



# Kerala Tidings

VOL. LXI NO. 2&3 ■ FEBRUARY & MARCH 2021 ■ CHRIST HALL ■ KOZHIKODE

## FROM THE PROVINCIAL'S DESK

My Dear Friends in the Lord,

This is a special year of St Joseph, and the Feast of St Joseph falls on 19 March. Silent as he is in the Bible, with limited references, St Joseph offers rich lessons on discernment. While facing adverse situations and a confused mind, he is able to remain calm and sleep well. There, he could hear the promptings of the angel and follow the Spirit, a truly discerning way of life. He became a reliable caretaker of an expectant mother, and later, of a new-born infant in an alien land. Today, St Joseph asks us to move beyond mere acts of piety, and move along the path of true discernment in puzzling situations. We are still reeling under the impact of the corona virus. Uncertainties loom large. The Ignatian path of discernment becomes ever more significant as Fr General reminded the Major Superiors of South Asia who met online recently. Fr General's talk touched upon many relevant points, and I intend to share them with you in a forthcoming circular. May St Joseph continue to be a shining light in our path ahead.

*E.P. Mathew, SJ*

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR GENERAL

**Fr Francis Pudhicherry (GUJ):** Rector, De Nobili College, Pune.

**Fr Joe Mathew Kunnathoor (KER):** Socius and Admonitor to the Provincial of Kerala. He takes charge on June 1, 2021.

**Fr Nirmal Raj (DUM):** Rector, Vidyajyoti, Delhi

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



**Fr Rephin Kamal**, our newly ordained priest, writes: I am happy to inform that by the Grace of God I was ordained to Priesthood by **His Excellency Most Rev. Dr Christudas**, Auxiliary Bishop of Trivandrum, at Loyola Sreekariyam on 13th Feb 2021. **Fr E.P. Mathew**, Provincial **Fr Sunny Kunnappallil**, **Fr Salvin** and **Fr Rabin** were the concelebrants for the Ordination Mass. The function was held at the Loyola School indoor auditorium. The whole event was planned and meticulously executed by the Loyola community and the community was generous enough to render every possible service with love to make the holy event successful even under the threat of the Covid pandemic. My first thanksgiving Eucharistic Celebration was held at St. Judes' Church, Chinnathurai. The parish priests, **Fr Dony** and **Fr John Jacob**, together with the parishners made the Mass a memorable one. I thank whole heartedly each and every one who helped me and prayed for me.

[Fr Kamal has been assigned to St Isidore Church, Nettithozhu parish for pastoral ministry (Idukki Dt., Pin: 685551). Best wishes, Fr Kamal.]

## TRANSFERS AND ASSIGNMENTS – LIST 1

<i>Name</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
<b>Fr Augustine Peedikamalayil</b>	AKJM HSS, Kanjirapally	Principal, AKJM HSS, Kanjirapally
<b>Fr Baby Chalil</b>	Tudi, Eachome	Director, Aicuf, Trivandrum
<b>Fr Biju Joy Ottakunnel</b>	St Xavier's, Thumba	Tertianship, Kandy
<b>Fr Deepak Edattu</b>	Pre Novitiate, Prashanti	Tertianship, Shembag, 1 June 2021
<b>Fr Dominic Madathaniyil</b>	St Michael's, Kannur	S M Farm (Manager/Acting Superior), Pariyaram
<b>Fr Joe M Kunnathoor</b>	S M Farm, Pariyaram	Socius/Acting Superior, Christ Hall, Kozhikode
<b>Fr Jose Pittappillil</b>	Arthungal, pastoral	Asst. Treasurer, Loyola School, Trivandrum
<b>Fr Joseph Edassery</b>	St Joseph's, Kozhikode	St Michael's, Kannur
<b>Fr Joseph Kallepallil</b>	Loyola, Mukundara	St Michael's (Manager/Acting Superior), Kannur
<b>Fr Joseph Thakadiyil</b>	St Michael's, Kannur	Pius X ITI, Edathua
<b>Fr K.J. Thomas</b>	Christ Hall, Kozhikode	Manager, Loyola, Mukundara
<b>Fr Linto Kanichai</b>	Afghanistan	Vice-principal (acad), AKJM, Kanjirapally
<b>Fr Maneesh Thottathuvilakom</b>	Illam, Pariyaram	Teaching English at XIM, prep for UGC
<b>Fr Mathew Pullattu</b>	Pius X ITI, Edathua	Santhinilayam, Kumaranalloor
<b>Fr Prince Panachithara</b>	Aicuf House, Trivandrum	Director, Pre-Novitiate, Pachilakad
<b>Fr Rabin C</b>	Christ Hall, Curia	XIM Director, St Xavier's, Trivandrum
<b>Fr Raju Vattaparambil</b>	Christ the King Parish	Tertianship, Hazaribagh, 14 June 2021
<b>Fr Rephin Kamal</b>	Pastoral Year	AADI, Attappadi
<b>Fr Roy M Thottathil</b>	Lumen, Kochi	Director Thanmaya, Santhinilayam, Kottayam
<b>Fr Salvin Kachirayil</b>	AKJM, Kanjirapally	Sarvodaya (Teacher/Director TUDI), Eachome
<b>Fr Wilson Mulackal</b>	Prasanthi, Pachilakad	Farm, Prasanthi, (Addl charge) Pachilakad
<b>Fr Wilson Puthusserry</b>	Sarvodaya, Eachome	Coord (Co-curricular), AKJM, Kanjirapally

### STATUS OF SCHOLASTICS – LIST 1

<b>Amal Babu Pattasseril</b>	: Philosophy, SN, Chennai
<b>Rejoy Johny Chiriyankandath</b>	: Philosophy, JD, DNC, Pune
<b>Jaison J Cheruvuparambil</b>	: Regency, XTC, Pre novitiate, Pachilakad
<b>Nibin M Vadakkonaparambil</b>	: Regency, St Joseph's, Kozhikode
<b>Anjo Alappat Palathingal</b>	: Special Studies
<b>Dijin Jose Pulickal</b>	: Special Studies
<b>Frangle Xavier B.R.</b>	: Special Studies
<b>Libin Mathew Puthukadath</b>	: Special Studies
<b>Savy Thazhathuveettil</b>	: Special Studies
<b>Deslin Paulson Chelatt</b>	: Theology, JD, DNC, Pune
<b>Vysakh Titus</b>	: Theology, JD, DNC, Pune
<b>George Karupallyil</b>	: Theology, Gesu, Rome

### Pope's Intentions Mar 2021



### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may  
Experience the Sacrament of  
Reconciliation with renewed depth,  
To taste the infinite mercy of God.



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network  
INDIA

## CONGREGATION OF PROCURATORS

By his letter to all the Major Superiors dated 15 January 2021, **Father General** has convoked the 71st Congregation of Procurators, to be held in Loyola, Spain, beginning from 16th of May 2022. Its theme is "To See All Things New in Christ". Before the Congregation, from the 7th of May until the evening of 15th May, the Spiritual Exercises will be held in the same place. All the participants (Procurators and Relators) are asked to take part in these Exercises.

Father General has also given this directive: "To begin preparing for the Congregation of Procurators, each Provincial should summon the Congregation of his Province, which must be concluded by 15 January 2022."

- **Fr Henry Pattarumadathil** has been appointed member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission by Pope Francis.
- **Scholastics Lijo and Stevensen** will be ordained deacons by Mar Jose Pulickal, Bishop of Kanjirappally, on 27 March at Mary Matha Minor seminary, Podimattom. The function will begin at 6 a.m.
- **Jnana Deepa, Pune**, reverts to its old name Jnana Deepa, Institute of Philosophy and Theology dropping 'Vidyapeeth'. The acronym 'JDV' will no more be in use.
- Novice Sebin Jose left the Novitiate on 11 February, 2021.
- **ROOTS & WINGS 2021** from April 6th evening to May 8th afternoon, 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 is: March 15th 2021

## INVITATION FROM Fr XAVIER THARAMEL, COORD. OF SERVICE FAITH COMMISSION

### *Lent: A Call to Conversion*

Ignatian Year recollection talk by **Fr Francis Pudhicherry, SJ** (Rector, De Nobili College, and HOD, **Spirituality** at Jnana Deepa, Pune)

Date: 7-03-2021; Time: 6.15 pm

Zoom ID: 889 7162 6451

Passcode: 738296

*There will be a Province Prayer after the recollection talk led by our Scholastics.*

*Kindly join the webinar and Province Prayer.*

## FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

### CHRIST HALL, KOZHIKODE

The community welcomed the New Year with fresh energy and enthusiasm. **Br Mathew Puthiyedom, Frs Jose Kadankavil** and **T.V. John** joined the community after their medical treatment in Nirmala Hospital. They are quietly improving and regaining their health. **Fr George Pattery** hoisted the flag on the Republic day, and **Fr E. P. Mathew**, Provincial, gave a beautiful message on the occasion. **Venerini Sisters** had a one-month *Psycho-Spiritual Sadhana* under the guidance of **Fr K. J. Thomas** in SRC.

**Fr P. T. Mathew** guided the Provincial Chapter of the Ursuline Sisters at Kannur and later he left for Tripura Mission for a visit. **Frs Linto, Sanil, Dolichan, Deepak, Maneesh, Sheise, and Ranjith** made their visit to the community for different purposes. **Fr Sebastian Thegumppallil** was awarded *Mary Glowery and Liliane Brekelmans Disability Award 2019* for being one of the top five nominees in the category by CHAI Network. The community was extremely joyful to celebrate the birthdays of **Frs Baby, Rabin, P. T. Augustine, Adappur, K. J. Thomas** and **T.V. John**. **Fr. Devassia** made his annual retreat at Chundel, Wayanad. Fr Pattery led the monthly recollection on the theme '**Spiritual Conversation**' on 11 February.

**Fr John Vattanky** was called for eternal reward on 22 February. Fr. Provincial presided over the Funeral Mass and **Fr Stephen Thadam** delivered the homily remembering the rich contributions of Fr Vattanky. The funeral service was held strictly following the Covid protocol. (See *Obituary* of Fr John Vattanky)

*George Karuppallyil*

### LOYOLA, ALUVA

Celebration of the New Year and the birthday of novice **David Mathew** began with the midnight Mass. **Fr E.J. Thomas** was the main celebrant. The next day, we novices had a three-day seminar on the encyclical '*Fratelli Tutti*'; it was inaugurated by Fr E.J. Thomas. We also participated in the online yoga course under the able guidance of **Fr Stephen Chundanthadam**. Later, this was followed by a two-day course on 'Yoga and life in the Society' led by **Fr Sunny Kunnappallil**. On 14th, the first year novices left for Atmamitra, Kalady to attend an NLP programme and returned on 17th. **Fr Roy** gave us a magnificent exposure to the world of arts through his art course. **Fr Linto Kanichai** from Afganistan landed in Loyola and was quarantined for a week. **Frs George Nedungatt** and **Xavier Tharamel** also spent a period of quarantine in Loyola. The birthday of

**Fr Jacob Kumminiyil** was celebrated with Holy Mass, cake-cutting ceremony, sumptuous meal and special community recreation. **Fr Alwin**, a Jamshedpur Jesuit, spent a few days in our community. **Fr Jacob Madukkakuzhi** had a taste of Covid, but soon he became negative and rejoined the community. Then he went to Pachilakad to guide a retreat for the Prenovices. Fr Jacob will be back only in April after guiding a one-month retreat for Bethany tertians in Mangalore.

*Rachans Lukose*

### **SAMEEKSHA, KALADY**

**Schs Lijo Antony** and **Stevensen Paul** returned to the community in the first week of January after completing their diaconate retreat at Mount St Joseph, Bangalore. **Fr T V John** was not keeping well for a few days, and at the Little Flower Hospital, Angamaly, he was tested Covid positive. Five other members also were tested positive, and so the entire community stayed in quarantine for two weeks. Now all are negative, and the community has got back to normal life. **Fr Saju George**, who is also known as the 'Dancing Jesuit', spent a few days at Sameeksha after a leg surgery at Rajagiri Hospital. The community celebrated the birthday of Sch Lijo Antony. **Frs Xavier** keeps himself busy with vocation promotion and directing retreats for seminarians and sisters. **Fr Sebastian** gives online lectures to different groups in Germany on several topics related to Church and faith.

*Lijo Antony*

### **LUMEN JYOTHIS, KOCHI**

**Fr Roy Thottathil** organised a three-day art camp, 'Mud Muster', for members of the CARP art group at Redemptorist Renewal Centre, Kottayam. The Art Healing Peace Fellowship organized under the auspices of CARP took up themes like the peasant agitation, re-creation of human and soil relationship, human fraternity beyond divisions, etc. There was a street exhibition of the paintings on 21 Feb at Kodoor river bank walkway, Kottayam in collaboration with Rotary Club and Sopana academy.

**LIPI** organized science talks by Dr Ninan Sajeeth Philip (Visiting Professor, IUCCA, Pune, Dean & Director, A.I., Research & Intelligent Systems, Thelliyoor, and Reader & Associate, St Thomas College, Kozhencherry.) **The Newman Association** brought together Dr Sebastian Paul, Ex M.P. & Shri K.V.S. Haridas, Ex Editor, Janmabhoomi, to talk on *Freedom of Expression*. **Fr Binoy Jacob** offered two courses in JD, Pune for the students of B.Th. & M.Ph. He also conducted

a webinar talk on Cosmic Spirituality for the members of *Jnanasameeksha*. The seniors in our community are actively involved physically in our small garden. We are expecting **Fr Sheise** to be back with us after his tertianship by early March.

*Devassy*

### **AKJM HSS, KANJIRAPALLY**



A PTA meeting in the New Year decided to permit students to come to school to meet their teachers adhering to the COVID protocol. Students of Classes X and XII are back to school for regular classes. Christmas and New Year celebrations for the staff were held on January 25 together with the combined birthday celebration of **Frs Antu Xavier, Varkeychan Mecheril** and **Thomas Panikulam**. Students are getting ready for the public examination scheduled to begin on March 17. **Schs Dileep** and **Albin** joined the community in January and they attend philosophy classes from Chennai online. The Centre for Indian Studies organised a five-day long online Yoga workshop with **Fr Stephen Chundanthadam** as the resource person. More than fifty people participated. Fr Stephen also gave week-long online course on 'Methods of Prayer' for the students of JD, Pune as part of their course on 'Ignatian Sources'.

AKJM School celebrated its Diamond Jubilee on 19 February 2021. Due to Covid restrictions, the celebration was on a low scale. **Mar Jose Pulickal**, bishop of Kanjirapally diocese, was the chief guest and Mr. Anto Antony MP gave the keynote address. Students of the first batch were felicitated by Rev. Fr Varghese Parinthricksal, Vicar of St. Dominic Cathedral, Kanjirapally. **Frs K C Thomas** and **George Sebastian** tested positive for Covid-19 and were admitted to the hospital. They are back in the community and are slowly regaining their health. **Fr Jose Kadankavil** has undergone a prostate surgery at Nirmala hospital, Kozhikode and is recuperating in Christ Hall.

*Augustine Peedikamalajil & Albin*

## AADI, ATTAPPADI

In collaboration with Tarumitra Patna, AADI organised a 2-day virtual National Eco-Fest on 24 and 25 of February. Students from all over India and four from USA participated in the event. The theme was 'Conservation of Biodiversity'. Mrs Neethu. P.C, District Panchayat Member of Attappadi, inaugurated the Fest and Mr. Padam Singh IPS, ASP of Attappadi, presided over the function. Eminent environmentalists from Kerala guided the sessions. Panel discussion was led by Tarumitra Team including Ms Devapriya Dutta, U.N. representative of Tarumitra, **Dr. Robert Atthical S.J**, founder of Tarumitra, and **Fr Tony Pendanath, S.J**, Director Tarumitra, Patna. Certificates were distributed to those who participated in various competitions on the theme of ecology. Credit goes to **Fr P.S. Antony** for organising the Fest in a creative way and to Vibinlal, our staff Coordinator, for providing technical expertise.

The newly elected Panchayat members of three Panchayats of Attappadi were given a reception by AADI and Lok Manch with a two-hour felicitation programme. 40 of the 75 members attended the function. AADI staff and student trainees together organised street plays on Corona in 15 *Oorus*. AADI was part of a team to prepare a Manifesto for the Tribals of Kerala. An evaluation of our Career Guidance and Information Canter at Agaly was professionally done, and we hope to implement its recommendations. AADI and Lok Manch partners participated in a four-day training on 'Ecological Concerns' virtually organised by ISI, Bangalore. AADI organised four Webinars: on 'Right to Health in New Normal' which was inaugurated by ' Mrs. Lida Jacob IAS; on 'Professional Social Work in a democratic and secular India; on 'Children's Education and Mental Health after Corona' by Mrs Sobha Koshy, former State Chair Person for Children's Commission, and **Fr Joye James**; and on 'Impact of Social Media on Family' by **Fr Mathew Aerthayil** and Mr. Renjit O, Senior State Cyber Police Chief. Ten M.S.W students had their field work at AADI. The staff of AADI had a session on *Protocol for Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults* that was prepared by the Province.

It is good news that Attappadi, till now part of Mannarkat Taluk, has now been raised to a 'Tribal Taluk'. The new Taluk has the size of Alapuzha district, and 44 percent of the people are Tribals living in 192 *Oorus*. Three Panchayats - Agali, Sholayur and Pudhur - come within it. AADI is situated in Sholayur Panchayat, but has activities in all three Panchayats through Lok Manch partners.

*Mathew Aerthayil*

## XAVIER TRAINING CENTRE, PACHILAKAD

After the Christmas holidays all the pre-novices returned to XTC on 2 January. We began the new year with a two-day course on 'Basic Catechism' guided by **Fr Midhun**. The Pre-novices paid a visit to TUDI and enjoyed the folk songs by the artists from TUDI and got a taste of '*vattakali*', an indigenous art form. **Fr Baby Chalil** hoisted the flag on the Republic Day and pre-novice **Bazil** delivered a thought provoking message. On the same day we had the online gathering of the parents of pre-novices. CMC sisters of Avila Bhavan invited the pre-novices for a prayer service and a dinner. We celebrated the birthday of **Fr V.C. George** on 4 January and of **Fr Deepak** on 27 February. We also got a chance to participate in the popular feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at the shrine of Pallikkunu. **Fr Jacob Madukkakuzhy** guided us through the Ignatian discernment retreat as we come to the end of our life here.

*Alan George*

## LOYOLA, POOVAR

We celebrated **Fr Antony Manipadam Day** on 26 January. This day is being celebrated every year as the Home Day of Loyola Poovar after the golden jubilee year in 2017. **Fr Benny Chiramel** was the main celebrant at the concelebrated Solemn Eucharist. It was followed by a public meeting, cultural programme and a sumptuous lunch. The students of Loyola College of Commerce had their second terminal examinations in early February. It was followed by class wise meetings of the PTA where the parents met the students with their mark sheets. **Fr Jose Thachil** gave a half-day orientation to our first B. Com students. **Fr Rephin Kamal**, our priest, paid a friendly visit to Loyola Poovar after his ordination. The added attractions on the campus are the Mango park, Tarumitra eco-spot and a bio-diversity garden. Loyola looks green and beautiful now.

*Binu Kaduthalakunnel*

## ST MARY'S SCHOOL, TRIPURA

In spite of the pandemic threat, regular classes are going on in St Mary's School. The **Annual Kids Fest** was conducted on Feb 6. **Fr P.T. Mathew** who was on a short visit to Tripura was the chief guest. **Fr James Morais** and **Sch Frangle** also joined us and blessed us with their presence. The Jesuit community of Tripura, along with Fr Mathew, visited the Dima Hasao mission (Assam) under the Kohima Jesuits. We are grateful to Fr Mathew for his encouragement and valuable suggestions. Preparation for the school Annual Day is going on, and as a preparation for that we have conducted the Arts and Sports Day. Admission for the next academic year has already started and a new building to accommodate the hostel for boys and a nursery is getting completed.

*Dejin George*

## **XIDE (Xavier Institute of Development Education), JAMTOLIBARI, TRIPURA**

We had a wonderful New Year celebration in Jamtoli village which began with the Holy Eucharist. In the first week of January itself the remedial tuition classes and the GDA class resumed. The three month GDA course under the guidance of **Sr. Annie Joseph, SJA** came to a successful completion on 29 Jan. 20 students from different villages completed the course and are waiting for their placement as nursing assistants in hospitals. XIDE is presently running eight remedial tuition centers in different villages. Four of these centers are in the villages of the tea garden workers who are originally from Jharkhand (Adivasis). The education level of these children is worse than that of the other tribals. The XIDE periodically arranges training programme for the tuition teachers. A Youth Seminar was arranged in the XIDE in which 25 youth participated. **Fr Babu Paul** and **Sch Frangle** guided a two-day youth camp at Good Shepherd Parish Church, Kathalcherra.

The registration of the second part of the plot of land is completed. Now, we have 8.5 acres of land in our possession at Bhagavan Nagar for the construction of the proposed St Xavier's School. **Fr Anand Pereira** and **Fr Thomas Mathew** from Kohima Region visited the new plot to prepare a master plan for the School campus at Bhagavan Nagar. **Fr P. T. Mathew** visited the Jesuit community at Jamtoli and spent a few days with us. The parishioners welcomed him after the Mass. He also visited the Jamtoli village, different remedial tuition centers and Koskaupara refugee camp. A Women Empowerment Camp was organized at Thachaibagan village and 35 women participated. **Sr. Annie Joseph, SJA** and **Sr. Sanjuktha, SJA** visited different villages which made a positive impact in the non-Catholic villages and the people are very welcoming. The XIDE has sent two girls from Jamtoli village to St. Paul's College Phesama in Nagaland for higher studies. Agartala diocese



has entrusted the new St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Kailashahar to us Jesuits, and it will be inaugurated on 21 March at Jamtolibari by **Bishop Lumen Monteiro, CSC**. We request your prayers and we welcome you to the inaugural function.

*Frangle Xavier*

## **ST XAVIER'S SCHOOL, MOIRANG, MANIPUR MISSION**

The month of December was blessed with the visitation of **Fr Melvil Pereira**, Regional Superior. Regular classes for Std. 9th to 12th started on 27 January. **Fr Syriac** is in charge of the higher secondary section. Our boarding house was also reopened for senior students and **Sch Vysakh** has now the added responsibility as the assistant director of the boarding house and he is reorganizing the functioning of the same. He is also in great demand as an experienced driver. Vysakh is kept extremely busy as the dynamic minister of the house and buyer of all the provisions, etc. The visit of **Fr James Morais, Schs Dijin** and **Frangle** was a joyful event and they were given a very warm welcome to our campus. Fr James presided over the campus Mass and gave an inspiring message.

We have resumed regular Sunday liturgy in all the twenty mission stations of our parish where Fr Hector is the zealous and creative parish priest. Fr Syriac celebrates Mass in two tribal languages. Sch Vysakh and Fr Syriac attended the fifth wedding anniversary celebrations of the parents of Sch Norbert in Ukrul. Our campus is crowded with almost hundred workers involved in massive constructions in order to accommodate over four thousand students by the year 2023.

*Syriac and Vysakh*

## **DE NOBILI COLLEGE, PUNE**

After the quarantine rituals, the life in DNC is moving forward with the new normal. **Sch Sooraj Sebastian** is appointed the Philosophy Beadle. Thirteen of our brothers were ordained deacons on 14 February. We are happy to have a new Rector, **Fr Francis Pudhicherry**, and he will assume office on 25 March. We are grateful to **Fr Edward Mudavassery**, the present Rector, for his able leadership. The house is slowly moving into the mood of exams.

*Francis Paracka*

## **INIGO SADAN, BENGALURU**

The first years have effectively written their first semester offline theory and practical examinations. On 23 Jan, we attended a webinar on the UAPs of the Society of Jesus led by **Fr John Dardis S.J.** Our community went on a picnic on 31 Jan to Lago Palms Resort for a time of relaxation and enjoyment. As part of the celebration of the feast St Joseph, Patron of our institution, we organized a gathering of our religious collaborators. Right now, the first years and final years have started their second and last semester online classes respectively.

*Amal*

## OURS IN MEDIA

**Fr Roy M. Thottam**, "Art as a Spiritual Journey", in *Together – a National Family Magazine*, November 2020, 35-37.

**Fr Xavier Tharamel**, "Ushering Catholic Reformation in Kerala Church: The Role of Jesuit St. Paul's College (Sampaloor College)" in *Indian Church History Review*, VOL. 54, (2), (July 2020), 7-25.

**Fr Prince Clarence Panachithara** "ഇറശോസഭ", കേരള റോമൻസഭയുടെ പ്രേഷിതമുന്നേറ്റങ്ങൾ, edited by Dr Antony Pattapparambil, Aluva: Ayin Publications, 2020, 178-189.

**Fr E. J. Thomas**, "കോവിഡ്-19 നു ശേഷം സഭയും സമൂഹവും," *ജീവധാര* (പരിണമിക്കുന്ന സമൂഹവും സഭയും), ആഗസ്റ്റ് 2020.

Articles by **Fr Thomas Karimundackal**

i. "Lk 13:10-17: A Liberative Paradigm for the Church's Mission in India," In: *Journal of Sacred Scriptures* Vol 14/2 July-December 2020, 105-135.

ii. "Called to be Friends of Christ: Pope Francis' Call to youth to Humanize the world," in *Towards Renewing Church and World – revisiting Vatican Council II through the eyes of Pope Francis*, Francis Gonsalves, SJ, Arjen Tete, SJ and Dinesh Braganza, SJ (eds.), Jnana Deepa, Institute of Philosophy and Theology and CCBI Commission for Theology and Doctrine, ISPCK, Delhi, 2020, 192-211.

iii. "Human Soul: A Biblical Perspective," in *The Human Soul in a World of the Neurological Sciences*, Job Kozhamthadam and Roy Pereira (eds.), Indian Institute of Science and Religion, ISPCK: Delhi 2020, 225-246.

## GONE FOR THEIR REWARD

**Fr Ronald Victor Menezes** (KAR), 48/26  
on 14.01.2021 at Pratiksha, Bengaluru.

**Fr Ambrose Augustine** (PAT), 87/58  
on 16.01.2021 at Patna.

**Fr Maxim Crasta** (GUJ), 54/32  
on 19.01.2021 at Baroda.

**Fr Arwind Minj** (HAZ), 42/06  
on 26.01.2021.

**Fr Anthony A. D'Souza** (BOM), 94/77  
on 27.01.2021 in Mumbai.

**Fr Lancelot Pereira** (BOM), 90/71  
on 28.01.2021 in Mumbai.

**Br Stephen Kerketta** (RAN), 75/57  
on 30.01.2021 at Ranchi.

**Fr Vasco de Rego** (GOA), 96/75  
on 17. 02.2021 in Pune.

**Fr Anthony Doongdung** (RAN), 87/63  
on 20.02.2021 at Namkum, Ranchi.



**Fr John Vattanky** (KER), 89/70  
on 22.02.2021 at Kozhikode.

**Bishop Linus Nirmal Gomes** (CCU), 99/78  
on 27.02.2021, in Kolkata.

**Fr Oscar Rozario** (BOM), 78/63  
on 28.02.2021 in Mumbai.

Mrs Elsy Ouso (87), mother of **Fr Benny Chiramel**,  
on 03.01.2021.

Mrs Rosamma (89), mother of **Fr Sunny unnappallil**,  
on 06.01.2021.

Mrs Mariyakutty (90), mother of **Fr Augustine Mekkunnel**,  
on 07.01.2021.

Mr Sabu Mayilkunnel (56), elder brother of **Fr Sanil Mayilkunnel**,  
on 12.01.2021.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### MARCH

02 Thomas Madathiparambil

03 Libin Mathew Puthukadath

05 Henry Pattarumadathil

09 Roy Mathew Thottathil

10 Paul Karinganampally

12 Saji Arithiyal Puraidam

13 Mathew Pampackal

14 Augustine Mekunnel

14 Frangle Xavier B R

14 Tomy Issac Baby

17 George Sebastian Vallocheril

17 Nibin Vadakkonaparambil

18 Bony Moozhiyankal

18 Jose Thaiparambil

18 Thadeyoos S M

19 Ajith Xavier Thudiyaplackal

21 Adhul Thomas Ulloppillil

21 Thomas J Philip Vattamattathil

21 Varghese Anikuzhy

23 Steevensen Maliekal Cheniyara

### APRIL

01 Dolichan Kollarath

04 Gracious Stephen



## IN CHRIST WITH GLORY

### MARCH

01 (1990) Mathew Chittilapilly

02 (2014) George Aikara

03 (1974) James Montanari

05 (1989) Chacko Marattukalam

06 (1989) Joseph Vergottini

06 (2010) Kuruvila Nalpathamkalam

14 (1999) Alexander Thannikanirappel

21 (2017) Joseph Kottukapally

24 (2013) Jose Vallanattu



With the passing away of **Prof Dr John Vattanky, SJ**, on Feb 22, 2012, the Church and the nation has lost an erudite scholar, a passionate lover and a visionary thinker.

His critical or logical mind, coupled with his passionate heart, contributed significantly to a better understanding of the classical Nyaya and Navya-Nyaya schools making them relevant for our times. As a committed and devoted Catholic, he was open to the rich philosophical traditions of India. He interpreted this tradition, deepened it and made it available to contemporary scholars, both Indian and non-Indian, Hindu and non-Hindu.

Fr John Vattanky was born on 03 July 1931 at Palackattumala in Kottayam district of Kerala. After his preliminary studies at Papal Seminary, Kandy, John joined the Jesuit Novitiate at Kozhikode in 1950. He was ordained a priest in 1963 at St Mary's College Kurseong after his theology studies there. He taught philosophy at S.H. College, Shembaganur for a while before leaving for higher studies. After obtaining M.A. in Oriental Studies from the Oxford University and PhD in Indology from Vienna, he returned to India in 1974. He established the Indology Institute at St Xavier's College, Trivandrum, and as its Director, got immersed in research and writing. Later, in 1982, he shifted the Institute to De Nobili College, Pune rechristening it as Centre for Advanced Indian Studies. He also served as Professor of Indian Philosophy at Jnana Deepa, Institute of Philosophy and Theology, Pune. In 2012 Fr John shifted his Institute to Kanjirapally in Kerala and continued his research in Indian Philosophy and Oriental Theology. In 2015, he suffered a stroke and became paralyzed and was brought to Christ Hall, Kozhikode where he remained till his death.

The contribution of Fr John Vattanky to studies in Indian Philosophy has been recognized globally. His monumental work is *Gangesa's Philosophy of God* published in 1984. His other writings include *Development of Nyaya Theism* (1993), *Nyaya Philosophy of Language* (1995), and *A System of Indian Logic* (2003). There are many more academic articles

# Obituary

through which he shared his intellectual height and affective depth with his colleagues. Many would admire him working hard and listening patiently to the

Indian scholars (pandits) and taking painstaking notes regularly and on a daily basis. He had the remarkable stamina for hard and sustained intellectual work. As a teacher he had been a mentor to generations of students, who have been inspired by his wisdom and intellectual acumen.

What guided his philosophical quest and Christian reflection may be summed up in three of his enduring passions: Passion for Indian Philosophy, Rooted in Logic and Love, and Open to Oriental Roots. He was fully convinced of the relevance of classical Indian philosophy. That is why the first festschrift

in his honour was aptly titled *An Indian Ending: Rediscovering the Grandeur*

of Indian Heritage for a Sustainable Future (2013). It was remarkable

that his book *Gangesa's Philosophy of God* was favourably appreciated

by Kanchi Sankaracharya, who honoured him specially. A man of

deep conviction, faith and devotion, Vattanky had a rigorous and

inferential mind for philosophizing, especially the logic of Navya-nyaya

system and equally a heart for God and the people. It is no wonder that

the second volume in his honour was titled *Logic and Love: Reflecting*

on Professor John Vattanky's Contribution to Indian Philosophy

and Spirituality. Towards the last phase of his life, he had discovered the depth of Oriental theology and

symbolism. After learning Syriac in his old age (2012), he studied the life and writings of St. Ephrem (306-

373) and was truly enamored by his symbolic theology, which, he believed, fulfilled his mystical orientation.

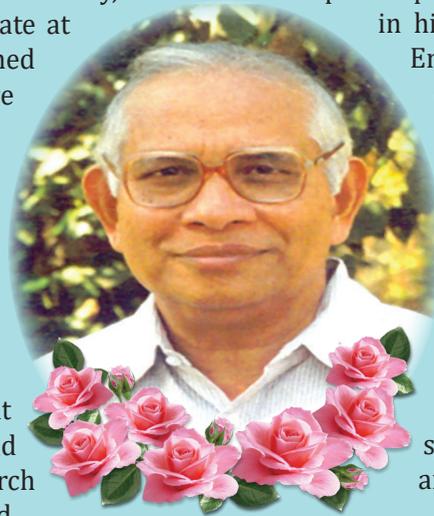
Fr John passed away on 22 February 2021 at Christ Hall, Kozhikode, after being bedridden for six long

years. He endured the suffering peacefully and never complained about his difficult times. He was ever

thankful to his numerous care-takers. May the life and vision of Fr John Vattanky be an inspiration for us as

Indian and Christian to be fully human and fully divine!

*Kuruwilla Pandikattu SJ (kuru@jdu.edu.in)*



**FR JOHN VATTANKY, SJ**  
(03.07.1931 – 22.02.2021)

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Editor's Email ID: [kjscalicut@gmail.com](mailto:kjscalicut@gmail.com)

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