



# St. Paul's Messenger

Department of Education and Media

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## Provincial's Message

Dear Fathers and Brothers in Jesus Christ,

Jesus died, Jesus was risen and Jesus is living...

Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the foundation of Christian Faith. The post resurrection experiences of disciples enabled them to reflect back up on the life of Jesus and confess that Jesus is the Christ. Hence the Christ Event that is anchored in the event of resurrection is more subjective in nature. The Objective act of resurrection becomes meaningful only to those who confess subjectively that Jesus is the Christ. Christian faith begins with a personal confession of the resurrection of Jesus. I think it is proper to make introspection into our faith commitment, as we come to the closure of Easter season.

I would like to invite your attention to the post resurrection faith confession of Apostle St. Thomas. We celebrate his Feast on 3 July. He was the last among the twelve to have an encounter with the risen Lord. What is striking here is that he was not among them when Jesus appeared. In spite of his earnest and intense desire to see the risen Lord, he was not given the vision until he remained with them for 7 complete days. He listened to the community, prayed with the community, remained with them until he was given the unique vision of the Lord after which he made his famous faith confession, "My Lord and my God." And it was exactly at this moment Easter turned out to be meaningful to Thomas and he became the real disciple of Christ. In the light of Thomas' episode commitment to the community seems to be a prerequisite for encountering the risen Lord. I think risen Lord is inviting each of us to a joyful and prayerful community experience. It is in the community one's call and faith gets strengthened.

Hence my meditation on Easter season and St. Thomas' Abba experience culminates in a reflection on community life. The instruction of the risen Lord is to remain together. His prayer is for our unity. In union with the spirit of the Lord if we ask anything of God, how will it be denied! He cannot but grant. Seeking unique Easter experience like St. Thomas let us remain together in one spirit and mind, put our best, renew our lives, deepen our commitment, strengthen our community thus glorify the risen Jesus the Christ our Lord. May God bless us all...■

Fr. Provincial





## Core of Synaxis 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

The 2<sup>nd</sup> session of VI Ordinary Provincial Synaxis of CMI St. Paul's Province, Mysuru began at 6 pm on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2017 at Carmel Bhavan, Provincial house. The inaugural session began with a hymn to the Holy Spirit followed by lighting of the lamp in front of the statue of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, our Founder.

Rev. Fr. Provincial started the inaugural address with a video presentation citing Psalm 63: 1, **"Whatever we do must be to seek God and God alone"**. Fr. Provincial and Secretaries of various departments presented detailed departmental reports accentuating the problems and prospects of the province. The synaxis steered serious and productive discussions and deliberations on various programmes and projects. Discussions held in common and in groups were creamed in to resolutions. On the third day all the synaxis members gathered in the chapel for concluding prayer which was led by Fr. Provincial. After the prayer Rev. Fr. Provincial officially dissolved the VI<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Provincial Synaxis. Indeed the provincial synaxis was a celebration of the genuine spirit of the religious community life ■

## "If you really seek God, enter...!"

Reciprocating to the inner divine call, "if you really seek God, enter...!", Bros. Albin Edamanasserry, Nirmal Rosh Veliyath and Mejo Pampackal entered novitiate, at Marikunnu on September 08. As we thank God for the beautiful gift of vocation, let us give them our conscientious spiritual accompaniment ■

## Vinaya Pravesha

St. Mary's Carmel Aspirants House is the home for 23 brothers who are aspiring to become close followers of Jesus. Out of these 23, 10 are the first year brothers who joined on June 10, 2017 and the remaining 13 are the second years who are pursuing their 1st PUC education in Bharath Matha College, Koppa. We have a Regent, Bro. Vibin Mathoor who is helping us here. The House is steered by our beloved Rector Fr. Thomas Marottimootil.

The brothers take initiatives in celebrating the feasts and other festivals. For Onam, we had several events conducted to induce the spirit of the festival. The brothers also participated in putting the floral decoration both in the House as well as in the school. We got the privilege of Rev. Fr. Varghese Kelampampil, our provincial joining us for the onam celebration. Brothers took initiative in celebrating Mother Mary's feast on September 8.

The second year brothers who are doing their 1st PUC in Bharath Matha College are also active members in their college for various events. They are part of the choir, sports and other departments in the college. Recently, our brothers participated in the Taluk level sports events in which 5 of our brothers got selected to the District level. Out of that, one of our brothers won the third place in the district level sports event conducted at Mysore. All the brothers performed well in their first and second test conducted in the college. We thank God almighty for His choicest blessings on us. We acknowledge the paternal support of our Provincial Fr. Varghese Kelampampil ■





## Rock Hampton Missionary...!



Rev. Fr. Francis Mandapathikunnel has flown to the diocese of Rockhampton, central Queensland, Australia, to be a herald of the Good Shepherd. Congratulations and prayerful best wishes the young and vibrant missionary....■

## Dharmaram News

The CMI Mysore family at Dharmaram was happy to celebrate the birthday of Rev. Fr. Provincial on Saturday, 22 July 2017. It was a province gathering arranged to celebrate the feast days and birthdays of all fathers and brothers who were celebrating these two important days in the month of July. During the gathering Frs. Mandapathikunnel and Puramthottam who were leaving for Australia for pastoral work was given a warm sent off. Fr. Thomas Vithayathil who underwent a hernia operation at Rajagiri hospital is back at Dharmaram hale and hearty ■

# Argentina...‘Silvery’ Mission...!

## History

The preliminary works of Argentina mission was started, in 2004, when Fr. Thomas Ayankudy was the Provincial. Fr. Roy Kochuvelikkakath, Fr. Joy Kuchupurackal, Fr. Chacko parakkattukuzhy, and Fr. Abraham Kandathinkara were the pioneers in the mission. They worked in the Diocese of Oran in the North Argentina. Fr. Abraham and Chacko had to return due to health issues. Fr. Joy and Roy continued and later Fr. Thomas Ayankudy joined them as he completed his tenure as provincial. Later, our Fathers had to move to Buenos Aires, Diocese of Lomas de Zamora, of central Argentina, where they had better facilities. Then Prior General Fr. Jose Panthaplanthottiyl and late Fr. George Thanchan have visited our Mission. Provincials Fr. Varghese Koluthara and Fr. Joseph Rathapillil have visited the mission during their tenure. In 2013 Fr. Thomas Ayankudy moved to the diocese of Azul, to a parish church owned by Carmelite fathers. In the same year Frs. Antony Akkappallil, Jose Joseph Pallattu and Joy Kamugumpally had joined the Mission. In 2014 Fr. Joy Kochupurackal had moved from the

## ● Fr. Antony Akkappillil CMI

diocese of Lomas to Azul to join with Fr. Thomas Ayankudy.

## Our Mission Centres/parishes

In the dioceses of Lomas de Zamora we have three parishes. Fr. Joy Kamugumpally is the Vicar of the parish SAGRADO CORAZON DE JESUS and NUESTRA SRA DEL ROSARIO DE SAN NICOLAS. It's a parish with a main parish church and four station churches. This church is handed over to him from Fr. Joy Kuchupurackal. This is a vast zone with around fifty thousand Christians. But only 5% of the total Christian population attends in the church activities. It is very difficult to reach out to the people as it is huge in number. The people are generally poor. There are the issues of drugs, violence, robbery etc. But none of them posed a threat to our fathers. Daily Eucharistic celebration, attending funerals, visiting the sick people, organizing aid for the poor people, house visits and inviting people to the church, conducting baptisms in a massive



manner, organizing retreats, catechism of children and adults etc are the main activities. Charismatic healing Masses attract the people to this church.

There are many people to be baptized. There are thousands of people to receive the Holy Communion and other sacraments. As priests we can visit houses and catechize the people. They respect the priests and co-operate whole heartedly. Our fathers have worked a lot and renewed this church to a lively and vibrant one. They have a special love to Indian priests. Large number of people gathers in our Eucharistic celebrations compared to that of Argentine priests. Anybody can attend in any church. There is no parish restriction as we have. Our presence in this church has changed the face of the community. The people want Indian priests.

### Fr. Jose Pallattu

Fr. Jose has been appointed as the administrator of the parish IMMACULADO CORAZON DE MARIA, Monte Grande, in 2015. This is a beautiful and well organized church. It has got two station churches also. Around 300 children participate in the catechism. Family catechism is another mark of this church. Well organized parish



committee, youth ministry, charismatic groups, healing masses, visiting the sick and dying, visiting the houses and blessing, helping the poor etc are the activities. Fr. Jose is also the chaplain of the sisters community of Nuestra Sra de Salud. A church that had witnessed only 150 to 200 people on Sundays now has more than 1000 people every Sunday. The community is comprised of people of different nationalities. The people appreciate very much the activities and dedicated service of Fr. Jose. There also hundreds of people to receive baptism and other sacraments. We can easily reach out to the people. Never had any sort of resistance from any corner. The people really are motivated and the church became a vibrant one with mass participation.

### Fr. Antony Akkappillil

Fr. Antony was the parish priest of NUESTRA senora de LUJAN, El Jaguel. This parish was the poorest of the diocese in terms of resources and people. The parish building was a small one to accommodate the people. It is a zone affected by drugs and other social evils. Many people were involved in black magics, spiritism etc. Due to the hard work of Fr. Antony this parish became the richest in the dioceses, economically. People used to come even from the capital city to attend the healing masses. Every 8th day of month they conducted a procession reciting the holy rosary. The church is very near to the railway station. During Sundays around 1500 persons used to participate in the liturgical celebrations. Even the weekdays the church was almost full with the presence of people and children. Visiting houses, visiting sick and afflicted,





## Fr. Thomas Ayankudy and Fr. Joy Kochupurackal

Since 2013 Fr. Thomas is working as the parish priest of Our Lady Of Carmel church at Tandil, of diocese of Azul, around 400 km away from the capital Buenos Aires. Later Fr. Joy joined with him in 2015. This is a church owned by the Carmelites fathers and entrusted to us for 9 years with a contract. It is a huge church near the pilgrim centre of CALVARIO. At the pilgrim centre we have a book centre and a station church. During the holy week thousands of people gather here as part of Via Cruzis. The parish has two more station churches. Catechism, youth ministry, family counselling, visiting the sick at hospitals, charismatic prayer groups, ministry of consolation etc are the main activities. The University of Tandil is very near to the parish. Many young people and students approach our church for confessions and spiritual direction. At Tandil, Fr. Thomas has created a good reputation. He is known as the healing priest. It's a peaceful city with lot of pastoral needs. People come to our parish even from the nearby parishes. They find some special experience in our celebrations. Many people search for our priests for blessing their houses.

## The future of the Mission

The mission has a bright future in Argentina. The people are generally God fearing. The faith in God and devotion to the Blessed Mother is deep rooted. But the fact is that only 3% of the total catholic population has a relation with the church. 3% go regularly to the church. Another 4% go to the church once or twice in a year. The evangelical churches and the Brazilian churches are very strong in Argentina. Catholic folk in large numbers are now moving towards the evangelical churches. Catholic Church is a lively church. The people generally do not discriminate. We feel like as if we are in a Kerala parish. Though there are many atheists and agnostics, none of them criticize the faith of the other. Of course there were agitations against the

confessions, monthly rosary processions, healing masses in and outside the parish, baptisms, youth ministry, charismatic groups, family catechesis, Bible mission-distributing bible, charity works etc were the main activities.

The parish had a very small church building. Fr. Antony, with the help of the parishners started the construction works and almost 80% of the same was completed. The people of the locality extended their support to this project. The construction workers donated their labor and none of them accepted any kind of remuneration.

In the name of St. Mother Teresa we have started a free food programme. Monday to Saturday around hundred or more poor and destitute people come to the centre to have food. The people of the locality wholeheartedly supported this programme by donating food materials.

Another programme aimed at the poor people was "let them have their daily bread". This was to help the poor, old age and sick people. We used to take to homes bread and milk, twice in a week. This programme also had the support of the people and other charitable organizations. Even the non-catholics and non Christians collaborated with these charitable activities.



official church, against corruption and siding with politicians.

**Parishes in General:** Almost all the parishes are having four to 8 station churches with 30,000 to 70,000 Catholics in each parish. Some parishes are having more than 15 station churches. It is impossible for a single priest to take care of the families. Some station churches are having Holy Mass only once in two months. This is in general the situation in Buenos Aires, the capital.

In other states of Argentina the situation is worse. The people are generally religious. Almost 80 or 90% are Catholics. But the plight is that there are no priests to attend the people. The church is satisfied with those who participate in the Sunday Masses. Priests do not have time to visit homes of the faithful or even to attend funeral rites. There are zones where the people are in utter poverty. The states like Tucuman, Salta, Chaco, Jujuietc are example. Their religiosity and participation in the church activities is tremendous. They respect the priests and do everything for the well being of the priest. Their longing for a Holy Mass and the preparations are really inspiring. Another fact is that there are thousands of people and children to be baptized. Many are there to receive other sacraments. They have an open heart. But there are less people to invite and prepare them. In some of the states the young generation is under the clutches of drugs. Broken families and lack of good religious education are causes for this situation.

**Baptisms:** in two years time I have baptized more than 1700 people. The situation in the parishes of other fathers also is same. Perhaps they might have baptized more people than me.

**Catechism:** In parish every year nearly 600 children participate in the catechism for Holy Communion. More over there is catechism for confirmation, adult catechesis, family catechesis etc. Sacrament of Matrimony: The new generation Catholics, especially youth are in favour of the sacrament of matrimony. In my parish, in one year there were 24 marriage ceremonies.

## New openings

**Tucuman:** in the state of Tucuman there are only a few priests to look after the faithful. There are many dioceses with deficiency of priests. Concepcion is a large diocese. But it has only 20 priests. A priest has to attend in 5 to 6 churches. The people get a Eucharistic celebration only once in one or two months. I used to visit this area with the people as

part of a mission visit from my previous parish. The people are very much religious. They are mostly workers in the sugarcane grows. The people went to the bishop and demanded for Indian priests. The bishop once invited me to the bishop's house and requested help. Later he contacted Fr. Thomas Ayankudy to repeat the request. It will be great if we could send a few priests to that diocese.

**Chaco** is another province which has a great need of priests. The bishop of this place also is looking for priests. Jujui is the province at the very north of Argentina. It has a landscape almost like that of Kerala and has semi tropical climate. The young bishop of Jujui is also in search of priests as there is a heavy shortage of priests.

## My Observations

The people of Argentina are of God fearing and good in charity. They need pastors. They have great appreciation for Indian priests. It is a great pastoral experience to be with the people of Argentina and of other Latin American countries. They respect us, like the Syro- Malabar Christians or even better than our people.

**Religious houses:** There are so many religious houses closed or only with elderly persons to maintain. If we can have a good contact and contract with some of them, we can have a common religious house for the formation of our brothers.

Formation of our brothers or young priests in the cultural context of Argentina is a must if we wish to make our mission a fruitful one. We need persons who speak Spanish fluently. We need to form our brothers in the pastoral context of Argentina.

To conclude, I remind myself of the words of our Divine Master; “ the harvest is in abundance but the workers are few...” Though a Christian country, only 30 % of the population of Argentina knows something about the fundamentals of Christian faith. The people are having an open attitude. They need priests. They need pastors to guide them in the ways of Christ ■

## Health Desk

By God's grace Fr. Antony Moolamattam is having a fast recovery after the cardiac surgery at Narayana Hrudayalaya, Bangalore. Thanks for the support and spiritual assistance of all the members. Let us continue to be united in prayer ■



# Educational News



**Independence Day**

Dr. Dharani Devi Malagathi IPS is seen, hoisting the National Flag at Christ College, Mysuru, in the presence of management, faculty and students on 15th August 2017.



**Ethnic Day**



**Teacher's Day**



**Mr. Kailash Murthy is seen planting Sapling**



**Swachh Bharath Mission Cleanliness drive**

## 1. CHRISTA JYOTHI SCHOOL, ARKALGUD

### Christha Jyothi Alumni...

Agathering of the former students was organized by the S. S. L. C students of 2011/12/13 batch at our school on 25th of July. During the gathering all of them expressed their gratitude towards the school for changing them to be happy and successful people



### Higher and faster !!!!!!!

This year our students of H .P .S and High School participated in the sports competition at zonal and taluk level. Students performed superbly and won the champions trophy...!

### Grand Independence Day celebration

71st Independence Day was celebrated in the school very solemnly. At the taluk level celebration, we have performed a grand dance of 350 students and made the ground colourful.





Audience cheered up the students and one of them handed a surprise gift of Rs.4000/- to admire them.

### Taluk level sports hosted

Christa Jyothi School has hosted the taluk level sports for this year. The entire Christa Jyothi family and the department of education worked together to make the sports extravaganza a grand success.

## 2. CHRIST PUBLIC SCHOOL, BOGADI

### Excels in Yoga and Olympiad...!



Science Olympiad Foundation, New Delhi, conducted International English Olympiad Exams in Jan 2017. Stuti M Nair and Srihari S Kurup of Grade 3 secured 1<sup>st</sup> international rank and been honoured with a certificate, Gold medal and cash voucher of Rs. 1000/-.

Amulya Narayan of Grade 6 took part in International Yoga Championship competition and won second place which was held in Singapore in July 2017. She has been recognised for her outstanding performance in Yoga by the Asian Yoga sports Committee.



## 3. BHARATHMATHA SCHOOL, KOPPA

### Study... materials...!

To lift the needy students in to the horizons of knowledge BMS provided them study material for the year...!



### Free Computers and Class...!

To the students of the Koppa government school BMS provided 6 computers. The students are provided with free computer training course thrice in a week.



### Bibins...Coaching...!

Under the leadership of Bro. Bibin, basic course of English language is provided to the poor students. Leadership camps thrice in a week have been arranged for the little ones of the government school.

### BMS made available...!

Bharath Matha School is made available for the nearby school children on every Sunday for tuition, games, moral value classes etc.....!

### Free Medical Help...!

Mrs. Mercy was helped with rupees 30,000/-for cancer treatment.

### Bharath Matha Academic year Achievements

BMS is selected by the School Games Federation of India for District level volleyball tournament. They have become winners for Mysore division.

### Teachers Day Celebration and Honoring Staff..!





Teacher's day was celebrated with traditional gaiety and decorum....! It was a fitting day of tribute to all the *gurus* of the campus...

### Environment Day Campaign...!

BMS held a meaningful campaign on the World Environment Day...! The day was made significant by enlightening the little minds about the need of being on the lap of the mother earth....!

### Champions..!



Yashaswini D S got 1<sup>st</sup> prize in International Hip pop Championship, conducted in Goa and Asutosh got 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Lic Pick and Speak Competition...**Kudos** to the little stars....!

## 4. PUSHPA SCHOOL, PERIYAPATNA

Students of the Pushpa Primary School have become the zonal level champions...Amazing....!

The students have once again set a bench mark by becoming High school zonal level champions ....Congrats..!



Pushpa students have once again brought laurels to the school.

Pushpa pupil have become district level karate winners with 7gold medals and 2silver and they are selected to state level.

Our students are the Zonal and Taluk levels *Prathibakaranji* winners.

Hearty congratulations to the committed Principal, Staff and students of Pushpa.....!

## 5. CHRIST SCHOOL THANDAVAPURA

### Chandanada Thaaregalu...!

DD Chandana channel had been telecasting a Quiz programme "*Thatt Antha Heli*", an I.Q self test competition every day at 9:30pm. Our talented students of Christ school Thandavapura, Miss. Gowthami K S and Miss. Kavya C of 10<sup>th</sup> std participated in the quiz shoot on 20<sup>th</sup> of August at Bangalore. Miss. Gowthami K.S's shoot was telecasted on 12<sup>th</sup> September at 9:30 pm whereas Miss. Kaya. C's shoot was telecasted on 14.09.2017 at 9:30pm onwards in the same channel. Hearty congratulations to the blooming buds for their impeccable performance. Hats off to the committed principal and staff....!

## 6. CHRIST SCHOOL HASSAN





Christ school Hassan has the motto to ensure overall opportunities of the students. The school had organized Orientation Programme to the teachers to inculcate the positive attitude among teachers and students. Mr. Hanson was



the Resource Person for the programme. On the occasion of Environmental day to go with green, an “eco-christ” was celebrated on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Literary and cultural activities, investiture ceremony were inaugurated in a fantabulous way. To develop scientific values & attitudes among children our students were taken to the science exhibition organized by NDRK Nursing College Hassan on 12<sup>th</sup> July. Independence Day was celebrated and house wise Patriotic dance competition was conducted. In view of students Health and Fitness we had organized medical camp on 4<sup>th</sup> Sep. The doctors from “V care dental care Hospital” and “Shivaprasad Netralaya” Hassan had visited our school. Teacher’s day was celebrated by our loving students fabulously ■



By praising God in different languages we add more glory to Him. With this objective morning prayer -*Sapra*- is translated (partially) in to Kannada by Fr. Emmanuel Ayankudy, with the title ‘*Prathakala Prarathane*’.



## Revamped Finance...!

Digital is the word heard around, especially in the finance sector. Tuning stings to the times Fr. Shaiju Narimattathil has given a facelift to his office at Annexe. Yes...hereafter budgeting, auditing and accounting are going to be more efficient and effective.

## Divine Compositions..!



Fr. John Kandankary has an inimitable colorful feather on his cap. “Naadhande Karuthal”, a Christian devotional musical album has been released with his smiling face on the flap - a distinctive and inspirational contribution, worthy of lauds of appreciation....!

## Chinnara Mane

Jetthundi house has become a second home for the specially challenged children of nearby villages. Making avail regular teaching and non-teaching staff Fr. Joseph Edakkery is steering the ministry in a homily atmosphere.



# Social Work updates

## 1. Women Empowerment Programme

Inspired by our founder St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara we have started women empowerment programmes. The first one of this kind was conducted at Chikkehosure village. Nearly 400 women participated in the programme. It was inaugurated by Mr. Yashwanth Kumar (panchayath member) and Fr. Joseph Panampuzha delivered message on the topic "Family welfare and mother's role in the society". We have planned to conduct the same programme at Dhoddarve village on 4th September and in two other villages too.

## 2. I was sick and you helped me....!



We extended our helping hand to a parishner from Gonikoppal, St. Thomas church who had undergone kidney transplantation.

## 4. Home for the homeless...!

Having been inspired by our founder St. Chavara, who built houses for homeless at Kainakari, our social work department started a project named



Home for Homeless. Under this project we have planned to build houses for those who are working in our houses or institutions from many years. Thus we could construct at least 3 houses per year. On 21 of September a new house was blessed at Koppa, for Mr. Sunny who has been working in our hostel for past 10 years. We have also helped Miss. Aswini from Hanbal for house construction helping her by Rs.50,000.

## 3. New Tailoring Center

We have started a new tailoring center at Byadarahally colony Hunsuru, with the purpose of self-employment. We do continue the other tailoring centers at Gothinapura village Hallikerehundi and Rathnapuri colony at Hunsuru.



## 5. Adopting Govt. schools

As a part of reaching out to the needy in the society under the guidance of social work department our schools have started adopting the nearby govt. schools. In this regard Bharath Matha School, Koppa has taken the first initiative by adopting the govt. school of Koppa which has 100 students. It has made a positive response from Koppa Panchayath ■





# “Nadedu Banda Daari”

## (Part 2)

History of CMI St. Paul's Province,  
Mysore

## St. Joseph's Residence, Kakkinje

### Early History of the Kakkinje region

In the middle years of 20<sup>th</sup> century central Travancore had experienced a steep increase in population. People faced scarcity of food, occupation and livelihood. Realizing that there was potential in the large uncultivated lands in the Malabar, South and North Canara region which was the part of Madras presidency people started migrating to those places. Thus mass migration started from central Travancore and it reached its peak by 1950. The vast majority of the migrants were Syrian Christians (Syro Malabar Christians), mainly from present day Kottayam, Pala, Changanacherry, Kanjirapally, Kuravilangadu, Kuruchithanam, Ramapuram, Bharanganam, Kothamangalam Moovattupuzha, Thodupuzha and Ernakulam.

A good number of aristocratic families from central Kerala came to Kakkinje, Thottathady and nearby places. Thottathady and Kakkinje were suitable for paddy cultivation (*punjakrishi*) and people from Angamaly and Karukutty settled there. The places like Neriya and Gandibagilu were good for cash crops like areca nut, rubber, cashew nut and coconut. People from Kottayam and Pala found their habitation in those places<sup>1</sup>. Within in a short span of time the entire region became a diaspora of Syro-Malabar Syrian Christians.

Initially Rev. Fathers from the diocese of Mangalore sacrificed themselves for the spiritual needs of the migrants. Among them Rev. Fr. Albert Pinto is still remembered by the people with love and gratitude. He was a missionary on bicycle. At a time when there were no transportation facilities, even proper roads, he used to attend to the spiritual needs of the people confronting all sorts of troubles and challenges. May the good Lord reward him with heavenly blessings.

By the year 1953, migrant Syro-Malabar Christians spread, scattered and settled all over the region of Malabar and south west part of Karnataka, as small colonies. In order to organize this sheepfold and to take care of their spiritual needs the diocese of

Thalacherry was established on 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1953. His Excellency late Bishop Sebastian Valloppilly was appointed as the first Bishop of the diocese. He was a native of Pala and was very well aware of the plight of the migrants. He personally knew many of the families and had contacts with them. Being aware about the migrants at Kakkinje and surrounding areas and their spiritual needs he looked towards the Sacred Heart province of Kalamasserry<sup>2</sup>, for priests. He requested the provincial of the Sacred Heart province to send a few priests to do pastoral help in the present day Belthangady area.<sup>3</sup> Based on the request of the Bishop, then provincial council decided to send two priests and they were Fr. Berchumans Kureeckal and Fr. Hugo Kalapurackal. On September 23 of 1955, Fr. Berchumans was sent to N. R. Pura and Fr. Hugo was sent to Erumad.<sup>4</sup> Almost at the same time Rev. Fr. Devassy Kodakandath came to Kakkinje region and he rendered a great service at Thottathady and Gandibag parishes. People of these parishes still remember with gratitude these pioneers who toiled hard to nurture their faith.

### Beginning of Kakkinje House

On October 17<sup>th</sup> 1959 Fr. Francis Sales became the Provincial of S. H. Province.<sup>5</sup> When Fr. Sales was the provincial he appointed a commission to study the availability of a suitable land for a house in the Thottathady area. Fr. Cyprian (Chairman), Frs.

2 At present it is called Kochi Province.

3 According to the decree of the Holy See, which was decreed on 1952 December 11, CMI congregation was divided into 3 provinces on March 2, 1953. They were Thrissur, Kalamasserry and Kottayam. The Sacred Heart Province was formally inaugurated on 14 June 1953 at Thevara, in the patronage of the most sacred heart of Jesus. Original Provincial House was Aluva. Fr. Mathias Mundadan was the first priest ordained for the S.H. province.

4 Fr. Berchumans died in 1958 August 6.

5 Rev. Fr. Sales was born on 08.09.1904 and ordained on 10.02.1934. On February 9 of 1954 he was sent to Chicago from Madras via ship for higher studies. From the Loyola college of Chicago he took master degree in social sciences in first rank within 10 months (M.A). It was a record in the history of the university. He visited Canada, England, Ireland, France, Portugal, Italy and Africa. On his way back he visited Pope Pious the 12<sup>th</sup> at Rome. On 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1955 he flew back at Kochi. In 1956 January 20 he became the principal of Thevara College. On October 17<sup>th</sup> of 1959 he became the Provincial of S. H. Province. He was called to heavenly reward on 01.10.1984.

1 The migration to Kakkinje and surrounding areas is related to a person named Mattel Papachan, who was a rich man of Pala. He bought hundreds of acres of land in this area and encouraged people to migrate to the surrounding areas.



Melesius, Kuriachan, Devassy were the members of the commission. After a study the commission submitted a report to Fr. Provincial on September 29, 1961. At the suggestion of the commission it was decided to buy a property at Kakkinje. The first property was bought on 21 Nov 1961 by Fr. Berthold<sup>6</sup>. In the beginning days Bro. Stanislaus was appointed at Kakkinje to take care of the property. On March 20, 1962 some more property was bought by Frs. Devassy and Berthold, then provincial procurator<sup>7</sup>.

In the month of June, 1963 Fr. William Aranjaniyil and Bro. Ignatius reached Kakkinje as the members of the community. On June 4<sup>th</sup> of 1963 the first house was blessed by Fr. Francis Sales, Provincial in the presence of Frs. Arsenius, Cyprian and Romalus. As it happened at the CMI mother house Mannanam, the new house was dedicated to the patronage of St. Joseph.

Originally the boundary of the purchased property was stretched up to the present Hassan - Mangalore road at one side and on the other side up to the present boundary. That is up to the present day Kakkinje city we had property. But, soon there was suit against this by Mr. Venkatakrishna Hebbar, the owner of Neriya Estate.<sup>8</sup> He claimed ownership of 2 acre and 80 cents of land which we had bought from Mr. Sebastian<sup>9</sup>. It became civil case and Fr. Provincial appointed a lawyer from Puttur by name Shri. Bella Ramachandra Rao M. A, B. L as the legal advocate to fight the case. From the files we understand that there were almost 36 letters between the provincial and the advocate with regard to the handling of the case. It started on 13 June 1963 and lasted up to September 18, 1965.<sup>10</sup>

6 The fathers had bought the property from Mr. Mullapally Sebastian (M. K. Sebastian). He had bought the property from Appaiyyah Shetty, son of Devegowda in 1958 for rupees 2750/. (The land was 4 acres and 85 cents in sy.no.179/2 and 8.12 in sy.no.180. Total 12.97 cents. (The original property was bought on lease on 31.8.1951.) We bought the land for Rs.10,000/-.

7 According to the chronicles we had bought 35 acres of land at Kakkinje.

8 Most of the land in this part was occupied by two famous families by name Hebaars and Ballals.

9 The case is that the land which was sold to us by Mr. Sebastian included 2 acre 80 cents of land which was encroached and used by Mr. Sebastian. He had cultivated in the land and put up a shed. Hebbar claimed legal ownership of the land and put a case against us for illegal occupation.

10 At first the case was in Puttur court and later it was moved to Muncif's court Belthangady. Frs. Besarion, Devassy and Bro. Stanislaus were examined for the case. At one stage of the case Fr. Francis Sales, Provincial, decided to buy the suit property on any reasonable market price or on lease. The advocate proposed Rs.22,000/- for the property. Fr. Sales had come to Kakkinje, in person, with a lawyer to discuss the case with Mr. Hebbar. Mr. Varghese was the lawyer of Fr. Sales. During those times lawyer fees was 40 rupees. On one of the hearing day - on August 26, 1965 - Fr. Besarion was unhappy, because the lawyer did not ask some of the important questions. Mr. Antony (mason who built the house) was taken from Kakkinje to Belthangady as witness. He was not examined. Mr. Sebastian did not appear. So, from the letters it seems that Fr. Dominic, Superior of the house, had some reservations about the lawyer and Mr. Sebastian. In the letters we read, Fr. Sales taking up these matters with the lawyer. He asks the lawyer to give summons to Mr. Sebastian. He tells the lawyer not to doubt about the fees. Fr. Sales doubts that Mr. Rao, lawyer who handles the case, had colluded

After a couple of years initial service at the centre, Bro. Stanislaus was back to Kalamassery by 1964 and Fr. Hugo was appointed as the superior of the Kakkinje house in the beginning of 1964<sup>11</sup>. Fr. Dominic Cheerth followed him as the Superior. Later Fr. Augustus was appointed superior and Fr. Dominic moved to N. R. Pura. Fr. Hadrian and Fr. Ansleves also had served at Kakkinje.

In 1966 Fr. Josaphath became the Provincial of S. H. Province and he appointed Fr. John Ireneus as the superior of Kakkinje on October 28, 1966. During this time once again there was an attempt to regain the disputed land. For this purpose help from the fathers at Dharamaram, Bangalore was sought. Accordingly Fr. Primus had taken the case to Bangalore, High court. Appeal was made by advocate B. P. Holla. The lawyers were of the opinion that we had a very weak position and to win the case seemed to be difficult. But we managed to get a stay order. It was communicated to lower courts and the case was pushed to two years further.

Meanwhile in 1967 Mysore mission became a region and Fr. Cyprian Vithayathil was appointed as the regional superior. After his successful service of 2 years, Fr. Regulas Thadathil became the Regional Superior in 1969. During this time there was a strong move to dispose the property of Kakkinje. Fr. John Irenus, Superior, discussed a deal with Mr. K. E. George, Branch Secretary, Culcutta Insurance Limited Managalore. Mr. George was ready to buy the property measuring 32 acres of land with all its contents such as buildings, sheds, machinery, pump sets, livestock and poultry etc. for 65,000/- in cash, subject to all the documents found in order. Later, Mr. K. E. George after examining the documents came to the conclusion that the total acres of land at Kakkinje was only 13 acres and the kumuki land could not be valued since it belonged to the government and his final price was 35,000 rupees.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1969, Fr. Regulas writes to Kalamassery provincial house, the decision of the regional council to sell the property for rupees 65,000/- and buy a new property with that money. Fr. Theobald being elected as the new provincial of S.H. Province, in 1969 gave permission for the suppression of the house and sale of the property on 20<sup>th</sup> of March 1969. Here it has to be remembered that well in advance a petition was made by the provincial, to the Prior General seeking permission to suppress the house at Kakkinje. Rev. Fr.

with Mr. Sebastian and the opposite party lawyers. The total expense demanded by Mr. Rao was 245 rupees. The case was closed on Sept. 18, 1965. We lost the case and Hebbar won the case in October, 1965. There was a move to acquire the land in front of our land by govt in October 1965. In the judgement we were asked to leave the place with bag and baggage. In the later stage, Fr. Sales had assistance of Michael Peres (Micky) and Mr. Rasquinha two practicing Catholics from Mangalore. They are the sons of Mr. Marian Peres. Fr. Sales writes to Mr. Micky that he is ready to pay Mr. Hebbar reasonable price for 2 acres and 80 cents. Fr Sales pays 1385 rupees to Michy for the case in Dec. 22, 1965.

There was a typewriter in N. R. Pura in sept.14, 1965. The original name of our house was Carmel residence, N. R. Pura

11 From 1964 May 18 printed envelop is available

Prior General had obtained permission for the move from the Bishop of Tellicherry, who had obtained permission from the Holy See.

## Turning point

In 1970 Fr. Barnabas became the regional superior and he made a detailed study on the case. Accordingly some of his convictions were that, the case was very weak on our side. The property in possession was bought not a one-time purchase but of many occasions. Our property included: property that we bought from Mr. Sebastian, Revenue land which was in our possession and that which we could later make as our own. According to Fr. Barnabas we had 50 acres of land at Kakkinje. He was also of the conviction that if we could make use of the property properly, we could easily run our institution and we could start a dispensary, a school and do relevant pastoral work in that area. By that time we had already invested around 1 lakh rupees for the developmental works. So he wanted permission from Fr. Provincial to hold official talks with Mr. Hebbar and settle the issue outside of the court. By then Fr. Dorethevus was the provincial and the provincial council gave Fr. Barnabas permission on 13.10.1970, to proceed with appropriate procedures.

Having received permission from the Provincial council Fr. Barnabas held extensive talks with Mr. Hebbar and arrived at the following agreement: Give back to the Hebbar 2.80 cents of the land, Register rest of the land in the name of the Superior of the house. For that pay to Hebbar 8000/- rupees, Withdraw all the cases, take the expense of the legal transactions and complete all the procedures before 30<sup>th</sup> of December 1970.

In 1970 Fr. Joseph Raphael Kattikaran was appointed as the superior of the house. On 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1971 Fr. Kattikaran was authorised by the provincial council, to enter in to an exchange deed or such registered documents with Mrs. Saraswathy Amma, widow of late Neria Venketakrishna Hebbar in respect of portions of survey Nos. 179/2, 180, 181/2 on<sup>12</sup>. Registration was executed and all the records were regularised in the name of the Superior of the house. Thus curtain was drawn to long standing episodes of cases and peace was restored. Having relieved of all the disputes the house started making steady progress at different phases.

## Fr. Angadiath and Social Service Programmes

On 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1974, the Regional council had made a decision to gift 1 acre land and the old house to sisters (Adoration) for convent and dispensary. Later the idea was dropped due to certain difficulties. In the following year, that is in 1975 Fr. Emmanuel Frederick became regional superior. As the Regional Superior he made a request to *Misereor*, seeking financial aid for a dispensary at Kakkinje. Now Fr. Regulas Thadathil was the provincial of S.H. Province and he endorsed the application.

In 1975 Fr. Joseph Angadiath comes to the scene and it was an historical stepping not only in to the history

of the house but also in to the total change of the Kakkinje region. Rev. Fr. Silvius was there with Rev. Fr. Angadiath for 12 years and they together constructed the previous residence. The real programme of the development work in Kakkinje began with Fr. Angadiath. On 23 of May 1977 on the request of Fr. Frederick, Regional Superior, *Misereor* sends Sr. Hildegard to make a spot study of the situation of the applied project. She recommended 4 bed health centre and a separate team to start a mobile unit. An ambulance van, medicines and all other equipments necessary for the health centre were supplied freely by the *misereor*<sup>13</sup>.

In 1976 on request from the Regional Council, the FCC sisters from Malappuram started a convent in our old building, and we started a dispensary with mobile unit. We conducted outreach program in almost 10 centers. People appreciated and greatly benefited from this kind of medical service. We had an MBBS full time Doctor. Rev. Sisters who served during this time were Bolonja, Dr. Silvia Karott, Sebasine, Joselit, Jessy, Annie, Lissieux, Shafy, Linet and Josseta.

In 1976 with the help of the Dioceses of Mangalore, we started some social work programme such as Food For Work, Mother and Child Programme, house visiting and medical camps. Sr. Shafy (passed away in 1995) was a qualified social worker to guide the aforesaid mentioned programmes.

In 1978 Mysore became a province and Fr. Frederick became the provincial. Since we had no suitable land for the construction of the hospital building, we applied for 1 acre of land from the panchayath in front of the convent building. Many were against in allotting the land to us. After 3 years of fight, with the help of Gangadara Gowda, MLA and G.N Bhide from Mundaje, we got about 1acre of land from the Panchayath. On 29<sup>th</sup> of September 1981, according to the land revenue act of 1964, 70 cents in survey no 196/2 and 16 cents in survey no 13/1A1 was granted in Dakshina Kannada Deputy Commisioner's office (A.DIS) by Tahasildar of Belthangady to Fr. Joseph Angadiath, for rupees 2783.75. The land was sanctioned for the construction of godown and bank building.

Spending around 5 lakh rupees in 1981 we completed the construction of the hospital building. There we had facilities for 40 beds. An amount of 2,64,000/- was granted by *Misereor* on 25<sup>th</sup> of September 1982. The project was sanctioned by provincial council and approved by Fr. Prior General, Theobald. An x-ray diagnostic equipment for the hospital was purchased by the help of a Netherland based society. The Bhide family in Mundaje was greatly helpful to us. We got Rs.15,000 from G.N Bhide. We have collected some amount from the estate owners in Chikkamagalore. For the hospital Fr. Angadiath got 1 lakh rupees as gift. In 1981 hospital was inaugurated by Shri. Veerendra Heggde of Darmasthala. Rev.Fr. Gabinus Petta, the then Provincial presided over the function. It was a solemn inauguration.

12 By then Mr. Venkatakrishna Hebbar died.

13 German Social Service Society



## Malanadu Vikas Samithi (MVS)

In 1987, we started a major social work programme known as Malnadu Integral Development Project with the help of Karl Kubel Foundation (KKS) and SEVA. The Diocese of Thalasserry also participated with us in implementing this project. Rev. Fr. Joseph Angadiath and Rev. Fr. Mathew Perumpilly were the first directors of the project. We remember with gratitude the role played by Rev. Fr. Werner Chakkalackal CMI in planning and implementing this project. He was helpful to us in many ways.

Malnad Vikas Samithi organised the following programmes in the medical sector: community organisation, community health, mobile camps, medical aid, immunisation camps and special medical camps. In the agriculture sector it organised: seedlings distribution, irrigation and fertilizers, awareness camps, youth club and mahilamandals, Self-employment, malnad credit union etc. The cottage industry we started is still successfully going on. For 15 years the hospital functioned well.

Rev. Fr. Angadiath had created good influence among all the religions and casts. The fact that he was elected the president of lions club Mundaje shows his popularity around Kakkinje. In 1990 Fr. Angadiath was elected as Provincial and Rev. Fr. Perumbilly was called back to the diocese. Fr. Emmanuel Frederick Mundathanath and Rev. Fr. Antony Moolamattam took charge as directors. Rev. Fr. Moolamattam was transferred after three years and Rev. Fr. George Plackal took charge as assistant director. Many people benefited from this project.

On 14 October 1998 Fr. Frederick being the superior and Fr. George Plackal being the member of the house 3 acres of land was sold for rupees 8.28 lakhs. Then Fr. George Kalambukattu was the provincial. On 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2000, five cents of land and a building was handed over to Shiradi church as a gift. It was the community hall of the *Malnad* project. The parish had promised to contribute 10,000/- to the M.V.S., in three months. At present there is 22 acres and 24 guntas in our possession. Out of these 14 acres and 13 guntas are patta lands and 86 guntas are given from Panchayath for hospital and Malnad Community buildings. The balance of 7 acres and 34 guntas is under cumic.

When Fr. Sebastian Romulas was the superior, 5 cents of land is given to Sri George s/o Korangappa, former driver of the hospital. This plot falls in survey number 181/2p1. In the agreement made by Rev. Fr. Romulus with George K. the plot of land is shown in a wrong survey number.

When Rev. Fr. John Bastin Vithayathil was the Superior and Rev. Fr. Joseph Xavier was his associate member in 2007 an agreement was made with Bhide to build up power electrical towers at the boundary line of our land opposite to Mr. Sebastian's house and land, near the road leading to the area of 5 cents - colony. About 19 coconut trees and some other trees and bamboo grooves were removed for this. For this lose as well as for 10 feet wide land along the stone boundary line to

the length of 350 feet, we have received compensation as for a general rent Rs. 2,53,000.

Rev. Fr. Joy Chirakkal came to the centre in 2008. He was active in the agriculture development of the land. The hospital building was given on the rent to the Belthangady Diocese for conducting HIV and AIDS awareness and rehabilitation training programs. The Malnad Community Hall and the nursing quarters were not used. Sisters - quarters was given as an annex to the hospital staff for hostel. Attempts were made to put the Malnad Community Hall for viable objective.

In the land we have coconut, areca and rubber as permanent yielding crops. Rev. Fr. Joy Chirackal had brought more areas under rubber plantation. The main rubber plantation area is not in our patta land, it is in the cumic area.

Fr. Joy was followed by Fr. Santhosh Srayil as the Superior of the house. He was supported by Frs. Baby Thazhathedath, Sebastian Thalachirayil, Freison Kunnumpurath and Biju Pallurathil. Doing their professional courses they also rendered pastoral assistance in the neighboring Parishes. Fr. Santhosh tried to revive the centre bringing lot of modifications and renovations. During his tenure our house, the hospital building and old convent building all were renovated and were made to use. He initiated the process of reviving the hospital.

In the year 2014, Fr. Binu Kudukamthadathil became the superior of the house. Fr. Baby Thazhuthedath, Fr. Johnson Attuchalil and Fr. John Kandankari being the members of the house, they together planned to continue the process of hospital revival. They entered in to a contract with a famous Ayurveda Doctor by name Raju, from Kerala and our hospital building was renovated as an Ayurveda Hospital. In the presence of the local M.L.A, Shri. Vasantha Bangera, Shri. Bede, Fr. Provincial, Fr. Joseph Angadiath and a big gathering the Ayurveda hospital was officially inaugurated and functions well.

Since the existing house was beyond the scope of repair they planned and worked for a new house. With a low budget and within a short span of time a new house was constructed and blessed in the year 2016. Mr. Sabu was the contractor of the construction.

In the year 2017, Fr. Johnson Attuchalil became the superior of the house. Frs. Baby and John continue their remarkable service for the people. Being gifted in the field of preaching the Word of God and conducting retreats Frs. Baby and John Kandankary have become much sought out priests in the nearby parishes. Besides, they started regular renewal programmes at the '*DashanaVeedu*'. With the spiritual dimension being introduced, the center has found new life and revival. With various spiritual animating programmes, daily and weekly retreats, counselings and other programmes the St. Joseph's Residence has resurrected like a phoenix and has become a spiritual solace for thousands of people of near and far places ■



St. Joseph's Residence, Kakkinje

## Jubilee Greetings...!

It's Silver Jubilee....! Yes, **Frs. George Puthiyedath, Chacko Parakattukuzhy, Joseph Parathapilly, and Francis Chirackal** are celebrating the silver jubilee of their Priestly Ordination. Hearty Greetings and prayerful best wishes to the Jubilarians. While thanking them for their relentless service to the province, we wish them many more years of fruitful service in the vineyard of the Lord. Jubilee Greetings to you dear priests.....!

