



VOL. LV NO. 1 JANUARY 2015 CHRIST HALL, KOZHIKODE

Message from Pope Francis; Blessed by Fr. General

Two simple events marked the colloquium of the new provincials: the message from Pope Francis and a blessing from Fr. General. The latter was a routine 'bless me father' from me to Fr. Adolfo. But as he held me and laid his hands, I felt blessed and re-anointed.

We were 16 provincials: four from South Asia, two from the US, others from Latin America, Asia Pacific, Africa and Europe. The group took to each other instantly with the true Jesuit spirit as seekers of *magis*. We enjoyed every moment of our stay together.

On the last day, Fr. General had e-mailed Pope Francis for a message to the new provincials. We were delighted to receive the email from Fr. Antoine, the coordinator, that the Pope had called Fr. General and passed on these three simple messages for us: **'Go ahead with prayer; go to the peripheries where the material, spiritual or intellectual needs are deeper; take care of refugees'**.

Meeting our men in Rome and London was indeed a privilege. They are immensely appreciated by the host provinces. We can feel proud indeed. Happy New Year dear brothers.

M.K.George SJ

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

JANUARY 2015

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 04 | Parish Feast, Nilambur |
| 06 | Fr. Zucol's First Death anniversary, Mariapuram |
| 14-17 | Visitation, Loyola Aluva |
| 24-25 | JESA Workshop, ICTA, Kochi |
| 26 | Sahrudaya Club Anniversary, Malaparamba |
| 29 | St. Joseph's Junior School Anniversary |
| 30 | Christuraja School Anniversary |
| 31 | Consult |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PROVINCE CONGREGATION 2015

After due consultation, Father Provincial has convoked the Province Congregation of the Kerala Jesuit Province for May 8, 2015 in Christ Hall, Calicut. The first session will begin with a Eucharistic Adoration at 7.00 p.m. on May 8, 2015. The duration of the congregation will depend on the matters to be transacted. Formal communications will follow. This is to alert about the dates so that the delegates do not take any other assignment at that time.

SUPERIORS' MEETING

Superiors' meeting will be held in Christ Hall, Calicut, on 7 February 2015. All of you are requested to reach Christ Hall on the eve of 6th February and be prepared to leave on 8th morning so that we get a full day for the meeting.

FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

AADI, ATTAPPADY

On World Human Rights Day (Dec. 10) AADI joined hands with other adivasi organizations and organised a one-day *nilpusamaram* at Agali in solidarity with the *nilpusamaram* at Trivandrum. After the historic victory Mr Geethanandan came here to explain about the result of the agitation and to thank all who supported the agitation.

Fr. James introduced AADI, its activities and possible areas of intervention to St Joseph's HSS Kozhikode and AKJM HSS Kanjirapally respectively as AADI is the reference social-action centre for both. AADI is grateful to the superiors who invited us to their community meetings to present this and all Jesuits in both communities showed great interest in the activities of AADI. We are yet to decide on the modalities of intervention.

We had a two-day camp for the children in the study centre during Christmas holidays. 36 students participated in it. **Sch. Kamal** along with Murukesh, Sujith and **Fr P S Antony** led the camp.

Our dormitory is equipped with cots and it can accommodate 40 people. 24 students from Cooperative college, Manjeri came for a one-day nature camp to AADI. 34 Vaidyars of Kerala Ayurveda Vaidyars' Association had a visit to AADI. Thanks to Fr Augustin and the generous rain we had this year they were impressed by the variety of medicinal plants we are protecting.

Sch. Kamal is back from his study tours to Ajantha and Ellora and is in renewed spirit.

Fr James Morais (President, Palakkad District Karate Association) organised District-Karate-Championship successfully and led the team to State tournament at Kannur. He was referee at both the tournaments. He will go for the National

championship at Jaipur towards the end of this month along with the state team.

St Antony's parish at Nellipathy which is under our care is experiencing 'GHAR VAPASI'. The migrated Latin Catholics who had joined different denominational churches in the absence of a Latin church are coming back home.

Taru Mitra Eco-fest 2015 will be held on 20th January. More than 500 students from 32 schools and colleges in Attappady will participate in it. You are most welcome to Eco-fest 2015.

James Morais

ST MICHAEL'S, KANNUR

As part of the Sesquicentennial Celebration, St Michael's Grand Global Fest was held on 14th December 2014 under the auspices of School Alumni Association. Nearly thousand people from India, USA, Canada, Australia and Gulf countries participated in the programme. **Fr Thomas Anthraper** inaugurated the celebrations. **Fr Xavier Veliyakam** was also present during the function. All the retired and present teachers were invited and honoured during the programme. This grand reunion was a great opportunity for teachers and former students to relive the past life in St Michael's.

Christmas was celebrated in the school in a colourful manner and the presence of hundreds of Santa Clauses and variety entertainments added beauty to the celebration. **Fr Vigesh**, Assistant Parish Priest, Holy Trinity Cathedral was the Chief Guest. Junior school also celebrated Christmas with pomp and gaiety.

A seminar titled '*amma ariyan*' was conducted for the mothers of higher secondary students and it gave them new insights and ideas regarding parenting in the modern world.

A half day class was given to the Plus one and plus two students on Human Rights Awareness on Human Rights Day. Fifty Higher Secondary students participated in the NSS camp conducted during X'mas holidays. Their service in the District Hospital was well appreciated. St Michael's was the venue for the gathering of 3000 ex-service men and Fr Gracious was among the Chief Guests of the programme along with the District Collector. It was organized by Kannur DSC officials.

A full page feature article titled *kannoorile aanpallikoodam* came up in Metro Manorama, in connection with the Jubilee programmes. The origin, history and development of St Michael's School was highlighted in the article. **Fr John Francis** was interviewed by All India Radio, Kannur, and it was broadcasted live during a one-hour programme called *Hrudaya Gheetham*. This was also in connection with the Jubilee Celebrations.

KJ Mathew

LOYOLA, ALUVA

Occasions of grace and celebrations marked the month of December for us. The first year novices gratefully and joyfully came out of their *Spiritual Sadhana* on the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. It was a journey that guided them to seek the deeper meanings of life in all its fullness. The second year novices meanwhile successfully completed their work experiment at Loyola as well as in AADI, Attappadi. Now they feel that they know what it is to work hard and to labour. They are grateful to **Fr. James Morais** and the members of AADI community who arranged it all for them. We thank all the fathers and brothers who strengthened us with their prayers. To celebrate the feast of St. Francis Xavier and to rejoice in the birth of Fr. Master that passed quietly through the Long Retreat, we had the neighboring Jesuits with us for a dinner on the 3rd. We also celebrated Fr. Sanil's birthday on the 9th. Deacons VibinPadayadan and Prince Clarence made their ordination retreats here. We thoroughly enjoyed and relished the Jesuit history and tradition through the course that **Fr. Joe Pulickal** ably conducted for us. Thank you Acha... for the enthusiasm instilled in us about the mother Society. All the novices were privileged to attend the ordinations of **Frs. Prince** and **Vibin**. We were really moved by the grace of the sacrament of ordination in both the rites. Frs. Augustine and Prince celebrated Mass for us and it was great to see them who stood with us on this side of the altar celebrating the Lord's Supper for us at the other side of it. **Fr. Xavier Tharamel** guided a day of recollection for us in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity. Our Christmas holidays started on the 20th. It was packed with

various activities and celebrations and outing. We were happy to receive many guests during the month. **Fr. Françoise Boedec, S.J.**, Rector of the Jesuit Theology Faculty in Paris, was with us for a few days. We had a grand Christmas and New Year celebration with our neighbors on the 30th. **Fr. Jacob Madukakuzhy** was away in SICJ to give a triduum to the Juniors. After holidays, now we are back to the regular and rigorous rhythm of novitiate life. We request your continued prayers for us!

Nibin Manuel

SAMEEKSHA, ATMAMITRA AND JEEVIKA, KALADY

Main attraction of the month was the Sameeksha Day and we celebrated it on 24th December with a prayer service and a get together attended by many neighbours. It was a great experience to have a day of recollection, faith sharing, adoration and community Mass to prepare for Christmas led by **Fr. Xavier Tharamel**. The Province dialogue commission had its meeting in Sameeksha. **Fr. George Nedungatt** is in Sameeksha from 15th December for his retreat and holidays. Many of ours and others made Sameeksha a place to rest and relax when they came for Dn Vipin's Ordination.

Atmamitra hosted one Basic and another Advanced Course in NLP at Sameeksha attended by 28 and 39 participants. Another group of 76 students of various faiths led by a Muslim agency had a two-day residential programme here. The agency will continue to use our ambience, personnel and facilities in the future also for various groups. **Fr. Toby** preached the Annual Retreat of the Philosophy Students at Carmelgiri Seminary, Aluva, in the third week of December. A youth retreat at Pazhayidam in Kanjirappally Diocese (Home Parish of Br. Michael) proved that Atmamitra Sessions can also be used for healing and renewal.

Fr. Sabu celebrated Mass and preached in Hindi for a jumbo group of 1200 migrant labourers; it was a multicultural celebration. He travelled with a street theatre group in solidarity with *Nilpu Samaram* through various colleges in Ernakulam District. A Jesuit from Nepal has contacted

Fr. Sabu seeking support to send back thirty Nepali labourers stranded in tea estates in Idukki District.

Toby Kozhupakkalam

LUMEN/SNEHA SENA , KOCHI

Lumen Jesuit community has grown younger by five years in its average age with the joining of **Fr. Binoy Pichalakkatt** to the fold. Completing his studies in San Francisco, Fr. Binoy is fully prepared to take up the new mission of publication connected with the Peace Institute. He was welcomed to the community in an informal way on 30th December, though a formal welcome is awaited.

Events of Lumen community for the month of December are mostly centred round Christmas. Newman Association has announced its annual Christmas-New Year gathering on 1st January, 2015. Veterans like Justice (Rtd.) Cyriac Joseph and such others are expected to attend. **Fr. Adappur** has made sure of the presence of the dignitaries. **Fr. M.J. Thomas** gave an impressive Christmas message at St. Theresa's College, Ernakulam addressing the faculty and the student community. **Fr. Vincent** gave a Christmas message at IGNOU Regional Centre to its entire staff. Children around Lumen conducted as usual one-day Christmas carols under the leadership of Fr. Vincent and Sr. Merly Peter of Sneha Sena. They visited the houses and streets in the neighbourhood and their collection will go as charity for a house-construction project.

Fr. Pallivathukkal has animated the vibrant Jesus Youth leaders to bring out a meaningful and attractive Christmas preparation programme for families: *Pulkkoottilekku Kudumbamothu*. The creative Advent Calendar was used widely by families all over Kerala. Fr. Pallivathukkal was busy this month with various programmes. A few of the list are: Advanced formation programme for Jesus Youth, Young couples' conference in Kottayam, Junior Evangelizers' training, programmes for Mission-going nurses, medico-engineering students etc.

Fr. Nambiaparambil attended the Jubilee celebrations of St. Xavier's College, Trivandrum. **Fr. Roy Thottam** was a resource person in the

National Christian Artists' Meet held in Goa. Fr. Mohan of Karnataka Province stayed in the community for over two weeks as part of his search of the artist within him.

Vincent Pereppadan

AKJM, KANJIRAPPALLY

The Second Terminal Examinations were conducted prior to the Christmas vacations. This year the school organized Christmas programme in an innovative style; students were waiting in the courtyard to welcome Santa Clauses and the other characters of the Christmas event. Carol songs were played with each event in the Christmas story and it became a novel experience for our students.

We thank **Fr. Joseph Pulickal** who ably guided the community through an animation programme and it helped us to know ourselves and each other better. Jesuit fathers were all involved in various ministries during the Christmas season in the house and in the neighboring parishes. Dn. Sooraj Kochuparambil was in Samanvaya to make his ordination retreat. We pray for **Fr John Vattanky** who was hospitalized on the 31st morning following a fall in his room veranda and now he is slowly recovering.

Ramlal

S.M. FARM, PARIYARAM

Fr. Bobby of Capuchin Congregation gave two seminars at IRC for two days each organized by the diocese of Kannur, the first one for the priests working in the Parishes and the second one for the Religious in the diocese, as part of the 'Year of the Religious'. Bishop Alex Vadakkunthala attended both of them and inaugurated the diocesan 'Year of the Religious'. Twenty two catechists of Chirakal parishes made their annual retreat for 3-days at IRC. **Fr. Mathew Kannadan** was the preacher on the last day, and he was highly appreciated for his frank and touching sharing. After Christmas Fr. Mathew left for Kanjirapally to participate in the Alumni meet and the ordination. **Fr. Thottan** guided a group of DSS Sisters through the Spiritual Exercises in preparation for their final vows. 130 Catholic students of St. Joseph's College, Pilathara made their 3-day retreat at IRC under the guidance of the Catholic Charismatic

Youth, who also arranged counseling facilities for all of them. As is the custom here, the community of St. Michael's and S.M. Farm together had their Christmas celebration with a sumptuous lunch at S..M. Farm. All the priests of the community attended the Christmas celebration of the diocese of Kannur at the Bishop's House on 23rd December.

Two groups of students of 7th and 8th standards from two schools spent one full day each from 9.A.M to 4.P.M at Samskriti Tarumitra. The programme guided by **Fr.Rajesh Jose** consisted of study of the heritage building, trekking, eco-meditation, and classes through exercise and games on environment. The students had such a good experience that some of their parents visited the Centre on their own. The schools are also enthusiastic about it. More such exposure programmes from over ten schools are expected in the coming days. The Tarumitra programmes thus consists of regular sessions for one or two classes from selected schools and their occasional exposure stay at the Centre for a full day or for one night and day. Other groups and persons interested in ecology are also visiting the Centre.

Mathew Aertthayil.

LOYOLA, TRIVANDRUM

Loyola College of Social Sciences, Trivandrum, secured A grade with 3.72 CGPA on a 4 point scale in its 3rd cycle of **NAAC** (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) re-accreditation. **Loyola College stands first in Kerala and third in the country in terms of the score.** Great appreciation to the management, the staff and students of the college for the committed, dedicated and selfless hard work! Kudos to **Frs. Aneesh and Ranjit** for the excellent team work! A medical camp was conducted by a combined effort of Loyola College, Loyola School and LOBA. A host of eminent doctors and specialists were brought in to provide free medical aid to the lower strata of the society. STRC conducted three training programmes at LES for the staff of various organisations. **Fr Joye James** attended the NIPCCD (National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development) training on child protection at Bangalore. **Fr M. Devadoss**, Superior SICJ,

was the chief guest of the Christmas Celebrations at Loyola School. He delivered an inspiring Christmas message and released the devotional musical album of Fr Linto Kanichai titled as *Oru Thennalaayi*. Hats off to **Fr Linto** for the creative and original contribution! Christmas celebration in Loyola College began with a thought-provoking and challenging message by **Fr Polson**, Principal, Loyola School and a campaign "share a cake – a challenge" by the students. The students organized this Christmas campaign to share a cake with those less fortunate ones at Medical College and in and around the neighbourhood. Loyola community went for a pilgrimage to Goa during Christmas holidays. The teaching and non-teaching staff of Loyola College attended the funeral service of Mr. P.M. Thomas, father of **Fr. Sabu Palathanadil** at Rajapuram.

Saji Joseph

ST. XAVIER'S, THUMBA



The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of St. St. Xavier's College, Thumba, which was formally inaugurated on the 3rd of July 2013, has come to a glorious end, on 30th December 2014, at Fr. Aikara Memorial Hall, with a glittering valedictory function, where the who's who of the state administration was present. The Most **Rev. Soosa Pakiam**, Metropolitan Archbishop of Trivandrum Latin Arch Diocese Presided over the meeting and **Mr. Oommen Chandy**, Chief Minister of Kerala inaugurated the valedictory function. **Mr. K.M. Mani**, a Jesuit alumnus himself, delivered the key note address. **Fr M.K. George**, Provincial, shared a few words of blessing. **Mr. M. A. Vaheed MLA** and

Mr. Varkala Kahaar MLA offered felicitations along with former DGP **Mr. Jacob Punnoose** and Retired Justice **Mr. C.N. Ramachandran Nair**, both illustrious alumni of St. Xavier's. College Principal **Rev. Fr. Sunny Jose S.J.** welcomed the august audience, who included former and present teaching and non-teaching members of our staff, a galaxy of Jesuits from all over Kerala, especially those who served at St. Xavier's, priests and religious from our neighborhoods and a right mix of our old students along with its present occupants.

Archbishop Soosa Pakiam blessed the foundation stone of the proposed Fr. Aikara Memorail Jubilee Auditorium in the distinguished company of all the above. Our manager, **Fr. Benny Chiramel**, who had been toiling to make the event big and grand, proposed the vote of Thanks with much contentment. On this occasion we gratefully remember all the Kerala Jesuits who positively responded to us through their greetings and good words of encouragement. A 45 minutes long cultural extravaganza, a creative blend of music, dance and acting, telling the story of St. Francis Xavier and reminding the need to carry forward the lamp of knowledge lit by the saint to newer heights and horizons by the present generations, followed the public meeting. Mr. Alan Sioer, our alumnus and artist along with **Frs. Benny** and **Dasappan** breathed their creative spirit into it to make it a captivating fusion of sound, light and dance, to the enthralment of all. The Juniors of SICJ also generously chipped in to embellish the show with their creative acumen.

As part of the programme a well chronicled documentary on the history of the college through the last fifty years was screened. This was indeed a labour of love by Dr. Iris and Team, who travelled wide across the state to interview the retired staff of yester years to capture their memories of the making of St. Xavier's.

The Valedictory, which came immediately after Christmas holidays, brought all members of staff and students together and in this synergy the campus looked festive with decorations and illuminations. Though the valedictory puts an end to the year and half long Golden Jubilee Celebrations it does not really end but it really continues as we

have a greater responsibility to take the institution to new levels of competence and rededication. The immediate task at hand is the construction of the proposed auditorium and we intend to begin an aggressive fund raising campaign at the earliest.

Dominic Palakeel

VIDYANIKETAN, TRIVANDRUM

The December chill did not cool the spirit of the Juniors. On 3rd of December, the feast of St. Francis Xavier, we led the singing in the Mass in St. Xavier's, at the invitation of Fr. Benny, the rector.

The Kerala Juniors were blessed with the visit of our PCF **Fr Anto** on the 7th. It was a supportive and challenging visit. To double our joy **Fr. Jose Jacob**, our novice master, was also present here on that day.

This month we had classes on the history of provinces of the Assistency.

Fr Joe Pulickal was out for three days giving a course to our novices on the history of the Society. **Fr. Joe Mathew** has been helping out in the Fatimapuram parish as the parish priest was busy with the KCBC Bible Kalotsavam.

We visited the ISRO museum at Thumba in the church donated by the Catholic diocese of Trivandrum. The enthusiastic guide gave us a good idea of the activities of ISRO and of India's space programs.

Frs. Painadath and **Sanil** visited us during the month.

From the 16th we had exams. And then we plunged into the preparations for Christmas. After Christmas we had Community Days - three days of sports competitions and fun-games. We joined the students of St. Xavier's to stage a multi-media show at the function concluding the Golden Jubilee celebrations of St. Xavier's College.

Anja

AICUF CENTER, TRIVANDRUM

A series of celebrations and gatherings are being organized to celebrate the 90th birthday of Kerala AICUF. On 22nd November St. Thomas College, Trichur had its platinum Jubilee Celebration of AICUF activities in the college. **Justice Kurian**

Joseph was our chief guest. **Mar. James Pazhayattil**, former AICUF advisor who was a great motivator for many youngsters of that time and **Mar. Raphael Thattil**, the present Auxiliary Bishop of Trichur were present for the celebrations. Many Old aicufers shared their experiences. They all feel proud to claim that they were once part of this movement. On 9th December the Ernakulam Zone had its Christmas gatherings at St. Paul's College, Ernakulam, for half a day. On 22nd St. Michael's college, Cherthala, had their Christmas celebrations of the college under the auspices of the AICUF unit of the college. Trivandrum Zonal celebration was in Veli and the celebration was organized by the senior aicufers of the unit. The AICUF Centre had its celebration of Christmas with the children around the Centre, especially the poor ones. 58 students from the families of our neighborhood participated in the gathering. We had some games, tea and a Christmas message.

Babu Paul

ALPHONSA COLLEGE, THIRUVAMPADY

The Arts and Sports festivals were well conducted. Both the Bishops, **Paul Chittilapilly** and **Remegios Inchananiyil** graced the occasion. Students are back in the College after the Christmas vacation and are getting ready for the First Semester Examinations.

K.P. Mathew

ASHAKIRAN, MANGALORE

The month of December was filled with many activities both in the college and the community. On December 5th we went to Bom Jesu to meet our beloved brother St. Francis Xavier. It was an elevating experience for all of us. St. Aloysius College held a three-day fest for the UG students. All the scholastics were actively involved in various committees and won many prizes. We have also found time for carol singing in our neighbourhood. We had a gathering of the neighbors to share our joy and fellowship. During the holidays we attended ordinations both in Karnataka and Kerala. We had a very simple and meaningful New Year Celebration. May this new year 2015 be a grace filled year for all of us.

Anil Pathikkal

SATYA NILAYAM, CHENNAI

Having done with the semester exams in the first week of the month of November, we had an enjoyable and a fruitful week of holidays. The half-day course on Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) conducted by Mr. Joseph Mani was an occasion for us to understand one's self and others. Then the two days of community days were full of activities and fun that brought us closer to one another. We ended the holidays with the Triduum guided by **Fr. Varghese Malpan**.

We have now entered into the even semester of the academic year. World Philosophy Day was celebrated on 20th of November. As part of the celebration, the Department of Philosophy took initiative to honor the eminent and senior professors of philosophy in the city and brought them together at Satya Nilayam to share their thoughts. **Fr. E P Mathew**, the Head of the department, who got this programme sponsored by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research functioning under the Ministry of HRD, New Delhi, was well appreciated for organizing this event.

The month of December dawned with the graceful moments of the visitation of POSA, **Fr. George Pattery** and the ADF **Fr. Raj Irudaya**. Both of them spent five days at SN meeting both Scholastics and the staff. The annual drama, 'Passion and Glory' - a dramatized version of the history of the suppression and the restoration of the Society was enacted on the final day of the visitation. The drama came out really well. Satya Nilayam Research Institute organized the De Nobili endowment lecture on the 'paintings of Angelo de Fonseca'. We also had the privilege to welcome and listen to Fr. Brian, the Director of the archives of the Roman Jesuit Curia.

We opened the Christmas week with the Carols organized for the people from different parishes in the locality. The next day we had Christmas celebration with the families of the co-workers. On December 22 we had the grand celebration of the Kolvenbach Library Day. **Mr. N. Ram**, the illustrious journalist and the former editor-in-chief of 'the Hindu' was the chief guest. He gave away the prizes for the National Essay Competition. The Hindu gave good coverage of the visit of Mr. N. Ram.

The community celebrated Christmas with the exchange of gifts and various cultural items on the eve of Boxing Day. The following day community started the much anticipated pilgrimage to Goa to participate in the exposition of the Relic of St Francis Xavier. Eighty five socholastics along with the Rector and the Dean had a fruitful pilgrimage. On Sunday, 28th December we celebrated Holy Mass in the vicinity of the Basilica which was attended by a large number of pilgrims. In spite of the heavy inflow of pilgrims, due to some special arrangement by the Rector of the Basilica, we had special 'darshan' of the Relic. The entire arrangement was ably guided by the Goa Scholastics. The academic routine gets going by 5th of January.

Rosan

FROM LONDON

As I am typing this news the Big Ben Clock struck the New Year 2015. A breath-taking display of fireworks lit up London's night sky as thousands of people gathered across the UK to watch New Year's Eve fireworks to herald the start of 2015. The month of December was a grace filled one for all of us. The highlights of the month were Fr. Provincial's visitation and Christmas celebration. Fr. Provincial's visitation was one of rejuvenation and inspiration for us. He shared with us his hope and vision for the Province. We had a joyful and a meaningful Christmas celebration in our respective communities. After the Christmas holidays the classes will commence on 5th January.

Deepak George

FROM THE CHINESE PROVINCE

The First Semester Classes are over. The Study Week prior to the Examinations will be next week. Our Father General will be visiting us on January 15 & 17. After getting his Blessing, I will wish all here good-bye and leave Taipei for good. The President of the Jesuit Asia-Pacific Assistency (Fr Mark Raper) has requested me to go to Dili, East Timor, for 4 months. Then, after a month of teaching in our Scholasticate in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, I will return to our Province. I will be happy to be back at Home Sweet Home!... December went very fast. One reason is that in this country there is hardly any Advent Season. At the

very beginning of December, the Christmas Trees and Cribs appear not only in commercial places, in front of and within our Catholic University campus, but also in all the Churches and Chapels. They will remain till after the Feast of the Epiphany! These attract very many people, the vast majority being Buddhists. The thinking behind this is that people will **see** the images of Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the Angels and the Shepherds, they will **hear** the softly and sweetly sung hymns and they will come to believe! In our University Christmas Vigil MASS, we witnessed 10 Baptisms. On New Year's Eve, our Community was invited by a Parishioner for a free grand dinner in her Restaurant named Bella Vita! From the terrace there, we heard the countdown and watched the unique display of Fireworks from the 101-Building, once the tallest building in the world, i.e., before the *Burj Khalifa* in Dubai. ... I am beginning to celebrate my final MASSES in the following churches: Don Bosco(Salesian), Holy Family(Jesuit), Sacred Heart(Jesuit) and Fu Jen Catholic University (Diocesan-SVD-Jesuit). HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS to our new Priests: Binu, Prince Clarence, Vibin and Sooraj!!! HAPPY NEW YEAR to one and all!!!

John FJ Manipadam

EXCERPTS FROM THE EMAIL OF FR GEORGE SEBASTIAN

"Greetings of the season from the African Continent!... I am having a very different type of life and experience in this part of the world. It is indeed new and different, hard and difficult in every way. But I love it and find it exciting. Deep down I feel I am doing some very simple and meaningful service to some people who deserve them most. I am glad I got an opportunity like this, though very late in my life and sojourns. It is as though some mysterious power and grace has been taking me from place to place to do some simple services of no glamour or glitz to different kinds of people all over. Besides my programs and commitments to the Arch Diocese of Tamale, and in the other six neighboring diocese in Ghana, I have also committed to teach some courses in the Major Seminary for a semester, both at the Theologate and at the Philosophate. There is one more priest theologian from Scotland doing similar

service in the seminary. Both of us are doing it completely free of charge and for similar reasons. I feel very encouraged and edified by this priest a one time Benedictine monk from the US, the way he adjusts himself to this new culture and style of life and work here.

He is the only 'white' and I am the only 'Brown' person around the entire place. I am having a very different Christmas, this Year. A unique 'Black Christmas' indeed! I am in a Bush Parish Community where I see the Incarnate God in a very special and indigenous way. The other day I attended a liturgy, one of the very few liturgical celebrations I have ever witnessed and concelebrated. It was a unique blend of culture, class and colors, music, movements and dance, life spirit and joy -- a unique play of the human and divine in the life and faith of people. I have no internet facilities here to check my mails or to send greetings during this special 'Black Christmas' this year "***I believe in the sun even if it isn't shining. I believe in love even when I am alone. I believe in God even When He is silent***".

ECO-SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

God created the Earth. *Adam* (human) was created from *Adamah* (topsoil), and so is permanently linked to God and the Earth. The human beings and the rest of Creation are 'so closely united that a person cannot find God unless s/he finds Him through Creation and, conversely, that her/his relationship to Creation will be out of balance unless s/he also relates to God.

St. Ignatius affirms a "three-fold relationship of subjects" between God, humans and the rest of Creation. This relationship is particularly evident in the ***Principle and Foundation*** and the ***Contemplation to attain Love***, the beginning and the culmination of the Spiritual Exercises. In the *Contemplation* it is clear that Creation is both a source of God as well as a pathway to God. The activity of God and the mystery of God are in Creation. God dwells in all creation. God labours in Creation. Father Kolvenbach, the previous Jesuit General, states, "In the environment, the human person finds the Creator 'in all things'.

We experience the goodness of God through the creatures around us. When we experience this goodness, we spontaneously want 'to praise, reverence and serve God'."

A Retreat is planned for Priests and Religious (women & men) to experience and relish the presence of the Lord in His creation. Fr Robert Athickal who has been animating Eco Spirituality Retreats for more than two decades has agreed to guide our retreat.

ECO SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

**Retreat Guide: Fr. Robert Athickal, S.J.,
Taru Mitra, Patna.**

**Dates April 22 eve to 30 morn, 2015
(Eight days)**

**Place: Prasanthi, Pachilakkad,
Wayanad**

Jesuits may register by 31st Jan 2015.
Others will be invited after that date.

Enquiries and Registration
by email or letter to:

Fr, James Morais, S.J.
Email: morais@jesuits.net
Mob. 09495209360
(Address: AADI, Mattathukad, Attapadi)

GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

- Br Richard Rogers** (BOM, 76/56) on 6 Dec. 2014
- Br Arulappan Manual** (MDU, 89/58) on 6 Dec. 2014
- Fr Ignatius Gnanapragasam** (MDU, 97/75) on 12 Dec. 2014
- Fr Lourduraj Joachim Maria** (MDU, 84/63) on 24 Dec. 2014
- Br Paul Macwan** (GUJ, 76/53) on 25 Dec. 2014
- Fr Joy M T Fernandes** (KAR, 48/30) on 31 Dec. 2014
- Mr Thomas** (76), father of Fr Sabu Palathanadil on 27 Dec. 2014

Mrs Annam (92), mother of Fr Jose Thachil on 3 Jan. 2015

Archbishop Giuseppe Pittau (Japan) on Dec 26. In 1981 Pope John Paul II called him to Rome to serve as coadjutor of Fr. Paolo Dezza, Pontifical Delegate for the Society of Jesus at the time of Fr. Pedro Arrupe's illness. All are to offer suffrages of the Society for him who served the Church and the Society with great generosity.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY

- 06 Biju George Kunnappillil
Joseph Pulickal
- 07 Biju Vadakkumchery
- 08 Abraham Adappur
Augustine Paruthipallil
- 10 Roy Alex Kuzhimannil
- 11 Thomas Erinjery
- 12 Varkey Mampilly
- 13 Rabin C
- 18 Joseph Edassery
- 20 Jacob Kumminiyil
Jijimon Puthuveetilkalam
- 21 Thomas Mulanjanani

- 22 Augustine Kallunkal
- 25 Antu Xavier Kalamparambil
- 26 James Pullokaran
Thomas Panikulam

FEBRUARY

- 01 Anil Kochumethilkalam
- 04 George Varangalakudy
- 05 George Vattukulam
Joseph Thekkekara
- 08 Chandy Kumblankal
- 09 Dasappan Vattathil

IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

FEBRUARY

- 02 (2007) Cecil Veliath
(2014) Lino Maria Zucol
- 03 (2006) Kurian Padapurackal
- 15 (2007) Antony Manipadam
- 18 (1967) Thomas Kalam
- 19 (1977) Joseph Koilparambil
- 21 (2003) Chandy Varickamakal
- 23 (2007) Dominic Gomez
- 26 (1963) Fortunatus Cutinho
- 31 (1986) Cherian Karipparambil



KINDLY PRAY FOR MANY GOOD VOCATIONS

Please send your news before the first of every month.

Editor's Email ID: kjscalicut@gmail.com

www: keralajesuits.org