



# Kerala Tidings

VOL. LVII NO. 10 ● OCTOBER 2017 ● CHRIST HALL ● KOZHIKODE

*From the Provincial*

## MIRACLES EVERYWHERE

As I travel I assume the mindset of a pilgrim. A pilgrim is ultimately and fundamentally someone fully aware of the providence of God that leads, guides and fulfils all that he or she embarks on. For me that literally turned out to be true in the first few minutes after I departed from Christ Hall this time, when a mishap on the serial humps on the highway could have led to a major accident but was averted by God's providence.

I remember Louis Hay, one of the leading New Age Spiritualists who died recently, saying how over hundreds of people are herded into a metal tube which soars into the skies and flies thousands of miles and lands them safely. Yes, a flight itself reminds you of the miracle that life is. The ingenuity of human intelligence, the beauty of the skies and the experience of being one with the universe. As we look around, we are amazed by everything that defies human explanations. It is miracles all over.

That brings us to the famous quote from Albert Einstein, though some contest whether this was really from Einstein. But the message is indeed relevant and apt. 'There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.'

**M.K. George S J**

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR GENERAL

**Fr Roland Coelho** (GOA) as provincial of Goa Province.

**Fr Stephen Chow Sau-yan** (CHN) as provincial of the Chinese Province.

**Fr Primitivo E. Viray, Jr** (PHI) as provincial of the Philippine Province.

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR PROVINCIAL

**Fr Raphael Thottan** Minister, Christ Hall (ad tempus)

**Fr Jose Thaiparambil** Prefect of Health, Christ Hall

**Fr Shin Kallungal**, Province Coordinator of Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN)

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### ORDINATION



**Dn. Roy Alex Kuzhimannil** will be ordained a priest at 9.00 a. m. on Saturday, 11 November, 2017, at St. Josephs Church, Adakkathode by **Mar Jose Porunnedom**. He invites all Jesuits to the ordination and to the First Holy Mass.

A bus will leave from St. Michael's Kannur at 5.45 a.m. on the day of ordination. Kindly inform **Fr Dominic**, the superior if you plan to join.

Scholastics **Midhun Kochukallan**, **Emmanuel Puthuvalveetil** and **Bastin Vattanky** have applied for Ordination to the Diaconate and Priesthood. Kindly inform Fr Provincial if you have any useful information to help him to arrive at a decision.

**Fr Raju Vattaparambil** has been appointed Episcopal Vicar for the religious in the Diocese of Kannur by **Rt Rev Dr Alex Vadakumthala**, Bishop of Kannur, with the consent of the Jesuit Provincial of Kerala. Congratulations and best wishes to Fr Raju.

### HEALTH BULLETIN

**Fr George Kandathil** and **Fr John Mialil** were admitted to the Nirmala Hospital for various ailments. Fr George is back home and Fr John continues to undergo treatment. **Fr Samuel Rayan** is back in Sameeksha after spending a few days in L.F. hospital, Angamaly.

### FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

#### CHRIST HALL, CALICUT

The community bid goodbye to **Fr Jacob Karthanam** who passed away on September 20 at Nirmala Hospital. He was laid to rest at Christ Hall cemetery on September 21. (See Obituary). We celebrated the birthdays of **Frs George Mutholil**, **OP Mathew**, **Cyriac Kulirany** and **Sch Vysakh** during the month. **Sch Amardeep Pittappillil** represented Devagiri college in a National Quiz Competition at NIT, Trichy.

**Fr Charles Lasrado**, the Assistant Treasurer of the Society, was in Christ Hall as part of his visit to the Province to look into its finances. **Fr Baby Mulluparambil** accompanied him to the other houses to help him out. He concluded his visit on October 3.

#### CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, MALAPARAMBA

BCCI and Catechism Anniversary of Christ the King Church was held on September 10. The celebration started with a Eucharistic Celebration, with **Fr Anto Dioneceus** as the main celebrant. **Fr Lince Mundakal**, Asst Vicar, Paropody, gave the homily. Mr Raveendran, the Mayor of Calicut, inaugurated the cultural programme in the evening. "Judith", the Bible drama based on the Old Testament character, was of special attraction.

*Vysakh*

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF ASSISTANCY COMMISSION FOR FORMATIN

The Annual Meeting of the ACF was held at Christ Hall from Sept 30- Oct.04. **Fr Jose Magadia**, the General Assistant for formation, **Fr George Pattery**, the POSA and **Fr Raj Irudaya** the ADF also were present besides all the PCFs and RCFs of the Assistency. The meeting began with an excellent presentation on the history of Kerala Province and



also the culture and history of Kerala in general by **Fr P T Mathew** our acting Provincial. The St Joseph's community was extremely generous to host the group with a sumptuous dinner on the second day. The participants were very happy about the way the whole programme was designed and executed. Christ Hall community went out of its way to make the ACF meeting very fruitful.

*Anto & Salvin*

#### ST JOSEPH'S, CALICUT

The construction of the new Plus-2 building is completed and is awaiting inauguration. We got occupancy certificate and building number from the corporation authorities. Preparations for the Global Meet of the Jesuit Alumni of St. Joseph School Calicut, scheduled for January 2018, is getting momentum. A seminar for all the parents of the students of the school was conducted in preparation for the 225th anniversary of the founding of the school. The theme was *effective parenting and career guidance*, and it was guided by **Fr Philip Vattamala** with the help of other teachers. The Jesuit community along with some teachers went to attend the funeral of **Fr Sooraj's** father at Ponkunnam. St. Joseph's ICSE School has been brought under CCTV coverage.

*Jose Mathew*



## ST MICHAEL'S, KANNUR

We celebrated the feast of St. Michael, our heavenly patron, with an Eucharistic celebration with our staff followed by a cultural programme and festal lunch at the Jesuit residence. The teachers were honoured by the students both in the higher secondary and the pre-primary sections. Rev. Sr. Leesa Thomas SVM, a clinical psychologist, led a one-day training programme for the pre-primary staff on child psychology. Our students brought accolade to our school by winning under-17 and under-19 football and cricket sub-district championships and bagging overall championship in wrestling. The High School basketball team won the third place in the district basketball championship. The UP and High School teams stood first in the sub-district Social Science Quiz competition and Maths Quiz competition.

**Fr Tomson** gave a message at SFS School, Kannur, on teachers' day. **Fr Binu** conducted a two-day English training programme for FCC postulants at Karikkotakari. He was also a resource person for the KCYM youth day celebration at Vilangad.

*K.J. Mathew*

## LOYOLA, ALUVA

The month of September had beautiful events to be remembered. Our dear **Jack Achan** celebrated his 77th birthday, and with heavy hearts we sent **Santhosh Achan** to the UK for his studies in Clinical Psychiatry. Onam celebration added flavour to the month with the Loyola residents and association joining us. Novices had a day out exploring and enjoying Kochi during the Onam holidays. We warmly welcomed the vidyaniketan Juniorate community while they were on their Kerala cultural trip. We were privileged to have a Holy Mass celebrated in our Novitiate Chapel by the new priest **Fr Jijimon**. The first year Novices had the exploration of their inner self at Shantigram,

and we are thankful to Fr Bosco S.J who conducted the intensive Journal workshop. **Fr sunny Jose** concluded the month with the course 'History of the Society of Jesus'.

*Affin & Ely*

## SAMEEKSHA/ ATMAMITRA, KALADY

Early September Chengal Residents' Association organized the Onam celebration with the locals at Sameeksha; it was a *gramotsava* for the village. **Fr Joe Pulickal** conducted an Ignatian retreat for the laity. The Juniors of Vidyaniketan came for an evening to Sameeksha as part of their cultural tour. Our premises became the venue for three inter-religious groups for their training programmes. **Fr Samuel Rayan** was admitted at LF Hospital Angamaly for a routine check-up for a few days. **Fr Sebastian Painadath** gave a three-day Gita-seminar at Vishnu Mohan Hindu ashram, Chennai. He also gave several sessions on John's Gospel, Pauline Letters and the Gita in Malaysia. **Fr Toby** and two of his collaborators gave Atmamitra Ignite camps for 180 Keralite children and their parents in Kuwait. Fr Toby took a break from his hectic schedule and went to Krishnagiri to attend classes in Psychotherapy and Counselling.

*Sebastian Painadath*

## LUMEN/SNEHA SENA, KOCHI

**Fr Adappur** organized the monthly seminar of Newman Association on "the government policy on the sale of alcohol in Kerala and the response of the Church." Justice (Rtd.) Cyriac Joseph was the main speaker. Frs Adappur and **Nambiaparambil** underwent ayurvedic treatment for their general wellbeing. While Fr Adappur was treated at Naivedya, an Archdiocesan centre at Ernakulam, Fr Nambiaparambil went to Parathuvayalil centre at Keezhillam. Both are back with renewed energy.

## IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

### OCTOBER

07 (1988) Victor de Rozario	08 (1998) Dominic Valiatharayil	18 (2007) Mathew Pothalil
03 (2002) Michael Vendramin	11 (1954) Kuruvilla Kathayanatt	25 (1982) Mathew Kallarackal
05 (1979) Sebastian Aricatt		29 (2008) Mylador Chandy
05 (2015) Chacko Vandakam		
06 (1965) Antony Zearo		



**Fr Binoy** is away in Pune to give a course on mathematical logic to philosophers at JDV. **Fr Anil Kochumethikalam** has been around Kottayam actively promoting the circulation of *Ezhuthu*. "As a result," he says, "Kottayam has become number one district in terms of circulation of *Ezhuthu*." **Fr Vincent** was out for two weeks to promote the circulation of *Tik-Tik Life* in some parts of Northern India. He visited Jesuit schools and some Catholic schools in Bhopal, Pune and Goa.

*Pereppadan*

### LOYOLA, TRIVANDRUM

**Fr Provincial** was with us for the annual visitation of the community. We had a review of all the apostolates here. The three-day training of Lay Collaborators was conducted at LES in which 35 staff members from our institutions participated. This was the third training programme in succession during the last 3 years under the auspices of JECI. Loyola School sponsored this programme. LES conducted a week-long Orientation Courses for the first year students of Mar Ivanios College and Marian Engineering College in Trivandrum. **Fr Charles Lasrado**, the Asst Treasurer from Rome, visited Loyola along with the Province Treasurer and took stock of our financial administration. **Fr Joye James** attended the national conference and the annual general body meeting of Xavier Board of Higher Education in Hyderabad. Cheruvickal Parish which is being looked after by **Fr Sunil** celebrated the annual feast on September 8.

*Joye James*

### VIDYANIKETAN (SICJ), TRIVANDRUM

We welcomed the month of September with Onam and Monti feast. We went to watch the Onam pageantry in Trivandrum city. The course on Sexual Integration by **Fr Jossy Rogrigues** was enlightening and revitalizing. The warm weather of the first term gave way to torrential rains during the exam week. The cultural tour was meticulously planned, thanks to **Fr Willi**, the organizer. We enjoyed the kind hospitality of Jesuits in Aluva Loyola and Kalady Sameeksha. The new 'service team' for the second term headed by Sch **Sinesh**, has taken charge. The younger staff members went

to attend the meeting of the Assitancy Juniorate Staff held at Kolkata. **Fr C J** is away in Satyanilayam, Chennai, engaged in his mission. The laborious work of **Br George** in the fruits and vegetable garden has begun to bear fruit. **Fr Santosh** paid us a short visit before his departure for England.

*Savy*

### AADI, ATTAPPADY

Attappady was isolated from Kerala for a week due to heavy rain and landslides. The traffic through the ghat from Mannarkad was partially restored two days ago and it will take many months to make the road fully operational. Those who intend to come to AADI are requested to travel through Coimbatore.

Thirty students from Christ University, Bangalore, and thirteen students from Kalasalinga University, Madurai, had their rural camp at AADI. **Fr P S Antony** left for Sadhana at Lonavala and will be back by mid- October. Mr Akhil Shaji, our coordinator, was hit by Dengue fever and is convalescing. **Fr Martin Puthussery** and his team visited AADI in connection with CADRE FORMATION programme.

Lok Manch had many activities this month but the most important was a public movement demanding permanent solution to the non-availability of drinking water. The slogan "*Surakshitha jalam, sthiramaaya jalam*" brought together over one hundred people from three panchayths. The movement is likely to gain momentum when it begins with 'pocket campaigning'.

*James Morais*

### PRASANTHI, PACHILAKAD

**Fr Joe Prakasam** of Madurai Province, an old companion of **Fr Kuriakose** while working in Brazil, was with us for a few days. **Fr Thadayoos** was here with us for his annual retreat, and his presence was edifying. We are grateful to **Fr Raju Augustine** for leading us through a charismatic retreat which made us louder both spiritually and physically. We were blessed by the visit of **Fr Joseph Kallepallil** who built the Xavier Training Centre, and by the fling visit of **Fr Anto Muringathery**.

*Pre-novices*

## ARNOS PADIRI ACADEMY, VELUR

Arnos Padiri Academy has published a souvenir, 'ARNOSMRUTHI 2017', prepared by **Fr. Sunny Jose** and Team on the occasion of the 300<sup>th</sup> year of the composition of *Puthenpana*. It was released by **Mar Aprem**, Metropolitan of the Church of



the East, on September 5 at Kerala Sahithya Academy Hall, Thrissur. Eminent people like Dr. Kalpetta Balakrishnan, Prof M.D. Jose, Prof. V. P. Johns, Prof.V.A.Vargheese, John Kalliyath and John Thomas were present.

The long cherished dream of the Academy to establish a Research Centre at Velur is getting realized. Its foundation stone was blessed by **Fr M.K. George**, our Provincial, laid by **Chev. C. L. Jose**, the noted play-write, on September 9, in the presence of over sixty people from far and near. We hope to begin the construction work in October 2017.

**Fr George Thenadikulam** gave an orientation programme for a group of the young priests of the CST congregation at their Generalate in Ernakulam. The theme of the three-day seminar was "Priesthood and Religious Life: Emerging challenges". He will be offering the same programme for two more batches in the coming months.

*George Thenadikulam*

## LOYOLA, MUKUNDARA

During his visit to Mukundara this month **Fr Provincial** blessed the new floor of the school building. This floor provides the school with six more class rooms, one staff room, one multimedia room and a science lab, necessary requirements to work for academic excellence. **Fr Mathew Aerthayil** made his maiden visit to our community and enjoyed our hospitality. Our celebration of the

birthday of **Fr Joseph Kallepally** was enriched by special presence of **Frs. K J Thomas, Tinu** and **Henry Henry Pattar**. **Fr Charles Lasrado**, the Assistant Treasurer from Rome, visited the community and the school along with **Fr Peter Mullooparambil**, our Province Treasurer, on September 28.

*Manesh*

## AICUF CENTRE, TRIVANDRUM

We had a four-day Leadership Training Camp for AICUF leaders during Onam Holidays with the theme "Safeguarding Secularism and Democracy". As part of the camp the participants visited the Central Prison at Poojapura and entertained the inmates with a 90-minute cultural program as part of Onam celebrations. Mr Jacob Punnoose, Rtd. DGP, was the chief guest at the valedictory function. This year we invited a group of fifteen **transgenders** from Trivandrum to join us for our Onam celebration. **Fr. Babu Paul** gave a four-day workshop on 'Personality Development and Leadership Skills' for the MSW students of Yeswant Rao Chauhan School of Social Work in Satara, Maharashtra. The new batch of Jnanasameeksha had their classes on 'Introduction to Bible' by **Fr. Henry Pattarumadathil**. The Jnanasameeksha batch that has passed out decided to meet every month to continue their study of theology choosing a relevant topic. They had a one-day session on 'Faith and Reason' guided by Fr Zacharias OCD.

*Babu Paul*

## INIGO SADAN, BANGALORE

We had a meaningful and creative novena in honour of Mother Mary. On Sept 4 we had a grand 'Onam' celebration in the college. It was a proud moment for all 'Keralites'. Sch. Anjo took a major role in coordinating the programme. A modern 'Maveli' riding a motorbike and taking selfies surprised all! In the Jesuit house, 'Ambalapuzha Pal Payasam', Pookalam and Onam games were a new experience to some of our scholastics.

Other programmes of the month included a seminar on the Jesuit Constitution, a CRI meeting for all Juniors and Novices, and an Inter-College Fest. Amidst these our third year brothers succeeded in submitting their term papers. Our semester exams have already begun.

*Sooraj*



## DE NOBILI COLLEGE, PUNE

The month of September was full of festive celebrations. We started with 'Ganesh Chaturthi' followed by 'Onam' with a sumptuous meal. The Nativity of Our Lady also called us to a solemn celebration. We were delighted by the visits of **Frs Vincent Pereppadan** and **Binoy Pichalakkattu**. Fr Binoy came to give a course to the third-year Philosophers.

The Social Wing of JDV organised a talk on 'Growing Intolerance'. It was very informative, and opened our eyes to the grim reality in our country. On September 24 the Scholastics from Chotanagpur celebrated 'Karam', a harvest festival, with a Eucharistic celebration, followed by lunch and lively dances in colourful costumes to the beat of booming drums. **Fr Stephen Chundamthadam**, our dearly beloved Professor, left JDV for his sabbatical after putting in ten years of teaching Indian Philosophy and Karate training to the Black Belt level.

*Dijin*

## GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

**Fr Adrian D'Cruz**, BOM (78/60), on 04.09.2017.

**Fr John Lourdu Daniel**, SRI (83/62), on 11.09.2017 in Kandy.

**Fr Jacob Karthanam**, KER (82/49) on 20.09.2017 in Calicut.

**Fr Robert Henry Schmidt**, PAT (79/61), on 26.09.2017 in Patna.

Mr K.F. Antony (74), younger brother of late Fr Stephen Chethipuzha, SJ, on 31.08.2017.

Mr K.J. Joseph (94), father of Fr K.J. Thomas Kuravanveliyel, on 05.09.2017.

Mr Anthony John (68), first cousin of Fr John FJ Manipadam SJ, on 22.09.2017

Mr T A Mathan (84), maternal grandfather of Sch Francis Paracka, on 10.09.2017.

Sr Regina Manipadam M.C. (88), sister of late Fr Antony Manipadam SJ, on 24.09.2017

Mr Santhosh John, husband of Gincy, niece of Fr Ephrem Thomas (his brother Georgekutty's daughter), on 27.09.2017.



## JAAK NEWS

The South Zone of JAAI has announced its 15<sup>th</sup> South Zone Congress at Loyola Public School, Guntur from Dec 27 to 29, 2017. Andhra, Karnataka, Kerala & Madurai Provinces jointly conduct the Congress. Kindly ensure maximum participation from our institutions. It is an occasion for our alumni/ae to get exposed to the wider Jesuit educational scenario. We expect twenty delegates from each educational institution in the Province. We may have to send a maximum of 200 participants from our Province, and hence this advance request. Institution-wise invitation will reach you soon. Please register for the Congress at the earliest. For more details please contact **Fr Rex Angelo** (Andra Province Alumni Co coordinator) 08897701405. Further information about the Congress is given below:

## 'SPICES'

### 15<sup>TH</sup> JAAI- SOUTH ZONE CONGRESS

To be held at Loyola Public School, Nallapadu, Guntur, AP - 522 005

During 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

**Theme:** "Jesuit Alumni/Alumnae Networking for Communal Harmony"

**Organised by:** Jesuit Alumni Association of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana (JAAAPT)

**Registration Fee:** Rs 2000/- only per head

**ALL OUR BELOVED ALUMNI/ALUMNAE ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ENJOY THE SPICES OF THE THELUGU WORLD.**

*Jose Mathew*

## JEEVIKA MIGRANT WORKERS' MOVEMENT

In September Jeevika, together with other social activists, organized Onam celebration for the Inter-State Migrants at Sameeksha, Kalady. About 50 people participated. Apart from various cultural programmes we had an interactive session by Dr Santhi Nayar from Sri Sankaracharya Sanskrit University. It was very lively and fruitful since it allowed interaction both in Hindi and Bengali. Jeevika team participated in a three-day training programme in Documentation Skills at Karl Kubel Institute, Coimbatore.

*Shia*

## Happy Birthday

### OCTOBER

01 Babu Paul Kurisinkal	10 Anto Muringathery	24 Michael John
01 Mathew Putheidom	13 Christy Sebastian Chalil	Moolumthurthil
02 Rosan Roy Periakottil	15 John Mialil	27 Jose Pulinthanath
03 John Molekunnel	15 Wilson Mulackal	27 Prince Panachithara
04 Varghese Malpan	17 <i>Sheise Porunnakottu</i>	30 Jacob Pazhanilam
08 Joseph Chittooparambil	17 Joseph Podimattam	31 <i>Sooraj Kochuparambil</i>
08 Jenophine Joseph	19 Jose Mathew	<b>NOVEMBER</b>
09 Sony Thomas Thazhathel	Vayalikalapura	06 Thomas Anthraper
	20 Anto Dionecius	

### JESA-LOK MANCH

The Lok Manch project has reached the end of its second year of activities. The most rewarding common activity in September was the exposure programme conducted at the unit level. Thiruvananthapuram Unit had an exposure to the Rural Uplift Centre (RUC), a rights-based organization in Nagarcoil, T.N. The exposure offered a great opportunity for the community leaders and animators of Lok Manch to learn from their counterparts elsewhere.

Kerala JESA had a combined meeting of the commission and the core team members along with **Fr Provincial** on Sept 12. The purpose was to make an update on all social action centres and projects. On Sept 28 **Fr Benny** submitted a printed copy of the Study Report on inter-state migrants in Kerala; the study was done in collaboration with Jeevika, MOS of SRC, and Sneharam, and was supported by ISI-Bangalore. On the same day, he also participated in a meeting of the core team set up by ISI-B to chalk out an action plan on collaborative efforts in our work for inter-state migrants in the country.

*Benny*

### NEWS FROM FR E.J. THOMAS

**Fr E J Thomas** has done it again. The ninth Ph.D. thesis done under his guidance was successfully defended by Shri Renjithlal K.P. in Kannur University. The thesis was titled "Technology transformation and its impact on a middle class family in Kerala". "PAROC (Pastoral Animation, Research and Out Reach), the methodology developed by me, is effectively being utilized by the

Archdiocese of Trichur for the Diocesan Assembly under way. The first stage is identification of topics for the Assembly through a diocesan survey involving every family in the diocese. *The Family* and *Faith formation* were the two topics selected. In the second stage Parish Assemblies will be convened. Each parish will identify issues and initiate action programmes. The third stage is the Diocesan Assembly which will be held in May 2018. Proposals coming from the Parish Assemblies as well as other relevant subjects will be discussed there. PAROC has already completed survey in 36 parishes and initiated action programmes. The active involvement of lay persons, especially of women, is commendable."

**FR JOSE KADANKAVIL** writes from Waterford and Lismore Diocese, Ireland:

"It is the beginning of autumn here; but very cold and chill. Sometimes it rains all day long. What the climate in winter will be is anybody's guess. Autumn brings with it 'flue' too. Practically all take vaccination as a precautionary measure and I also took it. The Jesuit community in Dublin reminded me of taking vaccination when I was there in September. I have now a used car bought and given to me by the parish. I began to drive with a Learner Permit. Being in the waiting list there is no chance of R.S.A (Road Safety Authority) calling me for a driving test till December. Thank you for the loving communications and prayers from the Province. I do remember all of you in my prayers".

**FR SYRIAC PANJIKARAN** writes from East Timor: "Life isn't challenging. The region has one parish in the interior and a school with 500 students. It is 45

mts ride from the city of Dili. It caters only to the very rich who can send their children by private vehicles. We three Indians (2 scholastics) have just 3 or 4 periods A WEEK to teach. But poverty and illiteracy are rampant. The Catholics (almost 96%) are like sheep without shepherds. Church goers are about 23%. Yet money flows from Australia, Japan and elsewhere. My Regional Superior is

trying to find me some meaningful occupation. So I am patiently waiting”.

## COURSES AND RETREATS

**Sebastian Painadath SJ**, “Indian Contemplative Retreat based on the Letters of Paul, and an Initiation to *Jesus Prayer*”, Nov 19 morning – 26 evening at NBCLC, Bangalore. (Ph. 080-25472369).

### FR JACOB KARTHANAM, SJ (KER) (1935-2017)

Fr Jacob Karthanam left us for his heavenly reward on September 20, 2017 after his sixty-year long journey in the Society of Jesus. He spent his final days in Nirmala hospital, Calicut, enduring his suffering with minimum words. He was laid to rest in Christ Hall cemetery after a solemn mass presided over by Mgr. Thomas Panackal, VG of Calicut diocese. Fr Tom Karthanam, younger brother of Fr Jacob, led the funeral service. Finally the ‘pastor’ was called by the eternal shepherd to be with him in glory.

Fr Jacob was born on May 26, 1935 at Kokkamangalam in Alleppey Dt. After school education he joined the Society in 1957. His Jesuit studies were mostly in Tamilnadu – Novitiate and Juniorate at Dindigul, and philosophy in Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur. He taught in Leo XIII school, Alleppey, for two years as a regent. After completing his theology at De Nobili College, Pune, he was ordained priest in 1968 at the age of 33. He went to St Stanislaus college at Sitagarah for his tertianship and was finally incorporated into the Society at Lumen, Kochi, in 1980.

Fr Jacob is known for his intellectual calibre and clarity of thought. After finishing his MA in Psychology meritoriously from MS University, Baroda, he taught for a few years in Loyola College of Social Sciences, Trivandrum. But a major part of his life he spent as a pastor. He served in over a dozen parishes in the dioceses of Kozhikode, Kannur, Trivandrum and Neyyatinkara. He was vicar at the parishes of Payyanur, Pilathara,

Pappinisery, Azhikode, Pariyaram, Kalpetta, Meppadi, Beypore, Badagara, Peringamala, Thevanpara and Kallikkad. Fr Jacob was a born leader and a visionary, and this quality endeared him to the people he served with dedication.

Though he was a pastor for many years, Fr Jacob enjoyed Jesuit community life. He could spontaneously crack jokes and make the atmosphere lively in community. I had the privilege of being with him when he spent his final years in S.M. Farm, Pariyaram. Fr Jacob had the ability to personally motivate individuals, especially youngsters. He had a basic disposition of compassion

towards the poor and the needy. He was ever ready to support them in cash and kind, and was committed to the overall development of the people entrusted to his care. Being a good organizer he could gather the youth for undertaking difficult tasks courageously and creatively. Fr Jacob was direct in expressing his differences in public with self-confidence. He fought tooth and nail for what he thought was true and just. This nature at times earned him ill repute as being an angry person.

The last few weeks of his life were really painful for him. He suffered mostly in silence despite the care he received from the Jesuits and the lay staff. His love for the Society and his pastoral zeal remained with him till the end, and whatever he did, he did all to the glory of God, as St Paul would say (1Cor10:31). His life glorified the Lord. May his Soul Rest in Peace.

*Joe Mathew SJ*



## KINDLY PRAY FOR MANY GOOD VOCATIONS

Please send your news before the first of every month.

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