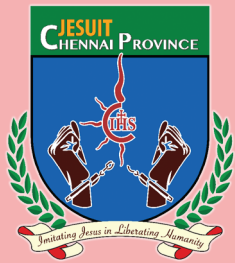


MAY 2020



JESUIT
CHENNAI PROVINCE



Our Lady of the Way

NEWSLETTER



While a lot is still unknown about the virus that causes COVID-19, the outbreak of coronavirus disease has been very seriously affecting all walks of life especially the marginalized groups. The pandemic spreads like a wild fire and has now reached many countries. It has created a serious global health crisis of our times.

More than a health crisis, the COVID-19 is creating disheartening social, economic and political crises that will leave deep scars down the history. Every day people are losing their jobs and income, with no way of knowing when normality will return. In our context, the poor Dalits, migrants, tribals, widows, gypsies and daily coolies are the most affected victims of the impacts of this pandemic. Discerning over the current signs of times, the Province Disaster Management Committee (DMC) was created to plan and respond to this situation in a meaningful way.

With a deep sense of gratitude, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the members of Jesuit Chennai Province, all our collaborators for your rapid responses to proactively address the crisis of COVID-19 and in reaching out to affected people with generous heart, in spite of its risks and dangers for one's existence.

In the first phase of our reaching out to the people (Poor Dalits, Migrants, Tribals, Widows, Gypsies, Transgenders, Sri Lankan Refugees, Daily coolies and Domestic Employees, etc.), our Jesuit communities have reached out to more than 6000 families in most of the northern districts of Tamil Nadu by in providing them ration of food essentials and protective medical equipments.

On behalf of all of you, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciations to the Province Disaster Management Committee (DMC) [Frs Francis Xavier, Andrew, Igni, Joe Arun, Thomas Amirtham and Vasanth]. They have spent their quality time in organizing meetings, contacting the Government officials, communicating to Jesuit communities, doing the need analysis, being in touch with the collaborators, benefactors and well-wishers, executing the plans, getting the reports and consolidating them and codifying the activities, etc. A special thanks to Frs Francis Xavier (the Convener of DMC), Igni and Vasanth for giving a constant push to the activities of DMC.

I would like to appreciate and thank the Alumni, Staff, Students, Parents and Collaborators of our Institutions,

MOTHER
PRAYS,
“DO WHATEVER
HE TELLS YOU.”

JOHN 2:5

especially the Loyola institutions (Helping Hands of Loyola), Chennai for their special contribution and active involvement in the entire process of our rapid responses to Covid-19. Needless to mention a few like Frs William, Henry (JAM) (Jesuit Migrants Service) and their team who have been tirelessly working all through the operation; the Professors, the Officials of Loyola Alumni, the Campus Treasurer's office, especially Mr Dominic Savio (the CFO) and Mr Thomas (the PRO) for coordinating and networking with the vendors, Govt and Corporation Officials, Alumni, volunteers, and for taking up the task of thanking the donors for their magnanimous generosity.

Once again, I appreciate all Jesuits and our collaborators for their high character and unassuming earnestness in involvement to this serious global crisis of pandemic COVID-19. Let our responses go beyond 'share and care' for the victims, to give them the compassionate love and hope of the Risen Lord.

Fr Jebamalai Irudayaraj



PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

Fr Provincial's programme for May-June 2020 will be communicated to you once there is greater clarity regarding the COVID-19 situation.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPOINTMENTS BY FR GENERAL:

- **Fr Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza (KAR):** President of Jesuit Conference of South Asia.
- **Fr Sebastian Jeerakassey (DEL):** Assistant General Treasurer, Rome.
- **Fr William Keith Abranches (GUJ):** Conference Delegate for Formation (CDF).
- **Fr Boniface Panna (MAP):** Rector of Satya Nilayam, Chennai.

Fr Maria Packiam has been invited to be a member of Eco-team, South Asia.

Change of E-mail address: Please replace in your address book the old personal email address of **Fr Yesumarian Lourdunathan** with yesumarianl@gmail.com

Baptist Kumar (CEN) and **Daniel Yoshuva J., (MDU)** two first year novices, left the novitiate on 10 May 2020

Regarding the Transfers: Kindly contact your Local Superior/Team Leader of the Community/Team where you are transferred for further directions, as there are still restrictions for movement due to the

lockdown COVID-19. However, please arrange to move to your new place of life-mission preferably by the end of May, 2020.

To Coordinators of Commissions: All the Coordinators of the Commissions will assume their responsibility with immediate effect. They are asked to contact their predecessors immediately to learn the ropes that would help them to take it forward. Please be informed that the present MDU Coordinators of Formation Commission (FoC), Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Secondary Education Commission (SEC) will be carrying out some works (recruitment interviews, training programmes, etc.) that they had already initiated for this academic year (2019-20) and the new CEN Coordinators of Formation, HEC and SEC are asked to assist and accompany them in the process of the activities. The CEN Coordinators of the Commissions are asked to suggest to Provincial a list of names to be members of their Commissions that should include two lay collaborators (one female and one male members), but having only eight members in a Commission.

To Other Officials: All the Officials of the Province are asked to assume their responsibility with immediate effect and they are requested to suggest to Provincial a list of names to be members of the Committee/Forum for which they are responsible.

STATUS OF FATHERS AND BROTHERS 2020 - APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS: LIST III

NAME	FROM	TO
P Arul P. Stanislaus	Arulagam, Harur	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai
P Devasagayam Manickam	St. Marys', Dindigul	Acting Superior, Loyola, Kuppayanallur
P Dominic Jayakumar M.	LC, Mettala	Ph.D. and Treasurer, Loyola, Kuppayanallur
P Eugene Sebastine Rosario A.	LIS, Ranipet	PP, Kuppayanallur
P Gunasekaran Rajaiah	PP, Porulur	Team Leader, LIS, Ranipet
P Ignatius Britto N.	Arulagam, Harur	Team Leader, Arulagam, Harur
P John Paul K.	Arulagam, Harur	PP, Harur
P John Peter Bellarmine	Arulagam, Harur	PP, Porulur
P Justine Yasappan Emmanuel	LICET, LC, Chennai	Staff, LC, Vettavalam
P Leo Anand M.A.	Dhyana Ashram, Chennai	Arrupe Illam, Mettupalayam
P Maria Joseph M. Mahalingam	LC, Vettavalam	Principal, LC, Mettala
P Rajarathinam Rathinam	LC, Vettavalam	Treasurer, LC, Mettala
F Sathanandam Rajasekaran R.	SXC, Palayamkottai	Minister, Dhyana Ashram, Chennai

COORDINATORS OF COMMISSIONS OF JESUIT CHENNAI PROVINCE

NAME	COMMISSION
P Antony Robinson J.	Formation (PCF)
P Eugene Sebastine Rosario A.	Pastoral
P Irudaya Raj A.	Communication
P John Irudaya Kumar K.	Social Action
P Joseph Ignaci G.	Finance
P Maria Arul Raj A.	Spirituality and Dialogue
P Maria Joseph M. Mahalingam	Higher Education
P Parthasarathi Narayanaswamy	Youth
P Paul Benedict S.	Secondary Education
P Richard Lourdu Dass A.	TVET
P Selvaraj Arulnathan	Dalit

OFFICIALS OF JESUIT CHENNAI PROVINCE

NAME	DESIGNATION
P Andrew Francis	Revisor
P Baskar Antony S.	Prov. Coordinator of SUPAM
P Darwin S. Michael	Dir. of Apostleship of Prayer and Eucharistic Youth Movement
P Francis Xavier Periyannayagam	Convener, Fund Raising Committee and Prov. Disaster Management Committee
P Irudaya Raj A.	In charge of Province Publications
P Joe Arun C.	Coordinator of Coordinators of Commissions, In charge of Implementation of PAPs
P Joseph Ignaci G.	Revisor
P Maria Packiam S.	In charge of Prov. Environment and Ecological Concerns
P Maria Viyahappan Gladwin A.	Prov. Vocation Promoter
P Maria Joseph M. Mahalingam	Convener, Prov. Researchers' Forum
P Masillamani D. Antonimuthu	In charge of JMAADD
P Paul Benedict S.	JAAT Coordinator, In Charge of LASAC
P Raj Irudaya	Convener, Province Think Tank
P Richard Hiruthayaraj John	In charge of Prov. Counsellors
P Sebastian Soosai	Chairperson of Prov. Grievance Committee
P Thomas Amirtham	JAAT Asst. Coordinator
P Vasanthkumar Irudayaraj	Prov. Development Director (PDD)
P Victor Roch G.	Director of Regents and In charge of Prov. Domestic Employees
P Yesumarian Lourdunathan	In charge of Prov. Legal Cell and Prov. Protection Officer of Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults

APPOINTMENTS BY FR POSA: ASSISTANCY APPOINTMENTS (BETWEEN 1 OCT, 2019 - 30 APR, 2020)

NAME	DESIGNATION
Fr Herman Tirkey (MAP)	Additional charge. Appointed Secretary and Treasurer, of Jnana Deepa and Jesuit Educational Trusts, JDV Pune, w.e.f. 1 Jan, 2020.

Fr Ryan Rodrigues (KAR)	Appointed to JDV, Pune for Trial Teaching, w.e.f. 1 June, 2020; residing at DNC.
Fr George Cordeiro (BOM)	Additional Charge as Moderator of Philosophers, Papal Seminary, Pune, w.e.f. 15 Sep, 2019.
Fr Dinesh Braganza (GUJ)	Appointment as Spiritual Director of Philosophers, Papal Seminary, Pune, w.e.f. 15 Sep, 2019.
Fr Vincent Crasta (KAR)	Appointment as Secretary, Papal Seminary Trust, Pune w.e.f. 1 Jan, 2020.
Fr V M Jose (DUM)	Appointment as Treasurer, Papal Seminary, Pune, w.e.f. 1 Jan, 2020.
Fr Richard Lopes (GUJ)	Additional Charge as Secretary, DNC Trust, w.e.f. 1 Jan, 2020.
Fr Patrick Arockiaraj (PUN)	Residing at DNC community with immediate effect.
Fr Martin G Pragasam (AND)	Residing at DNC community from June, 2020.
Fr Anthony Andrade (DEL)	Appointment as Spiritual Guide to DNC Philosophers, from June, 2020.
Fr Anthony Mattapallil (PAT)	Appointment as Spiritual Director to DNC Theologians, from 1 June, 2020.
Fr Sathyabalan Arokiasamy (CEN)	Appointed to Satya Nilayam, Chennai for Trial Teaching, w.e.f. 1 June, 2020.
Fr Vinod Soreng (RAN)	Appointed Librarian of Satya Nilayam, w.e.f. 1 Apr, 2020, in addition to Teaching.
Fr Sunil Padannamakkel (KER)	Appointment as Treasurer VJ, Delhi (Additional charge), w.e.f. 15 June, 2020.
Fr Boniface D'Souza (KHM)	Appointment as Spiritual Director VJ, w.e.f. June end 2020.
Fr Anthony Dias (BOM)	Appointment as JESA Secretary, ISI, Delhi, w.e.f. 1 June, 2020: Office in ISI_D, Residence Jor Bagh, Community.
Br Antony Arockiam (KHM)	Appointed as Administrator and Secretary of Sadhana Institute and Trust, w.e.f. 1 June, 2020.
Fr Jose Jacob Maruthukunnel (KER)	Appointed as Co-Tertian Instructor at Kandy Tertianship, w.e.f. 1 May, 2020.
Fr Siji Chacko (PAT)	Additional charge as Conference Communication Coordinator for three years, w.e.f. 25 Apr, 2020.
Ms Elsy Samuel	GIAN and Conference Coordinator for Ecology, w.e.f. 15 May, 2020.

Fr Alex G (JAM)	Appointed to JRS Afghanistan Mission.
Fr Robert C Rodrigues (KAR)	Appointed to JRS Afghanistan Mission.
Fr Jesu Raja Raju (MDU)	Appointed to JRS Afghanistan Mission.
Fr Ronald Lawrence Serrao (KAR)	Assigned to Common Works for Islamic Studies. Residing at ISI_D Hostel.
Fr Midhun Francis (KER)	Appointed to Study Arabic & Urdu at Henry Martin Institute, Hyderabad; residing in the hostel on campus.

ASSISTANCY COMMITTEES

Fr Lancy Lobo (GUJ) & Ms Auxilia Peter Resource persons to JFFSA. (7 Nov 2019).

Fr Joy Karayampuram (PAT) Coordinator for “*Safeguarding work*”, along with **Frs Stanislaus Alla (AND), Konrad Noronha (BOM), Joye James (KER), Sr Tresa Paul CSC.** (7 Nov 2019)

GRATITUDE FOR SERVICES RENDERED TO COMMON HOUSES & WORKS OF SOUTH ASIA

Fr Michael Amaladoss (MDU) & Fr Rudi Heredia (BOM) for services to the JFFSA.

Fr Gnanapragasam Alex (JAM) for services to JDV, Papal Seminary as Secretary & Treasurer and of estate manager and investments for JDV, PS & DNC.

Br Fulgence Ekka (MAP) as Treasurer VJ Delhi.

Fr Caesar D’Cunha (GUJ) as Spiritual Director VJ Delhi (2017 – 20).

Fr Sannybhai (Jebamalai Stanislaus) GUJ as JESA Sec (Oct 2011 – May 2020).

Br Hermon Anthony (NEP) Adm & Sec. Sadhana Institute, (2014-2020).

Fr Ilanko Xavier M (CEN) as Spiritual Director DNC, Pune.

Fr Robin Seelan (CEN) as Librarian of Satya Nilayam, Chennai.

Fr Thomas Anthonysamy (PAT) as Tertian Instructor at Goa; Co-Tertian Instructor Kandy.

Fr Lumnesh Kumar (KAR) as GIAN & Conference Coordinator for Ecology.

Fr Paul Raj Santiago (KHM) as Spiritual Director of DNC, Pune.



NEWS DIGEST

CHENNAI : Loyola College and Jesuit Migrants Service (JMS)

On 30 Mar, 2020, Fr Rector in the presence of the unit directors (LCAS, LIBA, LICET and LCE) enunciated that Loyola and shall concentrate in supporting the Stranded Migrant Workers from the North and South of India, as requested by the Jesuit Migrants Service (JMS) Team of Loyola Campus. In addition, he proposed that reasonable help could also be given to the Gypsies and the Domestic Workers with whom the Department of Service learning is conducting the field work.

The unit directors acted swiftly upon the words of Fr Rector to raise funds through the help of our alumni, staff, students and collaborators. They in turn, responded very positively.

From 11 Apr, 2020, Helping Hands of Loyola (HHL) and JMS distributed dry food provisions to 1470 Migrant Families, 350 Domestic Servants and 160 Gypsies families and by 23 Apr, the provisions were given to 2000 families with Fr Provincial handing over the packets to 20 displaced poor families at Chembarambakkam.

The Social Work Department of Loyola College, Chennai, with a team of 80 volunteers took to online services on counselling at the behest of Chennai Corporation Mayor for over 80 thousand callers. They have counselled to around 3500 people every day. The Counselling Department of Loyola lead by Ms Yazhini provided online counselling to the children and women. Loyola College has started its online counselling to all the students and staff of Loyola from 26 Apr, 2020.

Commerce Building of Loyola College is given to Chennai City Corporation for quarantine purposes.

Around 200 Covid-19 patients are identified by health care department and 150 people have already been accommodated so far.

Prof Vincent the former Dean of Research, discovered online testing methods for Coronavirus which results within 24 hrs. This is submitted to the State Govt authorities for their perusal. Loyola Entomology Research Institute (ERI) has also prepared sanitizer and it waits for the final approval from the government for the distribution.

In the same way, the Alumni of Loyola have been doing a number of activities in their own localities.

William

CHENNAI : Dhyana Ashram

Dhyana Ashram community has housed five families of migrant labourers and has given them accommodation and food from 21 Mar 2020. On behalf of Dhyana Ashram community through ICRDC, 50 families were given food essentials at Viyasarpadi. 40 marginalised and Dalit student families of Community College whose parents are working in brick kiln are helped financially.

Darwin Michael

HARUR: Arulagam

The Arulagam Jesuit community had a preliminary meeting to identify the most affected people from COVID -19. Along with the community, the Parish council members (26), St Mary's school teachers (5) and Loyola Skill Development Centre staff (3) were brought into the distributing committee. All these people took the list from 26 villages in and around Harur town respectively. In the first phase, the core committee took the decision of serving the most deserving and vulnerable 150 people namely the widows, disabled, and chronically sick people. In the second phase, 400 people were chosen by the

committee. The relief ration of food essentials was provided to each family respectively. Jesuit Chennai Province, The Dharmapuri Diocese Society, Sacred Heart Parish and some parishners were the main donors to carry out the relief work. We thank all of them from the depth of our heart. We thank all the government officials who have extended their fullest support to our relief work.

John Paul

KASTHAMBADI: JPLI & JMME_x

In the outbreak of the pandemic COVID-19, the community has plunged into action in serving the needy around the area especially Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees, Overseas Migrants in four districts (Tiruvannamalai, Vilupuram, Cuddalore, Kallakurichi), Widows, Irulars, Dalits, Gypsies and the differently abled. We have so far reached out to 267 families. We distributed groceries (Rice, Oil, Dhal, Chilli, coriander, Turmeric powder, Mustard, Garlic, Sugar, Salt, etc) to each family.

We acknowledge the good-willed benefactors from various places who have contributed generously for the relief works.

Our collaboration was with Salesian Sisters, Sisters of St. Anne-Trichy, Vellore Diocesan clergy, and National Domestic Workers movement. Our Jesuit pre-novices, St. Lawrence Parish, Kasthambadi youth (five members) and JMME_x staff (five) voluntarily worked along with us.

Prabhu Francis

KILPENNATHUR: AHAL

COVID-19's lockdown had brought in the Jesuits at AHAL Centre, the Parish Priest, Parish Council and AHAL Staff to meticulously plan and distribute relief materials to Arunthathiyar families in the Parish, Arunthathiyars in our field work, Gypsies in Villupuram & Thiruvannamalai districts and prioritized them in the following categories:

1. Those who do not own ration cards.
2. Those who are widows and abandoned.
3. Those who are differently-abled.

The beneficiaries are of two-fold: one from AHAL Centre and the other from the Parish.

461 and 188 families were identified from the AHAL Centre in Thiruvannamalai & Villupuram districts and Sahayamadha Parish, Kilpennathur.

In collaboration with the Parish Council members, Parish youth, AHAL Staff (10), Volunteers (2), Collaborators (2) and Government officials (23), relief work was carried out from 04 Apr, 2020 to 24 Apr, 2020.

At this juncture, we whole heartedly express sentiments of gratitude to Jesuit Chennai Province and AHAL community for the contribution and support to the people in need.

Ray

KUPPAYANALLUR: Loyola Institutes

The Jesuit community has decided to help the most deserving people among the affected people. We carried out our relief work in two phases. In the first phase, we have chosen 320 families from our Co-workers, struggling poor among the parishioners, migrants, Alcoholic Anonymous recovered patients and poor widows. We have provided them with the ration of food essentials. We gratefully remember all who have helped us financially: The Jesuit community at Kuppayanallur, Jesuit Chennai Province, Chengalpattu Diocese, Arul Kadal Community and the well-wishers from the Parish. The distribution of the ration of food essentials was carried out with the help of Parish Youth, Parish Council, School Staff and JMAADD Staff. In the second phase, we are planning to help the deserving Hindu dalits, school orphans or semi-orphans students' families and Senthalar students' families. Once again, we thank all our benefactors for their generous contribution.

Antony Samy

MAKKAMPALAYAM: PARAN

The Lockdown affected the Urali Tribals at Makkampalayam Mission very badly. We, Jesuits, together with PARAN staff members and a few local volunteers distributed the food essentials and masks to the 40 deserving tribal families.

The local police station Sub-inspector through the VAO of Kadambur approached us to help 20 elderly people at Kadambur and Arigiyam villages. Seeing the plight of the 20-elderly people, we distributed the ration of food essentials to them with the help of the local village leaders, the PARAN Evening Study Center's animators and youth volunteers.

Packiarasu

METTALA: Loyola College

The Jesuit community has decided to reach the families of non-teaching staff of our college and the most affected people.

Firstly, we financially helped 29 non-teaching staff families of our college. Secondly, we distributed food essentials to the 110 Sri Lankan refugee families staying at the camps in Sentharaipatti and in Thamampatti. We also provided financial aid to 57 deserving families at Mullukurichi, which is one of our outreach villages.

We truly appreciate the efforts and commitments of our volunteers and the donors to meet the needs of the deserving people.

Dominic Jeyakumar

METTUPALAYAM: Arrupe Illam

St Joseph's Retreat Centre, in collaboration with Fr S. Tony, we helped 32 families (Udala tribals) living in and around Puliamara Street in Odanthurai village. Also, with the help of the parish priest of Mettupalayam we reached out in providing the food essentials to 300 families from Sri Lanka Repatriate colony, Vedar & Puliankulam.

Devadhas Muthiah

RANIPET: Loyola Industrial School

Jesuits of Ranipet in collaboration with the Parish Priest and Charles Borromeo Sisters decided to provide basic necessary ration of food essentials to the people in refugee camps and the poor families in the sub-stations of parish. With the help of Parish youth, and the in-charges in the camps we extended our help to 380 Sri Lankan refugee families and 120 poor families in the sub-stations of Parish.

We are indeed happy to have done this collaborative initiative with the other women religious, local Parish Priest and the lay collaborators. We thank all who have contributed financially and morally to reach out to people.

Richard

UDHAGAMANDALAM: St. Joseph's Industrial School

The Jesuit Community, in collaboration with the FMM sisters of Nazaeth School, Ooty, helped 35 tribal families with the food essentials in Naduvattam block, Ooty.

Frederick

TINDIVANAM: JESIM

Jesuit Irular Mission (JESIM) works in 60 Irular villages, out of which we have selected 43 villages and have distributed the relief materials in three phases.

The source of our fund is exclusively from the Chennai Jesuit Province only.

The JESIM team is happy to report the plight of 40 Irulars. These 40 Irulars together with their children were working in the brick kiln at the outskirts of Chennai. In spite of the lockdown they were forced to work tirelessly. As the owner could not feed them, they were asked to leave for their villages without

any transport. Hearing their gruesome journey back to their villages, JESIM plunged into action helped them reach their homes safely.

Maria Felix Kennedy

VADAMELPAKKAM: Loyola Academy

Jesuit Community at Vadamelpakkam, responded rapidly to provide ration of food essentials to 135 blind, destitute and migrant families in the neighbouring villages. We have extended our help through financial aid to the families of our old hostel students and the families of our deserving present hostel students of Rs. 2000/- and 1000 respectively. We profusely thank Boniface Anbagam Society, Germany, who supports us morally and financially to carry out our relief works.

Deva Arockia Stephen

VALLAM: Paathai

We identified nearly 2500 families who need to be supported because they are daily wage earners. In each district (Chengalpattu, Villupuram, Thiruvallur and Kanchipuram) 500 families were selected.

First, we got permission from the sub-collector of Chengalpattu to travel to these districts for relief work and distribution. In each district with the help of movement cadres such as International Ambedkar Centenary Movement (IACM), Dalit Christian Rights Movement (DCRM), IACM Cultural troop, Jyothiba workers union and the DHRC Staff we carried on with the relief work.

Arunthathiars, Washermen communities, Irulars, Sanitary workers, lepers, Most Backward Communities and Dalits were the beneficiaries. Nearly 1315 families benefitted. Collaboration with the movements is very helpful to carry on the work. The community members of Paathai are fully involved in the relief work.

Yesumarian

VETTAVALAM: Loyola College

Jesuits of Vettavalam Community started the relief work to the people who have been forced to be jobless and deprived of their day-to-day survival sources.

To reach out to the most deserving families, we identified 529 families of different categories who have been closely associated with us and heavily affected by this pandemic.

1. Economically poor and the destitute students from LCV - 50
2. Economically and socially most backward from our outreach areas - 125
3. Our outreach animators' families - 41
4. Refugee camp (Athiyandhal) - 71
5. Dalit Catholic families (Pothuvai village) - 44
6. Irular hamlet (Pappankottai) - 23
7. Gypsies from Thirukovilur & Villupuram - 100
8. Households of victims of violence - 25
9. Dalit Catholic and Arunthathiar villages - 50

We thank the Provincial, the DMC and the entire Province for generously and judiciously taking up this great mission at the most unfortunate time. The donors deserve our appreciation in our relief work. Though most of them are not in a position to donate, they did so looking at the dire need of the people. It only shows that giving doesn't have to have big money, but large heart.

Selvaraj Arulnathan

THIRUMANUR: John de Britto Parish

The Parish serves the Dalits (95%), dhobis (1%) and settlers of different communities. The Parish has 360 catholic families. Most of them are very poor and daily wagers.

The Parish Priest with the help of village leaders has done a survey on the most deserving families and decided to provide food essentials for 400 families

(Dalits, Widows, Dhobis & Differently abled). BDOs of Thirumanur and Thiruvaiyaru, Councillor, Panchayat President, VAO, Clerk, the village leaders, animators and youth volunteers extended their help for packing and distribution. The Province Disaster Management Committee is the only source from which we received the financial assistance to carry out our relief activities.

James Antonysamy

PORULUR: St. Joseph's Parish

The Parish Priest together with the Parish council identified 10 deserving families, and helped them with Rs. 2000/- financially.

Gunasekaran

CHENNAI: Arul Kadal

The Arul Kadal community together with Mrs Kavitha (Coordinator of the Banyan Association for Mentally ill and retarded persons) and Mrs Geetamma (Founder for the Association for Unorganized Labourers and Construction Workers decided to reach out to the needy and the affected people.

We then identified 52 families of the mentally challenged children and mentally ill patients. The packets of dry rations were distributed by six Scholastics and two Staff on two days (21 & 22 Apr) in Dumilkuppam, Nochikuppam, and Srinivasapuram in Santhome area.

The Scholastics also identified around 50 very poor families in the rural parishes to which they go regularly for week-end pastoral ministries. We also got the approval of the Parish Priests Rs 1000/- or Rs 2000/- were directly sent to their bank accounts.

Sch William was put in contact with the Sisters of the Destitute in Thirumulaivayal, who run a home for the elderly and psychiatric patients. The Superior informed that they were running short of medicines and therefore the patients started becoming violent. So, we organized to buy medicines for 50 patients

and they were brought to normalcy.

In collaboration with Mrs Geetamma, we identified 100 starving and stranded construction workers' families in Chenndivakkam, Maduranthakam TK. As govt denied the dry rations due to the unavailability of the ration card, we supplied them with dry rations. Also, a financial help of Rs 10,000 was given to Mrs Geetamma to prepare the needed masks, gloves and cloth bags for sanitary workers and construction labourers.

Raj Irudaya

For other details regarding CEN response to COVID -19 , refer CEN Flyer published on 03 May, 2020.

THE INVISIBLE MIGHTY

The invisible Mighty
We have heard:
There is light at the end of the tunnel.
What if the tunnel is embedded in darkness!
We have heard:
Every cloud has a silver lining.
What if the sun is engulfed by darkness!
The ray of life in the form of hope,
The silver lining in the form of confidence
Arise in our minds and hearts.

We have been through an ordeal -
We became anxious, angry, frustrated
Not knowing what was in store for us.
The statistics and news frightened us -
The stories we heard and
Events we witnessed
Made us lose heart.
But the ordeal has to come to an end soon.
We have embraced our pain
And burnt it as fuel for our journey.

Things have changed dramatically:
Places of worship were closed -
But every home

Emerged as a place of worship.
We could listen to song of silence.
Perhaps for the first time
We prayed for our neighbours
For their good health -
As our health depends on theirs.
We have learnt to live
With fewer things in life.
Now we know that
We are not invincible but vulnerable.

We have become changed persons –
Of course, for the better.
We realize our vulnerability:
An invisible virus challenged us.
Our medical advances proved insufficient.
We realized the limits and inability
Of science and technology
To face the aggressivity of corona.
We felt that all, the rich and the poor,
Are on the same boat.
And coronavirus has been a great leveler.
We realized more the presence of
The invisible God
As our final hope and refuge.

The invisible mighty God
Became visible and alive
In the form of health workers,
Sanitation employees,
Law enforcement persons,
Selfless volunteers and organizations -
Who spent their time and energy
To take care of the sick and the dying.

In God's creation
There is no big nor small –
No rich nor poor.
A virus speck
Could bring down
The mighty to the knees.
We have the precedence of
David and Goliath.

Let us recognize people
Not as we want to see them
But as we ought to understand them.
Let us grow in compassion.
Let us wish
That the vulnerable become strong.
Let us accept
The poor as they are rich in love.
Let us become kind to all – since
Kindness is the language
The blind could see and
The deaf could hear.
This would be the new world order.

Let us cling on to hope.
We shall come out
Of the cocoon of lockdown
With flying colours of hope.
Our Master, Jesus,
Was also in quarantine
After his death.
But he came out of the lockdown
Of the grave!
He brought in joy!
Let us explode the bomb of love,
To devastate hatred and
To destroy every evil.

Let us start anew and afresh:
We realize the Persian saying,
Which is ascribed to the Buddha:
This too shall pass.
We have to live out the hope, namely
When you come to the end of the rope,
Tie a knot and hang on!
The Lord of history and the God of mystery
Would lead us all
Towards global unity and harmony.
God will be our fellow traveller!
The world will bloom again.
Let us stand together and march forward
Towards universal peace, joy, and health.

Fr Francis P. Xavier

FR GENERAL'S ADDRESS: CARE OF THE MISSION AFTER COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the transformation of human life demanded by the changing times we live in. But we still don't know how deep this change will have to be.

- The pandemic has highlighted the importance of care - the Jesuit word '*cuidado*' in Spanish - in many dimensions of our lives.

- It has brought to light so much neglect accumulated over decades in the way human beings have related to each other, to nature and to God.

- We can learn from it how caring for oneself and caring for others is intimately related. On the feast of the Annunciation, I wrote to the whole Society a long letter on "Care or '*cura*' in the governance of the Society's life-mission at this change of epoch".

- I invite you to read it slowly and attentively and to discuss, in the communities and also in the apostolic works, about the importance of maintaining this creative tension between care of the apostolate (*cura apostolica*) and care of the person (*cura personalis*).

- We also need to talk about the dangers of failing to exercise this '*cura*', the dangers of a lack of care whether for our life or of our mission. The neglect of one leads to the neglect of the other. The charisma and authentic way of proceeding of the Society of Jesus preserves this tension.

Giving the best of ourselves to the mission requires us to nurture - to take care of - common discernment and apostolic planning enlightened by the Universal Apostolic Preferences. In them we find concrete indications to link up the care of the apostolate with care of the person.

- Taking care of our spiritual life allows us not to get lost on the path to God that we are called to show to all human beings.

- Caring for the lives of the discarded takes on a

profound meaning at this time. Their number has multiplied exponentially as a consequence of the unjust structures of our world.

- Accompanying young people is a continuous exercise in learning about what it means to take care of the present and the future of humanity.

- The neglect of nature has been laid bare during the pandemic of COVID-19. To continue to neglect it is the greatest of the irresponsibilities of humanity. We have received a big wake-up call.

Returning to the Ignatian sources has allowed us to re-read Ignatius' life as an experience of being cared for and being invited to care. In the Autobiography, Ignatius shows how he is led and cared for by God himself. The Spiritual Exercises are the mystical journey of God's care, a God who is committed to the vocation of the human being. Everything is thus contemplated ad amorem.

And the Constitutions, in their parts IV, VIII and IX are nothing other than the commitment of those who govern, to preserve and care for the body of the universal Society in function of the mission.

The letter I wrote in March builds on the rich reflection of the ex-officio letters of 2018. They make it clear that the difficulties in the areas of *cura apostolica* and *cura personalis* stem mainly from a separation between the two. When we have this duality, the path does not help in the care of the mission. To take care of the mission, the Society of Jesus needs to take care its apostolic body. For this reason, it is urgent to learn to collaborate so that we can all work together as a body. Caring requires "opening processes" of open-mindedness and conversion to free us from clericalism, paternalism, individualism and authoritarianism. To care and to allow oneself to be cared for is an essential part of the culture of our apostolic body. Let us make the most of the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic to be able to put care (*cura*) at the very centre, the very heart, of the way we relate to each other in the life and mission to which we are called.

POPE FRANCIS: PRAYER AT THE TIME OF CORONA (COVID-19)

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God".

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom,

solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic. To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

ABIDE WITH THE LORD

Fr Michael Hawkins, (83/63 DAR) passed away due to Covid-19, on 30 Apr, 2020 at Pickering, Toronto, Canada.

Fr Jerome D'Souza, (70/45 BOM) passed away on 1 May, 2020 at Andheri.

Fr Thomas Anthraper (90/70 KER) passed away on 06 May, 2020 at Christ Hall, Kozhikode.

Mr Amirthanathan (70), brother in law of Fr M S Jacob passed away on 27 Mar, 2020 at Trivandram.

Ms Xavier Chinna Rani (63), younger sister of Fr A Arulanandam passed away on 22 Apr, 2020 at Dindigul.

Ms Irudaya Mary (84), sister of Fr Michael Alosanaya and aunt of Fr John Joseph Pragasam passed away on 07 May, 2020 at Pudukottai.

KNOW OUR PROVINCE

YEARS	MILESTONES OF JESUIT CHENNAI PROVINCE (CEN)
1992	There was a formal inauguration of Chengai Mission on 18 July, 1992, along with the inauguration of School-building at Kuppayanallur.
1993	During the time of Fr D Jeyaraj as Provincial, a Postulate to Fr General was sent requesting the bifurcation of the province but the reply was negative.
1995	Feasibility Committee headed by Fr L John made the recommendation regarding bifurcation.
1998	Task force led by Fr Raj Irudaya proposed a few viable projects for the Mission. This taskforce recommended bifurcation with more autonomy to this Mission. Fr George Joseph was appointed as the Animator of the Mission by the Provincial
1999	Fr Francis P Xavier became Provincial (1999-2005), he appointed ARP (Assess, Renew and Plan) committee. Fr Francis Jayapathy was its Convenor. One of its recommendations was “a new discourse needs to develop around the (Chengai) Mission of Madurai Province with its preferential option for the Dalits. We seem to have the same discourse as the outside society”.
2002	Renaming the Chengai Mission as Chennai Mission Realizing that the ministry should cover more areas, Chengai Mission was rechristened as Chennai Mission . It was a unanimous decision of the superiors’ forum.
2003	Fr Jayaraj Boniface was appointed as the Animator of Chennai Mission. He prepared the ground to shift Chengai Mission office from Chengalpattu to Loyola College Campus, Chennai.
2006	A Task Force was appointed to expand the ministries in the Chennai Mission area. The task force reiterated the suggestion of the feasibility study committee in 1995 that Mission Animator could be empowered to become Mission Superior
2007	Appointment of Mission Superior by Fr General Provincial, Fr Davadoss gave an administrative push to the Chennai Mission as a separate entity with a Mission Superior having his own Consult. Fr A Victor was appointed by Fr General as the first Mission Superior on 15 June, 2007 with the responsibility for overall direction and supervision of all apostolic activities in the Mission area. The First Chennai Mission Assembly put forth the mission strategy: Educate – Employ – Empower

2009	The Second Chennai Mission Assembly was held with the theme ‘Marching with the Marginalized’ . It was felt that this is the war cry for the liberation of the marginalized.
2013	Fr L Jebamalai Irudayaraj was appointed as the second Mission Superior by Fr General and he assumed office with the Motto ‘Imitating Jesus in Liberating Humanity’ , on 30 June, 2013 at Loyola College, Vettavalam.
2014	The Third Chennai Mission Assembly held with the theme ‘Belonging and Building’ on 12-13 Jan, 2014, gave the direction to start new apostolic activities for Tribals, Migrants, women and other marginalized groups. New Apostolic/Social centres were initiated for these marginalized people. The ‘Roles and Responsibilities of Chennai Mission Superior’ was approved by Fr General.
2015	Postulate recommending the creation of Chennai Region was unanimously approved and was sent to Fr General by the Province Congregation.
2016	The Chennai Mission Silver Jubilee was celebrated with Lay leaders, Religious, Scholastics and Jesuits of the Province separately. Through various new ministries, the involvement of Jesuits was expanded in all the nine Dioceses of north and west of Tamil Nadu (Chennai Mission area). The steady progress, coupled with scientific studies, has been pointing towards the sharpness of mission indicating the need for administrative autonomy in order to render more effective service to the option people. The creation of Chennai Region/Province was the unanimous recommendation by the participants of the Silver Jubilee celebrations.
2017	Fr Danis Ponniah became the Provincial in 2017 and the process for Chennai entity started according to the direction of Fr General. The process was by means of Discernment, Spiritual conversation, Ignatian repetition in accordance with the norms and the procedure of the Society.
2019	Fr General declared in September 2019 his decision of establishing the Jesuit Chennai Province (CEN). Fr L Jebamalai Irudayaraj was appointed the first Provincial of Jesuit Chennai Province (CEN). He assumed office on 28 Dec, 2019 during the Madurai Province Assembly, at Loyola College Campus, Chennai.

Fr Yesumarian L.