



cmi st paul's province mysuru



St Paul the Apostle



march 2022 | vol. 9 | issue 1

st paul's messenger



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message from the provincial superior

Wow! The academic year 2021-2022 is getting over!
My God! Financial year 21-22 is over!!
And April month is filled with so many activities!!!
Budget.. Year end account settlement.. Exams..
Admissions.. Training for the teaching staff for the Next
academic year.. Repair and maintenance... Retreat.. Holy
Week.. Easter...Home visit... the list has no end.
In between so many other issues arise.
And where is the time for all these things
We don't have time!!!

Then, what about the time for prayer???

Let us remember the words of Jesus: seek you first the Kingdom of God (Mt.6:33). But where is that Kingdom? And how do we go about seeking it? Jesus himself gave us the answer to both questions. In Luke 17:21 He said, "The Kingdom God is within you." Then how can we become aware of that inner Kingdom? How do we seek the Kingdom which is within? Again we turn to Jesus for our answer. We know that throughout His earthly life, Jesus withdrew periodically from the multitudes and even from His disciples, going off by himself to pray and to be with his heavenly Father. This is our supreme example. This is our key for seeking heaven while still we are on earth. We too need time by ourselves. We need to withdraw our attention, from external activities and distractions and learn to focus it even more deeply inward until we stand literally in the presence of God. Nothing else will bring us lasting fulfilment nothing less will satisfy the deep inner hunger that is in truth, your soul's inborn homesickness for its Father.

lovingly yours in lord jesus

fr varghese kelampampil cmi
provincial superior

Therefore, let the month of April which is filled with lot of activities shall also be planned to have some solitude time to pray and to meditate to see Father and His Kingdom in our 'within'. Only when we see the presence of God within we can really understand the meaning of Easter and we can really celebrate the great feast of Easter.

Wish you all happy Easter and a bright New Academic year 2022-23 !

Zonal Gatherings

Coorg Zone: The zonal gathering of the Coorg zone was held at Sacred Heart Carmel House, Shanivarasanthe on Saturday 26 March 2022. The gathering was coordinated by Fr George Kalambukattu CMI, zonal coordinator, Fr Sebastian Thalachirayil CMI, prefect of Sacred Heart Carmel House, Shanivarasanthe and the members of the house.

Hassan Zone: The members of Hassan zone gathered at Christa Sadana, Kandali on Sunday 27 March 2022. The gathering was coordinated by Fr Pratheesh Kolliyil CMI, zonal coordinator, Fr Tom Paul Kunnumpurath CMI, prefect of Christa Sadana, Kandali, and the members of the house.

Mysore Zone: The zonal gathering of the Mysore zone was held at St Paul's Carmel House, Thandavapura on Thursday 31 March 2022. The gathering was coordinated by Fr Shaiju Narimattathil CMI, zonal coordinator, Fr Renny Malana CMI, Superior of St Paul's Carmel House, Thandavapura, and the members of the house.

Implementation of CMI Policies assuring safety of children and women:

The Provincial Council was present in the zonal gatherings. We had a briefing session about the CMI policy for the protection of children and vulnerable adults and CMI Policy for the prevention of sexual harassment at workplace. All the members present in the gathering signed the undertaking form prescribed to be signed by the professed members of the CMI congregation in compliance to these two CMI policies for the protection of children and women.

Founder's Day and welcome to the new priest

St Kuriakose Elias Chavara, our Founder and Inspiration: Intending to make known to the people of God, the holiness, services, and contributions of St Chavara, we celebrated the feast of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara on Thursday 13 January 2022 at 6.30 pm as Founder's Day. We solemnly celebrated the day inviting all the neighbouring communities and Aspirants from Jnanamandira, Bogadi to the celebration. Fr Sinto Karottumalayil CMI, our newly ordained priest was the main celebrant. The Eucharistic Celebration was followed by a meeting in which we gave a grand reception to the newly ordained priest Fr Sinto Karottumalayil CMI

Plenary Assembly 2022

The Plenary Assembly of our Province was held on 19 and 20 February 2022 at Carmel Bhavan, Mysore. We began the session on 19 Saturday morning and concluded on 20 Sunday evening. On the second day of our plenary assembly, Bishop Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath, Diocese of Mandya was the main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist in which he delivered a meaningful message to the plenary members.



Meeting of Superiors

A meeting of superiors, prefects and directors of CMI St Paul's Province Mysuru was convened on 19 February 2022 from 6.00pm to 7.00pm. There was a fruitful discussion about various activities of the province and the individual houses and institutions of the province in the meeting.

Training session for the Heads of the Institutions

We organized a training session for the heads of the institutions of our Province at Christ Deemed to be University (Lavasa Campus, Pune) from 3 March 2022 to 6 March 2022. Indeed, it was a great, memorable, and cherishable experience for the participants.



diaconate



Our beloved Bro Bijo Kavumpuram CMI received the Sacred Order of Diaconate from Bp Joseph Kollampampil, the Bishop of the Eparchy of Jagadapur on 27 Sunday 2022 at Samanvaya College of Theology, Bhopal. We wish him all prayers and success as he is about to begin his Diaconate ministry in the Diocese of Mananthavady.



**blessed with a
baby boy
benjamin benny**



Mr. Benny Kollannur & Jini with their child Benjamin from Guruvayur visited Carmel Bhavan Chapel, CMI St Paul's Provincial house, mysuru on 20 March 2022 to thank the Lord for the favour and blessing they received. The couple didn't have a child even after 12 years of their marriage. The mother of Mr Benny visited Carmel Bhavan chapel 3 years ago and prayed for a child. Jini gave birth to the child Benjamin within the next one year. We thank the Lord and Mother Mary for the wonderful gift to the couple.

appointments & transfers 2022



fr abraham vadakkemuriyil cmi
carmel bhavan, mysuru



fr joseph rathappillil cmi
christa sadana, kandali



fr joy kochupurackal cmi
sacred heart carmel, shanivarasanthe



fr noble kumbiluvellil cmi
anugrahalaya, hunsur



fr jose thekkemuriyil cmi
st joseph's residence, kakkinje



fr rejo kalathil cmi
st mary's aspirant's house, koppa



fr kuriyakose kallattil cmi
jnanamandira, bogadi



fr james mekkara cmi
st thomas carmel, gonikoppal



fr sinto karottumalayil cmi



for your new appointment as the **secretary** to
rev. fr prior general at kakkanad, ernakulam
with effect from 12 February 2022.

best *Wishes*

relaunching **space** channel of the province
on youtube under the coordination of fr saneesh pathickel cmi



fr saneesh pathickel cmi

SPACE
CHANNEL



argentina

bon voyage



fr shoby kozhippallan johny cmi

best wishes
to our new argentina missionary



It all started with a Prayer...

Rev. Fr Tom Uzhannalil SDB (An Indian Salesian kidnapped in March 2016 and held captive by terrorists in Yemen, before being released in September 2017 with the intervention of Oman and the Catholic Church) shared inspiring and thought-provoking experiences of his captivity to the fathers of Mysuru Zone and the Aspirants of Jnanamandira during the zonal gathering organised at Jnanamandira.

The 87th Birthday of Rev. Fr Romulus was also celebrated on the same day with great pomp. Christmas, New Year and other Celebrations enhanced our community life. The visit by the students of the Special School of Jettihundi was a renewing experience. The feast day Celebrations of Rev. Fr. Romulus remains afresh in our memories.

CMI Freshers' Meet: Rev. Fr Joseph Edakkery CMI, the Rector and the pre-novitiate brothers gathered at the CMI Prior General's House for the Fresher's Meet. It was a great experience for the brothers who enjoyed a filial brotherhood. They enjoyed the pride in being a CMI which fosters community life. They also had a pilgrimage to St Chavara's Tomb, St Alphonsa's Tomb and had the opportunity to pray at the Pilgrimage Center of Bl. Kunjachan.

New Member at Jnanamandira: Rev. Fr Kuriyakose Kallattil CMI is in the Jnanamandira Community at present, motivating the pre-novitiate brothers and engaging them with classes.

Mid -Day Meal to the Poor: Jnanamandira community has currently started to provide mid-day meals to a few poor families once in a week. The initiative is largely motivating for the brothers to develop a concern for the poor and the needy.

St Joseph, March 19: The feast of St Joseph was celebrated as the Rector's Day with Rev. Fr Rector celebrating his feast on this Day. The brothers organized a short programme. We had guests from nearby communities.

Abode of Caring for the Elderly: The Atmadarsana building in the Jnanamandira Campus is under renovation under the guidance of Fr Provincial and Fr Bibin Changemcheril CMI. It will be an abode of the province to serve our sick brethren with better concern and facilities.



jnanamandira
bogadi

darsana veedu

kakkinje



karunabhisheka prayer

at **darsana veedu**, kakkinje



st mary's aspirants' house

Koppa

adieu fr mekkara!

After serving the aspirants' house for a year as the spiritual director and Asst Rector, Fr James Mekkara is bidding goodbye and is moving to St Thomas Carmel House, Gonikoppal.

Thank you Fr Mekkara for your untiring efforts and valuable service in helping and guiding our young brothers in their formation. May God bless you and guide you in all your endeavors.



hearty welcome fr rejo

Fr Rejo Kalathil CMI took charge as the new Asst Rector of the Aspirants' house. All the best dear Fr Rejo!



exam time

Our brothers are earnestly preparing for their final PU exams. The first year brothers will be appearing for their final exams on 26th March and the second year brothers will begin their exams on 22nd March.

All the best dear bros....

dharmaram college, bengaluru

laiju mukkomtharayil cmi

Reception to Fr Sinto Karottumalayil CMI

Twenty-seven newly ordained priests, including our dear Fr Sinto Karottumalayil received a grand welcome in Dharmaram College. The community offered a solemn Mass in the morning with the presence of Fr Rector, all the section masters, and other priests followed by a felicitation. Members of the St Paul's Province Mysuru had a province gathering and sumptuous dinner sharing the joy and love of our *koinonia* at Christ University Campus. Felicitations and songs were offered to the new priest Fr Sinto Karottumalayil CMI.



Adieu to Dharmaram College

Upon finishing their study and ministry at Dharmaram, Fr. Joy Kochupurackal, Fr Kuriakose, Fr Rejo Kalathil, Bros Laiju, and Amal are off to the province. Let us wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

Jubilee Celebration

We shared the joy with Fr Jomon and Fr Shinto who celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their religious profession. It was a time for the recollection of God's mercy and love. Congratulations, dear fathers, joining you in grateful prayer for the past and God's continued blessings.

Diaconate

Bros. Laiju Mukkomtharayil and Nibin Mundunadackal are receiving diaconate and subdiaconate, respectively, on the April 4 from Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath, Bishop of Mandya. They are ardently preparing themselves for the service at the Altar. Let us all keep them in our valuable prayers.

Final Profession

Bros. Akhil Kuzhimattathil, Amal Edathil, and Vipin are preparing to offer themselves fully for the service of God in the CMI congregation by the profession of their vows perpetually. Dear brothers, May God, bless you on this momentous occasion as you take your final vows.

like a gladiator

The function of the actor is to make the audience imagine for the moment that real things are happening to real people. Congratulations! to Bro Akhil for your marvelous performance in the Drama "Gladiator". It was nothing but pure talent.



Some men are born to lead others to follow. All appreciated leadership qualities exhibited by Bro Vipin Mathoor as LCA general secretary in Dharmaram. His innovative ideas and programs were outstanding. Let us wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

LCA saradhi



Christmas Celebration

Festivities of Christmas were ushered in by organizing a small but memorable Christmas program on December 22 for the staff members. Rev. Fr. Dr. Varghese K J, Provincial was the Chief Guest of the Day. The program was made colorful by rendition of Christmas Carols, motivational speeches followed by a lunch.

Vaccination Drive

Students of Grade X were administered with the first dose of COVID vaccination on 6 January at the government allotted Centre. 109 students of Grade X were vaccinated on that day and joined their hands in the fight against the deadly virus.

Going a step further in the fight against COVID 19, grade X students were administered with the second dose of vaccination on 14 February at the school campus.

Grade IX students were given the first dose of vaccination.

Assessment Time

Periodic Assessment II began for grades 1-8 from 4 January. Keeping the pandemic situation in mind and prioritizing the safety of students, exams were held in online mode. Periodic Assessment III began for grades IX and X from January 17 in the offline mode.

Pre-Board I

With the perspective of preparing the students thoroughly for board examination, Pre-Board Examination commenced from February 17.

Preparatory Examination

With the idea of preparing grade IX students for the upcoming Term II Examination, preparatory examination was held from February 25.

Examinations @ Christ

Annual Examination started for kindergarten to Grade 8. Term II Examination began for Grade IX. Pre-Board II Examination commenced for Grade X.

Sports Meet

As a welcome relief from the difficult pandemic days, Sports Meet 2021-22 was organized from February 17-24 for grades KG–IX. Enthusiasm of the students was at its zenith as they participated and won prizes.



Community Helper's Day

As a part of experiential learning, students of kindergarten were motivated to celebrate Community Helpers' Day on February 19.

Tiny tots of kindergarten were dressed as Doctors, Nurses, Engineers, Police Men, Army Personnel to acknowledge and thank the selfless services of these community helpers.





republic day celebration

73rd Republic Day was celebrated on January 26 with true patriotic spirit in the presence of students and staff members. Fr. Jinosh V M, Principal hoisted the National Flag. Students added to the colors of patriotism by presenting a memorable cultural program comprising of songs, speech and other performances.

graduation day

graduation day for ukg was organized on march 26, 2022.





christ school hassan

Founder's Day

Founder's Day was celebrated on Monday 3 January in the school. The formal function began at 11:00 am in the auditorium. This day was celebrated to commemorate the death anniversary of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara.



Republic Day



Republic Day was celebrated on 26th January with lot of pomp and show. The official programme began at 8:15 am. The cultural events were exhilarated and colorful. Fr Freison K Thomas, Principal stressed on love and brotherhood, the strong bonds that could bind India together should be strengthened.

Annual Sports

The most awaited day The Annual Sports Day was held in our school on Friday 25 February 2021. The programme began at 9:00 am with the house wise march-past followed by carrying School flag and house wise flags, which was finally inaugurated by Rev. Fr Santhosh, Manager. Various events were formally inaugurated.



Both teachers as well as students were energetic and enthusiastic cheering the competitors. All the winners of different events were awarded by the teachers.



Science Expo

Science Expo was held at Christ campus on 28.02.2022 to inculcate scientific temper among the students. The exhibition began at 2:30 pm. Fr. Principal inaugurated the programme. Students from 6th to 8th actively participated in the competition. Medals and certificates were awarded to all the participants.

Women's Day

International Women's Day was celebrated on 8 March to recognize the contribution and significance of the women. Fr Freison K Thomas gave floral greetings to all the women staff. Some fun filled games were arranged by the department and all of them actively participated. The winners were awarded with prizes. Women oriented quiz was also held for the women staff.



LCA

LCA valedictory was held at 11:00 am on 12th of March. The whole function was organized by the Department of Literary and Cultural Activity. All the students who participated in the competitions were awarded for their competence in the different activities conducted this academic year. The house wise winners were declared and runners up was won by the Red house and champion trophy was won by the yellow house team for the same.

Graduation Day

Graduation Day of the UKG was held on 16 February 2022. The formal function began at 10:00 am. Mrs Sangeetha Shenoy, Co-founder of Abacus centre was the special guest of the day. The tiny tots with their colorful performance captivated the audience. The UKG students were dressed in ceremonial attire and were awarded Graduation certificates. Students of junior KG showcased their dance talent in the programme.



We started our academic year on 3 January with the celebration of founders' day. Sr. Mary James spoke about St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara's contribution to the entire human society. The 73rd Republic day was celebrated in the absence of students on 26 January 2022. All teaching and non-teaching staff took part in the program with much vigour.



christ academy kandali

Ethnic Day

We conducted ethnic day for the students on 28 January. The students came in different colours, dressed in different attires, dancing, enjoying each moment, they celebrated and made the day a memorable one.

Sports Day

Testing the physical capability of our students, sports day was conducted on 2nd of march. This was the energy enhancing event of the year. All took part in this with much enthusiasm. Medals and certificates were distributed to the winners soon after each event, the presence of Fr. Freison made children happier. The closing ceremony of the academic year was the graduation of the little



ones happened on 19th march. Fr. Freison, was the chief guest and he enriched the crowd with a beautiful message from the life of the great personalities. Fr Tom Paul complemented the event and congratulated the graduates. Fr Jobins spoke to parents on their willingness to give quality education to their children, even in difficult situations. Teachers prepared them wonderfully and especially all parents were extremely happy when they received the graduation certificates in their hands. The whole Christ Kandali family look forward to a bright future in the coming years.



guru Vandana
sslc graduation ceremony



principal's day



farewell to
mrs. margaret t.f



republic day



sslc taluk level
toppers' meet



reception to award winners



mrs. geetha rani



mr. ravindra

seva sadan christa jyothi school

arkalgudu



Christa Jyothi school edges the completion of another academic year that survived the fears of pandemic lockdowns and reluctance of the parents and students to opt for off-line classes. In spite of all the odds of troubled times we could conduct uninterrupted classes mostly on offline mode yielding good result that was reflected in the preparatory exams. Our promising students of class 10 are earnestly preparing for the board exams. This year we have 39 students from CBSE and 59 students from the state wing. Prior to their exams they were given a heart-warming farewell organised by their juniors under the guidance of the concerned teachers. Farewell programs of both state and CBSE were conducted separately along with *Guru Vandana*. The program was so overwhelming, striking the strings of the emotions of all, where students sought the blessings of their parents and teachers.



Golden Jubilee of Priestly Ordination

The members of Seva Sadan along with its small and diverse Eucharistic community are in the observance of the spirit of the season. We celebrated the golden jubilee of the priestly ordination of our veteran social worker, Fr Xavier Manjappally in our community. The solemn Eucharistic celebration followed by an intimate felicitation in the community brought the sense of contentment to Fr Xavier in being his works acknowledged and added joy to the community being its witnesses.





Guruvandhanam

"Light is rekindled by a spark through the teachers". The Guruvandhanam was showing deep gratitude to the teachers for having lighted the flames within students. It was celebrated on 9th March 2022 in Christ school with blessings from the Management, teachers, and parents.



Women's day Celebration

International Women's day was celebrated on March 8th, 2022 to recognize the contribution and significance of the women. Principal Fr. Sebastian P J addressed the teachers and students and spoke about what level of efficiency women can exhibit if given opportunity.



Best Teachers Awarded

As a part of Golden Jubilee celebration of St. Thomas Education Society, the best teacher award was given to Mr. Krishna and Mrs. Jacintha Veigas by Rev. Fr Suraj, Secretary of St Thomas Education Society.



Tailoring

In order to boost women empowerment, Christ school has started second section of tailoring training program for our students' parents. It was started with the help of Dharma Deepthi Samsthe. Rev. Fr Pratheesh Kolliyil CMI inaugurated the program and distributed certificates to the previous batch.



Renovation work of our Bamboo House has been completed. Now it is ready to be used for Emergency care of snake bit patients.



Christ Academy is ready to reopen this academic year and the admission process is under process.

A venture of
Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI) Fathers

ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ ಅಕಾಡೆಮಿ
ಹಳ್ಳಿಕೆರೆಹುಂಡಿ

LKG - UKG
2022-23 ರ

ಪ್ರವೇಶಾತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ

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ಶಾಂತಿ ನಿಲಯ, ಹಳ್ಳಿಕೆರೆಹುಂಡಿ
ಮರಳೂರು, ಸುಬಾಶಮಠರಂ,
ಸಂಜಯಗೋಡು ತಾ. ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ 571302



christ academy

hallikerehundi



National Science Day was observed by the students of Christ School Hunsur (ICSE) on 28th February 2022 to mark the discovery of Raman effect. The manager of Christ school Hunsur inaugurated the function. The event was organised by the celebration and cultural committee of the school with the help of the students and other staffs. The celebration included exhibition of the models, charts and experiments prepared by the students, quiz competition and speech by a student regarding the significance of the day.

Tribute to the warriors

As a tribute to the warriors of Uri attack and Surgical Strike, drawings, letters and poems written by the students were sent to the Defence Ministry of India and the students of 10th standard received a letter of appreciation for their kind actions towards our soldiers sent from the Defence Ministry of India.





**Renovated Chapel at Nirmal Bhavan Mundaje,
Congratulations to Fr Joseph Orapankuzhimattathil and Fr Dince Madukkakuzhy**

christ academy mundaje

CMI Policy Workshop

Workshop on the CMI policies for the safety of children and women was organised for the staff of Christ Academy Mundaje on 7 March 2022 by the President and Secretary of St Thomas Education Society Mysuru.

Best Teacher Feted

Mrs Anila Baby of Christ Academy won the St Thomas Education Society Golden Jubilee best teacher award. The award winner was felicitated by the president of St Thomas Education Society on 7 March 2022.



bharath matha comp pu college koppa

Samavarthanam 2022

The SSLC students had their Samavarthanam 2022 on 12th March 2022. They bid farewell to the institution that nurtured their life for the past 12 years and sought the blessings of their Gurus. They will be appearing for their SSLC exams on 28 March 2022.



bharath matha degree college koppa

Bharath Matha College **successfully** completed its odd semester. The odd semester exams for the 3rd and 5th semester commenced from 23rd March, 2022.

Workshop on “CMIs for the Safe World for Women and Children”

A workshop on CMI policy on safety of women and vulnerable adults was conducted on 11 February 2022. The workshop was enriched with the presence of Fr Varghese KJ, President STES, Fr Suraj KA, Secretary STES and Fr Bibin Baby, Administrator Christ Public School Bogadi. The workshop shed light on the CMI vision and perspectives on the safety of women and children.



Faculty Development

Faculty Development programme was conducted on 26 Feb 2022. Dr Alice Mani, Professor, Christ University, and resource person for MHRD, India was the resource person for the programme. All the faculty members actively participated in the programme. It was enriching and helpful for the lecturers. The FDP programme was concluded with a delicious meal.



During the 102nd Convocation ceremony on 22nd of March 2022 at the University of Mysore, two students Shanet Ann Jose and Dhanalakshmi of Christ College have together bagged 10 gold medals & 3 cash prizes.

golden girls★



1. Shanet Ann Jose of BA (JPEng) received 9 Gold medals and 3 cash prizes

- Journalism- 5 Gold medals & 1 cash prize
- English Literature - 2 Gold medals & 2 Cash prize
- English language - 1 Gold medal
- Psychology- 1 Gold medal

2. Dhanalakshmi of BSc (CMS) secured 1 Gold Medal in computer science





guest lecture on the topic Learn and Earn in Stock market

The Department of Commerce and Business Administration at Christ College , Mysuru organized a guest lecture on "Learn and Earn in Stock Market " on 19 January 2022 in the college auditorium. The resource person of the day was Dr Lakshmisha K. who is presently a faculty in the department of Business Administration in Maharaja's College.



union budget analysis

Based on the Union Budget for the Financial Year 2022-2023, presented by the Finance Minister, Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman, in the Lok Sabha on February 1st 2022, a UNION BUDGET ANALYSIS was organised by Christ College, Mysuru from the Department of Commerce and Business Administration on 26th February, 2022 in two sessions at 09.30 am - 11.00 & from 11.30am – 01.00pm at the Auditorium.

sports report

Considering the concept of "**SPORTS FOR ALL**" The Department of Physical Education of Christ College had organised the Inter-department competition for students.

VOLLEYBALL for Boys and Girls section
BASKETBALL for Boys and Girls section
THROW BALL for Boys and Girls section
FOOTBALL for Boys section

Volleyball

In the Boys' section, Bcom Conquerors Team and BSC/BSC Phoenix played on 07/12/2021 at the inter department competition. Focused on improved serving and passing, the Bcom team beat the BSC/BCA Phoenix side, 2-0 (25-15,25-20) in their final match and in women section team BSC/BCA Phoenix beat BBA Dragons team side, 2-1 (15-10,11-15,19-17).



Basketball

In the Boys section, BCom Conquerors Team and BBA Dragons played on 08/12/2021 at the inter department competition. Focused on improved rebound collections and effective defence and passing, the Bcom Conquerors team beat the BBA The dragons with the point of 35-17 in their final match and in women section the tough competition between BBA Dragons and BCOM Conquerors, the final results of this game is the side of BBA Dragons with the score of 14-12.



Football

In the Boys section, Bcom Conquerors Team and BSC/BCA Phoenix played on 10/12/2021 at the inter department competition. Focused on improved defensive skill and attacking format, the Bcom Conquerors team beat the BSC/BCA Phoenix team by 1-0 goal in their final match.



Throw ball

In the Girls section BBA Dragons Team and BCOM Conquerors played on 09/12/2021 at the inter department competition. Focused on strategy and improved in serving, the BBA The Dragons team beat the BCOM Conquerors side, 2-1 (15-12,13-15,21-19) in their final match



Basketball and Volleyball matches for faculty against the winning Boys team was conducted, in which the faculty team showed their team spirit.

In volleyball match faculty defeated the winning Boys team by direct set 3-0 (25-12,25-18,25-22), and in basketball with the point of 45-31



Few students took part in inter university selection trials for Football, Volleyball, Badminton, Kabaddi, Handball and Chess and gave their best in selection trials.

One of our students Sanjana from first BCom got selected for an inter university Chess competition conducted by University of Mysore.

updates from the department of **social apostolate**

Karunya Hastha

On March 19, 2022 we conducted *Karunya Hastha* program at Christ Home Bogadi. Through this program we visited their houses and served 5 people affected by chronic diseases and helped them financially.

Following are the beneficiaries:

1. Ravi Kumar
2. Mary Felsina
3. Ubagara Mary
4. Shanthamary
5. Veena Shree

In the month of February we worked on renewal of our societies i.e., St Joseph's charitable institutions, Kakkinje and Dharma Deepthi Samsthe, Mysuru

Through the cooperation of CEVA Kochi we initiated a micro project for cancer affected patients. For this project we collected a fund of ₹ 50,000 from CEVA and executed the project by transferring funds to their accounts for their treatments.

Following are the beneficiaries:

1. Lekhana
2. Mary Varghese
3. Mary Thomas
4. Sahadevan
5. Lekshmamma

In the month of February 2022, we worked on the renewal of FCRA account of St. Joseph's charitable institutions Kakkinje. The committee members visited our society and appreciated our activities.

On 10th March 2022 we visited Government School Jettihundi. Joined them and distributed dresses and study materials like note books to the students for their studies.



Normal Life is Resuming!

Finally we had some welcome news for our parish communities. The Government has announced easing of restrictions - masks are not required at parish Masses though they are still recommended to be worn when you can't socially distance and places of worship will no longer have capacity limits. Even though life is starting to return to normal, there is still the anxiety among people and some people have experienced significant losses in our parishes because of the virus and others are struggling with anxiety in the face of so many unknowns. We are hopeful that we can make plans for our new normal, managing changes to the way we do things, and how we support our health and wellbeing of those entrusted to our pastoral care.

Recent floods

Brisbane and south-eastern Queensland has seen devastating rainfall which led to an extreme flooding event in early March including some of our churches and presbyteries. We were all safe!

Get together in the Longreach region of the outback

We got together with Frs Shaiju and Sijo at Shaiju's place in Longreach after Christmas for a few days. It was a blessed opportunity for the Brisbane brothers to visit some of the mission places in Rockhampton diocese where Frs Sijo and Shaiju minister.

Jubilee Celebrations

Daisy Hill Parish witnessed its pastor Fr Joseph Vattaparambil's Silver Jubilee of his Priestly Ordination on Sunday 2 January 2022 with a high spirited celebration. Congratulations and Jubilee Greetings dear Fr Joseph.

Holidays

We are looking forward to our home coming after Easter since the travel restrictions have eased.

sending you all wishes for a Blessed Easter 2022 !



USA

- fr jilson naduviledath cmi



Father Reji Punnolil begins his ministry in a new Parish

Fr Reji Punnolil moved to the Diocese of Sacramento in the state of California. Father Reji is assigned as the associate pastor at Saint Isidore Church in Yubacity.

Father Reji's new address

St Isidore Catholic Church,
222 Clark Ave., Yuba City,
CA 95991, USA

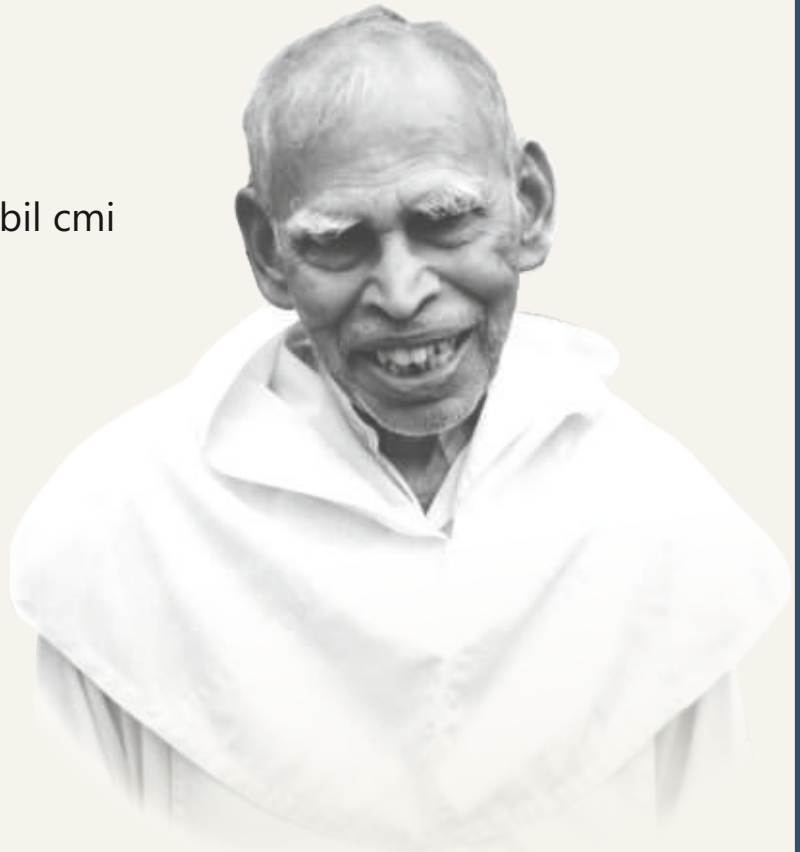


amatus

musings



fr joshy thomas cheruparambil cmi



Called to be Joyful
Consecrated in Freedom
Committed to be simple
Challenge your Charm!

If no joy, why my Call!
If no freedom, why my vows
If not simple, why my life
It's you, dear Saint
You set my Goal

If joy is within, I dare shine
If freedom rules, I never fade
It's not simple, your example
It's you Dear Saint
You set my Goal

communion, participation and mission



We are passing through the lenten season and earnestly preparing to receive the Risen Lord. This lenten holds a special place in the history of the world, the Church and the CMI congregation due to various reasons.

In the world history this lenten holds a special place because of the war between Ukraine and Russia leaving millions of people displaced and has brought large scale devastation to life and property. Experts opine that the repercussions of the war will not only be felt in the warring nations alone but also to the entire world. The Pope has consecrated both the nations to the Immaculate Heart of Mary so that the war may end and peace may flourish. Let us also pray for the war to end by our small sacrifices.

The Catholic Church is also embarking on a historical journey; the synodal journey. The Church as a whole plans to begin a new journey listening to each other involving everyone especially the laity. The theme for the synod is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". Renewal in the life in the Church and its mission is the ultimate

aim that is to be achieved. Therefore when the church self reflects on its journey let us pray that it will be a successful one and that the Church and its mission may be renewed.

The CMI Congregation will also witness the bicentennial journey of its existence in 2031, which is also a time for rethinking, renewal and recommitment to the spirit of the early founding fathers. The congregation as a whole is also on the path of renewal, therefore the lenten time is an opportune time to reflect on these aspects and recommit ourselves at the service of the Church and the people.

Pope Francis in his message of the lent says that "Do not be tired of doing good". This is the right message of the lent season doing good to everyone we meet like the Lord (Acts 10:3). Let the spirit of the lent and also the Easter reverberate in us and in our communities renewed and being recommitted to the Lord.

May the blessings of the Risen Lord be always with you and all your endeavours.

fr rejo jacob kalathil cmi

കിരാതം

അമ്മയാണ് ഭൂമി അന്നദായിക
അന്നന്തവിഹായസ്സിലെ നന്മലോകം
അല്പനാം മർത്തുണ്ണാശ്രയമേകുന്ന ഹരിതലോകം
എണ്ണമില്ലാത്ത മക്കൾക്ക് ജന്മമേകുന്ന നിത്യതാരൂണ്ഡം

തലമുറകൾ വിരിയുന്നു വളരുന്നു മറയുന്ന
മ്മതൻ മാറിലെ ചൂടറിഞ്ഞ്
നദികളരുവികൾ പൊട്ടിയൊഴുകുന്ന
മ്മതൻ ഹൃത്തടത്തിൽ നിന്ന്
തൻ മക്കൾക്കടങ്ങാ ദാഹമകറ്റാൻ

കടലും കായലും പുഞ്ചുപ്പാടങ്ങളും
ജലമർമരങ്ങളുയർത്തവേ
പച്ചപ്പുതപ്പണിഞ്ഞ ഭൂമി വിവിരാജിപ്പു
മുക്തയാം മുതുമുത്തശ്ശിയെന്നപോൽ

പുഷ്പങ്ങൾ നിറമാല ചാർത്തും വസന്തോത്സവങ്ങളിൽ
വൈശാഖ സന്ധ്യകൾ നറുമണം തൂകുമ്പോൾ
ആഷാടമേഘങ്ങൾ വിരുന്നു വരും
അനുരാഗ ഗീതങ്ങൾക്കകംപടിയായി

ഗ്രീഷ്മത്തിൻ താപത്തെ തണുപ്പിക്കും വർഷത്തിൽ
ജലധാരയേറ്റമമയാം ഭൂമി ജ്വതുമതിയാകും
പുത്തൻ നാമ്പുകൾ തലനീട്ടും കാർത്തിക നാളിൽ
ശരത് കാല സന്ധ്യകൾ മോഹങ്ങൾക്കുഞ്ഞാൽ കെട്ടും

നവരാത്രി മണ്ഡപങ്ങളിൽ പുനിലാപന്തലായി പൗർണമി
നവവരവേഷമിട്ടണഞ്ഞീ നവോഽശ്വ തൻ
സ്വയംവര വേദിയിലെന്നപോൽ
അനുരാഗദൂതുമായ്

ഹേമന്തരാവിലെ മഞ്ഞിൻ കണങ്ങളെ
കാലേ വാരിപുണരുന്ന പകൽപതിയും
ശിശിരത്തിൻ കുളിർമയെ ഹൃദയത്തിൽ സൂക്ഷിപ്പാൻ
ഭൂമിക്കിലമെത്തയൊരുക്കുമീ കാനനഹരായയും
അമ്മയാം ഭൂമിക്കലങ്കാരമാകുന്നു.

അല്പനാം മർത്തുണ്ണേ അന്ധത ഇവയൊന്നുമേ
കാണാനാവാതെ അമ്മതൻ മാറിനെ
കുത്തിക്കീറുന്നു വെട്ടിപ്പിളർക്കുന്നു
ആംബരചുംബിയം സൗധങ്ങളുയർത്തി
അതിന്നുള്ളിലെ ചപലസുഘങ്ങളിലലിയാൻ

ഭൂമി തൻ മാറിലെ കണ്ണാടിയെന്നപോൽ
പൊട്ടിച്ചിരിച്ചു കൂണുങ്ങിയോടുമീയരുവിയിൽ
വിഷവും വിഷജന്മമലമലീമസങ്ങളും
നിറക്കുമീ മർത്തുൻ മറക്കുന്നു പ്രഥിവി തൻ ശുദ്ധി

ഒരുന്നാളുമടങ്ങാത്ത ആർത്തിയാൽ
നിറക്കുന്നവൻ നദിയെ ഘോരവിഷ വിസർജ്യത്താൽ
ഇവിടെ പെരുകുന്നു രോഗവും, പീഡയും
നീളുന്ന ഘോരമാം മരണത്തിന്നലമുറയും

പകലവൻ തൻ പൊൻകിരണങ്ങളേറ്റ്
പച്ചപ്പട്ടു പുതച്ചും വർണ്ണപ്രഭാപൂര കിരീടമെന്നപോൽ
ഇനിയും പേരറിയാക്കാട്ടുപൂക്കളാലാവൃതമായും
ദൃഢചിത്തരാം പ്രഭുക്കൾ കണക്കെ ശിരസ്സുയർത്തിയ
കിഴക്കൻ ഗിരിനിരകളിൽ
പ്രഭാതകാലേ കേൾപ്പൂ വെടിമരുന്നിൻ
ഘോര വിസഫോടനങ്ങൾ

നിമിഷാർദ്ധത്തിലപ്രത്യക്ഷമാം കുന്നുകൾ
ധൂമപടലങ്ങളാലാവൃതമാകവേ
താഴെ ചെറ്റക്കുടിലിലെ കുഞ്ഞിന്റെ ഹൃത്തിൽ
നിറയുന്നു മായാത്ത മറയാത്ത ഭയവും
തൊണ്ണൂറിലെത്തിയ മുത്തശ്ശി തൻ ഹൃത്തടെ തീരാ വ്യഥയും.

നിദ്രയറ്റ നിശകളിൽ തളർന്ന മിഴികളിറുക്കിയടക്കവേ
ഇന്നലെ കണ്ട പൊൻ കിനാക്കളിലെല്ലാം
ഇന്നിന്റെ കരിമൺ ഭൂതങ്ങളാടിതിമിർക്കവേ
യവരലറുന്നു ദാരുണ മരണ ഭീതിയാൽ

പൊട്ടിത്തകർന്ന മലനിരകളിൽ, ഭൂമിയലറുന്നു
തീരാവ്യാധിയെന്നപോൽ, പേമാരിയായി, കൊടുംകാറ്റായി
പ്രളയഭീതിയുർത്തിയവളമുറയിടുന്നു
മർത്തൂർ പ്രാണഭീതിയാൽ പാഞ്ഞകലവേ.

ഒരുപിടി പിച്ഛാശ്ശിനായമ്മതൻ മടിയിലിരുന്ന
ന്നവൾ തൻ നെഞ്ചു പിളർക്കുന്ന
കിരാത ജന്മങ്ങളെന്തറിയുന്നൊരു
പെറ്റമ്മ തൻ തീരാനൊമ്പരത്തിന്നാഴം

edited by

rev. dr abraham vadakkemuriyil cmi



RIP: mrs. betsy sunny (52)

beloved sister-in-law of fr renny malana cmi, called to eternal reward on 14 January 2022.



RIP: mr. george koikkara (62)

beloved brother-in-law of rev fr antony moolamattam cmi, was called to eternal reward on 15 February 2022.



RIP: jose mankuzha (65)

beloved paternal uncle of rev fr shaiju narimattathil cmi, was called to eternal reward on 10 march 2022.

RIP: mr abraham punchaputhussery (87)

beloved elder brother of rev. fr jacob punchaputhussery cmi, was called for eternal reward on 15 march.

obituary

commemoration of the departed



fr poondikulam lucas cmi
25 january 2005



fr edmund kaliyankara cmi
08 february 1990



fr aranjaniyil william cmi
26 february 1993



fr angadiath joseph cmi
01 march 2019



fr ottakudassery anastasius cmi
08 march 2019



fr pittappilly tomy cmi
15 march 2010

the desert

fr varghese paul panenghatt cmi



Journey to the desert is journey to one's own self, knowing oneself. Journey to desert is a searching for a real Guru, who is in desert. Our guru Jesus with full of love, compassion, care, kindness, generosity, and service. He is the one who surrendered to the will of God absolutely.

Journey to desert is finding Jesus' values and following his way of truth by taking our sufferings and trials to carry our cross to forget ourselves, to forgive and to forget. Journey to the real light of wisdom from darkness of sinful ways and means. Journey to charge oneself to have power of Holy Spirit to face and overcome trials and temptations. Experience the desert means to have content with God in solitude. Journey to internal silence, to be a strong-willed person of fullness and greatness with loving service.

Go to the desert, our friend is there; to bear all our sins and griefs. With Him everything is possible. We are privileged to carry everything to Him in the moments of prayer. Have we troubles and temptations of earthly life; take it to the 'Guru in Desert'. We should be never discouraged. He is there to carry all our burdens and sins.

Jesus calls us from Desert, "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you. He calls us to Desert to learn from him because he is gentle and humble in spirit. He calls us to Desert to have eternal life. His love and compassionate touch will give us real strength and life to carry all the real crosses.

He is very alert in the Desert because we are away from His way of Sacrifice. Go to the desert, to know our strengths as well as weakness to know where we are! To know who I am! Yes, Guru is our vision, wisdom, and true word, He is our best thought by day and night. He is indwelling God every time as our soul's shelter. He is our good shepherd. He is our high tower and source of power.

From Desert I have understood that riches I need not, nor man's empty praise. My guru is my inheritance now and always, He is my shelter and real treasure.

From the Desert, I have realized what is real! Guru is the heaven's sun, heart of heart! I do pray again and again, give me Lord one more chance to love, one more

choice, the way to the desert, to go the core, give me a new heart to love you and our fellow beings faithfully, give me the power to die with you to be lived by your grace in eternal glory.

Let us take our cross and follow Jesus' way, we are not alone in this journey of life, journey to the calvary, his footsteps are there. He gives the life in abundance, by His graceful touch, he gives the power to be a better person, a person of love, mercy, kindne. A person who cries for the other, to be a true healer, to be a true servant... to find joy in real 'Kenosis' (self-emptying) to become a holocaust, to burn for God and even in the dark nights of the soul, darkest moments of sin, in times of trials and temptations in the time of fragility, in times of failures, think about the desert, look to the desert.! He is there our true friend Jesus. He is in solitude. He is the role model for prayer, fasting and sacrifices. He is the one to be with. He is the one who calls you to go back to God our Father's love, be back home experience, to be a person of awareness, change and transformation



a silent saint

PART III -

Simplicity of Mind: A distinct personal Quality of Fr Amatus



The easiest definition of simplicity is that it is the lack of complexity. To put it affirmatively, it is engaging in deliberate ordering of priorities so as to distinguish between necessary and superfluous, useful and wasteful, beautiful and vulgar. It trains one's motives for choosing something that is good and lasting by learning to say no to indulgences gracefully. This means one who practices this simplicity of mind achieves an admirable state of clarity of goals. He/she becomes free of the confused mental state of being tormented between too many goals and too little self-discipline to advance to any of these goals. Probably the biggest problem today's religious persons face is the problem of too many goals and a dangerous lack of ordered priorities among them. So, disintegration of personality becomes a mark of the day. Men and women remain unhappy over the confused priorities as the internal aspirations favour with dangerous indulgences and extreme compulsions making it impossible to detach from any of these.

Back to the person of Fr Amatus, as most of us having memorable experiences with Fr Amatus in community living, we find in him, a heroically set single minded goal of achieving a sanctified life and well prioritized and deliberately ordered practices in achieving this goal, in other word, he always tried to be a little better to be near to the Lord. He was primarily a quite person and was not at all prolific or interested in sermonizing about religious life visualized within the framework of the modern sociological, managerial and developmental strategies as of the practice of the day. This lack of expressiveness cannot be interpreted as lack of ability to conceive ideas or a state of inertia. This was a consciously selected response to the otherwise confusing flux of opinions and contradicting and sometimes even counter-witnessing policies adopted in the communities. It gives a lot of pain and needs amazing patience to be silent in the communities that are drastically transforming itself responding to the changing outlooks of the external world. In certain occasions it is the silent life of witnessing which will be more effective than preaching too many sermons. Fr Amatus did this heroic witnessing, by way of his complete trust and sense of dependence on the Lord, in the communities and to the people he was in touch with. See what Fr

Romulus Payyappally CMI speaks about this:

There are only few people who completely abstain from finding others in fault with at least just for a joke. As an exception to this generally accepted human behaviour, Fr Amatus is never

heard of uttering a word that hurts others. He was so saintly and simple in heart and mind that it was impossible for him to find fault with others, or to make a negative comment about others. A well-disciplined prayer life, a calm and quite style of life and interaction, a deep sense of humility, and complete obedience to the authority were the dominant virtues that Fr Amatus never failed in his life. He lived and practiced the virtue of Love like a novice all through his priestly and religious life. I thankfully remember that I was lucky to meet him and pray together with him just a week before his death. Those moments gave me a genuine feeling of being close to a saint on earth.

Again, Fr Jomon Kolenchery CMI in a memoir about Fr Amatus writes:

We never saw Fr Amatus leading any ideological campaigns or struggle for rights. This is not because of his poverty of ideas, rather his inner strength to accept others even on points of disagreement. (Sometimes silence speaks effectively than explosive expressions) He kept up the nobility of his religious commitment in his words and deeds. Unlike the todays religious of the periphery, he practiced an emphatic detachment in all aspects of his life. He spoke volumes in a consoling and satisfied smile. God was his portion. So, he was fully contented in it. It was because of this contented life that he inspired the people of *Marakkadave* to call him "the God of *Marakkadave*" what more effective witnessing we need to call him a saint.

His silence was a prayerful silence that was inspired by his mystical relationship with the Lord. He, thus was not disturbed by any inner compulsions that driven him to project himself as an outspoken religious seeking more publicity and acceptance. He was thus heroic in controlling his mental aspirations. During the course of his life, Fr Amatus was free from all kinds of compulsive behaviours. Nothing in his surroundings attracted him as inevitable.

Of course, it is this internal simplicity and extraordinary sense of dependence on divine providence that helped him to take a very difficult decision to move to Mysore region after 23 years of life in the S.H. Province, Kalamassery. While deciding to move to Mysore region under the direction of his superiors at Kalamassery province, Fr Amatus did not make any extraordinary preparations or collected any special materials, either of dress equipment, medicine or any of that kind to face the hardships of the mission station. He did not have a penny other than what was required for his travel from Kalamassery to Mysore. He carried an umbrella and a trunk box with his additional cassock and inner garments and a Bible in it.

Fr Joseph Edakkery CMI describes this in the following word:

I saw him for the first time at Carmel Bhavan during my PUC studies at, Mysore. The scene of the arrival of Fr Amatus to Mysore provincial house is so vivid in my mind. He was carrying a Trunk box in one hand and an umbrella in another hand. Fr Amatus was our confessor on

those days. His comforting words of reconciliation are still alive in the heart consoling and encouraging me even today in times of difficulties. He is there with me as strengthening presence in ways of trials and tribulations. For me Fr Amatus was a living saint. He did not accomplish big things and did not enjoy any high positions but he was a man who made big difference through little things. He did everything with love and respect.

He was, but, meticulous about looking after and preserving what was entrusted to his care. His dreams were all about achieving an enduring and blessed life over the complicated and passing realities around him. The transitory and the pleasurable did not make any impact upon him. To put it in more clear terms, Fr Amatus set his goal as the complete sanctity of life and gave utmost priority to all what he said did in order to advance to this single-minded goal.

Fr Amatus' determination and single-minded devotion to the achievement of this goal shaped the nature of his personality. Since his mind was so calm and clear he had no complaints about the inadequacies of his material environment or external supplies that increased or decreased his bodily pleasures. As he was trying to be a *little better* every day toward the Lord, his religious personality was enveloped by an increasing spirit of detachment.

Fr Amatus accepted all his sufferings from insufficiencies as a better means to achieve his goal. Due to this basic attitude, his reactions to

the environments and to the people with whom he lived were very much soft and admirable to all. He placed incomparable trust with his Lord and with his fellow religious. He learned every moment in his life to live with the people he got peacefully and revealing them the love of the heavenly father, rather than looking for people whom he liked to live with and enjoy. He never kept any private concerns or program that was not known to his community members. He was a simple and open book written in clear terms having no obscurities in it. The inner peace that he experienced in his life was very much evident from the admirable pleasantness he exhibited all the day pointing to the absence of any internal complexities which leads to the shifting moods and changing behaviours in many religious. His calm and quite mind made him a man of constancy or steadfastness, approachable in all days and all seasons.

As a formator and a spiritual guide Fr Amatus always inspired his disciples, fellow religious and his relatives to develop unconditional trust in the Lord. Every time when he made sermons and gave spiritual councils to the students. The major topic of his discussion was about providence and care of the Lord for those who are being humble before the Lord with simplicity of Heart. He was not at all giving any prepared sermons on councils but was talking from the depth of his heart what he internally practiced throughout his life. One of the letters written to his elder brother reveals this truth very clearly:

1-4-2000

[illegible][illegible]

[illegible]

Before continuing with the analysis of Fr Amatus' saintly personality, we need to travel back to history for a while. In 1984 Rev. Fr Gabinus Petta CMI was elected as the provincial superior of St. Paul's Province, Mysore. It was his long-cherished dream to have a novitiate house for Mysore province. Until then, students from Mysore province were undergoing novitiate training at Karukutty Novitiate House. After the necessary consultations and required permissions from the general council, it was decided to start an independent novitiate for the province in spite of the fact that there was no proper building facility for a novitiate. Thandavapura was selected as the proper place for the novitiate and started constructing a new building for the same attached to the existing old building there. Rev. Fr Antony Moolamattom CMI was entrusted the responsibility of supervising the construction work there with a presumption that the building will be completed within a year. In the meantime, canonical novitiate started on 19th March, 1985 at Hassan Kandali ashram making use of the existing three separate small buildings there. The search for a suitable novice master ended up with Rev Dr. Thomas Vithayathil CMI, who was serving as the professor of philosophy and spiritual father at Dharmaram college, Bangalore, the major seminary of CMI congregation. At that time, Rev. Fr Thomas Vithayathil CMI was a man of admirable simplicity, exceptionally knowledgeable most noble and humble in behaviour, a man of higher spiritual awareness,

and of higher discernment, soft spoken and above all, was a profound religious personality and hence was the most fitting for the Job. Though reluctantly, Fr Vithayathil finally agreed to take up the job on one condition that Rev. Fr Amatus should be there in the team as the superior of the house. It was in this situation that Fr Amatus was suddenly transferred from Periyapatna to Kandali Ashram. Here naturally comes the question, why Fr Vithayathil, a man of higher integrity and exceptional sense of discernment insistently demanded for the inclusion of Fr Amatus in the novitiate team? The immediate answer will be; because of his saintly character, his simplicity etc. But there are much more in this question to be answered. More than imparting spiritual knowledge and inculcating spiritual habits a novitiate is a place where novices learn to imitate Jesus and experience the nearness of the Lord by being closer to living examples of formators who can live like a novice and at the same time be like Christ with a compassionate heart and authentic personality. Then the best suited person for such a job was none other than Fr Amatus who was also known as *Eesho Achan*. Being a man who spent most of his young years as priest with the novices (As we noted above Fr Amatus was almost always a sought-after presence in the novitiate team while he was in Kalamassery province) Fr Amatus always kept up the innocent mind set of a novice with incomparable inner sanctity.

Complete and unfailing obedience to the

constitution of the congregation and its guidelines was the typical mark of the person of Fr Amatus and that was the corner stone of his personal sanctity too. He considered the Carmelite religious rule as the most authentic guide and leading light for him to live the evangelical counsels in its perfection as a religious. This required amazing simplicity of heart inner courage and a sincere and straight forward life without making compromises to the teachings of the Gospel. This simplicity of heart made Fr Amatus an extraordinary man of faith in the Lord and thereby a completely satisfied religious with unshakable inner peace. This inner experience of peace and constancy, of course, speak volumes about his experience of the nearness of the Lord. His spiritual simplicity was actually the result of his simplicity of mind. It was these dimensions of his personality that made him the most fitting formator in a novitiate house. His life was an open text book for the novices to read and imitate. Fr Thomas Vithayathil and the first novices enjoyed his spiritual company in the novitiate training process. His humility and exceptional service-mindedness coupled with his spiritual vigour helped them to have an unforgettable time in the first year of the newly started novitiate.

Fr Thomas Parayil CMI, one of his later years' novices, quotes often-repeated words of Fr Amatus in the class:

“Little thing is little thing but being faithful to it is a great thing” Fr Parayil continues: The above statement is a fine memory from our novitiate classes. He has

a humble and simple life and always considered others as more important and greater than himself. Fr Amatus was an authentic religious with a much higher levels of spiritual awareness.

The hard work of Rev. Fr Antony Moolamattom CMI produced its desired result. The new building for the Novitiate house was completed by 1986 March and the novitiate was shifted to Thandavapura from Kandali in the same year after the first profession of the newly started novitiate batch and the vestition of the second batch in the same month. The novitiate formation team continued till May in the same year. By the month of April 1986 Rev. Fr Gabinus Petta completed his three-year term as the provincial superior and late Rev. Fr Thomas Kuniyanthodath CMI was elected as the new provincial superior with new provincial administrative team. Rev. Fr Thomas Vithayathil soon returned to Dharmaram College and Rev. Fr Gabinus Petta was appointed as the Novice master. Fr Amatus continued as Novitiate superior. Unfortunately, after the departure of the senior batch of the novices for their philosophical studies, novices from the junior batch began to leave the community. Of the four novices who entered the novitiate all the three chose secular life by leaving the novitiate and only one novice left in the novitiate. (By the grace of God that single novice later became priest and he is now writing this history sitting in the office of a parish church of Thalassery Arch diocese in Kerala). Considering the difficulty of running

the novitiate with one novice the provincial council made arrangements to send the single novice to St Thomas Novitiate House, Marikkunnu. By October 1986 Thandavapura novitiate was closed and the single novice was sent to Marikkunnu to join the novitiate batch there for the completion of the canonical novitiate.

Before leaving for Marikkunnu Novitiate house, I had to spend almost two months alone at Thandavapura novitiate with Fr Gabinus Petta as the novice master and Fr Amatus as the superior. These two months in my life were a very precious time which I can never forget but will always remember with a deep sense of gratitude to these two saintly priests. Even though there was only one novice, the novitiate programme went on without any slight change in the daily routine. Fr Rector was so keen in conducting classes as usual. His proficiency in English and French was a big advantage in explaining the spiritual classics. Prayers, visits, garden work etc. went on without any break. Fr Amatus in spite of his duties as the superior of the house joined me for all the activities in time except attending the classes. He was like novice. I never felt that I

was alone. He was present with me for all the prayers, visits to the Holy Eucharist, preparing the altar for the holy mass, folding the vestments, house cleaning, garden work and for food and everything. While conducting Bible services and Adorations, he was readily there to help. He was there with me for everything as a collaborator novice till the end of the day. After the night prayers when I leave the chapel for sleep, Fr Amatus used to continue his prayers with extended hands in front of the crucifix which may sometimes continue till midnight. The short span of time that I spent with Fr Amatus was genuinely inspiring and blessed days. I had an increased feeling that I was lucky to live with a living saint. He was such a great mind and humble soul who came down to the level of a novice. He showed the true dignity of a religious in his person and in his deeds on those days. Those memories are so much vivid and worth inspiring even today in the middle of all struggle.



edited by

rev. dr abraham vadakkemuriyil cmi

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ಡಾ. ಸಂದೀಪ್ ಹೆಚ್. ಎನ್.

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BAMS

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ಡಾ. ಶಕ್ತಿ ಪ್ರಸಾದ್

BDS

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