The setting was the dining hall of Sameeksha. Frs George Nedungatt, Sebastian Painadath and some others were having our meal. I said to Fr George, “Father, I am so impressed by your self-discipline. I wish I could learn from you”. Quick came the reply, “don’t you think it is a little too late?” Loud laughter followed. Repartees can be so charming and instructive.

When I decided to join the Society of Jesus, my grandmother wept. And I asked, why are you crying? I always thought she wanted me to be a priest. She explained that joining the military and the Jesuits were the same; both are so strict and tough. The image of the Society of Jesus as a set of tough and disciplined men committed to the mission is something that has the tradition of five centuries.

However, there are times when we are forced to ask whether we are losing some of those proverbial qualities of Jesuits. Are we becoming soft and even fickle-minded?

Fr Ugarte of happy memory used to define genius ‘as the ability to stick your ass to the chair’. Harry Truman once said, “In reading the lives of great men, I found that the first victory they won was over themselves...self-discipline with all of them came first”. For us Saint Ignatius remains our best model.

Happy New Year, one and all!

M.K. George, SJ

APPOINTMENTS BY HOLY FATHER

Fr Daniele Libanori (EUM) auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Rome. He is currently the Rector of the Church of San Giuseppe dei Falegnami al Foro Romano.

Fr Arturo Elberti (EUM) as consultor to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. He is a professor of Theology of Sacraments at the Pontifical University of St Anthony (The Antonianum) in Rome.

APPOINTMENTS BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Sunny Padinjarevartikattu : Minister, Santhi nilayam, Kottayam

Fr John F J Manipadam: Juniorate staff in Srilanka

PROVINCIAL’S PROGRAMME

01 : Christ Hall
02 : Ordination at Kannoth
03-05 : Christ Hall
06 : Fr ZucoI’s memorial Mass
07-08 : Mangalore - Visitation
09-10 : Christ Hall
11-14 : Lumen /ICTA
14-17 : Santhini llayam + Edathua
15 : Santhi nilayam - Muttada : Marriage
18- 19 : Christ Hall
20 : Superiors’ meeting, Christ Hall
21 : Superiors’ meeting + Consult
22- 24 : AKJM - Visitation
26 : Release of the annual issue of Ezhuthu
27 : Monipally
30 - 31 : A D O Seminar, Christ Hall
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Sch. Midhun Kochukallan, Emmanuel Puthuvalveettil and Bastin Vattanky have been approved for the Holy Orders. They will be ordained deacons on February 24, 2018 by His Grace Anil J.T. Couto, Archbishop of Delhi, in the auditorium of St. Xavier’s School, Delhi.

Superiors are requested to get the ‘Historia Domus’ of 2017 ready and to send a copy to the Socius by January 31, 2018.

HEALTH BULLETIN

Fr Jose Kadankavil was hospitalized for ten days because of a severe infection caused by a routine prostate biopsy test. He was on antibiotics and is now discharged. Doctors say, it is one in a hundred cases. He is now recuperating in the Province Infirmary in Dublin. He greets everyone in the Province.

FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

CHRIST HALL, CALICUT

Fr Samuel Rayan joined the Christ Hall community and is very much at home in the new setting. He was accompanied by Fr Sebastian Painadath the Superior of Sameeksha. Fr P T Augustine spent a few days here to undergo cataract operation. Sch Amardeep represented Devagiri College in a Quiz competition at their English Department fest. His team scored third place. Schs Amardeep and Vysakh took some classes for the students of Devagiri School.

Fr Jose Thachil directed the annual retreat of the philosophers of Carmalgiri Seminary, Aluva. The Family Empowerment Programme of SRC was initiated on December 17. SRC in collaboration with a city based agency has adopted 50 students of the Payyanakal government school. The Migrant Outreach Service organized a monthly meeting for migrant workers at SRC in which thirty seven workers attended. Sr Gracy SCN was invited to attend a one-day workshop organized by the Administrative Reforms Commission of the Kerala Government in Trivandrum.

ST JOSEPH’S, CALICUT

The honour of being declared as the oldest school in Kerala was the highlight of the Jubilee Year. Mr Anoop, an alumnus of the school, got the declaration from the Govt. using the RTI facility. A press release by the government declared St Joseph’s Calicut as the oldest school in the state with a history of 225 years. Mr Anoop himself took another initiative in preparing a data base of the school from 1947 till 2017. It gives the details of all those who passed through the school, both teachers and students, during the last seven decades. The data base was officially released at a public function in the school. The festive mood of the Jubilee celebrations got somewhat marred by the tragic death of an 8th Std. student, Master Abhishek R K. He met with an accident while riding a motorbike with his parents. All three of them died on the spot. The incident cast a veil of gloom over the entire school community.
ST MICHAEL’S, KANNUR

‘IGNIUM-17’, the zonal gathering of the teachers of North Kerala Jesuit schools, was held at St. Michael’s Kannur on December 2. Fr M K George, our Provincial, inaugurated the programme and conducted a stimulating session on Jesuit education and the role of teachers in the Jesuit schools. 250 teachers from five schools participated. During the Christmas holidays the NSS volunteers of our school had sapta dina special camp with the theme ‘Malinyamukta Keralam’ at Apoorvashram, Thottada. They built three well-furnished toilets as part of the programme. St Michael’s pre-primary section under the direction of Fr Dominic Madathanyil organized a special Christmas celebration for the drivers who bring our students to school. 75 drivers came to attend, and Fr John Francis gave the Christmas message. Fr Roy Nedumthanam, director of Holy Mount (Kannur diocese) gave an inspiring Christmas message to the school community. Fr T M Joseph delivered the Christmas message to the school staff. We Jesuits had a very meaningful Christmas celebration at IRC paryaram on 26 December. It was a great occasion to foster Jesuit companionship.

RJ Mathew

LOYOLA, ALUVA

At the beginning of this Christmas season our first year novices finished the Spiritual Exercises and started the ‘fifth week’. Six Betharam Novices and three MSJ sisters joined us in this spiritual journey. We welcomed the novices Jaison and Tomy who returned after their Work Experiment. Fr Jacob also is back with us after giving a month long retreat at Kotagiri. As part of the Christmas celebrations we held Carol Services in the neighbourhood on Dec 23, and celebrated Christmas and New-Year with the neighbours on Dec 28. We had a one-day outing to the Thankey church on Dec 29, and we were overwhelmed by the warm hospitality provided by Fr Sheise and his parishioners. We also visited Arthunkal church and the nearby beach. Our guests during Christmas included Frs Sheise, Salvin and Augustine, and four scholastics from Chennai Sathyanilayam - Jithin, Rakesh, Shawn, and Alejandro.

Novice Dileep Joseph

SAMEEKSHA, KALADY

After 10 years of being with us, Fr Samuel Rayan left for Christ Hall for a better care in his advanced age. He was a gracious presence in our midst. We were all inspired by the serenity, contentedness and warmth of the person. Not only we, but also the trees, the birds, the butterflies and the guests miss him very much. Provincial’s Visitation has been as ever a time of grace for the community. On the recommendation of the newly formed Advisory Board of the Centre for Indian Spirituality a Samgamam of friends associated with Sameeksha was convened on 10th Dec. It was a communitarian discernment with seekers of different religions. They shared their perceptions on the relevance of an open space of spiritual encounter like this and made valuable suggestions for the future. The Dharma sameeksha was this time on Maulana Abdul Kalam Asad of the Freedom Struggle. The students of Carmelgiri Seminary, Alwaye, made their discernment retreat under the guidance of Fr Babu Paul. A group of 20 spiritual seekers made a meditation course under the guidance of the Muslim sadhaka Shoukath. Dhyanasameeksha retreat for 10 men and women was guided by Fr Joe Pulickal.

Painadath

LUMEN/SNEHA SENA, KOCHI

Lumen community organized Christmas carolling in collaboration with our neighbours. The carollers which included kids, youngsters and parents moved around the neighbourhood singing traditional carols and were able to raise a fund of Rs.37000/- for the Ockhi cyclone victims. The Newman Association, Kerala Chapter celebrated Christmas and New Year on a grand scale. Fr Adappur’s latest book titled “KARUNAYUDE VAATHIL THURANNU KIDAKKATTE,” was released on the occasion. Noted poet and writer Balachandran Chullikkadu released the book. Smt. Lida Jacob IAS, Daya Bai and Justice Cyriac Joseph were among those present.
LIPI-Ezhuthu invites all our men to join its second anniversary celebrations at Town Hall Ernakulam on January 26, 2018 at 3.30 PM. Dr. Alexander P. Jacob IAS, Sri. M. Mukundan, Dr. C. Radhakrishnan and other eminent cultural heads will grace the event. The academic activities of LIPI will be launched on the same day. The first volume of the autobiography of Daya Bai, which was serialized in Ezhuthu, will be released during the function. Food and accommodation will be arranged for all those who come. LIPI-Ezhuthu invites all Kerala Jesuits to join the anniversary celebrations.

Binoy

SANTHINILAYAM, KOTTAYAM
Fr Sunny Padinjarevarikkattu has joined our community as our new Minister. The community extended him a hearty welcome. Frs Henry Pattarumadathil and Jacob Kochulumchottil (DUM) spent a few days with us. With the support of Kumaranalloor Krishibhavan we started a terrace vegetable garden with green house facility and drip irrigation.

Sebastian Thengumpally

SNEHABHAVAN, KOTTAYAM
Snehabhavan Special School has a new school bus gifted by the Cochin Shipyard as part of their CSR programme. The bus was blessed by Fr M K George, Provincial, and Adv. Radhakrishnamenon, Chairman, Cochin Shipyard handed over the bus key to Dr. Lizy James, Director of Snehabhavan. The special programme was attended by all the students, staff, some parents and the Governing Body members. The Agricultural Officer approved our terrace garden with drip irrigation for vegetable cultivation and sanctioned Rs. 50000/ for it. The vegetable is used for the noon meal of our children. The paddy cultivation at Aymanam also yielded very good harvest.

Snehabhavan celebrated its 27th Annual Day on December 5th. Dr. Cyriac Thomas, former Vice-chancellor, M G University, delivered a memorable key note address. The variety entertainment programme by our school children added colour to the function. We had our Christmas celebration at the Vocational Training Centre, Aymanam on December 20. CHAI-LF evaluation was conducted on December 8 & 9; the evaluator stated in the briefing that our financial documentation was perfect, really a feather on our hat. All the same, we need to improve the documentation of programmes, especially the individual files. The College of Dental Studies, Gandhinagar conducted a dental screening camp at Snehabhavan and they selected our school as the Nodal Centre for conducting dental treatment in the future for the selected special schools of the area. Forty NSS Volunteers from MG University helped in conducting a survey of differently abled persons of Aymanom and Arpookkara grama panchayaths. Their report will help us to expand the CBR programme.

Dr Lizy James

LOYOLA MUKUNDARA
Cyclone Ockhi woke up the school community, and a joint effort by the teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and the management succeeded in collecting Rs 70,000 for the victims. Our teachers along with our principal visited Poovar, one of the affected areas under the guidance of Fr K J Thomas and handed over the money. Lourdu Matha Engineering College conducted a seven-day NSS camp in our school during the Christmas holidays. A new basketball court is getting ready to welcome students when the school reopens.

We invited our immediate neighbours to join us for Christmas celebration on December 23rd. Personal visits to their houses by the Jesuits brought about 50 neighbours to the get-together at Loyola Sadan. It was a beautiful occasion to come to know each other. All participated in some party games and distribution of gifts. Frs Kuriaose and Joseph Edassery visited us and spent a day with us. Fr Manesh took a class for a group of selected youth on “Get Youth Excited about God: A philosophical faith approach illustrating the basic human disposition such as Free Will, Intellect, Freedom and Faith”. The occasion was a youth camp titled “YUVA DEEPAM 2017” organized by the Kattakada Forane of Neyyattinkara Diocese. Sch Rojas went to SICJ, Trivandrum to instruct the Juniors in computer application for two days. He also took special classes on Computer Application for the teachers of the school during the Christmas holidays. Loyola Sadan has put up two more
cubicles on the first floor for use as guest rooms. We heartily welcome more guests to our Sadan. Sub-Lieutenant Akhil Raj of the Indian Navy came to our school as a special guest. He has just passed out from the Naval Academy at Ezhumala in November 2017. Our students got a golden chance to interact with him and get interested in the world of the Navy. The Sub-Lieutenant is the brother of one of our own teachers.

**JEEVIKA MIGRANT WORKERS’ MOVEMENT**

The much awaited official launching of PRISM (People for the Rights of Inter-State Migrants), a new network initiated by Jeevika for those associated with Inter-State Migrants, took place on December 9 at Ernakulam. Shri Hibi Eden MLA inaugurated it at a function presided over by Shri Lalji (ACP, Ernakulam). Mr Mohammed Ziyad (District Labour Officer), Dr Adharsh Radhakrishnan (representing the Health department) were present. Fr P T Mathew recalled the contribution of Fr Sabu Malayil to the cause of migrants as his death anniversary fell this month. Fr Benny Chiramel presented the major finding of his research among the Inter-State migrants. Nearly hundred people comprising the inter-state migrants and their associates participated. Fr Shin Kallungal is the Convenor of PRISM. Over 250 migrant workers from Perumbavoor and Angamali participated in the Christmas celebration at Kottayam organized by Bishop Sebastian Thekkathcheril of Vijayapuram Diocese. A special Eucharistic celebration-cum-Christmas gathering was organized on Christmas day at Angamali in which nearly 150 Odiya Christians participated. The Jeevika team was invited to the administrative reform meeting organized by the Administrative Reform Commission at Mascot hotel, Trivandrum.

**SATYA NILAYAM, CHENNAI**

December was a time of Carrols and Cultural Tour in Satya Nilayam. Fr Jossie D’Mello, JDV Pune, conducted a two-day Ignatian Workshop based on the Spiritual Exercises, and he guided the annual Triduum too. The even semester commenced on November 16. The new office bearers were elected from the First Years, and Sch Francis Paraka is on the kitchen committee. Fr Jean Yves, the former Provincial of France, visited us and talked to us on his perception of the mission of the Society in Europe. Fr Vibin and the others who studied in France had a special meeting with him. There was a special lecture by Dr Madhan Mohan of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, on aspects of research. He motivated us to do research scientifically.

Sch Rosan from Bangalore was with us when he came to follow up on his migration certificate. Francis Paraka was overjoyed to see his family members who came on a visit from Kanjoor during the semester holidays. The annual drama, “Man of La Mancha”- a musical, was staged on December 9 in front of an audience of nearly 250 friends and well-wishers. The Christmas break began on 23 December; and all left for the cultural tour on 25th to be back on December 30. The classes resume on January 2, 2018.

**INIGO SADAN, BANGALORE**

We had Christmas celebration and get together for the students and staff separately. As part of the community celebration we went around singing carols in the neighbouring religious communities. The most touching part of our celebration was a gathering organised for the migrant labourers working in our campus. They mentioned that they felt respected and cared for in the campus, and expressed their gratitude. Sch Rosan went to Manvi as part of the college outreach programme, and Schs Sebin and Anjo went to Kodaikanal for a study trip. Fr M K George, our Provincial, who had come to attend the Karnataka Province Sammelan as an Observer, found time to pay us a visit.
DE NOBILI COLLEGE, PUNE

The crib committee of DNC with Sch Jose at its helm built a beautiful crib as part our Christmas celebration. We performed a Malayalam Christmas medley on the 25th evening along with the other province groups. Fr E P Mathew came from Chennai to present a paper on “Cosmo-theandric Vision” at the DeSmet-DeMernef National Lecture organised by the faculty of philosophy, JDV. We celebrated Fr Immanuel Koyan’s birthday on December 16. Frs Biju, Thomas Karimundackal and Immanuel Koyan left for the province at the outset of Christmas holidays. Sch Jijo’s sustained and relentless campaign for the promotion of “Ezhuthu” magazine in Mumbai during the Christmas holidays proved highly successful. We began our Triduum in preparation for the renewal of vows on December 28.

SNEHARAM/LOK MANCH

Thiruvananthapuram Jesuits were at a loss as to how to come to terms with the tragedy that hit our coast in the form of Okhi Cyclone. We participated in the various meetings and protest movements led by the Latin Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram. As part of Lok Manch, we have been accompanying the victims of the disaster through our support to the animators and coordinators of Cheru Resmi Centre and Trivandrum Social Service Society. Adhwana, another Lok Manch partner organization, offered support in research and documentation related to the mitigation and disaster preparedness of fishers. During a two-hour long Focus Group Discussion (FGD) conducted at Poonthura on the eve of Christmas, the fisher-youth participants angrily questioned why the Government was not ready to start the rescue operations on time. The preliminary findings of the FGDs showed how the Okhi disaster has exposed different aspects of the vulnerability of the coastal population. The major ones are, (i) over-dependence on fishing for livelihood, (ii) lack of job diversification, (iii) lack of disaster preparedness and coordination, (iv) lack of community-based risk reduction communication and disaster management and (v) socio-cultural exclusion of the fishing community from the mainstream communities thus making their life and livelihood issues a low priority.

New Zonal Executives were elected on December 29. The next South Zone Congress will take place at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore in 2020.

Jose Mathew

JAAI SOUTH ZONE CONGRESS

The 15th JAAI South Zone congress was held at Loyola Public school Guntur, A P from Dec 27 to 29. Approximately three hundred registered delegates from the four southern provinces participated. We had ten delegates from Kerala - five from St. Joseph’s Calicut and five from St. Xavier’s College Trivandrum. Fr Biju Joy from St. Xavier’s College and myself were the Jesuit representatives from our Province. The theme of the congress was “Jesuit Alumni/ae Net Working for Communal Harmony.” Fr George Pattery, POSA, in his presidential address requested the Congress to focus on three vital issues, namely, (i) Ecological Networking, (ii) Networking to rebuild the social fabric that is being ruptured, and (iii) Networking with Non-Formal Education. The complete text of his presentation is available in the JAAI web site.

Ivin Tomy

(NEW ZEALAND)

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In the meetings of the disaster management committees at Sneharam held in early December 2017, we came to know that only one person in the group made use of the Radio Monsoon contact number (9266744111) before leaving for fishing. This indicated the need for more creative efforts to improve the risk-communication culture of fishermen along the coast.

Fr Benny Chiramel along with Fr Deepak, the Assistant Parish Priest conducted an adoration session and a psycho-spiritual exercise at Poonthura parish. The adoration on the eve of the New Year was a sequel to the homily Fr Benny preached on 30th during the Mass held for the fishermen who were yet to return from the sea. The attempts of the parish priests of the coastal parishes to support the victims and to give visibility of the cyclone-related issues through the media, were inspiring. Right now, the affected people need our psychosocial and spiritual support along with whatever financial help we can muster for them.

Benny Chiramel

90 YEARS AT BORGO SANTO SPIRITO, 4

On 8 December 2017, the Jesuit General Curia marked 90 years of presence at the current location on Borgo Santo Spirito 4, close to the Vatican. Here is an entry from the annals of the house for 8 December 1927:

“On December 8, Father General (Wlodimir Ledochowski) wished to bless the new Curia under the auspices of the Immaculate Virgin, according to the formula of the Roman Ritual “pro nova domo benedicenda”. The ceremony took place this way: Starting from the lower floors, Father General gradually ascended to the higher floors. All the Fathers and Brothers of each floor, after having received the blessing, also went up following Father General upstairs. On reaching the top floor, in front of the image of the Sacred Heart, placed at the head of the staircase, the consecration of the whole religious family to the Sacred Heart of Jesus was solemnly renewed.”

REMEMBERING FR PETER-HANS KOLVENBACH

The website dedicated to the memory of Fr Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, is now available in three languages: English, French and Spanish. Visit https://kolvenbach.jesuitgeneral.org to learn more about the 29th Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

PETER-HANS KOLVENBACH LIBRARY

Fr General Arturo Sosa has named the library of the Society at the General Curia in Rome, the “Peter-Hans Kolvenbach Library”. This becomes the first Jesuit institution named after the 29th Superior General of the Society of Jesus. Fr Kolvenbach (30/11/1928-26/11/2016) was an avid user of the library throughout his stay at the General Curia. The renamed library was inaugurated on 24 November 2017.

The General Curia has a great treasure with regard to the wealth of books it has been collecting, over the years, in two large libraries. The first is the so-called “Father General’s Library” composed of books written by the Jesuits around the world on a variety of subjects. The second is the “Historical Library” that, formerly, was the Library of the House of Writers. This library contains books written by Jesuits and non-Jesuits, which have to do with any aspect that refers to the Society of Jesus, whether about its members, apostolic works, their history or their spirituality. The work of modernizing the library was completed by the beginning of October 2017. Fr General Arturo Sosa has enthusiastically accepted and supported the idea of opening the library to the general public.

OURS IN MEDIA

- A. Adappur, Karunayude Vathil Thurannu Kidakatte (Mal), Kochi: St Pauls, 2018.
- Xavier Tharamel, “Encountering multifaceted spirit: Panikkar’s paradigm of pneumatological Keralatidings 2018 January


**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ROOTS & WINGS 2018**

**COLLOQUIUM ON IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY**

Revisioning the Ignatian Heritage for Tomorrow

**Modules:** Autobiography of Ignatius of Loyola, Spiritual Exercises, Constitutions, Spiritual Diary, Letters, General Congregations (31-36), Mission Today & Eight Day Retreat

**Venue:** Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur, Kodaikanal

**Dates:** From April 4 to May 9 (both days inclusive) 2018

**Arrival:** April 4 (evening) 2018

**Departure:** May 9 (evening) 2018

**Total Course Fee:** Rs 24,000/- (including Board / Lodge)

**Contact Person:** Fr M. Devadhas SJ

Email: mdevadhassj@gmail.com

Mobile: +91 94875 80952 / 8056662524

The course is meant only for Jesuits

**GONE FOR THEIR REWARD**

- **Fr Fulgence Xaxa** (DAR), 57/34, on 04.12.2017 at Gayaganga.
- **Fr Felix Joseph** (MDU), 81/64, on 15.12.2017 at Dindigul.
- **Fr Ephrem Appadorai** (MDU), 74/57, on 15.12.2017 in Chennai after a heart surgery.
- **Br Aaron Michael Jesus** (MDU) 90/69, on 25.12.2017.
- **Fr Ambrose Pinto** (KAR), 67/50 on 03.01.2018 in Bengaluru.


**IN CHRIST WITH GLORY**

**JANUARY**

06 (2007) Cecil Velathi
06 (2014) Linos Maria Zucol
07 (2006) Kurian Padapurackal
18 (1967) Thomas Kalam
19 (1977) Joseph Koilparambil
21 (2003) Chandy Varickamakal
23 (2007) Dominic Gomez
26 (1963) Fortunatus Cutinho
31 (1986) Cherian Karippaparambil

**FEBRUARY**

01 Anil Kochumethikalam
02 Eby Shajan Parankimalil
04 George Varangalakudy
05 George Vattukulam