



Kerala Tidings

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From the Provincial

THANK YOU SO MUCH; WARM WELCOME!

I want to conclude the reflections that I began 60 months ago by saying 'thank you' to every one of my readers, who I was thrilled to notice, included some from other provinces, and also by warmly welcoming the new Provincial.

Thank you dear Province members for the great love, occasional criticism and warm hospitality spread out to me through these five years. For me it has been a unique experience of God's love manifested through my 200 Jesuit brothers and innumerable collaborators. Your tolerance of my foibles and omissions made my life much smoother. More than ever I realize how my life has thorns which the Lord has not taken away, but has instead showered me with His grace (2 Cor 12, 9). I seek your kind prayers and love as I move to the new role which the Lord has graciously assigned me to. I assure you of my continued love and prayers.

Warm welcome to the new Provincial. In the extended consult all felt the presence of the Spirit moving us as we looked at the challenges faced by the Province, the qualities expected of the new Provincial and of course who could be the right person to lead us for the next six years. God be with you, our new leader.

There is a story about the British Queen. She would call up an eminent officer and would say, 'Look Mr., I would like you to go immediately to India as the new Viceroy to clean up the mess made by the present one. And, by the way, don't forget to make some mess yourself, so that after you, I can send another one!'

Thank you friends. Warm welcome dear new Provincial!

M.K. George, SJ

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

June

- 01 : Pattuvam , DSS Jubilee
- 06-07 : Gathering of Southern Provincials in Christ Hall
- 08 : Final Vows of Fr. Philip Vattamala, SJ
- 09 : Kudumbayogam – Mannackanad
- 10 : Bangalore – House warming
- 14-15 : Loyola, Trivandrum
- 21 : First Vows - Loyola, Aluva
- 29 : Consult
- 30 : Arnos Padiri Academy, Velur

APPOINTMENT FROM ROME

The Congregation of Catholic Education has appointed **Fr Henry Pattarumadathil** as Dean of the Biblical Faculty of the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, for a period of three years.

APPOINTMENTS BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Augustine Peedikamalayil : Tertianship at Arrupe House, Kandy, Sri Lanka,

Fr George Vallocheril : Samanvaya, Kanjirapally

Fr Saji Arithiyal Puraidam : Tertianship at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur,

Fr Shibu Joseph Malekunnel : Tertianship at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur,

Fr Shin Kallungal : Tertianship at St Stanislaus College, Sitagarha, Hazaribag

The transfer of **Fr Mathew Pullattu** as announced in the May issue of Tidings remains cancelled.

APPOINTMENTS BY PRESIDENT, JCSA

Fr Boniface Panna (MAP) : Acting Rector, SN, Chennai

Fr Francis Puducherry (GUJ) : Director, Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Research, DNC, Pune

Fr Joe Xavier A (MDU) : Director, ISI-Bangalore
Fr Joseph Nazareth (GOA) : Migration Unit & Assistant Administrator, ISI, Bangalore
Fr Joye James Karimathil (KER) : Superior, ISI-Bangalore
Fr Leander Xalxo (MAP): Spiritual Director, VJ, Delhi
Fr Michael Alosanai (MDU) : Spiritual Director, SN, Chennai
Fr Siji Varghese : Assistency Development Director, Residence : ISI, Dehi
Fr Solomon Barwa (RAN) : Sp. Dir, SN, Chennai
Fr Stanislaus Jabamalai (GUJ) : Coordinator, Lok Manch, ISI, Delhi
 Assistency Committee appointed to examine the proposal of JDV for a self-standing University:
Fr Joye James Karimathil (KER) Convenor, **Fr Frazer Mascarenhas** (BOM), **Fr S. Ignacimuthu** (MDU)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FIRST VOWS

The following second year Novices, **Adacherry Pawath Dileep Joseph, Affin J. L., Chiryana Kandath Sebastian, Palackal Steev J. Thomas, Parankimalil Eby Shajan, Thudiyanplackal Ajith Xavier** and **Valiyakarottu Cicil** will pronounce their First Vows in the Society of Jesus on **Friday, June 21, 2019** at Loyola, Aluva.

The solemn Eucharistic Celebration, presided over by **Fr Provincial**, will start at **11. 00 am**. All the members of the Province are most cordially invited. Kindly inform **Fr Rachans Lukose**, Minister, well in advance. Mob. 9544283790; E-mail: rachansj@gmail.com

FINAL VOWS

Frs Philip Vattamala and **Thadeyoos S.M.** have been invited to take their final vows in the Society. Fr Philip will take his vows at 6.30 pm on June 8 in the chapel of St Joseph's Kozhikode. He requests your prayers. Fr Thadeyoos has not fixed his date yet.

JEDS GETS 80 G REGISTRATION

JEDS (Jesuit Educational Development Society) has received approval u/s 80 G (5) (vi) of the Income Tax Act. The other Societies/Trusts that have received the same are AADI (Attappadi Adivasi Development Society), LIPI (Loyola Institute of Peace and International Relations) and TUDI (Tribal Unity for Development Initiatives). Congratulations to all who worked behind to receive this approval.

ANNUAL JEA MEETING

Annual JEA meeting of Kerala Jesuit Province will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at Christ Hall. **Fr Tomson**,

the new JEA coordinator, requests all schoolmen to be present for this meeting. Further details of the meeting will be sent to you later. **Fr Sunny Jacob SJ**, JEA Secretary of South Asian Assistency, will be addressing us.

HEALTH BULLETIN

Fr Joye James has been diagnosed with mild cancer in the enlarged prostate gland and was advised Robotic Prostatectomy. He will be admitted to Aster Medcity, Kochi on June 5 and the surgery will be on June 6. He requests your prayers.

FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

ST JOSEPH'S, CALICUT

St Joseph's community had the change of guard and the re-allocation of portfolios on May 1, 2019. **Fr Anto**, after serving the community as superior for the last four years, handed over charge to **Fr Philip Vattamala**. **Fr Sooraj** becomes the minister and **Fr Ramlal**, the treasurer of the house. **Fr Joseph Edassery**, landed here from Kanjirapally on May 2 with lock, stock and barrel. This is his second stint as the manager of the junior school.

The community gave an affectionate send off to **Fr Jose Mathew** who goes to Edathua as the captain of the industry. He has made a sea-change in the Junior school by putting up additional class rooms and by developing its infrastructural facilities. He fenced the school compound with extra fortifications and made the campus safe and secure for the students. No intruder can have easy access to the campus now. The school is ever grateful to him for the significant changes effected here within a short span of time.

This year, the Lord of the harvest rewarded generously the concerted efforts made by the vocation promotion team of the province. Nine candidates have generously responded to the call of the Lord and have joined the Plus One course here. May their tribe increase! Fr Philip Vattamala is the director of the candidates.

Joseph Edassery

TUDI, EACHOME

TUDI celebrated its 23rd Annual Day and Adivasi Gramotsavam on May 5 in a colourful manner. 13 teams from different parts of wayanad took part in the Vattakkali (kayavum kaliyum) competition. Mr. P. K. Rejimaster, noted educationist and folk artist, inaugurated the event, and spoke about the rich cultural tradition of the Paniya tribe and its influence on their language and identity formation. He appreciated the efforts TUDI has been making to promote and preserve this unique tribal folklore. The public gathering of the day was graced by eminent persons like **Dayabai**,



Kozhimala Raja, Dr. Benny Chirammel, SJ and Grama Panchayath representatives. Tribal folkart groups from different states added colour with their performance. More than 3000 tribal people from different parts of Wayanad witnessed this great Mela.

Students of Arivuda tribal boarding feel proud of their good results this year. 7 SSLC and 5 plus two students appeared for the annual examination. Kumari Aparna V.K from the Paniya community scored 83% for SSLC examination, a first from that community.

S M FARM, PARIYARAM

Two new members, **Frs Augustine M J** and **Immanuel Koyan**, joined the community while we bid farewell to three others, **Frs Emmanuel Mathew, Jacob Kumminiyil**, and **Mathew Aerthayil**. **Fr Joe Mathew** took over as Superior while **Fr M J Augustine** took charge as Manager of the Farm. **Fr Immanuel** successfully completed his MTh from Jnana Deep Vidyapeeth, Pune and now succeeds **Fr Mathew Aerthayil** as Director of Samskriti. The S M Farm workers gave a fitting send off to **Fr Jacob** and they recalled his cordiality and kind-heartedness. About thirty acres of our property caught fire, and our workers along with the Fire Force did a marvellous job of dousing the fire and protecting the rest of our rubber plantation. Nirmala ITI has a new manager in the person of **Fr Dominic Madathaniyil**, and is assisted by a core team consisting **Frs Joe Mathew, C T Jose, M J Augustine** and **Immanuel**. The ITI examinations will begin on June 10. The career guidance cell of Samskriti conducted an aptitude test programme for SSLC and Plus Two passed students of Pilathara Forane. About 44 students participated. Samskriti-Sahajeevanam had many visitors during this month besides two groups that came for one-day programmes. An article of **Fr Immanuel Koyan**, "Sparks of the Dalit Christian Plights in Kerala and *Evangelii Gaudium*", was published in *The New Leader* (May 16-31, 2019).

Immanuel Koyan

LOYOLA, ALUVA

The first year novices returned on May 14 after successfully completing their month-long Mission Experiment in Poovar area. They had exposure at Loyola, Poovar, St Nicholas Church, Puthiyathura and at St. Andrew's Church, Karumkulam. **Fr K. J. Thomas**, with his characteristic efficiency and thoroughness, had arranged everything and accompanied the novices. Thank you very much, dear **Fr Thomas**. Meanwhile, the second year novices were having rigorous classes and workshops on the Constitutions, Religious Life, and Vows. This was followed by their much-awaited home visit.

The novices went for our holidays at Pachilakad in the last week of May. It was a time of fun and frolic. We are deeply grateful to **Frs Deepak, Saji** and all the other fathers at Pachilakkad for the warm hospitality. The Jesuit community of Eachome graciously invited us to spend one evening with them. On the way back from Pachilakad we spent a day at Christ Hall; meeting the senior fathers and brothers was a moving experience for us. **Fr Rachans** was the chosen one to direct the Province Retreat this year. After that he looks holier and wiser! **Fr Jacob Madukakuzhy** directed two eight-day retreats exclusively for Major Superiors of the Franciscan Clarist Congregation.

Cicil V. Shaji

SAMEEKSHA/ATMAMITRA, KALADY

Fr T. V. John joined our community on May 16. A group of Brothers from Christ the King Secular Institute made their annual retreat here under the guidance of **Fr V.T. Jose**. Sameeksha organized an *Ifthar* with over 30 Muslim friends of the neighbourhood on 26th. It was an occasion to share the God-experience, the understanding of fasting and the common concern for the nation. On the day of *Buddhapoornima* (May 18), Sameeksha organized a friendly get-together of spiritual seekers for an evening sharing. The first batch of students of the Kannur centre of *Jnanasameeksha*, the theology-course for the laity, completed their two-year programme. Twelve of them received the JDV certificate at a function presided over by the Bishop of Kannur. **Fr Xavier Tharamel** preached a retreat to the DHM Sisters at Carmel Spirituality Centre, Trivandrum. He gave an orientation programme to the third year theologians at Carmelgiri Seminary, Aluva, and sessions on the introduction to Ignatian Spirituality to the Vincentian seminarians, Pala.

A total of 336 teenagers took part in the five SALT camps of Atmamitra this summer. This year. The camps were organized fully with lay collaboration. Three of Atmamitra Team members and a part time team member have competed M.Sc. Counselling and Psychotherapy at Periyar University, Salem.

Toby

LUMEN, KOCHI

Fr Adappur celebrated sixty years of his priesthood in Christ Hall during the Province Assembly. His decades-long intellectual apostolate and literary-cultural contributions were recalled and gratefully appreciated on the occasion.

The Newman Association had its monthly seminar on "Post Election Scenario: Challenges and Possibilities." Prof M. Thomas Mathew, eminent writer and critic, and Mr Ignatius Gonslaves, renowned journalist, presented their views. Both of them reiterated the need of forming our collective conscience aimed at ensuring the constitutional values of our nation. The Secretary General of the Newman Association of India and the national team paid a visit to its Kerala Chapter in Lumen and held discussions with the regional office-bearers. **OLAM**, the organization of Ex-Aicufers, conducted a one-day meeting in Lumen. **Fr Joye James** joined them for the Eucharistic celebration and the discussions.

An International Eco-art Camp was organised at Wagamon from April 24 to May 3 by Gujarat Jesuit Ecology Mission and CARP with the support of JCSA. **Frs Roy Thottathil** and **Rappai Poothokaran** were the organisers. 20 artists and ecological activists including Jesuits from India and the Philippines participated. There were two Warli tribal artists too. The camp will be followed up by Environment- Art-Peace training programmes in collaboration with LIPI and Snehasena. **Fr Sheise** attended the JESAA meeting on "Interculturality and Reconciliation" held in Pune. He used the occasion to visit the schools in Pune to promote Tik Tik Life, and he received good response. Binoy's latest book titled **Sastravum Ganithavum** published by LIPI analyzes the realities of life from the perspective of science and mathematics. Lumen community and the neighbours feel the absence of **Fr Mathew Nambiaparambil** who was very dear to many people.

Binoy

SANTHINILAYAM, KOTTAYAM

May was the month of welcomes and good-byes for Santhinilayam. The community welcomed **Frs Joe Pulickal** and **Emmanuel Mathew**, and with gratitude bade farewell to **Fr T V John**. **Fr Joe Pulickal** took over as Superior from **Fr Sony Thazhathel** on May 23 during the Holy Eucharist. We thank Fr Sony for the great service he rendered to our community as Superior. Fr Emmanuel has taken charge as Director of Thanmaya Media Centre and as treasurer of Santhinilayam. The counselling centre, under the able guidance of **Fr Sunny**

Padinjarevarikattu, is functioning very well. **Fr P V Joseph** is in good health, inspiring us every day.

Emmanuel

LOYOLA, SREEKARIYAM

The month of May is a time for gatherings, meetings, sharing, retreats, holidays and some fun and joy. And it is a time for transfers and new postings. **Fr Jose Kadankavil** has joined our community whereas **Fr Sunil Padannamakkel** has moved out to his new assignment as Minister of Vidya Jyothi, Delhi. The community as well as members of his parish will miss Fr Sunil. The LES organised a two day workshop called *Manthra* - to create child friendly institutions and systems. It was well attended. **Fr Devassy** attended a two-day annual workshop on *Leading Schools - Decoding Education 4.0* at the IIM-K. Sixty Principals, Headmasters, Administrators and teachers from all over India enthusiastically participated in this programme organised by the Director of IIM-K and a world renowned management guru, Dr Debashis Chatterjee.

Devassy

AADI, ATTAPPADI

The most significant event of the month was the two-day National Tribal Fest at AADI, Attappady. The Fest started with Gothra Pooja by Mr. Choriyan Moopan. Mrs. Nanji Moopathi, the state folklore academy winner, hoisted the flag. Ms. Sreedhanya IAS (first tribal woman to get the civil service rank in Kerala) presided over the function. Mr. Vilayodi Venugopal, chairman of the Anti-Cococola movement, Plachimada gave the key note address. A seminar on *TRIBAL, LAND, CULTURE and LIVELIHOOD* was the main item on the first day. Papers were presented by eminent persons like Ms. Chithra (Nilambur), Ms. Ammini (Wayanadu), Mr. Prakash Choudary (Gujarat), Dr. Nageswara Rao (Osmania University), Ms. Vasamally (Toda Tribe), and others. A panel discussion was led by Mr. Narayanan (Dasanur) and Dr. Asha (Karnataka). Cultural programmes and various competitions made the first day very lively and enjoyable. The key note address on the second day was delivered by Fr Jacob Kujur SJ from the MP province. A group of Lanjiya-Soura tribals of Odisha came under the leadership of Fr Shin Kallungal, and another team from TUDI kala sangam's *Nattarangu* was brought by Fr. Anil Kochumethikalam. SSLC toppers from tribal communities were honoured by Mr. Krishna Prasad, the Project Officer, ITDP. People from various tribal hamlets actively participated in the festival.

P.S. Antony

LOYOLA, MUKUNDARA

As part of our preparation for the new academic year, we have a new multipurpose indoor domain for conducting school assembly, public meetings and games. The campus has received a new facelift with this facility. All our buses have been fitted with GPS. **Fr Mathew** is very active and cheerful after his cataract operation. **Fr Gracious Stephen** joined the Loyola Sadan community. **Fr Manesh** has come back after attending the Vipassana course. On May 31, we conducted an orientation programme for our teachers. All our eleven students have passed the ICSE Board Exam with good grades.

Manesh

JEEVIKA MIGRANT WORKERS' MOVEMENT

Jeevika Kala Kendra, the much awaited new initiative of Jeevika, was the highlight of the month of May. **Jeevika Kala Kendra** stands for the promotion of the art and culture of interstate migrants and for preserving the cultural elements of their native villages. As part of it, **Jeevika Kala Kendra** trained 10 artists from Odisha and performed **Lanjia Soura** dance of the Soura tribe from Odisha at TUDI Wayanad and AADI Attappadi as part of their Annual Tribal Fest. It was much appreciated by all. We got involved in many cases related to the migrants, especially a murder case in which the dead body was cremated in Perumbavoor itself.

Shin

MOS - LABOUR DAY CELEBRATION

The Labour Day was celebrated by the migrant workers from in and around Kozhikode District on May. The programme started at 7 pm. In SRC. Sr. Gracy SCN welcomed the gathering and explained about the origin and history of Labour Day celebration. The chief guest was Brother Yaswant MC from Devagiri, and Sister Grace OSU was the guest of honour. Ms. Alphonsa, retired Headmistress, addressed the migrant workers on the significance of the day. Mr. Kabiraj, a migrant worker sang a lively Orea song expressing his gratitude for such a celebration. **Fr Rubil Martin** thanked the gathering and the guests.

NEPAL NEWS

I attended the Regional Assembly of the Nepal Jesuits, which took place at Godavari Ashram in Katmanthu. **Fr John Wilfred Lobo**, the Provincial of Darjeeling, moderated the assembly. He ably guided the Region to discern its apostolic preferences, core values, vision and mission in the context of the Universal Apostolic Preferences. It was a consoling experience for all those who attended the assembly. The Nepal Jesuits have

taken a bold resolve to strive for securing citizenship for thousands of tea-garden labourers settled in the Terai region who are on a three-month long strike demanding better wages and living conditions. Following the Regional Assembly, the scholastics in the region (12, out of which 3 are from other provinces) were sent to different remote villages in the adjoining districts of Katmanthu under the aegis of the Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI). It was heartening to see the creative interventions made by NJSI in the lives of hundreds of poor villagers, especially in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in 2015.

Ivin Tomy

TRIPURA MISSION

We are highly enthused after having listened to **Fr James** regarding the interesting dynamics of the Province gathering, especially the encouraging feedback he got after his presentation of the proceedings of the Tripura Mission. Since his return, James has restless days, getting ready for the registration of the Xavier Educational and Charitable Trust and the purchase of the land. **Fr Babu Paul** is relieved of his charge of the Bishop's School in the capital city of Agartala on May 31. Within a period of five months, Babu Paul has systematically set everything in the school on the right track and established order and discipline in the campus.

During the farewell ceremony, Bishop Lumen expressed his great appreciation of Fr Babu Paul's immense and valuable services to the school. Fr Babu Paul will join the Kailashahar community on June 1 and continue to settle the initial tasks of our Tripura Jesuit Mission. Fr Babu Paul took part in the Inaugural ceremonies of the Golden Jubilee of the Kohima Region, held at Shillong. He also participated in the meeting of the Superiors and DOWs of Kohima Region which he found highly profitable and enriching. **Fr Panji** took a two weeks' advanced course in Bengali language and another similar course in Kokborok, a major tribal language of Tripura, conducted by the Salesian Fathers.

Syriac Panjikaran

RAJESH WRITES FROM AUSTRALIA

We the nine tertians from all over the world have successfully completed four months of our programme in different places in Australia – Melbourne, Angelese, Seven Hills, Sydney, Perth and back to Melbourne. We had our chance for taking part in the province meet also. We could enjoy their hospitality in all communities where we stayed. We had organized some Yoga programmes, seminars on different rites, ecumenical dialogues and seminars on ecological awareness as my initiative. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Rajesh.

SCHOLASTICS' SUMMER PROGRAMME 2019

The scholastics were mostly engaged in giving camps for children and youth in schools, parishes and some Jesuit institutions. Some scholastics attended 'inner child workshop', pre-regency programme, REGAE, JESAA or Vipasana. An area of special involvement was that of vocation promotion. Online ventures were attempted for effective communication with the world of the youth. We had a two-day course on *competency mapping* under the guidance of **Fr Joe Arun (MDU)** at Christ Hall, Kozhikode. This was followed by a day for presentation of Ignatian papers under the guidance of **Fr Saji Arithiyal Puraidam**. Participation in the Province Assembly was an occasion for us to understand the Province better and to cherish Jesuit companionship.

The Province holidays of this year held at XTC Pachilakad was titled **Koottu 2019**. One day was devoted to a picnic to Thusharagiri water falls. The esteemed presence of Frs. Provincial, PCF, young priests and many senior Jesuits made the holidays colourful and enjoyable. We thank the holiday committee consisting **Schs Sebin, Anjo, Albin and Nibin**. The annual retreat for the scholastics was held at IRC, Pariyaram, and was guided by **Frs Stephen and Philip Vattamala**. We very specially thank **Fr Salvin**, our PCF, who constantly accompanied us, and appreciate the able leadership of **Sch Steevenson**, the Forum coordinator and **Sch Nikhil**, the summer programme coordinator. After an effective and fruitful summer vacation scholastics are returning to their respective places of studies and regency with a handful of joyful memories.

Rejoy Johnny

KERALA PROVINCE ASSEMBLY 2019

The Province Assembly 2019 was held in Christ Hall, Calicut, on May 10 & 11, 2019. The theme was "Appraisal of the Apostolic Planning Process and Familiarity with Our way of proceeding." **Fr Sunny** made a brief presentation of the Appraisal Reports from communities and commissions on the Apostolic Planning in the Province. In the second session, **Fr Jose Jacob** made a presentation on "Our Way of Proceeding." The Assembly utilized the familiar method of spiritual



KERALA PROVINCE ASSEMBLY 2019

conversation after each session. The climax of the first day was Jubilarians Evening. After the concelebrated Mass by the 6 Jubilarians, **Fr Joseph Pulickal** felicitated them.

On the second day, **Fr Stephen Chundanthadathil** led the first session with a presentation on UAP and the fruit of the JESAA in Pune. The three new priests were honoured at noon; they concelebrated the Eucharist, and they were felicitated by **Fr Deepak**. **Fr James Morais** inspired the Assembly with his lively sharing on Tripura Mission. One short session was devoted to introduce the new books by Kerala Jesuits and to honour the authors. In the final session **Fr Provincial** had an interaction with the Assembly on the state of the Province. The participants expressed their appreciation and gratitude to the Provincial for his rich contributions to the Province during the last five years.

Sunny Kunnappallil

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

Jesuit Counsellors/ Psychologists Forum Meet

Theme: Testing and Techniques in Treatment

Venue: De Nobili College, Ramwadi, Pune 411014,

Dates: November 22-23, 2019

Boarding and lodging will be looked after by JCSA.

Kindly register your name with Konrad Noronha SJ, JDV, Pune at kjnoronha2000@gmail.com/8007768508

OURS IN MEDIA

- **Fr Benny Chiramel** (with P.O.Martin), *Protection, Support and Integration of Inter-State Migrants in Kerala*, Bangalore: ISI, 2019.
- **Fr George Sebastian**, *Jesuit Words and Wisdom – Visual Meditations and Reflections* (2nd revised edition), Kochi: Drishya Publishers, 2019.
Fr George Sebastian, *Enchanting Kerala – A Visual Perception*, Kochi: Drishya Publishers, 2019.
- **Fr Mathew Aerthayil**, ഇലക്ട്രോണിക് ആശയവിനിമയ മാധ്യമങ്ങളുടെ ഉപയോഗവും യുവജനങ്ങളിലുള്ള അവയുടെ സ്വാധീനവും, Kannur: Samayam Publications, 2019.
- **Fr Sebastian Painadath** (with Sr Rose Pudukadan), *Christ – Consciousness: Contemplation with Jesus Prayer*, Delhi: ISPCK, 2018.
- **Fr Sebastian Valiamattam**, രക്ഷയുടെ മാർഗ്ഗം, Kerala Jesuit Society, 2019.
- **Fr Toby Joseph**, *Allow them to Bloom* (to spread awareness on Child Sexual Abuse), Kalady: Atmamitra Publ., 2018.

Obituary

FR MATHEW NAMPIAPARAMBIL, SJ

(06.06.1937- 04.05.2019)

Fr Mathew Nampiarambil left for his eternal reward in the early hours on May 4, 2019. Though he was suffering from ailments related to his spine in recent years, such an imminent death was least expected. Doctors declared heart failure as the cause. Last October he had moved from Lumen, Kochi to Christ Hall, Kozhikode for better medical and nursing care. With a cheerful face he was moving around in his wheel-chair, often making himself available to people who lined up for the sacrament of penance. He was laid to rest on May 5 in the presence of his family members, friends, priests and religious.

Fr Mathew (Fr Nampi as he was fondly called) was born on June 6, 1937 at Vazhakulam in Ernakulam district. After his school education at Vazhakulam, he completed his Pre-Degree in Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha and B.Sc Physics in St Joseph's College, Trichy. He entered the Society of Jesus on July 01, 1958 at Beschi College, Dindigul. After doing his Novitiate and Juniorate in Dindigul, he moved up to Sacred Heart College, Shembaganurand for his philosophy studies. Later, he obtained MSc (Physics) and M.Phil degrees from St Joseph's College, Trichy. After his theological studies in St Mary's College, Kurseong, he was ordained a priest on March 14, 1970 in St Dominic's Church, Kanjirapally. He made his final commitment in the Society on December 08, 1976 at St Xavier's College, Thiruvananthapuram.

Fr Nampi served at various places in different capacities. Soon after his ordination he joined St. Xavier's College, Thumba as Lecturer in 1971 and became its Principal in 1981. He moved to St Aloysius College, Edathua as Principal in 1990. Simultaneously he was Superior and Manager of Pius X ITC, Edathua. In 1993 he was appointed as Manager of Vimala Estate, Vellarikundu. After two years of stint there, he was invited to be Principal of the newly started Immanuel College, Vazhachal near Neyyattinkara. He served as Superior and Manager of St Joseph's HSS and St Joseph's Junior School, Kozhikode from 1999 to 2005. Then he returned to St Xavier's College, Thumba as Rector and Manager. His last appointment was to Lumen-Jyothis, Kochi as

Superior from 2010 to 2016 and then as Treasurer till he moved to Kozhikode in 2018 for better medical care.

Fr Nampi was not a man with extraordinary talents and skills. But he succeeded in whatever job he was entrusted with. Many a time he was sent to the midst of troublesome situations, and proved to be a skilled trouble shooter. This was very true in his appointment as Principal of St Xavier's College, Thumba and St. Aloysius College, Edathua. In all these places he succeeded to restore peace and unity, thanks to the power of his total dedication to the task. "Fr Nampi is the first person to reach the institution in the morning and the last one to leave in the evening," people used to say. He would make himself adept with the rules and regulations concerning the work and systematically keep files and records.

Fr Nampi was always aware of his limitations. He would make up for that by roping in people with knowledge and skills. He had no pretensions and egoistic pride in seeking help from others. Fr Nampi was known for his availability and generosity - to shoulder any responsibility that the Society placed on him. The varied nature of his work is proof of that. He was trained to work in the field of higher education, and about twenty-five years of his active life was devoted to that field. The rest of the years saw him as Manager of an estate, Rector, Superior and Treasurer. Twice his services were lent to different dioceses to head their colleges. What is significant is that Fr Nampi had no enemies. He would never keep grudge against those who might have hurt him on various occasions. He was blessed with an army of friends and he would gladly spend time and verve to relish their friendship.

Fr Nampi was a person who placed his trust in God's grace than in human capability. He was scrupulously faithful to his spiritual duties. One would see him spending long hours in prayer, particularly when surrounded by problems. Fr Nampi will be remembered for the generous service rendered to thousands of students and his genuine acts of love and friendship. Now that he has merged into eternity, may the Good Lord reward his faithful servant for all his goodness as a committed Jesuit.

Fr Sunny Jose

Please send your news before the end of every month.
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