



VOL. LV NO. 10    OCTOBER 2015    CHRIST HALL    KOZHIKODE

## FROM THE PROVINCIAL

### CHINA CONTACT PROGRAMME: CHERISHED MEMORIES; LESSON LEARNED

Thanks to the generosity of the Chinese Province and its Provincial John Lee and the Faculty of The Beijing Centre (TBC), fourteen of us Jesuits from all over the world had an exciting week of exposure, reflection and relaxation. Our programme included lectures from the team of T B C, exposure visits to historical places like South Church, Matteo Ricci's tomb, Tiananmen Square, Summer Palace, the Great Wall and a visit to Shaanxi province, Cathedral, Shaanxi major seminary, Living Spring Pastoral Centre and to an old Jesuit community, now turned into a convent. Besides John, Fr. Immanuel, the Delegate and Scholastic David were our constant companions. We were able to empathize with the extremely complex and challenging environment in which our Jesuit brothers live and work.

What strikes you about China is its apparent economic and infrastructural growth, absolute cleanliness and order and discipline, though the constant smog in Beijing was a contradiction to the apparent prosperity.

As we listened to history, particularly that of the

Jesuits, one lesson loomed large. Jesuits like Matteo Ricci and Johann Adam Schall von Bell were able to access the once resistant Monarchies through their competence and constancy. In spite of many setbacks, they kept searching for ways to enter the domains of power. Finally what gave them access was their competence in scientific knowledge and tenacity.

The lesson is simple, but challenging: We need to become extraordinarily competent in the areas we work and live in and tenacious in our purpose to make a difference in the world.

*M.K.George S J*

## RIP

Br. Chacko Vandakam (80/60) passed away on 5 October, 2015 at 11 a.m. His health was steadily declining over the past few months. His mortal remains were interned in Christ Hall cemetery on 6 October. May his soul rest in peace.

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR GENERAL

**Fr Tomasz Michal Ortmann** (PMA) provincial of the Poland and Masovia Province.

**Fr Gian Giacomo Rotelli** (ITA) as personal secretary to Father General.

## TRANSFERS BY FR PROVINCIAL

**Fr Raphael Thottan:** Loyola Sadan, Poozhanad

**Fr Joseph Mathew Puthenpurackal:** Loyola, Aluva

**Fr Sunil Padannamakkel:** Loyola, Sreekariyam

**Br John Molekunnel:** Christ Hall, Calicut

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### OCTOBER

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 01    | Programme for the Claretian Fathers at Karukutti |
| 02-04 | ISI, Bangalore– Evaluation Committee Meeting     |
| 05-06 | Calicut  |
| 07-09 | Visitation, St Xavier's College                  |
| 10    | Formation Committee Meeting, Kalady              |
| 11-13 | Visitation, Kottayam and Edathua                 |
| 14-16 | Visitation, AKJM HSS                             |
| 17    | Lumen, JECI Meeting                              |
| 18    | Consult  |
| 21    | Mahe Church                                      |
| 22    | Young Priests' Meet                              |
| 23-26 | Visitation, Sarvodaya, Eachome & Pachilakad      |
| 29-31 | Visitation, Lumen, Kochi                         |

### NOVEMBER

- |       |                                    |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| 01    | Inauguration of 'Ezhuthu' at Kochi |
| 02-14 | JCSA Meetings-Pune                 |

## NEW MOBILE NUMBERS & EMAIL ID

**Fr Shin Kallungal:** 8111957785, shinkfj@gmail.com

**Fr Joseph Mathew Puthenpurackal:** 9526561554

## PEACE INSTITUTE & EZHUTHU MAGAZINE: INVITATION

The release of the first issue of **EZHUTHU** is scheduled to be on **1<sup>st</sup> November 2015 at 2.30 pm** in **Town Hall, Ernakulam**. Kindly take this note as an early reminder to mark the calendar. All are

most welcome! Justice Kurian Joseph will be the chief guest. Leading literarists and cultural leaders will grace the occasion. The formal invitation will reach you shortly.

We expect representation from all our communities and institutions. Our families, friends and colleagues are also encouraged to attend the launching function. We would appreciate their prayers and support as we undertake an important mission with a secular thrust. The seating capacity of Town Hall is 750. RSVP to [ezhuthumagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ezhuthumagazine@gmail.com) will be highly appreciated.

Thank you everyone for promoting subscriptions. We may have to do it more vigorously in the forthcoming weeks. The receipt books are to be submitted at the earliest that the circulation team can systematically work on them.

*Binay Pichalakkatt*

## FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

### ST JOSEPH'S CALICUT

The schools reopened after the Onam vacation with renewed spirit of enthusiasm and gaiety. The annual youth festival was conducted in the ICSE school exceptionally well in a tone of discipline and order. **Mr Illikkettu Nampoothiri**, a renowned serial and cine artist was invited as the chief guest of the celebrations. The ICSE School also conducted a seminar for teachers of various schools in view of improving the handwriting of our students. Our boys and girls participated in the state ICSE cultural competitions held in Trivandrum. As part of implementing the recommendations from the visitation of Fr Provincial, the school has launched an integrated remedial teaching program for students who secured last grades in the examinations; teachers provide personal care and assistance to weak students after their class time. We are proud of our boys Master Pranav Krishna who secured championship in the state level SPELLBEE competitions, master Aditya who secured second place in the under 14 aquatic competitions organized by state ICSE council and master Bryan Dilon who stood third in the Archery competitions.

The HSS mourned the unexpected demise of Master Aswin Sunoj (Std. VIII). There was meeting organized in the HSS as part of evaluating the Alumni Congress held here in August.

The Jesuit community thanked **Msgr. Vincent Arackal**, the outgoing parish priest of the Mother of God Cathedral and welcomed the newly appointed parish priest **Fr M.H. Antony and the Assistant Fr Sajin Varghese. Fr Anto** went to Jamshedpur to attend the PCF's Meet.

*Ramlet Thomas*

### **XAVIER TRAINING CENTRE, PACHILAKAD**

As part of the study of the Bible, the pre-novices participated in the logos quiz conducted by the Diocese. Intense study of the Bible through quiz competitions in the centre during the whole month helped them to perform well in the exam. By the way, one of the pre-novices left for good and Dhanil from Gudallur, a new comer, filled the gap.

Besides the regular classes, our pre-novices attended two courses this month. One was guided charismatic retreat for five days by **Fr. Abraham Pallivathukal**. Indeed, this helped them to deepen their contact with the Almighty. The other was a two-day course on media awareness by **Fr. Sony**. This was also well appreciated by the pre-novices. Thank you, fathers.

Under the able guidance of our minister-in-charge, **Fr. Kuriakose**, the whole community has been on the field to make a vegetable garden. This is a unique experience for all of us as it brings us close to the nature.

**Fr. Saji and Sch. Adhul** conducted a one-day camp coupled with counseling for the plus two students of St. Joseph's Convent School, Kalpetta. **Fr. Saji's** assistants were of great help in counseling the students. As a result of this and other similar courses, the demand for the services of **Fr. Saji** and his team is on the increase.

We have had three guests: **Fr. Sunny Kunnappallil, Fr. Philip Vattamala, and Sch. Kamal. Fr. E.J.Thomas** is now with us making his annual retreat.

*Adhul*

### **S.M.FARM, PARIYARAM**

**Fr. Raju Vattaparambil** has taken charge as the Director of IRC, Pariyaram, on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2015. We wish him all the best for this challenging mission. IRC, together with the S.M. Farm Community, bade farewell to **Fr. Raphael Thottan** with a prayer service and dinner. Three members of St. Michael's School joined the function. IRC is grateful to Thottan for his selfless service for the past five years and wish him well for his spiritual ministries at Mukundara. **Fr. Raju** and his team organized two retreats, one for 3<sup>rd</sup> year students of Sahrudaya Engineering College at Sameeksha, Kalady for 3 days, and the other for the parishioners of St. Francis Assisi Church, Neruvampuram, Pazhengadi for 4 days. **Fr. Raju** also gave a one-day spiritual awakening and TAIZE prayer workshop for the youth of St. Mary's Forane Church, Malapuram. **Fr. Mathew Kannadan** looked after Payyoli Parish for ten days when **Fr. O.P. Mathew** made his retreat at Christ Hall, Calicut. **Fr. Sunil Padannamakal** was given a warm send off by both the community and the ITI after his three years of services here. We thank Sunil for his unassuming service as Principal of ITI and Minister of the House. We wish him God's blessings for this new assignment at Loyola community, Trivandrum.

*Mathew Aertthayil*

### **ST MICHAEL'S, KANNUR**

Teachers' Day was celebrated on September 5<sup>th</sup> in a colourful gathering of all the students and teachers. The Pre-Primary school celebrated the Teachers' Day on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The students wished the teachers with flowers and gifts. Sub District level Taikonda competition was held in the school auditorium on the 6<sup>th</sup>. **Fr Gracious** gave a one-day programme for the teachers of ITIs of Pariyaram and Edathua at Nirmala ITC, Pariyaram. St Michael's Feast was celebrated on 29<sup>th</sup>. A class on "Waste Management" for the teachers by **Mr CK Babu**, Advisor of Kerala Suchithwa Mission, organized on the same day, was very much appreciated.

*K J Mathew*

### **LOYOLA, ALUVA**

The month of September began with the 'Sermon on the Mount'. **Fr. Henry Pattarumadathil** shared

with us the blue print of Christian as well as religious living in his three day course. Jackachan was away to make his annual retreat at Christ Hall. Fr. Master attended the novice masters' meeting at Kanyakumari.

The Lumen community invited us for a mini 'zonal Gathering' followed by a delicious dinner. There we introduced ourselves and got introduced to many of our senior companions of Jesus. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of this month our community attended a felicitation ceremony honoring the religious of our parish Church. Sanilachan led us through a three day workshop on the "Self". We marked the birthday of 'Mamma Mia' with a solemn Eucharistic celebration.

**Fr. Sanil** went to Mount St. Joseph's, Bangalore for his 'annul tour' with God. At the initiative of Fr. Master, one day, we celebrated the Holy mass at our grotto in the back drop of the shadows of leaves. We joined the Verapoly archdiocese in the yearly pilgrimage to our Lady's shrine Basilica at Vallarpadam.

Novice Vysakh Titus was happy to celebrate his birthday in the novitiate a second time. We had birthday Mass and get-together in honor of Vysakh.

We were glad to host the Juniors and staff of SICJ for a day while they were on their Kerala tour. We had a delicious dinner which was followed by a grand get-together. The families of Schs. Amardeep and Nibin were with us to add colour to the lively evening. On the next morning Jackachan celebrated the Holy mass for the Juniors. Soon after the breakfast they left for Vidyanikethan.

We had a day's sessions on waste management under the guidance of **Fr. Joe Mathew** and a professional expert on the subject, **Mr. P. K. Babu**. The input session as well as practical sessions gave us new insights and practices in waste management.

Towards the end of the month Fr. Provincial was with us for his annual visitation. It was a time of grace and Fr. Provincial in his characteristic ways of enthusiasm and fire inspired in each one of us a burning zeal for our vocation to priesthood and the Jesuit charism. In the presence of Fr. Provincial we had a 'zonal gathering' which was attended by

about 17 Jesuits from the Eranakulam zone. The highlight of the event was the celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Jackachan which was on the 19 of this month, honoring **Fr. Samuel Rayan** on his 60 years of priesthood and Fr. Provincial on his 62<sup>nd</sup> birthday. The get-together was followed by a prayer service and a sumptuous dinner.

On the whole, the month of September was like the Holy Eucharist! It began with the 'Sermon on the mount', included sharing, reflections and gatherings and came to an end with the blessings of Fr. Provincial.

*Amal and Sooraj*

#### **ARNOS PADIRI ACADEMY, VELUR:**

The blessing of the renovated house of ARNOS PADIRI ACADEMY was done on 8<sup>th</sup> September by the Parish priest, **Fr. Johnson Ayinikal**. **Fr. Mathew Nambiaparambil** along with the Jesuit community members from Lumen, and Kalady and Thrissur were present at the function. The blessing ceremony was followed by a public function where many dignitaries like **Fr. Adapur, Prof. V.G.Thambi, Dr. P.V.Ouseph, Sri. Antony Puthur, Sri. John Joffi, Sri. John Kalliyath** and **Fr. Johnson Ayinikal** spoke about the greatness and the relevance of Aronos Padiri to our time. There were 60 participants including the priests and sisters from the neighbourhood and the neighbours from the vicinity.

**ARNOS PADIRI monthly talk series** is going to be inaugurated on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at Velur. A local executive committee is being formed to organize the programmes of Aronos Padiri Academy. **George Thenadikulam** is actively involved in the Parish activities and other socio-cultural events, in order to have a deeper acquaintance with the local people. The presence of **Roy Thottam** and **Paul Kari** enrich the Jesuit presence in and around Velur.

*George Thenadikulam*

#### **SAMEEKSHA/ ATMAMITRA, KALADY**

**Sebastian Painadath** attended the KCBC Colloquium of Bishops and Theologians. He guided an Indian contemplative retreat at Sameeksha. His other activities include a talk on "the Christian

attitude to other religions” to Sahrudaya Engineering College staff at Sameeksha and talks to the Jesus Youth Campus ministry teams at Thevara. Sebastian Painadath also presented a paper on East-West Encounter in Spirituality at a seminar on Mystical Experience at Hildesheim. The Kalady Philosophy Forum was held at Sameeksha and **Binoy Pichalakatt** presented a paper on “Science and Philosophy”. The Chengal Residents Association organized the Onam festival celebrations at Sameeksha. The entire village gathered in Sameeksha on 27<sup>th</sup> with much enthusiasm to relive the memory of a magnificent ‘mythical’ past. On 8<sup>th</sup> August, the Community celebrated the birthday of **Fr. Sabu Malayil**. **Frs. Sunny Kokkaravalayil and Henry Pattarumadathil** stayed with us for a few days. AICUF Ernakulam zonal members had their exposure in Attapadi and another group embarked on a study trip to Simla in Himachal Pradesh. Members of the community and several people from Kalady as well as many from the Jnanasameeksha group attended the funeral service of Sebastian’s mother at Neericode. **Fr. Xavier Tharammel** is away in England attending the contact programme in connection with his research. Jesuit Juniors from SICJ and the M.Th. Spirituality students from JDV, Pune took shelter in Sameeksha during their cultural tour cum pilgrimage.

Atmamitra crossed another milestone when it extended its services to the Malayalam speaking community of St. Michel’s Church, Sharjah. **Fr. Toby** catered directly to about 300 teenagers and indirectly to another 580. He also made an impact on about 1000 parents through four evening talks. The most interesting part of the involvement, he says, was coordinating the 200 strong teachers, assistants, volunteers and activity groups towards the final staging of the camp, which was conducted on the theme, “*Jesus: The Good Shepherd*”. He found time to reach out to the labour camps in and around Sharjah giving talks and hearing confessions of the Malayali Catholic labourers there. It was migrant ministry for Keralites in an alien land. He also made himself available to teens and parents for counseling. It was a nice experience doing the works of a pastor, a social

worker, a teen minister and a counselor all at the same time. Back in Kerala, Atmamitra Centre gets frequent calls and visits from friends and relatives of people in the UAE. **Fr. Toby** also conducted a Basic NLP programme in Malayalam for a group at CIS, Kanjirappally. Fr. Raju and his team of retreat preachers catered to a group of students from Sahrudaya College of Engineering, Kodakara at Sameeksha. Another group from the same college and two groups from Chaldean Syrian HSS, Thrissur attended Atmamitra programmes at Sameeksha. In September alone we had 10 days of Atmamitra programmes at the centre with average attendance of 102. Atmamitra team also reached out to the non-Catholic Post Graduate students of Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, Kanjirappally at Kottayam.

**Fr. Sabu Malayil** made a breakthrough intervention with the migrant ministry when the National Human Rights Commission made a serious revisiting of a case of four deaths of migrant labourers and ordered issue of compensation to the dependents.

*Fr. Sabu Malayil*

### **SANTHINILAYAM, KOTTAYAM**

As part of the silver Jubilee celebrations, Snehabhavan organized a seminar for special school teachers of Kottayam District on “United Nations convention on Rights of the Persons with Disabilities” on 4<sup>th</sup> September at Thanmaya Media Centre. Around 170 teachers attended the seminar. **Fr. Sunny Kokkaravalayil**, the Superior and Professor of Orientale, Rome, inaugurated the Seminar. Snehabhavan also honoured the participants and coaches of the International Special Olympics, from Kottayam District, held at Los Angeles, USA. Congratulations to **Frs. Sebastian, Philip and Anil** for the meticulous planning and execution of the seminar.

The first meeting of JECI was conducted at Santhinilayam on 20<sup>th</sup> September. Around 30 members participated in the meeting. **Fr. Sony** welcomed the gathering and **Fr. Salvin** introduced the ministries of the Society and about JECI to the gathering. Sch. Sharath also helped to initiate the discussions. Thanks to **Fr. Salvin** and **Sch. Sharath**.

Our community experienced the warmth and hospitality of Kanjirapally Jesuit brothers, as we gathered in Kanjirapally for our South Central Zone Jesuit gathering. The brotherly love and concern was felt by all.

*Anil Kochumethikalam*

### LUMEN, KOCHI

Newman Association brought a hot topic for its monthly discussion, namely, "The Lessons from Vallarpadam for Vizhinjam." **Fr. Benny Chiramel** gave an excellent study on Vizhinjam Container Transshipment Port project and its socio-economic impact on the fishermen community around the area. Dr. K.M. Mathew rendered a Malayalam translation of the study that was presented in the absence of Fr. Benny. **Advocate Sherry J. Thomas**, a prominent leader of KRLCC as well as a social activist, presented a detailed survey of the promises given and the ground reality of the Vallarpadam project. It is pointed out that Vallarpadam was once projected as the Asian hub of container transshipment while the actual achievement remains less than ten percent. **Fr. Adappur** introduced the topic highlighting its relevance and importance. **Fr. Binoy Jacob** moderated the session. In the lively discussion that followed many participants expressed their studied views. The print and visual media carried the programme prominently.

Inauguration of the JECI unit will be held in a gathering organised at Lumen Hall on 17<sup>th</sup> October. Fr. Provincial will preside over the function.

*Vincent Dereppadan*

### AKJM/ SAMANVAYA KANJIRAPPALLY

The month of September witnessed quite a lot of student – centered activities in the school. On Teachers' Day, the students felicitated all the teachers by offering them gifts and letters of appreciation expressing their love and respect for them. The students themselves took up the roles of the Principal, Vice Principals, teachers, office staff etc. and managed the school in a responsible manner. We have launched a new initiative called Student Empowerment Programme (SEP) for

the weaker students to provide them with special training to develop their innate talents. More than one hundred and fifty students attended a two-day camp named 'Unarvu' conducted under the auspices of SEP. The theatre workshop conducted by the students from Loyola College Trivandrum, for the Higher Secondary students could bring out their histrionic talents. In the sub-district level competitions, our students became champions in basketball, table tennis and chess. We have brought our buildings and campus under camera surveillance by installing CCTV cameras. We have introduced banking system in our school through which parents can pay the fees from anywhere in the world. We had a parents' meeting to evaluate the performance of the school in the first term. It was a morale booster for us since they were highly appreciative of the changes introduced in the school and they have promised their unstinted support for the school.

**Fr. Salvin Augustine** was invited by the Assumption School, Palampra (run by the C.M.I. Fathers) to conduct the orientation programme for their staff. He gave another seminar for the parents of St Antony's College, Ponkunnam. **Fr Salvin and Sch. Sharath** gave an orientation programme for the JECI members of Santhinilayam, Kottayam.

The get-together of South-Central Zone Jesuits (Kanjirapally, Kottayam and Edathua) was held at Samanvaya on 13<sup>th</sup> September. It was a time of grace to experience our Jesuit identity and companionship.

Two programmes for the youth were held at the Centre for Ignatian Spirituality (CIS) in the month of September. The Christeen youth Animators had their monthly meeting at CIS on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. For the Mass and a talk by **Fr. Tom**, the group managed everything by themselves. Another half day seminar was held here for the same group. **Fr Tom Panikulam** gave an 8 day Spanish retreat to a group of sisters at Kattappana. In the beginning of October Fr Tom is offering a few classes on Study Methods for students. He has invited also the parents who want to accompany their children in their studies.

*Sharath Babu George*

## LOYOLA, TRIVANDRUM

Loyola School organised a “Live-in” exposure for 15 High School students at Poovar which was meticulously planned and executed by **Fr K.J. Thomas** and his team. Two students each were put up in a house of a fishing family. It was a joint venture of Loyola School and the College. **Fr Saji Joseph** guided the exposure and stayed with the students. The school was the venue for the National creative writing competition organised by CBSE. The school also got the trophy for the overall championship in the competition held by L-Cole Chempakam School. On 14<sup>th</sup> October, induction and welcome for the first year college students officially took place. Students of Loyola College staged a flash mob in order to promote awareness on blood donation at the Museum ground. **Dr. Ponmudiraj**, member NAAC team delivered, the second Golden Jubilee Lecture series for the staff of Loyola, St. Xavier’s, Thumba, All Saints, Mar Ivanios and Immanuel College. **Dr Ponmudiraj** also facilitated a staff development programme on strategic planning for the staff of Loyola and Jesuits from St. Xavier’s. An international seminar on migration was organised by the department of social work. **Prof. Philip** from Stockholm University presented a paper. A five-day training for the government college principals was held at LES. A five-day training was organised for the young government teachers at LES. **Fr Joye James** handled a few sessions for both trainings. **Fr Sunil Joseph** was given a warm welcome to the community as the new minister.

*Saji Joseph*

## ST. XAVIER’S, THUMBA

St. Xavier’s unit of JECl was inaugurated by Dr. Varghese George, a Jesuit alumnus and former State PSC member on the 6<sup>th</sup> September in the august presence of a well-meaning gathering of around fifty people, comprising our former and present staff, illustrious alumni, and a few other hand-picked friends of Jesuits. In this uniquely orchestrated get-together, where true bonding prevailed over everything else, **Fr. Joseph Kallepallil** explained the dynamics and objectives

of such a coming together. The meaningful interaction with one another and in the group was overwhelming. We are encouraged by the enthusiasm and positive response of our well-wishers and hope to capitalize on it to better our apostolic collaboration for the Kingdom of God.

Community rejoiced at the good tidings that **Fr. Dasappan** successfully defended his doctoral theses on 10<sup>th</sup> September at Loyola Chennai on the topic, “*Discernment: An Ignatian Reading of Gerald Manley Hopkins*”. The quality and novelty of his intellectual oeuvre ensured that the famed Lawrence Sundaram Hall was packed to its capacity with the who’s who of Loyola College. His scintillating performance won him such rare adulation not just from participants but more importantly from critical observers of his work. Let me quote Prof. James W. Earl, Department of English, University of Oregon, USA, an external examiner who went through Dasappan’s research, “By the standards of the scores of doctoral theses I have read over the years, this one is thoroughly researched, substantially original, beautifully written and remarkably clean”. Attired in his clerical dress, Dasappan won the hearts of the audience by the simple and lucid presentation. Dasappan faced the questions from the audience pretty well. The external examiner **Dr Padmaja** (Principal, Valiammal College, Chennai) was all in praise of Fr Dasappan for taking up this challenge with all his might and completing his task meticulously well. Many Jesuits from Loyola College, Chennai, including Fr Rector, the Principal, the Secretary, were present at the defence. **Frs. Pious, E. P. Mathew, Biju Joy, Shibu, Prince and Schs. Rosan and Jose** and Dasappan’s younger brother **Mr. Saji** were also present for the occasion. Let us honestly hope that a scholarly work of this sort will soon appear in print form. Congratulations dear Dasappan for once again living up to the expectations!

The new born **Xavier Extension Services (XES)** has to its credit its maiden training Programme in the campus as they organized a three-day fresher’s camp for the AICUF students of the College. The enthusiastic director of XES, Fr. Pious, left few

stones unturned to make this maiden attempt notable and at the same time 'critics' friendly. The students who attended this carefully crafted Programme profited immensely and we sincerely hope that they will eventually turn out to be game changers in making our campus intellectually vibrant.

**Fr. Sunny** is busy right now with the PG admissions and at the same time spearheading the Auditorium project ahead by slowly clearing the ground to begin the work at least by December.

**Fr. Jose Pulinthanath** has taken over a portion of the Farm on the north eastern side which had been leased out earlier for organic farming. He is skilfully blending the art of farming with his escapades in Higher Education. The Jesus youth fraternity in the city found in him a compassionate mentor and it keeps him busy on weekends with some invaluable involvement with the youth.

St. Xavier's declared a zero tolerance to plastic and other hazardous wastes and epitomizing into himself an uncompromising attitude against such menaces our bursar Fr. Biju is scheming novel ideas to ensure its precise execution. He is blessed with an assistant to chalk out the strategies and the duo is often spotted pedalling the breadth and length of the campus looking for new adventures.

*Dominic Palakeel*

## **SNEHARAM, ANJENGO**

The month of September opened our eyes to the 'God of Surprises' as **Mr Alexis** who had been with us for the last two months, would put it. Sneharam's small research wing could help Mr Alexis, a tourist cum student of Oxford University, to conduct about 60 formal interviews and many informal interactions with a select group of coastal community members from various coastal villages of Thiruvananthapuram. His stay with us was a great opportunity for profound learning for all of us. Mr Alexis, with his characteristic humility and sensitivity, won the hearts of many. Both Alexis and Benny had many occasions to discuss social action concerns with **Fr Paul Vadakel**, and he gracefully touched upon the glorious moments he had in the *aula* of G.C. 32.

In the light of the recent research activities related to 'Development-induced exclusion, conflicts and the need for peace-building measures' with Vizhinjam Commercial Port at the background, Sneharam conducted a training for debate for the college students from the nearby coastal colleges, with a view to have an inter-collegiate debate competition in the month of October. Fr Benny co-authored a paper on the 'Impact of Vizhinjam Commercial Port on the local community' at the behest of Frs Abraham Adappur, and Binoy, and they got it translated and presented it in a Seminar of Newman Association. Special thanks to both of them and Prof. Mathew who translated the paper enhancing its readability in Malayalam.

We reflected on the Encyclical *Laudato Si* for giving retreat talks and homilies. We took care of the ritual needs of St Peter's Church in the absence of its parish priests. As he was participating in the annual JESA meeting at Bandra Retreat House, Mumbai, from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, Fr Benny got an intimation regarding his Ph.D. Viva Voce at Fort Campus, University of Mumbai, to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 at 11.00 a.m.

In the annual meeting of JESA Coordinators, a common programme of social action for the whole of India, tentatively called, *Lok Manch*, namely, *People's Forum*, was finalized. Kerala will have three units with 12 organizations collaborating on entitlements related to National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Water, Sanitation, Health and Hygiene (WASH) among the tribals, dalits and fisherfolk of Kerala.

Fr Paul is valiantly leading Sneharam in its usual activities, including tuition programme. The coming months are going to be more hectic as we are looking forward to starting the *Lok Manch* activities in Kerala on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2015. We are enlisting the support of Jesus Youth volunteers to conduct the Weekend Scholarship programme. We are grateful to Loyola and SXC community members who occasionally pay brief visits to Sneharam despite their heavy schedules. Who knows, the God of Surprises may send some more like the



Jesus Youth and Mr Alex is to work with us in the social action centres of the Province!

*Benny Chiramel*

### VIDYANIKETAN, TRIVANDRUM

September was an eventful month for us here. On the 5th we celebrated TEACHERS' DAY. We greeted and garlanded our Teachers and organised a Cultural Programme. From the 7th to the 9th, we participated in the very helpful Psycho-Sexual Integration Course of **Fr Jossy Rodrigues**, Novice Master of Karnataka. We were happy to welcome the Novice Masters of Darjeeling, Kohima and Sri Lanka, as well as the ADF, **Fr Raj Irudaya**. **Frs John Manipadam, Prabhudass** and **Williams** participated in the Assistency Juniorate Staff Meet at Sitagarha. They returned on the 21st with renewed vigour and zeal. Our 1st Term Examinations (14th-21st) went off smoothly. Then, early on the 22nd, we started our much awaited Cultural Tour which took us to Parumala Orthodox Church, the Shrine of St Alphonsa, the Jewish Synagogue, Vallarpadam Church and other places. Our Companions from the other southern States and from Dumka Province enjoyed themselves all along. We are grateful to our Sameeksha Community, Kalady, and Loyola Community, Alwaye, for cordially hosting us, thus making our tour even more memorable.

*Amardeep Pittapillil*

### LOYOLA, MUKUNDARA.

The Teachers' Day was celebrated with extraordinary enthusiasm from the part of the students and each teacher was presented with showers of gifts of all sorts. It was a great boost for all the teachers. **Deacon Tomson** made a flying visit to us and a solemn assembly was organized in his honour and he shared his rich experiences in Europe and in Alaska. Two tribal girls from TUDI, Waynad sent by **Fr. Baby Chalil** were our guests and we organized a fortnight's Training programme for them in art and craft and they learned the art of making flowers of various types with various materials; ornament

making with paper and pearls; clay modelling and glass painting taught by our principal and a host of other crafts taught by other experts. **Fr. Raphael Thottan** joined the community so as to join in the joyful celebration of Br. Mathew's birthday on 1st October. Fr. Thottan will soon launch into a retreat campaign in the Southern dioceses. Due to **Br. Mathew's** relentless efforts we always have vegetables produced organically. His farm is filled with all sorts of birds that give plenty of eggs and meat.

*Syriac Panjikaran*

### ASHAKIRAN, MANGALORE

The community had a busy schedule in the month of September. We started the month with second internal exams. The visitation of the Provincial of Karnataka province, **Fr. Stany D'souza**, was an important event in the community. We had an interactive session with Fr Stany and he spoke on the challenges that we scholastics have to deal with during the time of studies and communitarian activities.

Another enriching event was the visitation of Fr **Anto Muringathery**, our PCF. We were glad to have him in our community. On the 17<sup>th</sup> we had a talk on ongoing formation by eminent Jesuits **Frs. Bosco** of Andhra Province and **Michael Amaldoss** of Madurai province. In the beginning of the month our college had conducted the convocation ceremony. **Schol. Rosan Roy** who bagged the 1<sup>st</sup> rank in BSc was a special invitee to the ceremony. Congratulations Rosan! We begin our semester exams on 7<sup>th</sup> October. Kindly remember us in your prayers.

*Libin Mathew*

### ARRUPE NIVAS, BANGALORE

The month of September brought many new enriching experiences to all of us. On the 4<sup>th</sup> September we, as a community, undertook a pilgrimage on foot to the shrine of "Our Lady of Good Health" at Shivajinagar. It was indeed a source of spiritual enrichment. On the 8<sup>th</sup> we

had a full-fledged celebration of the same feast. Two Jesuits from Darjeeling province joined our community on the same day: Fr. Boniface and Sch. Reuell Paul. On the same occasion we celebrated the wedding anniversary of Mr & Mrs D'Sa who have gifted their landed property for putting up Ashakiran in Mangalore.

On 11<sup>th</sup> was the College Sports Day. The whole college was vibrating with a competitive spirit all through the day beginning with the march-past.

To bring about better coordination and mutual understanding among members of the college staff the community organized an informal gathering. We had evening tea and some interactive games as part of the gathering.

The college organized a rally "HeforShe", a movement for gender equality, in collaboration with UN. Ours was the first Indian college to take part in the movement.

On 20<sup>th</sup> we were delighted by the short visit of **Fr. Sanil Mathew Mayilkunnel** just before our practical examinations. Hectic days of studies are ahead of us as the semester end examinations approach. May your prayers be our strength!

*Anjo Thomas*

#### **ALPHONSA COLLEGE, THIRUVAMBADY**

This academic year 149 students are admitted to the four batches of the first year. The classes are in full swing. The first set of internal examinations is over. The College Union Elections were peacefully conducted on non-party basis. The construction of the new building is almost over.

*K.P. Mathew*

#### **SATYANILAYAM, CHENNAI**

Satyanilayam celebrated Onam on 29 August. Fr Prince Clarence presided over the solemn Eucharistic celebration. Onakalikal marked a major and attractive part of the Onam day. The celebration ended with an Onam festive meal prepared by the Nalakupathy of Satyanilayam, Jose Pittappilli.

The month of September was loaded with various academic and community activities. The community celebrated Kharam, the much acclaimed harvest festival of Chotanagpur, in a grand manner. The long hours of dancing along with the Adivasi brothers enthused in us a feeling of cultural fusion and tribal unity. The Rector, the Minister and even the Principal could not resist the natural kinesthetics of the graceful body movements attuned to the beats of echoing drums.

Being the first rank holder, Sch. Rosan visited St Aloysius College, Mangalore to participate in the convocation ceremony. It was a grand function arranged meticulously well keeping up the dignity of the occasion. Prof. B. Vivek Rai, the former VC of KSOU, Mysore and Kannada University, Hampi, was the chief guest of the function. He gave away certificates to 1649 students eligible for graduation. Rank holders in UG and PG levels were awarded with medals, in which Rosan also grabbed one.

The scholastics of Satyanilayam have initiated a new metro level organization of philosophy students, Chennai Darshanik Forum, making Loyola, MCC and Vivekananda College students as the principal members of the organization. The association aims mainly at bringing out an online Journal. It also aims at hosting a fest and various training programmes. We have received tremendous support from the Dean in making our dream real.

**Fr Job Kozhamthadam** was here for almost three weeks leading the second year philosophy students to the magic world of science. He gave a lecture to the community on Pope Francis' views on the Big Bang and the theory of Evolution.

*E.P. Mathew*

#### **SANTIGRAM, ICTA KUDUMBAM COUNSELLING CENTRE.**

From **Fr. Wilson Mulackal**

"I was appointed to Santigram in May 2013. Since then I have been working as family counsellor for the last two years here. I have completed

110 counselling cases during the last one and half years. More than 70% of the cases were successful and I was able to guide them in solving their problems. About 60% of the cases were family problems. I have also conducted counselling for over 200 school children from Std 5 to Std 12 in Rani Matha Public school, Ernakulam and St Augustine's school, Pottakuzhy, Kaloor.

Along with my counselling work, I have completed my two year BTA course in Transactional Analysis during this period. I have also completed my first year MA in Psychology under IGNOU with 70% marks. Besides, I have been helping with the pre-marital counselling programmes of Ernakulum Archdiocese. I have conducted three Psycho-spiritual integration programmes for sisters, and one Psycho- sexual programme for MC Brothers of South India in Kochi. I have given two family counselling courses at SRC and two in Santigram. I was invited as resource person for a one-day TA basic course at POC for high school teachers from all over Kerala. I was also invited for taking classes for All Kerala Trainers of pre-marital counsellors of the the dioceses at Ashirbhavan in Kochi."

### **ST SEBASTIAN'S CHURCH ASHOKAPURAM**

My parish priest was away in Australia for 16 days. Being in-charge of the parish was a rich and a nice learning experience. Taking inspiration from the words of Pope Francis to protect and take care of the environment our parish is slowly turning to environment friendly ways. As an Asst. Parish priest I personally wrote to 25 bishops in Kerala during the time of synod requesting them to take some bold and concrete steps to discourage and curtail the enormous use of flex and plastic materials in the church premises in the celebration of the sacraments. In their replies many of them shared that they are discouraging the use of it in various ways. And many of their responses were really positive and encouraging too. Bishop Sebastian Adyanthra wrote to me: "It was well discussed at the synod and all the Bishops showed lots of interest in this matter. YOU MADE THE RIGHT INTERVENTION AT THE RIGHT TIME".

*Binu Kaduthalakunnel*

## **PASTORAL CORNER**

Action plan (July 2014-sep 2015) for Family Renewal at Our Lady of Dolours Forane Church, Mundakayam:

The aim of the project was re-introduction of Traditional Family Prayer in each home of the Forane Parish. Fr vicar envisaged this as the effective means of renewal of Family in response to the call of Pope Francis. The synod on Families is to take place in october 2015 in Rome. The team of Pastors, including Fr. T.M. Joseph, drew up a time bound plan to be implemented from July 2014 to Sep 2015.

The plan was simple and direct. On the wedding Anniversary day each family, having received the sacraments, invites the pastor for the family visit. The purpose of the visit is to reflect and share with the pastor the positive and negative factors that affect their family life. Only the members of that family will be present. The pastor spends as much time as that family requires. It is a time of spiritual celebration for the family. At the end of the visit the family is formally blessed and the oath made by the couple on the day of wedding is renewed. The blessing ends with the consecration of the family to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. The spirit of the family blessing is to continue by daily family prayer in the evening. This plan of family renewal was accepted after discussions in the pastoral meeting convoked early in June 2014.

We started to implement the plan early in July 2014. The date of pastoral visit is published in the monthly parish bulletin. At this juncture Shalom Times came up with an offer of pastoral help. It consisted of each family of the parish subscribing the Magazine for one year and the Home Mission by a team of Sisters ending with a spiritual animation retreat for the whole parish. The Home Mission was conducted by a team of 15 sisters belonging to M.S.M.I congregation. The Sisters visited each family in a parish from Dec. 1 to Dec 15. The Shalom Team conducted a retreat from 18-20 December led by Fr. Thomas Vayalil.

After Christmas of 2014, the pastoral visit of homes continued uninterrupted and it was announced in the monthly parish bulletin till September end 2015.

The house blessing and pastoral visit in the manner specified above were enriching experience for the pastors. They were able to come close to the joys and sorrows experienced by the families. The families also look back on it as a very rich Christian experience. As a fitting memorial, Our Lady of Dolours parish, Mundakayam, has a Directory now ready for publication.

*T.M. Joseph*

### OURS IN MEDIA

**Mathew Aerthayil's** article on "Dalit Christhavar Sabhayil Avaganikappettavaro" (Are Dalit Christians a neglected section in the Church?) was published in Sunday Shalom, Vol.16, No.35, September 6, 2015)



### GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

**Fr. Hilary Pereira** (KAR, 91/72) on Aug 30 in Bengaluru

**Fr. Charles Van Besouw** (MAP, 86/68) on Sept 16 in Leuven, Belgium

**Fr. Moreta Louis SJ** (GUJ, 87/69) on Sept 27

**Sr. Generosa**, CMC, sister of Br. Varkey Mampilly died at Koonammavu and was laid to rest on 21st September.

**Mr Lukose**, father of Fr Rachans Lukose at Pulluvila, Trivandrum, on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

**Mrs. Thankamma** (93), mother of Fr. Sebastian Painadath died at Lisie Hospital and was laid to rest at Neericode on 15th September.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

#### OCTOBER

- 10 Anto Muringathery
- 13 Christy Sebastian Chalil
- 15 John Mialil
- 15 Wilson Mulackal
- 17 Sheise Porunnakottu
- 17 Joseph Podimattam
- 19 Jose Mathew Vayalikalapura
- 20 Anto Dionecius
- 22 Jose Kuzhuppi
- 27 Jose Pulinthanath
- 27 Prince Panachithara
- 30 Jacob Pazhanilam
- 31 Sooraj Kochuparambil

#### NOVEMBER

- 06 Thomas Anthraper
- 09 Joseph Puthenpurackal

#### IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

#### OCTOBER

- 03 (2002) Michael Vendramin
- 05 (1979) Sebastian Aricatt
- 06 (1965) Antony Zearo
- 07 (1988) Victor de Rozario
- 08 (1998) Dominic Valiatharayil
- 11 (1954) Kuruvilla Kathayanatt
- 18 (2007) Mathew Pothalil
- 25 (1982) Mathew Kallarackal
- 29 (2008) Myladoor Chandy



**KINDLY PRAY FOR MANY GOOD VOCATIONS**

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