



MNL



Newsletter of the Madurai Jesuits

MAY 2014

(For Private Circulation)



MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

SHARING IS OUR SACRED DUTY

Dear Brothers,

As we are commemorating the restoration of the Society of Jesus 200 years ago, one important aspect of our life to reflect upon seriously is the need for sharing. The first Christian communities shared with one another all that they possessed - property, money, etc., - and experienced a wonderful communion among themselves. The aim of the socialist movement was to create a new culture and ethos of sharing the wealth and resources of the world in such a way that all enjoy an equitable share. Mother Teresa says: "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." In other words, when we forget or refuse to share, we lose our peace and inner joy. Further, we are aware that "joy, when shared, doubles and sorrow, when shared, halves".

Within the Society too, this spirit of sharing is extremely

important, as Fr. General has been saying often. Sharing has to take place at all levels and in all aspects of our life. As we have surrendered ourselves to the service of the Lord, we do not own anything for ourselves. Hence, at the personal level, our energy, talents, capabilities, time, knowledge, etc., are to be shared freely with the rest of the Society for the greater glory of God. The same spirit has to prevail at the level of a community, the province or the Assistancy. At each level, we are called upon to be generous and magnanimous in sharing whatever we have for the greater need of our ministries and for the greater glory of God.

We are also aware that from the beginning of the Society, numerous individuals have been highly generous in supporting the various needs of the Society and its missions. Our hearts are filled with gratitude to these great and generous benefactors, without whose generosity we could not have grown this much, both at the global and the provincial level. Our own missionaries not only spent their life in our land but also brought in huge material resources. All these

facts are before our eyes.

Now, we are being called upon to share our resources - human, material or financial - at different levels, within and outside the province. This opportunity to share should give us a great sense of joy and satisfaction. This call includes vocation promotion, sharing of financial or human resources, taking care of the Jesuits from any part of the world, assisting in the missions or ministries anywhere in the world etc. We are called to share, network and collaborate, without which we will live and function in gloomy isolation, resulting in stagnation and deterioration.

Let us, therefore, share whatever we have with our companions, with other communities of the province, with other ministries, with other provinces and with the universal Society, being fully conscious that this is indeed a noble and sacred duty.

Fraternally,
Sebastião L. Raj, SJ
Provincial

Provincial's Programme:

MAY

- 05-16 Visitation of our men
in African Countries
- 18-19 Formation Meeting --
Shembaganur
- 27 Supamites' Meet --
Arul Kadal,
Chennai
- 29 Jubilarians' Day --
Beschi Illam --
Consult in the evening
- 30 TNPCRI -
Executive Committee
Meeting, Tindivanam



JUNE

- 02-19 Visitation of our men
in Europe
- 21 First Vows --
Beschi Illam, Dindigul --
Consult
- 28-29 Batch-Wise Meet -- I:
(Batches from 1937 to 1957) --
Beschi & Maduralaya



Announcements

Acting Provincial:

During the Absence of the Provincial from the Province from 05 to 16 May 2014, Fr. Joe Antony, Socius, will be the Acting Provincial.

Ordination:

The priestly ordination of our men will be held on 30 August 2014. The venue will be announced later.

Left:

Brian Lara S, a second year novice, left the novitiate on 27 April '14.

Antony Prince P, a second year novice, left the novitiate on 30 April '14.

Appointments by Fr. Provincial: Effective from 01 June 2014

NAME	DESIGNATION
Fr. Britto Vincent	Province Coordinator for Formation (PCF)
Fr. Arulanandam Arockiam	Superior: Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur
Fr. Christie P. Maria Joseph	PDD and Acting Superior: SHC, Shembaganur
Fr. Frederick Xavier Joseph	Acting Superior: St Joseph's Industrial School, Ooty
Fr. Paul Michaelraj	Director: IDEAS-LAAS, Madurai
Fr. Joseph Xavier V.	Director: JIM, Trichy
Fr. Manuel Alphonse	Director: Tribal Study Centre, Tiruvannamalai, Vettavalam
Fr. Emmanuel Sebastian (AND)	National Advisor (Acting), AICUF, Chennai
Fr. Selvaraj Susaimanickam	Regional Director: Apostleship of Prayer, Dindigul and Editor: <i>Thoothan</i>

TRANSFER LIST III

Effective from 01 June 2014

NAME	FROM	TO	STATUS/DESIGNATION
Br. Aloysius Arulraj	St. Mary's, Madurai	Loyola College, Chennai	House Administration
Fr. Anandanathan Barnabas	Loyola, Kuppayanallur	St. Mary's, Madurai	Assistant Parish Priest
Fr. Anbarasan Savariraj	Gansoville, Devakottai	Kohima Region	Missionary
Br. Antony Sinnamuthu	Thozhamai Illam, K'Kumari	SJIS, Ooty	Treasurer
Br. Arockiam Peter	Loyola College, Chennai	SXC, P'Kottai	House Administration
Fr. Arockiaraj Gnanapragasam	Loyola College, Vettavalam	Thozhamai Illam	Spiritual Ministry
Fr. Arul P. Stanislaus	St Arulanandar, Oriyur	Ongur (Loyola HSS, Kuppayanallur)	PP
Fr. Babu Vincentraj	DACA	Maduralaya, Dindigul	Minister & Asst. Prov. Treasurer
Fr. Bastian Maria Susai	St. Mary's, Madurai	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Spiritual Ministry
Fr. Charles Michael	SJC, Trichy	Thozhamai Illam	Administrator and Treasurer
Br. Edward Brunoraj	Loyola, Kuppayanallur	Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur	In-charge: Shrine and Farm
Fr. Felix Joseph	St. Mary's, Madurai	Pondicherry	Chaplain: Imm. Heart Novitiate
Fr. Fernando Roosevelt	AAC, Karumathur	St. Mary's, Madurai	Minister
Br. Jesudas Raphael	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Manalur Estate	Rest
Fr. John Kennedy S.M.	St Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur	Afghanistan	Missionary
Fr. Joseph Arockiam	Oilpatti, Loyola Nagar (Salem)	Oilpatti, Loyola Nagar (Salem)	Team Leader and Director
Fr. Joseph L. Pragasam	LTI, Madurai	Carmel HSS, Nagercoil	Counselor
Fr. Irudayaraj Maria Susai	SJIS, Ooty	SJIS, Ooty	Minister
Br. Irudayasamy Sebastian	Rayapuram Farm, Madurai	St Mary's, Madurai	House Administration
Br. Kulandairaj Antony	St Mary's HSS, Madurai	St Mary's, Dindigul	Headmaster
Fr. Lawrence Benedict	Supam	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Minister & Treasurer
Br. Mariadoss Anthonimuthu E.S.	Beschi Illam, Dindigul	Xaveriana, Thoothukudy	Treasurer
Sch. Michael Sudherson	SICJ, Trivandrum	AAC, Karumathur	College Studies
Fr. Paul Pragash	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	SJC, Trichy	Staff
Fr. Peter Xavier Sengole	Loyola College, Chennai (LIBA)	St Joseph's College, Bangalore	Director: Business School
Fr. Sahaya Wilfred	Thozhamai Illam, K'Kumari	Carmel HSS, Nagercoil	Teaching/Hostel Warden
Fr. Selvaraj Edward S.M.	Thozhamai Illam, KK	Arrupe Illam, Mettupalayam	Spiritual Ministry
Fr. Soosai Raj A.	SJIS, Ooty	Arrupe Illam, Mettupalayam	Spiritual Ministry
Fr. Stanislaus Asirvatham	Xaveriana, Thoothukudi A	Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur	Headmaster
Fr. Stanislaus Mariadas	Sabbatical	Carmel HSS, Nagercoil	Headmaster
Fr. Wilson Arockiasamy	Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur	St Mary's, Madurai	Headmaster/Sabbatical
Fr. Vedanayagam Ignatius	DACA, Madurai	Arulanandar HSS, Oriyur	Spiritual Ministry
Fr. Victor Maria Joseph	DNC, Pune	Berchmans Illam, Chennai	Spiritual Father
Fr. Vincent Amalraj	Carmel, Nagercoil	St Francis Xavier HSS, Thoothukudy	Headmaster

GBMs: Date and Venue

Please note the dates and venue of the General Body Meetings for 2014 - 15:

JULY	COMMISSIONS	PLACE
01	Social Action Commission	IDEAS, Madurai
02	TVET Commission	LTI, Madurai
03	Pastoral Commission	Maduralaya
10	Communication Commission	Maduralaya
12	Secondary School Commission	Maduralaya
13	Higher Education Commission	St Joseph's, Trichy
16	Youth Commission	Maduralaya
20	Spirituality and Dialogue Commission	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai
22	Formation Commission	Maduralaya
27	Dalit Commission	St Mary's, Madurai
29	Finance Commission	Maduralaya

BATCH MEETINGS

This year Fr Provincial likes to meet the province Jesuits in their Novitiate Batches. The meeting will begin at 09.30 a.m. with the Holy Eucharist on the first day and will conclude with tea at 4.00 p.m. on the second day. All are cordially invited to participate in this unique gathering and spend the two days fruitfully with their own novitiate batch-mates. Please note the date and venue of these meetings:

MONTH	DATES	BATCHES	PLACE
June	28-29	Batches from 1937 to 1957	Beschi & Maduralaya
August	09-10	Batches from 1958 to 1964	Maduralaya
August	23-24	Batches from 1965 to 1971	Maduralaya
September	06-07	Batches from 1972 to 1979	Maduralaya
September	13-14	Batches from 1980 to 1988	Maduralaya
September	20-21	Batches from 1989 to 2003	Maduralaya



Events



IGNATIUS COLLOQUIUM

Fr Thambu and Fr Devadhas Muthiah were the co-ordinators of this year's Colloquium on Ignatian Spirituality organized by JIGSA. **Dhyana Ashram** accepted to host this event attended by 16 Jesuits from 7 provinces. The resource persons were Frs Michael Alosanai, D. Jeyaraj, Thamburaj, M. Amaladoss, Jerry, Leonard Fernando and Joseph Pulical (KER). Jerry went on another missionary journey to Abu Dhabi during the Holy Week. Churches were full for his services and penitent stood in long queues to make their confession. Fr Xavier Irudayaraj was engaged in training the Eucharistic ministers of the archdiocese. Fr D. Jeyaraj has been very busy directing a series of retreats.

- Xavier Irudayaraj

TOUR TO EUROPE

I felt privileged to be asked to give lectures and classes in Seattle University, USA. Fr Amal and I made use of this opportunity to explore centres similar to **IDCR** in Europe and USA for possible future collaboration. We first visited Doha International Centre for Interreligious Dialogue and Georgetown's School of Foreign Service in Qatar. Fr Tom Michel hosted us and linked us to several professors. In Rome, we met the Cardinal Presidents for the Pontifical Council for Culture and Interreligious Dialogue and explored mutual support. We had the chance to join the Pope in his morning Eucharist, and he recognized Fr Amal as one who was the General Assistant when he was the Provincial of Argentina. We also met Fr Carlo

Cassalone, President of Carlo Maria Martini Foundation and presently the Provincial of Italy. In the the U.S., we had a meeting with Dr James McCartin, Director of Fordham Center on Religion and Culture along with Fr John Shea, Director of Campus Ministry, Fordham University, Fr Roger Haight, Msgr. Joseph Quinn, Director for Mission and Ministry, and Dr Paul Francis, Director for Global Outreach. Fr Jim Redington who arranged a conversation with the Jesuits at St. Joseph University, took us to a Jewish-Christian dialogue meeting. I met several scholars at Notre Dame. Dr Rita George-Tvrtkovic, a theology professor at Benedictine University at Lisle, helped me meet her students who had an Interreligious forum. Meanwhile, Fr Amal went to the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley to speak to the Jesuits on the mission of dialogue in India. In Seattle we met the staff of the Theology Department.

- Vincent Sekhar

TRIP TO THE U.S.

ICRDCE conducted training programmes for upgrading the trade skills of 120 teachers in Community Colleges. Fr Xavier Alphonse led an Indian team for an educational trip to the U.S. to visit four Community Colleges in Washington, D.C, Seattle and New York. The trip was organized by the Institute of International Education (IIE) and the U.S. Embassy of New Delhi on 22-30 March, 2014. The UGC has appointed him the Chairman of the Selection Committee to choose Arts and Science Colleges to begin Bachelor of Vocational Degree Scheme and another committee to select 200 community colleges to be started and funded by the UGC.

- Xavier Alphonse

GRAND SEND-OFF

A grand send-off was given to Fr Willaim Alphonse and Sch Francis Xavier by the **Loyola, Kuppayanallur** staff and the community on 26 April '14. Speakers praised Fr William Alphonse for spending much of his time with the students and achieving 100 per cent success in 10th and 12th std exams. They thanked Sch Francis Xavier for taking care of the hostel students and his friendly approach with the staff and the community. 65 students benefitted from a special residential summer camp organized for the weaker students from class 6 to 8 for 15 days. Summer coaching classes were also organized for the 10th and 12th std students. **JMADD-K's** students' cultural troupe is active giving awareness programmes to the villages around Kuppayanallur. Sch. John Paul volunteered to train our students in street theatre for 3 days and sacrificed his valuable summer programme for the sake of our students.

The Holy Week was celebrated in a grand manner. In order to prepare the parishioners of **Ongur Parish** for the Holy Week, Mel Gibson's noted film, *The Passion of the Christ* was screened in all the substations. The priests and scholastics from Kuppayanallur participated in the Holy Week liturgy. The Exultet at the Easter Vigil was presented in the form of a dance.

- Lawrence

FIRST GRADUATION

Dr. G Viswanathan, Founder and Chancellor of VIT, Vellore, presided over the 5th College

Day celebration of **Loyola College, Vettavalam** on 28 March. He appreciated the Jesuits for starting a college to educate and empower the rural youth. The first Graduation ceremony for the first batch of students was held on 30 March. Bishop Soundararaju of Vellore presided over the ceremony, and blessed and distributed the diplomas. Fr Principal administered the pledge and Fr Secretary blessed the graduates. Fr Alphonse manickam was the Chief Guest for the College Day celebration of the Government College, Kallakurichi. He spoke on priesthood at the monthly recollection for the Clergy of Vellore Diocese on 15 April.

In order to increase the number of students this year in March Fr Principal, HODs and students visited about 20 schools and talked to the 12th students on strengths LCV. Passed out students of those school studying in LCV were taken to the respective school. As the visit was on the eve of the 12th examination, Fr. Principal prayed for all the students in the respective schools for the success of the examination. Posters and pamphlets were distributed. Both staff and students are involved in going to villages to meet

the 12th students and motivate them to study in a reputed institution, LCV.

- Alwin

HOLY WEEK

During the Lenten season the parishioner of **St Mary's, Madurai** took part very earnestly in conducting the way of the cross on different themes.

The Archbishop of Madurai presided over the Holy Week ceremonies on all days except Good Friday. Frs P. Arockiasamy, Paul Mike, the V.G. of Madurai and Britto Boneventure helped the main celebrant and preached. During the liturgy on Good Friday, the Youth conducted a blood donation camp and the parish team organised other medical camps. The Youth enacted the Way of the Cross on Good Friday which moved the hearts of participants. The parish team with the hearty cooperation of the parish council successfully organised the liturgy during the entire Lenten season and the Holy Week. Fr. Felix Joseph delivered messages on Good Friday and Easter Sunday in the local Krishna T.V. Channel. He also delivered the Easter message at the C.S.I. church nearby.

- A. Felix Joseph

Abide with the Lord



Fr George Aikara (KER), 87/69, on 02 March in Calicut.
Fr Elvius Kujur (RAN) 87/64, on 30 March in Ranchi.
Fr Verus Pereira (BOM) 90/70, on 15 April in Mumbai.
Mrs Amirthammal, 103, mother of Fr Paul C. Jesuraja, on 30 April in Thavasimadai.

BRO EDWARD WILLIAM, SJ

02.04.1932 – 26.04.2014

Br. William received the anointing of the sick on the eve of his 82nd birthday. A week later, as he stopped eating and his breathing became difficult, he had to be taken to St. Joseph Hospital, Dindigul. The nasal feeding and palliative care he received there kept him going till he died quietly at 1:45 a.m. on 26 April '14.



Br. William was born in Muhamathusaipuram known as Mamsapuram near Srivilliputhur on 02 April 1932. He was the second of eight children. He did his studies in Srivilliputhur. Once, two Jesuit novices went to Srivilliputhur for their pastoral experiment. When they returned, they brought Br. William along with them to Shembaganur. Br. William had his Postulancy there and came down in 1955 to do his novitiate at Besch Illam, Dindigul. He pronounced his final vows at Carmel High School, Nagercoil in 1966.

He served at Loyola College, Chennai in 1964 and then at Berchmans Illam in 1965. He was the hostel warden in Carmel High School, Nagercoil, from 1966 to 1972. He served in various places - Karumathur, Guntur, Trichy, Vilangudi and, especially in Shembag in the farm and in Nagercoil he was in charge of the farm and mess. He was very eager to be of help to people who used to call him "Bullet Brother". His edifying life at VMI, Vilangudi, from 2001- 2004, inspired many young pre-novices to join the Society. He returned to Shembag to conclude his active ministry with short stints in the kitchen, the museum and the domestic chapel. Assigned to Beschi in 2011, his retirement was quiet.

As Fr. Provincial was on his way to attend the JCSA meeting at Bhubaneshwar, Fr. Devadoss presided over the Funeral Mass at 4.30 p.m. on 26 April, at Besch Illam. Fr. L. Michael Doss, Br. William's nephew, acknowledged during the homily that it was the good example of Br. William that inspired him to join the Society. After Communion, Fr. Stephen Lourdu Pragasam shared his personal experiences of their life together at VMI, Vilangudi, singling out for special mention Br. William's ability to forgive and seek forgiveness and let bygones be bygones. Mr. Edward William, a nephew who inherited the brother's name, thanked the Beschi community which took good care of the Brother during his illness. Fr. Stephen then said the final prayers before the funeral procession wended its way to Beschi Cemetery where Fr. Michael Doss said the final blessing before Br. William was laid to rest.

- Sch. Vigash Lawrence
& Fr. Stephen Lourdu Pragasam

Secrets for Well-being and Peace



“The non-violent approach does not immediately change the heart of the oppressor. It first does something to the hearts and souls of those committed to it. It gives them a new self-respect; it calls up resources of strength and courage that they did not know they had. Finally it reaches the opponent and so stirs his conscience that reconciliation becomes a reality,” says Martin Luther King, Jr, the famous black civil rights activist.

This quote from Dr Martin Luther King, Jr reminds me of a story about the Buddha. It seems that a man had heard of the reputation that Buddha had for being peaceful and nonviolent, regardless of what he encountered in life. This man decided to test this, and he traveled a long distance to be in his presence. For three days he was rude and obnoxious to the Buddha. He criticized and found fault with everything the Buddha said or did. He verbally abused the Buddha, attempting to get him to react angrily. Yet the Buddha never faltered. Each time he responded with love and kindness. Finally the man could take it no longer. “How could you be so peaceful and kind when all I’ve ever said to you was antagonistic?” he asked. The Buddha’s response was in the form of a question to the man: “If someone offers you a gift, and you do not accept that gift, to whom does the gift belong?” the Buddha replied. The man had his answer.

If someone offers you a ‘gift’ of anger or hostility and you do not accept it, then it belongs to the giver. Why choose to be upset or angry over something that does not belong to you?

This is the essence of the message that Dr Martin Luther King offers us. When you choose the nonviolent approach your first impact will be on yourself. You become less inclined to accept the ‘gifts’ of ill-will that come your way. You will simply “pass” when others try to seduce you into arguments or conflict of any kind. The more peaceful you become within yourself, the less you will be affected by the enmity or disaffection of others.

As those around us attempt to draw us into their battles, we will remain peaceful. Give yourself the self-respect that you deserve as a divine creation of God.

- Wayne W. Dyer
(from *Wisdom of the Ages*,
Harper, 1998)

Memories

Religious Congregations

A congregation of Brothers, the Sannyasis of Our Lady of Dolours, was founded in 1850 at Dindigul. Its records show some 56 members. Most of them have done good service; but the institution was allowed to lapse. Another institute has then sprung up: the Brothers of the Sacred Heart at Palamcottah. The congregation produces teacher-catechists. In 1903 the first five Brothers took their vows.

There are three religious congregations of Indian women: First, the Nuns of Our Lady of Dolours, founded in 1876 at Trichinopoly, and strengthened in 1908 by the amalgamation of Vellalar, Paravar and Nadar branch communities. They are employed mainly as teachers.

Secondly, the Nuns of St. Ann, at first all widows, founded in 1877 at Trichinopoly. They are religious bound by vows, and have also “oblates”. Thirdly, the Sisters of Mary Immaculate, whose mother-house was first at Panchampatti (1899) and is now at Madura (1921). They were meant to be a reproduction in India of the *Beates* (Devout Women) founded by Mother Martel in Central France (1670).

- Joseph C. Houpert, SJ
-from *A South Indian Mission-
The Madura Catholic Mission*



Just for....

A mother was teaching her 5-year old son the Lord’s Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime he repeated it after his mother. One night he said he was ready to go solo. The mother listened with pride as he carefully enunciated each word right up to the end. “Lead us not into temptation,” he prayed, “but deliver us some e-mail.”

New Releases



301 பல்சமய ஆன்மீக நிகழ்வுகள், (இரண்டாம் பதிப்பு)
சேவியர் அந்தோணி, சே.ச. அரும்பு பதிப்பகம், 2013.
உளிகள் வடித்த துளிகள், தே பிரித்தோ மேனிலைப் பள்ளி
ஆசிரியர்கள், வீரமாமுனிவர் கலை இலக்கிய மன்றம், 2014.
Fanning Fires on Drifting Icebergs, Mark Barco, SJ,
Vaigarai Publications, 2014.



Platinum, Diamond & Golden Jubilees - Diamond Jubilee of Beschi Illam

*70 years
as a Jesuit*



Fr Meempillikavil John J.

*60 years
as a Jesuit*



Fr Correya Leopold

Fr Karikampalli C. George



Fr Panoor C. Joseph



*50 years
as a Jesuit*



Fr Ambrose Arockiasamy

Fr Antony Arockiam



Fr Fernando Roosevelt

Fr Jayapathy Francis A.M.



Br Kulandairaj Savarimuthu

Fr Lawrence Maria Gabriel



Br Sathanandam Rajasekaran R.

Fr Sebastian Soosai



Fr Stanislaus Rathinam

*50 years
as a Jesuit Priest*



Fr Miranda Alphonso J.

Fr Vazhapilly Francis



*at Beschi Illam
on Thursday, 29 May 2014.*

*Thanksgiving Eucharist
at 9.30 a.m.*

followed by felicitations and dinner.

All are welcome!

Ministers, please inform

Fr Minister of Beschi

(0451-2431649)

before 15 May '14,

how many from your Community

will attend the celebration.

