



MST

World



MST News Bulletin 04/20

Christmas 2020



HAPPY
New Year

Merry Christmas

MST Priestly Ordinations-2020

Sunday, 27 December 2020

**Akkattu
Antony (Abhilash)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (10:30 a.m.)
Angelvalley/KPY

**Chamakalayil
Joseph (Mijo)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (09:45 a.m.)
Mannar/PLA

**Chirayil
Mathew (Ranji)**



F.H.Q.: 29/12/2020 (10:00 a.m.)
Bedoor/TLY

**Elamthuruthiyil
George (Alex)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (10:00 a.m.)
Kalathukadav/PLA

**Keeranchira
Sebastian (Ashish)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (10:00 a.m.)
Kaval/PLA

**Kizhakemuriyil
Thomas (Tony)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (11:00 a.m.)
Cathedral, Pala

**Kuttipalackal
Augustine (Nidhin)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (10:30 a.m.)
Teekoy/PLA

**Moosariparambil
Chakochoan (Jimson)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (3:30 p.m.)
Ayamkudy-Malappuram/PLA

**Puthusseryputhenpurayil
Joseph (Jithin)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (09:45 a.m.)
Elanji/PLA

**Thottaplackal
Thomas (Twinkle)**



F.H.Q.: 30/12/2020 (09:30 a.m.)
Paisakury/TLY

**Vazhuthanapallyil
Kurian (Abin)**



F.H.Q.: 28/12/2020 (09:30 a.m.)
Koottickal/PLA

Let us keep them in our prayers

His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry officiates the ceremony on 27 December 2020 (09.15 a.m.) at Deepti Bhavan, Melampara. The First Holy Qurbana (F.H.Q.) will be solemnized at their home parishes.



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I. MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Dear and Reverend Fathers, Rev. Deacons and Brothers,



Christmas of 2020 will be a very particular Christmas because of the pandemic. Amidst all this suffering, the birth of Jesus brings this wounded humanity a message of hope. The joy of the presence of Jesus, in the midst of his people and of human history, fills our hearts and inspires us to share this joy with those both near and far. As missionaries Christmas is an opportunity for us to rediscover the beauty of our mission – mission *Ad Gentes* of *Missio Dei*. It is true and a fact that we prepare ourselves through prayer, fasting and merciful acts. But as missionaries what is Christmas or the birth of the Lord for us? In this pandemic situation, where our lives have been overturned, this season gives us a beautiful lesson, in fact, the lesson that often we forget – the lesson of **DIALOGUE**. Christmas teaches us that dialogue is the basis of mission, the basis of salvation. Christmas is dialogue between: 1) God, the Father and the Son, 2) God, the Father and the mankind 3) Son and the mankind.

The birth of the son of God is the result of dialogue. “..in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.” (Heb. 1:2). The God of Israel was a Lord of dialogue. He spoke to them through prophets, kings; judges etc. dialogue refers not only to words spoken, but even actions exhibited. It includes the miracles, the wonders expressed in the Holy Scripture and even the curses or worst things that take place.

The birth of the Son of God is a dialogue - an exchange of feelings of God, the Father for the salvation of mankind. Son through his life in the world, had dialogue with the people taking them to salvation. His words and actions were dialogue- a salvific dialogue. This Christmas too calls each one of us missionaries to be part of this salvific dialogue. Through priesthood we have become the part and parcel of His dialogue. Now it is our duty to continue this dialogue.

As a priest, each one should feel that he is called to a dialogue: a)

With God, b) With neighbors, c) With himself and d) With nature. Our lives become fruitful and truthful only when these four areas of dialogue – words and actions – are fully filled in a true manner.

a. Our dialogue with God takes place mainly through our celebration of the Holy Qurbana, canonical prayers and other pious activities. Peacefulness of mind, tranquility and serenity are received through this dialogue. The Holy Spirit starts working in us (Neh 9:20). This dialogue also helps us to place the prayers of the people in front of the Lord. It also helps in bringing the pain of the people, their happiness etc to the lord. Having a dialogue of a mediator (2 Kings 19:14).

b. The dialogue with neighbors refers not only our words spoken, but our action and even our presence. The presence of Jesus gave happiness to the shepherds, the wise men and so on. Today as missionaries we take this dialogue through the very call of being missionary. Our apostolate taken up, our presence, our gaze (Job 40:11b), our smile, our words all speak to people. A fruitful dialogue helps us to be like Jesus. “...God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how **he went about doing good** and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.” (Acts 10:38). Our dialogue refers also our openness – our openness to our superiors, our fellow missionaries, our flock entrusted. Only an open person will be able to accept the responsibilities handed over for a fruitful mission. Our priestly *koinonia* is a dialogue of friendship. Our openness also enables us to accept our superiors, respect them. It is an open dialogue. As members in the Church, we are to have dialogue with our superiors (Rom 13). A healthy dialogue develops the mission, the priestly *koinonia* and in turn, the Church. On the other hand, unhealthy dialogue – character assassination, jealousy, disobedience, pride, defaming others – hinders the beauty of the Church and it questions even our very existence of “being at service” of the Lord (Zech 8:16-17).

c. There should be a dialogue with oneself. Dialogue with oneself means to be ready to accept oneself. (Acts 6:15). As me NO ONE can be there in this world. It is the plan of God.

He created me unique – my physique, my abilities, my way of doing things etc are unique. No one can replicate and replace me. This thought would enhance us with the sense of being a ‘child of God’, ‘Priest of the Lord at service’. Frustration towards the ministry or responsibilities, disobedience etc often pops up from this “unaware” fact of not accepting oneself. Here comes the greatest danger of ‘comparing’. I compare myself, my responsibility, my ministry, with others which in turn gives me satisfaction or dissatisfaction, unhappiness, tension etc. hence as missionaries of Christ we should be able to have a fruitful dialogue with oneself – knowing oneself with all its positive and negative attitudes. It is in this context we should read the sixth chapter of *Fratelli Tutti* entitled “**DIALOGUE AND FRIENDSHIP IN SOCIETY**”. Pope says “*Approaching, speaking, listening, looking at, coming to know and understand one another, and to find common ground: all these things are summed up in the one word “dialogue”. If we want to encounter and help one another, we have to dialogue.*” (Ft 198). Even Jesus had this dialogue. Look in Gethsemane “**not my will** but yours be done.” (Lk 22:42)

d. The last kind of dialogue that we should have is the dialogue with the nature. This pandemic has proved this to us. Many of us have returned to the ‘smell of the soil’ – feeling the earth. Though ‘*Laudato Si*’ brought in the importance of nature in our lives, this pandemic situation practically proved this to us. We are not masters but ‘keepers’.

Thus when seen from this point of view, these four types of dialogue seen in Jesus resulted in **LIFE GIVING**. Hence this Christmas should help us to ponder on the question: does my mission and ministry prove to be a **LIFE GIVING** one or **LIFE TAKING** one? Let us trust in the providence of the lord.

With the Apostolic Letter “*Patris Corde*” (With a Father’s Heart), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

The Pope says: “God always finds a way to save us, provided we show the same creative courage as the carpenter of Nazareth, who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence.” Again: “Joseph found happiness not in mere self-sacrifice but in self-gift. In him, we never see frustration but only trust. His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust. Our world today needs fathers. It has no use for tyrants who would domineer others as a means of compensating for their own needs. It rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction. Every true vocation is born of the gift of oneself, which is the fruit of mature sacrifice. The priesthood and consecrated life likewise require this kind of maturity. Whatever our vocation, whether to marriage, celibacy or virginity, our gift of self will not come to fulfilment if it stops at sacrifice; were that the case, instead of becoming a sign of the beauty and joy of love, the gift of self would risk being an expression of unhappiness, sadness and frustration.” (Apostolic Letter - *Patris Corde* 5&7)

Hence dear fellow missionaries, let this season of Christmas be a season of dialogue – a dialogue that helps in growth and development of our mission, ministry, superiors, and our flock. May the Baby Jesus the **PERFECT DIALOGUE** of the Father, bless each one of us through the intercession of our Bl. Mother, St Joseph and St Thomas, our patron. It was a blessing for me to visit our fathers and missionary collaborators of our three mission regions in this pandemic period. Let me make use of this opportunity to appreciate all of you for your enthusiasm to share the message of hope and joy to the people in this pandemic period. Wishes of the birth of **PERFECT DIALOGUE**.

Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

II. NEWS FROM THE GENERALATE

(From 15 October – 17 December 2020)

1. Promotion to the Holy Order of Priesthood

Happy to inform you that eleven of our permanent members (deacons) who have successfully completed their priestly training in Ruhalaya Major Seminary, Ujjain have been recommended by the seminary authorities for sacred ordination to priesthood. Having considered their personal applications, along with the seminary reports, recommendations by the Seminary Rectors and their respective parishes, all of them have been promoted to the Holy Order of Priesthood by the General Council. They will receive the Sacred Ordination in common at 9.15 a.m. on 27 December 2020 at Deepti Bhavan. His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry will officiate the ceremony. I place all the following *ordinandi* for your prayerful intercession.

1. Akkattu Antony (Abhilash)
2. Chamakalayil Joseph (Mijo Jose)
3. Chirayil Mathew (Renji)
4. Elamthuruthiyil George (Alex)
5. Keeranchira Sebastian (Ashish)
6. Kizhakemuriyil Thomas (Tony Tom)
7. Kuttipalackal Augustine (Nidhin K. Sunny)
8. Moosariparambil Chackochan (Jimson M.M.)
9. Puthusseryputhenpurayil Joseph (Jithin)
10. Thottapalackal Thomas (Twinkle)
11. Vazhuthanappallyil Kurian (Abin)

The ordination ceremony will be conducted following the covid-protocols. All of you are welcome to join the ceremonies which will be live streamed. The new priests will celebrate the first Holy Qurbana at their respective parishes in the subsequent days (28, 29 & 30 December).

2. Perpetual Promise and Diaconate

The General Council of the Missionary Society of St Thomas the Apostle, having considered the personal applications, confidential reports and recommendations of the seminary authorities and the testimonials of the respective parish priests, decided to promote the following three brothers to the Sacred Order of M'samsanusa. They were conferred the Sacred Order of M'samsanusa on 17 December 2020 by His Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakel. On that day, they also made their perpetual promise of incorporation to the MST before the Director General at Ruhhalaya Major Seminary. I welcome all three of them to the MST as its permanent members. They are the following:

1. Bro. Gervasis (Jince) Kodikulam
2. Bro. Joseph (Dino) Kongamala
3. Bro. Michael (Shinto) Vettikuzhichalil

3. Conferring of Minor Orders

At the recommendation of the Rector and the staff of Ruhhalaya, the following candidates were conferred the minor orders of Heupdiyaknusa and Karoyusa by His Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakel on 17 December 2020.

a. The Sacred Order of Heupdiyaknusa

1. Bro. Joseph (Anand) Anakkallil
2. Bro. Thomas (Bibin) Areeplackal
3. Bro. Michael (Leo) Chandrankunnel
4. Bro. Sebastian (Bebin) Eettayankal
5. Bro. Abraham (Deepu) Kollakombil
6. Bro. Joseph (Albin) Maruthumkuzhiyil
7. Bro. Joseph (Jose) Perumanoor
8. Bro. Francis (Deepak) Poovatholil
9. Bro. Thomas Pullikattil
10. Bro. Mathew (Ajay) Varickickal

11. Bro. Philip (Jestin) Vattamannil

b. The Sacred Order of Karoyusa

1. Bro. Michael (Shalgin) Arackaparambil

2. Bro. Kuriakose (Noyal) Irurickal

3. Bro. Joseph (Ashil) Kizhakkekkara

Very Rev. Fr Director General was present for the ceremonies. The MST is grateful to all the formators for their untiring efforts in the formation of our candidates.

4. Sacerdotal Ruby Jubilee Celebration

Seventeen Ruby Jubilarians of the MST in the current year (the ordination batch of 1980-1981) who completed 40 years in



missionary priesthood were felicitated through an online celebration held for two hours from 6.30-8.30 p.m. on Saturday, 21 November 2020 through Zoom platform. The event was coordinated by Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram, who welcomed the jubilarians and the online participants. On behalf of the MST family, the Director General wished all of them individually every greeting and blessing at the completion of 40 years as priest-members in the

Society. He said that the MST is blessed to have in them zealous missionaries, and is grateful to them for their contributions in the evangelizing efforts in different centres and ministries. The jubilarians were given two minutes each to share their thoughts. The programme

was coloured with cultural items performed by the seminarians from different seminaries.

5. Webinar on *Frateli Tutti*

A webinar on the recent Papal encyclical - *Frateli Tutti* - of Pope Francis was organized by Thomasine Research Centre (TRC) from 25 to 27 October 2020. It was meant for all the MST priests across the globe. The resource persons were also our own members. It was attended by an average of 90 participants per day, besides the students from our seminaries who joined the webinar in group.

6. Annual Retreat

The annual retreat of the year 2020 was held from 16 to 20 November at Deepti Bhavan, with three talks daily. It was open to all the MSTs and was live streamed. Rev. Fr Joy Painadath of the diocese of Kannur was the preacher. It was physically attended by more than 20 priests, while around 50 joined online.

7. Death Anniversary of the Founder

On 21 November 2020, the death anniversary of our Founder – Mar Sebastian Vayalil was commemorated. The Director General joined with the Holy Qurbana and special prayers offered at St Thomas Cathedral – Pala, led by three Bishops of the Eparchy of Pala. Members from the general council and representatives from Deepti seminary staff also participated in the service at the Cathedral.

8. Preparation for Priestly Ordinations

a. Visits to Parishes and Families of Deacons: While the Director General visited the homes of nine deacons from the Eparchies of Palai and Kanjirappally, the Vice Director visited the homes of two from the Archeparchy of Tellicherry. Their visits were meant to get acquaintance with the families of the deacons as well as to help prepare their family members for ordination. They also visited all the parish priests of the ordinandi to build rapport with them and to seek their support for the ordinations and for the first Holy Qurbana.

b. Retreat of the Ordinandi: The MST deacons had their retreat at Deepti Bhavan (Preshitaram) from 7 to 11 December, in preparation for the ordination. It was guided by our priests - Rev. Frs Saju Thuppalanjiyil, Binoy Purayidom, Kisincher Aniyekkatt and Joison Puthukatt.

9. Visits of the Director General to Mission Regions

The Director General, along with the Treasurer General visited the missionaries and mission centres in Mumbai, St Alphonsa Region, Sangli and St Thomas Region, Mandya during the month of November. He also visited our missionaries in St Paul Region, Ujjain and the Ruhahaya Major Seminary in the first two weeks of December.

10. Mission Expansion: St Thomas Region

St Thomas Mission Region, Mandya started a new mission centre named 'Santhome Centre' at Hindupur in Rayadurga area of Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh. Anantapur is one of seven districts entrusted with the MST by the Eparchy of Shamshabad. Rev. Frs Sebin Kudakkachirakunnel and Toms Pathalil have started living here in a rented house. Rev. Fr Joseph Vedikunnel and the Regional Director and the Council of St Thomas Region, Mandya made all efforts for the launching this new centre at Hindupur.

11. Overseas Mission

Diocese of Latina-Terracina-Sezze-Priverno, Italy: Rev. Fr Manu Maprayil recently joined the parish of Parrocchia S.Matteo Apostolo of the Diocese of Latina-Terracina-Sezze-Priverno, Italy for pastoral ministry, in view of doing licentiate studies in Missiology from the next academic year. Rev. Fr Jaison Kulappurath would be leaving the same parish for a college in Rome to focus solely on his doctoral research.

12. Completion of Studies

a. Licentiate in Patristics: Rev. Fr Justin Kaithottumkal completed licentiate in Patristic Theology at *Institut Catholique de Paris*,

France, scoring Tres Bien (magna cum laude).

b. Masters in Educational Administration (M.Ed.): Rev..Fr Sherit Kappiarumalayil successfully secured Masters in Educational Administration (M.Ed.) from Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.

c. Completion of B. Ed Studies:

Rev. Fr Lijo Vadakkemuriyil (Neyyoor) completed studies in B.Ed. with 80% of overall marks from Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

Rev. Fr Joseph (Lijo) Arackalputhenveedu completed studies in B.Ed. with 82% of overall marks from Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

Rev. Fr Joby Kappiparampil completed studies in B.Ed. with 93% of overall marks from Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda, Hyderabad.

Rev. Fr Sijo Mookenthottathil completed studies in B.Ed. with 78% of overall marks from University of Bangalore, Karnataka.

Rev. Fr Boby Arimattam completed studies in B.Ed. with 89% of overall marks from Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda, Hyderabad.

Rev. Fr Bennet Naduvilekizhakkal completed studies in B.Ed. with 95% of overall marks from Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda, Hyderabad.

Rev. Fr Jobin Edamanacheril completed studies in B.Ed. in first class from Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda, Hyderabad.

13. Assigned for Higher Studies

Rev. Fr Joice Puliynamakal is assigned to do M.Ed. studies (in parttime) from Punjab University, Chandigarh.

Rev. Fr Antu Alummoottil is assigned to do B.Ed. studies (in parttime) from Punjab University, Chandigarh.

14. Achievements

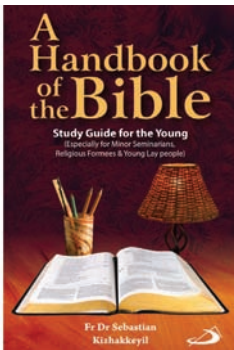
a. Video Album by Fr Chandrankunnel: Rev. Fr Cyriac



Chandrankunnel prepared an audio visual album in German, named ‘Herr, komm bald’! (Lord, come soon!) containing meditative reflections in connection with Advent-Christmas-New Year, to share the message of hope in Jesus Christ and to renew the faith of people during this period of Covid. His Excellency Most Rev. Nikolaus Schwerdtfeger, the Bishop of Hildesheim,

Germany released the first copy of the CD. Its release was covered by the local media.

b. Another New Book, Authored by Fr Kizhakkeyil



Recently, Rev. Fr Sebastian Kizhakkeyil authored a new book titled – *A Handbook of the Bible: Study Guide for the Young*, and it is published by St Pauls, Mumbai. This is a useful introductory guide for the study of the Holy Bible, especially for the seminarians, religious formees and for those who are pursuing basic Biblical studies.



III. Transfers and Appointments

St Alphonsa Region, Sangli

Aryankalayil Joseph - Relieved from Vishawadeepti Missiology Centre, Kolhapur and appointed as Priest-in-charge/Manager, Alphonsa – Miraj and Parish Priest of St Alphonsa Forane Church, Miraj.

Kannattu Justin - Relieved from Bandha and appointed as Priest in-charge/Manager, Alphonsa, Jath.

Kollitahdam Abraham - Relieved from Watul and appointed as Resident Priest at Vishawadeepti Missiological Centre, Kolhapur.

Muttathupadam George - Relieved from Pratiksha, Watul and appointed as Priest-in-charge, Anugraha, Khed.

Thekkemyladil Augustine - Relieved from Anugraha, Khed and appointed as Priest-in-charge, Pratiksha, Watul.

Thottumarickal Francis - Relieved from Miraj and appointed as Priest-in-charge, Shanti Nivas, Khutalwadi.

Thuppalanjiyil George - Relieved from Khutalwadi and appointed as Director, Vishawadeepti Missiology Centre, Kolhapur.

Vettukallel George - Relieved from Jath and appointed as Priest-in-charge/Manager, Alphonsa, Shahuwadi.



IV Change/Correction of Contact Information

A. Postal Address

Aryankalayil Joseph, St Alphonsa Church, Kupwad Road, Miraj - 416410, Sangli Dt, Maharashtra

Edamanacheril Jobin, Indian Institute of Spirituality, P.B. No. 5639, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, First Block, Bangalore – 560 010

Edathiparampil Shaiju Mathew, 253 Eleventh Street Mildura, PO Box 10037, Mildura VIC 3500, Australia

Kadaparambil Rijo, Angel Home, Kadanad – 686 653, Kottayam Dt., Kerala

Kannattu Justin, Alphonsa School, P.B. No.7, Bhosle Vasti, Shegaon Road, Jath - 416404, Sangli Dt., Maharashtra

Kappiparambil Joby, Angel Home, Kadanad – 686 653, Kottayam Dt., Kerala

Kollitahdam Abraham, Vishwadeepti Missiology Centre, P. B. No - 1, Kalamba, Kolhapur Dt – 416007, Maharashtra

Kudukkachirakunnel Sebastian, Santhome Mission Centre, Housing Board Colony, Hindupur –515201, Anantapur Dt, A.P.

Kulapurath Jaison, C/o Le Suore Missionaria della Consolata, Via Piero Foscari 52, 00139 Roma, Italy

Maprayil Manu George, Parrocchia S. Matteo Apostolo, Via Nascosa 1976, 04100 Latina (LT), Italy

Mlavil Akhil, Chaama Bhavan, Thumbur- 680662, Lower Kodungallur, Thrissur, Kerala

Mookkenthottthil Sijo, Chaama Bhavan, Thumbur- 680662, Lower Kodungallur, Thrissur, Kerala

Muttathupadam George, Anugraha, Veral, Bhudhawadi, Bharene, Khed P.O., Ratnagiri Dt - 415 709, Maharashtra

Pathalil Thomas, Santhome Mission Centre, Housing Board Colony, Hindupur –515201, Anantapur Dt, Andhra Pradesh

Pendanath Shinto, St Thomas School, Ganesh Nagar, Nagda Road, Khachrod - 456 224, Ujjain Dt., M.P.

Thaikkootathil Thomas, (St Joseph's Church), Door No. 6/128, Indira Street, Vanjuvancheri - 601301, Kancheepuram Dt., T.N.

Thekkemyladil Augustine, Nirmala Bhavan, Vilawade - 415643, Watul, Lanja Tk, Ratnagiri Dt., Maharashtra

Thottumarickal Francis, Shanti Nivas, Khutalwadi, Supatra P.O., Kolhapur Dt. 416 213, Maharashtra

Thuppalanjiyil George, Vishwadeepti Missiology Centre, P. B. No - 1, Kalamba, Kolhapur Dt - 416007, Maharashtra

Vadakechirayath Joseph, Vadakechirayath House, Plassanal P.O. 686579, Pala, Kottayam (Dt.), Kerala

Vettukallel George, Alphonsa School, Karanjoshi, Shahuwadi P.O., Kolhapur Dt - 416215, Maharashtra

B. Phone Numbers

Elavumkal Mathew: 9866387108

Manjalankal Thomas: 6363466571

Puthiakulangara Hans: 0044 7428658756

Vadakechirayath Joseph: 9447140898



V. News from Seminaries

A. Deepti College, Melampara

1. Annual Retreat

Amidst Covid -19 pandemic, annual retreat for seminarians was conducted from 6-10 October at Deepti by Rev. Fr Scaria



Thamarakattu and his team. Rev. Sisters Tessa MSMI and Jerrin MSMI assisted him. The retreat provided the seminarians better clarity and conviction about their vocation to priesthood. The counselling given by the sisters were very beneficial for the seminarians.

2. Intensive English classes

A week long Intensive English classes were given to seminarians by Rev. Fr Johny Kariathil and Mr Joemon Chemmarappally from 12 to 17 October. The students very much appreciated and profited from them. Thanks dear professors.

3. Rosary Devotion

Ten days of special Rosary devotion was organized in the month of October. It was solemnly concluded by a candle light procession on 31 October. The candle procession started from the public chapel and concluded at the grotto near the seminary chapel. Fathers from the Generalate also participated in it with great enthusiasm.

4. Mission Sunday Celebration

Mission Sunday 2020 was celebrated at Deepti on 25 October. Fr



Lijo Manikombil was the main celebrant for the Holy Qurbana. During his homily he shared his Arunachal mission experience which was quite challenging and inspiring for all of us. Thanks Fr Lijo, for your zealous mission work.

The concluding session of the Mission Sunday was inaugurated by the Director General, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor. It was followed by various entertainment programme, games, auction etc. This year we could collect a substantial amount of money to help the needy. Thanks to all the generous people who contributed to it.

5. Birthday Celebration of the Director General



Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Director General of MST celebrated his birthday on 31 October. There was solemn Holy Qurbana in the morning. During his homily he mentioned that vocation to priesthood is like a precious pearl hidden in the field and only people who are serious about it are ready to forgo everything and get this precious pearl at any cost. To mark the occasion the

seminarians made a short film “Mezhukuthiri nalangal.” It described



the relevance and challenges of priesthood in today’s context. Besides a felicitation song written and sung by them they also performed cinematic dance too. Fathers from

Aaraam and Generalate joined the party.

6. Monthly Recollections

Very Rev. Fr Manoj Vareeckal, Vicar General of Ujjain Diocese preached the monthly recollection for the seminarians on 4 November 2020. He preached on the theme “to be with Christ.” He also shared his mission experience in Ujjain. Brothers were taken up by his messages and experience sharing.

Fr Joseph Cheriampanatt preached the monthly recollection on 2 December 2020. He emphasized the necessity of learning Bible verses and reciting prayers using the Bible verses. His messages on missionary priesthood was quite edifying and enriching. His experiences in Odisha mission and especially his contact with the victims of ‘Khandamal’ were very poignant and inspiring. Brothers expressed willingness to go there as missionaries now itself.

7. Christmas Exams and Vacation

Seminarians have a very hectic schedule with exams and Christmas preparations. They started their exams on 10 December and will wind up by 21 December. There will be a low key Christmas celebration for brothers as they go home for holidays on 21 December evening. After the vacation they will be back by 8 January 2021.

Wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2021!

(Reported by Rev. Fr George Kuppayil, Rector, Deepti College)

B. Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery

By the grace of God the Santhome Community is keeping fine and all its members are doing well with the protecting hand of God. The neighbours say that the Vrundhavan Residency (where Santhome Seminary is situated along with some 25 families) is not affected by the covid-19 pandemic only because of the prayers from Santhome Seminary! It is a fact that when all our neighbouring villages were attacked by the Covid-19 and declared Containment Zone, the Vrundhavan Residency was spared by the protecting hand of our Lord Jesus! Hereby I try to narrate the main events that took place in Santhome Seminary in the last three months:

1. Monthly Recollections

Monthly recollection was regular on the first Sunday of every month. Fr Georgy Kattoor MCBS, Fr Paul Kunjanayil MCBS and Fr Priyesh Thedadiyil preached the monthly recollections in the months of October, November and December respectively.

2. Semester Examinations

The semester examinations were conducted from 3–16 October. We followed the question-patterns of the Board Examinations for the Plus One and Plus Two brothers so that they may get used to them.

3. Sports' Days

Immediately after the semester examinations, we organised the sports' days for a couple of days from 17 to 18 October. It is part of the Mission Sunday competitions which we started on the feast of St John Maria Vianney in the month of August. The literary competitions had already been finished



before the examinations. A day of complete rest was given on 19 October after the sports days before beginning the *Sevana Dinam*.

4. Sevana Dinam



Formation means an integral formation and Brothers are to be equipped in every field. Two days of work were organized for all from 20– 21 October. We prepared the some land for the vegetable cultivation.

5. Award Night

Just before the beginning the new semester, the champions of literary and sports competitions were awarded their gifts on the colourful



night of 21 October. Fr Rony Alencherry was the chief guest who after his beautiful message gave away the prizes of literary and sports champions, and then the overall champion of the four groups. Fr Rector

in his words of appreciation lauded the hard work of Fr Abin Kochupurackal and the jury.

6. New Semester – New Official Duties

While announcing the new Official duties on 22 October, the Rector sincerely thanked the outgoing office bearers for their hard work and wished all the best for the new ones! The second semester started on 23 October and all brothers got their new official duties.

7. Holy Qurbana in English and Hindi

With beginning of the new Semester, we also started to celebrate the Holy Qurbana in English and Hindi languages – two days each for each language in a week!

8. ‘Santhome Koinonia’ – Community Gathering

Santhome seminary had a community meeting, the second of this

kind, on 29 October where all brothers and fathers came together to share their experience in living together. Brothers had a first-hand sharing and expression of their views for the better functioning of the seminary and the staff took the proper decisions on the spot. All their concerns and queries were given explanations and answers. So brothers appreciated such a community gathering in the beginning of each Semester!

9. Rosary Devotion



‘Ten Days Special Devotion’ to Mother Mary was held from 22 – 31 October. Each batch was given three days each to conduct the Rosary. The Rosary devotion was concluded with an “Akhanda Japamala” on the

last day.

10. Akhanda Japamala

In order to celebrate the Conclusion of the 10 days devotion to Mother Mary, we organized a 24 hours of Non-stop Rosary, starting at 6.00 pm on 30 October with the Eucharistic procession from the main chapel to the small chapel till 6.00 pm on 31 October followed by a big candle procession to our basketball court. Rev. Fr James Kappilumakkal, Director, *Mathruvedi* and *Kudumbakoottayma*, Diocese of Thamarassery was the main celebrant for the procession, who delivered a very beautiful message on Mother Mary.

11. Feast and Birthday Celebrations

Fr Abin Kochupurackal celebrated his feast on 05 November and Fr Emmanuel Mattam celebrated his Birthday on 06 November. Both celebrations were celebrated in a very beautifully decorated refectory with some programme and dinner!



12. Founder's Day Celebrated

The seminary commemorated the death of our Founder Bishop Mar Sebastian Vayalil on 21 November with a solemn Holy Qurbana by Fr Joby Kozhippatt with an enriching homily on the life and aspirations of the founder. We paid our homage in front of his picture and said 'Office of the Dead.'

13. One Act Play Competitions

For the first time in Santhome, we conducted one act play competitions on 22



November. It is to mark the founder's day. All the Three Batches took the competitions very seriously and prepared them very well. The efficient three Judges from the *Sanathana* Major Seminary (MCBS)

and a sister from Adoration Provincial House judged the one act plays to find out the Winners! "*Oru Nallidayan*" by the third years won the first prize followed by the "*Sankada Raathriyile Deepakaazhchal*" by the first years and "*Aa Manushyan Nee Thanne*" by the second years respectively. The theme of all the three one act plays was based on the Bible.

14. Visit of Mar Inchananiyil

Our Bishop - Mar Remigiose Inchananiyil celebrated the Holy Qurbana on 23 November. Actually he had agreed to come to celebrate it on the Founder's Day. He spoke very well of Bishop Mar Sebastian Vayalil, our Founder. After the breakfast, he posed for a photo session with the staff and brothers!

15. Declamations of First Year Brothers

The delivery of the declamations of the first years started on 25 November, two each a day after the Supper in the car porch! They performed it extremely well with actions! It got over on 8 December.

The best three were awarded!

16. Christmas Friend

It is fitting to start the 25 days of lent with a Christmas friend! Each one got a Christmas friend by lot on the previous evening and everybody will reveal his Christmas friend only after the Christmas holidays, on 06 January with a small gift which they will buy during the holidays.

17. Christmas Stars And Crib



The brothers made two gigantic Christmas stars on 30 November with drawings of crib and stars on it; one is placed close to the Vezhupur Bus Stand and the other in the seminary! Christmas crib is getting ready!

18. Visit of Mar Panengadan

Bishop Mar Prince Panengadan, Bishop of Adilabad visited our Seminary on 01 December and took lunch with us. He delivered a beautiful and inspiring message on our vocation to preach the Good News to the whole world!

19. Bible Verse Writing Competition

Competition on writing the Bible verses with quotations was held on 13 December in the morning. All brothers wrote many Bible verses and some of them in hundreds!

20. Christmas Celebrations and Vacation

The Christmas celebration in the seminary was held in the evening of 18 December and the brothers went home for Christmas holidays next day. All arrangements were made to send them by Tempo Travellers and cars. Nobody was permitted to go by the public transport! Their parents also agree to send them back by Tempo Travellers and cars. The Seminary will reopen on 5 January 2021.

21. Seminar on 'Fratelli Tutti'



The third year brothers conducted a seminar on the newly published encyclical of Pope Francis – *Fratelli Tutti*. The seminar started with a prayer song and one of them anchored the programme and another one decorated the chair of moderator, yet another one made a critical evaluation of the encyclical and the programme. Eight brothers presented each chapter of the encyclical. They beautifully decorated the stage!

22. Experience Sharing by Missionaries

Two of our missionaries visited us and celebrated the Holy Qurbana with us and enriched us with their convincing message and zeal for the mission. Fr Sojan Unniepillil and Fr Joseph Cheriampanatt boosted up our brothers with their sharing of experiences.

21. Visitors to Santhome Seminary

Bishop Mar Remigiose, Bp Mar Prince Antony, Fr Francis Kureeckal, Fr Thomas Karamel, Fr Joy Kunnel, Fr Justin Vettukallel, Fr Joby Maprakavil, Fr Manu Kochumala, Fr Manu Maprayil, Fr Rony Alencherry, Fr Monse Karuvakkunnel, Fr James Kurukilamkatt, Fr Georgy Kattooor MCBS, Fr Joison Puthukkatt, Fr Joby Edamanassery, Sr Tinsa SABS, Fr Paul Kunjanayil, Fr Benny Kannanthadam, Fr Mathew Elavumkal, Fr Sojan Unniepillil, Fr Joseph Cheriampanatt, 4 MST Associates, Fr Priyesh Thevadiyil and Fr Jacob Kappilumakkal.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Joseph Pulavelil, Rector, Santhome Seminary, Thamarassery)

C. Jeevan Jyoti, Srirangapatna

1. Beginning of II Semester

Though corona had made some setbacks in the normal start of the first semester, we took it as a challenge and made the semester fruitful. Classes, assignments reviews etc., were helping the students to learn and do the things well. Making class notes for the lessons also enhanced the approach of learning and memorizing in the I semester. However, after completing the semester exams the brothers had a smooth passing over to the II Semester on 15 October 2020.

2. Visit of Formation Secretary

Perhaps one of the most unique days for Jeevan Jyoti was on



25 October when Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal (Our Vice Director cum Formation Secretary), paid a visit to Jeevan Jyoti community. He celebrated the Holy Mass in the morning and in the homily, he powerfully brought out the qualities required for seminarians and the need of undergoing an integral (human, spiritual, intellectual and missionary) formation. He had also reminded us the importance to act according to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. After the breakfast, he had time to listen to each brother personally and had met the staff members also.

3. Visit to Mysore for Dussehra Festival

Dussehra marks the victory of good over evil. This year's Dussehra celebration was, to a certain extend affected by covid-19. Still, the local people celebrated it with immense joy, enthusiasm, pomp and show. The brothers on 27 evening made a flying visit to Mysore

Town in order to watch the Dussehra illumination. While visiting, as a precaution, none of us got out of the vehicles, but remaining inside we made a round of the town passing through all the illuminated and decorated streets. In fact, the illuminated Mysore Palace, thoroughfare and major streets presented a new hue to lure all of us.

4. Community Day Celebration

Two times postponed community day was finally celebrated on 28



October. Rev. Fathers and Brothers tried their level best to make this day a memorable one. As a whole, it was a meaningful celebration, since it helped all of us to cultivate the aspect of ‘community’ living and ‘we’ feelings. The community day was concluded with campfire and *agape* in the evening.

5. Conclusion of the Rosary Month

Conclusion of the Rosary Month was marked by two special events: i) We visited Ganjam Immaculate Conception Church on 29 October. We prayed in the parish church, and all of us together recited the Rosary. ii) In the evening of 31 October, we had a solemn candle procession, reciting the Holy Rosary. Rev. Fr Thomas Manjalankal gave a beautiful message on Bl. Virgin Mary. After the candle procession the traditional ‘*pachore*’ was blessed and was served to everybody. In a special way, all the 10 days of Rosary we had prayed for suffering world due to covid-19.

6. Mission Sunday Celebrations

Due to some technical reasons we had postponed the Mission Sunday celebrations from 18 October to the first Sunday of November 2020. Rev. Fr Martin Kandamparambil celebrated the Holy Mass and he shared with us his mission experiences in the Sikkaripura Mission Station. His sharing was very much inspiring and enriching. And as part of mission fund raising, brothers had arranged different games and auctions. Rev. Fathers and Sisters from Jeevodaya Mission Station, Arakere, also participated in the Mission Sunday celebrations.

7. Visit of Vicar General and Procurator of Ujjain Diocese

On 10 November, Jeevan Jyoti Community extended a warm welcome Very. Rev, Fr Manoj Vareeckal (the Vicar General of the Diocese of Ujjain), along with Rev. Fr Jacob Nirappel (the Procurator), Rev. Fr Chamakkalayil (Director Budhia Mission Station) and Rev Fr. Siju Kalappuraackal. They came here at Jeevan Jyoti on their way back to Ujjain, after visiting Kerala. In the morning, they celebrated the Holy Mass for us. During the homily, Rev. Fr Manoj Vareeckal insisted the need for learning the word of God and its importance in our lives as priests.

8. Visit of Director General and Treasurer General

The second week of November was marked by the visit of Our Director General, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor and Our Treasurer General, Rev. Fr Joy Kunnel. Indeed, it was a joyful and privileged moment for Jeevan Jyoti, when Director General along with the Treasurer General visited us on 14 November. A warm welcome was accorded to both of them. Very Rev. Fr General offered the holy mass for us. After the breakfast, both Director General and Procurator together met the brothers and had a friendly chit chat with brothers and motivated them to be more dedicated and committed during their stay at Jeevan Jyoti. The Director General urged the brothers to strive for excellence in all what they do. He appreciated and complimented the efforts of the staff and students



for what Jeevan Jyoti is today and for maintaining good standards not only in academics but also in extracurricular activities. The Treasurer General specially appreciated the cleanliness and neatness of the seminary. After the meetings, at noon we had an *agape* in their honour.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Roy Pullattu, Rector, Jeevan Jyoti, Mandya)



D. Ruhhalaya, Ujjain

1. Mission Sunday Celebration



In the context of Pandemic Covid-19, unlike the previous years, Ruhhalaya had the mission Sunday celebration separately in the theologate and philosophate campus. Even though it was not

celebrated very solemnly, committees were set apart to conduct the auctions, food mela and other fund raising activities for the mission. On 18 October, Philosphate had the mission Sunday Eucharistic celebration animated by Rev. Fr Antony Pulickamandapam and the Mission Mela was conducted only for the philosphate community on 25 October. On 25 October, Theologate had the mission Sunday celebration with the solemn Eucharistic celebration and mission experience shared by Rev. Fr Antony Pulickamandapam, the Director of Pushpa Mission Hospital, Ujjain and the *Mission Mela* in an ordinary manner.



2. Conclusion of Solemn Rosary Devotion



We exhibited our total devotion to Mother Mary and Rosary by conducting ten days of special rosary devotion from 21 to-31 October both in Philosphate and Theologate. We had the solemn conclusion

of the rosary devotion with rosary procession around the campus

and the concluding ceremony in front of the Marian grotto which was decorated beautifully. In the philosophy, the concluding message was given by Rev. Fr Jose Valiamangalam. It was concluded in the theologate with a mind blowing message by Bro. Frank Kannanaikkal.

3. Home Day Competitions – Talaash 2020



Ruhalya theologate organized the home day competitions in the last two weeks of October. Talaash 2020 was inaugurated by Rev. Fr Manish Kongad of the Jagadapur diocese on 14 October and was closed on 1

November. For the home day competitions (literary and sports), the whole community was divided into three groups unlike the previous years of two groups which paved a way for more enthusiasm and energy to actively participate in the competitions.



A special day was devoted as Arts Day on 22 October in connection with the home day competition. On

17 and 18 November, the sports day was conducted. The winners were awarded the prizes on 23 November.

4. Deacon's Comprehensive Exams and Send off

The months of October and November were hectic for the Deacons



with the submission of thesis (30 October), the three comprehensive exams of moral theology and confession, comprehensive written



and oral respectively (11, 18 and 26 November). On 26 November, the whole Ruhalaya Major Seminary community joined in the theology campus to bid farewell to our Rev. Deacons. The Deacons said

good bye to Ruhalaya on 30 November and left for Kerala in view of their immediate preparation for the priestly ordination in December.

5. Silver Jubilee of the Rector and Vice Rector

Ruhalaya was very happy to dedicate a special day, on 29 November, for the sacerdotal silver jubilee celebration of Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, the Rector and Rev. Fr George Mampillil, the Vice Rector of Ruhalaya Philosophate. We started the day with solemn thanksgiving Holy Qurbana by the Silver Jubilarians at the Ruhalaya Philosophate. They belong to the third batch of Ruhalaya



from 1988-91. We missed this year the silver jubilee celebration of the third batch in Ruhalaya due to the covid context. However, we were happy to have Rev. Frs George Vadakel and Tom Malieckal

of the Ujjain diocese, the batch mates of Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor and Fr George Mampillil to thank God the Almighty who has showered immense blessings upon them in their 25 years of priestly life. Fr Geroge Vadakel was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana. Fr Tom Maliackal delivered the inspiring homily recalling the days of Ruhhalaya life and experiences.

In the evening, we had a Ruhhalaya family jubilee celebration for Fr



Rector and Fr Vice Rector. This was an extra ordinary evening with a glimpse of thanksgiving and happiness in the annals of the Ruhhalaya. This felicitation programme was specially set apart to honor, acknowledge, and appreciate them for the manifold blessings that the Ruhhalaya family has received through their life. Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, the Rector, Rev Fr George Mampillil, the Vice Rector have spent more years of their priestly life as good and effective formators. Fr Chandy has been in the field of formation for 15 years while Fr George has been rendering 13 years of life as formator. Therefore, the whole Ruhhalaya family gathered to felicitate the jubilarians.

His Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakel was the Chief Guest of the felicitation programme. Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikattilputhenpura, the

Regional Director of St Paul's Region, Ujjain, Bishop Emeritus Mar Jose Mukala, Rev. Sr Agnet, the SABS provincial of Jyothirmayi Province, Ujjain and Rev. Sr Deepa, the DST Provincial of St Thomas Province, Ujjain were also present for the function. Many fathers and sisters from the neighbouring communities were present in the felicitation gathering. Two hours of variety cultural programmes enhanced more colour and beauty to the day. We extend hearty congratulations to Rev. Fr Manoj Parackal, the Vice Rector and Cultural in-charge for organizing such a marvellous programme and making the day ever memorable.

6. Noël Vibes 2020

Ruhavibes, the official You Tube channel of Ruhalaya, conducts an Online Carol Singing Competition to mark the first anniversary of its inception. From its very commencement (27 November 2019), Ruhavibes is ever active in the presentation of different programmes and we look forward to more creative and air more fruitful programmes in the future.

7. Intensive Basketball and Volleyball Coaching

Both Philosophate and Theologate organized intensive coaching for basketball and volleyball which lasted for two weeks. The Philosophate had the coaching from 5-17 October while theologate



did it from 1-12 December. Brothers profited a lot from this and we have already conducted some friendly matches and look forward to the same.

In general, the past three months have been a time of God's special blessings and protection upon Ruhalaya community. Thanks be to God.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Manoj Parackal, Vice Rector – Theology Section, Ruhalaya, Ujjain)

VI. News from Missions

A. St Paul Region, Ujjain

1. New Convent in Indore



All fathers from the Regional House participated in the blessing of the new Sacred Heart Convent in Indore on 1 November. Rt. Rev. Chacko Thottumarickal, the Bishop of

Indore blessed the house. The house is taken on rent and the Sacred Heart sisters from Ujjain Province have started staying there. They will help the social work ministry started by the MST fathers and will assist the pastoral ministry also.

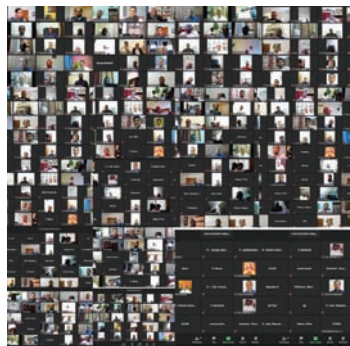
2. Registration of Land at Bhopal

After a long wait and much scrutiny about 2.81 acres of land was registered in Bhopal on 6 November, for the different ministries by the MST fathers. Rev. Fr Vincent and Rev. Fr George Pottananickal signed the deed, on behalf of Nirmal Jyoti registered society



3. Regional Gathering -Online

A zoom meeting was conducted for the members assigned to St Paul Region on 9 November. Over 100 members took part in the meeting from all around the world. Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattil welcomed all and Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumannoor gave a message of blessing towards the end of the meeting and sharing. Few fathers were asked to speak about the



ministry they are involved in and share hopes for their future ministry. Some time was left for common sharing. Many appreciated this venture and suggested to have such sharing occasionally. Rev. Fr Abhilash Pattasseriyl anchored the whole session very well.

4. Recollection and Jubilee Celebration

The usual monthly recollection was conducted in the afternoon on 18 November. The Reverend Fathers Kalathoor Chandy, George Mampillil, George Vadakel (Ujjain diocese) and Tom Maliekal (Ujjain diocese) who celebrate the silver jubilee of their priestly ordination, were invited for the solemn supper and they were felicitated by the Regional Director.



5. Meeting of Junior Priests

A meeting of the junior Priests of the Region working in and around Ujjain was arranged on Monday evening, 30 November. It was intended to be a brain storming session to know about the hopes, plans and initiatives of the young vibrant priestly talents. The Regional Director presided over the meeting and he was much pleased about the output of the meeting.



6. Visit of the Director General

The Director General, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor visited the missionaries and the centres of St Paul Region in the month of December. He also preached monthly recollection for the MSTs gathered in the Regional House on 16 December 2020.

(Reported by Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, Regional Director, St Paul Region)

B. St Thomas Region

St Thomas Region, Mandya, is committed to the sharing of the compassionate love of Jesus Christ with the people entrusted to its care. Due to covid 19 situation, some of the missionary apostolates are not taking place in the usual manner. All the missionaries are seriously preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus in the most befitting manner. Some of the special events which took place in the recent past are the following.

1. New Mission Centre in Hindupur

22 November 2020 is a very important day in the history of St Thomas Region. We could bless and inaugurate a new mission centre in a rented house at Hinudpur in Anathapur district in Andhra Pradesh in the presence of a few missionaries and faithful of the Syro-Malabar Church settled at Hindupur. Hindupur is a municipality with a



population of around 3 lakhs of people. Hindupur is an industrial area. Priests belonging to Society of Jesus have been engaged in missionary apostolate in Hindupur for the last 36 years. They have organised a parish there. Around 15 Syro-Malabar families are residing in Hindupur. Rev. Frs Sebin Kudakkachirakunnel and Toms Pathalil are the pioneer missionaries at Hindupur mission centre.



We congratulate Frs Vedikunnel, Sebin and Toms for finding out a suitable place for beginning a new mission centre in Andhra Pradesh. Prayerful best wishes to the pioneer missionaries of the MST at Hindupur.

2. Jubilee of Priestly Ordinations

Silver jubilee of priestly ordination of our beloved Rev. Frs Francis Kureeckal, Sojan Aikkarakunnel and Benny Kannamthadam and ruby jubilee of our Rev. Fr Sebastian Koottumkal were solemnly



celebrated on 26 November 2020 in the presence of many MST priests working in Mandya region. After the solemn Holy Qurbana, we had a friendly get together to congratulate, thank

and wish our jubilarians. We appreciated and thanked them for their significant contributions for the development of Mandya mission in different capacities. Frs Francis and Sojan have been making landmark contributions in the service of differently abled. They pioneered and continue the compassionate mission of serving the mentally challenged. Mandya mission is at the heart of Rev. Frs Sebastian, Francis and Sojan. Rev. Fr Benny Kannamthadam stayed



at Santhome Regional house and attended Italian language course at Santhome Inspire.

3. Ichoda Mission in Adilabad

SABS sisters from Thamarassery province have been collaborating with the MSTs at Ichoda mission in Adilabad from its very beginning. Two sisters who have been serving at Ichoda are transferred and now there is a new community with three sisters.



4. Our Visitors

We were blessed by the cordial visits of our Director General, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor and our Treasurer General Rev. Fr Joy Kunnel. They found out time to visit all of us in our mission centres and encouraged and appreciated our missionary apostolates. Thanks to our superiors. Provincial superiors of Snehagiri Sisters of Malabar province and SABS Provincials of Thamarassery and Manathavady provinces visited Mandya mission. We appreciate and thank them for their missionary collaboration and support.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, Regional Director, St Thomas Region)

C. St Alphonsa Region

1. Annual Retreat for missionaries



The annual retreat for fathers and sisters was conducted at Vishwadeepti under the guidance of Rev. Fr Francis Chakkungal of Jagadalpur diocese as the retreat preacher. Rev. Fathers attended



the retreat from 10 to 14 November and Rev. Sisters from 16 to 20 November. In spite of the pandemic, the missionary personnel gathered together to be with the Lord.

2. Visit of the Director General

Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor along with Rev. Fr Joy Kunnel made a visit to all the stations in the mission. Sangli mission greatly appreciates his love and concern shown towards us amidst this pandemic, visiting each and every person individually.

3. Blessing of Santhome Mission Station, Tasgaon

Sangli Mission is extremely happy to begin yet another mission station



in this pandemic situation. The new mission station is named after our patron, St Thomas. Santhome mission station is marked on the map in the area of Tasgaon city. We have purchased about 6 acres of land here. The land lies near

the Tasgaon – Jath road. At present we have begun the residence of the priest – in charge in a rented house. Fr Karakkattu Antony MST is appointed as the priest in charge. Rev Fathers and sisters from the nearby community gathered for the blessing. Thanks to Rev Fr Njalliyil MST and the Councilors for their initiative in beginning this station and Rev Fr Binoy Vechoopadinjarethil MST for his tireless effort and hard work in making this dream a reality.

(Reported by Fr Arun Karakkattu, St Alphonsa Region)

4. Mar Thoma Catholic Personal Parish, Kalyan

a. Diocesan Bible Quiz

For the first time in the history of Kalyan diocese Bible quiz was conducted in Marathi language too. 18 of our families took part in the quiz, which was conducted on 18 October. It was a chance for our people to learn Bible and join for a diocesan level competition.

b. Google Meet Holy Qurbana

In the month of November we started Sunday Mass on Google Meet. Readings and prayers of the faithful were distributed among the people and they were informed in advance. People were asked to participate in the Mass as they used to be in the church. It was a matter of great joy to see the piety of the newly baptised. They

were all well dressed and had prepared a small table to keep the Cross and candle.

c. Team Prayer

On November 9, we had our google meet team prayer. We priests and sisters prayed for each member of our personal parish and then discussed about the present situation. We could see that most of our people started to go for work.

d. Google Meet Rosary

We decided to continue our Google meet rosary. Now we have every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Our youth take initiative to arrange the prayers. We priests and sisters too join the Google Meet Rosary.

e. Spiritual Crib

As a preparation for Christmas, our people are preparing spiritual crib by way of daily pious activities. Everyday people are informed about the pious activity of the day.

f. Church Reopened for Holy Qurbana



On 13 December, we had the first Mass after the lockdown. It was a moment of great joy to have the people together for the Holy Qurbana. About 80% of people were present for the Mass in the Kalyan Cathedral Church for our Marathi Mass.

(Reported by Fr Paul Painadath, Mumbai)

D. MQMD, Delhi

1. Deepti Ashram, Najafgarh

a. Farewell and Welcome

Rev.Fr Antu Alummoottil was given an affectionate farewell from Deepti Ashram on 8th of October. Sincere thanks to Fr Antu for your dedicated service to Deepti Ashram and the Najafgarh Parish. Best wishes for your new ministry at Dehlon, Ludhiana.

Fr Joseph Karodan took charge as the director of Deepti Ashram and parish priest of Sacred Heart Church Najafgarh. Our Regent Bro. Jithin Vazheparampil reached Deepti on 22 October. Warm welcome to Bro. Jithin.

b. Rosary and Immaculate Conception

Following the practice of our faith, we observed the month of October as the month of Holy Rosary by reciting it devotionally and concluding with a candle procession. On December 8, we celebrated the feast of Immaculate Conception.

c. Diwali and Children's Day

On 14 November, with our boys and girls in the hostel we celebrated Diwali and Children's Day in an eco-friendly way, respecting the nature. Instead of bursting crackers, we lighted diyas, decorated our house and surroundings.

d. Competitions and Crib



In connection with Christmas, various competitions are conducted for our students in the hostels. The planning and primary arrangements for the crib are going on.

e. Hurrah! Outing

The children were thrilled when we could single out a proper place, a place exclusively for us, for our outing



during this pandemic. It was the first time in last nine months, the boys went out of our gate as a group.

f. Parish and Pandemic

The regular functioning of our parish was affected, in the beginning of November, due to the spread of corona virus. The church and premises fall in red zone and are under police surveillance.

During advent we have three Holy Masses in our Ashram observing all the covid-protocol. Hope and pray that the Christmas Celebration be in the parish church.

g. Thanks and Appreciation

Sincere thanks to Rev. Fr Santhosh and all fathers and well-wishers for their friendly visits, valuable advice, delicious food and other useful items they bring for our children in Deepti Ashram. Prayers and thanks.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Joseph Karodan, Deepti Ashram, Najafgarh)

2. Deepti Foundation

a. Reopening of Gyansarovar Project

On 2 November 2020 Deepti Foundation restarted the programs



which were paused due to the pandemic. It was done as per the demand of the community and of the children. By the span of 10 months people and communities had acquired the enough knowledge about Covid-19. Gyansarovar has been continuously creating the

awareness among the people on the guidelines and advisories from local authorities, state authorities and central authorities. Non-formal centres were opened to support the school going children and non-

formal children. It is done as per the guidelines of the authorities and following social distancing. At centers, face masks are distributed and timely sanitization is done. Communities and parents are properly guided and supported in this time of chaos and confusion.

b. Cake Making



Every year Deepti Foundation makes Rakhis to support the income generation programs and vocational trainings. But due to the pandemic situation we couldn't make Rakhis this year. As the result to support the cause, we planned to

make Christmas cake this year. Total 700 kilos of different items of dry fruits were purchased. On 16 November dry fruits were made ready to mix with cake ingredients and kept in mixture drums. On 7 December, 2020 we baked first slot of cakes of 1700 kilos. We intend to provide quality cakes of 2000 kilos in local areas. Remaining items would be utilized as per the demand during this Christmas season. Altogether we are planning to make 2500 kilos of cakes this year. Thus we may be able to generate some income from this activity to support the noble cause.

(Reported by Rev. Fr George Kachirayil, Deepti Foundation, Dilshad Garden)

3. Mother Theresa Catholic Mission, Dehlon

a. Monthly Recollection

Monthly recollection of delegation was on 17 Nov 2020. Fathers from different mission stations gathered at Dehlon. Rev Fr Joseph OIC was the preacher. We had adoration and confession followed by the talk. We also had a sharing section in which we could discuss about the future activities of the delegation.

b. Diwali Celebrations

On 14 November we celebrated Diwali, the festival of lights, with the people of Punjab. On the same day fell Children's Day of the year and St Thomas School-Rurka celebrated the children's day. We conducted some online video programmes for the students.

c. Feast of The Immaculate Conception

Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrated in Mother Teresa Catholic mission station on 8 December 2020. Fathers and Sisters from nearby convents and fathers from different mission stations were present for the function.

(Reported by Fr Boby Kaiyalakathu, Dehlon, Ludhiana, Punjab)

4. St Thomas School, Bathinda

a. New Catholic Community

It was the dream of MST working in Punjab to form a group of Catholic faithful from the very day of starting the mission station. Today, after years of prayer and preparation and the earnest desire to learn a new language like Punjabi, finally we are blessed with a Christian community here in Bathinda. The blessing ceremony of



this community was done on 29 November 2020 by His Excellency Bishop Mar Jose Puthenveetil, Auxiliary Bishop of Faridabad. Rev. Fr Cyric and a

number of sisters were present for the Holy Mass. We had 3 adults and 5 children for the reception of baptism. And almost 75 Christians were there for the ceremony. The first Punjabi Syro-Malabar community in Bathinda is looked after by the MST Priests and it will be known after the name of Blessed Rani Maria.

b. Faith Formation



Christian community of Bathinda is given a strong foundation of faith from its very beginning. We have regular house visits and prayer services. We are also preparing nearly ten more people including adults and children for baptism. People who are in need of God experience is very well experience the true presence of God through our missionary activities and prayer. Many more are willing to come to Christian faith.

(Reported by Fr Joice Puliyammakkal, Bathinda, Punjab)

5. Christjyothi Catholic Mission, Rohru

a. Unexpected Demise of Guruji



Pastor Sebastian Messi, our dear Guruji was called for eternal reward on 27 November evening in the presence of our missionaries in Rohru, Himachal Pradesh. Guruji was 72 and was suffering from pulmonary disease. Guruji was a great missionary to the core with real zeal, dedication and commitment. He reached every house with Word of God, consoling words, helping hands, praying heart, etc. Joined with the joys and sorrows of the people. As a result he could form many Christian communities, without a proper infrastructure and worldly wealth. He preached the Word of God boldly in many villages and brought people to God.

He was a good friend of MST especially of Rev. Fr Siby Nelloor and Rev. Fr Joseph Karodan from whom he heard about our

Missionary Society and more about Catholic Church. With an open heart he welcomed Fr Siby and introduced him to Rohru Community, a vibrant community 117 kms away from Shimla. Guruji was a man of personal prayer. He used to lead the community prayers, visit the families of the faithful and was a man of simplicity.

Fr Siby took Guruji and a group of our faithful to Kerala in 2018 and visited our Generalate, Mount St. Thomas at Kakkannad and few main churches in Kerala. This helped him to know more about Catholic Church. Though he had the Protestant background, he was so open to Catholic teachings. He accepted Bl. Virgin Mary and communion of saints. We thank him for his guidance and collaboration, and pray for the repose of his soul.

b. Christmas Preparation



Christian community here in Rohru is eagerly preparing for the birth of Jesus-Christmas. A number of programmes including cultural activities are being prepared and practiced by the people here. Since the Covid protocol is still active we are taking adequate

measures to ensure the safety of the people. We are conducting prayer services other faith formation activities with the government guidelines. Children are given practices for dance, skit, mime etc in view of Christmas. We have also conducted different competitions for the children.

6. Wheat Cultivation at Dhuri and Bhikhi

Rev. Frs Aby Kolliyil and Cyril Kureekkattu took their maiden initiative to do wheat cultivation by themselves this year in the land MST has purchased in Dhuri and Bhikhi. They had taken all



the initiative to learn the process of cultivation with modern techniques in Punjab. It was a fruitful attempt by them.

(Reported by Fr Sanoj Pathrapankal, MQMD, Delhi)

7. Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies, New Delhi (Personal Initiative)

a. Lectures at Webinars and E-Summits

1. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Relations with Other Faith-based Communities’ (Relations with People of Other Faiths) – during Webinar on ‘Samvet 2020’ – organized by MST, Bharananganam, Kerala – at Bharananganam, Kerala – on 07 October 2020

2. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Spiritual Awakening for Combating Air Pollution’ – during ‘Good Air E-Summit 2020’ – organized by Integrated Health and Wellbeing Council, New Delhi – at New Delhi – 10 November 2020

3. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Tolerance and Peaceful Co-existence’ – during International Webinar on ‘Tolerance: An Ingredient for Peaceful Co-existence’ – organized by United Religions Initiative (URI), Seshadripuram College, Bangalore and Others – at Seshadripuram College, Bangalore – 04 December 2020

b. Video Messages on Social Media

5. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Vijayaadashmee’ (Dussehra) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaQmKZwbJZg&t=1s>) – on YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 25 October 2020

6. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Eid-e-Milad’ (Birthday of Prophet Muhammad) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9ueN_s3zgA) – on YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 30 October 2020

7. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Campaign against Air Pollution’ (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnoRls_8q9E&t=168s) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 07 November 2020

8. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Deepaawalee’ (Festival of Lights) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGcVvMb3xV4&t=126s>) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 14 November 2020

9. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Saampradaayik Sadbhaav Saptah’ (Communal Harmony Week) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcwhVnpHowU>) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 19 November 2020

10. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Guru Naanak Jayantee’ (Birthday of Guru Naanak Dev) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-2KTbBjIWk>) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 30 November 2020

11. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Human Rights Day’ (Maanav Adhikaar Diwas) (UN) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 10 December 2020

12. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Alpsankhyak Adhikaar Diwas’ (Minorities Rights Day) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 18 December 2020

13. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Eesaa Jayantee’ (Christmas) – YouTube Channel, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and E-mail – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 25 December 2020

c. Messages

14. Delivered *Message* (Condolence Message) on ‘Shree Radhey Shiam: Desh aur Samaaj ke Behataree ke Liye Pratibaddh’ (Shree Radhey Shiam: Committed to the Betterment of the Nation and the Society) – during ‘Online Condolence Meeting’ – organized by Dr Bharati, Professor, National Law University, New Delhi – at Faculty House, National Law University, New Delhi – on 07 October 2020

15. Delivered *Message* on ‘Eesaa: Ishwar Hamaare Saath Hai’

(Jesus: The God is with us) – during ‘Inter-faith Christmas Get-together’ — at Ram Krishn Mission, New Delhi – on 24 December 2020

d. Articles to Journals

16. Authored *Article* on ‘Duc in Altum’ – Delving into the Deep’ — in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 29, Issue No. 42, p. 10-11 — on 19-25 October 2020

17. Authored *Article* on ‘Duc in Altum’ – Delving into the Deep’ — in ‘People’s Reporter’ (Fortnightly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 33, Issue No. 20, p. 2,5 — on 25 October 2020-10 November 2020

18. Authored *Article* on “Aakhir Maryaadaa mein Rahnaa hee Dharm Hai’ (After all, Abiding by Discipline is Religion) — in ‘Sandesh’ (Monthly Hindi Magazine), Patna, Vol. 11, Year 71, p. 14-17 – in November 2020

19. Authored *Article* on ‘Diversity Coin—A Paradigm of Unity’ — in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly Magazine), New Delhi, Vol. XXXII, Issue No. 45, p. 17-19 — on 02-08 November 2020

20. Authored *Article* on ‘Values of Religions—Values for All’ — on ‘The Fraternity’ Website (<https://thefraternitymagazine.com/2020/11/05/values-of-religions-values-for-all/>) at Kottayam, Kerala — on 05 November 2020

21. Authored *Article* on ‘Air Pollution: Towards an Ethical Way Out’ — in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly Magazine), New Delhi, Vol. XXXII, Issue No. 48, p. 40-42 — on 23-29 November 2020

e. Views, Comments and Interviews on Media

22. Delivered *Comments* on ‘Arrest of Fr Stan Swamy’, Social Activist – to Real News International (RNI News Channel), New Delhi – on 12 October 2020

(Reported by Fr M.D. Thomas, Director, IHPS, Delhi)

E. Odisha Mission

1. Nirmal Jyoty, Balliguda

a. Training for Catechists

The companions of Eucharist, a charismatic team from Thrichur,



Kerala that conducts retreats on the Holy Qurbana, helped us to lead a three days live-in training cum retreat for the village catechists at Nirmal Jyoty

Balliguda. Bros Sabu, Francis and Shaju lead the retreat. All the seven of our village catechist stayed at Nirmal Jyoty and attended the training programme. The three days were solely dedicated to train them to have the experience and knowledge of the Holy Qurbana, its celebration and meaning of the symbolisms.

b. Eve of Prayer and Gathering

Soon after the training for the catechists on Holy Eucharist, one-day class, sharing and training were given to our communities in the villages.



Prior to the prayer gatherings

the brothers together with the fathers visited all the houses in the villages and prayed for the people and their families. The evenings were filled with the spiritual blessings through prayer and worship. Villagers eagerly attended the classes and were really moved by the presence, sharing and prayers of the brothers.

c. Farmers Club

We have newly launched a programme for the farmers titled, 'Jyoty Krishaka Bandhu' (JKB), which means the Jyoty Friends of Farmers. The programme aims at providing the farmers with the initial aid for farming and training for better cultivation. Odisha has got a huge area of cultivable land but due to financial and climatic reasons the



people are unable to do the farming. We plan to provide them with subsidized financial aid and help them to tackle the problems they face in doing the cultivation.

Once the harvest is done they will pay the amount back. At present we have started the programme in Dodkongia and Sikkatti. We have provided them with irrigation facilities (motor and pipe), seeds and saplings.

d. SHGs



The awareness classes and input sessions for the people in the villages have started bearing fruits. We are so happy to share that we could

start around 5 SHGs under 'Ujwala Jyoty Programme' (Together Towards Prosperity) for people of different groups. The programme aims at coordinating the people for the common cause, enabling them to stand on their foot and to cultivate the habit of saving. Two among the five have completed the entire process and started functioning the scheme.

e. Village Camp for Children



Nirmal Jyoty Balliguda conducted a three days each camp for the children of Somadadi, Raningpanga, Daipada, Dodkongia, Badipanga and Sikkatti

villages. The camps aimed at personality development, faith formation, awareness classes for the parents and children and other entertainments. The sessions were led by the Fathers, SD Sisters and Mrs Smitha.

f. Arrival of SD Sisters



Nirmal Jyoty Mission, Balliguda is blessed with the arrival of two SD Sisters of Delhi Province. Srs Jean Therese and Alanza joined Nirmal Jyoty on 5 December 2020. They will be staying at Balliguda and will collaborate with the missionaries in the programmes of the Centre.

g. One Day Retreat



One day retreat was conducted in Somadadi village as preparation for the Christmas. The people belonging to several Christian denominations

attended the retreat. The people gathered in the church stood as the sign of Christian unity and brotherhood. Fr Jomon Ayyankanal preached the retreat. Now similar retreats are being conducted in five more villages of our contact in Baliguda area.

2. Little Flower Mission Centre, Kundra

Little Flower Mission Centre, the newly started mission station by Frs Josin Tharapputhottiyil and Jibin Maniyalil has really gone into the track.

a. Sunday Prayer

The words seeded have started taking the roots in the hearts. The frequent village visits of the missionary priests of Little



Flower Mission Centre have gone into the next step of the formation of the faith Communities. As the result of the prayer, words, deeds and presence, we were blessed to start three prayer centres in Padapadara, Jubba and Bagbari villages.

b. Faith Formation



Meeting the Master in and through His disciples leads to the thirst of knowing Him more. Two families in the Padapadaro village have started

knowing him. The members of the family are given faith formation and spiritual training. The history will mark them as the first ever members of our Syro-Malabar Community in Kundra.

c. Tuition Programme



Little flower mission has started three non-formal education centers in the nearby villages of Kundra. In Nuaguda, nearby villages of the mission center have 15 students of classes 5-10 for the spoken English classes. Fr Jibin Maniyalil takes

classes from 4-6.30 p.m. on all the week days. The center has contributed us with a good number of family friends and opened the doors of many families towards Christ. Other than Nuaguda we have non-formal education centres at Jubba village with 11 children of classes 7-10 and Padapadaro village with 16 children of classes 4-10. In these two centres we have appointed local persons as tutors. We are in the process of starting two more centers in the civil blocks of Boipariguda and Kotpad.

3. Sacred Heart Mission Station, Laxmipur

a. Monthly Recollection and Common Gathering

Get-together and sharing the joys and sorrows rejuvenate the



missionaries with enthusiasm and energy. The MST missionaries in the land of Odisha have gathered together after a few months of gap for the monthly recollection at Laxmipur mission station in the first week of November. The fathers arrived by afternoon and had a common meeting of evaluation and planning. Fr Thomas Karamel MST, the Councillor in charge marked his presence virtually. The next day we had the monthly recollection. Rev. Fr James Vettom, a priest from the diocese of Rayagada led the monthly recollection.

b. Distribution of the Holy Bible

God the Word Incarnate speaks to the people through His Holy Words. It is a great matter of joy that the missionaries of Sacred Heart Mission station Laxmipur were made instruments in the hand of God in distributing the Catholic edition of the New Testament Bible to the Christian families in the



villages of Kodhomcholo and Kayipadar.

c. Village Visit and Prayer Gatherings



The presence and words are taking its roots and the mission has started giving fruits. The regular village visits of the missionaries of Laxmipur have given birth to faith communities in Laxmipur. At presently in

two different villages we conduct prayer service on every Sundays. The people gather together in the houses for the prayers. Almost 8 families are undergoing faith formation.

d. Non Formal Education Centres

The children in the villages long for the rays of hope. They welcome us with the smile of expectation and love. As per the need and request of the people of different villages we started non-formal education centres in six different villages. We take it as a good means to get access to those villages and make sound relationship with them. Our non-formal education centres are slowly becoming the nucleus of the development, social gatherings and centres of fraternity and brotherhood.



e. A Day with the Children

We conducted a small half day outing for the children of Kayipadar village to a nearby mountain top on 19 November. It was a good opportunity for us to interact with them and make good relationship with them.

(Reported by Fr Manu Pottananickal, Balliguda, Odisha Mission)

F. Arunachal Mission

1. Sagalee Mission

a. First Holy Communion in Villages



Village level First Holy Communion programme was arranged after one week intensive training for the parish children. The first Holy Communion was given to 14 children from three villages - Nimte, Rigo and Rach Tabio by Rev. Fr Sijo Mundaplkal on 5 December

2020. Thanks to SH sisters for preparing the children and the catechists who assisted them.

b. Youth Competition

In preparation for Christmas, we used to have the deanery level competitions for the youth, which mainly include items of skit and songs based on the Holy Bible. The youth from different parishes under the deanery come for the programme. There were



many winners from our Sagalee parish and the prizes were distributed to them by Frs Choorakunnel and Mundaplackal.

c. Holy Communion in Langper



One of the main substations of Sagalee parish is Langper. There were nine children to receive first Holy Communion this year and it was solemnly

administered on 12 December 2020. The Sacred Heart Sisters and the catechists took care of the preparations for the event and the catechetical formation of the children.

d. Preparations for Christmas



Our house is decorated in preparation for Christmas by Rev. Fr Sijo and the Regent brother, with stars and colourful lights. There is a pre-Christmas recollection arranged in the Bishop's House at Itanagar and we – the MSTs (including those

in Pakke Kessang) travel together for the recollection.

(Reported by Frs Choorakunnel & Mundaplackal, Sagalee, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh)

2. Pakke Kessang Mission

a. Shelter Festival

In the state of Arunachal Pradesh, the 'shelter-festival' is being celebrated among the farmers after the first harvest. They bring the harvested food grains to



home from the fields and get together with all family members and enjoy the first taste of the food which they have cultivated with hard labour. During this year, the importance is given to the woman farmers who contribute to

the production and sustenance of the villages by their hard work. Rev. Frs Aji Chakkungal and Jees Thundathil took part in the festival organized in the parish and blessed the farmers and their families.

b. Funeral Services in the Parish



The Christian funerals in Arunachal Pradesh are very typical. The mortal remains are preserved naturally at least for one day and the people gather together and celebrate the death, according to their ability by sharing good food in a festive mood.

The coffin is prepared locally by the neighbours. The dead body is buried close to the house, in a tomb dug in their own property. All the items, including the utensils used by the deceased are buried along with in the same grave. They expect the presence of the priest in the house, until the funeral service is completed.

c. Christmas Celebrations



The entire village, streets and the houses are decorated with lights. Carrol singings and music are heard from every corner, especially in the evenings. The whole landscape is in a mood of celebration, in spite of the setbacks of covid-19.

(Reported by Frs Aji Chakkungal and Jees Thundathil, Pakke-Kessang, Arunachal Pradesh)

G. Overseas Missions

1. United States

a. Academic Accomplishment

Rev. Fr Sherit Thomas Kappiayrumalayil completed with success, his post-graduation studies in Xavier University, Cincinnati Ohio, USA. Hearty congratulation to Fr. Sherit for his successful achievement. Due to the current pandemic situation, Fr. Sherit would continue his studies in the University to keep the scholarship active for our next candidate and to reserve the place of his stay and the parish ministry he is entrusted with.

b. Celebrations amidst Surging Pandemic

For Americans, the months of November and December are the best times in their life for celebration. The yearly celebration starts with the festival of Thanks Giving that continues through the whole month of December with Christmas and concludes with the New Year celebration. Unfortunately, as already predicted by the Centre for Disease Control (CDC), the number of covid cases and hospitalization is on its highest peak now due to the season of winter and people are forced to remain more time inside.

Some of the parishes in the US had to remain closed due to the spread of Covid among the priests and some of the staff. In some dioceses the priests are asked to avoid any kind of travel and socialization to protect the church from further closing during Christmas and New Year. Fortunately, all of our priests are doing well and busy with the preparation for the celebration of Christmas and New Year.

(Reported by Fr Antony Thundathil, Coordinator of MSTs in USA, Chicago)

2. Austria

a. Rosary Devotion

During the month of October we could re-boost the devotion of Mother Mary by reciting the Rosary in all our churches. The devotees participated it with whole heart. Parishioners decorated the Mother



Mary's statue with beautiful illumination and colourful natural flowers. The Rosary Month Concluded with a solemn Rosary Procession led by Rev. Fr Sabu Maprakavil and other MST Fathers on 30 October at Katzeldorf Rosay Park. A good number of people participated in it.

b. World Mission Sunday

Being the members of a Missionary Society, our joy doubled when we could share the mission experiences and could make a Mission Sunday collection for Uganda Mission on the World Mission Sunday on 17 October 2020. And the chocolate packets were sold in the Church for Mission Sunday Collection.

c. All Saints and All Souls Day

It was a remarkable experience to commemorate the departed souls day on 2 November. Even though there were Covid-19 restrictions, people decorated their relatives' graveyard and lighted candles and



stood around their respected tombs of their dear and near ones and we priests after the Holy Mass blessed all the cemeteries, and 'Denkmals.' 'Denkmal'

is a commemoration place in the village for the soldiers who have sacrificed their life for the Nation in the First and second World War. These 'Denkmals' and cemeteries are extra clean and beautified with flowers and candles. On All Souls Day special cards and candles were prepared for each departed souls of the previous year that is who died from November 2019 till November 2020 and candles were kindled during the Mass. The cards and candles can be taken home after the Mass by their relatives.

d. Advent and Second Lock Down

When we have started the Advent, the preparation days for the Christmas, the Government has already declared the second lock



down for three weeks due to the Covid-19. Thank God, it is over now. During the Lock down period we could celebrate the Mass and could bless Advent-kranz and Advent-candles. In the month of December we have the custom of

Roratemesse. That is Mass in the candle light at the very early morning, without electrical light till Gospel reading, that is to receive Jesus who comes as the light of the world.

(Rev. Fr Joy Punnakuzhy, Coordinator, Vienna, Austria)

3. Germany

Herr, Komm Bald – Advent Album

The corona crisis is still restricting and changing the life and activities of people worldwide. The number of people, who were regularly coming in the church, are reduced and the present situation compelled many not to come in the church for the Holy Mass. As a result of it, some are getting slowly indifferent in faith and in the church activities. But some find it difficult to keep their faith and share the same. Understanding the challenge of the time, Fr Cyriac Chandrankunnel prepared an audio-visual CD in connection with Advent-Christmas-New year to convey the message of Jesus Christ and renew the faith and conviction of people on these feast days.

The Diocesan Bishop of Hildesheim, Germany – Most Rev. Nikolaus Schwerdtfeger released the first copy of the CD at the beginning of advent season and said: “It is a beautiful idea. A correct movement and a correct step in a correct time on correct direction. May Holy Spirit help us all through such steps like this our faith again to



rekindle.” The name of the CD is ‘Herr, komm bald’! (Lord, come soon!) and the content is six reflections accompanied with meditative music. Each reflection lasts six minutes each only. Many people in parishes and institutions are happy to get it

in this difficult time of anxiety and uncertainty and experience the love and accompany of God in our daily life.

(Reported by Fr Cyriac Chandrankunnel, Germany)

4. Canada

Pastoral Updates from Nelson: During Advent, we have advent wreath where we light four candles resembling the virtues of hope, love and faith and love. This Season reminds us to promote the true meaning of Christmas in all that we do and what we do. It is a season to prepare each faithful in prayer, reflection, encouraging individual confessions and if possible to have any kind of abstinence. In spite of this pandemic Covid 19, we priests are helping our parishioners to prepare themselves to be Jesus’ manger, and help to prepare their hearts for Jesus’ birth anniversary.

After the shutdown of every Church and religious activity for four months, the government allowed us to open the religious institutions and activities. Due to the fear and uncertainty of the Covid 19, fifty percent of the people attended the church and sacraments. In few months, our attendance increased to 90% for every Holy Mass. While it was on its increase, the second wave of Covid hit every province of Canada. Even though British Columbia Province is the least affected province, our New Democratic Party has banned all religious activities and gatherings in public. Unexpectedly even Oliver, where I reside, has 43 cases with in a week’s time!

Having not celebrated Easter, many of us were hoping and praying that we would be able to gather in person with our faith communities

and celebrate Christmas as we have always done. This is not the case this year. Many of the parishioners are scared and worried of the future. The Church and every priest is trying to give hope and increase their faith in Jesus.

Thus, we all need to make the best of an unfortunate situation knowing that our Lord understands our predicament and is with us understanding our struggles and sufferings. If we have learned anything during this pandemic, it is that there is one person we can count on. His name is Jesus. He is "my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my strong hold" (Psalm 18:2).

Everyone has made heroic sacrifices during this time, and I am heartened by the resilience and commitment all the MST priests working in the diocese of Nelson, B.C. We are having Holy Mass with our communities through Zoom where people participate as usual or do direct telecast through different applications as Vimeo and uploading them in parish account of Facebook. After every Mass, we priests stand in parking lot to provide Holy communion in their cars. The province of Alberta has more cases than British Columbia. Still the provincial government allows the churches to function with 15% of its regular capacities. Our priests working in the diocese of Grouard McLennan is following these rules. Our MST priests who work in the Diocese of Regina, in the province of Saskatchewan, can accommodate 30% of their Church capacity and they are doing best now. In Canada each provincial government decides of the regulations of Covid 19. Merry Christmas.

(Reported by Fr Tom Kakkaniyil, Nelson, BC, Canada)

5. Switzerland - Parish of Schlieren:

Even though Corona pandemic increases in Switzerland, the people in Switzerland are ready to celebrate Christmas. As usual they have decorated streets and their homes with lights and Christmas trees. Liturgical celebrations will be held with certain restrictions. In my parish there are 5 Christmas Masses. On the eve of Christmas we

have Mass for children with a small drama (Christmette) at 3 p.m.



At 5.00 p.m. Christmas Mass for the young families and old people is scheduled. There is a midnight mass for all with choir at 11p.m. Again on 25th we have a solemn Mass with choir singing. On 26 December we

celebrate a 2nd Christmas. It is a holiday in Europe. This day we celebrate the feast of St Stephen, the first Martyr of the Church. This feast gives us a message how important is both the crib and cross in our life. Christmas celebrations will go on till the Feast of Epiphany, when the orthodox christians celebrate their Christmas.

There are lots of meaningful Christmas traditions in Europe. 25 days before Christmas people prepare themselves with Advent wreath (Adventkranz), lightening of 4 Candles, one each every four Sundays, Candle Mass, Advent Calendars, Christmas trees, cribs and decorations, etc. During these days we celebrate two feasts: Feast of St Niklaus (Santa Claus) and teach the children how to help others and the feast of St Lucia and we teach them how to be the light of the world. Exchange of christmas gifts, christmas cards and letters and a great meal, visiting of «Sant » at home, etc are also the traditions of Christmas. Children are



commonly told that presents were brought either by the Christkind (Christ child) or by the Weihnachtsmann (Santa Claus).

(Reported by Fr Varghese Nadackal, Schlieren, Zurich, Switzerland)

6. Tanzania - Madale Parish, Dar Es Salaam

a. Choir Members' Gathering

The parish of Madale celebrated a day with choir members on 17 October 2020. There were one hundred and seventy choir members participated among the nine choir groups. The programme began with the Holy Mass followed by a seminar explaining the duties and



importance of choir in the church.

b. Children's Meet

The children of Madale were eagerly waiting for the children meet's day. People of Madale were happy to conduct the children meet on



28 October 2020. This year two thousand four hundred and fifty (2450) children participated in it. After the Holy Mass and a seminar in the morning, they were given a break to drink the juice

and water. After the break they all were gathered in the hall for the varieties of programmes and games. They all were given lunch at 2:30 pm. The children's meet concluded at 5.00 p.m.

c. Youth's Day

The youth of Madale parish celebrated a day for youth on 22 November 2020. Since most of the youth of Madale parish are



engaged in jobs on weekly days, it was conducted on 22 Sunday. They were given a seminar on the importance of youth in the church and especially in our parish. They themselves prepared food for all of them in the parish showing the equality, togetherness and helping mentality.

d. Men's and Women's Day

The parish of Madale celebrated men's and women's day on 7 November 2020 and 28 November respectively. It was a chance for them to come together and share their views and reviews on the parish. The programmes were continued from morning till evening 6



p.m. The parish of Madale divides its faithful in different categories such as Children's day, Youth's day, Men's day, Women's day and Elder's day. In the

category of children's day, children till the age of fifteen participated. In the category of youth's day, people of ages from sixteen to thirty five participated. In the men's and women's days people aged from thirty six to sixty will partake in it.

e. Social Marriage

The church as a whole, especially the parish of Madale, was very happy to conduct a social marriage. It was fixed on 14 November 2020 in which thirty three pairs of couples got the sacrament of marriage. They all were living in relationship without receiving any sacraments. All the couples were very happy because of re-entering the life of church and sacraments. The main celebrant for the marriage was Rev. Fr Biju P. Joseph. The celebration began at 9.00 a.m. and concluded at 2.30 p.m.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Varghese Pullappallil, Dar Es Salem, Tanzania)

7. Australia - Sacred Heart Parish, Mildura, Ballarat

On 27 November, I moved to the new place of assignment – Sacred

Heart Parish, Mildura. Mildura is a regional city on the North West of Victoria State, Australia and is located on the Victoria side of the Murray River. Mildura comes under Ballarat diocese on the extreme



northern side. Being sunny most of the time, it is known as Sunraysia region. People are mostly famers and they cultivate variety of fruits mainly

grapes and oranges. As the city Mildura is situated on the bank of river Murray the irrigation facility given to the famers is really commendable. So, they get very good yielding and as a result most of the people are rich. Total population of the City is around 50 thousand which consists of people mostly from 38 countries. They are happy to settle here because it is self-contained city concerning education, health and conveyance facilities. The weather is also beautiful enough. It shares borders with South Australia and New South Wales states of Australia. The Australians consider Mildura as a half way halting place when they travel from Sydney to Adelaide vice versa and the people who travel from Melbourne to Northern parts of Victoria State. It gives more opportunity for tourism and hospitality as well.

Mildura Parish has a very vibrant Christian community because the people here are from different parts of the world. So, this is a very busy parish with lots of pastoral activities. The Mildura Sacred Heart parish consists of other four more small parishes namely Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Merbein, St Francis Xavier Church Irymple, St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs, and Our lady of Lourdes Werrimull. Besides there is a small Syro Malabar Community having Syro Malabar Qurbana in Malayalam in every 4th Sunday of the month. The numbers of practicing Catholics are declining, younger generation is away from the church, less importance is given to sacramental life and catechism, less vocations, etc. are a few common challenges. But Mildura Catholic community which consists of different nationalities is so active in Sacramental life.

(Reported by Fr Mathew Edathiparampil, Ballarat, Australia)

8. Sweden

a. Corona Restrictions in Sweden

Because of the increase in corona cases and deaths, Swedish government took a very hard decision regarding the public gatherings in Sweden last week. According to that, only 8 people can gather together at a time. All the restaurants and schools are closed until 24th of this month and it may continue according to the present situations. So, the Stockholm diocese cancelled all the public masses and gatherings in the parishes. But priests have to say all the masses according to the scheduled time in the parishes and can send through a live streaming.

b. Syro-Malabar Communities in the Scandinavia



Syro-Malabar Mass in Malayalam is celebrated every Sunday at 10.00 a.m. through zoom. Families from Sweden, Norway and Finland participate in it. We could celebrate the Mass

regularly during this pantomimic and people were so happy with it. Except the Sunday Masses, we have planned to have extra masses on Christmas, New Year and Epiphany. One-hour Christmas program is planned on 26 December through zoom. The children were given Advent calendar to prepare themselves for the Christmas.

Inauguration of the youth apostolate is also held and a big participation was there from the part of youth. A “three Sunday” advent retreat is going on for the Syro-Malabar families in Europe just now. It is well appreciated by the people.

c. St. Singfrid Seminary, Stockholm



Brothers who are studying in Rome and France are back to Sweden for their holidays. They will be sent to different parishes for the Christmas celebrations and to have a parish experience. Another good news is that six pastors from the Swedish church were



converted to Catholic Church. Their papers were sent to Rome and three of them were approved by Pope Francis. Now they have to study three more years in the seminary here and at the end of the 3rd year

they will become priests.

Stay blessed! Stay safe. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

(Reported by Fr Binu Thottiyil, Stockholm, Sweden)

9. Brazil - St Sebastián's Parish, Itaruma



a. First Communion and Confirmation

St Sebastián's Parish, Itaruma realized the administration of the sacraments of Baptism, First communion and confirmation on 12 November. Our enthusiastic and dedicated catechists prepared 35 students for first communion and it includes 16 adolescents and 19 adults. They received first communion on 05 November 2020. The same way 15 youths and 23 adults - total 38 - received sacrament

of confirmation on 12 November 2020 in solon Holy mass celebrated by their parish priest Fr Joseph Pulickal and concelebrated by Fr Jacks Doughalas, one of the priests from the parish.

b. Catechism for Children

Our parish started catechism classes for the children and adults after the holidays in December. From January 2020 our catechism classes

were in full swing but by the middle of March we received directions



to close down all the classes and was only celebrating holy mass with limited numbers because of the outbreak of covid-19. Some of our members were affected with covid-19. It created a panic among the faithful and the children. One month we closed down our catechism classes expecting to get normal the situations soon but days and

months passed, still restrictions continue. But our dedicated catechists never get disappointed- searched for alternatives. Started on line classes for the students. Concentration was mainly on the students for the first communion and confirmation.

c. Adult Catechism



Our parish has adult catechism. Usually the people who live in remote areas have no chances of participation in the parish church and its catechism, hence request us to baptize them in the Catholic church and we prepare them for the sacraments. We have also candidates, born and bought

up in other denominations, but now requesting for baptism in the Catholic Church. They are very earnest to follow Catholic faith.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Joseph Pulickal, Brazil)

10. Philippines

There is a lot to be thankful and hopeful despite the pandemic, typhoons (six in three weeks) and the months long lockdown for the Filipinos. As they are bouncing back from the effects of these, they are ready for the longest celebration of Christmas in the world. The



Christmas season starts with the coming of “ber” months (September, November & December) in the Philippines. Move around the shops and malls, you can hear the Christmas carols, drive around the cities and streets, you can see the Christmas

trees and lights, walk around the churches and houses, you can see the beautiful ‘belens’ (cribs).

All the churches in the Philippines are getting ready for the immediate preparation for the celebration of the Christmas now; the celebration of ‘Simbang Gabi’ (anticipated mass) or ‘Misa de Galla’ (dawn mass). ‘Misa de Galla’ means ‘Mass of the rooster’, a tradition introduced by the Spanish



friars in the 17th century for the agricultural communities to attend mass before heading off to the fields early in the morning. But now, these dawn Masses are part of the special preparations towards Christmas for all Filipinos around the globe. It is their tradition and belief that those attend all the nine dawn masses receive the spiritual favours. Old practice of serving snacks of hot chocolate and ‘puto’ (rice cakes) after mass is continued in this festive days.



We also join the liturgical celebrations in our assigned parishes/houses, within the regulations implemented by the government agencies. Moreover, life goes on, partially experiencing the ordeal of the pandemic here as we continue our academic journey. The scholastic programs in our universities continue online and we are on track. Happy Yuletide season to everyone!

(Rev. Frs Roy Thengumkudy and Roby Adapoor, Manila, Philippines)

VII. NEWS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES/ CENTRES

A. Vocation Promotion



We the vocation promotion team is doing all the way possible to find suitable candidates for MST. We are going through a tough time of vocation promotion now. In addition to this situation we could make a lot of interaction with many students to promote vocation. The web camp named 'mission dei' - the mission of God, was an attempt to impart missionary spirit in the minds of the students. This was conducted in collaboration with Santhome Fellowship. Rev. Fathers Vipin Vanmelil, Monse Karuvakunnel and Abin Kuruvanplackal were the resources to inspire the participants. At this point we would like to thank all of you for your help and support. Please do continue your kind consideration.

(Reported by Frs Puthukkattu, Alencherry and Karuvakunnel - Vocation Promoters)

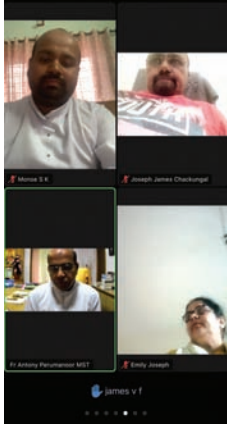
B. Santhome Fellowship

1. Santhome Fellowship Meeting at Vannapuram

Monthly meeting was held on 9 December at Vannapuram. It commenced with a prayer section led by Sr Dhanya. The gathering was addressed by the Director of Santhome fellowship and guided the members to groom for the feast of Nativity of Christ. This preparation can be done through many ways like helping others, prayer for the mission and doing some penance with intensions. The members expressed that they do pray for the mission especially for the MST's mission during this Christmas season.

2. Inauguration of Santhome Fellowship Unit in Dubai

Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General, inaugurated Dubai unit of Santhome Fellowship on 5 December. Sixteen families participated in this inaugural ceremony. Mr Thomas, the President of the Dubai unit, extended welcome and explained about the people in Dubai Santhome Fellowship group. He expounded manner in which the group is formed. Very Rev. Fr Antony in his inaugural speech explained about the duty of fellowship members in the mission work. He reiterated that all are missionaries, irrespective of being religious or lay people and are equally important in the work of evangelisation. He expressed the view of the evangelisation on knees. Mr Salas, the Secretary of the group, expressed gratitude to everyone participated in the meeting.



3. Visits to Santhome Fellowship Unit in Ernakulum

The director of Santhome Fellowship visited the families in Ernakulum unit. They were little bit hesitant to welcome us in the house owing to the spread of the pandemic, a few months ago. But they are happy to welcome us now. This visit facilitated us to understand the problems confronted during the pandemic time and provided an opportunity to pray for the families.

4. Demise of Mr Jacob Padalody



Mr Jacob Padalody, one among our Associate Missionaries, was called to eternal life on 11 November. The funeral service was held on 12 November, at St Joseph's Church Kariyathumpara in the Eparchy of Thamarassery. The funeral was attended by two general councillors and three associate missionaries. I have given a brief obituary note on him, towards the end of this Bulletin.

5. Meetings of Associate Missionaries

Meeting of the missionary associates took place on 6 December. The meeting started with a prayer. The secretary presented the report. The members paid their prayerful homage to the deceased Mr Jacob (Baby) Padalody, one of the active associate missionaries. The potential missionary associates under training also gathered on 10 December. They had taken a decision to make their sacrifices during this lent of Christmas be offered to the conversion of the people in Orissa. The missionary associates have planned to gather physically on 22 December.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Monse Karuvakunnel, Director - Santhome Fellowship)

C. SANTHOME – IMPACT, Kochi

1. Mission Animation

a. Online talk on the mission on Mission Sunday to the members of Vincent de Paul Society of Vazhakkala parish of Ernakulam Ankamaly Archdiocese.

b. Two days' online retreat to the catholic students of SH School, Moolamattom.

2. Theatre Workshop

Three days' theatre workshop for the students of Denahalaya, Punnapra, Alappuzha. Six priests and 20 Religious Sisters attended. It was mainly focused on training them for youth ministry.

3. Psychodrama Training

Five days' training on psychodrama at Shantidham, Trissur, a counselling centre of the Thrissur Province of the CMC Sisters. It was mainly focused on the emotional balance and body-mind coordination among children.

4. Santhome Media-IMPACT

Following are the major initiatives recently undertaken by Santhome Media-IMPACT:

a. *Nairmalyam*: A weekly reflection in preparation of Christmas 2020.

b. *Christmas Ravu*: It is a Carol song uploaded in our YouTube channel sung by Abhijith Kollam.

c. *Gloria 2020*: It was a joint effort of Kadukumani Magazine and Santhome media. Santhome media conducted carol lyrics competition and Kadukumani conducted the singing competition for children. The selected lyric was published in the YouTube channel being sung and acted by the prize winning singers of the singing competition.



d. *Syro Malabar Online Catechism*: V Standard Malayalam catechism's pre and post-production work is done by us.

e. *Audio Recording*: Santhome Media audio recording Studio is blessed with eminent personalities like Kester, Mithila Micheal, Sr



Rincy Alphonse SD, Teena Mary Abraham, Libin Scaria, Arjun, Alice Mathew, Shaju Cheriyan and Vipin Roldent. Live instrumental recordings of Veena, Flute, Solo Violin, Tabala, Dolak and

Mridangam by Jossey Alappuzha, Biju Annamanda, Francis Xavier and Andand also were conducted in our studio

5 Collaboration with Santhome Media

Santhome Media-IMPACT invites all members of the MST to avail its facilities to manifest their talents in communication. Santhome media will technically support the MST



members to work out their creativity and bring out as media productions.

06. Upcoming Initiatives of Santhome Media-IMPACT:

- o Capsule type Short Films
- o Motivational Classes
- o Cartoon Animation

*** To watch all our programs please visit our Website: www.santhomemedia.com, You Tube Channel and Facebook Page & Plz don't forget to subscribe and like our You Tube Channel and Facebook Page.**

7. IMPACT Publications

- a. Online and printed versions of the mission Magazine 'Kadukumani' was done.
- b. Kadukani conducted story and singing competitions for children and prizes were given to the toppers.
- c. English magazine 'True Blaze' for English medium children could not be published due to the closure of schools.

(Reported by Fr Joy Panjikanan, Executive Director Santhome-IMPACT)

D. Thomasine Research Center (TRC)

1. TRC is now at CHAAMA, Thumboor

The Thomsine Research Center is now firmly established at Thumboor in Lower Kodungallur region. This MST Center known as CHAAMA was established by Rev. Fr Joseph Vazhuthanappilly and was handed over to MST. CHAAMA is memory. The word is derived from the ancient language called Ugaritic, an extinct North-West Semitic language. The word CHAAMA is Paleo script and the Paleo Christians adopted the term to mean memory. This house at Thumboor is established in memory of St Thomas our Apostle and the patron of our society. It also commemorates all great missionaries and visionaries of our Church and MST. We also

remember with gratitude all those who contributed their might to the establishment of this center.

CHAAMA hosts various ministries of MST in her abode. Therefore, we have expanded the word to denote the various apostolates that MST intends to spearhead from this center. Thus CHAAMA is **Christian Historical and Archaeological Academy for Missionary Apostolates**. TRC continues to run all its activities from here and Fr Joseph Vazhuthanappally carries on his works in the name of CASI (Christian Archaeological Survey of India). CHAAMA hopes also to extend its service to the Syro-Malabar Church in the missionary formation of its members: the clergy, the religious and the lay people.

CHAAMA is now happy to receive the service of Fathers Sijo Mookenthottam and Mathew Mlavil from 10 November 2020.

2. Samvet 2020

TRC was happy to organize the 'Samvet 2020,' the webinar for the MST members with a view to re-evaluate the mission and vision of MST in the context of the Pandemic Covid 19. The Ten-day program from 8 to 17 October was well appreciated and there was an enthusiastic response from the participants. In ten days almost 55 papers touching various aspects of our missionary commitment were presented. You will soon get a soft copy of all these papers and deliberations in the webinar. We remember with gratitude all our fathers who helped in various ways to make Samvet 2020 a great event of substantial benefit.

3. Webinar on *Fratellii Tutti*

TRC arranged a three-day webinar on the Papal encyclical - *Fratellii Tutti* and it was organized from 25 to 27 October 2020. It helped the participants to better understand the encyclical and to imbibe the vision of Pope Francis to make a better world. Rev. Fathers Sebastian Kizhakkeyil, Joseph Aryankalayil, C.D. Sebastian, Kisincher Aniyekkatt and Antony Karakatt were the resource persons. We express our sincere gratitude to these fathers for their

great effort.

(Reported by Fr James Kurikilamkatt, Director, TRC)

E. Kalasadhana, Mumbai



Kalasadhana continues to impart music through online lessons during this period of lockdown caused by Covid-19. Setting apart the YouTube channel by name Kalasadhana, Navi Mumbai exclusively for Hindi songs, Kalasadhana has launched a new YouTube channel “Marian Melodies,” for Malayalam songs on 22 November 2020 on the feast of the patronness of music St Cecilia.



Recently two songs have been released from this channel to a warm welcome by the subscribers. Both the launching songs ‘Divya Karunyame’ and ‘Ammaykoraasyiram...’ have received overwhelming response. I sincerely acknowledge your constant support and encouragement.

(Reported by Fr Ashok Kollamkudy, Director, Kalasadhan, Mumbai)



VIII Necrology: Family Members & Collaborators of the MSTs

As informed by the members (15 October -15 December 2020)

Mr P.V. Joseph, Father of Fr Pullikkattil and Brother-in-law of Fr A. Azhakath

Mr T. J. Chacko, Father of Fr Thakadiyel

Mr John Madukoly, Father of Fr Madukolil and Bother-in-law of Fr Ammanathukunnel

Mrs Rosamma Abraham, Mother of Fr Vanchipurackal

Mr Kuriakose Oppenmakkal, Brother of Fr Oppenmakkal

Mr Varghese Pulimalayil, Brother of Fr Pulimalayil

Mr Baby Paulose, Brother of Fr Azhikannickal

Mr Paily Vattamthottiyil, Uncle of Fr Vadakeoram and Grandfather of Fr Ullattil

Mr George Joseph Nadackal, Nephew of Fr Nadackal

Mrs Margaret Devassy, Aunt Fr Joy Panjikanan

Mr Kuriakose Kolliyil, Uncle of Fr Kolliyil

Mr Jose Puthettupadavil, Brother-in-law of Fr Kizhakkeyil

Mrs Aleykutty Kakkanattu, Aunt of Fr Tharapputhotty

Mrs Aley Thomas, Grandaunt of Fr Unniepillil

Mr Antony A.T. Aranjanal, Uncle of Fr Aranjanal

Mrs Mary Mathew, Sister-in-law of Fr Karamel

Mr Jacob Padalody, Missionary Associate of MST

Mr Sebastian Messi (Guruji), Missionary Collaborator of MQMD



Obituary:

Mr Baby (Jacob) Padalody

Mr Jacob Padalody (Baby Sir, 64), one of our sixteen Associate Missionaries, was called to eternal bliss on 11 November. He had



been a member and stalwart of Santhome Fellowship ever since 2011 and became our Missionary Associate of the first batch through the promise of association made on 22 February 2019. He was very active and dynamic as an associate missionary and has visited our missions. He was a very close collaborator and well-wisher of MST. He used to address the gathering of our priests during the ongoing formation at

Deepti Mount. He got retired as a teacher. Rosamma – his wife is also a retired teacher. They have two children and one of them is a religious nun in Sacred Heart Congregation of Thamarassery Province. He had been very active in his parish in various leadership capacities. For the last 27 years, he served as a catechism teacher. He was the coordinator of the palliative care unit of the diocese and the Secretary of Pensioners Forum of Thamarassery. He was diagnosed with acute cancer a few months ago and was on medication. Santhome Fellowship members are planning to gather on 18 December to offer a requiem Holy Qurbana for him. Let us pray for the repose of his soul and shall keep his family in our prayers.

(By Fr Monse Karuvakunnel, Coordinator, Missionary Associates)



Prayerful Congratulations



Newly Ordained Deacons of the MST, along with Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of MST, and Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, the Rector of Ruhalya, Ujjain.

The greatest gift we have ever,
for any human person is - Jesus!



Mar Thoma Catholic Personal Parish, Kalyan

MST Generalate, Deepthi Mount, Melampara P. O. Bharananganam 686578,
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