



VOL. LVI NO. 1 JANUARY 2016 CHRIST HALL KOZHIKODE



FROM THE PROVINCIAL

MY DREAMS FOR 2016

Call these dreams or resolutions. You are free. The point is that we are entering a new year and I want us to do things differently.

I dream of a vision- driven life in contrast to a busy, ministry- driven one. The latter makes us complain we have no time. We are so much under pressure. There is always something more to do. Someone is waiting.

What is primary in this paradigm shift, it looks to me, is a return to the sources. One of the challenges proposed by Fr. Adolfo, in response to the many postulates for G C 36, is this: **“we are called to a path of spiritual renewal, again both as individuals and communities, through a fresh appropriation of our Ignatian Spiritual heritage”.**

Getting to the sources will tell us of what is essential and what is peripheral to our life and mission. It will

remind us of the foundational experiences which made us take the road less travelled.

Secondly, it is a commitment to excellence in contrast to reckless activism. It is the courage to say no to many urgent things and choose the important. Most importantly, it is the willingness to seek help. The mission is much larger than any one of us. Let us dream of being humble enough to be a contributing part of a vision- driven team.

WISH YOU ALL A VISION- DRIVEN NEW YEAR!

M.K.George S J, Provincial

| PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 02 | : St. Michael's HSS, Kannur |
| 03 | : Santhinilayam, Kottayam; Sameeksha, Kalady |
| 04- 07 | : Bangalore |
| 08-09 | : S N, Chennai |
| 10 | : Nemom Mission |
| 11 | : Trivandrum |
| 12-15 | : Curia |
| 16 | : Jubilee of Fr. Jose Elampassery |
| 17 | : Consult |
| 18-19 | : AADI, Attappadi |
| 23 | : Finance committee meeting |
| 24- 27 | : ISI- Bangalore – Evaluation meeting |
| 28-31 | : Curia |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PROVINCE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR (PDD)

Our Province Development Director, **Fr Baby Chalil**, will be available on 3rd Wednesday of every month in Christ Hall. This day is solely set apart for the planning of projects for our institutions and resource mobilization. This work is a collaborative endeavour of the whole South Asian Assistency. You are most welcome to approach the PDD for any assistance in preparing and submitting project to agencies.

FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

ST JOSEPH'S CALICUT

St Joseph's HSS is in a mood of contentment as they secured selection to the District and State level competitions in many cultural items. Congratulations to **Frs. Philip** and **Thadeyoos** for their many months of sustained hard work in achieving this historic victory. Congratulations to our staff and students for securing the Bicentenary Alumni Football Championship after a gap of several years. The Christmas celebrations in the HSS were marked by soul-stirring singing of carols and lively cribs. **Fr Sunny Kunnappallil** was the chief guest on the occasion.

The Annual Sports Day which strengthens the non academic interest of students was conducted in a grand manner in the ICSE School ground. Memorable singing of Carols by teachers and students along with class room decoration competitions added color to this year's Christmas celebrations on the campus. **Fr. M.H. Antony**, the parish priest of the Mother of God Cathedral, was generous enough to grace the occasion with his presence. The celebrations were made more meaningful as the school and the PTA hosted a lunch for the hundred inmates of the St. Vincent's Home in Calicut on the eve of Christmas. In the true spirit of Christmas, we gave gifts and organised an entertainment programme for the inmates of Mercy Home at West Hill.

Ramlet Thomas

SARVODAYA, EACHOME

In the month of December TUDI welcomed AKJM HSS NSS Unit for its seven-day work camp from

18th - 24th December 2015. They did a commendable work in the tribal settlement *Nellikkal Ooru* in order to help the tribals for their house construction. Many important social activists and teachers from this locality took classes and gave training for the NSS volunteers. The culmination of the camp was the performance of *Nattarangu* by *TUDI Kalasangam*. **Frs. Joseph Edasserry, Salvin Augustine, Sooraj Dominic** and 3 teachers accompanied them.

Our bio-Farming Paddy cultivation harvest was a wonderful experience for the boarders as well as the collaborators of TUDI. In spite of bad weather condition we had a good crop.

The notable contribution of TUDI *kalasangam* was the performance staged in Velloor Arnose Nagar, Trissur. It was a real cultural symbiosis between two cultures; namely the main stream culture of the non-tribals with the subaltern culture of the *Adivasis*. TUDI *Kalasangam* is regularly invited in many places in and out of Wayanad District.

S.M.FARM, PARIYARAM

Visitation of Fr. Provincial was an occasion for us to reflect on our apostolates and community life. He urged and encouraged us to rise to a new level of being and living. Thank you George for alerting us about the magis in everything we do.

A new attraction for the Samskriti Sahajeevana Kendram is the fifteen-meter long concrete cave with an attached slide, built through the meticulous planning and hard work of Fr. Rajesh Jose with the help an expert. A crib of Religious Harmony named '*Matha Sauharda Pulkood*' at one end of the cave brought many visitors to the Centre. A meditation path, 'labyrinth' was designed and built on the courtyard. This has created curiosity among the neighbours, thanks to the idea of **Fr. Sebastian Painadath**. Seal T.V and Kannur Vision gave half an hour program on Sahajeevana Kendram with the newly constructed crib, cultural programme of local Tarumitra unit and a Christmas message by **Fr. Rajesh**. The first batch of yoga students has completed their course, and they in turn are coaching other four batches under the able guidance of yogachariya **Rajesh. Antu Xavier** is of great help for keeping alive about 20 school units of Tarumitra and the Study Centre at the Illam. He also gave a few Christmas messages

and felicitation speeches in the schools. The C.D. of Fr. Rajesh on 'Laudato Si' and his classes on the encyclical were well appreciated.

Mathew Aertthayil

IRC, PARIYARAM

The month of December was indeed a month of blessings for IRC. Provincial's visit made a deep impact in the atmosphere of this prayer house. It was a great pleasure to be with Fr Provincial and share the ethos of our mission. IRC team gave various retreat programs during this advent season. Of all these programmes, the parish retreat at the Holy Family Church Pattuvam, Horeb Experience retreat for the catechists of the Diocese of Kannur, SOAR –2015, a retreat for youth, and Inner Healing Retreat for the couples were spiritually awakening. **Fr. Raju** also preached on "the fire upon the altar" for the priests of Thaliparamba Forane of Thalassery Diocese for their advent preparation.

Raju Vattaparambil

ST MICHAEL'S, KANNUR

St. Michael's School was the venue for the Kannur North Sub-district school youth festival. A variety of quality items were presented by students from different schools on thirteen stages. Thousands of people came to the school to view their choicest programmes and enjoyed.

Interview for the selection of students for the play-school for the academic year 2016 - 17 began. The wisdom of **Fr. James Pullokan** is visible in the attempt.

The NSS students of St. Michael's school had a week-long holiday camp in a nearby school. The students are thankful to the organizers of the camp as it had various programmes for their development.

Christmas was celebrated in both Higher Secondary School and Pre-primary School. In the Higher secondary, as part of the sesquicentennial celebration, there was a get-together of the retired teachers together with the present staff. It was a memorable evening as the teachers shared their Christmas experiences. The teachers sang a good number of carol songs. The retired teachers were honoured with valuable presents by the school. The programme concluded with a Christmas dinner.

Hectic preparation for the concluding function of the sesquicentennial celebration is on, indeed.

K.J Mathew

LOYOLA, ALUVA

On 15th December the first year novices concluded their four weeks of spiritual Sadhana and commenced the fifth week of living the Sadhana. **Fr. Jacob Madukkakuzhy** was back to Loyola after guiding a one-month retreat for Green Garden sisters at Chertala. Next day our dear *labourers* returned home after their one month long work experiment and were accorded a very warm welcome by their enthusiastic juniors. Deacon Tomson made his ordination retreat with **Fr. Jose Jacob**. **Fr. Sanil** facilitated the novices in preparing for the Christmas season through a recollection.

On the 19th, to our great joy, we had an interaction with the renowned social activist **Daya Bai** which stimulated our social consciousness and commitment. On 23rd we went for a carol service to our neighbours. Taking inspiration from the apostolic exhortation 'LAUDATO SI', this year we prepared an Eco-friendly crib, star and tree. On Christmas Eve, we visited the nearby religious houses and shared the joy of Christmas with them. Novices also attended the midnight Mass at Mariapuram Parish. **Fr. Santhosh** celebrated the solemn Christmas Mass for the community. We had a sumptuous dinner and get-together after that. We exchanged Christmas gifts and recalled the nostalgic Christmas memories. We gratefully remember **Fr. Toby** and the Atmamitra team for their generous Christmas gift of games dress for the novices. May his tribe increase!

We shared the season's joy with our neighbors on the day after Christmas with evening get together and cultural programmes. Fr. Santosh delivered the Christmas message. Novices also showcased their artistic abilities. First years had a mini outing on 27th. We gladly attended the ordination ceremony of **Fr. Tomson**, who is an attached member of our community.

Novices are blessed to have a new *nursing experiment*. **Fr. Sunny Pandinjarevarikattu** is convalescing here at Loyola after an accident and knee operation. Many of his kith and kin and admirers are visiting him to offer their solidarity and affection in his time of distress.

We gratefully bid adieu to 2015 and joyfully welcome 2016!

Nithin and Savy

SAMEEKSHA, KALADY

Jeevika, the Jesuit involvement among the migrant workers, has received a great recognition from the state Government as the Government of Kerala appointed **Fr Sabu Malayil** to the reconstituted State Advisory Committee for the Kerala Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. This is a genuine recognition for the commitment of Sabu in this area. **Congratulations, Sabu!**

JECI-Sameeksha is launching a new project, "*Dhyanasameeksha*", to help laywomen / men receive a spiritual formation with the Spiritual Exercises. **Joe Pulickal** will be offering a series of retreats and seminars for the laity. The first date is February 10th evening till 15th evening. Five more retreats and two seminars will follow. Jesuits of the Province are requested to make this known to lay people and to motivate them to take this programme. The success of this project depends much on the interest and support of the Jesuits.

The visitation of Fr. Provincial helped us to have a deeper realization that the four sectors of our apostolic commitment – dialogue, lay formation, teen-agers and migrants – are all integral parts of the one mission of the entire Jesuit community. The coming together of the Ex-RTC men was a joyful event. After Christmas **Joe Pulickal** and **M.J. Thomas** conducted Ignatian retreats for two different groups. **Toby** was invited to conduct a Youth Animators Training Programme for the Trinitarians in Bangalore. Toby and the team led three camps for Muslim teenagers and their parents at Sameeksha, Sandesha Bhavan, Tellicherry and at PACS, Kallettungara. He led three seminars on Mental Health and Substance Abuse under the auspices of Souhrudha Club for HSS students at Puthenpeedika, Perinthalmanna and Pariyapuram. Christmas celebration with the migrants at Perumbavoor brought them a great joy. The presence of Joseph Pulickal for the Odia Mass, on 24th December was much appreciated by the Odisha people. The Christmas Mass was followed by celebrations organised by **Sabu Malayil**. Sebastian Painadath gave the "Fr. Canisius CMI Endowment Lecture" on the *Future of Consecrated Life in the Church* at

Dharmaram, Bangalore. He exposed the Kenopanishad at the Dharmasameeksha Dialogue seminar at Kalady. The Sameeksha Day took place on the eve of Christmas with a prayer meeting and Christmas songs with the neighbours.

Sebastian Painadath

LUMEN/JYOTHIS, KOCHI

Christmas bells chiming around changed the mood of the community to the spirit of Christmas. Most of us were involved in Christmas ministries. The climax of our Christmas celebrations was the carol singing initiated by the community in the neighbourhoods. With the cooperation of the residents' associations, the community under the leadership of **Fr. Shin Kallungal** organised two-day carols for a noble cause of raising fund for building a house for an HIV infected family at Fort Kochi. When superior **Fr. Nambiaparambil** suggested the intention, all people in the neighbourhoods generously contributed and the collection went over Rs. 30,000/- Along with the carols, a crib competition was also announced and it was judged by **Fr. Roy Thottam**, **Fr. Shin** and Mr. Velayudhan, secretary of the Residents' Association.

Celebrating the 90th birthday of **Fr. Adappur** in anticipation, Madathumchalil *Kudumbayogam*, of which Adappur family is a branch, felicitated him in a gathering. Irrigation minister of Kerala **Mr. P.J. Joseph** honoured him with shawl and a special memento. Newman Association celebrated Christmas and New Year in a special gathering on 31st December. The Chairman of Human Rights Commission Justice Cyriac Joseph was the chief guest.

Fr. Abraham Pallivathukal gave a three-day retreat for student leaders at Casa Maria, Thellakam. He also gave several pastoral and animation programmes for youth and couples. The unprecedented cancellation of Chennai-bound trains due to floods did not stop the adventurer in Fr. Shin from attending the Golden Jubilee celebrations of his uncle Fr. Thomas Parayil at Berampur in Odisha. He, along with his cousin, proceeded via Bangalore through road and rail and reached the destination on time.

Fr. M.J. Thomas published an article on spirituality in the New Leader. He also animated retreats to different groups.

Fr. Binoy Presented a paper on "Mastery Meets

Mystery” in the international Conference held in Delhi from 13-15 December.

Sneha Sena conducted Chitrolsavam - 2, all Kerala painting competition, and hundreds of students participated in various sections. **Fr. Roy Thottam** was one of the judges who selected the winners. Prizes and certificates to the winners are sent. Fr. Shin coordinated the competition and prize distribution. The New Year calendar of Sneha Sena and Tik-Tik Life is sent to every Jesuit in the Province. **Fr. Vincent Pereppadan** gave a few classes to students under SSA programme on reading and writing skills.

Peace Institute: The Registration process of Ezhuthu Magazine is completed and the Registrar for News Papers of India (RNI) has issued the registration number (KERMAL/2015/65234) and certificate.

Binoy Pichalakatt

SANTHINILAYAM, KOTTAYAM

The highlight of December was the combined celebration of Silver Jubilee conclusion and School Day celebration of Snehabhavan. **Fr. M.K George**, our Provincial, inaugurated the function. The cultural extravaganza of Snehabhavan students added colours to the celebrations. Congratulations to **Frs. Sebastian, Philip, Anil** and the Staff for their meticulous planning and execution of the mega events.

Under the banner of Thanmaya Media Centre Shahitya Samiti and a film society were inaugurated. Congrats to **Fr. Sony Thazhathel**, who is the master brain of this new initiative!

Fr. Philip Thayil was specially invited and honoured by AKJM 1984-90 batch for their Alumni gathering.

Augustine Peedikamalayil

AKJM / SAMANVAYA KANJIRAPALLY

The pleasant cold weather of December could not bring down the heat of hectic activities in A.K.J.M. We began the month with the blessing and the inauguration of our new block. **Fr M.K. George** blessed the new block in the presence of the Jesuit community, the school staff, the students and the parents. This new block includes an open stage, language lab, computer lab, science lab and a pre-KG class room. Thanks to **Fr Augustine Mekkunnel** for his meticulous supervision for the

realisation of his pet dream. The Annual Day of our school on the following day was marked by the presence of **Mar Mathew Arackal**, the Bishop of Kanjirapally. He was quite eloquent in giving high praises for A.K.J.M. for the great service it rendered for the Catholics of Kanjirapally. During the meeting the overcast sky opened its flood gates and the audience had to take shelter on the veranda of the school. Though the untimely rain disturbed the programme for a while the cultural programme and the Ganamela by the A.K.J.M. Orchestra went on as planned. The much awaited Mega-Magic show by Magician Gopinth Muthukad was a grand success. He enthralled the six thousand plus audience in our school ground with his magical spell and inspiring words. Our teachers, parents, students and former students contributed generously and toiled day and night for the success of this mega event. People expressed their appreciation for the management and the principal for arranging such a mega programme in the school. We had a colourful Christmas celebration on 18th December, separately for the students and the staff. Our NSS students had their week-long work camp at TUDI, Eachome. Forty nine of our students along with five members of the staff travelled to Eachome for the camp. Coincidentally all the school men including **Fr Edassery** visited the camp site. The camp was a great success and it could change the perspectives of students very visibly. Cheers to **Fr Sooraj** for the meticulous planning and execution of this camp. We are grateful to the Eachome community and TUDI for their cooperation and hospitality.

Many former students had their annual gatherings in the school after Christmas. They felicitated and offered presents to their beloved teachers. The Bible class for the JECI members is going on in full swing.

As usual the long queues for confession on the vigil of Christmas kept the spiritual tempo of the house high. Fr. Tom Panikulam is directing an 8-day retreat of a group of Novices from Kanjirapally. Interestingly only the Novice Mistress is from Kerala; the 3 novices are from outside Kerala.

Sharath

PIUS X ITI, EDATHUA

Fr Sunny Pandinjarevarikattu, while going to RTC Alumni Meeting at Kalady, met with an accident. Motor Cycle Skidded and broke his knee cap. He

was admitted in Little Flower Hospital, Angamaly. Fr Sebastian Painadath and our men at Kalady took care of him. Surgery was performed on 14th December. He was discharged from hospital on 19th December and was taken to Loyola, Aluva. Now Loyola, our Novitiate, has also become a venue for the hospital experiment of the Novices. Our Novices under the leadership of Novice Vysakh Titus and under the direction of Novice Master, Fr Jose Jacob, and Socius, Fr Sanil Mathew, are taking care of him. In the absence of the Principal, Mr. George Mathew, the senior most staff member is appointed Principal- in- charge of the ITI.

With regard to the ITI itself a few developments are planned. An aluminium wall is made on the road side to protect the Institute. It is functional and many say it looks beautiful. The workshop is under repair. New steel windows are installed. The work is still going on. We hope to put up light roof for the residence soon. The campus is now plastic free and drums are kept for dumping waste materials

Mathew Pullattu

LOYOLA, TRIVANDRUM

Fr. Sabu Palathanadil is back in the community again after his Tertianship. On the 11th December he successfully defended his doctoral thesis in the University of Kerala lecture hall. Congratulations to Rev. Dr. Sabu!

The Sociology Department of Loyola College conducted an international conclave on social entrepreneurship in which a few Australians and delegates from various social work colleges of Kerala participated. A few awards have been instituted for those who excel in the field of social entrepreneurship and the honorable minister **Dr. Muneer**, who was the chief guest, gave away the awards. Again, Loyola College was the venue for the KSS seminar in which around 600 students from various colleges participated. The Christmas celebration in the College on the 18th December was among the best in the last few years. This academic year, Loyola College has a record number of students - 162.

In Loyola School we celebrated Christmas on the 23rd and the chief guest, **Fr. Richard Sequeira** from SICJ gave a touching message that transcended human barriers. The school initiated the Loyola Inter House Multi skill Olympiad and executed it successfully. On 11th December LOBA (Loyola Old

Boys Association) conducted the Loyola Global Achievement Award night, a new initiative. And the first award winner was ace cinematographer and director Padma Shri Santhosh Sivan, an alumnus of Loyola School. This year the School Annual Day is on Saturday, 16th January, and all are welcome.

Kerala Child Rights Observatory has launched **BALAMITRAM**, a mobile app for child protection. All child related emergency numbers are included. An update of the app will be available soon with child related laws. Anyone using smart phone can search in play store for '**BALAMITRAM**', download and install it.

Devassy Paul

ST. XAVIER'S, THUMBA

The mist and mystery of our favourite December began with the feast of our patron St. Francis Xavier on the third with the usual coming together of the friends of St. Xavier's college. This year our joy was doubled as **Fr. Dasappan** pronounced his final vows in the Society of Jesus on the same day. **Rev. Dr. Soosapakiam**, Archbishop of Trivandrum, presided over the Eucharist in Latin and preached a powerful sermon in Malayalam on the real meaning of religious commitment and radical following of Christ in the present world. Fr. Provincial was present to receive the vows. The event was well organized by the community. Along with the well-wishers of St. Xavier's, some of Fr. Dasappan's relatives and friends chose to be with him on this important day.

St. Xavier's College got the gift of Santa Claus much before the Christmas eve as one of our former students was elected to be the youngest Mayor of Trivandrum Corporation. He was a student of our college for five years and was even our college union chairman. We accorded him a thumping reception at the College Auditorium. In his speech he gratefully remembered his formative years at Xavier's and the role of his teachers in his formation especially that of **Fr. Sunny Jose**.

The 87-acre sprawling campus of St. Xavier's was taken over by a group of over 5000 uniformed cadets for four days as the 21st State Camporee of Kerala State Bharat Scouts & Guides was held at our campus from 20th to 23rd December 2015. This widely covered event was also noted by the presence of some ministers and even **Shri. V. S. Achuthandan**, leader of the Opposition.

The creativity, discipline and enthusiasm of the cadets were remarkable.

Dominic Palakeel

SATYA NILAYAM, CHENNAI

The Chennai flood which caused massive havoc to the city has slowly faded into History. True, this city has not experienced such torrential rains since 118 years! The excessive rains and the huge release of water from a city reservoir exposed how ill-prepared the city is to face a natural calamity of this proportion. We at SN had our share in experiencing the inconvenience due to flood and all the more we contributed our share in the relief works.

As you all know Chennai had huge downpour since 15th November for a few days. Then there was some respite and towards the end of November the huge downpour lasted a few days. By the early morning of 2nd December there was water everywhere on the Campus and even in the lower floors of Britto and De Nobili Blocks. Besides our gates were wide open and a large number of people and families took refuge in our halls. For a week we all were fully engaged in caring for the large number of people. Thank God, we did not have to cook for such large numbers. The City Corporation officials along with large number of volunteers contributed in cash and kind. Lot of relief materials came from Loyola College too.

The SN Campus started normal functions by 9th December, exactly a week since the beginning of floods. A group of our students were engaged in relief operations in far away districts. In fact the situation in some of the far away districts is very tragic indeed. There will be continued efforts at relief and rehabilitation by NGOs, Jesuits of Chennai Mission etc. A special thanks to St. Xavier's College, Trivandrum for contributing in cash and kind to the relief operations. SN gratefully acknowledges their generous help.

This year the annual visitation of the house took place in the second week of December. In the absence of the POSA, the ADF conducted the visitation with the customary meetings, exhortations through inspiring words. The usual Christmas celebrations were scaled down in SN this year to express our solidarity with the flood victims. After Christmas the Scholastics were out for a cultural tour in small groups visiting the southern states.

We have gladly welcomed the New Year 2016 with renewed hope.

Jose Pittapillil

ASHA KIRAN

In the month of December, there were various arts and sports events in the college and due to these reasons our college fest and internal exams were postponed. College will reopen in 4th January 2016 after Christmas holidays. We attended Christmas vigil Mass in nearby churches including Fatima Retreat House and St Aloysius college chapel where we rendered our services in arrangements and in the choir. On 27th December there was an ordination ceremony of 6 Deacons of Karnataka province in Divine Mercy Chapel at Fatima Retreat House. Our services as acolytes as well as in the arrangements were well appreciated there.

In the community, we arranged a Christmas get together for our neighbours. So also we had a beautiful Christmas carol singing in the neighbourhood.

Now as we are enjoying the holidays, we are attending the first Masses of the newly ordained priests of Karnataka province in different parishes. Many of us have assignments to complete by the reopening day of the college.

Jomon C.M.

INIGO SADAN, BANGALORE

The season of Christmas was a grace filled experience for all of us. With series of celebrations with senior Jesuits of this province, classmates, boarders, blind children, benefactors and neighbors, and finally with construction workers currently working in the campus, we gathered the fruits of this season.

During holidays we were engaged in many activities. We had an outing to Bennerghatta National Park. It helped us to foster union among ourselves.

We were very glad to receive **Fr. K.T Devasia** to our community. His presence really brought a lot of joy and happiness. We will be having a requiem mass for **Fr. Joy Fernandez** on 1st of January on his first death anniversary. With all the reminiscences and experiences from this year we are all set to move on to yet another year with lots of hope. Wish you all a happy new year!

Selin

ARNOS PADIRI ACADEMY, VELUR

ARNOS ULSAV 2015: To make known the greatness of ARNOS PADIRI in and around Velur and to acknowledge his contribution in the literary, linguistic and cultural field of Kerala, Arnos Padiri Academy under the leadership of *SAMADARSANA VEDHI*, a Jesuit lay initiative, organized a four-day festival at different places in Velur.

The festival began with a 'Pathaka prayanam' on 13th December morning from Pazhyangadi, where Arnos Padiri stayed and celebrated Holy Mass in a thatched house. On the same day evening the famous writer and cinema actor, **Sri. Madambu Kunjukuttan**, inaugurated the festival at the Academy campus, recalling the poetic and linguistic caliber of Aronos Padiri with a '*Kaviyarangu*' presentation of 15 poets. On 17th a solemn Eucharistic Celebration was conducted by six Jesuits in the old parish church, which was built by Aronos Padiri in the year 1712. It was followed by an All Kerala Painting competition conducted on 19th at Lisieux college, Velur, under the leadership of **Fr Roy Thottam**. 265 students participated in this programme which created a box news in Trissur region.

The mega event was the concluding function of *ARNOS ULSAV* on 27th December which was inaugurated by Hon. Cultural minister **Sri. K.C.Joseph**. During the function he declared two projects namely starting a CHAIR in the name of Arnos Padiri in Malayalam university in Tirur or Sanskrit University in Kalady and include 'puthen pana' in the school youth festival competition. **Fr. M.K. George** presided over the function and there he declared ARNOS PADIRI AWARD, one of the long cherished dream and desire of Trissur people. Three eminent families, who supported ARNOS PADIRI in his time, were honored at the function by **Fr. A. Adapur**, **Fr. M.K. George** and **Fr. Mathew Nambiaparambil**. The grand finale of *ARNOS ULSAV* was the folk feast presented by *TUDI KALASANGAM – NATARAGU 2015*. It was inaugurated by famous writer and social activist Sri. Civic Chandran. Thanks to **Fr Baby Chalil** and TUDI team for your magnificent performance.

George Thenadikulam

EX-RTC MEN GET TOGETHER (11-13 DECEMBER 2015)

After five years of the suppression of RTC of

Kerala Province, at the initiative of **Fr. Sebastian Painadath**, 35 Ex-RTC Men and three members on the staff gathered at Sameeksha, Kalady, over a weekend for a fraternal gathering and reflections. It was indeed joy unparalleled for most of them to get back to the same campus that gave the final shape to their dreams and aspirations of ministerial priesthood. Hellos and hugs and greetings resounded all along the campus and Sameeksha was bubbling with life again.

On Friday after supper there was a recreation with some warm drinks and snacks and lots of sharing of jokes and memories. Saturday was set in motion with a guided meditation by Fr. Sebastian and a Eucharistic celebration in which the main celebrant **Fr. P.T. Mathew** shared his reflections on the current trends in theologizing.

The first session after breakfast was initiated by the brief sharing of five people from various fields as to how the RTC formation has contributed to the respective fields, namely **Fr. Reji Kunnatheth** (Pastoral), **Anto Muringatheri** (Formation), **Fr. Salvin** (Education), **Fr. Sabu Malayil** (Social action), and **Fr. Roy Thottam** (Art and Culture). The session till lunch was a follow-up sharing of the RTC experiences of the individuals gathered.

In the afternoon, **Dr. V.G. Thambi**, the chief editor of our Ezhuthu Magazine who is a Jesuit co-traveler, offered his reflections on the topic "What are the challenges of the secular society in Kerala and how Jesuits could respond to them?" This informative and challenging sharing was followed by an interactive session wherein many of ours asked pertinent questions and offered insightful perceptions.

Following the evening tea with our co-workers at Sameeksha, the group was free to go around and visit their friends and neighbors. After the evening prayer, Atmamitra hosted a sumptuous dinner for the participants. An entertaining recreation followed.

The next morning all the participants joined the Kalady parish for the morning Mass which also was the day of the official inauguration of the *Year of Mercy*. It was a spectacle to behold about thirty priests concelebrating with the Parish Priest in a highly devotional and meaningful celebration of the Liturgy. The Parish acknowledged the tremendous contribution of Sameeksha and RTC to the parish and felicitated us with a shawl for each. After a cup

of tea with the parishioners, all of us returned to Sameeksha.

The morning session on the last day was devoted to a faith sharing initiated by Fr. Sebastian on "What is the spiritual insight that strongly motivates me now?" After the edifying sharing of all, the final session of the get-together was spent in a small evaluation and discussion of the future scope of the RTC. The gathering was almost unanimous that a reopening of the RTC was a near impossibility. However many expressed the desire that Sameeksha becomes a center for continued theological learning and reflection. The gathering thanked Frs. Sebastian and Xavier for the wonderful organization of the event. It was also suggested that Sameeksha could become a forum for batch wise gatherings and sharing. The presence of Fr. Provincial, Frs. Sebastian, P.T. Mathew, Tom Panikulam, Samuel Rayan, George Nedungat and Br. Varkey Mampilly was very delightful and evoked fond memories in the gathering.

Sanil Mayilkunnel

SOUTH ZONE LOK MANCH MEETING

The first South Zone Lok Manch Meeting was held at ISI, Bangalore, from December 11th evening to December 13th evening. There were 64 persons from eight units of the South Zone. **Fr Sannybhai**, the National Coordinator, Lok Manch (LM), the three State coordinators, namely, **Frs Benny** (Kerala), **Mariyanathan** (Tamil Nadu) and **Jerry** (Karnataka) and consultant of LM **Fr Joe Xavier**, and Director of ISI, Bangalore, **Fr Selva**, were the main resource persons. Fr Benny, the Zonal Coordinator, invited the group to discuss unit-wise the socio-cultural problems faced by them and to visualize what kind of change they would like to see accomplished at the end of three years. Fr Joe Xavier shared how Lok Manch evolved into a platform for collective action creating a scope for collaboration of about 100 organizations across India. Primarily the aim of Lok Manch was to start working together for one cause using all human and institutional resources to empower the marginalized of select pockets in India to materialize the entitlements promised by respective State and Central Governments.

As a follow-up of the meeting, a national core team was set up which will meet at Bandra retreat house

from 7th to 9th January 2016. A unit level meeting is to be conducted in February or March 2016. Launching of Lok Manch is slated between April 5th and 8th, 2016 at a National Workshop at ISI, Delhi. Organizational heads are supposed to attend this meeting without fail. Contribution of Frs Baby Chalil and James Morais in leading Wayanad and Attappadi units is commendable. Both of the units will be focusing on the entitlements of Tribals with special focus on Tribal Sub-Plan. Fr Benny will be leading the Thiruvananthapuram unit consisting of Sneharam, Adhwana, TSSS and Cheruresmi. The first Lok Manch South Zone meeting was an effective step towards building partnership among south zone partners with a deeper understanding of Lok Manch.

Benny Chiramel

PASTORAL CORNER

Preparing the People of God for Christmas in the Jubilee Year: The Vicar Forane of Our Lady of Dolorus Church, Mundakayam (Kanjirapally Diocese), in the Forane gathering of the parish priests in October had a novel plan to prepare God's people for the Christmas of the Jubilee year. The whole Forane was divided into four zones and each zone was comprised of five or six parishes each. The priests belonging to a zone assembled by 4 p.m. in one specified parish from 17th December onwards. The word of God was broken for two hours leading people to confession. The People were given one hour in all to make their confession, while there was Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. At the end of the Holy Hour the priests concelebrated the Eucharist. The programme was highly appreciated and was quite effective for the meaningful celebration of the Christmas this year. This was found to be heartwarming experience for each member of the parish as well as a meaningful initiation to the Holy "Year of Mercy".

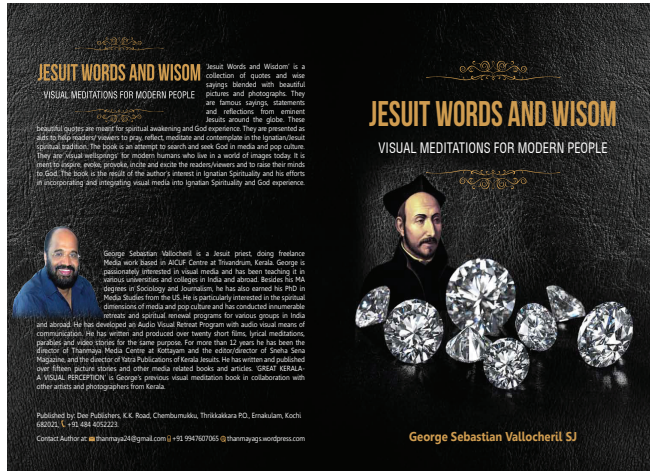
T.M. Joseph

OURS IN MEDIA

Fr. M.J. Thomas: An article on spirituality in the New Leader

Fr George Sebastian's new book, '*Jesuit Words and Wisdom*' published by DEE publishers, Kochi is a visual treat. Jesuits, especially Provincials and Vocation Promoters, can use the book for various

needs and occasions. Contact the Curia, or the author for copies. Rs. 200/- per copy



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY

- 03 Tomson Vadakkeputhenpura
- 04 Varkeychan Mecheril
- 06 Biju George Kunnappillil
- 06 Joseph Pulickal
- 07 Biju Vadakumchery
- 08 Abraham Adappur
- 08 Augustine Paruthipallil
- 10 Roy Alex Kuzhimannil
- 11 Thomas Erinjery
- 12 Varkey Mampilly
- 13 Rabin C
- 16 Rejoy Johny Chiriyankandath
- 18 Joseph Edassery
- 20 Jacob Kumminiyil
- 20 Jijimon Puthuveettilkalam
- 22 Augustine Kallunkal
- 25 Antu Xavier Kalamparambil
- 26 James Pullokarana
- 26 Thomas Panikulam

Thanmaya Media Centre produced a Souvenir video documentary in connection with Snehabhavan Jubilee.



FEBRUARY

- 01 Anil Kochumethikalam
- 04 George Varangalakudy
- 05 George Vattukulam

IN CHRIST WITH GLORY



JANUARY

- 06 (2007) Cecil Veliath
- 06 (2014) Linos Maria Zucol
- 07 (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 Karippaparambil

GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

- Bishop Emeritus Anthony F. Sharma (DAR)**, 77/59, on 08 Dec. 2015 in Kathmandu, Nepal
- Br. Blacius Ekka (RAN)**, 82/61, on 09 Dec. 2015 in Ranchi
- Fr. Valerian Deepak D'Mello (PAT)**, 61/40 on 13 Dec. 2015 in Delhi
- Mrs Carmeli (69)**, mother of Fr Immanuel Koyan on 12 Dec. 2015 at Kannur
- Mr. K.P. Francis (58)**, brother of Fr K.P. Mathew, on 22 Dec. in Chilavu