



Kerala Tidings

VOL. LXIII NO. 1 ■ JANUARY 2023 ■ CHRIST HALL ■ KOZHIKODE



IN LOVING MEMORY POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

“Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul Rest in Peace. Amen.”

From the Provincial's Desk **My Dear Friends in the Lord,**

Once again we are in a New Year. As a Province we, Kerala Jesuits, need to look at 2022 with a grateful heart. If the last two years were determined by the covid, the year 2022 provided a respite from fatal spread of the virus. Our various ministries functioned well in the normal mode and we for the most part moved away from the online mode of functioning. A re-look at ourselves through Province Congregation were graceful moments. The examen of Poverty done at the regional levels challenged us and enabled us to see the depth of this very important vow. The revival of Kerala Kai, a support organization for the Province, and the enthusiastic support of the Japanese Province needs to be gratefully remembered. The pioneering

and long lasting contributions of Fr George Nedungatt and Fr Abraham Adapur became very evident even in their final journey. As we have courageously ventured into 2023, we are aware, the challenges are manifold. Conflicts of various sorts – be it social, political or religious – problems looms large and our horizons are darkened. Our Jesuit tradition and legacy rooted in discernment should be our way forward in these trying times. We are planning to hold various regular meetings such as the commission heads, superiors and directors, and the Province Assembly (May 12, 13) and the Province retreat that follows will be times of discerning introspection. May we become worthy of our rich legacy and seek continued trust in the Divine Providence.

E. P. Mathew, SJ
Provincial

PROVINCIAL'S SCHEDULE

January 2023

- 04-07 : VJ Visitation, meeting at Jor Bagh
07-09 : Visitation SN Chennai
11 : Arnos Padiri Academy, Velur
12 : Loyola, Sreekariyam
15-21 : South zone Provincial's meet, Colombo
22 : Calicut regional Provincial's meet
23-25 : Visitation, St Xavier's, Trivandrum
26-27 : Mukundara, Poovar
28-29 : Consult at Pius X, Edathua
30 : Pius X, ITI Jubilee conclusion

February 2023

- 04 : Final Vows of Augustine Peedikamalayil

APPOINTMENT BY FR GENERAL

Fr Michael Schöpf, of Central European Province, as the International Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Fr Sebastian J. Jeerakassery, of Delhi Province, as the General Treasurer of the Society

Fr Vincent Hansdak, as the Provincial of Hazaribag

APPOINTMENT & TRANSFER BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr John F.J. Manipadam: Christ Hall, Calicut

Fr John Francis Elamkunnappuzha: Vidyaniketan (SIC), Trivandrum

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DIACONATE ORDINATION

Schs Francis Paracka and **Nikhil George Paruvananickal** have been approved for the Holy Orders. Sch Francis Paracka will be ordained a deacon on the 19th February 2023 by **Most Rev. Dr Thomas Dabre**, Bishop of Poona at De Nobili College Pune and Sch Nikhil George Paruvananickal will be ordained a deacon on the 18th February 2023 by **His Grace Anil J.T. Couto**, Archbishop of Delhi, in the auditorium of St Xavier's School, Delhi.

LEFT THE NOVITIATE

NS John Jose Kallukalam left the Novitiate on 22nd November 2022.

FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

CHRIST HALL, CALICUT

Fr Abraham Adappur went to his eternal reward on 3rd December 2022 at 11 am. And the funeral services were held on 5th December at 10.30 am with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Most Rev. **Dr Varghese Chackalakkal** the Bishop of Calicut and the homily by

Fr Binoy Pichalakkattu. Annual retreat for the community members of Christ Hall was directed by **Fr Xavier Tharammel** in which a few other Jesuits too joined. Christ Hall had the Christmas celebrations with the staff members on 24th and the community members on 25th Christmas day with carol and the gifts. The First death anniversary of **Fr Thomas Vattakunnel** was celebrated on 26th December with the Holy Eucharist presided by **Fr Provincial**. The Community whole heartedly welcomed **Fr Mathew Kannadan** the new member of the Christ Hall Community. We had several guests both Jesuits from other provinces as well as our province and relatives of our Jesuits.

Shin K.

ST JOSEPH'S, CALICUT

St Joseph's Boys' School welcomed one of its international alumnus Mr Basil Hameed, a member of the 20-20 cricket team of UAE on the 4th of November 2022. **Fr Anto** attended the LEAP at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai-Leadership Enhancement and Animation programme organized by National JEA for the Principals and Headmasters of the Southern provinces. Our school was one of the venues for the Calicut city Sub-District Youth festival.

Loyola school organised an exciting pre-world cup football tournament which was inaugurated by Mr Kamal Varadur, a renowned sports journalist: the players were divided into teams representing different countries wearing their jerseys. On November 1st we celebrated *Keralapiravi* with an exhibition of Kerala culture from different districts. Children's day was celebrated with many cultural events. Our students participated in several cultural events at the zonal and state levels and secured prizes. All student clubs of the school arranged field visits to places of importance at Wayanad, Vadakara, and Malappuram. Sports day was conducted in a grand manner with a number of events and march past competitions. Mr Prasad V Haridasan, the BSNL national coach and player was the chief guest at the occasion. Our students secured the runner up trophy in the Kozhikode district Taekwondo championship. One of our students was a Kerala team player at the 47th sub junior national basketball championship held in Himachal Pradesh.

Ramlat

SARVODAYA, EACHOME

We had a good celebration of Christmas at Tudi on 22nd of December. Some of our neighbours were invited to join our celebration. On 23rd of December we had Holy Mass for the catholic students. There was class-wise exchange of gifts. Our candidates are at home on holidays.

Jacob K.

LOYOLA, ALUVA

The second years came back after successfully completing their one month organized work experiment on the 12th of November and the first years completed their Ignatian Spiritual Sadhana. We celebrated the birthday of **Alen Joseph George** and **Fr Xavier Tharamel** on 12th and 27th of this month. On November 17th we gave warm send off to **Fr Jacob Madukakuzhy**. Members from Lumen community, Sameeksha and **Frs Prince Clarence** and **Jacob Kumminiyl** joined us in the prayer service. On the following day, we joined in the book-release function honouring Fr Jacob Madukakuzhy at Lumen. Fr Jacob Madukakuzhy left the novitiate community on 21st of December. The first year novice John Jose left the Society on the 22nd November.

We celebrated the birthday of **Pramod**, the 1st year novice, on the 1st of December. **Fr Augustine Peedikamalayil** was here from the 10th to the 18th of December, as part of his preparations for his final vows. **Fr Sheise** took a two-day theatre workshop programme for the novices. We attended an online meeting for Jesuit novices in India conducted by the A.D.F., **Fr Arjen Tete**. We went for the Christmas Carol service in our neighbourhood. By the evening of the 24th the second years went to the parishes where they attend Sunday ministries for Christmas. We exchanged our Christmas gifts during the evening gathering on the 25th. We had our community days from the 26th to the 29th. Scholastics from Clives, Trichy, were here as part of their cultural tour. We had two-day course on the Spiritual Diary of St Ignatius by **Fr Deepak Edattu**.

Rachans

SAMEEKSHA/ATMAMITRA/JEEVIKA, KALADY

Rajeev Irinjalakuda gave an online talk on *Bhakti Prasthanam* in Kerala for *Dharmasameeksha* in November. **Fr Sebastian Painadath** guided Gita-based retreat in mid-November. His 80th birthday was celebrated with a zonal Jesuit Meet at Sameeksha. His 39th book titled DIVINE PRESENCE AS VIBRATION was released by **Fr Anil Kochumethikalam**, the Superior.

All four levels of NLP took place in November in Atmamitra. A new batch of 30 people including 3 priests, 5 authors, a doctor and a former Registrar of Kannur University attended our Grand Masters' NLP Programme. **Fr Toby Joseph** attended the Jesuit Psychologists Forum at Ranchi. The highlight of the programme was a visit to the Central Institute of Psychiatry in Ranchi, the Central Institute for Psychiatric Care. Seminarians from major seminaries nearby take the help of Atmamitra and Sameeksha

for psychological support and discernment of their vocations. Fr Toby, accompanied by two counsellors gave teen and teachers programmes in five schools in Jammu, Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana. Fr Anil is busy with the repair and maintenance of Sameeksha and Atmamitra quarters and facilities. **Fr Immanuel Koyan** has re-joined the team after three months of service as Asst. Parish Priest at Kuttippuzha. Immanuel was busy organising the Christmas celebrations of the migrant labourers at Sameeksha.

Toby

SANTHINILAYAM, KOTTAYAM

Fr Sunny, the minister, was out from 15th to 19th of November in Ranchi, for attending a meeting of the Jesuit Counsellors and Psychologists Forum at Ranchi. The meeting of South Asian Jesuit Artists was held in Thanmaya. We were glad to see the young and inspiring Jesuits who are serving God through the ministry of art. The community was extremely happy to accommodate the Jesuits of Mumbai province as they came to Kottayam to attend the ordination of **Fr Arun Philip Simon Elackat**, of Mumbai province. The community also attended the ordination.

Libin Mathew

ST XAVIER'S JESUIT HOUSE, TRIVANDRUM

Fr Dominic Palakeel rejoined the community after his tertianship at Koidaikanal in the first week of December. On the 3rd of December we celebrated the feast of St Francis Xavier, our Heavenly Patron. **Mathews Mar Polycarp**, the auxiliary bishop of Trivandrum Malankara Archdiocese, was the chief guest of the day. The College in collaboration with our Alumni/ae conducted a mega fest-la maree- (waves) from the 20th of December to the 23rd of December. On the 20th of December we had interzonal football tournament. JAAI National President C.A. Centilkumar and JAAI National Secretary Neerlmani Rangesh were presenters at the inauguration. Kerala Football team captain Mr Brijesh Ben inaugurated the alumni interzonal friendly match with the first kick off. On 21st, 22nd and 23rd we were in a festive mood with an intercollegiate cricket tournament and dance competition. The programme was inaugurated by **Mr M.B. Rajesh**, Honorable Minister for Local Self-Governments and Excise of Kerala. **Bishop Silvester Ponnunathan** presided over the function. Chirayinkeezhu MLA, **V. Sasi** and Attingal M P, **Adoor Prakash** were the dignitaries who were present for the function. The programme came to happy conclusion on the 23rd of December with a Ganamela of the famous playback singers Jassie gift and Pramila.

The Vidyaniketan community brought new vigor to our community with their meticulously planned Christmas



carols on the Christmas eve. **Fr Shibu** is conducting the NSS camp at Sneharam Anjengo. At XIM the classes are going on well and XIM too organized a colorful Christmas celebration.

The 10th National Congress of JAAI under the banner **JAAI Milan Patna 2023** will be held in Patna St Xavier's School from the 10th of Feb to the 12th of Feb 2023. Please ensure maximum participation from our units. For details contact: jaaicongresspatna@gmail.com, www.jaaicongresspatna.in

Jose Mathew

AADI, ATTAPPADI

A one-day Monthly Camp on Leadership Training was conducted at AADI with a participation of about fifty tribal students from classes V to VIII in collaboration with ESP (Ensuring Social Protection) partners. Indeed, the Christmas celebration was a joyous occasion for AADI. About a hundred children from various hamlets participated and exchanged Christmas gifts. **Fr Rephin Kamal** delivered Christmas message. **Fr Mathew Aerthayil** participated in the Ecumenical Christmas celebration.

AADI was one of the two NGOs exclusively invited by the sub-collector from Attapady to discuss the infant mortality issue in Attapady. Fr Rephin Kamal participated in a meeting by the South Asian Jesuit Artists Forum(SAJAF) at Kottayam and Ernakulam. Department of Disaster Management from Loyola College, Trivandrum conducted a 6-day rural camp at Attapady in collaboration with AADI. AADI conducted classes on Social Protection in various tribal hamlets as part of ESP.

Rephin Kamal

SNEHARAM, ANJENGO

In the second week of September, we had our General Body and Governing Body meetings in the presence of the President of Sneharam, our Provincial. On the 26th of November, we were enriched by the presence of Fr Peter Balleis, the Executive President of JWJL. We had a gathering of about 70 people including some select students of Sneharam Community Learning

Centre (SCLC), neighbouring Jesuits, Lok Manch-ESP community leaders, and alumni of SCLC. During the meeting, we expressed our solidarity with the struggling fisher people of the Thiruvananthapuram coast. We conducted short meetings of community leaders in all our Lok Manch-ESP pockets during Christmas, to campaign for the cause of the fisher people, covering a sizable population of Muslims and Hindus. We were happy to host a week-long camp of St Xavier's College NSS volunteers under the leadership of Fr Shibu Malekunnel. About seventy of them conducted minor research on the most important social issues of the coastal areas and a campaign against 'drug abuse'.

Benny

SAINT MARY'S, JAMPUIJALA

The winter session in the school is very active and we had lot of programmes along with our academic activities to face the cold weather. We had our KID's Day and **Fr James Robert Morais** was our chief guest. It was a day of great joy for the kids and their parents.



The sports days were very enthusiastic and the students participated in the sports and games with a real spirit of competition. The Christmas celebrations and the carol singing in the villages were really good and now we are in the winter holidays. The girls' hostel construction is in full swing and the girls along with the sisters could move to the new building by March 2023.

Babu Paul

BERCHMANS ILLAM, CHENNAI

In Loyola, the word November is synonymous with the word Exam, because literally, we have been busy writing exam after exam from the beginning till the end of the month; first, the internal exams, followed by the semester exams. Because of the ongoing examination, the feast of St John Berchmans, the patron of our house, was celebrated modestly, but with meaningful novena (17-25).

On the same day (26/11), AICUF celebrated its foundation day. The whole community joined in the celebration which consisted of some short documentary presentation about the history of AICUF (since 1924).

All Souls Day was observed quite solemnly, remembering and praying for all the Jesuits who were buried here.

The Eucharist was solemnized by **Fr Francis Xavier**, Rector of Loyola College.

We celebrated Christmas in the community with Eucharist, special community gathering and exchanging of Christmas gifts. Also, we participated in the Christmas celebration of the curia of Chennai Province. During the break of Christmas, we few scholastics went on a pilgrimage to Velankanni.

At the end of the first semester, we had a community tour of Mysore and Bangalore. It was a memorable trip and out of the regular College rhythm. Hats-off to the Superior, beadle and a committee of scholastics. The second semester of the academic year began in the second week of December.

Praveen Babu

VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

Vidyajyoti community welcomed **Sch Nikhil George**, who has returned to the community, following a year-long break. The first semester examinations took place in the month of November. The scholastics set out for the much-awaited 'cultural tour' immediately after the examinations. The convocation ceremony of the flagship lay-theology programme of VJ called VJ-DEPTh, took place on November 13. Fourteen students received their Diploma in Theology on the occasion. The community celebrated the feast of St Francis Xavier with much pomp and gaiety. In addition to the liturgical celebrations, we also had sports competitions and a festive meal. **Sch Ivin's** team emerged as winners in the Badminton tournament. The fieldwork committee organized 'Balmela 2022' on December 11, 2022, at St Xavier's School campus, which witnessed the active participation of about 300 children and 50 volunteers from various fieldwork centres of VJ. The Student Council of VJ conducted a quiz competition in connection with the jubilee celebrations of VJ on December 15. The Christmas season brought a flurry of activities in the VJ community, with the scholastics organizing several carols in their respective places of ministry. **Fr Sunil** deserves special appreciation for meticulously coordinating several activities in the house, as the minister of the house. The Third-Year theologians made their retreat in preparation for the Diaconate Ordination in the last week of December. The First and Second-Year theologians had their yearly Triduum from December 28 to 31, under the guidance of **Fr Shajumon Chakalakkal**, the Socius to the POSA.

Ivin Tomy

TISS, GUWAHATI

Sch Frangle participated in a session on "Literature Review for Dissertation" arranged by the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, the session was taken


by Dr L. David Lal from IIT, Guwahati. **Sch Savy's** paper got selected for a presentation at Satya Nilayam, Chennai. The Unit for Research and Development arranged an interactive session with the famous writer, publisher and women's rights activist Urvashi Butalia. The session was reflective and thought-provoking based on the contemporary situation. Sch Frangle attended a session at Cotton University to celebrate the life and works of the renowned writer Temsula Aofrom North East. **Fr Binu Kaduthalakkunnel** had a short visit to our community Jagriti. The Jagriti Jesuit Community had a combined Christmas celebration of three centres, NESRC (Social Science Research Centre), NEILAC (Linguistic Centre) and LCHR (Legal Cell). Sch Frangle did his Christmas ministry at Mater Dei Church, in Dawagre, Garo Hills. A journal article on the topic "Christian Educational Contribution to Nation Building in North East India" by Sch Frangle got selected and published in the Social Action Journal and he is doing fieldwork for his dissertation.

Frangle


UPDATES FROM PROVINCE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE (PDD)

The past few months PDD kept itself engaged primarily in need assessment and preparing appropriate project proposals for our various apostolic initiatives in collaboration with the local units. The hard work has already started paying its dividends as we received funding commitment for three of our Projects: 1. 'Setting up Photovoltaic Systems in four of our Social Action Centres', 2. 'Communicative English Programme for Enhancing Employability' and 3. construction of three village churches in Tripura Mission. The photovoltaic systems will be supported by German Jesuit Mission while the Communicative English by the UK Jesuit Mission and individual benefactors from abroad are supporting the village churches project.

Pope's Intention
Jan 2023



For Educators
We pray that Educators will be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition & helping the youngest and the most vulnerable above all

 **Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**
INDIA

Photovoltaic systems are meant for TUDI, AADI, Loyola Poovar, and Sneharam, Anjengo. Communicative English programme that last for three years is an initiative to enhance the employability and livelihood options of the marginalized segments of our population mainly tribals, dalits and fish workers. Through the proposed programme we intend to reach out to 240 employable youth selected by our Centres.

Currently, we are in the process of realising an innovative idea, 'Friends of Jesuits' (FJ). It is visualized as a step towards creating collaborators and partners-in-mission in realizing our vision. We intent to develop partners and co-travellers with us, helping in our efforts with their valuable resources both financial and human. Donations could be for specific projects or for a general / regular set of activities. We count on all our province member's support for enlisting possible members for FJ.

FJ envisages linking the apostolates that need support with people of goodwill. Donations could be a one-time contribution or a fixed amount per month or year. Benefactors will be updated with regular reports on the utilization of funds. In addition to that, Tax benefits will be ensured for the donations. Funding options with potential sources are also explored such as Govt and Non-Govt sources and CSR.

Deepak Edattu

NEWS FROM FR JOYE JAMES

Fr Joye James coordinated the Discerning Leadership Programme (DLP) in Prerana, Bangalore for 10 days in December 2022. Seventy participants attended the DLP in two batches including nine Bishops, 43 Major Superiors, and 18 Laypersons from all over India and Nepal. Three Resource Persons from Rome conducted the DLP with the help of **Fr Jossie D'mello, Sr Sreeja SN, and Fr Joye James.**

Joye James

ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE WITH THE ASSYRIAN CHURCH OF THE EAST

The fourteenth plenary session of the Joint Commission for Theological Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Assyrian Church of the East took place from 16-19 November 2022 at the Domus Sanctae Marthae in the Vatican, hosted by the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity. It was the fourth session of the third phase initiated in 2017 on the theme of the mystery of the Church in both Latin and Syriac traditions. The Commission was co-chaired by His Beatitude Mar Meelis Zaia, Metropolitan of Australia, New Zealand and Lebanon (Chair representing the delegation from the Assyrian Church of the East), and the Most Reverend Johan Bonny, Bishop of Antwerp (Chair representing the



delegation from the Catholic Church). Among the five-member delegation representing the Catholic Church, the Jesuit presence was noticeable in the attendance of Most Revd Antoine Audo, SJ (Bishop of Aleppo for the Chaldeans) and Fr Jijimon Puthuveettilkalam.

The Joint Commission finalised and co-signed a study document entitled "The Images of the Church in the Syriac and Latin Patristic Traditions." **Fr Jijimon Puthuveettilkalam** was one of the editors of this document. His Beatitude Mar Meelis presented a copy of this document to the Holy Father. In his message to the members of the Commission, Pope Francis affirmed: "It is important that on our ecumenical journey, we draw ever closer together, not only by returning to our common roots but also by proclaiming together to the contemporary world, through our witness of life and with our words of life, the mystery of the love between Christ and his bride, the Church."

Jijimon P.

TOWARDS A CULTURE OF VOCATION PROMOTION

Fr Pedro Arrupe pointed out about his vocation that it was the "... misery and sadness in the world which needed consoling, found in me a vocation much more sublime which up till now had only been a dream."

George Bishop, *Pedro Arrupe, SJ: Twenty-eighth General of the Society of Jesus* (Anand: Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, 2000), p. 42.

Xavier Tharamel

OURS IN MEDIA

- **Fr Antony Mecherry**, "On the Errors of the East Syrians (1586): An Introduction with English Translation of a Latin-Syriac Treatise from Early Modern Malabar", *Archivum Historicum Societatis Iesu* XCI, fasc. 181 (2022-I): 187-221.
- **Fr Henry Pattarumadathil**, Sahayathri (Malayalam, 2nd edition), *Atmamitra Publications*.
- **Fr Jacob Kumminiyil** (Ed), *Snehageetham* (Malayalam), 2 Volumes, In Honour of Fr Jacob Madukkakuzhy, prepared by his novices with inputs

from Fr Joe Pulickal and Fr Jacob Madukkakuzhy, himself, 15 Ignatian Retreat Modules, Yatra Publications, Kalady, Rs. 450/- (Rs. 225/-+ Rs. 225/-). Copies will be available for Jesuits at Rs. 400/- from *Atmamitra, Kalady*.

• **Fr Midhun J Francis:**

- "Pope Francis and "Tree of Life" (*Shajarat-al-Hayat*) of Bahrain", *New age Islam*, 09 November 2022. It is also translated into Urdu.
- അവൻ നമ്മെ ഐക്യരൂപത്തിൽ തളച്ചിടുമ്പോൾ, *Sathyadeepam*, 10, Nov. 2022.

• **Fr Thomas Karimundackal:**

- "Gratitude," in: *Jnanadeepa, Pune Journal of Religious Studies*, Vol 24/4 Oct - Dec 2022, 4-9.
- "Give thanks in all Circumstances' – Biblical View of Gratitude and Thankfulness," in: *Jnanadeepa, Pune Journal of Religious Studies*, Vol 24/4 Oct-Dec 2022, 10-33.
- "Land as the Gift of YHWH: The Theological Portrait of Land in Deuteronomy," in: *Bible Bhashyam*, Vol 48/1-2, March - June 2022, 3-52.
- "Heavenly Joy over the 'Lost-Found,'" in: *Journal of Sacred Scriptures* Vol 16/2, July - December 2022, 119-151.

• **Fr Toby Joseph**, Salt and Spices (English), 2 Volumes, *Atmamitra Publications*

• **Sch Frangle Xavier** (2022). Christian Educational Contribution to Nation-building in North East India. *SOCIAL ACTION*, 72(4), 428-442.

GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

Fr Benjamin Lakra (RAN), 78/57
on 06.11. 2022 at Mandar.

Fr John Santos (PUN), 94/71
on 11.12.2022 at Sanjeevan, Pune.

Fr Ronald Sanctis (GUJ), 54/31
on 12.11.2022 at Anand.



Fr Marcel Ekka (MAP), 70/52
on 14.11.2022 at Holy Cross Hospital, Ambikapur.

Fr Patrick Tete (RAN), 97/73
on 26.11.2022 in Manresa House Infirmary, Ranchi.

Fr Abraham Adappur (KER), 96/78
on 03 .12. 2022 at Christ Hall, Calicut.

Fr S. Arulanandam (NEP) 62/35
on 12 .12. 2022 at, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Fr Peter Raj C. (AND) 76/59
on 28.12.2022 at Kauvery Hospital, Chennai.

Fr Philip Terrasa (BOM), 93/77
on 02.01.2023 in the infirmary, Vinayalaya, Mumbai
Mrs Mariyamma Mayilkunnel (77years), mother of

Fr Sanil Mayilkunnel on 14.11.2022

Fr George Madathiparambil (82 years), Brother of Br Abraham Madathiparambil (Late) on 27.11.2022.

Mrs Annakutty Ninan (89), sister-in-law of Fr Abraham Palivathukkal on 16 .11.2022.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JANUARY

- 01 John Elamkunnappuzha
- 01 David Mathew Madathinakathe
- 01 Ramlat Mekkulathil
- 02 Peter Mulluparambil
- 03 Tomson Vadakkeputhenpura
- 04 Varkeychan Mecheril
- 06 Biju George Kunnappillil
- 06 Joseph Pulickal
- 07 Biju Vadakkumchery
- 08 Augustine Paruthipallil
- 08 Dilan Davis Vadakumpadan
- 10 Roy Alex Kuzhimannil
- 11 Thomas Erinjery
- 13 Rabin C
- 16 Rejoy Johny Chiriyankandath
- 18 Joseph Edassery
- 20 Jacob Kumminiyil
- 20 Jijimon Puthuveettilkalam
- 25 Antu Xavier Kalamparambil
- 26 James Pullokaran
- 26 Thomas Panikulam



FEBRUARY

- 01 Anil Kochumethikalam
- 02 Eby Shajan Parankimalil
- 02 Joel Thomas Chennothil
- 04 George Varangalakudy

IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

JANUARY

- 02 (2019) Samuel Rayan
- 06 (2007) Cecil Veliath
- 06 (2014) Linus Maria Zucol
- 07 (2006) Kurian Padapurackal
- 13 (2018) George R. Kandathil
- 13 (2020) John Molekunnel
- 15 (2007) Antony Manipadam
- 18 (1967) Thomas Kalam
- 19 (1977) Joseph Koilparambil
- 21 (2003) Chandy Varickamakal
- 23 (2007) Dominic Gomez
- 26 (1963) Fortunatus Cutinho
- 31 (1986) Cherian Karippaparambil



IN MEMORIAM

Fr Abraham Adappur, SJ: A Contemporary Role Model for Cultural Dialogue (08.01.1926-03.12.2022)

Fr Adappur, SJ was a Jesuit Priest who engaged in constant dialogue with the secular world through Christian thought. He was ninety six years old when he passed away at Christ Hall, Malaparamba, Kozhikkode. His convictions rooted in the gospel, opposition to communism and his immaculate sense of justice made him a philosopher-ascetic, quite unique.

Fr Adappur presented Christian theology and doctrines in a secular style, before the world, which, I think, is his greatest contribution. Many an article he published in *Mathrubhumi* weekly bear witness to this fact.

He wrote an article titled, 'Friend of the Poor', describing the charitable activities of Mother Theresa and introducing her to Kerala. Besides, he wrote a series of articles on the proceedings of Vatican Council II, and its new perspectives. His wide reading, deep thinking, profound writing, and meaningful discourses helped him to bring Christian Theology into public domains. Beyond the verbal preaching of the Gospel, he gave priority to human values and cultural development. His research on the cultural crisis in India and the West testify to this fact. It can rightly be considered a classic piece of research.

Fr Adappur was a philosopher who relentlessly fought against Communism. He had the conviction that ideologies without God are not complete or holistic, and that they would never satisfy human beings. These convictions were there behind the writing of his two books titled: 'The Fall of Communism' and 'An obituary to Communism'. Fr Adappur's opposition to communism must be evaluated in its historical background. The detrimental impact of World War II had a decisive influence in the life of the young Priest, and his personal experience as a student in Europe added more vigour to his opposition to communism. In fact, he was annoyed by the aberration of Marxian principles in their practice that led to the massacre of lakhs of people and the violation of human rights. His attitude was that communism rejected human values and human freedom. When John Paul II was elected Pope from Poland, the land where communism flourished, the articles he wrote from Europe and published in *Mathrubhumi* led to a serious dialogue with Mr. C. Achutha Menon, the then Chief Minister of Kerala. He was steadfast and uncompromising in his convictions throughout the life. His ideology and philosophy were proved right over time. Even



when the Society of Jesus and his contemporary Jesuit friends embraced this the concepts of Liberation from Theology wholeheartedly with all its excitement, Fr Adappur did not follow suit, but took a different stand.

Fr Adappur was the chaplain of the Newman Association of India, Kerala Chapter, for well over five decades. The Jesuit house at Kaloor, Kochi known as Lumen/Jyothis, is a centre for open dialogues and deliberations. Fr Adappur was the dynamic force and the great attraction behind its

regular programmes, in which people from various walks of life, cutting across all denominations, actively participated. During the deliberations,

Fr Adappur used to remind the participants by quoting Sree Narayana Guru who stated: "Deliberations are meant not for arguing and winning but for knowing and informing".

Fr Adappur was uneasy and unhappy at the aberration of the Church and its proceedings.

He had no hesitation and was bold enough to say openly his views on matters affecting the church, to the authorities, and to ask them pertinent questions. He was devoted to the church and its teachings.

In certain decisive situations, he has come as great defender and protector of the church. In matters of faith, he was indeed a conservative in full measure. One has to look at his questions and attitudes in the light of self-criticism and internal freedom. He studied in depth the life and works of Arnos Padiri. For this, he visited the native place of Arnos Padiri in Europe. Based on this, he published a number of articles and books in different languages. It is no exaggeration to say that the 'cultural gene' of Arnos Pathiri has been transmitted to Fr Adappur!

Humility and simplicity were the hallmark of this great ascetic. Most of the time, he would spend at the corridor in front of his room at Jyothis, reading and writing sitting in an easy chair that was indeed a spiritual exercise for him! His life which began in 1926 at Arakkuzha, and ended at Kozhikode in 2022, has left in all, great memories. But his departure would definitely create a vacuum in the cultural field. It would be more felt and evident in the Church in Kerala. The contributions of Fr Adappur, one of the leaders of renaissance in Kerala, will be appreciated by all. A big salute to the Rev. Fr Adappur who acted as a beacon for the Society of Jesus and for the public.

Binoy Jacob

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