



# Kerala Tidings

VOL. LIX NO. 2 ■ FEBRUARY 2019 ■ CHRIST HALL ■ KOZHIKODE

## From the Provincial

### THE MONTH AFTER

We are into February of 2019. Probably, some have already given up on the New Year resolutions. Some other determined souls still hold on. My call for collective resolutions did not evoke any response. But here is one reminder that I hope all would take seriously.

February is our month for budgeting. Can we take the budgeting exercise more seriously? This is all the more important because of Fr General's repeated reminder to the Province to take Apostolic Planning processes more seriously. There have been many attempts over the last five years. But the million dollar question, whether the Apostolic Planning processes have become a culture in the Province, still remains mute.

More than just balancing the income and expenses, can we envisage a process by which our Vision, mission, objectives and action programmes guide our budgeting? Experts say, 'budgeting should be a managerial process that **sets direction for management improvement and efficiency**. It should be a financial process that assimilates and ties together a wealth of financial data. It should be **a marketing process**, by which the government/agency sells its programs and services. And finally, it should be **an accountability process**, through which government/agency communicates its decisions about priorities and expected performance'.

Can resource mobilization, especially at the local level become a priority for us? To help us in this process we have a re-activated PDO and have a full time lay officer. He will be available for consultation and guidance.

Do take the budgeting exercise seriously!

*M.K. George, SJ*

## TRANSFERS BY FR PROVINCIAL

- Fr Devasia Kuzhuppil : Christ Hall, Kozhikode
- Fr Mathew Nampiaparambil : Christ Hall, Kozhikode
- Fr Tinu Francis Pondicherry : Loyola Jesuit House, Sreekariyam.

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### FEBRUARY

- 02 : Final Vows of Fr Biju George Kunnappillil
- 05-06 : Mangalore, Visitation
- 09-10 : Superiors' meeting
- 14 : St Michael's, Kannur
- 15-17 : Visitation, Lumen Kochi
- 18-21 : Visitation, Pune
- 22-28 : JCSA, Goa

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### DIACONATE ORDINATION

Sch Jose Pittappillil will be ordained a deacon at 8.30 am on February 3, 2019 at De Nobili College, Pune by **Most Rev Thomas Dabre, Bishop of Pune**. He requests your prayerful support.

### DATES TO MARK

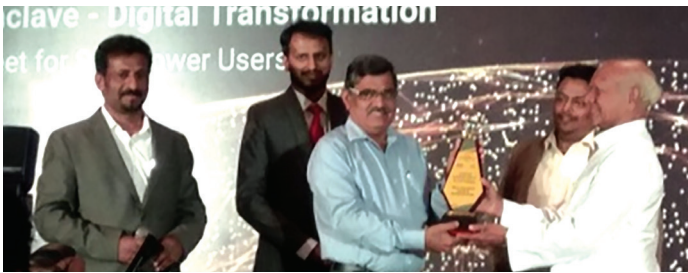
- February 9 & 10:** Meeting of Superiors and Consultors, Christ Hall, Calicut
- May 10 & 11:** Province Assembly, Christ Hall, Calicut
- May 12 even to 20 even:** Province Retreat, Christ Hall, Calicut
- May 12 to 19:** Scholastics' Holidays, Pachilakad
- May 19 even to 28 morn:** Scholastics' retreat, IRC, Pariyaram.

Superiors and Treasurers are reminded to make sure that your **Annual Budgets for 2019-2020** reach the Provincial Curia on or before February 10.

**Fr Joseph Mathew Puthenpurackal** will be in Kerala from Feb 29 till March 19 on a break from his studies in the UK. He will be engaged in doing preliminary research on the latest Indian mental health act and the developments in the mental health services. He will also be presenting a paper at the Biostatistics in Clinical Research Workshop, NIMHANS, Bangalore.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

**Fr P.T. Joseph**, Director, Marian International Institute of Management (MIIM), Kuttikanam, received an award on 19.01.2019 at Marriot Hotel in Ernakulam during



the SAP-EME conclave on Digital Transformation. MIIM received the award for training the largest number of SAP Globally certified MBA students in Kerala. Congratulations, Fr Joe.

### HEALTH BULLETIN

**Fr Tom Panikulam** underwent angioplasty on January 11 in Nirmala hospital, Kozhikode. He has returned to Kanjirapally after a period of rest in Christ Hall.

**Fr Augustine Kallunkal** had a mild stroke on Feb 1st while he was at Kodaikanal with the Juniors of SICJ. After getting emergency medical help at Kodaikanal he was brought down to Madurai and admitted to the Apollo Hospital. Doctors have diagnosed him with a blood clot and swelling in the brain, and are yet to decide if he needs surgery or not.

## FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

### CHRIST HALL, CALICUT

Christ Hall community lost one of our saintly Jesuits, **Fr Samuel Rayan** on 2nd of January. **Bishop Varghese Chakkalakkal**, Bishop of Calicut, celebrated the funeral mass and he acknowledged the great contribution of Fr Rayan to the Church. **Bishop Remigio Inchananiyil** came and paid homage to the great theologian. The first death anniversary of **Fr George Kandathil** was celebrated on January 12 with **Fr Provincial** as the

main celebrant for the requiem Mass. The anniversary of Sahrudhaya Club was celebrated as usual on 26th and a *Ganamela* was its highlight.

*Jethin*

### ST JOSEPH'S, CALICUT

St Joseph's Boys' H S School celebrated its annual day on January 25. Dr Prabhakaran Paleri, an alumnus of the School and former director General of the coast guard, was the guest of honour and **Bishop Varghese Chakkalakkal** gave the key note address. **Fr Anto**, Principal, presided over the meeting. The school conducted a fancy fest to generate finance for charitable activities of the school and it received good response from the public. In connection with the 225th



anniversary celebration of the institution, the school built a house for a deserving student and the key of the house was handed over by the Bishop on this occasion. **Fr Thadeyoos** supervised the construction work. **Sch Amardeep** and his team bagged the first prize for a quiz competition organized by the All India Radio, Calicut.

**Fr John Mialil** memorial all Kerala invitation foot ball tournament was inaugurated by Mr N P Pradeep, a national foot ball player. The Junior School team won the championship defeating St Joseph's Boys' H S School. The trophies were given away by Mr T. P. Dasan, President of the Kerala State Sports Council. The excellent team work by the Principal, Manager, the staff, P T A and the Alumni ensured the success of the tournament. The good media coverage of the programme helped to enhance the image of the school and boost up the staff.

*Jose Mathew*

### TUDI, EACHOME

In the months of December and January TUDI had been involved in various relief and rehabilitation activities among those who were affected by the floods. Repair

of damaged houses, construction of new houses and livelihood support programmes are being executed in stages. WASH is an acronym for “Water, Sanitation and Hygiene”. Universal and affordable and sustainable access to wash is a key public health issue within international development and is the focus of sustainable development goal. As part of Child Fund WASH activity we conduct programmes for humanitarian assistance to children and families. We chose 15 villages and 6 schools and demonstrated the hand washing steps, chlorination and ORS (Oral Rehydration Salt) preparation. Three sections are kept in focus, school children, adolescent girls and the community.

Fifteen of us from four organizations participated in the Lokh Manch review meeting. We plan to convene a press conference and release a book on the success stories of Lok Manch in Kerala. TUDI conducted training for the Lokh Manch community leaders at TUDI Kalakendram on January 19 & 20. Mr. Reji P. K lead the workshop on school drop-outs among tribal children. The participants numbering 50 discussed the reason for the high drop-out rate in the tribal communities.

*Baby Chalil*

### ST MICHAEL'S, KANNUR

**Victory Day** was celebrated to honour the winners at the youth festival and sports fare, State level and National level. Mr. Ramachandran Kadannappalli, Minister for Port and Archaeology, inaugurated the function. More than two thousand students attended the two-day **Career Expo** held at St. Michael's for higher secondary students. The Old Boys Association organised a motivation training programme for the higher secondary students. Mr. Sebin S Kottaram led the classes. The 154th **Annual Day** celebration of St. Michael's School was another highlight of the month. Col. Ajai Sharma, VSM was the chief guest and Fr Thomas Karingadayil delivered the words of blessing.

*KJ Mathew*

### S.M.FARM, PARIYARAM

**Fr Rajesh Jose** left on January 8 for his tertianship in Australia and the community gave him a send off. **Fr Emmanuel Puthuvalveetil** joined the community as he was assigned to do his pastoral ministry at Pattuvam parish with the additional charge of Samskriti Sahajeevanam as its Acting Coordinator. **Fr Jacob Kumminiyl** gave a Triduum to the Jesuit regents at Wagamon Ashram.

*Mathew Aarthayil*

### LUMEN-JYOTHIS, KOCHI

The Lumen community and Newman Association celebrated the 94th birthday of **Fr Adappur** on a grand scale. Many of his friends, literarists and cultural leaders came to wish him in person. Newman Association organized a seminar to remember late **Fr Samuel Rayan** and his contributions. Prof. Miachel Tharakan, Justice Cyriac Joseph, Smt. Lida Jacob IAS and many other ex-Aicufers and Newmanites attended the seminar. **Fr Roy Thottam** organized an art camp 'Sopanam 2019' at the Orthodox Academy, Kottayam in which the Orthodox and Marthoma seminarians and other artists participated. **Fr Sheise** is fully engaged in the final phase of preparation for the light and sound show titled "VISAPPU" to be presented during the annual day celebrations of AKJM School.

**LIPI-SCIENCE FORUM:** It is a platform to discuss the latest findings in science and technology as well as to engage in conversation with well-known scientists and researchers. This would create an aptitude for serious research among students and deepen the scientific temper of those already engaged in research. The first programme is on Saturday 23 February 2019 on **Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Computing** by Prof. Dr. K. Babu Joseph (Former Vice Chancellor, Cochin University of Science and Technology).

Time: 10 AM to 1 PM (with tea-break).

Venue: LIPI Hall, Ponoth Road, Kaloor, Kochi-17.

### LOYOLA, ALUVA

Quite a few events took place at Loyola on January 16. The first phase of the post-flood repair works got over that evening, and **Fr Rachans Lukose** joined the Community the same day. The first phase of the repair works took exactly 50 days, and **Fr Linto** can rightly be happy with what he has achieved during these days. The first batch of the Second years left for their month-long hospital experiment (they all are with the M.C. Brothers in three centres). And finally, after supper the same day the first year novices began their month-long Spiritual Sadhana. After about two months of hectic activities and constant 'disturbances' Loyola is quiet once again and is in a retreat mood. **Fr Jacob Madukakuzhy** is away in Mangalore guiding a group of Sisters in 30 day's retreat. Please continue to keep the retreatants & 'experimenters' in your prayers.

*Dileep Joseph*

## SAMEEKSHA/ ATMAMITRA, KALADY

The Sameeksha farm yields considerably under the expert management of **Fr Kuriakose Puthanapra**. He is also the new kitchen coordinator at Sameeksha. The community, together with our collaborators, gathered at Atmamitra for the New Year celebrations. **Fr George Nedungatt** is back at Sameeksha after his retreat and home visit. **Fr Xavier Tharamel** presented a research paper on Raimon Panikkar titled "Impact of Raimon Panikkar for Twenty First Century" in Madras Christian College, Chennai. He also gave sessions on Panikkar to the first-year philosophers at Satya Nilayam, Chennai. Later he led a three-day recollection for the FCC Novices at Agasthayamuzhi, Mukkam. Twenty-three theology students of Carmelgiri Seminary, Aluva, was at Sameeksha to do discernment retreat under the guidance of **Fr Jose Thachil**. The annual Sameeksha Day was celebrated with the neighbors on December 24. A group of 20 students from Bellarmine University, USA, visited Sameeksha as part of their cultural exposure. Atmamitra conducted an NLP programme for 68 participants during the Christmas Vacation. It also organized a seminar on POCSO and Child Rights guided by **Fr Joye James** and Mrs. Glory George. **Fr Toby** directed a Leadership Training programme for UMI Sisters at Nashik in the first week of January.

*Toby*

## SANTHINILAYAM, KOTTAYAM

Santhi Family Counselling and Personality Development Centre organized a three day residential workshop on Psycho-social integration and Personality development for the seminarians of Vijayapuram Diocese and the CISF Congregation, Peroor. Four more programmes have been booked. One is for the teachers of the special school, another for the ITI students, a third is for Nursing Students and the last one is a workshop on Pre-marital counselling. **Fr Sunny Padinjarevarikattu** attended a meeting of JIGSA-psycho- spiritual commission at ICTA-Santigram, Kochi, organised by **Fr Wilson Mulackal**, its Coordinator. Santhi FCPDC was accepted as a new member of this commission. Our migrant ministry in the Kottayam zone is quite active. Christian migrant labourers come regularly for Holy mass and prayer service in Hindi in our chapel.

*TV John & Sunny Mathew*

## VIDYANIKETAN (SICJ), TRIVANDRUM

We began the new year with Triduum guided by **Fr Jacob Madukakuzhy** followed by the renovation

of our vows. We went on a visit to Neyyar dam, Loyola school and to the Jesuit Community in Mukundara. Fr Joseph Kalathil of Jamshedpur, a missionary in Pakistan, spoke to us about the challenges he faces in his mission. The celebration of Pongal with a Tamil Mass was an occasion for us to come to know the magnificent aspects of Tamil culture.

*Tomy*

## XAVIER TRAINING CENTRE, PACHILAKKAD

After our return from the Christmas holidays we, the prenovices, had a sharing session on our Christmas experiences. Soon after, our classes resumed. Fr Eldo, a priest from the Malankara rite, introduced us to the Mass in that rite. We joined the Eachome community for the annual day celebration of Sarovdaya Higher secondary school. We found the programmes quite creative and awe-inspiring. We also got a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the cultural fete arranged by the TUDI staff along with the students from St Francis KSE School, Calicut. We have completed two model exams for English in the month of January. Currently we are preparing the choir for the Final Vows of **Fr Biju George**.

*Jackson S*

## AADI, ATTAPPADI

The major event of the month was the national Tarumitra Eco fest held on 23 & 24, January. More than 2000 people participated in the two day fest. Mr. Balan Kallada who has planted more than 10 lakh saplings to protect mother earth was the chief guest on the first day. The fest brought together many eminent persons including Dr. S.P. Udayakumar (NAPM, Koodamkulam), Mr. Kalloor Sreedaran (Nallabhoomi), Mr. Arul, (Chennai), Ms. Margret Molomoo, Ms Devopriya Datta (Bihar) and Mr. Sadre Alem (Delhi). Mr. C. Radhakrishnan, member, district Panchayath, inaugurated the fest with **Fr M.K. George**, Provincial presiding. Prof. Shobeendran Master



gave the key note address. 15 students from St. Xavier's Senior Secondary School, Delhi, and 17 from different schools in Bethiya, Bihar, one each from JNU, Delhi, and TISS, Mumbai came to participate. NSS students from Mercy College and from Bharathiar University were also present. Competitions were held for students and certificates were distributed. BSW and MSW students from various colleges in Kerala and Tamil Nadu came to AADI for residential rural camps and tribal exposure. AADI Kala Sangam performed tribal dance at Samanya, Don Bosco Cultural centre, Palakkadu at their annual day. The final good news is that AADI has received 80 G for tax exemptions on donations.

*P. S. Antony*

### LOYOLA, MUKUNDARA

PTA meetings for all classes were held in the month of December. We conducted an inter-school drawing competition in our school in collaboration with Bhavana, a leading club in this area. It was inaugurated by Mr Anu S Nair, sub-collector of Trivandrum, and about 300 students participated. Loyola Mukundara was the school selected from Kallikadu Panchayath for the Fire Evacuation Drill by the Fire and Rescue team of Neyyadam circle as part of the national awareness programme. Our students and teachers were given training by the fire force authorities to carry out the evacuation in case of any tragedy. A mock drill was conducted on January 21. It was a good experience for our school to prove our capability to handle similar situations confidently. Fathers and scholastics from SICJ, Thumba came on a visit on the same day, and they witnessed the rescue operations. The 9th Annual Day celebrations will be held from February 1 through 9. We invite you all to the Annual Day.

*Manesh*

### SATYANILAYAM, CHENNAI

**Fr Xavier Tharamel** was here for a few days to help the first years to delve deep into the philosophy of Raimon Panikkar. The Pongal celebration, the state festival of Tamil Nadu, used to be a major event at SN. But this year many of the usual festive activities were scaled down in order to raise funds for the victims affected by the cyclone Gaja. We were gladdened by the visit of **Fr Bastin**, the New Priest, **Fr Jose Thachil** and **Fr Deepak** who all came to take part in REGAE at Dhyanaashram, Chennai. Satya Nilayam choir was invited to sing at the Mass for the recent CCBI assembly held in Chennai. **Bishop Francis Serrao, SJ** paid a courtesy visit

to us. Satya Nilayam was the venue for the Workshop on Phenomenology held on January 28-30. The month ended with the visitation of Fr Provincial.

*Deslin*

### DE NOBILI COLLEGE, PUNE

**Fr Midhun** attended a seminar of Jesuits engaged in dialogue with Muslims in Asia organized by JCSA and JCAP in Colombo and presented a paper on 'Mystical Experience of Eastern Christianity and Sufism' in the month of December. **Fr Sabu Palathanadiyil** and the students from Loyola College Srikarium stayed in DNC for a few days as the part of their college excursion programme. We request all of you to keep our third year theologians in your prayers as they are preparing for their Diaconate.

*Libin Mathew*

### JEEVIKA MIGRANT WORKERS' MOVEMENT

Jeevika continues its interventions among the migrant workers around Perumbavoor. It successfully intervened in the settlement of two wage disputes and ensured a payment of Rs 67,000 by the contractor to two workers from West Bengal. It assisted some children to join the school and some others to stay in an orphanage after obtaining the necessary letters from the Child Welfare Committee. Other involvements include tracing a missing girl child, presenting a case before the Human Rights Commission and arranging to get Adhaar card and opening bank accounts. Nearly 100 Odiya Catholics participated in the Christmas night vigil and the Holy Eucharist organized by Jeevika at Sameeksha. They were all provided with gifts and a sumptuous meal. **Fr Shin Kallungal** got a chance to visit the villages in Murshidabad district of West Bengal from where a good number of migrant workers come. The whole hearted welcome and caring attitude of those ordinary simple people were very touching.

*Shin*

### POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK & EUCHARISTIC YOUTH MOVEMENT

It is the 175th year of PWPN, and it is heartening that **Pope Francis** is paying special attention to this pontifical service. He has provided it a new office at the Vatican and is giving shape to its new statutes. **Fr Shin Kallungal** participated in the national core team meeting held at Prabu Jesu provincial House Matigara, Darjeeling. A one-day consultation was held at Sameeksha as part of the follow up of the Darjeeling consultation, and we are in the process of forming a

new resource team for PWPN & EYM in Kerala. Fr Shin celebrated the Holy Eucharist and delivered a talk at Don Bosco College Angadikkadav as part of the 3 day retreat for the college students organized by the PWPN team members. All the intentions of the Pope are translated and are being distributed at different venues.

*Shin*

### TRIPURA MISSION

We started the new year taking part in the Kohima Region Days, where we could meet all the Jesuits of that region and get to know of their multifarious apostolates. It was an inspiring and enriching experience for us. Responding to an urgent request of the Bishop of Agartala, **Fr Babu Paul** moved to Agartala to take care of a diocesan U.P school with 900 children as its administrator. Yet he makes it possible to hold our regular Jesuit team meetings. **Fr James** is busy contacting persons of various capacities and positions for the purchase of the land, seeing proposed areas as well as bargaining for the same. Earlier, Fr James took part in the National Karate Tournament held in Gujarat. He also prepares a number of students for the Metric exams. His Karate classes are well appreciated and have established himself as a renowned Master of Martial Arts. The Remedial Education Programme is regularly attended by about 140 students of different tribes and



various Christian denominations. A nursery programme has also been started with 25 children. We have put up a temporary shed for the same. The benches and desks are made with bamboo poles. **Fr Syriac** baptised 13 of our teenagers during a festive Mass.

*Syriac Panji*

### LOYOLA JESUIT COMMUNITY, SAN FRANCISCO

We had a few days of break between the Fall and Spring sessions. During the Christmas break I could take a little time out to visit **Fr Sanil Mayilkunnel** in Baltimore, Maryland and Fr Bony James in New York. Both the communities provided me with excellent hospitality.

Fr Lawrence Fernandez, SJ (KAR), who teaches in Satya Nilayam, Chennai, paid a visit here while he took a few days out from Holy Cross College, Wooster, where he is engaged in giving a course on philosophy of religions. Now, the holidays are over, and I am back to the academics. We had a course during the intersession, before commencing Spring, on Indigenous Resistance across the North and South of the US. The Native Americans are struggling for their survival and they are fighting to get themselves federally recognized as communities. I found that their situation is similar in many ways to that of the tribal populations of India. The Spring session has begun and it goes up to the beginning of May. I have registered for three courses making my days quite engaged.

*Vincent Perappadan*

### GREETINGS from SRI LANKA!

One good December custom in this country is the high quality singing of Christmas hymns and Carols by different school and parish choirs. I was happy to celebrate both the midnight Masses (Christmas & New Year) in our Nirmala Church, Colombo. Here in the Juniorate, we began our third and final term on January 2. Our world renowned theologian, **Fr Aloy Pieris**, has brought out a booklet, "A Message meant mainly, not exclusively, for Jesuits - Helping Francis Renew the Church." Meanwhile there was the renewed request that I should teach our Juniors in Vietnam in the summer as in former years. On the 26th morning we had the ordination of Deacon **Noel Jayanathan**. Born in the north of Sri Lanka, after studying in Pakistan and after living in Canada, he joined the Society in this country. He knows Urdu very well and he is going to be missioned to Pakistan. His ordination was a good occasion for a large number of us Jesuits to come together and pray. I was happy to meet our Tertian **Anil Kochumethikalam** and his companions. Our Juniors will be going to the north

for a one-week Block Course on Art directed by Hungarian Jesuit in Sri Lanka, Fr Gyorgy Tokes.

*John FJ Manipadam*

### OURS IN MEDIA

**Fr Dasappan V.Y.**, *Journey of a Poet – The Agony and the Ecstasy of G.M. Hopkins*, Thiruvananthapuram: St Xavier’s College, 2018.

**Fr Toby Joseph Kozhuppakalam**, *Allow them to Bloom* (to spread awareness on Child Sexual Abuse), Kalady: Atmamitra publications, 2018.

**Fr Sunny Jose Puthenpurayil**, *History of Jesuits in Kerala, 1879 – 2000*, Bengaluru: ATC Publishers, 2018.

**Fr P.T. Joseph**, *The Spell of the Occult – An Exploration of the Mysterious and the Magical*, ISPCK: Delhi, 2019. (This is his tenth book.)

**Fr George Nedungatt**, "Lourdes: 'I am the Immaculate Conception,'" *Vidyajyoti Journal of TR* 82 (2018) 893-904.

**Fr Roy M Thottam**, ‘ഭിത്തിയിലെ പ്രാർത്ഥനകൾ, പ്രതിഷ്ഠാപനത്തിലൂടെയുള്ള പ്രഘോഷണങ്ങൾ,’ സത്യദീപം 92, ന.25 (ജനുവരി 30, 2019).

**Fr P.T. Mathew**, “Ecology and Theology of Nature”, *Concillium International Journal of Theology*, 2018/5, 87-95.

### GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

**Fr Benjamin Henry Miller** (SRI), 77/93, on 01.01.2019 in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka.

**Fr Philemon Lakra** (MAP), 76/53, on 06.01.2019 in Ambikapur.

**Fr Sylvanus Kiro** (RAN), 81/58, on 17.01.2019 in Ranchi.

**Br Augustine James** (MDU), 75/51, on 30.01. 2019 in Dindigul

Mr. Varghese Nampiaparambil (87), elder brother of Fr Mathew Nampiaparambil, on 19. 01.2019 at Vazhakulam.

Mr. Thomas Padassery (60), brother-in-law of Fr Benny Chiramel, on 25.01.2019 at Chettibhagam, Varapuzha.

Ms. K.T. Aley (63), eldest sister of Fr K. T. Devasia Kuzhuppil, on 27.01.2019 in Philadelphia, USA.

Mr. Francis Panikulam (85), elder brother of Fr Thomas Panikulam, on 30.01.2019 at Puthenchira



Br Mathew Thaiparambil sdb (78), elder brother of Fr Jose Thaiparambil, on 01.02.2019, at Kolkata.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

#### FEBRUARY

- 01 Anil Kochumethikalam
- 02 Eby Shajan Parankimalil
- 04 George Varangalakudy
- 05 George Vattukulam
- 08 Chandy Kumblankal
- 09 Dasappan Vattathil
- 10 Robert Shelton
- 10 Thomas Kuravanveliyel
- 13 James Thottakath
- 14 Vincent Pereppadan
- 14 Jaison Joseph Cheruvuparampil
- 18 Lijo Antony Pathickal
- 23 Poly Martin Narikuzha
- 25 Gijo John Kochuparambil
- 26 Sebin Vellamaruthunkal
- 27 Deepak George Edattu
- 27 John Thottupattu



#### MARCH

- 02 Thomas Madathiparambil
- 03 Libin Mathew Puthukadath
- 05 Henry Pattarumadathil

### IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

#### FEBRUARY

- 05 (1987) Joseph Edamaram
- 07 (2006) Jose Murickan
- 09 (1958) Aloysius Spinelli
- 09 (2015) Michael Thannivelil
- 11 (2011) Cherian Curiyicad
- 14 (2016) Paul Valiakandathil
- 20 (2002) Antony Vachaparambil
- 22 (1982) Philip Veliath
- 28 (2008) Antony Manjil





# Obituary



## FR SAMUEL RAYAN – A KALEIDOSCOPIC PERSONALITY (23.07.1920 - 02.01.2019)

How do you summarize a life which filled the hearts of thousands, a mind that stimulated lakhs of people, formed a whole set of leaders of India, including Justices, lawyers, businessmen, and left an indelible mark on this beautiful earth of ours?

### Life Trajectory of Fr Rayan

Fr Samuel Rayan was born in Kumbalam near Kollam in Kerala on July 23, 1920 as the fourth child of Cruz Rayan and Agnes Rayan. He had his Secondary Education in St Aloysius High School, Kallada, and joined the Jesuit novitiate in Christ Hall, Kozhikode in 1939. His two year novitiate was under the guidance of Fr Aldo Maria Patroni, SJ who later became bishop of the diocese of Calicut. He spent two more years in Kozhikode doing his Juniorate before proceeding to do Philosophy at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur in 1943. He returned to Kerala and taught at Leo XII<sup>th</sup> School, Alleppey as part of his regency. Meanwhile, he completed his B.A. in Malayalam literature in the University College, Trivandrum. He went to De Nobili College, Pune for his theological studies and was ordained a priest on March 24, 1955 by Bishop Andrew D' Souza at Pune. After his Tertianship in La Providence, Kodaikanal he left for Rome for studies and took Doctorate in Theology from the Gregorian University in 1960. He made his final profession at the Gesu in Rome on August 15, 1958 which was received by Fr Janssens, the then General.

His first assignment was to Esobhavan at Ernakulam as Minister and Procurator. Soon after, he was appointed Kerala Chaplain of C.S.U. (Catholic Students' Union, later renamed AICUF - All India Catholic University Federation). He continued in that work nearly 12 years till he was assigned to teach theology in Vidyajyoti College, Delhi in 1972. He served as its Principal from 1972 till 1976. After more than three decades of teaching in Delhi, Fr Rayan returned to Kerala in 2010. He continued his reading and writing staying at Sameeksha, the Jesuit Spirituality Centre on the banks of river Periyar. His weakening health required him to come to Christ Hall, Kozhikode in 2018 for treatment



and rest. He breathed his last in Nirmala Hospital at 12.30 pm on January 03, 2019.

### Samuel The Theologian

As a theologian of international repute, he served as member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches (WCC), member of the Advisory Committee of the Liturgical Commission of the CBCI, member of Sub-Commission on Intellectual Formation of the CBCI, and member of the Xavier Board of Higher Education in India. He was visiting professor at Papal Athaneum, Pune and many other theological institutes. His theological contributions include two books and innumerable articles mostly in English and Malayalam. It was the privilege of Fr Kurien Kunnumpuram, Fr Rayan's long time companion and admirer, to collect his articles in English and edit them thematically and publish them in six volumes. Former members of CSU/AICUF still remember him as their Guru, they came together to celebrate his 'navathi' (90th birthday) and brought out a commemorative volume with the title Samuel Rayan SJ - Naleyilekuru Neelkazhcha (Malayalam), edited by P.K. Michael Tharakan and S Painadath SJ (St Pauls, 2013). His writings were the subject of a PhD thesis submitted to the Theology Faculty at Louvain, and published as Christian Faith: A Liberation Praxis, Theology of Samuel Rayan, by Nicholas Tharsiuse (ISPCK, Delhi, 2015).

### A Kaleidoscopic Personality

Rayan, known for his radical humanism, influenced the hearts and minds of young and old. He was convinced that the human person in community is the object of God's special love. His lasting contribution is that he communicated this through his writings, relationships, speeches, love for nature, accompaniment of people's movements, love for poetry, gender sensitivity and deep respect for the feminine God and most of all for the mysticism that he lived and preached.

We will miss Fr Rayan. May his soul rest in peace and communion.

M.K. George, SJ

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