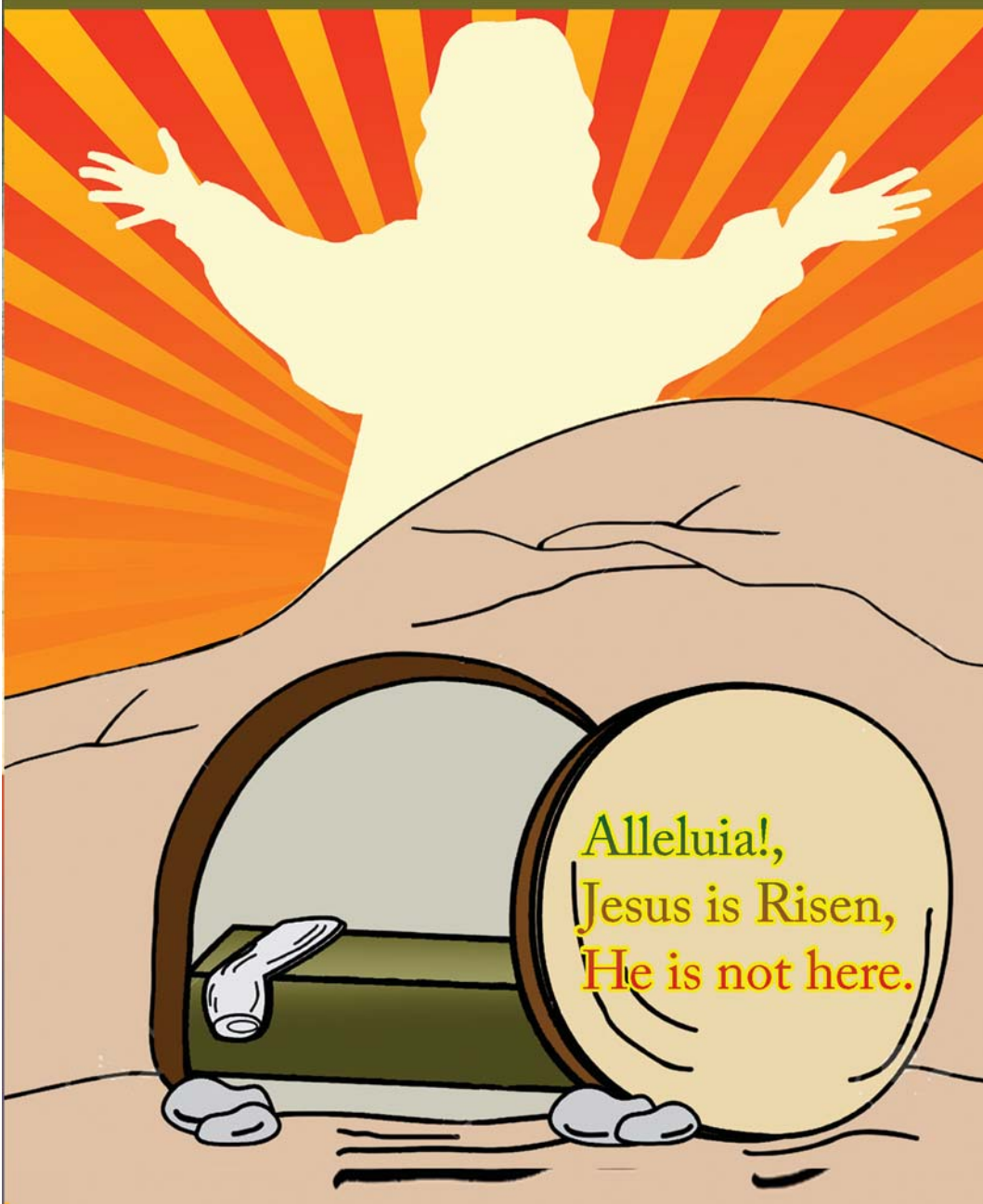




MST World

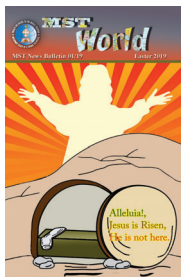
MST News Bulletin 01/19

Easter 2019





The New Priests of the MST, along with the Director General after the Ceremony of Sleshusa on 7 February 2019



MST World 01/19

Easter 2019

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Printed :	Boystown Press, Pala

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I. MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers and Dear Brothers,

“Do not be afraid! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He has risen... Go, tell the disciples...” (Mark 16, 6-7). With these words spoken at the empty tomb, we are invited into the heart of the paschal mystery. Do not be afraid. Do not look for Jesus among the dead. He is not to be found in an empty tomb. The Crucified One is risen! Go and tell his disciples. Tell the world.



This same “Good News,” which we call “Gospel” is entrusted to us: The One who was crucified is risen, never again to die! And the Lord has given us the mandate to share this news with “all creation.” You and I are messengers to our world that what happened long ago, first in the upper room and in the hall of the praetorium guard, then through the streets of Jerusalem and on the hill of Calvary. At the end we know that the tomb could not contain the Lord, that He rose: this is the joyful news that we share with others..

This joyful news has not only changed the course of humanity, but it has transformed our very lives. We are heirs to the message given to Mary in the garden that Easter morning, heirs to the first believers who heard the news from her and who then encountered the Lord on Easter night. The message which we bring to the world is this: in the Risen Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, and life over death. My friends, do we transmit this joy to those we meet? Do we give credible witness to our encounter with the Risen Lord, whose word we hear and whose Body and Blood we share? Do we allow the Resurrection to turn even the darkness that is in our lives and

our world into a bright promise of hope?

Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way. Early that Easter morning, Mary Magdalene did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus. But she found something better than she could have imagined: the Risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we think we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in the world. That's the power of the Resurrection. When those moments come, we must spread the news—just as Mary Magdalene did: We have seen the Lord! From hearts immersed in Easter joy, we are compelled to share this Good News that the Lord is truly risen. Like the holy women, we too must obey the Angel's command to hasten and announce to others the message of joy and hope that is Jesus' triumph. It is more urgent than ever that the men and women of our age come to know and encounter Jesus. We believe in a Risen Lord who has defeated evil and death. Let us have the courage to bring this joy and this light into every corner of our lives, our families and our communities. Jesus' Resurrection means that He is alive and walks side by side with us in life. It is the message that Pope Francis wants us to bring to the world, going out to our streets, to the peripheries of our cities.

My prayer in the period of Easter is that our lives may be filled with His Spirit and be penetrated more and more by the presence of Jesus the Redeemer, so that we become signs and witnesses before the people and proclaim the Gospel ever anew! May we experience ever more fully the joy, peace and power of the Risen Jesus, our Redeemer! May Mary, our Mother of Perpetual Help, accompany us as she accompanied the first disciples! And May St Thomas our father in faith help us to proclaim our Christ experience with the acclamation, "My Lord and My God". Jesus is risen! Alleluia! In the joy of those words, I wish you all a blessed and happy Easter.

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

II. NEWS FROM THE GENERALATE

(From 20 December 2018- 10 April 2019)

1. Priestly Ordinations

The priestly ordinations of seventeen *ordinandi* took place in their respective home-parishes, between the days from 26 December 2018 to 5 January 2019. The Director General, the members of the General Council, representatives from the MST seminaries, especially the Rector and staff of Ruhalaya, Ujjain took part in all the ordinations. There were several of our priest-members in Kerala and from the missions, the missionary collaborators including the religious sisters, the lay faithful of Santhome Fellowship, the benefactors and the major seminarians of the MST who took the trouble for attending the ordinations. The ordinations were opportunities for missionary animation in the parishes and in cementing our relations with the eparchies in Kerala.

The Prelates who ordained our deacons have been very generous and kind to speak good about the MST by recognizing our missionary commitment, in their messages. His Beatitude Major Archbishop Mar George Cardinal Alencherry presided over five ordinations and blessed the MSTs with appreciatory words. His Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakel also presided five ordinations. Other ordaining prelates were Archbishop Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Mar James Athikalam, Mar Thomas Thuruthimattam, Mar John Nellikunnel, Mar Joseph Pamplany, Mar Jacob Muricken and Mar Sebastian Vaniapurackal who ordained one each *ordinandus*. Bishop Mar Joseph Kunnathu was present for one of the ordinations. The Director General personally wrote to all of them and thanked them for availing their time for the MST. A separate circular was issued to all the members of the MST (Circular No. X/8) recognizing the vocation promoters, the formators in various seminaries, the benefactors and other collaborators who contributed in the making of seventeen new priests for the MST.

2. Gathering of the Rectors of the MST Seminaries

A short gathering of the Rectors of all our seminaries was held on 04 January 2019. It was to create an occasion for all the rectors to

converse with all the members in the General Council in common, and to develop seamless accompaniment in the formation programme, in all the stages of formation. All the Rectors and the members in the General Council were present for the meeting. Each rector was given the opportunity to share his concerns in common, and discussions were held on matters that needed deliberations. It was felt among the Rectors that the students need to be given training in Hindi and English languages at all the stages of formation.

The gathering was also made use as an opportunity to plan out the themes, resource persons and programmes of the upcoming refresher programmes of all the formators during the summer holidays. The Director General and the Vice Director - who is also the formation secretary, led and guided the discussions.

3. Regional Assignment of New Priests

Immediately after the ordinations, on 9 January 2019, the regional assignment of the new priests were done following C.44 of the *Constitutions and Directives of MST* and it was announced through Circular No. X/8 (to retrieve the Circular, See Appendix I of this Bulletin). The regional assignments were done primarily based on the places of their missionary training in the field (regency) as mentioned by *D36c of the MST C&D*. Out of 17 new priests, six each were assigned to St Thomas and St Alphonsa regions, while five were assigned to St Paul Region.

In addition to the regional assignment, the General Council also selected and appointed priests for Mary Queen of the Missions Delegation (MQMD), Delhi and for the recently launched Orissa Mission. One priest each from every region was chosen for MQMD and thus three new priests were assigned to delegation. For Orissa mission, one each was chosen from St Paul and St Thomas regions and two from St Alphonsa, with total of four new priests for Orissa Mission. One of the new priests assigned to St Thomas Region was sent to the mission eparchy of Sagar, M.P., in response to the request of the Bishop of Sagar, Mar James Athikalam MST.

4. Orissa Mission: Co-ordinator and Members

With the consent of the General Council, the Director General appointed Rev. Fr Joseph Ayyankanal as the coordinator of Orissa Mission of the MST with effect from 7 January 2019. As the mission co-ordinator, he is asked to take lead in making studies and consultations for starting new programmes and centres, following the guidance of Rev. Fr Thomas Karamel, the Councillor-in-Charge of Mission Expansion. He will also be the local director of the MST members working in Orissa.

Following the spirit of the General Assembly-2018, the General Council has given the directions to the mission co-ordinator and the new members of Orissa mission to focus more on direct evangelization and on building up communities, following unstructured patterns and a lifestyle of simplicity. The joint meeting of the General Council together with the co-ordinator and the members of the Orissa mission was held on 7 February 2019, to explain and discuss the new approaches to be applied in Orissa.

At the request of FIAT Mission (a lay organization for mission *ad gentes*), the service of Rev. Fr Jose Cheriampanatt has been offered and he is accompanying the FIAT missionaries in Orissa. The MST has promised the service of one of our priests to the FIAT, to assist them with sacramental ministry in their expeditions.

The members of the new missionary team in Orissa are preparing themselves by receiving orientation and training in language and culture of the place. They started living in a rented house now and will be dispersed to different centres after the national elections.

5. *Sleehusa* – Commissioning of New Priests

In view of orienting the new priests to the ground realities of priestly-missionary living, a programme named *Sleehusa-2019* has been introduced by the General Council, which was executed by the expert team constituted for the Ongoing Formation of the MST. The orientation included practical sessions led by lay leaders, religious sisters and experienced priests. At the conclusion of the *Sleehusa*, a ceremonious ‘sending forth’ of the new missionaries to the mission

territories was included to signify that the new priests were being sent by the MST to the whole world for doing the purpose of the Society – mission *ad gentes* (MST C&D, C2). The General Council has planned to set *Sleehusa* as part of the ongoing formation at the beginning of the priest ministry and to conduct this programme for every new batch of priests. A detailed report of *Sleehusa 2019* is presented towards the end of this Bulletin by the co-ordinator of expert team for ongoing formation.

6. Joint Meeting of GC and RC

From 15 to 16 February 2019, the members Regional Councils (RC) and the Council of Mary Queen of the Missions Delegation came together at Deepti Bhavan, for series of joint and separate meetings with the General Council (GC). This joint meeting of the GC and RC began with spiritual animation led by Rev. Fr Saju Thuppalanjil MST. The Director General welcomed the gathering and presented the scope of the joint meeting, emphasizing the need of collective thinking, evaluation and action plans for the Centre and for every administrative unit. Every member of the General Council and the Treasurer General presented the report of the portfolios they are entrusted with, discussed and gathered the opinions of the council members from the region and delegation.

The Regional Directors and the Delegate, together with their Council members presented the developments in the regions/delegation and sought suggestions on their future plan of actions. The mutual exchanges were helpful for the members from the administrative units to capture a wider picture of the Society.

There were separate forums organized for the leaders in the administrative units to meet with the General Council. And finally, there was the concluding session that discussed on selected items in view of the quinquennial planning of the common programmes and for fixing our priorities and thrust areas.

7. Meeting of the MSTs in Preaching Ministry

A short meeting of the MST priests involved in preaching ministry was organized in Deepti Bhavan, under the leadership of the portfolio in charge, Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram. Nine MST priests directly

involved in the preaching ministry attended the meeting. The Director General and the members of the General Council were also present. The meeting discussed about: (1) the possibility of holding one day prayer meet for the public at Deepti Mount, (2) intensifying direct preaching in our mission regions/areas and (3) organizing a retreat team for leading mission retreats for the missionary personnel and communities in the mission areas.

Rev. Frs Saju Thuppalanjiyil and Jacob Purayidom volunteered to lead 'one day prayer meet' for the public at Deepti; and Rev. Fr James Kurikilamkatt volunteered to take up the challenge of forming a retreat team of MST priests, specialized in sharing Thomasine Spirituality for the communities and missionary personnel in the Syro-Malabar missions.

8. Celebrations of Foundation Day

a. One Day Prayer-meet for the Public

Making use of the facility of the roofed gathering space in front of the Guest House of the Generalate, the General Council planned to launch the proposed one day retreat for the public beginning with the celebration of the foundation day of the MST. The permission of the local ordinary was also secured in this regard. Rev. Fr Saju Thuppalanjiyil led the prayer session and preaching from 9.30 am on 22 February 2018. Facility for the reception of Sacrament of Reconciliation was arranged in the public chapel. Rev. Fr Binoy Purayidom also joined him in preaching in the afternoon. There were more than 400 people who participated in the prayer-meet. Sharing the joy of the Foundation Day, lunch was served for all of them.

The one day prayer for the public is now being repeated every fourth Saturday. The second one was conducted on 23 March, which was led by Fr Zacharias Thadathil and the next one will be on 27 April.

b. Solemn Holy Qurbana by Bishop Kallarangatt

The foundation day was marked with the solemn Holy Qurbana presided over by Bishop Mar Joseph Kallarangatt of Pala, at 11.00 am in the gathering hall. All the priests in Deepti Mount and many

others working in different places in Kerala were also present for the Eucharistic celebration. There were almost 40 MST priests present for the Holy Qurbana of the Foundation Day.

c. Promise of Association and Associate Missionaries

During the solemn Holy Qurbana of the Foundation Day, 16 lay faithful made the promise of association before the Director General, to be the formal associate missionaries of the MST. In accordance with Appendix I of the *Constitutions and Directives of the MST* and following the *Guidelines for the Associate Missionaries of the MST*, they have been selected by our coordinators and were given training for several months. They have been collaborating with the MST for many years as members of Santhome Fellowship. Some information about the promise of association and on the first associate missionaries has been shared through Circular No. X/9 in the second week of February 2019. The final pages of this Bulletin give more details of the associate missionaries. Reading the signs of the times, it is time that the MST plans and involves the missionary associates in our apostolic activities. Please get to know about our associate missionaries and dream about involving them in our missionary programmes in the future.

The MST appreciates Fr Monse Karuvankunnel, the coordinator and Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram, the Councillor in charge of this programme, in realizing the provision of missionary associates, according to the nature of the MST. Let us also place on record our gratitude and appreciation to those who initiated the programme of Santhome Fellowship, the coordinators and General Councillors who nurtured this programme and all those who have collaborated with them in various ways. We hope and pray that with the inclusion of missionary associates, the MST may take the lead in developing and displaying a different participatory missionary approach and attitude in the Syro-Malabar Church.

9. Completion of Higher Studies

The following members have completed their assigned study programmes and have returned with advanced degrees and skills, for missionary involvement. Congratulations to all of them. They are:

Thekkemuryil Scaria (Jiby): Obtained Master Degree with A Grade, in Educational Administration (M Ed.) in the month of December 2018, from Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.

Vernakunnel Joseph (Bibin): Secured Master Diploma in Interior Design with Silver Medal in January 2019 from St Francis Institute of Art and Design, Mumbai.

Kavunnukattil Joseph (Lijo): Completed Masters in Business Administration (MBA) as the topper from Christ University, Bangalore in the first week of April 2019.

10. Sponsors of the Seminararians

The MST is grateful to all its benefactors for their support through prayer and financial assistance. We have several generous minds who regularly support the formation of our seminararians. We assign to the donors only major seminararians who have been promoted to theology studies after completing their regency, since dropouts are minimum at the theology studies. Multiple benefactors are allotted to the theology students; and the contributions by the benefactors is a vital means to gather resources for the formation programmes.

The seventeen new priests who were ordained after Christmas 2018 were supported by 48 benefactors. The MST thanks all of them for their annual bursaries of contributions. A few among them have agreed to continue their support by taking up new seminararians. Out of the 48 sponsors, nine of them were mentored through Fr Jacob (Lalu) Kulathoopurayidom in Australia, six were connected through Fr Thomas Plappallil of Switzerland, five through Santhome Fellowship programmes and two each through Frs George Olickal and Joseph Koren (Italy). Others were connected through Rev. Frs Kisincher Aniyekatt, George Thotteparampil, Antony Thundathil, Sebastian Earthedath, Joseph Vandanoor, Binu Thottiyil, George KMP and Jose Palakeel. The MST appreciates the initiatives of our members in finding sponsors for the formation programme and for other needs.

As of now, we have 97 sponsors supporting the seminararians of three batches in theology, who are almost regular in paying the bursaries.

These sponsors have been connected through our priests working in Germany, America, Italy, Australia, Sweden and Switzerland, and also through the ministry of Santhome Fellowship and through the efforts of some of our priest-members in India. This year (2019-2020), we are expecting to promote 11 seminarians to theology. The sponsors are expected to pay the sum of Rs 35,000/ (or its approximate equivalent – USD 500, Euro 500, GBP 400, CAD and AUD 600) every year for one seminarian, for four years. One can also make the onetime payment of Rs 140,000 or its equivalent, if they wish so. There is also the scheme of endowment of Rs 500,000/- which entitles the donors to be a lifetime sponsor of MST seminarians. Once the assigned seminarian gets ordained, they will be assigned with a new seminarian of first year theology and the process will be repeated lifetime (of the donor). Kindly recommend sponsors from your families, friends or contacts for the 11 seminarians entering to theology, and refer the details of the sponsors to Fr Justin Vettukallel, the Councillor in charge of the sponsorship programme.

11. Santhome Ayurveda: Handed over to St Alphonsa Region

In the light of the discussions held between the Regional Council and the General Council during our last two meetings held in August 2018 and February 2019, the ownership of **Santhome Ayurveda – Bedshi**, including both its Assets and Programmes, is transferred to St Alphonsa Region with effect from 1 April 2019.

It was clearly evidenced from the letter of the Former Director General that ‘Santhome Ayurveda will be owned by the Sangli Mission Society’ (Prot. No. 116/2018, 12 April 2018). The former Regional Director of St Alphonsa Region had formally taken up the responsibility of implementing the project of Santhome Ayurveda (Letter of Regional Director dated 21 September 2017). Therefore, considering the original plans and decisions on the Santhome Ayurveda Centre by the previous General Council and Regional Council, and the functional difficulties in executing the project and in achieving the missionary goals of ministry by operating from the Generalate, it has been strongly felt by the present General Council that it shall be handed over to St Alphonsa Region. The Director General will continue to be the patron

of the Aurveda centre and the ministry.

From the very beginning of this venture, St Alphonsa Region has been involving in the execution of the project by using the amount due to the Generalate from the prescribed contribution of the institutions of the Region to Generalate. The present regional administration has informed the General Council that a sum of Rs 89,50,00.00 is spent for the construction of the building so far, which forms part of the amount that had to be transferred to the Generalate during the past two financial years (2017-2019). St Alphonsa Region has been taking care of the maintenance of the centre by regular payment of the monthly allowance as well. The General Council has asked the regional administration to pay its due contributions to the Generalate of the past two years, including the amount used for the construction of the building of Santhome Ayurveda at Bedshi. We thank and appreciate the regional administration for its untiring efforts in taking up the challenge towards materializing the dream of this new apostolate in the area.

The General Council has promised to St Alphonsa Region that its support for Santhome Ayurveda will be continued by way of sharing the trained personnel in this field and other expertise, facilities, etc. available to the Society. Recently, a project that has been submitted to the Italian Bishops' Conference is approved and a substantial amount is expected to be released in May 2019 as the first instalment. We wish the Regional team and the members involved in this ministry all the best in realizing the missionary goals through Santhome Ayurveda Centre and intercede the blessings for the Lord for the same.

12. Committee for Feasibility Study on Utilization of Underused Land of Ruhalaya

Considering various suggestions for proper utilization of the land property of Ruhalaya (theology section) and the apprehensions about the risk in owning the underused land in that area due to government regulations, General Council of the MST constituted a committee for gathering expert opinion on options and methods of using the said land asset towards financial self-sufficiency of Ruhalaya Major

Seminary. The committee is requested to submit the report latest by 31st August 2019. The members of the committee are:

1. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura (Convener)
2. Fr Alexander Pinamurakil
3. Fr Sebastian Pullatt
4. Fr Chandy Kalathoor
5. Fr Francis Kureeckal (Ex-officio Member)

13. Visits Abroad

The Director General, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor visited the MST priests working in Germany, Switzerland and Austria from 5 March to 10 April 2019. He had scheduled visits with the Bishops and Vicar Generals of many of the dioceses in Germany and with the Cardinal of Vienna in Austria, seeking more opportunities of pastoral involvement and other supports. The available chances were also made use to submit project proposals and special requests for the support of seminary formation. There were positive responses in several instances. The ordinaires in general are happy with the committed ministry of the MST priests.

Fr Justin Vettukallel visited the United States of America from 7 to 20 March 2019, primarily to celebrate a memorial Holy Mass for one of our deceased benefactors in Dayton, Ohio. He visited our priests working in Florida and had a meeting with the Bishop and other officials of the diocese of St Petersburg along with Rev. Fr Sebastian Earthedath. He also visited Bishop Jacob Angadiath of Chicago, along with Fr Thundahtil, the Coordinator of MST in USA. The bishops appreciated the service of the MST priests in their dioceses and some positive responses were given to the requests made.

14. Upcoming Common Programmes (April-May 2019)

a. Review of the Proposed Draft of MST C&D (14 May 2019)

For those MSTs in Kerala and around, a study and discussion on the proposed draft of the MST Constitutions and Directives is being held at Deepti Bhavan from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on 14 May April 2019. (It is rescheduled from 23 April - the day of parliament election in Kerala). The presentations and discussions will be led by the convener and the members of the committee constituted for the

purpose. All those MSTs in Kerala and around, and anyone who missed this study session in the mission regions or delegation are invited to join here at Deepti.

b. Refresher Program for Formators (28 April to 1 May 2019)

All the formators of the MST both serving in MST formation houses as well as in other formation centres are invited to join the refresher program for the formators being held at PDS, Peerumedu from 28 April to 1 May 2019.

c. Gathering of the Major Seminarians, Vestition and Temporary Promise (6-8 May 2019)

The annual gathering of all the MST major seminarians will be held from 6-8 May 2019, at the Generalate. On the concluding day (8 May), there will take place the first temporary promise by the seminarians who have been promoted to Philosophy after the MOC, and the vestition and renewal of the promise by the seminarians promoted to Theology after regency. May I place our seminarians for your prayerful support.

d. Ongoing Formation of the Ordination Batches: 1993-2003 (14-16 May 2019)

The expert committee for the ongoing formation under the guidance of the ongoing formation secretary is organizing a programme for the members belonging to the ordination batches between 1993-2003, at the Generalate from 14 to 16 May 2019. The theme of the programme is: *Priestly Satisfaction and Middle-Age Challenges of Missionary Priests*. Please take note of the dates and ensure the participation by the respective batches without fail. If you belong to any of the ordination batch mentioned above and in case you did not receive the invitation personally, please take this information as a personal invitation to join the programme.

e. Annual Retreat at the Generalate (26-31 May 2019)

The annual retreat, for the priests living in Kerala or outside the regional territories, is arranged at Deepti Bhavan from 26 to 31 May 2019. Dr Mario Joseph (*Philokalia* Retreat) will be the preacher of the retreat. All those who have not attended the annual retreat are also welcome to join the retreat. Please contact the in charge of Priest-welfare, Fr Peter Kavumpuram, for registering your participation in the retreat

III. Transfers and Appointments

A. St Paul's Region, Ujjain

Champakara Francis, relieved from Kaytha and appointed Priest-in-charge of Gogapur (Mehidpur Road)

Kalarickal Thomas, relieved from Baskhedi and appointed Priest in charge of Bachukheda

Kalladayil Sebastian, relieved from St Thomas School, Khachrod

Karickamukalel Philip, relieved from Agar and appointed Priest-in-charge of Khachrod

Kondoor Jose, appointed Priest-in-charge of Tarana

Koottarappallil Jacob, appointed Asst. Priest-in-charge of Chandukhedy

Kudukkanthadam Antony, relieved from Sarangpur and appointed priest in charge Pachore and Director of Prarthana Niketan

Manichirickal Thomas, relieved from Bercha and appointed Priest in charge of Jamner

Mookenthottam Kurian, relieved from Susner and appointed Priest-in-charge of Zirapur

Nattunilath John, relieved from Gogapur (Mehidpur Road) and appointed Priest-in-charge of Susner

Pattasseriyil Joseph, appointed House in-charge of MST Regional House, Mendya

Pezhumthottyil Sebastian, relieved from Jamner and appointed Priest in charge of Sarangpur

Plappallil Joseph, relieved from Zirapur and appointed Priest-in-charge of Narsingharh

Poovathinkal Paul, relieved from Pachore and appointed Director of Kripa Training Center, Chandessary and Financial Administrator of Kripa Social Welfare Society

Thalanany Thomas, relieved from Kripa Training Center, Chandessary and appointed Priest in charge of Bercha

Varappadavil Benedict, appointed Asst. Priest-in-charge of Jamner

Varikatt Sebastian, relieved from Narsingharh and appointed Priest-in-charge of Agar

Vattappara Peter, relieved from Santhome Bhavan, Bhopal

B. St Thomas Region, Mandya

Kudakkachirakunnel Sebin, appointed assistant priest in charge of St Mary's Church, Neradigonda, Adilabad.

Madhavappallil Tomy, relieved from Deepti Nivas, Kalenahalli and appointed director of Mansadhara Rehabilitation centre for Mentally Ill, Mandya

Mlavil Mathew, appointed Assistant Director of Asha Sadan Special School, Mandya

Naduviledath Saji, relieved from Manasadhara and appointed Director of Santhome Institute of Foreign languages, Mysore

Thottappallil Akhil, appointed Assistant Director of Deepti Nivas, Kalenahalli

Thottiyil Binoy, relieved from Santhome Institute of Foreign Languages, Mysore

C. St Alphonsa Region, Sangli

Edathiparampil Mathew, Relieved from Zirap and appointed as in charge of new mission centre, Tasgaon

Karakattu Antony, Asst. Priest in charge, St Josephs' Church, Kodoli.

Koorumullil Justin, relieved from Dilasa, Miraj and appointed Asst. and In charge of Social Action, Zarap.

Kudiyiruppil John, appointed Administrator, Alphonsa School, Ichalkaranji

Kurumundayil Sebastian, Asst. Director - Social Action, Alphonsa Region, Sangli

Naduvilekizhakkal George, Head Master of Divya Jyoti School and Warden of St John's Hostel, Banda

Pedikattukunnel Antony, appointed Priest- in- Charge/Manager, St Thomas, Ratnagiri

Thypparambil Varghese, Asst. Priest in charge, Chiplunn & In charge of Social Apostolate, Ratnagiri Dist.

Varakil Vincent, Head Master, Alphonsa School, Kolhapur

D. Mary Queen of Missions Delegation, Delhi

Alummottil Joseph, appointed asst Director Deepti Ashram,
Najafgarh and parish priest of Najafgarh parish, eparchy of
Faridabad

Kolliyil Joseph, assigned for language studies in Punjabi

Kuruvanplackel, assigned for language studies in Punjabi

Panthrapankal Mathew, relieved from Deepti Ashram, Najafgarh
and assigned for language studies in Punjabi

E. Outside the Regions/Delegation

Allumpuram Xavier (Raju Mathew), relieved from the Eparchy of
Thamarassery

Anithanam Mathew, relieved from Manager (w.e.f. 04-03-2019) and
Principal (w.e.f. 10-06-2019), Santhome School, Mira Road,
Mumbai

Anjilithoppil Johnson, assigned for training in Italian Language

Ayyankanal Joseph, appointed Coordinator of Orissa Mission

Chirayail Augustine, relieved from the Archeparchy of Thalassery

Kalladayil Sebastian, appointed Manager of Deepti Gardens,
Moochankund, Palakkad

Kollamattam Ambrose, appointed to Orissa Mission

Kottakavil Augustine, appointed to Orissa Mission

Mullappallil George, appointed Parish Priest, St George Church,
Thattakanny, Eparchy of Idukki

Muricken George, appointed asst. priest in charge of Bina, Eparchy
of Sagar

Nadackal Varghese, relieved from Ahmedabad, Eparchy of
Shamshabad

Pottananickal Mathew, appointed to Orissa Mission

Pulavelil Joseph, relieved from the office of the Vicar General of the
Eparchy of Shamshabad and the Coordinator of Gujarat
Region (w.e.f. May 2019)

Tharapputhottiyil Joseph, appointed to Orissa Mission
Thekkemuriyil Scaria, appointed Principal (w.e.f. 10-06-2019) of
Santhome School, Mira Road, Mumbai
Thuppalanjiyil Joseph (Saju), appointed Spiritual Animator, Deepthi
Gardens, Moochankund, Palakkad
Vattappara Peter, appointed Manager of Santhome School, Mira Road
and Coordinator of MSTs in Mumbai
Vernakunnel James, Appointed as in charge for legal settlement and
integration of land properties at Mulas, Maharashtra

F. Formation Houses

Mullappallil Joseph, appointed Formator (w.e.f. July 2019),
Ruhahaya Major Seminary (Philosophy), Ujjain
Naralakkattukunnel Gracias, relieved from Santhome Minor
Seminary, Thamarassery
Palakeel Joseph, appointed Formator (w.e.f. July 2019), Ruhahaya
Major Seminary (Theology), Ujjain
Vithayathil Varghese, relieved from Ruhahaya Major Seminary
(Philosophy), Ujjain

G. Overseas Mission

Kannamundayil Mani, relieved from the Diocese of Lanciano-Ortona
and appointed Pastoral Assistant, Archdiocese of Torino, Italy
Kannathukuzhy Joseph, Chaplain, Konvent der Barmherziger, Linz,
Austria
Kudiyiruppil John, relieved from the office of the Vicar General,
Exarcahte/Eparchy of Mississauga, Canada
Nadackal Varghese, appointed Pastor, Diocese of Zurich, Switzerland
Naralakkattukunnel Gracias, appointed Pastor, Diocese of Augsburg,
Germany
Thottiyil Thomas, appointed Formator in the Seminary, Diocese of
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IV. Change/Correction of Contact Information

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V. SEMINARIES

A. Deepti Minor Seminary

After a jubilant Christmas vacation the seminarians are back on 2 January 2019.

1. Visit of Pilgrims from Shimla

A group of 14 would be Catholics from Shimla visited Deepti under the leadership of Fr Siby Nelloor on January 3, 2019. The seminarians together with the fathers accorded them a very warm welcome. They joined the Hindi Mass and other activities of the seminary. The spiritual and other experiences shared by them really inspired the seminarians to work among them in the future.

2. Tapioca Boiling

The traditional tapioca boiling (Kappa wattu) of the year was inaugurated by Rev. Fr



Kuriakose Kunnel on January 16. Brothers and Fathers celebrated it with great enthusiasm. This year we had a bumper crop and collected 2500/ k.g dried tapioca. We appreciate the hard work and cooperation of

everyone who actively participated in it.

3. New Priests' Day



As you all know this year MST was blessed with 17 New priests. They all came to their Alma mater for the celebration on January 23, 2019. The new priests and the seminarians played a friendly Basketball match. In the evening party all the fathers of Deepti mount participated. The new priests shared some of their seminary experiences to the seminarians. On 24th morning there was a very solemn celebration of the Holy Mass by them.

4. Other Major Events

On January 31, 2019 the seminarians were taken to Thiruvananthapuram and Kovalam for the annual picnic. The seminarians had their modal exams from February 21, 2019. On March 6, 2019 Higher Secondary Board Exams started. On January 22, Third year students were given a very emotional farewell party. Everyone appreciated their contribution to the seminary and wished them all the best. On February 23, the second Bible Convention was held at Deepti Jubilee auditorium. The convention was led by Rev. Fr Zacharias Thadathil MST. It was well attended by many people.

March 27, 2019..... Praise the Lord, end of another academic year. Brothers are off for their summer vacation.

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

B. Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery

1. Christmas Celebration at Santhome



As the brothers were going home for Christmas holidays, we had an anticipated Christmas celebration on 20th December. A beautiful crib was made, carols were sung and gifts were exchanged to each other in the evening programme

followed by solemn dinner. All the brothers went home the next day for Christmas holidays.

2. Brothers Back after Holidays

All the brothers returned to the seminary on the 2nd of January after holidays. On the same day, Fr Rony Alenchery celebrated his 3rd anniversary of priesthood.

3. Rector's Day



The ordination day of Fr Manoj Parackal was celebrated as 'Rector's Day' on the 4th of January. The solemn mass was presided over by Fr Manoj. There was a basketball match between the teams of Fathers and Brothers and the

Fathers narrowly missed the victory. In the evening, there were different cultural programmes and solemn supper.

4. New Priests' Day

17 new priests, the pride of MST this year, were given a special welcome and felicitation on the 15th and 16th of January. There was a friendly basket ball match between the new priests and Santhomites and the result was as expected – the Benjamins were defeated by the experienced!



5. Inter-seminary Competitions

The inter-seminary basket ball and speech competition among the



minor seminarians of the Archdiocese of Thalassery were held at Thalassery minor seminary on the 19th of January. Though our brothers fought very well, they could not reach the

final round.

6. 70th Republic Day

This year we celebrated the 70th republic day of our nation. Fr Emmanuel Mattam hoisted the flag after Holy Mass and delivered a fitting speech on this occasion.

7. Psycho-Spiritual Workshop



Two days of psycho-spiritual workshop was arranged for the brothers on the 26th and 27th of January. It was conducted by Miss Anu and Miss Gemsy, masters in psychology from NIMHANS, Bangalore. The brothers found the classes very

useful and practical.

8. Music Night

In order to promote the musical talents in the brothers, we arranged a musical night on the 29th of January. Many brothers and even Fathers exhibited their talents in music and the programme was well appreciated by everyone. It was the first venture in this regard at Santhome.



9. Annual Picnic

All the Santhomites had a day of picnic and outing to Thrissur, Athirapally, etc on the 30th of January. We visited also Mary Matha Major Seminary, Thrissur, Snehatheeram

beach and Palayoor St Thomas Church. On the whole we enjoyed the outing, a break from the hectic activities of the Seminary life. Fr Davis Kavungal MST, who is a Professor at Mary Matha Seminary, helped us in many ways during our picnic. Special thanks to him from all Santhomites.

10. Biannual Retreat

The brothers had their biannual retreat at Bethania Retreat centre, Pulloorampara from 3rd to the 7th of February. It was led by Fr Benny Mundanatt, the Director of the centre and was well appreciated by the brothers. Many got deeper conviction about their vocation and it was clearly seen in their lives after that.

11. Visit of German Friends



We had a group of 35 German visitors led by Fr Johny Maniamkeril MST on the 14th of February. They spent about three hours in and around Santhome seminary, experiencing the food, climate, different cultivation and plantations in this area. All

the Fathers and Brothers welcomed them heartily and they were sad to leave at the end!

12. Conclusion of SCLA

In the afternoon, we had the official conclusion of Santhome Cultural and Literary Association (SCLA) with the presentation of the detailed report of each batch by the SCLA secretaries. It was also a suitable moment to evaluate the effect of such meetings and to look for new insights and methods in future.

13. Visit of Bishop Remegiose

The long awaited visit of our local Ordinary, Bishop Remegiose Inchananiyil, took place on the 19th of February. For many reasons this visit was postponed and finally it happened! The Bishop was the main celebrant of the Mass in the morning. He gave a very inspiring



homily during the Mass. After breakfast he left soon as he had another function to attend.



14. Fr Gracious bidden Adieu

Fr Gracious Naralakattukunnel, who served as one of the Spiritual Fathers of the brothers here for the last two years, was given a send off on the 21st of February. He will be going back to Germany in a few

days. We wish him all the best!

15. Foundation Day & Visit of Archbishop Njaralakatt

The 51st foundation day of MST was celebrated solemnly on the 22nd of February. The solemn Mass was in the evening of which Archbishop Mar George Njaralakatt was the main celebrant. He gave a fitting



homily during the mass appreciating the hard mission word done by all the MST members in different missions. It was his maiden visit to Santhome Seminary and he was very much taken up by the respect and hospitality he received from here. During supper also there was an informal sharing by the Archbishop in which he gave away the prizes to the logos quiz winners of Santhome Bros. Jison Attuchalil, Shalbin Panamthanath and Austin Vadakeorath. Everyone was impressed by his simplicity and friendliness with all.

16. Blessing of New Vehicle

Santhome Seminary bought a new seven seater vehicle and blessed it on the 28th of February. We do remember in a special way all those who helped us in making this dream realized. We thank the General council for giving us the permission to purchase it.

17. Farewell to III Year Brothers

The farewell to the 3rd year brothers was arranged on the 28th of February. We had cultural programme, fun games, sharing by all the 3rd year brothers and a very delicious dinner on that day. All enjoyed the programmes, especially the sharing of the brothers was worth mentioning. The second year students took the lead in all the arrangements and the



first year brothers too helped them.

18. Closing of the Academic Year 2018-2019

The scholastic year of 2018-19 came to an end on 27th March with the last examination of the plus I batch. The plus II batch had finished their exams on the 21st of February itself. The first year students had already gone to Deepti to have an intermingling course of two weeks with their peer group at Deepti on the 14th of March, after finishing their exams here.

19. Blessed Moments at Santhome

The 45th ordination Day of Fr Emmanuel Mattam was specially remembered and celebrated solemnly by all on the 18th of December. The 63rd birthday of Fr Johny Kariathil too was duly celebrated on 25th of January and everyone wished him *ad multos annos*.

Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General, officially visited Santhome on 18th February and interviewed all the 3rd and 2nd year brothers individually.

Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel visited Santhome on 3rd January in connection with the ordination of Deacon Josin Tharapputhotty. In the evening he blessed the newly concreted basketball court in the presence of DG and many other fathers who came for the ordination.



On 12th January, a friendly basketball match between St Alphonsa Minor Seminary, Thamarassery and Santhome Minor Seminary was held at Alphonsa minor seminary stadium. Even though we could perform very well, the

victory was theirs.

On 12th March we had an anticipatory birthday celebration of Fr Shaijan Koonamparambath and those brothers whose birthdays fell during the holidays. It was a great celebration indeed and we prayed and wished them all many happy returns of the day.

21. Monthly Recollections

Sr Josna MSMI from Panampilavu led the monthly recollection of January, on the 8th. She shared many of her personal spiritual experiences which inspired everyone. In February, the brothers were sent to Bethania for the biannual retreat. On the 14th of March before the first year brothers left for Deepti, there was an hour of special thanksgiving adoration before the Blessed Sacrament for all the

blessings we received this year. Fr Emmanuel Mattam led the adoration and all the brothers actively participated in it sharing their experiences and thanking the Lord. Prior to the adoration, arrangements were made for confession for all those who needed.

22. New Constructions

On 3rd January, we were lucky to have the blessing of the newly concreted basketball A court and a new basketball B court by Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel. In the month of February, we did accomplish the fixing of the thunder arrester, which was an urgent need for the building. In March, we have constructed the firewood shed near the



kitchen and built a boundary wall in agreement and consultation with Mr Vishwan, our neighbor to have a safe distance from his house.

23 Blessing of a New Pond

The third year brothers of 2018-19 took initiative and constructed a small pond in their memory near the newly constructed cattle shed. It was blessed by Fr James Kurikilamkattu in the presence of all Santhomites on 21st March.

24. Visits and Experience Sharing of Missionaries

Among those who visited Sathome this semester, the prominent ones are Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, the rector of Ruhalya, Fr Sebastian Elanjimattam, Fr Monse Karuvakunnel, Fr Antony Kaithottumkal and Fr James Kurikilmkatt. Thanks to all for their gracious visit.

We had a few sharing sessions too, during these months. Fr Joseph Vedikunnel, the leader of Adilabad mission of MST, shared his mission experiences in the new mission, on the 3rd of January. It was very inspiring to the brothers. Fr Biji Kudukkamthadam, a batch mate of Fr Manoj parackal visited us on the 22nd of February and shared his experiences in Italy especially those connected with the relic of St Thomas at his parish of Ortona. Sr Maria SABS from the provincial

house, Thamarassery, who is celebrating her golden jubilee of religious commitment this year, visited us and shared her experiences on the 20th of March. She has been serving the differently abled children for the last 40 years continuously. Her story was very inspiring and enriching.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Manoj Parackal, Rector, Santhome Seminary)

C. Jeevan Jyoti

1. Christmas Programmes

Jeevan Jyothi had a great Christmas celebration this year. Fathers and brothers experienced the real meaning of Christmas through exhilarating cultural programmes with a strong message of Christmas on nine stages across Mandya Mission.



On Christmas Day Jeevan Jyothi community celebrated mid-night Holy Mass. Fr Joseph Thekkekarot, the Regional Director of Mandya, was the main celebrant. He gave an inspiring message. Brothers

evaluated their Christmas programmes. All the brothers were so happy with their beautiful experience of celebration.

2. Intensive Hindi and English Class

Soon after the Christmas, brothers had a week of intensive Hindi course guided by Rev. Fr Shoney and one week English course animated by Rev. Fr Johny Kariathil. With this, the brothers began intensive preparation for the entrance examinations.

3. Home Day Celebration

Jeevan Jyothi Community celebrated the Home Day, 'Koinonia 2018-19', on 20th January 2019. Jeevan Jyothi community was blessed with the presence of His Excellency Bishop Mar James Athikalam, Rev. Fr Antony Perumannor the D.G, Vice Director General Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal and the R.D of Mandya Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarot. The Home Day celebrations began with a solemn multi-lingual Holy Qurbana presided over by Bishop Mar James Athikalam and



concelebrated by the Director General and many missionaries from Mandya. Beloved bishop gave an inspiring homily.

Cultural programmes were presented by brothers just after the Hoy Qurbana. Delicious food was prepared for all. We conducted some funny group games just after the food. A volley Ball match was conducted at 2.30 p.m. between Fathers and brothers. Fathers won the match. We concluded our Home Day with the match.



A good number of Rev Sisters and Rev Fathers from Mandya region participated enthusiastically in the Home Day celebrations.

4. Visit of Rev. Fr Kureeckal

Rev. Fr. Francis Kureeckal, the Vice-Director General of MST visited Jeevan Jyothi and had a personal meeting with all the brothers and the fathers.

5. Republic Day

Jeevan Jyoti celebrated Republic Day with Fr Kuriakose Kunnel as the chief guest. He celebrated Holy Qurbana for us and gave an inspiring homily. After the Holy Mass, Fr. Kuriakose hoisted the flag and blessed and inaugurated the new Basket Ball Court. An inaugural



friendly Basket Ball match between brothers added colours to the celebrations of Republic day.

6. Annual Retreat

Brothers had their Bi- annual retreat for three days. Rev. Sr. Flomy Joseph DC was the preacher. Sister gave very good reflection about the importance of priesthood. She gave great importance to personal reflection. Brothers prayerfully participated in the retreat.

7. New Priest Day

We celebrated New Priests Day on 3rd Feb 2019. All seventeen priests of MST came and offered Holy Mass for us. Fr. Akhil Mlavil gave an inspiring homily. After the Holy Qurbana the brothers presented cultural



programmes in honour of the New Priests. Priests shared their experiences. After the meeting they visited the Regional House. In the evening there was a Basket Ball match between the New Priests and the students of Jeevan Jyoti.

8. One Day Picnic

Brothers got a golden opportunity to visit all the famous tourist places of Mysuru. We visited St Philomena's Church, Zoo, Vrindhavan Garden and Mysuru palace. Brothers enjoyed the trip very well.



9. Entrance Exams

All the brothers appeared for the Entrance exam to Ruhailaya Philosophate in the first week of February and had a colourful result.

10. New Omini Van

The long awaited dream of Jeevan Jyothi to have a new vehicle is realized with the purchase of a new Maruti Omni Van. The van was blessed by Rev Fr C. D. Sebastian.

11. Mission Visit

We had very inspiring visits to few mission stations in Mandya. The first leg of the visit was on 24th February 2019. The day was begun with a visit to Gomateshwara statue and shrine at Shravanbelagola.



This helped the brothers to learn about the great ideals of Jainism. The visit to Chaitanya mission station at Kodimaranahalli and interaction with the missionaries there

gave a glimpse of missionary life and activities in rural Mandya. The climax of the mission visit was the experience at Christalaya mission station at Hadanur. Rev. Fr Augustine Mundiavil shared his

experiences and spoke to the seminarians in detail about the ministry of treating snake bites.



The second part of the mission visit was held on the 31 March 2019. The visit was begun with a pilgrimage to the shrine of Servant of God, Rev Fr Antonio Maria Plateu, popularly known as Poojya Rajendra Swamy at Chikkarasinakere near Maddur. Rev Fr William Pinto gave an inspiring account of the zealous and holy life of this great missionary. Then the brothers visited another tomb of a missionary who was martyred during the time of Tippu Sultan, in the nearby village.

Further, we visited the mission stations at Halagur, Pandithahalli and Bannur. In all these centres brothers had memorable interactions with the missionary personnel. The sharing of experience by Rev Frs Sunny Mundackal and Raju Puthusserry were really heart touching and inspiring.

The day was concluded by attending a mesmerising music concert presented by Stephen Devassy and team.

12. Visits by Missionaries

Rev Fr Joseph Vedikunnel and Rev Fr Mathew Elavumkal visited (08-03-19) Jeevan Jyoti and celebrated Holy Mass. Fr Joseph gave an inspiring homily. Later they spent some time for sharing their valuable experience with the brothers. The powerful and inspiring sharing by these veteran missionaries helped the brothers to strive towards deepening and strengthening their vocation.

Rev Fr Peter Vattapara also visited (09-03-19) Jeevan Jyoti and inspired the brothers by sharing his missionary experience

(Reported by Rev. Fr Sebastian Kallupuraparampil, Rector and Bros Shinto Parachalil & Blesson Kottavila, Jeevan Jyoti)

D. Ruhalaya

The period between December to March has been a time of great blessing for Ruhalaya in various ways. We are highlighting some of the major events that have taken place during this time.

1. Annual Retreat, Diaconate and Minor Orders

Annual retreat was held for the theologians from December 15 to 19.



Rev. Fr. Benny Thettayil CMI preached the retreat. On 20th December, Rev. Fr. Antony Perumanoor the Director General of MST celebrated the Holy Mass on the occasion of the incorporation of the MST Deacons as permanent members to the Society. His

Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakkal conferred diaconate and other minor Orders to the theology brothers at 10.30 am on the same day.

2. Christmas and New Year Celebrations

Ruhalaya held a common Christmas celebration on 20 December. Many fathers on the staff and theology students left for Kerala for the Ordinations on 21 December. A Christmas drama and other cultural programs were staged by the Philosophy students on 21 Dec. for around 750 women of 135 SHG run by Ruhalaya. Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel presided over the function.

38 Brothers from Philosophy section were divided into 18 groups and were sent to different mission stations and parishes for Christmas celebrations. The rest of the community stayed back at the Seminary and celebrated Christmas with the faithful from the locality and the Rev Sisters and candidates from the three neighbouring communities

of the CMC, DST and SABS. The Christmas drama was staged for the people of the Chak-Kamed village on the 26 Dec. The Christmas drama troupe staged the drams on five different stages including the one in Ujjain Central Jail.

The New Year celebrations started with a one hour Adoration followed by Holy Qurbana at the midnight. There was a short cultural programs welcoming the New Year 2019.

3. Seminars

In the month of January we conducted two seminars. On January 14th Ruhalaya organized one day seminar on *Hindutva: Current Praxis* by Rev. Fr. Vincent Kundukulam from Aluva seminary. On January 25 Ruhalaya organized another seminar on social network and media by Rev. Fr. Joseph Aryankalayil MST. Both the seminars were timely and relevant as they made the participants aware of the challenges and threats faced by the missionaries and the youth in general.

4. Ruhalaya Challengers Cup (RCC) and Ruhalaya Thrillers Cup (RTC) - Basketball

The final basketball matches of RCC and RTC were held in Philosophate and Theologate on 24 Jan. 2019. The teams played thrilling matches in all the rounds and final matches were won by the *Ruha De Laba* (First Year Philosophy. Ruhalaya organized friendly football matches with staff of Dinah Convent School, Tarana on 13 Jan. and the staff and students of Rajeswer Minor Seminary, Ghosala, Ujjain on 15 Feb.

5. Ekta Divas.



As an annual celebration of the village ministry of the philosophy students, *Ekata Divas* 2019 was held on 27 Jan. 2019. Some 280 children and youth of the neighbouring villages where the Brothers visit on

Sundays and conduct tuition came for *Ekta Divas*. Variety entertainment programs, sports and games were conducted for the children and prizes were distributed to the winners. Rev Sisters from CMC, DST and SABS Convents came to help with the conducting of the programs of the day. Lunch was prepared and served by the brothers.

6. Trip to Delhi

The third year philosophy students had their annual one-day trip to Delhi on 7 Feb. 2019. They started on Wednesday 6 Feb and returned on Friday, 8 Feb. They visited many places of historical and national importance. It was a memorable day for all of them as it was their first trip ever to the national capital.

7. Bible Quiz

On 10th February Ruhalya conducted the 15th Inter-Seminary Bible



Quiz Competition. As it has been in the previous years, Rev Fr Sebastian Kootumkal was the Quiz Master this year too. There were 10 participants from different seminaries. Agara Seminary won the first prize and the second prize was shared by

St Ephrems Seminary Satna and Nagpur Seminary. Ruhalya won the third prize.

8. MST Foundation Day and Music Night



On 22nd February Ruhalya celebrated Foundation day of MST. His Excellency Bp. Paul Alappat bishop of Ramanadapuram celebrated the Holy Eucharist and wished all the MSTs Foundation Day. The common Eucharistic celebration was in

Theologate. There was a friendly basketball match between the Theology and Philosophy students in the morning. One of the highlights of the MST Day celebrations was “Breath the Beats”, the Music Night wherein all the batches of the brothers presented one each song exhibiting their music skills. The Sisters and the Candidates from the neighbouring communities were invited to the music night.

9. Send off to Rev. Fr Varghese Vithayathil

Rev. Fr Varghese Vithayathil has been serving Ruhhalaya Philosophate for the past eleven years in various capacities. Ruhhalaya is indebted to him for his dedicated service and active participation in the community. Students and staff will miss him greatly in our community. Ruhhalaya bid farewell to Fr Varghese on 27 March. We thank him very sincerely for all that he has been to Ruhhalaya and wish him all the very best wishes for his new ministry in Australia! May God bless Fr Varghese.

10. Exams, Farewell and Holidays

The Second Semester exams started on 4 and 28 March in Philosophate and Theologate respectively. With the Comprehensive Oral Exam on 25 March, the third year philosophy students completed their three year philosophy course at Ruhhalaya. The farewell for the 32 third year philosophy students belonging to 12 dioceses and MST was given on 28 March and the brothers went on holidays on 29 March. All third year brothers were promoted from Ruhhalaya to the next stage of their priestly formation. They begin their regency in their respective Diocese and Regions of MST in the months of April and May. The theology students go on holidays on 14 April.

*(Reported by Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, Rector,
Ruhhalaya, Major Seminary)*



VI. NEWS FROM MISSIONS

A. St Paul's Region, Ujjain

1. Study Session on the C&D of MST

On 23rd January, 2019 a study session on the Constitutions and Directives of MST was held at the Regional House. Around 50 MST priests attended this session led by Rev. Frs Peter Vattapara, Joseph Aryankalayil and Justin Vettukallel.

2. Send-off to Rev. Fr Kalladayil

Rev. Fr Sebastian Kalladayil who served in the mission of Ujjain for 35 years and now transferred to Kerala was given send-off on 23rd January, 2019. Rev. Fr Vincent praised and thanked him for his tremendous and dedicated services in the mission. Best wishes to Fr Sebastian.

3. Send-off to Rev. Fr Kondoor

On February 4, 2019, the former Regional Director - Rev. Fr Jose Kondoor who was staying in the Regional House for engaging in the documentation of the history of the diocese of Ujjain, got transferred and moved to Tarana mission station in Ujjain. Thanks and wishes to Fr Jose.

4. Arrival of New Priests

On February 18, 2019, three new priests of MST (Frs Chackochan Koottarappallil, Abhilash Pattasseriyil and Benedict Varappadavil) reached the Regional House to take charge of their first appointments in the mission. They were accorded a whole-hearted welcome by Rev. Fr Vincent. On February 22, 2019, these three new priests celebrated the Holy Qurbana at the Regional House followed by cutting the cake of the MST Foundation Day. On the following day Fr Chackochan Koottarappallil was appointed as the assistant priest at Chandhukhedy, Fr Abhilash Pattasseriyil as the house-in-charge at the Regional House, Mendya and Fr Benedict Varappadavil as the assistant priest at Jamner. Congratulations and best wishes to the

new priests in their new missions.

5. Pilgrimage to Kolkata

On February 24, 2019, 31 MST priests from St Paul's Region made a pilgrimage to Kolkata for 2 days. It was really inspiring to see the place where Mother Theresa lived, prayed, worked, and guided her religious family of sisters spread across the world. It was there that her body was laid to rest.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, Regional Director)

6. Nirmal Jyoti, Mandasaur

Nimal Jyoti had different programmes and activities for the last three months.

a. Republic Day with District Administration



On 26th January our children participated in a dance competition which was held by Nagar Palika of Mandasaur. We got second prize in the competition and the district collector congratulated the

whole team. On the same day evening, children showcased their talents in a cultural programme too. A team from government authority visited and evaluated Nirmal Jyoti's activities.

b. Participation in Ullas 2019



Nirmal Jyoti participated in 'Ullas 2019' which was organized by Manovikas, Ujjain. The result was commendable and praiseworthy. All over our students got 36 medals in different competitive items. The manager Rev. Fr. George Pottananickal along with Fr

Kennedy Thomas congratulated and distributed the awards to the winners. Another event was that Nirmal Jyoti organized a summer camp for the mentally challenged students. Students from other schools also were present for the event. It was a good time for students to mingle with other children. Along with this a training was given in art and craft. It was also a moment of happiness and joy when Nirmal Jyoti celebrated Holi.

c. Village Outreach Programmes

Nirmal Jyoti educational society organized a programme for the children in the neighbouring villages. Around hundred children came for the mega event. They participated in sports and games. Half day they stayed in Nirmal Jyoti campus. Winners were awarded and it really inspired the children. (Photo VIA6c)

*(Reported by Rev. Fr Prayan Kongatt, Asst. Priest in charge,
Mandsaur)*

7. Nirmal Jyoti, Bhopal

a. Five Loaves- Food Programme

The needy in Bhopal continue to receive help through various activities of Nirmal jyoti. Five Loaves'-The street food programme, continues to provide food for the needy on streets; the group therapy and distribution of medicines help the persons with mental health issues in recuperating from their sickness; 8 Remedial education centres in different slums in Bhopal helps the school going and drop out children in studies; 3 Tailoring centres and 28 SHGs help the women in different areas of Bhopal in getting empowered.

b. Women Empowerment Programme



Annual gathering of the beneficiaries of Self Help Groups (SHG) initiated by Nirmal Jyoti was conducted at Karuna Sadan and St Xavier's school campus. On 20.12.18 gathering at Karuna sadan was addressed by Fr Shibu CMI and he

told about the unconditional love of God. Gathering St. Xavier's School campus was on 21.12.2018. Some cultural programme were



conducted by the SHG members Fr. Peter Vattapara addressed the gathering inviting them to imbibe the merciful love of God in daily lives.

In connection with the International Women's Day get together of the SHG members were conducted in two places; Barkheda and Anandnagar. Fr. Thomas CT and Ms. Vinita spoke about the need of women empowerment in the gatherings respectively.

c. Mental Health programme

Beneficiaries of Mental Health Programme had a get together at Karuna sadan on 15.12.2018 Nirmal Jyoti arranged an outing for the beneficiaries of Mental health programme (together with their family



members) on 2.3.2019, Saturday. 50 persons together with staff of Nirmal jyoti visited Indira Gandhi National Museum of man and Tribal Museum in Bhopal.

In collaboration with the Management of St. Theresa's Girls School, Piplani (Bhopal) Nirmal Jyoti distributed Woolen clothes to the beneficiaries of mental health programme. Representatives of staff and students came to Nirmal jyoti to distribute the woolen clothes.

With the help of the Management of Shalom Special School Nirmal Jyoti could get products of Dabur through the CSR project of the company and these products were distributed among the beneficiaries of SHGs, Mental Health programme and remedial education programme.

d. Transfer of Rev. Fr Vattappara

Rev. Fr. Peter Vattappara left for Mumbai on 2.3.2019, for taking up

greater responsibilities, after his valuable service in Nirmal Jyoti for several months.

8. Syro-Malabar Church, Bhopal

a. Christmas Celebration 2018

Syro-Malabar Community in Bhopal celebrated Christmas with joy and enthusiasm. Carol singing, conducted in prayer group basis, visited most of the houses of the community in Bhopal. Crib Competition was also held and the winners were awarded with ever rolling trophy and mementos. Christmas Qurbana was at Carmel Convent, BHEL, Bhopal. Fr Thomas CT was the Main Celebrant.

b. Feasts of St Kuriakose Elias and Denha

The feasts of St. Kuriakose Elias and Denha were celebrated jointly, by the Syro-Malabar Community of Bhopal on 6.1.2019, Sunday, at Carmel Convent, BHEL, Bhopal. FR. Jaino CMI, (Dean Samanvaya Theology Seminary) was the main celebrant.

c. Feast of St Sebastian

Syro-Malabar Community of Bhopal celebrated the feast of St Sebastian on 20.1.19 Sunday at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Sevasadan. Religious procession started at 10.00 a.m. from Bhopal Christian Church with Syro- Malabar traditional setting and practices. To remember St. Sebastian's martyrdom for the sake of faith, faithful carried his statue with reverence chanting hymns of praise, with the accompanying rhythm of chendamelam. As the procession reached Our Lady of Lourdes Church, solemn Holy Qurbana concelebrated by 7 priests, followed. Rev. Fr Joseph Puthenpura OFM Cap, famous family renewal preacher from Kerala was the main celebrant. His homily inspired the assembled congregation to face the sufferings and hardships of family and daily lives with faith and being inspired by the lives of saints like Sebastian. Arrangements for nercha and the Veneration of Holy Arrows (Kazhunnu) were done after the holy Qurbana. Festal celebration culminated with the fellowship meal. Various committees' members under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Thomas C.T. did the arrangement for the feast day celebrations.

d. Foundation Stone at Kolar Qurbana Center

By the grace of God Almighty the Syro-Malabar Community of Bhopal received a plot of land at Dehri Kalan, Kolar Road, Bhopal. This land was donated by a benevolent well-wisher of SMC Bhopal, Shri B.S.



Bajpei for the construction of a Qurbana centre in that area. Bishop Mar James Athikalam(Sagar Diocese) laid foundation for the church building of St Sebastian Qurbana Centre on 26.01.2019, Saturday. A good number of the faithful and some Fathers graced the occasion. Fr Thomas CT thanked Mar James and the benefactor BS Bajpei and all those who contributed in different capacities towards the realization of the dream of Qurbana centre at Kolar.

e. New Qurbana Centre

With the support of the Green Garden (ASMI) sisters of Nirmal matha province Bhopal, new Qurbana centre was started in Shalom Special School, Lambakheada from 10.2.2019 onwards. Around 20 families and some students attend the Sunday Liturgical celebrations.

9. St Thomas School, Pawasa

a. Celebration of Peace and Joy

St Thomas School had Christmas Gathering on 22 Dec. 2018 with



great zeal and vigor commemorating the birth of Jesus. The students put up colourful and mesmerizing programmes. It reminded us that really Jesus was born with peace, joy and love. The chief guest of the Day

was Rev Fr George P., Manager of St Thomas School. He gave beautiful message of spreading peace, joy and love to the world as Jesus came along with Peace, joy and love to this world.

b. Vaccination Camp



MR vaccination camp was held in our school for three days from 15th to 18th January 2019. This vaccination is given to the children of age 9 to 15 to prevent from deadly sickness named Misers and

Rubella. Children were excited as well as frightened.

c. The Magic Show

A magic show was organized by the management of St Thomas School, Ujjain on 18th Jan 2019.



Dr. Ajit Kumar, a famous magician, from Kolkata came to enchant children with different magic tricks. Children were taken up and were stunned as they enjoyed the full show of one and half hour. It was a remarkable show.

10. Masih Ashram, Karothiya

Masih Ashram is the home of regular intercessions and prayers.

Members of the Ashram - two FCC Sisters, Members of FIAT Mission and the Director- are having daily intercessory prayers before the



Blessed Sacrament. There are healing prayers and preaching on Sundays and on certain Saturdays there are common prayers. Fellowship prayer is arranged for Priest of nearby communities once in every month. There were three retreats for sisters and one for deacons in the month of February and March in view of

their final profession and ordination. Fr Abraham Pandampadath has extended the prayer ministry to the neighboring villages by visiting the families.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Jose Neendukunnel, Bhopal)

11. MSTs in Indore

MST Mission in Indore is progressing the mission apostolate in the



field of Mental retardation and pastoral care. A New concept is developing in the field of education. it is called **Nirmal Jyoti Tent school**. The first school started with 25 drop out children. whose parents are working in the industries. they are migrant families. It is our

plan to start all the more schools in different parts of Indore. the aim of the such schools are to educate the drop out children. especially the migrant and floating population.

(Reported by Rev. Fr John Panthalippadan, Indore)

B. St Thomas Region, Mandya (Including Adilabad)

1. Study of Constitution and Directives

It was really inspiring moments for the missionaries of Mandya Mission when we all gathered together on 10th of March 2019 to analyze and study the constitution and directives of MST. It was first of this kind in our mission in the light of review of our constitution. Fr Joseph Aryankalayil took the real pain and initiative to equip himself to be a successful resource person, in answering categorically any queries



and clearing the doubts of every member present. So also Fr Peter Vattapara and Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, the other two resource persons who assimilated the

matter well and presented it for the members. It was a day long programme started in the morning at 10 am after a small prayer and official welcome by Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, the regional director of MST Mandya. The meeting went on up to 4 pm and came to the close by the vote of thanks by Fr Josekutty Kalayil.

2. Day out ...Day of Enjoyment

It was really a wonderful day when all the missionaries of Mandya mission gathered together for a one day picnic, keeping everyone away from the busy schedules. It was conducted in connection with MST foundation day celebration on 2nd March 2019. All of us in a single school bus travelled to Thalakkadu, some 75 Kms away from Mandya city and spent the whole day in enjoyment, playing cards, making food, swimming, gossiping etc etc... It was really a day of relaxation from all our busy programmes but it made all of us more vivacious and



vibrant. All of us together, seniors and juniors, superiors and to the newly ordained all enjoyed the day and lived like real brothers of one family. Yeas these are the moments when we forget everything , all inhibitions, selfishness, and keep everyone in unity. Thank God for such good occasions. Thanks to all the co-ordinators under the leadership of Fr Tomy Madhavapallil. Special thanks to Fr Raju Puthusseril and community members for the delicious dinner.

3. eXertia: Inter-school Competitions

eXertia 2019, the interschool sports competition for the high school students, organized by the Regional Educational Committee under St Thomas Mission Society, Mandya was conducted on 12 January 2019 at Jeevodaya English Medium School, Arakare. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, the Regional Director of St Thomas Region of MST inaugurated the event. Fr Aneesh, the Principal and Manager of Jeevodaya school welcomed everyone to the function and students



from four school under St Thomas Mission Society, namely, Santhome Public School, Mandya, Divya Jyothi School, Arakere, Divya Jyothi School, Koppa and Jeevodaya School, Arekere and two schools under the diocese of

Mandya, namely, Chaithanya Vidyaniketan school, Koppa and Gulabi Vidhyaniketan School, Ragimuddenahalli participated in the event.

eXertia 2019 was a physical and mental effort to bring out the instinctive talents in our younger generation. Competitions for Volleyball, Kabaddi and Khokho were conducted in a very systematic and meticulous way eXertia 2019 was an elegant forum, emboldened the students to shed the shell of inertia to effervescent. It indeed exuded elation, exuberance and ebullience. It was for the second time STMS rendered this sort of happenstance to divulge the dormant talents of our students. Both the students and the staff co-operated well and participated actively and made the event colourful and made

it a grand success.

Evening, in the valedictory function Fr Prasad, the Rector of Jeevan Jyothi presented the word of appreciation and congratulated both the organizing team and participants for the meticulous planning and vigorous participation in the event. He then distributed the trophies, certificates and medals to the winners. Fr Jaison, the Vice-Principal



of Jeevodaya school also expressed his word of appreciation. Fr Josekutty Kalayil, the Secretary of Regional Educational Committee, presented vote of thanks and the event was

concluded with the National Anthem.

4. Santhome Social Service Centre, Mandya

a. Women's Day 2019 Celebrations

Santhome Social Service Centre together with the Self Help Group members solemnly celebrated International women's day on 9th March 2019. The theme for International Women's Day 2019, is **"Think equal, build smart, innovate for change."**

This theme focuses on innovative ways in which we can advance gender equality and the empowerment of women, particularly in the areas of social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure. The day has occurred for well over a century, with the first IWD gathering in 1911. Gloria Steinem, world-renowned feminist, journalist and activist once explained "The story



of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights."

The celebration of this day is



all about unity, celebration, reflection, advocacy and action - whatever that looks like globally at a local level. But one thing is for sure, International Women's Day has been occurring for well

over a century - and continues to grow from strength to strength.

Santhome Social service centre in Mandya takes special interest every year to bring all the members of our self-help group on this day to come together and get motivated about the rights and duties of women. This year the programme was conducted at Asha Sadan, the School for the Mentally Retarded children at Mandya. Fr Prasad Kallapuraparambil, the Rector of Jeevan Jyothi was the Resource Person and he spoke well about the rights and duties of every women and he was able to motivate them through the sharing of his rich knowledge and wisdom. Adding colour to the programme, the staff



and students from Sanjo School of Nursing performed an enchanting entertainment programme. Sr Preetha MSMI, the Superior of Maria Nivas convent presided over the meeting and delivered the presidential address and invoked

God's abundant blessing upon all the women to be truthful and sincere in their commitment to build up a new nation. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, the Regional Director of St Thomas Mission Society, Mandya was the chief guest. The gathering was blessed with the presence of two pioneer missionaries of MST, Frs Joseph Vedikunnel and Mathew Elavumkal, who worked hard to organize women in the initial stages of forming the SHG groups in Mandya. The day was made



colourful with the co-operation of the management and staff of Asha Sadan and celebration ended with a sumptuous dinner for one and all present.

5. Deepti Nivas, Kalenahalli

a. Christmas Celebration

There was a solemn celebration of Christmas conducted in Deepti Nivas on the Christmas Eve at 6:30 pm. A good number of people from the Kalanahalli village participated in the Eucharistic celebration and in the carol singing thereafter. Rev. Fr Sojan presided over the Eucharistic Celebration along with around 150 villagers. The participation of the good number of people from the locality made the day a blessing for every one of us here.

b. Visit of German Delegation

Deepti Nivas kalanahally was fortunate enough to welcome a delegation of 21 German well-wishers in the campus on 21st January for a couple of days. They were pleased with the different activities co-ordinated in the centre. The delegation was headed by Rev. Fr Jorg Schlummer. The Deepti Nivas family welcomed them whole heartedly and extended adequate hospitality to them.

c. Santhome Fellowship Members at Deepti Nivas

Santhome Fellowship Members of MST visited Deepti Nivas in February. It was a delegation of 6 members who had completed their formation to be the Associate Missionaries of MST in its Mission. Fr Monse Karuvakunnel escorted to them here. They had spent their valuable time to explore the different. Missionary activities at Deepti Nivas. They all had a positive response on the various endeavours of the missionaries here.

d. Jubilee Celebration

The St Joseph's Province of Snehagiri Missionary Sisters celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the institution of their congregation on 17 February at Kalanahally Mandya, in one of the mission centers of them. Mar Antony Kariyil, the Bishop of Mandya was the main celebrant of the

thanksgiving mass. The Vice Director General of MST Rev. Fr Francis



Kureeckal, the Regional Director of MST Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekkarottu, the Vicar General of Mandya Rev. Fr George Alukka and the Regional Councillor Rev. Fr Josekutty Kalayil joined with the Bishop in the solemn Eucharistic celebration. Rev.

Fr Francis Kureeckal presided over the public function thereafter. It was a blessed occasion for every one of us with the presence of the provincial superior and councilors of SMS Sisters, Rev. Fathers, Rev. Sisters and seminarians around Mandya region, and also with the pioneer missionary collaborators of SMS Congregation in Mandya.

e. Adieu to Rev. Fr Madhavapallil

Rev. Fr Tomy Madhavapally rendered his selfless service to Deepti Nivas in the capacity of Assistant Director for a short span of time and now as he is appointed as the director of Manasadhara, Mandya he was given a colourful farewell. Thereby the inmates of Deepti Nivas felicitated him with a commendable farewell gathering. The Deepti Nivas family remembered and cherished the valuable contributions of Fr Tomy on this meeting. Rev. Fr George Thottappallil is appointed as the new assistant director of Deepti Nivas.

f. Visit of NGO

The members of the Inner Wheel Club Mandya visited Deepti Nivas on 16 March. A team of 6 active members of this social welfare club visited us and interacted with the special school children on this day.



They were kind enough to extend a small contribution to each student by offering everyone the lunch bags and refreshments.

g. Picnic for Members of Deepti Nivas

All the students of Deepti Nivas went for an outing to Jeevan Jyoti Seminary on 28 March. They were taken to seminary for a refreshment and cultural celebration along with all the staff. Fathers and brothers of Jeevan Jyoti seminary welcomed them enthusiastically and entertained them with much vigour. Thanks to dear fathers and brothers of Jeevan Jyoti.

h. Santhome Pre-Primary Annual Day

The Santhome Pre-Primary School celebrated its first ever School day on 30 March in its school campus. Rev Dr Joseph Thekkekkarottu, the Regional Director of Mandya region was the president of the Meeting. The Nine vibrant first batch students of Santhome Pre-Primary School entertained the whole audience with their different cultural performances

for a period of around one hour and half. The audience was comprised of Rev. Fathers and Sisters around Mandya, the parents and other villagers who had appreciated the wonderful performance of these 9 talented students of our school.

6. Santhome School, Mandya

a. Christmas Celebration

Santhome public school and PU College celebrated Christmas with great fervor and enthusiasm.



The entire school vibrated with the echoes of Christmas carols. The delightful celebration included various activities. The brothers from Jeevan Jyothi Srirangapatna entertained the children with

their colorful stage performance. As part of the celebration by the music band wing for Christ led by our former students. The boundless joy of celebrating the festival was amply visible on the faces of the children especially when santa moved around them distributing snacks.

b. Principal's Day Celebration

On 19th January 2019 the teachers and students were exulted and excited to celebrate their principals' feast on principal's day. The special day was began with a prayer. Some cultural programs were arranged as part of the celebration. The celebration was concluded with the inspirational message. A delicious lunch was provided to all the staff.

c. Annual day Vista 2018

Santhome public school Mandya celebrated their annual day function Vista 2018 with enthusiasm and zeal. The entire school participated wholeheartedly towards the success of this grand event. The victory was made possible by the manager, the principal and staff of the



school. The chief guest was Bishop Mar Antony Kariyil (Diocese of Mandya) and the function was presided over by Rev. Fr. Dr. Antony Permanoor Director General, Missionary Society MST.

The chairs of guest of honor were adorned by Rev. Fr. Dr. Joseph Thekkekarott, Regional Director, St Thomas Region Mandya and Rev. Fr. Josekutty Kalayil Secretary, Education Department MST Mandya.

d. State-level achievements

Shefali of class V secured first prize under 11 category in the state level chess competition. Shriya Sridhar of class IX secured first prize in the state level declamation competition held at Mysore.

e. Farewell of the Students

Filled with curiosity and zeal, the students of 1st PUC and class IX gathered to bid farewell to the outgoing batch of II PUC and class

X on 25th March 2019 and 28th March 2019 respectively. The day was a fiesta devoted to the years spend together with friends and teachers and to reminisce joyous moments and off course with nostalgia.



The function began with a floral welcome of the chief Guest and other dignitaries. Rev. Fr. Sijo Jose the principal in his speech wished good luck to the students of II Puc and Class X for their future and appreciated the efforts of the juniors for

organizing the farewell for the outgoing students. The Students were with mementos by Rev. Fr. Thomas the Manager and Rev. Fr. Sijo Jose the Principal.

f. JEE main

It is a matter of pride to Santhome PU College that four of our students have qualified for JEE advance. The staff and students of Santhome PU College congratulate you and wish you all the success in future.

g. Republic Day



Patriotic enthusiasm was seen in the students as the school celebrated republic day in the school on 26th January 2019, with zeal and fervor. The school choir rendered melodious patriotic songs. The Honorable chief Guest unfurled the national flag and explained the

importance of constitution to the students. The winners of various competitions were awarded with medals and certificates. The students were distributed sweets on the occasion.

7. Divya Jyoti, Koppa

Divya Jyothi School proudly bade farewell to the first batch of students on 16 March. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, the regional director, Fr Josekutty Kalayil and Fr Raju Puthussery were the guests of the day.



Variety of programmes were performed by the students. We wish them all success in their life. All 25 of them appeared for the Board exam from 21 March to 4 April. All of them have

done the exams well, and we hope to have good result.

8. Santhome International School, Sathyamangalam

a. State- level Karate Championship



Santhome International School has shown her excellence in karate too. Eight members from Santhome international school participated in the State level karate championship and all of them awarded with medals and certificates. They were

appreciated and honored in the school campus by the staff and students for their great effort.

b. Christmas Day Celebration

The Christmas was celebrated in the school very solemnly. The parish priest Rev. Fr. Pichai Muthu was the chief guest for the programs. Students from different classes came up with different programs to add more colour to the celebration. On 21st of December, we had the Christmas celebration at school. Programs like dances, skits, and carol songs made the day more beautiful. On 21st of December itself the Christmas celebration for the Amudham Tuition Centre children were also conducted. Seventeen children from the village are regularly given free tuition, and snacks with the help of a tutor. Cultural programs, cake cutting, distribution of Christmas gifts, etc. made the Christmas

celebration a memorable one to share the love of god to the poor and the backward in the society.

c. Pongal Celebrations

Pongal is a local festival celebrated throughout Tamil Nadu very



solemnly. Santhome School also took it as an occasion to be deep-rooted with the culture and traditional practices of the locality. We celebrated the festival of Pongal on 11th of January, very elegantly without losing its beauty. Pongal was an occasion of great joy for all.

Under the leadership of principal and teachers in the school, we made ‘Rangoli’ with different colours, ‘Pongal sappadu’ to all the children in banana leaves. We the staff and students had the Pongal meal together.

d. Math’s Table Competition

To improve the quality of the students in maths to give them the best education through different means Santhome conducted math’s table competition on 15th of December

e. Sports Day

The sports competitions of the academic year 2018-’19 was conducted on 22nd of January. The Regional Transport Officer Bhamapriya, MVI Sathy lighted the Olympic torch. The price distribution of Sprots day was in the afternoon and Very Rev Fr George Narikuzhy the vicar general of the diocese of Ramanathapuram was the chief guest.



f. Republic Day Celebration

The republic day celebration in the school was an occasion to be proud of our country and to award the students who had proved their excellence throughout the year through various activities and competitions conducted during the academic year 2018-'19. Mr R Sugendran the deputy Thahsildar Sathy was the chief guest; he hosted the flag and gave a good message. The ex-panchayat president Sri. Thirumoorthis was also present for the awarding ceremony. Rev. Fr. Josekutty Kalayil, Education Secretary and regional councillor of St Thomas region Mandya, presided over the gathering.

g. MST Foundation Day Celebration

51st MST Foundation day was an occasion of great joy for the whole Santhome community and the school. The day was celebrated in a



memorable way. There were different competitions for the KG section children and the students from first to fifth participated for the drawing competitions in which they were asked to draw the picture

of St Thomas. And the winners were awarded with trophies. After the competitions, the common gathering was addressed by Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian where he explained the mission, motto, vision, and the activities of MST. Students were given opportunity to know more about MST through a video documentary. The distribution of sweets and snacks made the celebration more beautiful.

We had Foundation day celebration at Amudham Tution centre also. Very Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott presided the meeting. We had half an hour cultural programme and we had a sumptuous agape for the children.

h. Honouring the Martyrs of Pulwama Attack

Santhome is always interested to nurture the patriotic love in the mind of children. The management, staff and children felt the need to pray and honour the soldiers who left their life for the security of us in the Pulwama attack and as a part of honouring them: the children were



stood in the shape of ‘CRPF’ and the whole school remembered and prayed for the soldiers.

i. Visit of the Dignitaries

Provincial superior and the counselors of CMC congregation visited Santhome on 25th of February. They spent the whole day with us involving in various activities. Regional director Very Rev. Dr Joseph Thekkekarott had his official visit to Santhome, Sathyamangalam on 25th of March. He met the representatives of Management, Staff, Non - teaching staff and students. He stayed with us and involved in all the activities of the community.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Josekutty Kalayil, First Councillor, St Thomas Region)

9. Bannur



sisters of Mandya Region.

The First School Annual Day of Santhome Pre-Primary School solemnly celebrated on 19/01/2019 at school campus with distinguished guests, parents, fathers and

(Reported by Rev. Fr Raju Puthusseril, Bannur)

10. Adilabad Mission

a. Church Construction



The church constructions at Neradigonda started on the 2nd of January and that of Sonala on the 19th of March, 2019 are progressing. We thank the benefactors from St Sebastian's church, Thodupuzha for helping to build the church at Sonala.

We appreciate their missionary collaboration and prayers. St Antony's church, Arimpur, Trissur has also extended their willingness to construct a church at Boath in addition to their help for the church at Neradigonda. The foundation stone of the church at Boath was blessed on the 26th of January 2019 by his Excellency Mar Prince Antony.

b. Evangelization Programme

Usual village prayers on Fridays and Saturdays are going on well.



Intense efforts are being made on teaching the faithful Christian prayers. Way of the Cross is being conducted in the families and the presence of the missionary personnel in each house is an inspiration for the people. January 27 is an important day for MST mission. The family of Mr

Vittal accepted Jesus as the Lord and God. Vittal and his wife were without children for the last 13 years. By the prayers of the missionary personal a baby was born on 30th December and the baptism was on January 27th. We raise our hearts to God for this great blessing.

c. Social Activities

We visit to console and pray for the sick and elderly in different villages.



Three sickly people expired receiving our love and affection. We recently contacted 10 more villages and found elderly and sickly people. Three paralyzed children are also visited and helped. On the 20th of March we had a meeting of 9 orphans with their guardians. They are given educational help by Jesus Youth through the Trust, **Jeevan Samruthi**. The children were encouraged to continue their studies. Fr Sunny George arranged the program and all the fathers, sisters and teachers encouraged the function by their presence.

We also visit the students and their parents in their families to build up the bond beyond the school. Such visits help us understand the students better, share their family problems and financial constraints.



in tailoring and cloth designing.

d. Celebrations

We celebrated Republic Day in Boath and Neradigonda schools. The

A tailoring centre at Ghanpur village was open on the 1st of March in which 13 women are getting trained. At Kotta village a three months training program is over and 15 women got trained

fifteen students of St Thomas school, who appear for the SSC exams this year, were given farewell on the 12th of March. The 9th class students conducted the cultural programmes and after the programme, there was agape with the students, their parents and teachers. An awareness programme on women safety and 'she team' was conducted on the same day by the district police department of Adilabad.

We had also festal celebrations of Fr Sunny George on January 20, and that of Frs Vedikunnel and Edamanassery on the 19th of March. MST Foundation Day was celebrated on the 22nd of February 2019 at MST house, Echoda. Solemn Holy Qurbana was celebrated by the new priest Rev Fr Sebin with all other fathers.

e. New Missionary Personnel

Fr Sebin MST Joined the team on the 20 of February 2019 and at present placed at Neradigonda as the Asst. priest-in-charge. We wish him a fruitful and dedicated missionary life along with the team at Adilabad. (Photo VII B10e)

f. Visits by the Dignitaries

His Excellency Mar Price Antony visited us on the 26th of January and blessed the foundation stone of the church at Boath. He also visited Kotta and Ghanpur villages. Rev Fr Antony Kollannur and Mr Denny from St Antony's Church, Arimpur visited us and they were present for the blessing of the corner stone of the church at Boath. Rev Sr Deepa DST, the provincial and Sr Mary John DST, the councilor visited us. Thanks a lot for your visits, prayers and encouraging words.

(Reported by Fr Jobin Vadakketh, Adilabad)



C. St Alphonsa Region

1. Sangli Mission at Mumbai Marathon-2019

Fathers from Sangli Mission participated in the Mumbai Marathon-2019 under the leadership of Very Rev Fr Joby Njallyil, the Regional Director to promote the charitable and social works of Sangli Mission to the world. Students of Jeevadan Special School, Zarap and Anugraha Special School, Khed also participated in the disability run.



2. Welcome to the New Priests

Sangli mission was blessed with the arrival of 3 young and vibrant newly ordained priests. Rev Frs Anish, Kurumundayil, Antony Karakkatu and Robin Thyparambil joined the missionaries of Sangli Mission with full vigour and vitality. They are sent for the Marathi course and field engagements before their first assignments. Hearty welcome to the new priests.

3. Gathering and Picnic



The gathering and picnic of the priests working in the Sangli Mission was held at Jeevadan, Zarap and Shiroda on 18th and 19th February, 2019. It was a good time to refresh and rejuvenate. Almost all the priests working in the mission gathered together.

4. Discussion on the draft of new Constitutions and Directives

Priests working in Sangli Mission gathered together to discuss on the new draft of the Constitutions and Directives of the Society on 21st February 2019 at Viswadeepti Missiological Center, Kolhapur. Rev Frs Justin Vettukallel, Joseph Aryankalayil and Peter Vattappara led the sessions. The meeting got over with the monthly recollection.



5. Good News Channel at Sangli Mission

Good News channel came to the Sangli Mission for their program called “*Vilavinte Nattitude*” from 17th March to 26th March and they covered all the Centers of Evangelization in Sangli Mission.

6. Annual Day of Alphonsa, Herle

Third Annual Gathering of the school, *Alpho Fiesta-2019* was held on 4th February 2019. Very Rev Fr Joby Njallyil, Regional Director was the president of the function. Dr Sujit Minchakar, MLA of



Hatkanangale was the Chief Guest. He in his message appreciated Sangli Mission and Alphonsa School for bringing quality education to the rural areas. Dr Padmarani Patil, Member of Zillaparishad, Kolhapur was the guest of honor. Students

performed various entertainments.

7. Jeevdan Special School, Zarap

“Sensitization workshop on welfare schemes and legal provisions for Persons with Disabilities” was conducted by Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Speech and Hearing Disabilities

(Divyangjan), Mumbai, at Jeevdan Special School, Zarap, Taluka Kudal, District Sindhudurg, Maharashtra State, on 26th February, 2019, in collaboration with Sindhudurg District Social Welfare Office. Mr Yatin Ahire, Medical Social Worker, Social Welfare Office, Sindhudurg, officially inaugurated the CRE program in his short speech on importance of the workshop.

Director - Fr Sibichen Joseph, Headmistress Sr Rosamma Job and Resource persons Dr Gayatri Ahuja and Navnath Jagadale, Mr Pradip Sarpe and all participants were present for the function. Mr Hanumant Salunke welcomed the chief guests and participants. Including special educators and rehabilitation staff 66 personnel from the following institutions participated in the workshop.

1. Maul iMatimand Nivasi Vidyalaya, Aros-Dandeli, Taluka Sawantwadi
2. Mauli Karna-badhir Nivasi Vidyalaya, Shiroda, Taluka, Vengurla
3. Rajarshi Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Matimand Nivasi Vidyalaya, Karanje, Kankavali
4. Late Madhavbhai Khajanwadkar Nivasi Vidyalaya, Kotkamte, Taluka Devgad
5. Jeevdan Special School, Zarap, Taluka Kudal
6. CHERISH Nirmalgiri Nivasi Karyashala, Amberi, Mangaon, Taluka Kudal



8. Alphonsa School, Ichalkaranji

a. Sports Day

Sports Day for the academic year was organized on 7th December and 8th December. The inauguration of the sports meet was done by the principal which was followed by a disciplined and colourful march past competition. Different sports competitions were conducted in different parts of the school ground under the supervision of teachers.



b. 27th Annual Day



The Annual Day was celebrated on 20th December, 2018 at 5.30 p.m. in the campus of Alphonsa School. The chief guest of the occasion was Mr. Aman Mittal and Very Rev. Fr. Joby Eapen Njalliyil was the Guest of

Honour. The annual Day was based on the theme 'The Stages of Life'. Different classes performed variety of programmes based on the theme. The programme was a grand success.

c. Republic Day Celebration

Alphonsa School celebrated the Republic Day with immense patriotic feelings. Mr. Rajvardhan Naik Nimbalkar, the member of Zilaparishad, Kolhapur was the Chief Guest. He was welcomed with open arms. Variety of programmes like songs, dances etc were arranged for the function. The main attraction of the programme was the PT display of the students arranged by the PT teachers.

9. St Thomas School, Ratnagiri

a. Cultural Extravaganza at St. Thomas School, Ratnagiri

Cultural competitions were held for the Students Primary and High School on 8th December and 15th December respectively. It included various events like elocution, solo singing, poem and story, solo and group dances etc. etc. Students participated in these competitions with great enthusiasm and positive competitive attitude. The loveliest attraction of this all was the Fancy dress competition for the KG kiddies. They appeared in cute, lovely motivational fancy dress ups.

b. Annual Sports 2018-19

Annual Sports was organised on 21st and 22nd December in the School campus. The function was inaugurated at the hands of Police Officer Mr.SushantVarale. The opening ceremony was so grand with different cultural performances like theme dances, yoga dances etc. Many different sport events like Kho-kho, Football, Kabaddi, Tug-of-war, Cricket, Number relay, Dumbbell relay and various athletic events were included.

c. Christmas Celebration

We celebrated Christmas in school by presentation of many colourful vibrant performances by our students Action songs, group dance by kids. Become centre attraction. A beautiful crib was made in the school by our art teachers. Christmas cake was distributed among all the students

d. Laurels in Indian Talent exam

Our students from different grades appeared for the ‘Olympiad Indian Talent Examination2019’. It consists English, Science, Maths, G.K,



Computer, Art, Essay writing. 74 of our students secured merit certificates and among them fetched Gold medal cum Excellence Medal Award in the first round. Twenty two (22)

students are selected for the second round. Above all, St Thomas School has won the Golden School Award at the National Level.

e. English Marathon

It is one of the prestigious examinations held every year. St. Thomas school students always shine brighter in this exam. More than 35 of our students secured medals, trophies certificates in the year 2018.

f. Hearty Welcome

Rev. Fr Antony Pedikkattukunnel, the newly appointed Manager of St Thomas School has given a warm welcome on Saturday, 12th January 2019. Rev. Fr Tom Mandapathil introduced the new manager to the school and everybody welcomed him with a huge ovation.



g. Science cum Art Expo 2019

St Thomas School organized Science cum Art Expo 2019 in which the students showcased their fantastic brilliance in different fields. It was inaugurated by Mrs. Hirve, the Block Education Officer, Ratnagiri. Around 250 projects were there and it was greatly appreciated by the parents and the well-wishers of the school.

h. Prize Distribution

Annual Prize Distribution was held on 12th January 2019. The day and its program began with a colourful and heart throbbing assembly followed by entertainment programs. Meritorious awards included Sports and Cultural, different external exams, Academic excellence for the year 2017-2018, House wise excellence shields and trophies etc. etc. were given away on this auspicious day. It was indeed an occasion of great joy and happiness.

i. Au Revoir

The pain of parting is nothing to the joy of meeting again. Bidding

farewell to the loved ones can be difficult but it is an essential part of moving on in life. Farewell is about encouraging our students and giving them best wishes for new journey. St Thomas School Ratnagiri said *au revoir* to the third batch of her STD X students on Saturday, 16th February 2019.



10. AASTHA CBR Project for the Disabled, Sangli

a. A baseline survey to identify the need of the community in line with the goal and objectives of Aastha Project was carried out in all the 15 project villages by MSW Professors and Students of Tilak Maharashtra University, Sangli Branch and a Base Line Report prepared.

b. Training for the intellectually challenged Children: Various teaching and learning materials such as slates, slate pencils, visual charts, flash cards, sketch pens, drawing books, puzzles, etc were used to teach intellectually challenged children as per their intellectual quotient/capability to read, write, identify alphabets, numerical, animals, birds, flowers, vehicles, parts of the body, colors, etc. The intellectually challenged children are taught actions songs and are made to take part in educational games, indoor & outdoor games, group physical exercises and *Yoga*.

c. Christmas Celebration in the villages: During Christmas, celebrations were conducted by the project in all the 15 project villages the intellectually, physically challenged and children with speech and hearing impairment took part in dance and skit. They got a platform to explore their talent and boosted their confidence. The children got a different kind of joy while performing. They were also given the Christmas gift of steel plate, steel bowl and steel cup.

d. Training for the intellectually disabled on daily living skills: Referring the Individual rehabilitation Plan of 372 differently abled children, training the intellectually challenged children in their basic

activities of daily living skill like brushing, washing, grooming, teaching them to identify & tell pictures, colors, shapes, cut, fold, paste, read & write alphabets, numerical and giving them physical therapy and speech therapy are carried out respectively.

e. Workshops for preparing teaching and learning materials:

01 workshop at project office and 06 workshops at six project villages on preparing teaching and learning materials were conducted. 15 village staff, special educator, speech therapist, respective cluster coordinators, 64 parents of the differently abled children, 43 differently abled children, 6 members of Adolescent Group, 3 members of Children's Parliament and 01 Anganwadi Sevika participated in the workshops respectively.

f. Training for the Anganwadi Sevikas: 10 trainings were conducted for 127 Anganwadi Sevikas of 10 project villages. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards inclusion of special children in mainstream education and early childhood education.

g. Trainings for the Mobile Teachers: 6 trainings were conducted for 60 mobile teachers. The mobile teachers were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards inclusion of special children in mainstream education and early childhood education.

h. ENT Medical Camp at Miraj: An ENT (ears, nose & throat) and eye checkup camp were simultaneously arranged by the project on the 23rd of February 2018. The camps were arranged with collaboration with Yashashree ENT Hospital and Lions Eye Hospital both situated in the *Miraj* Tehsil. 10 children and 45 adults came for

the ENT camp. Ear cleaning of 02 children was done and 53 patients are per investigation are suggested medications, *Tympanoplasty*, *Mastoidectomy* speech therapy, hearing aid and cochlear implant respectively. 60 patients came for the Eye checkup camp. 12 adults and on 01 child were given spectacles to correct their vision. 01 adult and 01 child underwent cataract surgery and lens implant.

i. Artificial limbs and assistive devices investigation camp: The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) which had conducted the artificial limbs and assistive devices investigation camp at 4 Tehsil (block) level, provided 280 patients of 15 project villages with assistive devices like wheel chair, tri-cycle, ADL kit, sensor therapy kit, guiding stick for the blind, hearing aid, elbow stick, walker, caliper and artificial limbs.

j. Corrective Surgeries: A girl *Sampada Maruti Salunkhe* had surgery for her knee. A boy *Rudra Deepak Gurav* had surgery for hole in his heart; pace maker is implanted in his heart. Two children, *Varad Rajaram Mane* and *Omkar Bajrang Suryawanshi* had surgery for both legs. One boy had surgery for his eyes and one girl had surgery for her cleft-palate. An adult *Shewanti Chougule* and a girl *Aarti Sonawne* had surgeries for cataract and lens were implanted. 3 children were provided corrective shoes, one child was provided a hearing aid, one child was provided a knee belt and a walker and one child was given a wheel chair with commode.

k. Prenatal and Postnatal Care program for the Pregnant Ladies and Nursing Mothers: 04 Prenatal and Postnatal Care programs were conducted for pregnant ladies and nursing mothers of 04 project villages. 30 pregnant ladies and 11 nursing mothers participated in the program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards preventive measures to be taken to avoid giving birth to malnourished or disabled child.

l. Nutritious Food Supply for the needy: 18 needy special children were helped to purchase nutritious food, medications for epilepsy, vitamins and iron deficiencies respectively which are unaffordable to purchase by their parents. 04 children were helped to do medical tests. 01 child was given support for nutritious food.

m. Physiotherapy and speech therapy provided for the disabled Children: Physiotherapy was given to 115 children and it included giving children therapies on the gym ball, air-bike, reflex and massage therapy. As a result there is improvement in the mobility of children, the tightness in the muscles of their limbs have become loose & relaxed and they are able to move their limbs adequately than before. Some children are able to sit, stand and even walk with a help of a support. Speech therapy was given to 152 children and it included techniques such as candle flame blowing, confetti blowing with a straw, corrective tongue movement and pronunciation. As a result children are able to pronounce better than before and some children have learnt to say a small simple word and even a short simple sentence.

n. Training program for the Aasha Health workers: 05 training programs were conducted for paramedical (Aasha) health workers in 05 project villages. 30 paramedical workers participated for the training program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards prevention of disability.

o. Training program for the parents on health and hygiene: 10 training programs for parents on health and hygiene of their children were conducted in 10 project villages. 139 parents of special children participated in the training program. They were made aware on the importance on health and hygiene of their children and were also told to give training on the same to their children at home.

p. Training for the adolescent boys and girls on health and hygiene: 11 training on health and hygiene for adolescent boys and girls were conducted in 11 project village. 653 adolescent girls and

118 adolescent boys participated in the training program. The training was separately given for boys and girls in their respective schools. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards prevention of disability.

q. Training for pregnant ladies on health care: 06 training program on health care were conducted for pregnant ladies of 6 project villages. 101 pregnant ladies participated in the training program. They were told about *the importance of healthy living during pregnancy such as healthy eating habits, medications, immunization and its effects on delivery. They were told to avail free services of the Primary Health Care Centre in the villages, for normal and surgical deliveries. They were also told about the schemes from the government such as Sukanya Postal Life Insurance, Janani Suraksha, etc. for their child.* They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards prevention of disability.

r. Awareness program for the disabled on forming Disabled Persons Organization: 08 awareness programs for person with disabilities on the topic of Disabled Peoples Organization (DPO) were conducted in 8 project villages. 211 differently abled adults (127 men and 84 women) participated in the awareness program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village.

s. Awareness and training program for women on SHG formation: 12 awareness and training program in 12 project villages were conducted for women on Self Help Group (SHG). 322 women

participated in the training program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were made aware on the importance of SHG. They were told that SHG is a medium for unity, social and financial independency of women, betterment of their families and women empowerment. They were told about the rules and code of conduct of SHG. They were told not to fall prey to micro finance banks, which lure people by giving loan and chunk out large amount in return through high interest rates. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards development of children and persons with disabilities and their families through Self Help Groups and prevention of disability. As a result 24 Self Help Groups are formed consisting 308 members and 01 mixed Self Help Group is formed consisting 05 men and one women.

t. Awareness program on forming Village Development Committee: 10 awareness program on forming of Village Development Committee (VDC) on village level was conducted in 10 project villages. A total of 286 participants which included head of village council, deputy head of village council, members of village council, school teachers, key persons of the village, leaders from the village and people from the community participated in the awareness program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were made aware on the importance of VDC. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards development of children and persons with disabilities and their families and prevention of disability through VDC. Key persons and leaders from the village assured their involvement and support. Very soon the DPOs of all the 15 villages will register their respective groups.

u. Awareness and Training program for forming village level SHGs: 09 awareness and training program in 09 project villages on

Village Level Self Help Group (SHG) Federation were conducted for women, and members of Self Help Group (SHG). 303 women SHG members participated for the program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were made aware on the importance of SHG. They were told that SHG is a medium for unity, social and financial independency of women, betterment of their families and women empowerment. They were told not to fall prey to micro finance banks, which lure people by giving loan and chunk out large amount in return through high interest rates. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards development of children and persons with disabilities and their families through Self Help Groups and prevention of disability.

v. **Exposure Visit:** The project arranged an exposure visit at Swayansiddhi women's business group at Kolhapur. 67 women members of Self Help Group participated. The members were introduced various small scale business undertaken by the women at Swayansiddh. A mother of a sponsored child of Dudhgaon project village inspired from the business has started her own business of selling pickles in the village. She puts up the stall in the weekly market and earns good profit.

w. **Women's Day Celebration:** On International Women's Day which was celebrated on 8th March 2018 women in large number took part in all the 15 project villages. The women participated in games in their respective villages. The women of the villages got an opportunity to come out of their homes and socialize and have a memorable with other women of their village.

x. **Training for adolescent girls on forming and strengthening of Adolescent group:** 08 programs in 8 project villages were conducted for adolescent girls on forming and strengthening of adolescent group. 101 girls participated for the program. They were told about the objective of forming group of adolescent girls. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and

reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards prevention of disability. As a result 02 groups of adolescent girls are formed. As a result 06 groups consisting 68 adolescent girls are formed.

y. Awareness programs for the members of Panchayati Raj

Institutions: 04 awareness programs for members of Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) were conducted in 04 project villages wherein there were 101 participants. Village Council President, Vice President, Village Council Members, Elderly Citizens of the village and retired School Teachers were present for the program. They were introduced to Sangli Mission Society, Aastha CBR Project and reason for intervention in the village, project dynamics, objectives, results and impact. They were made aware on causes of disabilities, types of disabilities, disabled and data of disabled of their respective village. They were also made aware on their role and responsibilities towards prevention of disability and their work towards the better of disabled and their families. They were shown the activities conducted by Aastha project in their respective village through a power point presentation.

z. Annual Gathering of the Aastha Project Disabled Children in Villages:

Annual Gatherings arranged by the project in the month of March 2018, the intellectually, physically challenged children and children with speech & hearing impairment took part in the dance and skit programs. They once got a platform to showcase their talent which boosted their confidence.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Lijo Vadakkemuri Neyyoor)

11. Dilasa Bhavan, Miraj

a. Adieu to Fr Koorumullil

Fr. Justin Koorumullil after completing his seven months of service at Dilasa Bhavan has moved to Vishwadeepti to deepen his knowledge in Marathi language. On 14th February the Dilasa family conducted a



farewell gathering where the children prepared a cultural banquet to honour and thank their beloved ‘Chota fatherji.’ We wish our prayers in his future ministry. And Dilasa Bhavan thanks him for his

service to Dilasa family.

b. Visit from Wanless, Miraj & Bharathi, Sangli

On March 6th around 15 of nursing students from Wanless mission



hospital & On 27 March around 20 of nursing students from Bharathi hospital visited Dilasa Bhavan as part of their studies. And they conducted cultural programmes for the students.

It was really encouraging and enriching for both groups.

c. Inter-school Drawing Competition



Our students participated in the Tata inter school drawing competition which was conducted in Miraj. Our student, Jeevan got first prize in this competition. And many other students got different other prizes also.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Bijo Vadakkethalackal)

12. Asha Deep, Sangli

a. Ashadeep Annual Day: On 25th January 2019, Ashadeep Special School & Nursery celebrated their Annual Day. Rev. Fr Justin Vettukallel (Secretary General, MST), Rev. Fr. Joby Njalliyil (President, Sangli Mission Society) and Mr & Mrs Prashant Patil (Former Deputy Mayor and present Corporator of Sangli-Miraj-Kupwad Municipal Corportation) were the chief guests. The variety

performances by the students of Ashadeep as well as the children from the villages *Mouje Digraj* and *Erandoli* (of Aastha CBR Project) made the event very exciting and entertaining.

b. Special School Registration: Our efforts to get the Governmental Registration for the Special School had started around 10 years ago. Our persistent efforts have finally succeeded. Ashadeep Special School got the registration certificate from the Government of Maharashtra on 13th February 2019. Our heartfelt gratitude to all who helped and supported us at every step of the way to this historic achievement.

c. Workshop on First Aid: On 23rd February, Ashadeep arranged a



One-Day Workshop for the parents and staff on '**First Aid**' to ensure better safety for our children. Two clinical instructors – Mrs Nikita Londhe and Mrs Akkamahadevi Bergeri from *Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Nursing* – conducted the sessions with practical demonstrations. The

participants unanimously stated it was 'a truly enlightening and very useful training event.'

d. Visit by Skylark English School: On 26th March, Ashadeep Special School had the joyful experience of an exposure visit by the staff and students of *Skylark English School*, Kupwad. The interaction by the students of both the schools was very warm and heart-touching to witness.

e. Visit by MSc Nursing Students: On 27th March, the MSc Nursing



students and staff from *Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Nursing* gave an educational visit to Ashadeep Special School. Headmistress Smt. Satnamkaur Chadha and other members of the staff explained the school's various activities to the visitors.

f. Visit by RANM Students: On 2nd April, our Special School had the encouraging experience of an educational visit by the Revised Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery (RANM) students and staff of *Laxmi-Prabha Nursing Institute* (Bamnoli, Kupwad).

(Reported by Fr Joy Purayidathil)

13. Santhome School, Sangli

a. Cultural Competition

The Cultural competition was organized in Santhome School in the month of December. The day marked the positive vigorous competition among the four houses of the school. The talented Santhomites, competed each other with all their zeal and energy. The judges made the fair decisions and the winners were facilitated with great round of applause.

b. Rubella Vaccination

The Government of India made compulsory to all schools to conduct the vaccination programme to immunize the children against the disease of Rubella.



Santhome School organized the Vaccination programme on 12th December, 2018, successfully in the presence of CEO of Zila Parishad, Sangli. The programme was well arranged and very efficiently carried out by the school. After the vaccination,

the students were kept under half-an- hour of observation to ensure if there was any reaction. Luckily, no severe reactions were observed in any child. After being observed, the students were given certificates as a proof of being given the vaccination.

c. Unitas 2018

We celebrated our magnificent and reverberating Home Day-‘UNITAS 2018’ amidst great zest, vibrancy and elation. Shri Abhijeet

Raut, the CEO of Zila Parishat, Sangli was the esteemed Chief Guest.



The programme commenced with the Prayer Dance followed by the ceremonial lamp lighting. Our Principal Rev. Fr. Binoy Jacob, formally welcomed the eminent personalities. The progressive Annual Report was displayed on the screen. (Photo

The programme was an amalgamation of various hues and the students spread the colours of peace and Unity. The honorable Chief Guest appreciated the school for hosting such a meaningful programme with a very relevant theme- Unity.

d. Christmas Celebration

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful. Christmas is a time to give and forgive. It is celebrated everywhere as a joyous family affair. We too, at Santhome , celebrated Christmas. Our students made this festive season



wonderful and colourful. Santa made a grand entry. He created a happy and pleasant atmosphere by dancing along with the famous song ‘Jingle Bells.’

e. Republic Day Celebration

It was the 70th Republic Day of our nation, India that serves as a model for “Unity in Diversity” The day was enveloped with an atmosphere of utmost zeal, excitement, and patriotism that prevailed all over the country. Our school too arranged for a luminous Republic Day celebration. We had a lot of programmes like march past display, patriotic songs and dances and a wonderful declamation of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The patriotic atmosphere filled the hearts of



Justine's motivational speech.

all with pride to be an Indian. The Day was made more graceful by the presence of Rev. Fr. Justin George as the Chief Guest. The audience were motivated by Fr.

f. Career Guidance

Rev. Fr. Justine George took a wonderful seminar on Career Guidance for the students of class 10 and their parents. He created awareness about different career opportunities available and helping students understand how career Counseling can help them proceed in their career positively. He also stressed on the identification of strengths and weaknesses of a student in order to guide him/her about suitable career field, the skills that are required to be developed, new opportunities etc. He motivated the students and their parents to achieve his/her career goals with a proper direction. The School, students and their parents remain ever grateful to Fr. Justine.

g. Farewell 2019

10th February, 2019 was 'BONVOYAGE' special! It was a bright Sunday morning and it was time to bid farewell to another batch of



Santhomites. The other way round it was the day for Santhome school to wish its outgoing batch the best of luck for their upcoming successful lives. The day was marked by

events conducted by Grade IX students. The programme included colourful dance performances, words of gratitude from the students and the speech delivered by the Principal Rev. Fr. Binoy Jacob which filled them with extraordinary courage to fly high up to success in their lives. The programme came to end with a delicious treat.

h. Inter-national and National Winners of Abacus



A genius Inter-national Level Abacus contest was held in Malatya. Many students from across the world had participated in this mega competition. Three of our students participated for this competition. Among the many of the tight competitors Santhome students secured the THIRD position.

A genius National Level Abacus contest was held in Bangalore. Many students from across India had participated in this mega competition. Among the best 10, FIVE of them were from Santhome.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Binoy Jacob Vechoopadinjarethil)

14. Syro-Malabar Personal Parish, Kalyan

a. Pilgrimage to Kerala:

In the first week of January, almost 20, Non-Keralite Syro-Malabar Catholics of the personal parish of Kalyan made a pilgrimage to the



holy places in Kerala, under the leadership of their parish priest- Fr Paul Painadath. They visited that tombs of Saints Alphonsa, Chavara and Euphrasia and that of Blessed Kunjachan and Mariam Thresa. They also visited significant places

related with St Thomas like Kodungalloor, Palayoor, Malayattoor, etc. They also visited the Generalate of the MST -Deepti Bhavan, Melampara.

b. Lenten Retreat: The Lenten retreat for the Marathi speaking Syro-Malabar Catholics of the personal parish of Kalyan was organized



in the month of March at the pastoral central of the eparchy of Kalyan in Panvel. Fr Paul Painadath guided the retreat. It was attended by more than hundred faithful.



15. Marathi Language Training at Dahanu

The 64th course of Marathi language training organized by Fr Paul Painadath was convoked at Danahu on 15th March 2019. It was attended by 10 priests, among them six were the new priests of the eparchy of Kalyan.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Paul Painadath)

D. Mary Queen of the Missions Delegation (MQMD), Delhi

1. Empowerment of Rag-picking Children

Gyansarovar Deepti Foundation has started functioning since 2013 in Bhalaswa Dairy for the marginalised people living around the dumping site. Through advocacy, empowerment, community organisation and rehabilitation Deepti Foundation work tirelessly to reach out to the people in need and still it's being continued

a. Visit by Germans

On 16-01-2019 it was a grace filled day for Gyansarovar Deepti



Foundation as 23 of German citizen visited the area where Deepti Foundation is tirelessly working for the empowerment of the people living in the hutments around the landfill site of Bhalaswa Dairy. The

team was headed by Fr. Joesph who works in Germany. Fr. Santhosh, Director of Deepti Foundation, welcomed them with Garlands and 'Tilak'. Children of Gyansarovar also performed wonderful programs for the guests. At noon the guests were provided with sumptuous lunch. On this occasion Frs. Shijo and Abin were present.

b. Republic day

On 25-01-2019 children and staff of Gyansarovar knew no bounds for joy as they celebrated 69th republic day of the country. The program started at 11.00am in the respective centres under the supervision of teachers. Students didn't forget to decorate the classrooms with colourful balloons and tricolour paper flags. The programs for the day included dances, patriotic songs and speeches. Students also didn't forget to end the program with national anthem.

c. Annual Day

The sixth annual day was celebrated in Gyansarovar Deepti Foundation



on 02-02-2019. The program started in Rajeevnagar compound at 10.30am. Master Sakir from Kaalimandir centre welcomed all to the program. Rev.Fr. Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of Missionary

Society of St.Thomas the Apostle was the chief guest. Fr. MD Thomas and Joseph Karodan were also special invitee for the program. There were dances, skits, musical dramas and Yoga for the program. Ms. Pooja Saroj thanked all for the remarkable support for the program.

d. Foundation Stone for the School

The foundation stone for the school building for the children involved in rag picking was laid on 2nd of February, 2019 by Rev Fr Antony Perumanoor, along with children, parents and teachers of Bhalaswa non formal school. More than 250 children were present during the ceremony and Deepti Foundation is planning to start the school by July, 2019.



e. Visit by MST Construction Team

On 04-02-2019 Fr. Sebastian MST and team visited Gyansarovar Deepti Foundation. They reached the project location at 11.00am. Fr Santhosh, Director, Deepti Foundation introduced the guests to the children. Children at Rajeevnagar centre presented him a wonderful clap with cheering faces. Further the team moved to the proposed Gyansarovar school site in Murgi-farm. At the site he opined that project would suit the place and serve the purpose. Further team members proceeded to the next destination

f. Visit by USA team

On 08-02-2019 Ms. Robin and team from USA visited Gyansarovar Deepti Foundation project. The guests had reached the project office by 2.15 pm. Fr. Santhosh welcomed the chief guest thereafter he explained them on the day today activities of program running in the area. The guests expressed that they work on female health and hygiene. They further moved to the Rajeevnagar centre where in they have been introduced to the women and teenage girls gathered there. Further they had session on menstrual hygiene to female gathering there. Ms. Nayana and Dhanya facilitated the session through necessary translation. The guests distributed freely 100 reusable sanitary napkins, made in USA.

g. Women's Day

International Women's day was celebrated in Deepti foundation Gyansarovar on 08-03-2019. The program started at 11.15am in Deepti Foundation Office at Dilshad Garden. The chief guest of the program was Dr. Jyotika Taneja, Guest lecturer, Delhi school of social work and special invitee was Ms. Varsha Sahni,



Yoga Trainer, AIIMS. Fr. Santosh, Director of Deepti Foundation welcomed all to the programme. Further Ms. Nayana Cherian initiated all to the cultural program. The women from different Self-help groups performed dances, maims and musical dramas. Ms. Ruby from Bandhan Self Help Group thanked all for the valuable presence. There were 101 participants and were provided sumptuous lunch.

2. Rehabilitation of People with HIV/AIDS

a. HRG Meeting

Four HRG meetings were conducted from January to March. Around 94 people attended these HRG meetings which were headed by Ms

Dhanya James, the counsellor and Mr Joy Jacob, the project coordinators. These meetings took place in different areas like Harsh Vihar, Loni, Neher and Maujpur. The people covered in these meetings were mainly female sex workers. They were told about HIV/AIDS, on how it spread and the causes for it. They

were even shown a video which described the myths related to it and also gave a detailed description of HIV.

b. Public Distribution of Brochures

The Caritas animators distributed brochures on HIV/AIDS in different areas like Shastri Park, Brajpur, Bhopra, Usmanpur, Loni, Gokulpuri and Mandoli. Around 2065 brochures were distributed among Rikshaw drivers, vendors, cobblers, bus drivers and conductors and to general public.

c. Counselling

From January to March a total number of 40 infected people have been given home based counselling. They were given an open space for communication where they could share their burden.

d. Nutritional Support



In the month of January, nutritional support was given to around 24 families who were selected by the animators. The families that were given support were all from below poverty line.

e. Distribution of Warm Clothes

Warm clothes were distributed to many families who are below poverty line in the month of January.



The animators selected the families on the basis of the house visits that they made.

3. Social Empowerment Programmes

a. SHG

Six new SHG groups were formed newly in the areas of Sundar Nagari, Maujpur, Welcome and Seelampur. Eighteen formation meetings have been made. The monthly savings of three groups namely Naiumang (Sundar Nagari), Deepti (Sundar Nagari) and Dhanya (Seelampur) have increased from 100 to 500 because of their economic stability. The leaders of these six groups have been selected and given loan from time to time. And all the monthly savings were deposited in their respective bank accounts.

b. Self-defence Class

Self-defence course was given to 114 girls from SundarNagari, Nand Nagari and Maujpur area. It was a short course which started from 31. 12. 2018 to 14. 01. 2019. Self-defence class was inaugurated by Fr. Santhosh. The resource persons were from Delhi Police . After the course, certificates were distributed to 114 girls who completed the course successfully.



c. Income Generating Programmes

On 2nd January around 19 SHG leaders from an organisation called Nirmal Jyoti Foundation, Vasant Kunj had come to visit Deepti Foundation. They were taken to Sundar Nagari centre where they were welcomed. They were even shown three group businesses namely sewing of undergarments, battery charging business and packaging of socks. They were brought back to the Deepti Foundation office where they were provided with lunch.



d. Vocational Training

Exams were held in all six centres for sewing, beauty parlour and mehendi. It was conducted from 18-25th February in which total of 190 students got certificates.

e. Adolescent Girls Training

On 14th January, a meeting was held in Sundarnagari, Nandnagari for a group of 100 adolescent girls on elopement as it was seen that many girls were eloping from home. Another meeting happened on 26th February, in Sundarnagari, Nandnagari for a group of 39 adolescent girls. A discussion was held on how dropping out from school affects their life. They were told about the importance of education.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Abin Kochupurackal)

4. Kristjyoti, Rohru, Himachal Pradesh

a. Pilgrimage to Kerala



Soon after Christmas a group of 14 faithful of our Mission were taken to Kerala for a pilgrimage. The idea was to introduce them to the faith tradition of the Syro-Malabar Church and seven sacraments and its celebration. This was

also made use as an opportunity to connect them to MST and its various apostolates.

By visiting MOC and our two minor seminaries they could easily understand how an MST priest is getting formed. We also visited Cardinal Alanchery at the Major Archiepiscopal Curia, Kakkannad.

b. MSJ Sisters

Two MSJ sisters have joined Kristjyoti Catholic Mission from February 2019 onwards. They too have taken this mission as a challenge and collaborate with us whole heartedly.



c. Catechism and House Visits



Our catechetical formation is on progress. The tuition classes in the village are also in full swing. The House visits and other prayer programmes are getting organized and yielding results. The newly joined MSJ sisters are great help

in that regard.

d. Lenten Practices and Easter



For the first time in Rohru, the faithful are introduced to the Way of the Cross. They have now learnt to pray way of the cross devotedly. And for this Maundy Thursday we are getting ready to celebrate the first public celebration of Holy Qurbana for the faithful.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Siby Nellore, Rohru)

5. IHPS, Delhi (Personal Initiative)

a. Round Table Discussion On - Current Times: Ethical Considerations

Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies (IHPS), New Delhi, organized a Round Table Discussion at Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies, Dwarka, New Delhi, on 30 March 2019. The theme of the discussion was 'Current Times: Ethical Considerations'. Dr M. D. Thomas, Founder Director of the Institute, chaired and moderated the session. The discussion involved prominent persons from all communities, disciplines and walks of life and they numbered approximately 20 in number.

Highlighting the concept of the discussion, Dr M. D. Thomas said that ethics is the most basic component and dynamics of life. Life is next to impossible or is rendered meaningless in the absence of ethics. Ethics requires being brought down from the classical contexts to the

diverse practical and functional areas of life. To say the least, ethics is the principle of life and the very way of life. Diverse aspects of life and the sections of the society can meaningfully exist and function only when the ethical fibre is strong. Ethics is the very way the humans can have their being in this world meaningfully.

By way of the dynamics of the discussion, Dr Thomas observed that the current times, more than before, has a major deficit of ethics in social life. Therefore, the political, religious, economic, social, cultural, environmental and other sectors of social life have to be seriously considered and assessed from the ethical point of view. Having done so, ethical standards have to be applied to the current times of our country and society, in view of a bright and more harmonious future for the humans in this planet.

b. Extension Activities: Lectures, Views, Interactions and Articles

1. *Interacted* with Mr Radhe Shiam, General Secretary, Bharatiya Ekta Parishad, New Delhi, along with Professor Bharati, Professor, National Law University, New Delhi, on ‘Mobilizing Well-intentioned People of all Communities for Promoting National Solidarity’ — at Faculty House, National Law University, New Delhi — on 13 January 2018

2. *Interacted* with Mr Radhe Shiam, General Secretary, Bharatiya Ekta Parishad, New Delhi, along with Professor Bharati, Professor, National Law University, New Delhi, on ‘Caste System and Caste Discrimination of the Hindu Community, the Basic Reason for Conversion’ — at Faculty House, National Law University, New Delhi — on 13 January 2018.

3. *Interacted* with Mr Krishna Menon, Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi, on ‘Sessions of Social Interaction on Various Themes an Effective Way of Promoting Open Mind-set’ — at Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi — on 18 January 2018.

4. *Interacted* with Mr Krishna Menon, Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi, on ‘Organizing Open Discussions Involving

People of all Ideologies’ — at Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi — on 18 January 2018.

5. Delivered *Views* on ‘Ways and Means of Ethical Tuning in Governance and in Civil Society’ — during Lecture by Dr Reena Ramachandran, Member, Foundation for Restoration of National Values, New Delhi, and IC Centre for Governance, New Delhi, on ‘Civil Society Challenges: The Road Ahead’ — moderated by Dr Isher Judge Ahluwalia, Chairperson, Board of Governors, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi — organized by Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi — at Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi — on 21 January 2018.

6. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Nishakaam Karm: Ek Samagr Vyaakhya’ (Nishakaam Karm: A Holistic Interpretation) — during seminar on ‘Practical Aspects of Vedanta Philosophy’ — organized by Wider Association for Vedic Studies (WAVES), New Delhi, and Department of Sanskrit, Satyawati College, New Delhi — at Satya Auditorium, Satyawati College, New Delhi — on 04 February 2019

7. Delivered *Lecture* as Chief Guest of School Day Functions on ‘Shikshaa se Samagr Vikaas aur Behtar Samaaj ke Or’ (From Education to Inclusive Development and Better Society) — at St Anthony High School, Hauz Khas, New Delhi — on 08 February 2019.

8. Delivered *Views* on ‘Theology to give Way to Humanities, in View of an Integrated and Qualitative Faith’ — during Symposium on ‘Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World’ — organized by Morning Star College, Kolkata and St Xavier’s University, Kolkata — at Morning Star College, Kolkata — on 15 February 2019.

9. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Dialogue with Hinduism—Challenges and Prospects’ — during Symposium on ‘Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World’ — organized by Morning Star College, Kolkata and St Xavier’s University, Kolkata — at

Morning Star College, Kolkata — on 16 February 2019.

10. Delivered *Views* on ‘Mission among the People as Reciprocal and Shared Mission’ — during Symposium on ‘Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World’ — organized by Morning Star College, Kolkata and St Xavier’s University, Kolkata — at Morning Star College, Kolkata — on 16 February 2019

11. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Religion, Politics and Democracy’ — during National Conference on ‘Pluralism, Identity Conflicts and Democracy in India’ – at Session II on ‘Democracy, Pluralism and Citizenship’ — chaired by Prof. Sucheta Mahajan, Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal University, New Delhi – organized by Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and Interfaith Foundation of India, New Delhi – at Conference Hall, FTK Centre for Information Technology, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi – on 19 February 2019.

12. Delivered *Views* on ‘Uniform Civil Code: Challenges and Prospects’ — during National Conference on ‘Pluralism, Identity Conflicts and Democracy in India’ – at Session II on ‘Democracy, Pluralism and Citizenship’ – chaired by Prof. Sucheta Mahajan, Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal University, New Delhi – organized by Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and Interfaith Foundation of India, New Delhi – at Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi – on 19 February 2019.

13. Delivered *Views* on ‘Raaj Dharm as the Ethics of Commitment to Collective Wellbeing’ during National Conference on ‘Pluralism, Identity Conflicts and Democracy in India’ – at Session II on ‘Democracy, Pluralism and Citizenship’ – chaired by Prof. Sucheta Mahajan, Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal University, New Delhi – organized by Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Interfaith Foundation of India, New Delhi – at Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi – on 19 February 2019.

14. Delivered *Views* on ‘The Bi-polar Character of Religion: Individual

and Social and the Right of the Apex Court to Say the Last Word when Disputes Arise’ – during National Conference on ‘Pluralism, Identity Conflicts and Democracy in India’ – at Session II on ‘Democracy, Pluralism and Citizenship’ – chaired by Prof. Sucheta Mahajan, Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal University, New Delhi – organized by Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Interfaith Foundation of India, New Delhi – at Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi – on 19 February 2019.

15. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Sadbhaavanaa ke liye Kavi Hriday Zaroori’ (Poetic Heart Required for Goodwill) – at IHPS Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 21 February 2019.

16. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Empowering the Youth for a Culture of Peace and Sustainable Development’ – during International Peace Youth Summit 2019 on ‘Youth Empowerment for Peace and Sustainable Development of Society’ – organized by ISMA Times, New Delhi and Global Harmony Association, New Delhi – at Speaker Hall, Constitution Club, New Delhi — on 26 February 2019.

17. *Interacted* with Mr Radhe Shyam, Convener, Society for Democracy and Constitutional Values, New Delhi, on ‘From an Overdose of National Identity to a Balanced Sense of Multiple Identity’ – during Interview of Dr Amartya Sen by Mr Siddharth Varadraja, Editor, The Wire – at Jawahar Bhawan, New Delhi – on 27 February 2019

18. Delivered *Views* ‘God of God’s as the God beyond all Religions: The Focus of Collective Search of all Believers’ – during National Launch of the Movie ‘God of God’s: Birth of the Unborn’ – organized by Brahma Kumaris Ishwariy Vishwavidyalay – at Odeon Cinema Hall, Connaught Place, New Delhi – on 28 February 2019.

19. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Zindagee ke Buniyadee Jarooratoo kaa Dharm’ (Religion of the Basic

Necessity) — at Bridge Connectivity Solutions Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 28 February 2019.

20. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Saarthak Zindagee ke liye Dharm Darshan se pare Maanvikee Zaroori’ (Humanity Essential for Meaningful Life beyond Religious Philosophies) — at Bridge Connectivity Solutions Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 28 February 2019.

21. Authored *Article* on ‘Vanchit Varg aur Maanav Adhikaar: Eesaai Dristikon’ – in Haashiye ke Aawaaz (Monthly), New Delhi — Year 14, Vol.03, p.15-18 – in March 2019.

22. Delivered *Views* on ‘Naitik Moolyon ke Killat se Desh ko Bachaana Hoga’ (The Country will have to be Saved from the Deficit of Ethical Values) – during discussion on ‘Save the Constitution, Save the Country’ – organized by Citizens for Democracy, New Delhi – at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi – on 01 March 2019.

23. *Interacted* with Mr Radhe Shyam, Convener, Society for Democracy and Constitutional Values, New Delhi, on ‘Jhooth ke Maar se Desh Khatare Mein’ (The Country is in Danger from Lies) – at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi – on 01 March 2019.

24. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Patjhad se Vasant ke Or’ (From Autumn to Spring) – at IHPS Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 02 March 2019.

25. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Ek aur Anek ke Samanvay mein Aastha’ (Faith in the Harmony of One and Many) – at IHPS Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 02 March 2019.

26. *Interacted* with Mr Rakesh Naithani, Social Worker, on ‘Insaanee Neke ko Miltee Khudaa ke Manzoori’ (Goodness of Human receives God’s Approval) – at DSIO Guest House, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi – on 08 March 2019.

27. *Interacted* with Dr Himanshu Dabral, Cardiologist, Medanta Hospital, Gurgaon, Haryana, on ‘Deficit of Ethics in Public Life: A Major Danger for the Country’ – at DSOI Guest House, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi – on 08 March 2019.

28. *Interacted* with Dr Himanshu Dabral, Cardiologist, Medanta Hospital, Gurgaon, Haryana, on ‘Desh ke Vikaas ke liye Vividh Samudaayon mein Aapsee Samrastaa Zarooree’ (Mutual Harmony in Diverse Communities Required for the Development of the Country) – at DSOI Guest House, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi – on 08 March 2019.

29. Delivered *Views* on ‘Inclusive Thinking and Harmonious Living: A Collective of Believers across Religions’ – during International Conference on ‘Spiritual Response to Critical Times’ – organized by Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalay – at Indira Gandhi Stadium, New Delhi – on 10 March 2019.

30. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Aatmaa ko Shareer ke Bheetar Pahchaanaa Jaai’ (Soul to be Recognized within the Body) – at IHPS Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 12 March 2019.

31. *Interacted* with Mr Nirmal Prakash Singh, Poet, Film Producer and Director, Bridge Connectivity Solutions, New Delhi, on ‘Isee Duniyaa ko Jannat Banaayaa Jaay’ (This World is to be Made a Heaven) – at IHPS Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 12 March 2019.

32. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Sadbhaav se Saamaajik Samanvay kee Or’ (From Goodwill to Social Harmony) – during Interfaith Conference 2019 – Chief Guest Mr Bhoopesh Baghel, Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh – organized by Sarv Aastha Manch, Raipur – at Pandit Deen Dayal Auditorium, Raipur, Chhattisgarh – on 17 March 2019.

33. *Interacted* with Prof. Thomas Paul, Social Worker on ‘Larger Horizons of Religions Outlook’ - at IHPS Office, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi – on 22 March 2019.

34. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘World’s Happiness Index and India’s 140th Rank’ – at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Dwarka, Sector 19, New Delhi – on 24 March 2019.

35. Delivered *Views* on ‘Establishing a Ministry for Religious and Communal Harmony at the Central and State Levels’ – during discussion on ‘Proposals to Political Parties for including Civil Concerns in their Manifesto’ — organized by Society for Democracy and Constitutional Values, New Delhi – at Faculty House, National Law University, New Delhi – on 24 March 2019.

36. *Interacted* with Adv. Ravi S. Pani, Managing Editor, Voice of Civil Society, New Delhi, on ‘India’s Weak Democracy due to Weak Civil Society’ – at Office of ‘Voice of Civil Society’, Greater Kailash, New Delhi – on 28 March 2019.

37. *Interacted* with Adv. Ravi S. Pani, Managing Editor, Voice of Civil Society, New Delhi, on ‘Networking and Empowering the Civil Society’ – at Office of ‘Voice of Civil Society’, at Greater Kailash, New Delhi – on 28 March 2019.

38. *Interacted* with Major Jagdish Chandra Jain, Poet and Social Activist, New Delhi, on ‘Gathering Cross-cultural Divine Insights for Harmonious Human Living’ – at Green Park, New Delhi – on 28 March 2019.

39. Authored *Article* on ‘Indians Unhappy and Unhappier’ in Indian Currents (Weekly), New Delhi – Vol.xxxi, issue no. 14, p.32-33 — on 01-07 April 2019.

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



E. Orissa Mission

1. Blessing of the MST Mission House in Cuttack, Orissa

All things work for those who are engage themselves in the way of the Lord. January 15 is inscribed with golden letters in the pages of MST Mission in Orissa. After a long time of probing and searching finally we have got a rented house in Cuttack. On January 15, Rev. Fr Thomas Karamel, the councilor in charge for the mission expansion, blessed the house, in the presence of Fr Jose Cheiampanattu MST and Fr Jomon Ayyankanal MST, the mission coordinator of MST's Orissa Mission. We are planning to have language course and catechists training in this new mission house. It will be used as a transit house for MST missionaries in Orisa and a Mission initiation training center for New missionaries in Orissa.



2. Visitors to MST Orissa Mission

Visit of catechism teachers from Ramanathapuram: A group of catechism teachers heard by Fr Biju, the Catechism director together with Best catechism teacher's award winning teachers from the diocese of Ramanathapuram visited to Orisa mission. We were asked



to create occasions for a firsthand experience of the lifestyle, culture and faith of the land, to which we were faithful and could achieve it successfully. In collaboration with FIAT mission we arranged three days visits to different missions in Orissa and a day with prayer and

sharing.

FIAT Mission's Jericho Prayer: The day was blessed with the visit of FIAT missionaries under the leadership of Mr Ceetly Joy, who were on their mission of Jericho prayer. They reached MST Mission House by the evening and we had the Holy Mass and the Eucharistic



adoration together. Jericho prayer is one month mission tour visiting all states in India with prayers to fulfill the mission of Jesus entrusted to the Church that is Evangelization of the

whole world.

3. Arrival New Missionaries



Orissa Mission team was complete with the arrival of the new missionaries. Frs, Jijo Kottakavil, Josin Tharapputhotty, Ambrose Kollamattom and Manu Pottanany joined the

mission team. They will be spending a couple of months in the mission house, in learning language and other activities of initial missionary training. Later they will be going to different mission fields. The missionaries reached Orissa on 14th of February and the first day pent in prayer and recollection.

4. Oriya Language Course

In view of equipping the missionaries in the local language and the



culture, a course was arranged here in the MST Mission house. The course was done in two stages. The first one was guided by Fr Paul Manickathan from the eparchy of Berhampure. He

introduced the missionaries into the world of Oriya Language. His classes of 15 days equipped the missionaries in writing, reading and speaking skills. Fr Varghese Puthumattom of Balaswer, on the other hand introduced the missionaries into the culture, history, customs and practices of the land. In the second stage of the language course

we spent time in deferent villages to have first and experience of the language and culture of the place. Thanks a lot to both the fathers and wishes all the blessings of the risen Lord and the intercessions of St Thomas.

(Reported by Fr Jomon Ayyamkanal, Coordinator, Orissa Mission)

F. Arunachal Mission

1. Pakke Kessang Parish



The MST Mission of St Mary's Catholic Church, Pakke Kessang organized annual retreat for the faithful and others, in two centres – one in the village and the other in the town. The village retreat was conducted in Passa village. I was four days programme, attended by 150 people. Many form Baptist and

Pentecostal churches also attended the retreat. Many sick people got healed. It was a spiritual experience for the people who attended the retreat. The retreat was led by Brothers Jose and Sudheer from Mumbai. The Word of God preached in Hindi language was translated into local language - Nishi by the local catechists. The retreat will take place in the town of Pakke Kessang from 14 to 17 April 2019.



2. Sagalee Parish

a. Annual Day at Don Bosco, Sagalee: The Annual day was conducted at Don Bosco School, Sagalee. Our MLA Sri Nabam Tuki, the former chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh (a Catholic Christian) was present as the chief guest of the programme. Rev. Fr Lijo Manikombel, the school principal organized the programme very



systematically. In the history of Don Bosco School, Sagalee it was the first time that such an annual day programme was conducted. People were very happy and there was a great application from all sides for giving such training for the children.

The programme was really colorful with variety of cultural performances. A Bible drama on love of God was also staged by the children on this occasion. Photo

b. Training for the Catechists: Since there are several churches under one parish of St Mary's Catholic Church, Sagalee, one or two priests cannot reach to every village church regularly on Sundays. So in the absence of priests, these churches



are managed by local catechists. When people are gathered in the church the catechists conduct the prayer service, Bible reading, peaching, etc. So regular training programs are arranged for those leaders in order keep them in Catholic system. The two days' training was attended by almost 25 catechism from different village churches. Photo

(Reported by Fr Saji Choorakunnel, Sagalee, Arunachal Pradesh)

G. Overseas Missions

1. Germany

a. Christmas Gathering of MSTs

It was a joyful occasion for the priests in Germany, to gather once again during Christmas season, sharing the peace and love of Jesus. We came together in Dernbach from 26th to 28th December, 2018. On 26th December evening, during the dinner Fr Sajimon Vanderkunnel welcomed everyone and expressed his joy in coming together to spent some time with our dear ones, we most care for.



During the gathering Rev. Fr. Baiju Nellikunnel guided a seminar regarding the highlights of Tenth Ordinary General Assembly of MST. He shed light on different categories of General Assembly's discussion and observations such as: 1. Amendments to the Directives, 2. Resolutions of GA 2018, 3. Mind of the Assembly, 4. the Statement of the 10th Ordinary General Assembly, 5. Observations and Suggestions, and 6. Interpretations/Clarifications. It was very informative and the members really benefited from the brief discussion on the Highlights of Tenth ordinary General Assembly of MST.

The meeting also appreciated the initiatives of the members in organizing funds and contributing to the cause of Society's Flood relief activities.

Rev. Fr. Anto Thattil led another brief seminar on Media Management. He made the members aware of the challenges and threats we face in our day today social media activities and gave some tips to secure our Social media accounts. It was very informative and useful.

As usual the main Celebration of the gathering was the Eucharistic Celebration on 28th December at 10.00am in the Closter Chapel. Fr Soby Thannickapara was the Main Celebrant and Fr Benny Palapurath and Fr Thomas Pendanam joined him as the concelebrants. Fr Sajimon, at the very outset, thanked everyone and called upon to pray for our Mission and for the intentions of our Society, and also for our new priests in the mass.

Fr Johny Kochuparambil made an inspiring Sermon during which he

invited everyone to stand firm against the current trends of the world to witness fearlessly to the love, hope and happiness manifested in Jesus. He explained that the divine incarnation of Love, reflected in human form needs to be meaningfully manifested through our lives.

b. Rev. Fr Naralakkattukunnel Returns

After a short break Rev. Fr Gracious Naralakkattukunnel has re-joined the MST Koinonia in Germany on 25th Feb. 2019. He is appointed in the Diocese of Augsburg. On 1st March he started his Pastoral work in the Parish Jachenau. Hearty welcome to Rev. Fr Gracious.!

c. Visit of Director General

The Priests working in Germany were very happy to receive our Director General Rev. Fr. Antony Perumanoor. He visited all our Priests from 4th to 28th March and also he met all personnel who are in charge of priests in their respective Dioceses. All of them welcomed him wholeheartedly. He made them aware of the needs of MST and submitted a few projects to them. He appreciated the priests for their work in their Parishes and also for supporting the activities of MST. His visit gave us a lot of enthusiasm. He encouraged us and assured us of his support and the support of the Council Members, in our pastoral work in Germany.

(Reported by Fr Pradeep Alex Mattathilanickal)

2. TANZANIAN MISSION

a. Foundation Day Celebrations

Foundation Day of MST was celebrated in Tanzania in a wonderful way at Dar es Salam. It was a four days' programme which really gave a nice experience and one which will always remain as a memorable one. The speciality of the celebration was that it was not celebrated among the MSTs alone. The all four days the Fathers of CST, CM and VC were part for the celebration. And it was the time which gave the real meaning of togetherness in everything and a real satisfaction of such a celebration.

Each day we had different programmes. Togetherness in everything



added happiness throughout the four days. On 18th we gathered together at Dar es Salam from the other stations Bunda and Songea.

On 22nd morning we had the Foundation Day Holy Mass at the parish of Madale with the parishoners. and by

evening said good bye and departed to their own Mission.

b. Seminar and Rcollection



On 19th we had a halfday seminar and recollection on MST'S Vission and Mission by Rev. Fr Jojesh Paul CST. He really had a brief study on it and led the seminar in a wonderful manner.

c. Oneday Picnic



We had a oneday picnic to a beach which was situated near to the mission station of VC Fathers .And it was their initative which made us to be together for a day at the beach and to have a delicious lunch from there.

d. Visist to Dar Es Salam

On the third day we went to the Cathedral of Dar es Salam. We enjoyed the day with visiting, lunch from a Malayali Hotel and then by the small shopping.

On the same day night we had the dinner together and prepared by the members of Parish Council.

e. Popular Mission Retreat at Chengena

Chengena parish was blessed with Popular Mission retreat for a week

led by the Vincentian Fathers in the month of March from 10 to 15. It was really a helpful one to the parishoners of Chegena and the result



of it happens every day from their part. People where were very happy with it and they thanked a lot Rev Fr Shaiju for arranging such useful retreat for them.

(Reported by Fr Alan T. Mathasseril)

3. Brazil

On the second Sunday of January 2019, 34 youth and adults of the parish of Itarumã received confirmation. In a solemn Celebration presided by bishop Dom Nelio Zotea, the bishop of the diocese of Jatai conferred confirmation to the youth and adults of my parish. The youth at the age of 15 receive confirmation after an year of catechism. For the adults, there is no age barrier in the reception of confirmation. Those who were not baptized or deprived of the



sacraments because of their life and work in farms in remote or rural areas are conferred the sacraments together. After an year of intense catechisms they receive three sacraments baptism, first communion and

confirmation. Their classes are conducted at night. If there are no impediments, we prepare them for the sacrament of matrimony. There

is great enthusiasm among the adults who receive the sacraments together.

(Reported by Fr Joseph Pulickal, Jatai, Brazil)

4. Sweden

I was recently appointed at Sankt Sigfrids Seminary which is owned and run by Stockholm diocese, situated in Uppsala city just 38 kms from Arlanda airport, Stockholm. Uppsala is a very old city in Sweden and was very catholic center for study until reformation. Uppsala University is still very famous in Europe.

In this seminary, students study not only for Stockholm diocese but



also for all Nordic dioceses. At present we have six seminarians who are studying for dioceses. Candidates are regular students in Newman institute run by Jesuits. So they get the basis knowledge of philosophy and theology from their studies here. After two

years of studies here they go to Rome for the further studies. We are two priests in the seminary to look after them and give the basic knowledge of priestly life. The rector, Fr. Thaddeus is from Poland and so happy with my arrival in the seminary. They have a spiritual father who comes once a week from Stockholm to meet the spiritual needs. Seminary closes for summer holidays 31st May and re-opens in the first week of August. In the weekends I am also traveling to Finland and Norway to celebrate the Holy Mass for the Indian community in those countries. Of course we have Masses in Stockholm too. So please remember me in your prayers.

(Reported by Fr Benoy Jose Thottiyil, Stockholm, Sweden)

VII. NEWS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES/ CENTRES

A. Programmes of Ongoing Formation

1. *SLEEHUDA*-2019

An orientation and commissioning programme for the newly ordained priests was conducted at Deepti Mount from 4th to 7th February 2019. The programme was named “*SLEEHUDA*-2019” (the ceremonious sending forth of the new priests to the missions). Fr Viju



Muringassery the coordinator of the expert team for ongoing formation welcomed all. Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of the MST inaugurated *Sleeehusa* officially with the presence of General Councilors and he delivered an

inspirational message. Rev Fr Francis Kureeckal, councilor in charge for ongoing formation gave an outline and the meaning of term *Sleeehusa*. This programme was intended to create missionary enthusiasm and to give them some practical training as they were to travel to their assigned regions and places of ministries to shoulder their first responsibilities in the mission.

Sleeehusa consisted of inspirational talks, workshops, activities in preparation to the ceremonious sending forth of the new priests to the missions. All seventeen new priests were present throughout the programme and actively participated until the last session. Seven presentations were made over these 3 days program which started with providing a range of responses to the theme “lifestyle and mission of the members of MST” by Very Rev Fr Antony Perumannor, the Director General. A well-known speaker Mr. Biju Dominic from Mumbai explored the aspect of “why do the traditional approaches to spirituality fail in the modern times?” “Expectations of the Religious sisters from the clergy” was another inspirational talk by Sr Dr Bhavya CHF, General Councillor of the Congregation of Holy Family, Thrissur.

Rev Fr Thomas Karamel led the participants through 'practical approaches to the mission activities' by sharing his experiences in the mission. Rev Fr Joseph G Aryankalayil looked at the 'responsible uses of media and gadgets and CBCI directives on sexual abuse.' Fr Sijo Mookenthottam, a young MST priest was another resource person to inspire the participants with his sharing "how to build a healthy relationship with co-missionaries and missionary collaborators?" There was a session commenced with a look at 'missionary life lived by grace: a new approach to evangelization' by Mr. Shoy Thomas, coordinator, Jesus Youth International. A range of practical and informational sharing took place with the director general and the general councilors meet with the new priests.

The new priests celebrated Holy Qurbana at the tomb of St Alphonsa in Bharananganam and made a pilgrimage to the tomb of Blessed Kunjachan at Ramapuram, seeking the intercession of the holy men and women of the Syro-Malabar Church in their priestly-missionary journey.

The program conclude with the Holy Qurbana and the ceremony of sending forth to the mission and in which the family members and parish priests of new priests were also present. At the end of the Holy Qurbana, the Director General sent forth the new priests with a special commissioning prayer prepared for the same and by handing them over the lighted candles and the Holy Bible, reminding them of their call to preach the Gospel in all seasons by being the light of the world.

2. Priestly Satisfaction and Mid-age Challenges: Upcoming Programme

There is a programme scheduled for the members belonging to the ordination batches between 1993-2003, from 14 to 16 May 2019. This programme will explore the theme: Priestly Satisfaction and Middle-age Challenges among the Missionary Priests. It will take place at Deepti Mount. Please take note of the dates and ensure participation by the respective batches without fail.

(Reputed by Fr Viju Muringasseril, Coordinantor, Expert Commitee for Onoging Formation)

B. Vocation Promotion

The recruiting of candidates for the upcoming seminary year is on progress. The vocation promoters along with the seminary staff and the General Councillors are visiting the families of the candidates prior to finalizing the list of seminarians for the upcoming batches in Deepti, Melampara and Santhome, Thamarassery. Here we present the report of two camps held for vocation promotion. The camps were titled: ***GALILEE 2019***

1. Deepti, March 29-31, 2019

The vocation Camp for the candidates from the diocese of Pala, Kothamangalam, Kanjirapally, Idukki, Ernakulam and Changanacherry was conducted at Deepti Bhavan from 29 to 31 March 2019. The



camp was inaugurated by very Rev Fr Peter Kavumpuram. Rev Fr Francis Kureeckal, Rev Fr Justin Vetukallel and other fathers from the seminary were present for the inauguration session. Parents of the candidates were also present on the first day of the camp.

Different classes were arranged for the parents and the students. Rev Fr Daey Kunnath, Rev Fr Monse Karuvakunnel and Mr Issac Olickal were the resource persons for the camp. Rev Fr George Kuppayil the Rector, Members of the staff and the General councillors were present to conduct interview for the candidates.

2. Santhome: March 29-30, 2019

Vocation Camp for the candidates from the Diocese of Thamarassery was conducted at Santhome Seminary on 29th and 30th March. The camp was attended by 13 young and vibrant candidates. The camp was inaugurated by Rev. Fr Thomas Karamel in the presence of Fr Manoj Parackal and all other fathers in the staff. Different classes were conducted for the students. Fr Johny Kariathil, Mr Antony Joy and Deacon Tony Ramachanattu were the resource persons. The



parents of the candidates came on the next day. Interview for the candidates was conducted in a three member panel of Rev. Frs Thomas caramel, Manoj Parakal and Benny Puthanpurakal. The Camp was ended with the thanks giving Holy Mass. A big thanks for all your support and prayers.

We are conducting a camp for the candidates from the Diocese of Thalassery and Kottayam on 12th April 2019. Please refer some possible candidates for the camp if there are in your contacts. A big thanks to all fathers who gave me some contacts of possible candidates. Please note our contact numbers: Fr Rony Alencherry (Malabar Region) - Mob.: 9167676237, 9188806237; Fr Joison Puthukkattu (South Region) - Mob.: 7902297266; 9446 043753.

(Reported by Rev. Frs Rony Alencherry and Joison Puthukkattu, Vocation Promoters)

C. Santhome Fellowship

1. Mission visit to Mandya



The candidates for missionary associates paid a visit to Mandya mission. First we went to the regional house and Fr Joseph Thekkekarott (Regional Director) had given an introduction about the works that are been done in the

Monday mission. Then he took us to mission stations around Mandya. And missionary associates were initiated to various works done by the missionaries in Mandya. This visit helped the associates to select one area of work in their future mission.

2. Promise of Missionary Associates

16 missionary associates had taken temporary promise of association to the society on the foundation day of MST, 22 February 2019. On



this day, a convention was arranged, during the time of convention and Holy Mass 16 of them took temporary promise before the Director General and together with the presence of Bishop Joseph Kallarangattu the Bishop of Palai and so many priests and people around. And they made this commitment for five years. Those who took promise were selected from Santhome Fellowship group and are from different dioceses of Kerala. They all are reputed personalities some them are working as teachers and other categories. Bishop Joseph Kaalarangattu acknowledged the importance of a missionary associates in the work of church in India and also in mission.

3.Year plan made for missionary associates

A gathering of the associate missionaries was organised in the house of Mrs Daisy Joseph. All associates were present for the gathering .The temporary secretary of the associates Mr Roji presented the report. Fr Peter Kavumpuram was the president of the gathering. The gathering had made the decision to gather and do monthly recollection.

4.House visits in Thamarasserry and Mananthavady.

Santhome Fellowship members in Thamarasserry and Mananthavady were visited in the month of March. The .Coordinator and the missionary associates from the respective dioceses were in the team. Mr Jacob Padolody from Thamarasserry accompanied in all the houses

of Santhome fellowship members in the diocese. It was a rejuvenating experience for the members and helped them to know more about the new mission of MST in India and abroad. Tentative dates were fixed for gatherings in the dioceses.³⁵ New members joined in santhome fellowship from Thamarassery diocese.

5. Santhome Fellowship in Delhi.



A gathering for Santhome Fellowship members were arranged in Deepti ashram Najafgarh. Before the gathering the coordinator visited almost all the houses of the members in Delhi and UP. 73 members including children participated for

the gathering. Gathering started with Holy Qurbana, Fr Santhosh Olapura was the main celebrant. Fr Thomas Karamel was the President of the meeting. Cultural programmes were arranged. The Coordinator explained the present works of MST. Members dispersed with the plan to gather every year.

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

D. Thomasine Research Centre (TRC)

The Thomasine Research Center continues to organize various programs for an effective diffusion of Thomasine spirituality in the Church.

1. Two week Course in Thomasine Spirituality

TRC is now arranging a two week intensive residential diploma course in Thomasine Spirituality from 5 to 19 May 2019. It will be held at Alphonsa Spirituality Center Bharananganam. The participants will be awarded diplomas from the Paurasthya Vidyapitham. They will be also taken for a pilgrimage through various churches established by St Thomas in Kerala. We are expecting twenty five participants.

2. Correspondence Course in Thomasine Spirituality

The TRC is also planning a yearlong correspondence course in Thomasine Spirituality with an aim to reach St Thomas Christians all over the world. The modalities are being worked out and we hope to launch the course on 3rd July 2019. The Pausrathya Vidyapitham has agreed to recognize the course with a certificate.

3. Reaching out to the Syro-Malabar Parishes

TRC is also planning to give classes on various topics in the parishes of Kerala in the coming summer and later throughout the year. It will be also an occasion to promote MST mission and vocation.

4. Books Ready for Publication

A few books are also getting ready for publication. A revised version of *Ezharapplikal* is ready for publication. The revised version of St Thomas *Vanakamasam* is also ready for publication. A short book on the deceased members of MST is also under preparation. A photo souvenir of the MST Golden Jubilee is prepared. The speeches made by dignitaries in the days of Jubilee are also collected and compiled as a book.

TRC hopes to serve the Syro-Malabar Church and the MST more meaningfully in the coming year with various programs already envisioned.

(Reported by Rev. Fr James Kurikilamkatt, Director - TRC)

E. Vishwadeepti Missiology Centre, Kolhapur

1. New Book Jointly Compiled by Frs Deleep and Jaison

A new Malayalam book, entitled *Japamala*, has been compiled



by Fathers Deleep Nalannadiyil and Dominic (Jaison) Puthenpurackal. It was released on 20th January 2019 at Jeevan Jyoti, Srirangapattana by Mar James Athikalam in the presence of Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Rev. Fathers Francis

Kureeckal, Joseph Thekkekarott, Jayaprasad Kallupuraparampil and many other Fathers, Sisters and Brothers from Mandya. The highlight of this new book—published by Alma Publishers, Kozhikode—is that it depicts all the mysteries of the rosary through custom designed pictures and reflections. This helps one to pray each bead of the rosary more meditatively and experientially.

2. New Batch of Marathi Learners

A new batch of Marathi learners started their forty-five days' Marathi course on 16th February 2019 at Vishwadeepti. In this batch—14th since Fr Deleep became director of *Asmita Marathi Bhasha*



Kendra—we had four Fathers from the MST, Two from Trivandrum Malankara Archdiocese and one from the Chanda province of the CMI.

3. Class on MST Constitutions and Directive

On 21st February 2019, Vishwadeepti became the venue for the one-day class on the new draft of the *MST Constitutions and Directives*, organised in St Alphonsa Region, Sangli. Classes, which



started at 10 a.m. and concluded at 4 p.m., were led by Fathers Peter Vattappara, Justin Vettukallel and Joseph G. Aryankalayil. Most of the

MST Fathers serving in and around Sangli Mission participated in the sessions.

4. In-House Celebrations

a. International Women's Day: The International Women's Day on 8th March 2019 was an occasion for us to appreciate the service rendered by Mrs Emlin Kandulna, our kitchen staff. Fr Deleep thanked Mrs Emlin and Herman, her husband, for their dedicated services to Vishwadeepti since many years.

b. MST Foundation Day: MST Foundation Day 2019 was fittingly



celebrated at Vishwadeepti with a solemn Holy Qurbana followed by the cutting of cake in the company of Marathi-learning MST priests.

c. St. Joseph's Day: St. Joseph's

Feast was celebrated at Vishwadeepti

on 18th March evening in the company of Marathi-learning student-priests and the community of St Alphonsa School, Phulewadi. During the colourful and joyful festal celebration, Fathers Joseph Aryankalayil and Joseph Muthuplakkal were felicitated on the occasion of the feast of their heavenly patron. The highlight of the event was the variety entertainment programmes staged by Marathi-learning priests.



5. Other Programmes

a. Youth Camp: *Indian Church of Christ*, Kolhapur organised a two-days camp for Christian Youth at Vishwadeepti. There were 58 participants from different parts of Maharashtra.

b. Workshop on Hypnotism: Vishwadeepti hosted a three-days' workshop on self-hypnotism conducted by Prof. S. G. Khanapure. The sessions, started on 9th February 2019, were attended by sixteen participants.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Joseph G. Aryankalayil, Director - Vishwadeepti)

F. SANTHOME – IMPACT

1. Outreach Programmes of IMPACT

Pope Francis comments that, “every teacher and the entire church...is called to change, in the sense of knowing how to communicate with the young people before them.” Making use of



different methods of media IMPACT is trying her best to communicate in the mother church. All the activities at impact are designed to communicate mainly focusing on children and youth in a special way. Impact could reach many places with different initiatives.

a. Youth Animation: Team impact was invited to train the youth at Vaikom parish and more than hundred youth participated and the trust of the training was to engage the youth in different ministries of the parish.

b. Theatre Dynamics: Course on psychodrama was organized by Danahala, punnapra and team impact was invited to train the participants with different skills of theatre and more than 45 benefited including sisters and fathers.



FCC genaralate invited us to train all the provincial secretaries on effective communication and documentation and around 70 members including the general team attended the session. One day group dynamism was organized at Deepti for the

minor seminarians from Thamarasserry and Deepti. It was an opportunity for the brothers to come together and know each other.

c. Sound of Mission: Fr Bibin Madathiparambile used to visit different parishes on Sundays for the sharing on mission and meet children and introduce our mission magazine kadukumani.

d. Training for Mathru Jyothis: The diocese of Hozur invited us to give special training for the leaders of Mathru Jyothis on *Faith Formation*. More than 150 attended the training including Bishop



Sebastian **Pozholiparampil** and few fathers.

(Reported by Fr Daey Kunnath, Executive Director - IMPACT)

2. Santhome Media

Following are the major initiatives by Santhome Media at IMPACT

a. Event Shoot: Santhome media has recently undertaken the event shoot of the priestly Ordinations of MST deacons. It was a successful endeavor by our media team. The team have covered the function with full light and camera set up and distributed photo and video albums.

b. Video on 51st Foundation day of MST: Santhome media released a video on MST foundation day with greetings and major ministries.

c. Short Films



i. Immini Valiya vishwasam: it is a capsule type short film uploaded in Santhome Media YouTube Channel and Facebook Page that mandates our deep faith and trust in Catholic Church.

ii. Bhayam: Santhome media uploaded this short film in the context of current Media trends and their fake news

iii. Mystery: It is a fictional short film about a girl and her unexpected death. It will be uploaded in the YouTube channel of Santhome Media.



iv. Vazhithara Theerkkunnavar: It is a capsule type documentary on our pioneer missionaries, who share their experience in different mission fields. We could introduce two great missionaries like Rev

Frs Sebastian Thuruthel and Joseph Kochayamkanal

d. **Kallithattu:** It is a performing art related program for school children in creative filed. It was uploaded in three episodes in Santhome Media YouTube Channel.

e. Audio Recordings:



Santhome media recording studio was blessed with the presence of well-known film and Christian devotional singers like Kester, Afsal, Wilson Piravom, Abhijith Kollam, Immanuel Henry, Elizabeth Raju and Chitra Arun.

f. Upcoming Initiatives of Santhome Media

- a. Short Films
- b. Event Shootings
- c. Documentary on Ancient Churches and their history

****To watch all our programs please visit our Website: santhomemedia.com, YouTube channel and Facebook page & Plz Don't forget to subscribe and like our YouTube channel and Facebook Page.***

(Reported by Fr Lijesh Panackavayalil, Director, Santhome Media)

G. Kalasadhana, Mumbai

1. Annual Day of Kalasadhana

The annual day of Kalasadhana, named - Crescendo 2018 was held on 16 December 2018. The Vice Director of the MST, Rev. Fr Francis



Kureeckal was the chief guest, who inaugurated the event. Rev. Frs C.D. Sebastian and Babu Anithanam were also present for the event. *Crescendo* witnessed to the fine display of the skills of hundreds of students through



diverse musical instruments, ghazals, dances and the like. The function was attended by the parents of the students and a selected audience pertinent to Kalasadhana. It was a day of fulfilment for this centre, as all those who were present recognized and appreciated the contribution of Kalasadhana.



2. New Building for Kalasadhana

In January 2019, Kalasadhana academy was moved to a new building in Nerul, at Sector 7. This new building offers more room for conducting various classes and for accommodating more students. In the current and the upcoming year, I am expecting almost 100% increase of students to Kalasadhana, which would diversify our courses, enrolling more students.

3. Affiliated to Trinity College London

Kalasadhana is now affiliated to Trinity College, London. Besides, Kalasadhana academy is also recognized as the official examination centre of the Trinity College in Mumbai. 100 students are now preparing for June-July season examination in various subjects-Piano,



Guitar, Violin Drums. Kalasadhana had already been affiliated to Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidhya Mandal Mumbai for Indian Music and Dance. With its formal ties with Trinity College, London, the courses of Kalasadhana would be recognized both nationally and internationally.

4. Outreach Activities

The teaching faculty of Kalasadhana reaches out to the neighbouring schools and junior colleges, offering extension classes of music both vocal and instruments. Our academy is blessed is qualified staff to pursue in this regard, which in turn helps us get more regular students for Kalasadhana.



(Reported by Rev. Fr Ashok Kollamkudy, Director, Kalasadhana)

H. Santhome Bible Centre, Pariyaram

1. Vocation Camps at Santhome

As you may know, Thalassery Archdiocese has been the most fertile soil for priestly vocations after Pala Diocese. MST from its very beginning regularly gets plenty of vocations from Malabar. To promote vocations to MST two Vocations Camps were conducted at Santhome Bible Centre, one just before Christmas (22-12-2018) and the other just before Easter (12-4-2019). Fr. Roni Alencheril, the Vocation Promoter of this area, has been working very hard to seek good young candidates suitable for admission to MST minor seminaries. In the second camp conducted here the interview of the candidates was also done and suitable young ones have been chosen. Thereafter the vocation promoter took one of the Central Councillors and some staff members of Thamarassery Minor Seminary to the houses of the chosen candidates to study their home background. We hope that MST will get enough candidates for our two minor seminaries this year also.

2. Santhome Day

Puthunjayar (the Sunday after Easter) is usually celebrated as Santhome Day at Pariyaram. This year it falls on 28th April and we are conducting a Santhome Day programme in the evening of *Puthunjayar*. All the priests and sisters of the nearby parishes and religious houses will be invited to the same. All the MST priests working in Malabar are also usually made part of the Santhome Day celebration. MST missionaries coming home for vacation are welcome to Pariyaram to participate in our celebrations. There is a standing invitation to all MST priests to visit Santhome Bible Centre at Pariyaram, especially to those who have not yet visited this place.

3. Santhome Bible Commentary

In the past few years we organized the releasing of new volumes of Santhome Bible Commentary together with Santhome Day celebrations. It is now decided to organize the releasing of new volumes of SBC at the Generalate of MST on 3rd July. Hence the **new volume on the Acts of the Apostles** will be released at Deepti on the feast of Dukrana.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Sebastian Kizhakkeyil, Director – Santhome, Pariyaram)

I. Ministries at Paithalmala

1. Stations of the Way of the Cross

This Lent will be a memorable time for the Paithalmala Ministries. Fourteen stations of the **Way of the Cross** will connect Mar Walah Prayer Centre with Karunyashram. The blessing of the Way of the Cross will be on 12th Friday of April. This way of the cross in the forehead of the beautiful Paithalmala Hills will be a tank of peace and experience of mercy of God for many. In the Holy Week there will be prayer, worship and adoration in Paithalmala for various intentions.

2. Mar Walah Prayer Centre and Street Ministry

Mar Walah Prayer Centre with the co-operation of Zion Street ministry, Nellikkutty started a new way of Evangelization - Preaching the Word of God in streets of small and big towns. We have already done it in

many Junctions of Thrissur and small towns in the district of Kottayam. The initial response is very encouraging. Many non-Christians said



that they got peace and solace from the Word of God. Many demanded to repeat the Divine Mercy Chaplet we chanted at the end of the ministry which lasts almost one and a half hours.

We were surprised the awe and respect people showed to the Word of

God. Even without knowing the content and procedure of our ministry people tend to compare us with Pentecostals and Protestants. But the experience of the Power of the Word of God is ineffable. The other side of it, there is the risk that anything can happen at any time and even an accident in the road near by us can disrupt our ministry, we leave to God. Prayer and faith in the Lord is our only strength. Our Street Ministry Team takes up Parish Retreats also. We have successfully done it in Panampilavu Parish in the Eparchy of Thamarassery. We have very gifted people for Spiritual Guidance. We have also plan to go to other states with the Word of God.

(Reported by Fr Scaria Thamarakattu, Spiritual Animator, Mar Walah Prayer Centre, Paithalmala)



VIII Necrology: Parents and Family Members of the MSTs
As informed by the members
(20 December 2018- 10 April 2019)

Mr M.J. Joseph, Father of Fr John Manjamattam
Mrs Aleykutty Paulose, Mother of Fr George Mundackal
Mrs Annakkutty Joseph, Mother of Fr Sogin Chirayil
Mr K. E. Thomas, Father of Fr Justin Kanatt
Mrs Mairyakutty Puthenpurayil, Sister of Fr Paul Pulimalayil
Mr George Kandathil, Brother of Fr Francis Kandathil (late)
Mrs Thressiamma, Grandmother of Deacon Madickankal
Fr Abraham Vadana OFM, First Cousin of Fr Kuriakose Vadana
Mrs Aleykutty Mappalakayil, Maternal Grandmother of Fr Saneesh
Panthaplackal
Mr Ouseppachan Varapuzha, Maternal Uncle of Fr Anish
Chirayath
Mr K.M George, Maternal Uncle of Fr Saji Choorakunnel
Sr Osia Thundathil SABS, Aunt of Fr Antony Thundathil
Mr Eapachan Vadakkekutt, Brother in law of Fr Scaria
Thamarakkatt
Mr Shiju Sebastian Edamanacheril, First Cousin of Fr Joseph
Edamanacheril
Mr Mathew Purayidom Paternal Uncle of Fr Sebastian (Robin)
Manianchira
Mr Joseph Kalarickal, Paternal Uncle of Fr Antony Cheeramvelil
(Vazhathara)
Mr Varkey Parekkattil, Paternal Uncle of Fr Paul Parekkattil
Mr Kurian Muthirenthickal, first cousin of Fr Kurian Kochettonnil
Mrs Aleyamma Kottiyannikkara Paternal Aunt of Fr Gracious
Naralakkattukunnel
Brother Jose Francis Kavumpuram, Nephew of Fr Peter
Kavumpuram



APPENDICES

Appendix I: Circulars

Circular No. X/8/2018-2023

9 January 2019

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers and Brothers,

Prayerful greetings from Deepti Bhavan!

This is to bring to your kind attention towards some important information that concerns all the members of the Missionary Society of St Thomas the Apostle.

1. Priestly Ordinations

The priestly ordinations of seventeen *ordinandi* took place in their home-parishes, between the days from 26 December 2018 to 5 January 2019. On behalf of the entire MST family I congratulate and welcome all seventeen new priests to the priestly fellowship of the MST. Let us pray that all of them find sanctification and fulfilment of their missionary vocation through the MST, by their dedicated involvement in the missionary apostolates (Cf. C7).

May I also take this opportunity to thank all the Prelates who were instrumental in conferring the Sacred Order. His Beatitude Major Archbishop Mar George Cardinal Alencherry presided over five ordinations and blessed the MSTs with appreciatory words. His Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakel also presided five ordinations. Other ordaining prelates were Archbishop Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Mar James Athikalam, Mar Thomas Thuruthimattam, Mar John Nellikunnel, Mar Joseph Pamplany, Mar Jacob Muricken and Mar Sebastian Vaniapurackal who ordained one each *ordinandus*. Bishop Mar Joseph Kunnathu was present for one of the ordinations. I thank all of the Prelates for availing their time for the MST and for recognizing our missionary commitment in their messages. Indeed, the ordination ceremonies were also opportunities for missionary animation in the eparchies of Kerala.

The ordinations heralded MST fellowship through the attendance of number of priests and missionary collaborators of the MST. I appreciate and thank all those who participated in the ordinations and others who were ardently praying for the *ordinandi*, although were absent. On behalf of the MST, I thank the vocation promoters, the formators in various seminaries, the benefactors and other collaborators who contributed in the making of seventeen new priests for the MST. God bless them all!

2. The Regional Assignment of the New Priests

Following C.44 of the *Constitutions and Directives of MST* and with the consent of the General Council, I have done the regional assignment of the new priest-members as given:

St Paul Region	St Thomas Region	St Alphonsa Region
1. Kolliyil Joseph 2. Koottarappallil Jacob 3. Pattasseriyl Joseph 4. Tharapputhottiyil Joseph 5. Varappadavil Benedict	1. Kudukkachirakunnel Sebastian 2. Kuruvanplackel George 3. Mlavil Mathew 4. Muricken George 5. Pottananickal Mathew 6. Thottappallil George	1. Alummoottil Joseph 2. Karakkattu Antony 3. Kollamattam Ambrose 4. Kottakavil Augustine 5. Kurumundayil Sebastian 6. Thypparambil Varghese

Wishing you all God's abundant blessings and requesting your prayers for each other,
Yours in Christ Jesus,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Sd/-

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

20 February 2019

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers and Brothers,

Prayerful greetings from Deepti Bhavan!

This is to bring to your kind attention towards some important information that concerns all the members of the Missionary Society of St Thomas the Apostle.

1. Celebration of 51st Foundation Day of the MST

We are fast approaching the 51st Foundation Day of the MST and may I remind all of you regarding the Directive, “the day of foundation of the MST (February 22) shall be duly solemnised by the members in every house, Region and Delegation of the Society with special remembrance of the founder and the benefactors,” (*MST Constitutions and Directives* - D 1b). On this day, let us remember the founder, the pioneer members, all our missionaries and benefactors, and shall solemnize the celebration to amplify our missionary commitment through the MST.

The MST Generalate is celebrating this day by organizing one day prayer for the public, in the Deepti Campus, from morning till evening. We are expecting some 500 participants for the prayer service which will be led by Rev. Fr Saju Thuppalanjiyil, one of our gifted and renowned preachers of the Word of God. His Excellency Mar Joseph Kallarangatt will be the chief celebrant for the Holy Qurbana. The foundation day becomes ever more significant with the acceptance of 16 lay persons as the associate missionaries of the MST, for the first time in the history of MST.

2. Associate Missionaries of the MST

In accordance with Appendix I of the *Constitutions and Directives of the MST*, 16 members of Santhome Fellowship are being formally accepted as the first Associate Missionaries of the MST on our 51st Foundation Day. They have been collaborating with the MST for several years as members of Santhome Fellowship. Following the *Guidelines for the Associate Missionaries of the MST*, they have been selected by our coordinators and were given training for several

months. Their training included study classes on Missiology, Mission History, the Nature and Mission of the MST; mission retreat for three days, and mission tour for two days to Mandya mission. Following the same guidelines, I have gone through their personal applications, the recommendation of their parish priests, the endorsement by their life-partners, and have talked to them personally. Having convinced of their missionary intentions, with the consent of the general council, I will be accepting their temporary promise of association for a period of five years and will guide the appointed priest coordinator to facilitate their involvement in the evangelizing efforts of the Society. Following are the candidates taking promise as associate missionaries of MST:

1. Chennattu, Jessy Rogy (Athirampuzha/Changanacherry), Chennattu House, Athirampuzha-686562, Kottayam.
2. Chennattu, Rogy (Athirampuzha/Changanacherry), Chennattu House, Athirampuzha-686562, Kottayam.
3. Chirayath, Daisy Mathew (Aruvithura/Pala), Chirayath House, Aruvithura -686122, Kottayam.
4. Chettiakunnel, Jozhson C.M. (Eruvatty/Tellicherry), Chettiakunnel House, Eruvatty-670581, Chaparapadave via, Kannur.
5. Elanjickal, Mary Joseph (Vazhakala/Ernakulam), Elanjickal House, Vazhakala- 682021, Ernakulam.
6. Kizhakenedungattil, Pious Sebastian (Cathedral-Kanjirappally/Kanjirappally) Kizhakenedungattil House, Kanjirapalli P.O. 686543, Kottayam.
7. Koottarappallil, Rani Thomas (Bharanaganam/Pala), Koottarappallil House, Melampara-686578, Bharanaganam, Kottayam.
8. Kuzhivelithadathil, Joy (Neeloor/Pala), Kuzhivelithadathil House, Neeloor-686551, Kottayam.
9. Madukakuzhi, Mathew (Anakkllu/Kanjirappally), Madukakuzhi House, Anakkallu-86543 Kanjirappally, Kottayam.
10. Naduvilekunnel, Tom (Nirav/Kanjirappally), Naduvilekunnel House, Jawahar Navodaya, Vechoochira-686511,

Pathanamthitta.

11. Olickal, Sinu (Nalpathimala/Changanacherry), Olikal House, Amalagiri P.O. 686561, Kottayam.
12. Padalody, Jacob (Kariyathumpara/Thamarassery), Padalody House, Kariyathumpara, Kallanod P.O. 673527, Kozhikode.
13. Podimattathil, Marikutty (Ponkunnam/Kanjirappally), Podimattathil House, Ponkunnam P.O. 686506, Kottayam.
14. Poovathunkal, Joseph Thomas (Kunnumbhagam/Kanjirappally), Poovathunkal House, Kunnumbhagam, Kanjirappally P.O. 686543, Kottayam.
15. Pulpal, Jose Joseph (Cathedral-Kanjirappally/Kanjirappally), Pulpal House, Kanjirappally P.O. 686543, Kottayam.
16. Thekkemury, Lisy Babu (Karikattor/Kanjirappally), Thekkemury House, Karikattoor P.O. 686541, Kottayam.

I place all of them for your prayers so that they may support MST to live our missionary responsibility more credibly and in turn, they may also find fulfilment for their missionary vocation through the MST. I also remind all of you to consider the missionary associates of the MST with dignity, love and care, because they are now formally associating with MST in living the purpose of mission *ad gentes*. On this occasion, let me place on record the gratitude and appreciation of the MST to those who initiated the programme of Santhome Fellowship, the coordinators and General Councillors who are/were in charges of Santhome Fellowship and all those who have collaborated with them in various ways. Let us hope and pray that with the inclusion of missionary associates, the MST may take the lead in developing a different missionary approach and attitude in the Syro-Malabar Church.

3. Programmes in the Summer Months

May I draw your kind attention to the following programmes being organized by the Generalate and request your collaboration as required:

a. Vocation Camps at Deepti Seminary and Santhome Seminary (8-10 April 2019)

The team for vocation promotion is organizing one each vocation camp

in our minor seminaries- Deepti College, Melampara and Santhome Seminary, Thamarassery on the same days from 8 to 10 April 2019. We have two minor seminaries now, and there is the greater need for many more zealous missionary priests for the MST having a lot opportunities for mission *ad gentes*. I request all of you to recommend genuine vocations by encouraging the boys from our own families, neighbourhoods and contacts. If you have some eligible candidates, please refer them to our vocation promoters (Fr Joison Puthukkattu - 8547152994 and Fr Rony Alencherry – 9167676237) and send them for camp to any of the venues mentioned above.

b. Review of the Proposed Draft of MST C&D (23 April 2019)

The study and discussion on the proposed draft of the MST Constitutions and Directives is being held at Deepti Bhavan from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on 23 April 2019. The presentations and discussions will be led by the convener and the members of the committee constituted for the purpose. All those MSTs in Kerala and around, and anyone who missed this study session in the mission regions or delegation are invited to join here at Deepti.

c. Refresher Program for the Formators (28 April to 1 May 2019)

All the formators of the MST both serving in MST formation houses as well as in other formation centres are invited to join the refresher program for the formators being held at PDS, Peerumedu from 28 April to 1 May 2019. The Formation Secretary will inform you the details of the program in the upcoming days.

d. Gathering of the Major Seminarists, Vestition and Temporary Promise (6-8 May 2019)

The annual gathering of all the MST major seminarists will be held from 6-8 May 2019, at the Generalate. On the concluding day (8 May), there will take place the first temporary promise by the seminarists who have been promoted to Philosophy after the MOC, and the vestition and renewal of the promise by the seminarists promoted to Theology after regency. May I place our seminarists for your prayerful support and appreciate the formators including the priest in charges during the regency for their collaboration.

e. Ongoing Formation of the Ordination Batches:1993-2003 (14-16 May 2019)

The expert committee for the ongoing formation under the guidance of the ongoing formation secretary is organizing a programme for the members belonging to the ordination batches between 1993-2003, at the Generalate from 14 to 16 May 2019. The theme of the programme is: Priestly Satisfaction and Middle-Age Challenges of Missionary Priests. Please take note of the dates and ensure the participation by the respective batches without fail. The ongoing formation secretary will inform you the details of the programme at the earliest.

f. Annual Retreat at the Generalate (26-31 May 2019)

The annual retreat, for the priests living in Kerala or outside the regional territories, is arranged at Deepti Bhavan from 26 to 31 May 2019. Dr Mario Joseph (*Philokalia* Retreat) will be the preacher of the retreat. All those who have not attended the annual retreat are also welcome to join the retreat. Please contact the in charge of Priest-welfare for registering your participation in the retreat.

4. Change of House Name: From Vazhathara To Cheeramvelil

At the request of Rev. Fr Antony Vazhathara, a change in his house name will be taking place in all official communication of the MST. Henceforth, Fr Antony Vazhathara will be known as Fr Antony **Cheeramvelil**. Kindly take note of this change and use his house name as *Cheeramvelil*.

Wishing each of you the greetings of the ***MST Foundation Day*** and requesting your prayers for each other,

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Sd/-

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

Appendix 2

Associate Missionaries of the MST

Sixteen members of Santhome Fellowship were accepted as associate missionaries of the MST on 22 February 2019 by the Director General, in accordance with Appendix I of the *Constitutions and Directives* of the MST and the *Guidelines for Associate Missionaries*. The associate missionaries are:

Daisy Matthew Chirayath



Daisy Matthew belongs to the Aruvithrutha parish of the eparchy of Pala. Her husband - Mr C.S. Matthew Chirayath is a bank officer and they have three children. Daisy is an active member in the parish and is a catechism teacher since many years. She is the vice president of Madvamuktha Samiti of the eparchy of Pala.

Isaac Thomas Olickal

Isaac Thomas hails from the parish of Nalpathimala of the Archeparchy of Changanacherry. He has his wife – Anit and they have one child. He was a seminarian in the MST. Now he works as a motivator and an international trainer of career guidance. He is also doing PhD in Mahatma Gandhi University. He is now being invited to our seminaries and schools for motivational classes.



Jacob Padalody

Jacob (Baby) belongs to the parish of Kariyathumpara in the eparchy of Thamarassery. His wife's name is Rossama. They have two children and one of them is a religious sister in the SH Congregation. Jacob and Rosamma are retired teachers. Jacob is a committee member in the parish council and he has been serving as a catechism teacher for the last 25 year. He is the Coordinator for palliative care unit run by the eparchy of Thamarassery and is the Secretary of Pensioners' Forum in Thamarassery.



Jessy Rogy Chenattu

Jessy hails from the parish of Athirampuzha of the Archeparchy of Changanacherry. She is the wife of Mr Rogi Chennattu, who is also an associate missionary in the MST. Their only son is studying for priesthood, for the Archeparchy of Changanacherry. Jessy is a teacher in the high school.



Jose Joseph Pulpel



Jose Pulpel is from the Cathedral parish of the eparchy of Kanjirappally. His family consists of his wife and three children. He got retired from the government service in KSBC and is now running a small business in partnership. He had been the trustee of the cathedral parish several times. He is still active as an executive member in the parish committee of the Cathedral of Kanjirappally.

Joseph Poovathinkal

Joseph hails from the parish of Thekkumbhagam in the eparchy of Kanjirappally. His family consists of his wife - Thresiamma and two children. He is very active in the parish activities and is part of the pastoral team. He is the Secretary of Vincent De Paul Society in the parish.



Joy Kuzhivelithadam



Joy belongs to the parish of Neeloor of the eparchy of Pala. He married Maria and they have a son studying in the UK. Joy is working as a teacher in Kadanadu school and his wife also is a teacher. He is a good singer and teaches in the Sunday School of the parish.

Jozhson C.M. Chettiakunnel

Jozhson hails from the parish of Eruvatti in the Archeparchy of Tellicherry. Dhanya is his wife and they have two children. He is a teacher in the higher secondary school. He is an active member in the parish. He is a former seminarian of MST and completed till Philosophy.



Lisy Babu Thekkemury



Lisy hails from the parish of in the eparchy of Kanjirappally. She was married to Mr Babu Thekkemury (late) and has two daughters. She is an active member of the parish and is a teacher of catechism for the past 23 years.

Mary Joseph Elanjickal

Mary Joseph is from the parish of Vazhakala of Archeparchy of Ernakulam-Angamaly. She is married to Mr Joseph Elanjickal and they have two children. Both her children got married and are settled. She is a member of pious association - Legion of Marry and is involved in the pastoral leadership of the parish.



Marykutty Mathew Podimattathil

Marykutty Mathew hails from the parish of Ponkunnam in the eparchy of Kanjirappally. Her family consists of her husband - Mr Matthew

Joseph and three children. Two among the children are studying in the major seminary for the eparchy of Kanjirappally. She has been working as a catechism teacher in the parish for long years and is one of the organisers and Secretary of CML in the eparchy of Kanjirappally.



Mathew Madukakuzhi



Mathew is from Anakkal parish of the eparchy of Kanjirappally. He lives with his wife - Mrs Sony Matthews and they have two children. He is an active member in the parish and serves as a catechism teacher for many years. He is appointed the secretary of catechism in the diocese of Kanjirappally. In that capacity, he goes around all the parishes in the diocese and evaluates the standard of the faith formation programme in the parishes and gives training for the teachers.

Pius Sebastian Kizhakkenedugattil

Pius Sebastian hails from Cathedral parish of the eparchy of Kanjirappally. He lives with his wife Lillykutty and two children. He works as a real estate broker in the area. His family is very active in the parish activities and Pius is a member of several pious units in the parish community.



Rani Thomas Koottarappallil



Rani lives in the neighbourhood of Deepti, and belongs to the parish of Bharananganam in the eparchy of Pala. She is married to Mr KC Thomas, Koottarappallil and has four children. She is the mother of Rev. Fr Chacko Koottarappallil MST who is currently working in Ujjain. She is an active member in different pious organizations in the parish.

Rogy Cherian Chenattu

Rogy hails from Athirampuzha of the Archeparchy of Changanacherry. His wife's name is Jessy and she is also an associate missionary in MST. Mr Rogy is working as a teacher at Athirampuzha school. He used to be a seminarian in the MST and later has been a teacher in Barnagar, Ujjain. He is an active member of the parish and is the secretary of the family units.



Tom Jose Naiduvillekunel



Tom Jose hails from the parish of Kadanadu, in the eparchy of Pala. Leena Tom is his wife and they have two children. He works in the Navodaya School. **Tom Jose** is a former seminarian in the MST.



The First Associate Missionaries of the MST after the Solemn Promise of Association on 22 February 2019

HAPPY EASTER



The empty tomb does not signify absence but presence; it announces the Resurrected One's presence on the road ahead, in every particular space of struggle and recognition. Every bold going testifies that we are missionaries of resurrection.



**MST Generalate, Deepti Mount, Melampara P. O. Bharananganam 686578,
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