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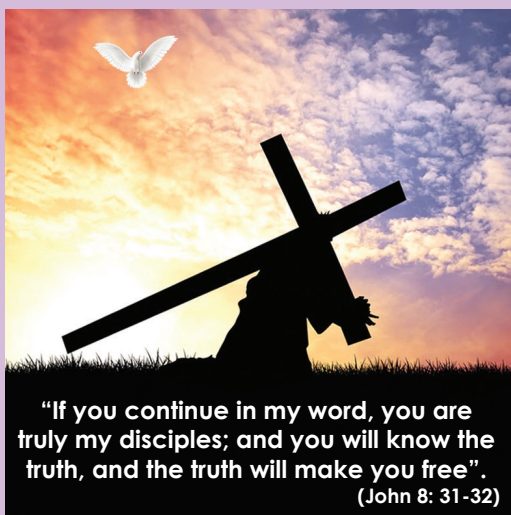


Our Lady of the Way

FEBRUARY 2021

CHENNAI JESUITS NEWS

VOLUME 02 | NO. 02



"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free".
(John 8: 31-32)



Provincial's Message



(Provincial's Address delivered on the occasion of the celebration of the First Province Day on 28 Dec 2020: Continuation...)

I request all the Superiors, Team Leaders, Coordinators and the Community Focal Persons of PAPs to give priority and concentrate on the implementation of the action plans of the PAPs. The implementation of the Option of the Province and the PAPs need to be given special attention at all levels.

Let us keep in mind to follow the method of Spiritual Conversation in all our decision making discernment processes in the communities and missions. There is a treasure hidden in such a method, which we powerfully realise at every discernment processes.

In the Province, each institution is a gift of God. There is long and beautiful history for every one of them. It is time for us to devotedly strengthen the existing Institutions and Centres, and plan to develop them further to new heights.

Each member of our Province is an expression of God's love for the humanity. Let us share our love and being together with joy. We are specially invited to take care of our Elders and Jesuits who are sick. Let us try our best to give them maximum care and concern.

I request you to give special attention to our Scholastics in the communities and give them constant guidance for their integral formation. The future relies upon them.

What I admire in all our communities is that there is an enviable level of give-and-take attitude, variety of skills and talents, concern for one another, encouraging and supporting one another, and mutual cooperation in various ministries. And hence, we are able to effectively and promptly respond at the times of crisis and difficult situations. There is a collective effort in all communities.

Yet another important request to all of you is that all the Documents and History of our houses and institutions are to be neatly written, arranged and very systematically kept in our Houses and Institutions. Regarding this a direction will come from the Province Treasurer's office.

Let us give utmost care in financial accountability and transparency. It can never remain a grey area in any part of our Province. Let us continue to be open to the Superiors, Communities and to the Province.

I request all the Commissions and Communities to focus on discernment, collaboration, and networking in all our activities of Mission and Life. The Superiors/ Team Leaders and Coordinators need to emphasize Jesuits being collaborators with other like-minded groups and network with movements to take up issues that affect our people. Kindly create opportunities to build good relationship with the Teaching and Non-teaching staff, all our co-workers and collaborators.

What is slightly missing in the communities is that 'touch with others', especially the poor around us, this is an area that needs special attention. As a sort of neighbourhood ministry, every community can adopt a village or a parish or a panchayat and the members can regularly visit and be in touch with the poor and the marginalized which will in turn help us to deepen our life and mission.

Teaching Jesuits also share other responsibilities in the House and the Institutes. One needs to concentrate on teaching first and be models to other staff in our commitment to teaching and your availability to the students in accompanying them.

Research programs in all our Institutions are to be given importance. As a part of intellectual apostolate, it is our responsibility to get involved in the 'ministry of research'. That will help us building bridges with the people around us. There is also a dire need for 'ministry of policy level intervention'.

We are yet to start a Civil Services Coaching Centre in our Institutions. We know how much the young students are attracted towards such trainings and we also feel the need of preparing young men and women to be placed in government jobs.

The deserving children of our co-workers and management administrative staff members can be given free education. Is it possible? Can we plan for it?

As a token of our commitment to Caste Annihilation, why can't we give a special preference to the students hailing from inter-caste marriages in admissions and scholarships, and give priority in recruitments to the candidates who have married inter-caste?

Another major recommendation: 2021 is the Ignatian year; let us start doing something concretely so that all who enter the portals of our Institutions and centres should have some personal experience with

this great man, our Founder and Master. His life, spirit and values should inspire each and every one of our stakeholders.

Recently, we went through a discernment Process of finalising the Memorandum of Understanding between Madurai and Chennai Provinces at various levels: the Provincials, Province Consults, Joint Consults of both Provinces, Superiors' Meetings and Joint Superiors' Meeting of both Provinces and finally the Joint Consult, focusing the MoU on Formation, Human and Material resources, and common programs and collaboration between the two Provinces. It was a great exercise for all of us.

Finally, my dear friends, I have been genuinely cherishing the full support and encouragement of all the members of our Province all these months. The last one year has been a very resourceful one for all of us. The spirit of togetherness and companionship in the Lord is vibrantly experienced at the level of communities, Commissions and Province. I stand here as a witness to this fact. As Fr George, our Regional Assistant said in his inaugural message, we need to always keep up the Spirit of the beginners' mind, always being open, curious and willing to learn.

Let us continue to walk with the same spirit of Companionship in reaching out to the Dalits, Dalit Christians, Tribals, Migrants, Refugees, Farmers, Women, Fisherfolk, Youth and Children and other marginalized people in creating the Kingdom of God here and now.

Let Our Mother Mary of the Way, lead us, carrying all of us together with her Son, in all our Life and Mission.

Thank you and wish you a yet another year of life full of happiness and God's presence.

Jebamalai Irudayaraj



PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

FEBRUARY, 2021

- 04** Province Vocation Promotion Day
Blessing of the Block - A in Loyola Hostel
CEN-MDU Diaconate Ordination
at Loyola College, Chennai
- 08-12** Classes on Dalit Theology at Arul Kadal
- 10** Meeting of Focal Persons of PAPs (Online)
- 14** Province Consult
- 16-17** Visitation: Arul Kadal
- 18-19** Visitation: Dhyana Ashram
- 20** Visitation: Berchmans Illam
- 22-27** JCSA Meeting (Online)

MARCH 2021

- 02-03 Province Consult
05-07 Visitation: Loyola College, Mettala
08-09 Visitation: Harur
10 Yercaud
20-21 Visitation: Makkampalayam
21-22 Visitation: Mettuppalayam
22-24 Visitation: Ooty
27 Province Consult
28 - Apr 3 Personal Retreat

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATION OF PROCURATORS :

Fr General convoked the 71st Congregation of Procurators on 15 Jan 2021. The Congregation of Procurators will take place in Loyola, Spain. It will begin on the afternoon of the 16 May 2022, and last approximately six days. Before the Congregation, from the 7 May until the evening of 15 May, the Spiritual Exercises will be held in the same place. In preparation for the Congregation of Procurators, each Province should summon the Province Congregation, which must be concluded by 15 January 2022.

PROVINCIAL HAS APPOINTED :

Coimbatore Feasibility Study Committee : Fr Maria Joe Mahalingam (Convener), Fr Jeyaraj Boniface, Fr Joe Arun, Mr Joe Dhanaraj (Coimbatore) Fr John Peter Bellarmine, Fr Maria Wenisch and Fr Paul Benedict.

FR PROVINCIAL CHRISTENS:

📺 Jesuit Media Centre - Chennai as **JEMCEN**

📖 Publication as **രശ്മിവാണി**

🎵 Arts and Music Centre as **Kalai Aruvi**

🕒 Province Caritas as **Chengai Springs**

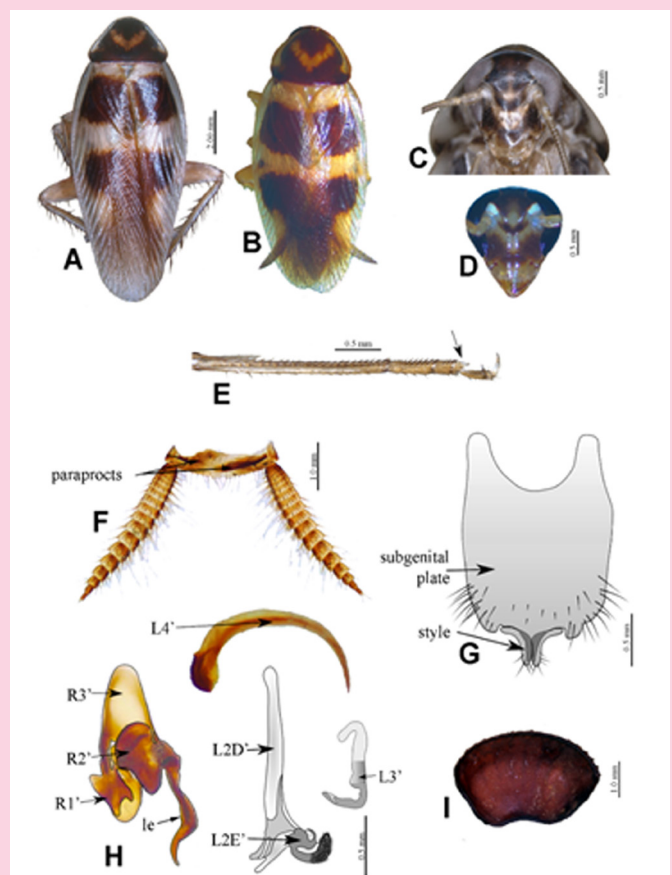
Thanks to all who proposed names which have triggered to arrive at the above ones!

DIACONATE ORDINATION 2021:

Seven third year theologians – Schs Jayaraj Selvaraj, Manickam Periyannayagaraj and Williams Charles of CEN and Schs Arul Gnanapragasam S., Doni Raja F., Joe Livingston S., Paul Raj Arockiasamy of MDU will be ordained Deacons by Most Rev George Antonysamy, Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore, in the Church of Christ the King, Loyola College, Chennai on 4 February 2021 at 11.00 am. They have chosen the title “**இறைச்சாயலில் இனிலும் அதிகமாக**”. There will be live streaming of the Diaconate Ordination Eucharist. Let us all remain united in prayer with them on the graceful occasion.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJMtGYeY8SQ&>

A NEW INSECT NAMED AFTER JESUIT CHENNAI PROVINCE BY ERI-LOYOLA

Entomologists have an inevitable concern with biodiversity of insects comprising between 55% to 65% of all living species. Among insects, cockroaches are primitive (their origin dating back to 250 million years), prominent and found abundant in forest communities. They are of critical importance in the function of forest ecosystem. An updated checklist of Cockroaches of 181 species from India has been so far studied. Mr Senraj, one of the research scholars guided by Fr S Maria Packiam has collected cockroaches and identified a new cockroach in 2019 named after Jesuit Chennai Province - 'JCENPRO' - in honour of the establishment of New Jesuit Chennai Province and its option for empowering the



marginalized and less privileged people, especially Dalits. The scientific name of newly identified cockroach is '*Allacta jcenprov*' which was published in ZOOTAXA, an International Journal on 28 Jan 2021.

ROOTS & WINGS 2021

Roots & Wings 2021 will be conducted from April 6th evening to May 8th afternoon, at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur, for the Jesuits and those Religious who follow the Jesuit Spirituality. For more details and to apply for the course please contact: Fr Devadhas Muthiah SJ: 9600411531 / 8056662524/devadhasm@gmail.com | Fr Patrick Ravichandran SJ: 9445676172 / sup.shc@mdusj.org **Last date to apply: March 15th 2021**

Spirituality & Dialogue Commission is happy to offer a 90-minute Franciscan- Jesuit Dialogue Session on the Last Saturdays of Every Month during the Special Year of Ignatian Enlightenment-2021. This was inaugurated on 30 Jan 2021, with the theme: The Life and Historical Settings of St Francis of Assisi and St Ignatius of Loyola with the presentations by D Dolphy Pais, OFM. For Registration, click on the link: <http://bit.ly/Franciscans-Jesuits>

REPORTS

SUPERIORS /TEAM LEADERS MEETING (ONLINE - 19 DEC 2020)

Fr Paul Benedict one of the consultors conducted the prayer. Fr Socius welcomed Fr Jebamalai, the Provincial, the Superiors and Team Leaders, the consultors and the special invitees- Frs Joseph Ignaci (Igni), Treasurer, Vasanthakumar, PDD, Irudaya Raj and Jerry. All the Superiors / Team Leaders and the consultors were present. Fr Marianathan moderated the morning session.

Fr Irudaya Raj, Convener of the first Province day celebrations, announced the core team and cluster communities and presented the schedule of the Province day. It was decided to complete the common online program by 4.30 pm so that the clusters will have some time for physical games and local gathering. He reminded the coordinating community to have an efficient laptop with LCD projector with high internet connectivity for seamless watching of the live streaming. It was proposed to invite Jesuits of Madurai, our Mother Province.

Fr Francis Xavier, Rector, Loyola College shared about the efforts taken to upgrade Loyola College as University. He shared the pros and cons of going for private, state and central university. If the centre assures us to continue the payment of salaries to the aided staff, we can go for central university; but Loyola Community prefers private university to the central. For, Greenfield University requires 100 acres of contiguous land. Going for brand new university would cost us much.

On deliberation, members suggested to have the university within the Province territory. In the case of Greenfield University it is possible to have Loyola Mettala as offshore campus. Fr Jebamalai clarified that Fr General has given approval only for making Loyola College a University not for a new university. Given the situation it is not possible to upgrade Loyola as University. So, can we look for new idea of clubbing other colleges and new law college under a university?

Fr Vasanthakumar presented the steps taken to mobilize resources and was hopeful of responses from abroad. He was appreciative of many who have

raised local resources. Fr Provincial reiterated the need for submitting the reports on-time in order to sustain favourable response from the donors. With regard to establishing corpus fund, responsibility is given to local resource mobilizing team.

Fr Jerry, Convener, Ignatian Jubilee Year 2021-22 shared about the planning made in view of the Ignatian year 2021-22. The purpose of this jubilee as proposed by Fr General is not to have mega celebrations but of conversion in terms of self, collaboration and to see all things new in Christ. He listed the team appointed by Fr Provincial. For the meaningful jubilee, conversion should be on five levels: Personal, Community, Institutional, Province/ Interprovincial (with Madurai) and Conference / Global. He presented a list of proposals made by the communities and individuals for a meaningful jubilee. He underlined three dates to be remembered and celebrated:

1. 20 May 2021- province level;
2. 12 Mar 2022 - community level; and
3. 31 July 2022 - with our collaborators at the ministries.

Other proposals made were, to conduct a certificate course in collaboration with Arul Kadal; as it is a “*Year of Ignatius being wounded*” we remember it is an invitation to embrace the doubly discriminated which is the real conversion and helping the homeless to build houses.

Fr Igni, shared about the Land bought at Avinasipalayam, Coimbatore Diocese. It is registered under new Tiruppur Jesuit Society. He presented the financial status of the Province. Clarifications were made on local resource mobilizing, handling of FCRA funds, budget presentations, etc. He listed a few forthcoming plans: Kadampur PARAN office, Appampattu- training centre, building a compound wall at Janakipuram, Parish church at Kuppayanallur etc.

Finally, Fr Provincial entrusted the responsibility of handling COVID restrictions with the respective Superiors. He declared to remember every year 4 Feb as Province Vocation Promotion Day. He requested to maintain the documents; to execute the proposals made regarding new National Education Policy (NEP) and “*Stand with Stan*”; to keep all the original documents at the Province office and copies in the Communities; to propose a patron saint for the province. He announced that Ms Vedhanayagi, Founder of ***Thendral Movement***, Ranipet was proposed to represent our Conference at the Women’s Task Force envisaged by Fr General.

The morning session was concluded with Examen conducted by Fr Prabu. Afternoon we had the joint CEN-MDU Superiors/ Team Leaders meeting wherein some of the points like sharing of resources and personnel were made clear to all.

Ilanko

'STAND WITH STAN' @ CHEPAUK

State-wide protest for – 'Stand with Stan' – to register our condemnation of the wrongful arrest and extended custody of Fr Stan was organized by Chennai Province. Chennai Core Team comprising Frs Alangaram, Sarathi and Kumar organised a protest demonstration at Chepauk, Chennai on 29 Jan 2021, wherein catholic laity-representatives from many parishes of Madras-Mylapore Archdiocese and the Diocese of Chinglepet and a host of religious – men & women from various congregations, about 450 in total participated. Jesuits from Arul Kadal, Berchmans Illam, Dhyana Ashram, Satya Nilayam, and Loyola were all part of the event.

Leaders from various political leanings joined in extending their solidarity with the cause of justice that's to be claimed on behalf of the human rights defenders, especially Fr Stan Swamy, languishing in Mumbai prison. Prof. Jawaharulla of Tamil Nadu Manithaneya Makkal Katchi, Mr Vanniyarasu, Deputy Gen Sect of Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi and Mr Inigo Irudayaraj of Christian Goodwill Movement were some of the main speakers, who unequivocally condemned the imprisonment of Fr Stan by the authoritarian regime of Mr Modi.

Two groups of folk artists - Buddhar Kalaikuzhu and Chennai Alternate Media- Folk Arts group - performed thappaattam dances and sang songs of solidarity. As a follow-up, the Chennai Core Team has also prepared memorandums to be submitted to the Governor and Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The sole aim of this protest was registering our protest against



injustice meted out to Fr Stan and host of other human rights defenders and also demanding their early release. Thanks to the representatives of all catholic parishes and brethren from religious communities.

John Kumar

REGENTS TRIDUUM

Regents Recollection for the month of Jan was preached by Fr Maria Felix Kennedy on the theme 'Being with the People' on 29 Jan, which enlightened us

to feel with the people and being with them in person. We shared among ourselves the experiences of being with the people.

David Francis

NEWS DIGEST

CHENNAI: AICUF

Tamil Nadu AICUF & Youth Commission of our province are in full swing creating awareness on politics among people especially among young people. We organized a webinar on 20 Dec 2020 on theme 'Thamizh Theisiam and Its impact on Youth' by Mr Seeman. More than 550 people participated in it through various social media. As part of our political awareness campaign we have taken short videos titled "சலசலப்பு" by 50 personalities of Tamil Nadu like Bishops, Political Leaders, Social Activists and others. We constantly post them in Tamil Nadu AICUF You Tube channel, Facebook and other social media networks.



We have started new AICUF units in Towns and Villages like Koneripatti, Sentharaipatti and Illupoor in order to train our rural youth for social transformation.

We have also participated at the State Level Assembly Election Consultation organized by TNBC Youth Commission at Pratiyur, Tiruchi on 7 Jan 2021. Bishop Nazerane of Kottar Diocese, Mr Hyder Ali of Manithaneya Makkal Katchi and many Ex-AICUF leaders motivated our Catholic Youth to actively participate at the politics. We have planned to have continuous sessions on 'Political Awareness' in our colleges at zonal level in the coming months.

Sarathi

CHENNAI: ARUL KADAL

Fr Michael Alosanaya guided our annual triduum on 2-4 Jan. He helped us to go in depth into the spirit of St Ignatius and of the past GCs. Through his exemplary vowed life he taught us to live our vows and also set the tone for our even semester. On 7 Jan, Fr J Arokia Dass presented a paper titled 'Christian and Renaissance in India - A Recent Past for a Near Future' in Loyola Jesuit Webinar.

On 9 & 10 Jan, Fr Antony Robinson, PCF of CEN Province was here on his official visit and spent time to listen and guide us. On 13 Jan, the MDU scholastics attended the online release of an e-magazine, a new venture by MDU Scholastics. On Jan 14, we celebrated Pongal festival and presented symbolic offerings during the Mass. CEN Province Revisors Frs Igny and Andrew paid a visit to Aikiya Alayam - Arul Kadal for their annual visit on Jan 26.

Sch. Joseph's commendable efforts have given us an app called "ARUL KADAL INIGO LIBRARY APP" which is made available in play store too. From anywhere and anytime to access our AK library, kindly install the link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.inigoLib.inigolibrary>

PROTESTS: On 14 Jan evening, we participated at the prayer service organized by the Jesuits of South Asia on the 100th day of imprisonment of Fr Stan Swamy. On the following day, we also conducted a candlelight prayer for him in front of our portico. We also took part on 29 Jan, in the protest and demonstration, organized



by CEN province at the Tamil Nadu Guest house to demand the release of Fr Stan Swamy.

AIKIYA ALAYAM: On 9 Jan, Aikiya Alayam and 'Ippodhu.Com Group' jointly organized the performance of the Songs of Peerappa, a Sufi saint by Scholar Shahul Hameed in zoom platform. On Jan 23, Aikiya Alayam in collaboration with the CEN Commission for Spirituality and Dialogue hosted an Eco-Spirituality webinar. Profs. Dr Haji Kani and Dr Kamalam presented the topic from inter-religious perspectives and generated meaningful interactions. Fr J Arokia Dass conducted the entire proceedings.

Felix Sahayaraj

CHENNAI: BERCHMANS ILLAM

The odd semester ended in the month of Dec 2020 and led us into a series of meaningful events. On 23 Dec, the seven theologians at Berchmans Illam began their diaconate retreat under the guidance of Fr Amaladoss Michael, while the rest of the scholastics had their triduum preached by Fr Arul Henry William from 28 Dec. Our scholastics fascinated the participants of both Christmas and Province Day Eucharist with their mellifluous singing. The entire community was very

much a part of the first Province Day virtual celebration.

On 1 and 2 Jan 2021, the philosophers of DNC and the second year philosophers of Satya Nilayam who stayed here during COVID-19 pandemic, left for their respective formation houses to begin their final semester studies. Berchmans Illam resumes its normal routine, with the arrival of all the final year UG and PG scholastics. On 14 Jan, we celebrated the Pongal festival in a grand manner beginning with the preparation of sweet Pongal, Pongal Mass, traditional tamizhar games and finally a sumptuous traditional lunch on over a banana leaf.

Fr Alangaram gave a talk on "Societal Justice and New Evangelisation Today" to all the delegates of the General Chapter of St Anne's Congregation of Madavaram. Fr A. Irudaya Raj presented a research paper on "An Analysis of Media Coverage of Sanitary Workers during COVID-19 Lockdown" in the national seminar on "Health and Science Communication" organized by Mass Communication department of Bangalore University. He also made a presentation on "Media Perspective of Farm Bills and Farmers' Agitation on the Borders of New Delhi" in a panel discussion organized by the sociology department of Loyola College, Trivandrum.

Alangaram

CHENNAI: DHYANA ASHRAM

On 15 Jan 2021, we organized a special evening adoration and Eucharistic celebration for the health, safety and early release of Fr Stan Swamy and his colleagues and for the peace and safety of their family members and for the people around us in Dhyana Ashram with the help of scholastics from Berchmans Illam under the able leadership of Fr Wenishraj.

Lawrence Amalraj

CHENNAI: LOYOLA COLLEGE

LCC: Fr Francis P Xavier gave the participants of Xavier Board, a Seminar on "Jesuit Education for Leadership". He gave the presidential address highlighting Leadership in Crisis, for the LIBA annual management seminar called INSIGHT.

LCAS: The much-awaited NAAC 4th Cycle Peer Team Visit to Loyola College was held on 28 & 29 Jan, 2021 with strict adherence to SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) suggested for COVID-19 workplace schedule. The four-member Peer Team comprising Dr Suhas Pednekar, Chairperson & Vice-Chancellor, University of Mumbai, Dr S Resia Beegam, Member Dr R N Singh, Member & Principal, Govt. VYT PG Autonomous College, visited us. The Team assessed the curricular and co-curricular aspects, milestones, best practices, research progress and governance of the various departments and units of the college during after the last assessment and accreditation period: 2014-15 to 2018-19. The Team interacted with various stakeholders

of the institution: academic staff, administrative staff, parents, alumni, students, members of various committees and governing body to accredit the claims of the college for a final grade.



The chairperson appreciated the hospitality extended to the team and applauded the all-round formation provided to the students on the Loyola campus. Astounding leadership and teamwork at all various levels played a key role in the success of the Peer Team Visit. We congratulate the entire teaching Jesuits and Frs Selvanayakam, the Secretary and Thomas Amirtham, the Principal, for leading the College during in this critical phase.

LCE: After the inspection, Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University has issued the approval order of renewal of affiliation for the additional intake of 100 B.Ed. students. The second year students took their first-year online university examinations in Dec 2020 and the following are the results: 134 students appeared for the exams and all passed with distinction. The College's highest marks (579/650 (89%)) have been secured by J Keerthana and V Varshini.

IDCR: The Spirituality & Dialogue Commission in collaboration with Aikiya Alayam and IDCR has initiated an Inter-religious Series through webinar for developing resources on Eco-Spirituality. In collaboration with TNBC Commission for SC-ST- BC, the Spirituality & Dialogue and Dalit Commission of Jesuit Chennai Province organized the webinars on Rejecting Casteism in the Church. The interdisciplinary presentation of Fr Maria Arul Raja was well-attended by a large number of participants at the zoom room both in Tamil (17 Jan) and English (24 Jan).

LIBA: In its efforts to enter into cutting edge programmes, LIBA inaugurated its first Post Graduate Programme (PGP) in Logistics and Supply Chain Management for which Kerry Indev Logistics Pvt Ltd as an industry partner would provide internships and final placements. Similarly, realising the scope for jobs in health care, LIBA started its first ever Executive Diploma in Health Care Management (EDHCM), having MGM hospitals as an industry partner.

The India Today Group has identified Fr Joe Arun, Director, as one of the "Innovators in Education", recognising his innovative approach to Teaching-Learning-Assessment.

Pongal Celebrations in LIBA was the first offline celebration as most of the students are back in the campus. Moving away from conventions, LIBA invited folk artists of Loyola Kalai Ilakkiya Mandram from LCAS to perform and accompany the festive dances and Pongal games.

Zenith

HARUR: ARULAGAM

Arulagam: The much-awaited MoU, between Dharmapuri Diocese and Chennai Province was signed



on 5 Jan 2021 in the presence of Most Rev Lawrence Pius, the Bishop of Dharmapuri and Fr Jebamalai Irudayaraj L., the Provincial of Chennai Province, Curia members and Arulagam community. In the farm, the second phase of sugarcane started to grow as it receives good rain. Tapioca is also planted there in a large scale.

Parish: On 29 Dec, the newly-formed Fr Mario Women Youth Group distributed bed sheets and food to the poor and the pavement-dwellers under the guidance of Fr John Paul. This event of identifying themselves



with the poor made a great impact on the lives of these youngsters. On 3 Jan the parishioners celebrated Moondru Raja Pongal (Pongal of the Three Kings) as a thanksgiving to the Lord for all that they have received in the previous year. As a token of our appreciation for the tireless work and generous collaboration rendered by the Choir group, Altar servers, youth group and other volunteers, the community organized a short outing to a nearby dam and shrine. This gesture has opened new possibilities of collaboration in the parish. Our parish youth conveyed their Pongal greetings in the form of dance through a video which was very much appreciated by the parishioners.

School: On 4 Jan, Fr Paul Benedict, the Headmaster, arranged a meaningful Holy Spirit Mass for the staff and prayed for the school, children, staff and their

families. Sch. Tony made a special and novel prayer for the personal intentions of the staff which touched their hearts. On 13 Jan, the staff in their cultural dress celebrated Pongal in the school. All these programs were made into short video and sent to all the students as Pongal greetings and is uploaded in our School YouTube channel.

After the long spell of holidays, the school and hostels were reopened for 10th and 12th students on 19 Jan. Nearly 90% of students are coming to the school following proper protective measures. The 72nd Republic Day was commemorated in the school by way of flag hoisting and patriotic speech by Fr Mag Bay. Fr Paul Benedict, the Secondary Education Coordinator, has organized triple competitions for the schools of Chennai Province on the occasion of the Republic Day.

Tony Ajit

KASTHAMBADI: J P LEONARD ILLAM (JPLI)

PRE-NOVIATE

The first month of the year brought us abundant graces and manifold blessings of the Lord. The Visit of Fr Provincial, on 20 & 21 Jan 2021, helped the pre-novices realize that they are the inheritors of the rich tradition and that they are called to leave behind a worthwhile legacy in this world through the Society of Jesus. Fr Provincial invited us all to march forward with renewed vigour.

Earlier, the pre-novices arrived on 3 Jan after their Christmas vacation. The academic activities were set to roll after a few days of quarantine. In view of Pongal, the pre-novices had varied celebrations with migrants, parishioners and in community. The celebration with the migrants provided them the platform to showcase their talents and to learn to organise any events effectively. They were ably guided by Frs Prabu and Velankanni.

The pre-novices prayed fervently for farmers as they relished the farm produce. Amidst the Pongal



celebrations, Sch Prithivi tuned the ears of the pre-novices to music and taught them guitar. The Republic Day was celebrated with a usual gaiety. On this occasion, the pre-novices came out with short speeches on different topics which had its vibes on the society and those were uploaded on the YouTube.

Hansel

JMMEx

On 13 Jan 2021, JMMEx organized the maiden Family Day cum Pongal Day for fresh Migrant Self-Help Groups. The purpose of the celebration was to



make known the works of JMMEx and reach out to the rural and vulnerable migrants in need. By this a greater level of joy was shared among the migrants and their family members. The active involvement of the entire JPLI community and the pre-novices made the day successful. Around 60 migrants along with their family members turned up for the celebration.

On 21 Jan, after a week of arduous attempts, the mortal remains of Mr George Vinoth Antony (29), an external migrant, from Kuwait was brought to Katpadi, Vellore with the able guidance of JMMEx and help of many good-hearted individuals.

We acknowledge the genuine appreciations of Fr Jebamalai, and the valuable time spent with us during the visitation on 21 Jan. We also thank Fr Vasanthakumar, PDD who accompanied Fr Provincial and was appreciative of our documentation.

Velz

KILPENNATHUR: AHAL CENTRE

On 4 Jan, Vazhuthalangunam sub-stations celebrated Child Jesus festival. Frs Antony Anand and Sugam Nayagam (a diocesan) were the main celebrants. This was grace-filled occasion and helped them to strengthen their faith amidst this pandemic.

ISI Bangalore hosted a five day cadre training on Social Animation Skills in the first week of January. Our cadres gained wider knowledge. On 6 Jan, Mr Jayanta Patra, National Coordinator of Lok Manch-Delhi visited our organization and went to Pulipattu for the field visit followed by two days of state level workshop held at AHAL in which he



shared that Tamil Nadu units are carrying out the Lok Manch well. On 15 Jan, AHAL had a meaningful Pongal celebration in Sristi Foundation, Gingee which cares for the people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The AHAL cultural troupe performed around 10 different types of traditional dances for them.

On 17 Jan, Fr Marianathan and officials of SWAT (Sofa workers Welfare Association Tamil Nadu) went to four different villages and formed its new branches. It gives new identity to the sofa workers. They also went to Vellore labour office to give the corrected application for registration of SWAT as suggested by the Government officials who had processed the application.

On 21 Jan, the AHAL staff and Jesuits went to ARCALI, Paramankeni to have exposure. Fr Philip explained the objective, vision, mission and the challenges faced in the field. The interactive sessions were very much appreciated. On 24 Jan, training on Gram Sabha was given to animators of Social Education Centres. They were trained to write petitions based on their villages' need.

Raja Jesu Raj

PALAVAI (JESIM): TINDIVANAM

Hostel: On 11 Jan, Pongal celebration was held at Fr Ceyrac Girls' Hostel, Singanur. Fr Jebamalai, the Provincial, presided over the celebration and listened to our people's voice in a meeting with them. After the celebration, the Curia team along with the PALAVAI team distributed relief materials and tarpaulins to the people of Vairapuram who were affected by the continuous rain. On 23 Jan, Fr Velankanni Arockiasamy, the Asst.



Director of JMMEx gave the orientation to the girls of Fr Ceyrac Girls' Hostel. He motivated them to look higher and higher in order to overcome the oppressing society. On the same day, Fr Prabu Francis, the Team Leader of JPLI, Kasthambadi, gave a session to our village animators on 'Being an Effective Village Animator'. He taught them new methods of approaching the issues faced by their villagers.

PALAVAI: On 20 Jan, Irular Tribal Federation meeting was organized by PALAVAI. Mr Rosario (Advocate), the Director of POPE, Thiruvannamalai, was the resource person and shared about the legal difficulties and the ways to handle them. On 28 Jan, the

board meeting of Irular Tribal Federation was held at Fr Ceyrac Girls' Hostel, Singanur. On 24 Jan, Mr Ambrose from Lok-Manch gave one-day training programme on SPSS, a software package for Statistics to the members of Tindivanam Lok-Manch Unit. Members from five organizations participated in the training. On 25 Jan, members of Self-Help Group from Ammankulathumedu gave a petition to the District Collector (Viluppuram) for a passage to their crematorium which has been denied access by the dominant communities around.

Michael Sudharson

METTALA: LOYOLA COLLEGE

On 13 Jan, Fr Maria Joseph Mahalingam, Principal, organised a webinar on "Farmers' Protests in Delhi against Farm Laws 2020 : Reverberations and Oppression". Mr Mathukur Ramalingam, the President, Revolutionary Writers and Artists Forum, Tamil Nadu and the Editor, Theekkathir spoke at length on the negative impact of Farm Laws on the poor people of India. He cautioned the participants that if these draconian laws are implemented, there will be often artificial famine created by Corporates and Multinationals. Mr P Shanmugam, General Secretary, Tamil Nadu Farmers' Association explicated the nefarious attempt of the Central Government to throttle the legitimate and peaceful protests of Farmers. According to him, these historic protests should succeed for the survival of the poor and Indian democracy.

On 14 Jan, all the community members attended the prayer organised by South Asian Jesuits on the theme Companions on a Mission of Faith, Justice and Reconciliation and prayed for the release of Fr Stan Swamy and others. Following day, the 100th day of his incarceration, to invoke God's abundant blessings on Fr Stan, et al, we organised a candlelight procession at 6.30 pm from the portico of the College to the main gate. The CRI members of Attur vicariate and the priests from the neighbourhood parishes joined us and prayed for the release of all human right activists and success of the farmers' protests in Delhi.



On 16 Jan, Frs Ignacy (Igny) and Andrew, Revisors, paid an official visit. On 23 Jan, the community members enjoyed the first one-day picnic of this academic year to Yercaud.

Maria Joseph Mahalingam

METTUPALAYAM: ARRUPPE ILLAM

PARAN: MAKKAMPALAYAM

PARAN: On 8 Jan 2021, we organized a Motivation Camp for 44 students, both boys and girls, from Makkampalayam and Kombaidoddi at Makkampalayam. Fr James Raja urged them to progress in academic, life skills and values. On the following day we had an online training programme and meeting for the Staff of Evening Study Centres at Kadambur. Sch Kajetan Antony (JAM), spoke to the staff on *“Beautiful Life and its Challenges and Values.”*

On 19 Jan, as a follow up event, an online Leadership Training Program was organized for the members of Urali Students Association from different tribal villages. About twenty-four students and youth benefited. Mr Jebamalai was the resource person. The training helped the members to interact with each other.

On 20 Jan, at the PARAN office, we conducted Community Leaders Training. Tribal community leaders and members from Arigiyam, Makkampalayam and Kombaidoddi participated. After the meeting, along with the staff they went to Sathyamangalam Taluk Office and submitted about three hundred applications to the government, demanding community certificates, ST welfare cards, free land and house for tribals. Urali Makkal Sangam and PARAN have been supporting the community to get the entitlements. On 22 Jan, Fr C Sebastian conducted a one-day training programme on *“Team Building”* for our PARAN staff at Mettupalayam. On 24 Jan, Sch Naveen Kumar along with the staff of PARAN conducted a camp on *“The importance of Education and its Values”* for 48 students of Gundri Study Centre.

Parish: On 16 Jan, we celebrated Pongal of St Antony the Hermit in the Parish with the car procession followed by Mass and fellowship meals for all the people. People performed Urali cultural dance with the traditional



cultural instruments. On 20 Jan, parishioners went up to St Antony’s ‘Paarai’ to cook Pongal. People expressed their gratitude to the God of nature. It is an annual event to help the Christian community grow in faith.

Frs Joseph Ignaci (Igini), Province Treasurer and Packiaraj have been working together in order to buy a property for the Tribal Mission in Kadambur village. We thank Fr Igini for his support to PARAN Mission.

Naveen Kumar

RANIPET: LOYOLA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

On 13 Jan 2021, we celebrated Pongal. We organized a Volleyball match for the staff and students. They participated enthusiastically in the friendly game. Fr Guna distributed prizes to the winners and runners-up and invigorated the students to celebrate the secular festival to enhance harmony and peace. The visitation of Fr Provincial was on 19 Jan, and it was a time blessing and joy.



On 25 Jan, classes commenced for the SCVT students of Automobile, Electrical and Welding trades. On 26 Jan, we celebrated our 72nd Republic Day. Fr Daniel Raj (PAT) hoisted the national flag and spirited up the students to promote the constitutional values.

Prithivi

VADAMELPAKKAM: LOYOLA ACADEMY

With the dawn of the New Year 2021, Trinical Illam warmed up to receive visitors, Jesuit guests to start with. Frs Provincial and Socius opened the innings and set the tone for the Decennial year of the school with their Visitation schedule (Jan 7/8) undeniably being moments of grace, hope and joy for all of us. Fr Provincial especially appreciated the whole team for taking innovative efforts (online and offline) to reach out to our students during the time of the pandemic. He concluded the Visitation on 08 Jan afternoon with the customary Talk and Mass. His talk and the homily underscored the importance of teamwork for our mission and the imperative for us today to be God’s presence and power in and through our life mission. The Province Coordinator for Formation Fr Antony Robinson also came after a few days to check up on his ward Sch Frankly.

As the government gave a green signal to open the schools on 18 Jan, we convened a staff meeting on 17 Jan for the 10th and 12th class teachers to discuss



the implementation of SOP. Fr Leo Tagore, the Correspondent, after sharing some sweet news, mentally prepared the teachers by emphasizing some effective ways to approach the students. He laid stress on being more positive, lovable and caring to the students. Fr M S Arockiasamy, the Principal highlighted some important practical guidelines to be strictly followed in the school campus and classroom. He announced different committees to oversee the effective running of the school with all COVID safety protocols put in place. The school administration ensures safety to all the staff and students by enforcing safety measures like disinfecting the whole campus twice a day, thermal screening of all at the gate, compulsory mask-wearing, social distancing in classrooms and hand sanitizing by placing dispensers at a reachable distance. Classes are going on without any hitch with a few absentees daily.

The Republic Day function was a low key affair without the presence of the students. Only the Jesuits with the PETs were present for the flag-hoisting. Sch Frankly unfurled the tri-colour and delivered the Republic day address. The simple program was videographed for uploading for official purposes. To commemorate the Republic Day competitions on Province-level are being conducted on relevant topics for the school students in essay writing, poetry writing and elocution. We have undertaken to organize the essay competitions and give away the cash prizes to the winners.

We have taken the Province Vocation Day celebration seriously and kick-started it by making announcement in the Parish Church on Sunday (Jan 24) about the special events to happen on 7 Feb in the Parish church. We have also roped in the Franciscan Sisters of St Joseph's Hr Sec School, Marai Malai Nagar and the Sacred Heart Sisters, as our collaborators. The Parish Priest has been very positive and encouraged us to make it a memorable day for the youth, both boys and girls, of the parish.

Frankly

VALLAM: PAATHAI CENTRE

On 6 Jan 2021, boys returned to Paathai Hostel after ten months shutdown, due to COVID-19 pandemic, for their half yearly examination; and as the schools are open they stay in the hostel. We had our Pongal Celebration along with the hostel boys and co-workers. Two sessions were given at Dalit Human Rights Centre to the youth of six districts of northern part of Tamil Nadu to motivate them towards education during this pandemic.

On 30 Jan, we had 'Teachers Day' of our Evening Study Centres to appreciate them for their efforts in running the evening tuition creatively during the pandemic and to motivate them to bring awareness



on New Education Policy among the students.
David Francis

COMMON HOUSES/ ABROAD

DINDIGUL: BESCHI ILLAM

Juniorate: On 4 Jan, the Juniors stepped into the final term with new vigour and zeal. On 13 January, the Juniors participated in the virtual fest – the release of the Scholastics' E-magazine, "Ilavalgalin Kural". The maiden social awareness song composed by the Juniors added colour to the event. On 26 Jan, commemorating the Republic Day a short programme was organized by the Juniors. Fr Alex Chinna (DEL), the chief guest, spoke about the current socio-political situation in India.

Franklin

Novitiate: On 31 December night New Year 2021 Mass was solemnly celebrated by Fr Michael Doss, superior, Beschi Illam, concelebrated by Frs Harry and Danis Ponniah, Provincial of MDU province. Novices welcomed the New Year with a spirit-filled New Year song.

Novices, with the help of Novice Master and Socius, composed tunes for the responsorial psalms for a YouTube Channel Mahimai Psalms by Fr Dominic Jayakumar. These were online 16-23 Jan. On 13 January Novices participated at online launch of **இளவல்களின் குரல்** an E- Magazine by Madurai Scholastics and performed a mime and a folk dance.

On 14 Jan, we had a solemn Pongal Mass celebrated by Frs Pugazh and Inigo. Fr Michael Panimaya Raj preached a homily elucidating the greatness of Tamil Culture. On 19 Jan, we celebrated Mattu Pongal in our dairy farm and this was led by Br Anthony and his crew. Fr Superior blessed all the cattle and a short program was given by the novices.

On 17 Jan, the novitiate community initiated a new pastoral academic program through the Bible called 'TELF Sunday' (Tamil and English – Learn the Fundamental) in order to strengthen their basic English and Tamil Grammar and biblical knowledge. Since weekend ministry is yet to begin, TELF Sunday keeps them equipped and enhances their language proficiency.

On 2 Feb, Beschi Community organized the Jubilee celebration for eleven Jesuits in Dindigul zone with the theme 'Rejoice with Gladness'. All the Jesuits

in Dindigul graced the occasion. Juniors and Novices felicitated the jubilarians by singing and dancing. This was the first gathering where Dindigul Jesuits came together after 12 months.

Michael Panimaya Raj

of my core sin, the challenges, difficulties, and hardships as I immerse myself once again in social ministry with creative fidelity and intellectual depth.

Rayappan Innasi

PUNE: DE NOBILI COLLEGE

DNC became alive and energetic once again after the arrival of Scholastics from all around the country. Our province men reached DNC in two groups, one from Shembaganur and the other from Berchmans Illam. After 14 days of self-quarantine the community began its regular life with the inaugural Mass. Fr Arjen Tete (CCU) was given farewell as he is appointed as CDE, and was honored in the Holy Eucharist. Then, we had community orientation to introduce the way of life to the new comers. On this occasion, a basketball match was conducted between the first and the second year philosophers. Though four second year philosophers were injured, the second years romped home as victors.

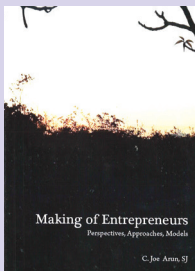
On the occasion of Pongal festival, we had a grand and meaningful Mass celebrated by Fr Selvarathinam (KAR). The community enjoyed the traditional sweet Pongal in the morning and lunch which were prepared by Tamil Scholastics. It was a good opportunity for all Tamil priests and Scholastics to come together and feel proud of our culture. On his visit to Jnana Deepa, POSA made his maiden interaction with DNC scholastics.

Jacob P

SITAGARHA: TERTIANSHIP

As I reach the culmination of my Tertianship at Sitagarha (22 Jan 2021), in the words of Mary our Mother, I feel that my soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God. Our Lady and St Ignatius have done wonders in my life at the School of the Heart and they have brought about transformation in my attitude, behavior, perspective, worldview and outlook. The thirty-day journey of my Long Retreat was the peak experience of my Tertianship, especially my encounter with Jesus Christ engraved upon my heart the Interior Law of Charity. The sapiential exposure to Jesuit heritages like the Autobiography, the Spiritual Diary, the Letters, the Spiritual Exercises, the Constitutions and the GCs enkindled me to progress in my religious life, know my interior movements and integrate my affective maturity. My Third Probation at Sitagarha really paved the way for reconciliation with God, others and myself. This led me to free myself from my self-will, self-love and self-interest. Motivated by discerning love and illumined by my core grace, I am determined to face the daily manifestations

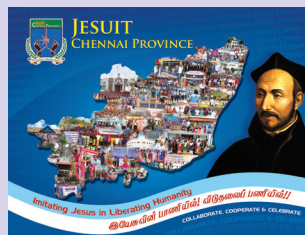
New Books



C Joe Arun, SJ
Making of Entrepreneurs
Perspective, Approaches, Models
 Archers and Elevators
 Publishing House



ரெல்வி. மேரி B.Sc.,
ரெல்வி. ஜானிசி B.Com.,
உணர்வளி செயல்பாடுகள்
திரும்பலிப் பாடல்கள்
 மாக்கம்பாளையம்



Congrats!
Fr Vasanthakumar (PDD)
and his Team
for the BROCHURE - CEN

This Brochure aims at giving important information about the Vision, Mission, Option group, Beneficiaries and the different Apostolic activities of 45 units of the Jesuit Chennai Province.

This brochure will serve as mirror to let the world know about the Jesuit Chennai Province, to inspire more Vocations and to invite people of good will to support us as volunteers, collaborators and benefactors.

All our communities are encouraged to make use of it.

ABIDE WITH THE LORD

- Fr Ronald Victor Menezes (KAR 48/26)**, passed away on 14 Jan 2021 at Pratiksha, Bengaluru.
- Fr Ambrose Augustine (PAT 87/58)** passed away on 16 Jan 2021 in Patna.
- Fr Maxim Crasta (GUJ 54/32)** passed away on 19 Jan 2021 at Our Lady of Pillar Hospital, Baroda, Gujarat.
- Fr Arwind Minj (HAZ 42/20)** passed away on 26 Jan 2021 in Hazaribag.
- Fr Anthony A D'Souza (BOM 94/77)**, passed away on 27 Jan 2021 in Mumbai.
- Fr Lancelot Pereira (BOM 90/71)**, passed away on 28 Jan 2021 in Mumbai.
- Br Stephen Kerketta (RAN 75/57)**, passed away on 30 Jan 2021 due to Covid-19, in Samford Hospital, Ranchi.
- Mr Alphonse Raja (78)**, brother-in-law of Fr Xavier Rajan, passed away on 26 Jan 2021 at Madurai.