



Kerala Tidings

VOL. LVII NO. 12 ■ DECEMBER 2017 ■ CHRIST HALL ■ KOZHIKODE

From the Provincial

Travels as Mission

“Father, you travel so much. Do you like your travels?” asked a scholastic.

I replied, “I like the travels, but not always the work in between!”

Yes, we travel so much now. And, travel in Kerala has become so much of a hassle unless well planned ahead and arrangements made. Then, of course, it also depends on what you are travelling for and how you are travelling.

I am eternally grateful to **Fr Joe Thayil**, my novice master, who taught me four decades ago, how to make every journey a prayer. He told us then to pray for the driver, pray for the conductor, pray for fellow travellers and just look out at the nature and pray. When you do so, somehow your journey takes on the character of a pilgrimage. The distractions during the journey are humorous, insightful and at times annoying. But they manifest to you the mosaic of life and its beauty.

One habit I am developing is to ask myself, ‘is this journey essential for my mission?’ This helps me to make my travels more meaningful and mission oriented.

I leave this passing thought from Benjamin Disraeli on travel:

“Like all great travellers, I have seen more than I remember, and remember more than I have seen.”

M. K. George, SJ

APPOINTMENT BY FR GENERAL

Fr John Wilfred Lobo: Provincial of Darjeeling.

APPOINTMENTS BY POSA

Fr Binoy Pichalakkattu: Coordinator for the Nodal Digital Platform on ‘Peace and Reconciliation’ of the South Asian Assistency. The Digital Platform is located in and functioning out of LIPI, Kochi.

Fr Joye James Karimathil: Fulltime Secretary of Jesuits in Higher Education in South Asia (JHEASA). He will function as full time secretary from September 2018.

APPOINTMENTS BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Dominic Madathaniyil: Revisor, Houses and Works

Fr Roy Alex Kuzhimannil: Pastoral work in St George’s Church, Edathua

Fr Sunny Padinajarevatikattu: Manager ITI, residing at Santhinilayam

PROVINCIAL’S PROGRAMME

DECEMBER, 2017

- 01 : Christ Hall
- 02 : Zonal meeting of Jesuits in Kannur
- 04-06 : Visitation, Sameeksha
- 07 : Media Commission Meeting, Lumen
- 08 : LIPI Consultation, Kochi
- 09 : A K J M School, Kanjirapally
- 10 : AADI, Attappadi
- 16 : Province Consult
- 23 : Formation Commission meeting
- 26 : Kozhuvanal
- 28-30 : Province Sammelan, Mount St. Joseph’s

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Kerala Jesuit Society has been registered under GST. Our GST number is **32AAAK1063G1Z8**. Whenever you purchase goods or services please insist on registering our Trade name '**Kerala Jesuit Society**' and **GSTIN: 32AAAK1063G1Z8** on the bill. (It is required for input claim)

POSTAL MAIL OR E-MAIL

Fr Provincial requests ours to use only postal mail or e-mail for official communication with him.

LEFT THE SOCIETY

Moolamthurthil Michael John, a second year novice, left the novitiate on 3rd November 2017.

CONGRATULATIONS!

- **Fr Roy Alex Kuzhimannil** was ordained priest on November 11 by **Mar Jose Porunnedom**, Bishop of Mananthavady Diocese, at St. Joseph's Church,



Adakkathodu. **Fr Provincial** and a large number of Jesuits were present for the auspicious occasion.

- **Fr Prince** presented research papers on Fungal Biology and Genetics in the University of Jammu and the University of Kerala in National Conferences. His paper was selected for the best presentation in the theme "Effective Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources" by the Kerala University.
- **Fr Biju Joy** had his Ph.D. Viva Voce Examination on 29.11.2017 at St Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli (under Bharathidasan University). The thesis was titled "Electrochemical Deoxygenation of Aromatic Oximes using Potassium Perchlorate in Biphasic Medium." The examiners placed it in the highly commented category (Summa Cum Laude...!).

FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

CHRIST HALL, CALICUT

We miss **Fr John Mialil** who passed away on November 9 at Nirmala Hospital. He was laid to rest at Christ Hall cemetery on November 10. The first death anniversary of **Fr Sabu Malayil** was observed on November 23. His mother and other family members joined us for the occasion. Christ the King parish celebrated the feast of Christ the King on November 18 in a grand manner under the leadership of **Fr Anto Dioneceus**. A well-guided retreat and the devotional procession along the Wayanad road added colour to the celebration. We celebrated the birthdays of **Frs Thomas Anthraper** and **Raphael Thottan** in November. After his semester exams in early November, **Sch Amardeep** went to attend a Writers' Training Workshop organized by Ezhuthu magazine at Kalady.

Fr Kurien Kunnumpuram had a mild stroke on November 17, and he received immediately medical attention in Nirmala Hospital. He has recovered fast and is back in Christ Hall. **Fr George Kandathil** and **Fr Joe Thayil** were also hospitalized. Both of them came back with improved health.

Vysakh Titus

ST JOSEPH'S, CALICUT

Fr Thadeyoos participated as a delegate in the Global JEA meet held in Rio, Brazil. The preparations for the 225th anniversary celebration of the School are catching momentum with meetings and seminars. "Edumine", the national seminar on education, was held on November 18. It brought together a large number of teachers from various schools, and papers were presented by eminent scholars like **Mr Muhammad Basher**, Vice chancellor of Calicut University, **Dr M G S Narayanan**, and **Fr Sunny Jacob SJ**, the JEA secretary. **Fr M K George**, our provincial, presided over the function. A mega state-level quiz programme with the participation of hundred schools was held on Nov 29. Our boys became champions in the sub-district foot ball tournament. They also got third place in Arts Fest and Work Experience. Two boys from the Junior ICSE School were selected to the State-level ICSE football team. One student from the junior school got gold medal in the State-level Taekwondo. The School honoured Prof (Dr) Joseph G Davis, an Alumnus of the School and presently a faculty at the University of Sydney, Australia.

Jose Mathew

SARVODAYA, EACHOME

The two significant events in November were the visit of **Fr Jean-Yves Grennet SJ**, former Provincial of France, and **Fr Provincial's** Visitation. Fr Grennet interacted with the Jesuits at an informal gathering late evening on 16 November at XTC (Pre-novitiate), Pachilakad. The next day he was honoured at Sarvodaya School in a special assembly. Fr Grennet addressed the staff and the students, and also had a special interaction session with the teaching staff of the school. He made it a point to visit Arivuda tribal boarding as well as the ethno-folk museum in TUDI. **Fr Provincial's** Visitation reassured the Community of his keen interest in the development of the school and in our striving for academic excellence.

Fr Biju George accompanied 12 teachers of our school to Kozhikode to take part in a National Seminar on Education at St Joseph's Boys' Higher Secondary School. A new venture of Sarvodaya is the Local PTAs where teachers and parents assemble in a village to discuss various matters concerning the students and the school. We have also introduced Tribal PTA to respond to the special needs of the tribal students.

TUDI organized a one-day workshop cum training programme called *ganitha vismayam* in collaboration with the district Kudumbasree mission for the tudikkoottam tribal students. As many as 110 students from 6 centres actively participated in it. We have begun cultivation of seasonal vegetables in the newly bought 20 cents of land which steadily brings in new life among the boarding students. **Fr Provincial** formally inaugurated the Herbal Garden, a new venture of TUDI. The Wayanad Unit of Lok Manch (TUDI, BODHINI, JVALA and OORU) took part in the south zone workshop of the ongoing Lok Manch programme held at ISI, Bengaluru. We received two students from Australia and the US as part of their internship programme.

V T Jose

ST MICHAEL'S KANNUR

A unit of Loyola Peace Club, an initiative of LIPI, was inaugurated in the school by Smt. Dayabai, the well-known social activist. Many of our students won medals in the state level Judo, thwaikundo and fencing championships. Three students from the High School won first prize and got selected to the state level youth festival.

RJ Mathew

SAMSKRITI, PARIYARAM

Samskriti Sahajeevanam (SSJ) reached a milestone when we celebrated the event of crossing 10,000 visitors to our

centre. This coincided with the publication of a feature article with pictures on SSJ in the Sunday supplement of Deepika of 12th November 2017. During the last month alone 750 students from ten schools participated in the one day exposure programme. **Fr Rajesh Jose** gave a retreat to students of St Mary's Forane Church, Taliparamba. He celebrated his birthday both at SSJ and in S.M Farm. We were privileged by the visit of **Fr Jean Yves SJ**, former Provincial of France accompanied by our **Provincial**. A new tree-house built at the Centre was blessed by **Fr Jacob Kumminiyil**, **Fr James Moraise** with his 25 tribal 'Karate' kids from Attapady stayed at SSJ for two days. The spiritual atmosphere of SSJ was raised when two priests from Thrissur diocese had their 5-day retreat at the Centre.

Mathew Aertthayil

LOYOLA, ALUVA

November has been a sacred month for us as our first year novices along with the novices of Bethraam Congregation and some sisters of M.S.J. congregation are journeying with the Lord in the one month Ignatian Sadhana. The second year novices, meanwhile, are involved in their work experiment. **Jack Achan** currently is in Kottagiri directing the long retreat for the Green garden sisters. **Fr Jean Yves**, the former French provincial, and **Fr Paul Fletcher**, Superior of Preston Jesuit community, London blessed us with their enriching presence. Kindly remember Josachan and the retreatants in your prayers.

Tomy (Novice)

SAMEEKSHA, KALADY

The 15th batch of Jnanasameeksha received the JDV Certificate on October 10, and the 17th batch started with 20 students. Dr. Yasodharan, Director of Sree Narayana International Study Centre, Trivandrum, explained Atmōpadēśāsatakam as part of the monthly Dharmasameeksha. **Fr Xavier** came away from his tertianship in Goa to guide an Ignatian retreat at Sameeksha. The MTh (Spirituality) students of JDV, Pune, came to Sameeksha for three days as part of their pilgrimage to South India.

A three-day training programme for potential writers was conducted at Sameeksha in collaboration with ISPCCK (Delhi) and LIPI (Kochi). **Samuel Rayan** was admitted in LF Hospital for the routine check-up. **Sebastian Painadath** gave a week-long course on the spirituality of inter-religious harmony at EAPI, Manila; he met **Fr Adolfo Nicholas** there as a member of the EAPI

Jesuit community. He gave also a contemplative retreat at NBCLC. The new book of **Henry Pattarumadathil** on the Sermon on the Mount was released by Bishop Julius at a function at POC, Ernakulam.

Painadath

LUMEN/SNEHA SENA, KOCHI

Fr Roy Thottam presented a paper on “Christian Mural Art in Kerala: Aesthetic and Catechetical Motives,” in a seminar organized by Liturgical Research Commission, St Thomas Mount Kakkanad. He also offered a course on “Philosophy of Art and Aesthetics” at Marymatha Major Seminary, Thrissur. **Fr Binoy** presented a paper on “Mathematics and Life” in a national conference organized by IISR, Delhi, and held at Little Flower seminary Aluva. **Fr Vincent** was the chief guest for the children’s day celebrations at St Ann’s Public School, Eloor.

Vincent Pereppadan

LIPI NEWS

LIPI and Sameeksha, in collaboration with ISPCK (Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), Delhi, organized a 3-day ‘hands on approach’ Writer’s Workshop at Sameeksha, Kalady, November 12-14, 2017. The workshop titled “Write Right with Bite” brought together 26 budding Christian writers comprising promising young Christian writers, University



lecturers, seminarians and religious sisters. Dr. Ashish Amos, Director, ISPCK, and Ms. Ella Sonawane, General Secretary, ISPCK, along with journalist-professor **Francis Gonsalves** of JDV, Pune, **Binoy Pichalakkattu** and **Roy Thottam** of LIPI conducted the workshop. The participants wrote incisive, well-researched articles on themes pertaining to religion, spirituality, social-justice, science, ecology, feminist issues and ecclesial concerns. A professional team of writers in Delhi will scrutinize these, and ISPCK plans to publish them as a book.

Fr Binoy was in Jamshedpur for a consultation with XLRI on future collaboration with LIPI in peace studies.

LIPI-Ezhuthu will be celebrating its second anniversary on January 26, 2018 in Town Hall, Ernakulam.

Binoy

VIDYANIKETAN, TRIVANDRUM

Vidyaniketan celebrated the feast of St. Alphonsus Rodriguez and the Brotherhood Day on October 31. Our three brothers in Trivandrum, **Br Jacob**, **Br Mathew** and **Br George** joined the community for a solemn Mass and festive dinner. We had an informal interaction with **Fr Shin Kallungal** on Jivika’s ministry among migrant labour. The juniors also shared on their involvement in migrant ministry and got some valuable guidance from Fr Shin. The Media Education course by **Fr George Sebastian** helped us to understand the rapidly changing world of media. We visited the VSSC museum at Thumba and witnessed the impressive sight of rocket launching. The community organized an informal meeting of the vicars of parishes and the directors of institutions where juniors go for gramapravesham.

The presence of the Provincials of KAR, KER and MDU and the Socius of AND on November 26 enriched our celebration of the feast of Christ the King and of St. John Berchmans, our heavenly patron. Our guests this month included **Fr Jean-Yves Grenet**, former Provincial of France, and **Sch Benedict Odhiambo** (AOR). We have begun preparations for our second-term examinations which begin on December 15.

Rejoy

AADI, ATTAPPADI

The first floor of AADI, with two new rooms, a store room and a hall, is getting ready to be blessed by **Fr Provincial** on December 10, 2017. We welcome all Jesuits to come and stay here either for relaxation or for Eco-retreats. **Novices Jaison Joseph** and **Tom Issac Baby** are now with us for their Work Experiment.

AADI organized a two-day staff training for Lok Manch Staff of Attapady unit, and a one-day camp for SC/ST children as part of Children’s Day celebration. College students from Roshni Nilaya, Mangalore, Ideal College, Cherpulassery, Co-operative college, Vadagara, Loyola college, Trivandrum, and SB college, Changanacherry came for exposure and training in the month of November. A group of twenty student artists and staff of GVHSS, Payyanakal, Calicut, AADI for an art cum exposure camp; Adv. Zeenath, Calicut Coporation Councillor, accompanied them. Cadre formation programme, in collaboration with ISI, Bengaluru, was held on Nov 18 with forty vibrant youth. Its aim is to

promote leadership among the youth from marginalized communities. This group will go through 12 training programs lasting three to five days each in the coming three years.

James Morais

XAVIER TRAINING CENTRE, PACHILAKAD

We participated in the ordination of **Fr Roy Alex Kuzhimannil**. We had the privilege to participate in his first Mass in Latin rite in our Pre-novitiate. Thanks Roycha. We had two special guests this month **Fr Paul Flechter** of the British province and **Fr Jean Yves** the former provincial of France. We were blessed by the annual visit of our provincial. **George acha** thanks. We conducted a cultural evening in honour of Fr Provincial. We had a class on sex- education by Dr Manu. **Sch Rosan** was here to do his triduum. Right now, we are busy with the novena of St Francis Xavier, our patron.

Pre-novices

LOYOLA, MUKUNDARA

The academic atmosphere of the school got new vitality with the introduction of various clubs. Science Day was observed on November 10, and the school organized a science exhibition titled "scientia 2017: science for peace and development" under the leadership of **Sch Rojas**. S. A. Shantakumar, the sub inspector of Ottashekhamangalam was our chief guest on the Sports Day. The teachers as well as the PTA had some fruitful sessions this month. **Frs Jose Pulinthanam** and **Sunil Padannamakkel** came to address the PTA and to motivate them. Dr Ajith, retired RTO took a class on 'Effective Parenting', while Drs Pavithran and Dinesh, psychologists, took classes on 'Identifying the Problems of Children' and 'Teenage Parenting' respectively. **Fr Jean Yves Grennet SJ**, ex- provincial of France, visited the school along with **Fr Sooraj**. The school gave Fr Grennet a warm welcome with the accompaniment of the school band, and our classical dancers mesmerized him.

Manesh

AICUF CENTRE, TRIVANDRUM

The AICUF unit of Poomthura in Trivandrum had a one-day leadership training camp at FIDES center led by **Fr Babu Paul** and team. The Thrissur Zone organized an awareness program on child rights on Children's Day, and conducted a drawing competition for school going students. The Jnanasameeksha group had three days of classes on Synoptic Gospels by **Fr Christudas** of Neyyattinkara diocese. The first batch

of Jnanasameeksha had their follow-up gathering on Faith and Reason.

Babu Paul

LOYOLA, POOVAR

The significant event in Loyola in November was the Sahithya Sangam- a yearly literary event started in 2015. It was enriched by the presence of twelve poets, with Sri. Kureepuzha Sreekumar, the noted poet, as the guest of honour. Our students participated in a literary competition, and winners received prizes from the chief guest. The screening of short movies from the collection of Sri. Manoj Manohar, Lecturer in St Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda, led to spirited discussion on topics like freedom of expression, gender sensitivity, nationalism and role of the family. We had an Orientation Programme for our first year students with **Fr Dominic Palakeel** as the resource person.

KJ Thomas

JEEVIKA MIGRANT WORKERS' MOVEMENT

Jeevika along with CM fathers and the Odisha inter-state workers commemorated the first death anniversary of **Fr Sabu Malayil** at Perumbavoor. **Rt Rev. Dr Sebastian Thekethecheril**, Bishop of Vijayapuram, celebrated the Holy Eucharist in Hindi. More than 275 Odiya faithful residing in Perumbavoor, Angamali, Palisery and Mambra areas participated in the Holy Eucharist. A ceremonious reception was given to the Bishop with a dance by seven Odiya youth at the entrance of the church. The Bishop officiated the memorial service for Fr Sabu. During the meeting the Bishop appreciated the good works done by Fr Sabu. **Fr Vincent Perepadan** and some Odiya representatives recollected their good memories about Fr Sabu. **Fr Shin Kallungal** said thanks to all both in Malayalam and in Odiya. All participated in the fellowship meal at the end.

Shin

JESA-LOK MANCH AND SNEHARAM

A Lok Manch Zonal Workshop at ISI Bangalore in the month of November boosted the participants to engage in the third year's activities of Lok Manch with special focus on three areas: capacity building of community leaders, documentation of the process, and future sustainability. Participants from Kerala were led by AADI, TUDI and Sneharam.

Sneharam has been supporting local fishermen in forming disaster management committees to deal with risk reduction communication needs at Muthalapozhi

Harbour and at the sea. Lok Manch community leaders from Anchuthengu and surrounding areas are represented in the committee. It becomes significant in the context of the recurring incidents of disaster at Muthalapozhi. Setting up a signal system at the harbour is the first step towards risk reduction. Ad hoc vigilance committees under National Food Security Act (NFSA) have started functioning at Anchuthengu and they have been helping the community members to make the ration-shop owners more accountable.

Benny

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, PUNE

After having been rejuvenated and reenergized by the Semester holidays, we resumed our classes on November 30. There was a symposium organized by JDV and the Congregation of Faith on the theme "Neo-Gnosticism and Neo-Pelagianism: God's Way or My Way". During this occasion, a book titled "A Call to Commitment: An Exegetical and Theological Study of Deuteronomy 10, 12-11, 32", authored by **Fr Thomas Karimundakkal** was released. This book is published in the prestigious research series of Forschung zur Bibel by the Echter Verlag. Fr Karimundakkal presented a paper on "The Election of Israel against the Pelagian Understanding of Human Will" during the symposium.

Fr Immanuel Koyan had gone with his classmates for a study tour to Varanasi. We had our long-awaited community days from 17th to 19th of November with so much energy and valour. It was a wonderful time to come together and enjoy the different aspects of Jesuit companionship. Sch. Dijin got the third price in the marathon organized as part of the community days. Adding more joy to this joyful mood, we celebrated JDV Day with a solemn Eucharist in Malankara Rite in the morning, which was followed by a high tea. In the evening, there was cultural extravaganza by the students of JDV. The Rector and the community were sad to hear about **Fr Kurien Kunnumpuram's** stroke and prayed for his speedy recovery.

Sch Joman CM

SYRIAC PANJIKARAN WRITES FROM EAST TIMOR:

Railaco parish with 12 sub-stations and a Senior Secondary School is entrusted to the Jesuits of East Timor. We are a community of five; two priests from Vietnam, a Philippino, an Andhra Scholastic and myself. Today I am moving to another parochial house in Fatuquero in the mountains to take care of 4 sub-stations



in that area. During the day I come to the school to teach Sociology in Portuguese language to the Std X students. Simplicity is the hallmark of this land. Tetun is a well-developed language with just the infinitive forms (no tenses) and nouns without proper gender, number or case can express all that you want to communicate. Only the New Testament is available in print. The traditional customs prevail and so true catholic formation is quite impractical. The traditional local liurai (king) is active. Whatever is beyond his control is dealt with by the government. Liturgy is lively with lot of singing in the western style as the Portuguese life and culture has influenced this land.

CONGRATULATIONS, FR E.J. THOMAS!

Kerala Sociological Society (KSS) is honouring **Fr E. J. Thomas** conferring an award for "his life time achievement" on December 8 during their annual conference at Mar Athanasius College, Kothamangalam.

Ten research students so far have successfully completed their PhD under the guidance of Fr E.J. Thomas. The tenth one defended his thesis on November 29, 2017 at Kannur University; it was titled "An Enquiry into the Changing Role of Non-Governmental Organizations and Government in Development in the Context of Panchayati Raj System".

JAAK NEWS

A reminder from **Fr Jose Mathew**, the Province Coordinator for Alumni/ae

It is time for registration for the 15th South Zone Congress scheduled to be held at Loyola Public School, Guntur, Dec. 27 – Dec. 29. The registration fee is Rs.1000/ per person. The DD must be paid in favour of 'The Loyola School Society', IOB- Loyola Nagar Branch, Guntur. NEFT/RTGS as well as cash payments should be made in favour of 'The Loyola School Society', IOB- Loyola Nagar Branch Guntur A/C No.180501000012000; IFSC Code

is IOBA0001805. Please attach the original DD/NEFT Unique Transaction Receipt /Cash Deposit Voucher, counterfoil with signature and seal of receiving bank branch and send the filled-in forms to Fr Principal, Loyola Public School, Nallapadu, Guntur, A P -522005. You can download the details at jaakerala.org. Kindly ensure maximum participation from our institutions.

OURS IN MEDIA

- **Antony Mecherry**, "Sentir con la Iglesia and Ecumenical Rapprochements of the Sixteenth Century: An Indian Reality", in Thinking and Feeling with the Churches, edited by Robert J. Daly and Patrick Howell, 131-141. Chestnut Hill, Mass.: Institute for Advanced Jesuit Studies, Boston College, 2017.
- **George Nedungatt**: SCHEMBRI, Kevin, Oikonomia, Divorce and Remarriage in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition (Kanonika 23), Roma, Edizioni Orientalia Christiana / Valore Italiano, 2017. - 327 p. in INTAMS (Brussels).
- **Henry Pattarumadathil**, Malayile Prasamgam (Sermon on the Mount), POC, Palarivattom, pp.261. (theological and pastoral reflections on the Sermon on the Mount; useful for catechism teachers and lay animators).
- **Sebastian Painadadth**, Das Sonnengebet (Sun-prayer), Vier-Türme Verlag, Münsterschwarzach, pp. 100. (this book offers a meditative form of Suryanamaskar with relevant texts from various religions).

പീറ്റർ കണ്ണമ്പുഴ എഡിറ്റ് ചെയ്ത **അർണോസ് പാതിരി മലയാള സാഹിത്യത്തിലെ മഹാമനീഷി** (കാക്കനാട്: LRC, 2017) എന്ന ഗ്രന്ഥത്തിലെ ലേഖനങ്ങൾ:

- “ആരാണീ പാതിരി?” റവ. ഡോ. ഏ. അടപ്പൂർ (19-)
- “മാർത്തോമ്മാ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളും അർണോസ് പാതിരിയുടെ സംഭാവനകളും”, റവ. ഡോ. ഏ. അടപ്പൂർ (156-)
- “അർണോസ് പാതിരിയും ഈശോസഭാചൈതന്യവും”, ഫാ. റോയി എം. തോട്ടത്തിൽ (163-)

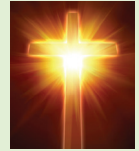
NEWS FROM ASSISTANCY

- “There will be a meeting of Jesuits in Science and Technology Forum on 24 and 25 February, 2018 at St Xavier’s College, Ahmedabad. Kindly contact Fr Ignacimuthu (imuthus@hotmail.com), the coordinator
- **Ganga Lahar**, the Patna Jesuit News Letter, goes digital starting from January 2018. The hard copy of it will no more be posted. Those who wish to receive it in digital format may send their e-mail id to the Socius of Patna Province [socius@patnajesuits.org or patjesuits@gmail.com]

GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

Fr John Mialil (KER), 90/68 on 09.11.2017 at Calicut. (See Obituary)

Fr Theruvil Mathai (MDU), 94/72, on 25.11.2017.



Br Natarajan Joseph (MDU), 81/52, on 25.11.2017.

Mr Luka Joseph Kizhakedom (95), maternal uncle of Fr Joseph Kallepallil and younger brother of late Fr Joseph Kizhakedom, on 17.11.2017.

Mr Ipe Varky Kappiarumalayil (95), paternal uncle of Fr Tomson Kappiarumalayil, on 20.11.2017.

Ms Jertrude (80), younger mother of Fr Anto Dionecius, on 24.11.2017 at Anjengo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 03 Linto Kanichai | 22 Philip Thayil |
| 04 <i>Joseph Jose Kadankavil</i> | 24 Jose Thachil |
| 05 Xavier Veliyakam | 25 Kuriakose Puthanapra |
| 09 Sanil Mayilkunnel | 27 Sebastian Chiriyen Kandath |
| 11 Abraham Pallivathukal | JANUARY |
| 16 Immanuel Koyan | 01 John Elamkunnappuzha |
| 16 Mathew Kannadan | 01 Ramlat Mekkulathil |
| 21 George Nedungatt | 02 Peter Mulluparambil |
| 21 Cicil Shaji Valiyakarottu | 03 Tomson Vadakkeputhenpura |
| | 04 Varkeychan Mecheril |



IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

DECEMBER

- 01 (1958) Aloysius Silva
- 02 (1991) George Murickan
- 04 (2007) Mathew Parackal
- 16 (2011) George Keerankeri
- 17 (1954) Milbank F Barboza
- 17 (2012) Joseph Maliekal
- 18 (2000) Joseph Vattakunnel
- 19 (1991) Varkey Pullan
- 29 (1988) Joseph Puthenkalam
- 31 (2010) Thomas Thayil



OBITUARY

Fr JOHN MIALIL, S.J.

(15.10.1927 – 09.11.2017)

Fr John Mialil is now enjoying the eternal banquet prepared for him by His Heavenly Father. He who had prepared banquets for his fellow Jesuits and friends for years by his exemplary life is now privileged to join the heavenly banquet!

Fr John Mialil was a close friend of mine for many years. In fact, I knew the Mialil family while I was a high school student. **Fr Kuriakose Mialil**, Fr John's elder brother and a diocesan priest, was my headmaster in the high school. It was after my joining the Society in 1962 that I came to know Fr John as the younger brother of my headmaster. Fr John was born on October 15, 1927 at Kattachira in Kottayam Dist., Kerala. After doing Pre-Degree he joined the Society in 1949. He had his novitiate at Shembaganur, Juniorate in Christ Hall, Calicut, Philosophy in De Nobili College, Pune and in Shembaganur. He went to St Joseph's College, Tiruchirappally for his college studies. After completing his Theology in St Mary's College, Kurseong, he got ordained there itself on March 19, 1962. He did his Tertianship in La Providence, Kodaikanal, and proceeded to do M.Sc. (Botany) in St Joseph's College, Tiruchi.

He started his teaching career in St Joseph's College, Tiruchi. He moved on to serve as teacher in St Xavier's College, Trivandrum, Loyola School, Trivandrum, and Loyola College, Vijaywada. Later he took the reins of St Joseph's Junior School, Calicut. He brought up the school, both materially and academically, to make it an institute of eminence in the city. Many prominent citizens in an around Calicut had their early stages of schooling under Fr Mialil. He also served other Jesuit institutions in Kerala as Superior or Administrator, and he was a great companion to his fellow-Jesuits.

Fr John was a no-nonsense man. He was systematic, regular, hardworking and totally committed to the task entrusted to him. Though he had his occasional outbursts of temper he was always approachable. As administrator in Jesuit houses he received everyone heartily, welcomed them cordially and treated them warmly. That was his personal trait of being hospitable. Yet another significant trait was his attitude of sharing – whether mangoes or papayas or guava which he would collect for ripening. I myself was one of the frequent beneficiaries. His Botanical interest and studies helped him to give great attention to trees, plants, flowers and fruits. One would never see Fr John sitting idle. He kept himself always busy, either reading or writing or planting, or watering or cleaning! He used to make good vine and many types of soft drinks, and he enjoyed serving them to friends and guests. He was ever ready with his gadgets to be the barber of the house till he was



incapacitated. I entrusted my hair to him during the 15 years I stayed in Christ Hall. He did the job with joy and cheerfulness!

Fr Mialil was a man of determination and total self-reliance. He resisted all temptation to depend on others for his personal needs. He would go for shopping himself, type out letters himself, water the plants himself, and nurture the garden all by himself. Until he was hospitalized, he would insist on coming to the refectory and take his own food, and carry hot water for bath. He dared to learn computer in his old age, and used it to send email messages, collect documents, and compose the history of Kerala Province.

His latest books, "Wonders in Nature" and "God's Amazing Universe" were produced on his personal computer. Writing letters to the editor of journals and newspapers was his hobby, though occasionally it would end up in a verbal dual with the editor! The Province owes him a debt of gratitude for the tremendous work he initiated in arranging systematically the Province achieves. His wheezing (due to asthma) did not prevent him from doing the work with clocklike regularity. He was a loyal Jesuit who would go to any extent to defend the Society, its

traditions and values.

The Gospel that we read at the funeral Mass (Mt.5: 3-10) tells us who the blessed ones are, who the saints are. A close look at the life of Fr John Mialil would prove that it was a blessed life indeed, making him worthy of great reward in heaven. May God grant him eternal Rest.

J. Kallepallil



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