven of freedom for the 52 young Dalit cadres who had come here for training in Feb. While 32 of them belonging to the Arunthamizhar Viduthalai Iyakkam underwent training in Socio-political Involvement on 6th and 7th, 20 were accosted by PEAK team to be trained in Social Analysis from 10th till 13th. The secluded and quiet atmosphere facilitated their friendly interaction and serious learning, uninhibited display of their cultural and debating skills. On 14th we had the Thedal Arangam's social video documentary show for 25 religious in the city.

Fr. Michaelraj participated in an international workshop on Jesuit Advocacy: Better Governance of Natural Resources from 13 to 16 February at Ranchi. Besides participating in a workshop on Advocacy and Lobbying for Dalit Rights organized by the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) on 13-17 Feb. at New Delhi, **Fr. Aloy** gave an input in the same workshop on Different Types, Methods and Presentation of Lobby Documents.

Aloysius Irudayam

LAAS ILLAM, MADURAI

A Sri Lankan fisherman was shot dead in 2007 in front of the central prison at Madurai by one of the prison warders. We took up the matter and filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) before the High Court Bench of Madras at Madurai against the prison authorities and government. After a long battle both in Madurai and Chennai, **Fr. Philominraj** and **Mr. Rathinam** obtained a favorable judgment on 9 February in which the High Court has ordered Rs.10,07,000/= (Rupees ten lakhs and seven thousand only) compensation with 6% interest to the victim's family. The money is to be handed over to the wife of the victim through the Sri Lankan Embassy by the

Government of Tamil Nadu. It is very rare the court delivers such a remarkable judgment. **Fr. Santhanam** spoke on legal rights to the women cremators of Madurai district in a legal awareness workshop organised by the Department of Social Work of Fatima College and ROAD Trust at Madurai on 27 February.

Santhanam

THOZHAMAI ILLAM, KANYAKUMARI

After toiling over the birth centenary celebrations of **Fr. Ignatius Hirudayam**, **Fr. Maria Jeyaraj** had a very mild stroke and was admitted to the hospital twice. He is now recovering and relaxing.

We are constructing fourteen more new rooms, because of the efforts of **Fr. Ignatius Puthiadam**. The generosity of his benefactors from Germany are hereby duly acknowledged. We have also dug one more borewell. **Fr. G. Packiaraj** preached two retreats to a very big group of Juniors of the Sisters of St. Anne, Chennai. **Fr. Gabriel Lawrence** preached a retreat to the Servite Sisters in our Illam. Besides these, they both have regular retreat programmes both inside and outside.

G. Packiaraj

SACRED HEART COLLEGE, SHEMBAGANUR

Fr. Stanislaus Rathinam took charge of the Sacred Heart Museum from last December. All the museum pieces are updated with fresh chemical coating and cleaning under the supervision of a taxidermist. The spectacular and rich museum pieces come alive with the explanations of Fr. Stanislaus. The Visitors' Record swells with grateful appreciation for the stalwarts who have given the items immortality. The museum has become mission oriented.

PEAK team convened its biannual meeting at Manalur for three days with a deeper reflection on its function for the past six months. **Fr. S. Arockiam** guided the team members with his thought provoking input sessions, his inspiring experiences and with his timely interventions in the sharing and planning. PEAK team is also grateful to **Fr. A. Joe Xavier** for his unstinting guidance and support during its exercise on Participatory Strategic Planning (PSP). More than 150 Dalit and Tribal youth from Kodai hills enthusiastically participated in the volleyball tournament cum seminar on 30th and 31st of January. **Fr. Philominraj**, the chief guest of the day enlightened the youth on the cultural disasters and its hazardous impacts on their lives. The interaction of the youth at the end of the seminar was very much impressive. PEAK also organized a four day workshop for the Dalit youth cadres of Kodai hills in collaboration with IDEAS, Madurai.

Fr. Stephen Nicaise, a Jesuit scholar, from La Reunion worked for five days in our Archives. Frs. Edward and Nicaise went to the University of Pondicherry to participate in the seminar on Cultural and Religious Relationship between France and India. **Mr. Paolo Arana** from Italy is working on his Ph.D. on the subject of Malabar Rights.

Sebastian

KARISAL KADUTHASI

Our Theologians were with us from Feb 12 to 16 for the field based study on Arunthathiyar life style and spirituality. **Fr. Britto Peter** visited our team and boosted our mission.

Our Muthan Illam and Evening Study centre students had their days out respectively on Feb 6 and 20. Jesuits in Palayamkottai and Karumathur warmly welcomed us.

KALANGARAI, NAGAPATTINAM

A three-day workshop was conducted on “Male Chauvinism and Caste System”, in TMSSS centre, Nagapattinam. Around 40 participants from Nagapattinam and Vedaranyam zones took part in it.

Parents –Teachers-Students Meet 2010 was held on 20th February. The day brought joy to all the Parents, staff and students. The parents were happy to see their children’s growth, maturity and talents. Fr. Lisbert D’Souza graced the event by his presence, distributed Gold Medals to the rank holders and gave a short speech. **Fr. Loyola** organized the entire programme.

Fr. Lisbert along with the fathers from St. Joseph’s college visited Sannamangalam, a dalit village and interacted with the members of the women’s group formed there. They were moved by the pathetic living conditions of the people.

12 regents working in the south zone of the province had their recollection in Tharangambadi from 21st to 23rd Feb. **Fr. Paul Mike** was their guide. After a day-long picnic to Pitchavaram, the meet culminated in the celebration of the Eucharist in Vailankanni.

Loyola

ARIYAMANGALAM PARISH

The Holy Childhood Day was celebrated with the candle-light procession, prayers and Bible encounter by the children. At the end the children took the oath to be the lovely children of the Infant Jesus. During the holy season of Lent the children went in groups and conducted prayers in all the Catholic households of the parish. The parents warmly welcomed them.

All the various types of body parts donations were illustrated by 8th std. students, in the assembly on the Body Donation Day on the model of Jesus who donated himself for us all.

Felix Joseph

YOUTH COMMISSION

The GBM of the Youth Commission was held on 13 Feb. at AICUF, Tiruchi. Around 45 people mostly unorganized youth and women participated from various districts of Tamil Nadu. **Fr. Stephen Martin** made us think on “நிழலும் நிஜமும்” இன்றைய இளையோரின் ஏதார்த்தம். The reporting session galvanized the participants when the local animators explained their works in their respective areas in a

simple manner. Each of their explanation explicitly brought out how the commissions had made some inroads into the unorganized sector. This was remarked by the JYMSA secretary who was also present.

Fr. Provincial noted that it was the new and young Commission of the Province. **Fr. Erwin**, the JYMSA Secretary lauded the efforts taken in our province regarding the unorganized youth. He also expressed his joy in witnessing the purpose of JYMSA being realized first in our province in the entire Assistency. **Frs. Stephen Muthu, Antony Samy, Paulraj** and **Br. Devadoss** chaired the sessions while **Fr. Arul Ravi** took care of the logistics.

In the first week of February, a three-day intensive training was organized at Viralimalai on Social Reality and our Response in collaboration with the Holy Cross Sisters for the field workers serving in 3 different districts. Around 35 of them participated and went back with great enthusiasm. 100 youths benefitted by a one day programme on Youth Empowerment organized on 6th Feb in collaboration with the Salesians at Vilathikulam. **Mr. Chandrakumar** a young advocate from Madurai High Court enkindled their spirit with his youthful energy. One hundred and twenty students from Bishop Appasamy College were introduced to an in-depth village exposure at Karumathampatty in Coimbatore District on 20th Feb. Village level meetings were held for the unorganized youth at Sivakasi, Puliampatty and Puliyankombai. Though the response was encouraging in all these places, the meeting held at Puliyankombai, a Tribal village near Sathyamangalam, was unique in its kind as it brought 100 Urali Tribal families together on 28th Feb. On 27th the Orientation given to our youths in St. Joseph’s I.T.I at Ooty was entirely a different exercise and of great help to the inmates.

Philomin Raj

NEW RELEASES

வாழ்வின் பாதைகள்: Br. S. Antony, Vaigarai Pathippagam, Dindigul, pp. 96, Rs. 20/-

குருத்துவம்: Frs. Maria Arul Raja & Raj Irudaya, Arul Kadal Publications, Chennai, pp. 148, Rs. 65/-

ABIDE WITH THE LORD

Rayar Michael (GUJ) 71/50, 17 Jan

John J. Deeney (JAM) 86/70, 18 Jan

Sebastian Carri (DEL) 76/56, 09 Feb

Dominic Henriques (BOM) 92/69, 17 Feb

Francis Bernard (BOM) 86/50, 17 Feb

Paul Wenish (DEL) 41/16, 13 Feb

Julie Berna, OSM, 33, niece of Fr. R. J. Raja, 15 Feb

Saleth Mary, 71, mother of Fr. A. Selvaraj and sister of Fr. Alphonse Manickam, 14 Feb