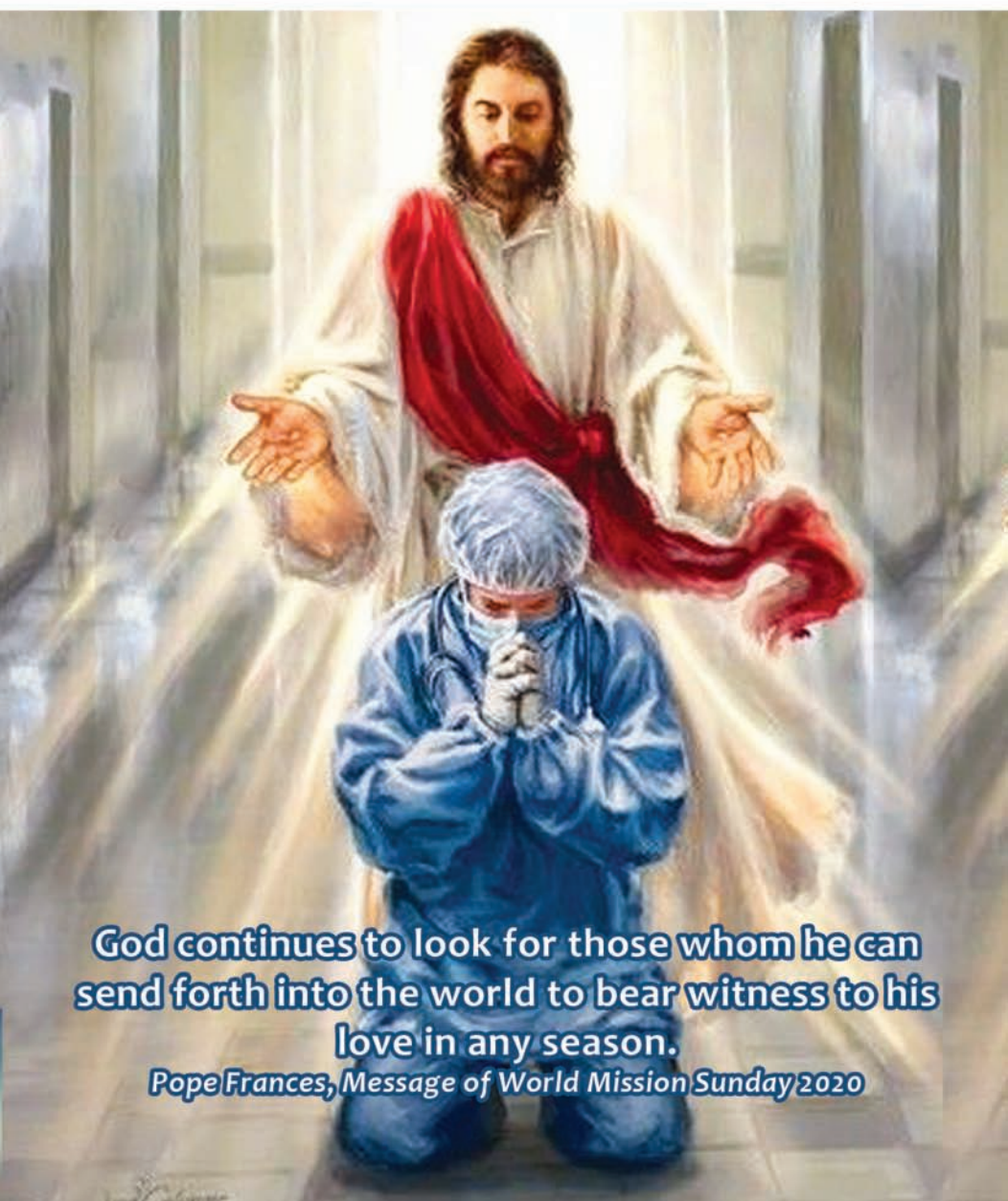




MST World

MST News Bulletin 03/20

Mission Sunday 2020



**God continues to look for those whom he can
send forth into the world to bear witness to his
love in any season.**

Pope Francis, Message of World Mission Sunday 2020

SACERDOTAL SILVER JUBILARAINS 2020

1995 - 96 ORDINATION BATCH



Fr Aikkarakunnel
George (Sojan)



Fr Kalathoor
Chandy (Tomy)



Fr Kannamthadam
Joseph (Benny)



Fr Kollamparampil
Mathew



Fr Koorumullumpuraydom
George



Fr Kureeckal
Francis



Fr Mampillil
George



Fr Mandapathil
Thomas (Tom)



Fr Mangalathil
Thomas (Tom)



Fr Maniamkeril
John (Johny)



Fr Mecheril
George



Fr Njallaniyil
Ephrem (Prakash)

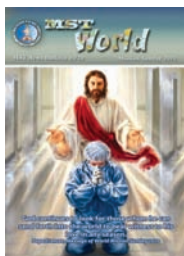


Fr Pulickal
Joseph



Fr Vadakeputhenpura
George

The MST appreciates your faithfulness
to the Mission of Christ, in the past of 25 years



News Contributors: MST Members
 Patron: Fr A. Perumanoor
 Editor: Fr J. Vettukallel
 Manager: Fr J. Kunnel
 Layout & DTP: Mr Jibin Mathew
 Printed: Assissi Press, Bharananganam

CONTENTS

I. MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL..	03
II. NEWS FROM THE GENERALATE	05
III. TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS	16
IV. CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION	17
V. NEWS FROM SEMINARIES	20
A. Deepti College, Melampara	20
B. Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery	24
C. Jeevan Jyoti, Srirangapatna	31
D. Ruhailaya, Ujjain.....	35
VI. NEWS FROM MISSIONS	39
A. St Paul Region	39
B. St Thomas Region	40
C. St Alphonsa Region	43
D. St Mary Queen of Missions Delegation	47
E. Odisha Mission	56
F. Arunachal Mission	63

G. Overseas Missions	65
1. United States	65
2. Austria	65
3. Germany.....	67
4. Canada	67
5. Switzerland.....	68
6. United Kingdom.....	69
7. Tanzania	71
8. Australia	72
9. Sweden	73

II. NEWS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES/CENTRES..75

A. Vocation Promotion.....	75
B. Santhome Fellowship.....	76
C. Santhome - IMPACT.....	80
D.Santhome Bible Centre	84
E. Thomasine Research Center.....	86

VIII. DEPARTED FOR ETERNAL REWARD.....88

A. Necrology.....	88
B. Obituaries.....	89
C. A Tribute to Fr Kochayankanal.....	98

IX. Appendices.....102

Circular No. X-14.....	102
Circular No. X-15.....	103
Circular No. X-16.....	106

“Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel, discovering Christ in each human being, recognizing him crucified in the sufferings of the abandoned and forgotten of our world, and risen in each brother or sister who makes a new start.”

Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, No. 287

Dear Excellencies, Reverend Fathers, Deacons and Brothers,



Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Sunday 2020 reminds us that in this year marked by the suffering and challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: “Here am I, send me” (Is:6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord’s question: “Whom shall I send?” This invitation

from God’s merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis. “Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying ‘We are perishing’, so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this” (Meditation of His Holiness Pope Francis in St. Peter’s Square, 27 March 2020).

We the members of the Missionary Society are called by God and sent by the Church to engage in mission *ad gentes* works. The Church has engaged itself in various ways among the people according to the signs of the time. Pope Francis’ articulation that the “Church which goes forth” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, title Nos. 20-24) has given more attention today on her missionary nature. Not because it is new, but because it is apt in today’s world situation. Today the Church which goes forth becomes meaningful, relevant, acceptable and recognized. Going forth means moving out to the periphery, encountering the needy, meeting the excluded and neglected and so forth. Going forth also indicates to be humble in her approach, being with people, experiencing the needs of the people. This shows that the Church moves from power to service, from dominance to simple relationship, from the concept of knowing everything to learning from people and so forth. The pandemic Covid 19 has become a big concern of the people all

over the world. The Church has a missionary duty to reach out to the affected and infected people of Covid 19.

According to the *Constitutions and Directives of the MST* no. 45, the missionary “must be prompt to take the initiative, constant in carrying out an undertaking, persevering in difficulties, patient and strong of heart in bearing loneliness, exhaustion and fruitless labour. He must approach men with an open mind and open heart; he must willingly accept the duties entrusted to him; and generously accommodate himself to the different customs and changing circumstances of other people.” (AG 25). Pope Francis with his new encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, challenges us to move to action.”Each day we have to decide whether to be good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders” (“*Fratelli Tutti*,” No. 69). We shall be always loyal to our missionary vocation and reach out to the people who are in need. Imbibing the spirit of the Constitutions, in all our mission regions and places of apostolate our missionaries are actively engaged in different ways to support the fellow beings affected and infected with Covid 19. Let me take this opportunity to appreciate and thank all of you.

The newly beatified Carlo Acutis is to be a model of how young people can use technology at the service of the Gospel to reach as many people as possible and help them know the beauty of friendship with the Lord. He was an ordinary boy, simple, spontaneous, likeable ... he loved nature and animals, he played football, he had many friends of his age, he was attracted by modern means of social communication, passionate about computer science, he built websites to transmit the Gospel, to communicate values and beauty. For Carlo, Jesus was the strength of his life and the purpose of everything he did. He was convinced that to love people and do them good you need to draw energy from the Lord. In this spirit he was very devoted to Our Lady. His ardent desire was also that of attracting as many people to Jesus, making himself herald of the Gospel above all with the example of life. Let Blessed Carlo Acutis inspire all of us especially our young missionaries and seminarians to reach out to the people with Gospel messages using the modern digital platform.

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

II. NEWS FROM THE GENERALATE

(From 1 July – 15 October 2020)

1. Living with Covid-19: Members and Ministries

As we continue experiencing the consequences of the pandemic covid-19 from March 2020, let us take utmost care in protecting ourselves and follow every possible measure to reduce its outbreak especially in our communities and neighbourhoods. A few of our members, seminarians and collaborators have also been being infected by corona, and are getting healed. Except in a few countries, most of our missions around the globe are still affected by Covid-19.

‘Living with Covid,’ is gradually becoming the norm for life everywhere. In many places, the members of the MST have been undertaking programmes to support the people infected and affected with covid-19. Including the schools which now run with online classes, many of our programmes are resuming the ministries in newer ways. All our seminaries, including Ruhailaya Major Seminary, Ujjain have started functioning with the normal curriculum from September 2020.

As missionaries, let us be flexible and committed to do all that is practical and beneficial, diligently following the regulations from the government. Let us support each other in all possible ways by sharing our resources and facilities for the common good which is our moral responsibility towards the people as one children of God.

2. Death and Funeral of Fr Kochayankanal

Rev. Fr Joseph Kochayankanal (1934-2020), one of our pioneer members, left for his heavenly abode at 12.30 a.m. on Tuesday 8 September 2020, at Carmel Hospital, Pala. After many years of dedicated ministry in the MST, in the Eparchy of Ujjain, in St Paul Region and in Ruhailaya Major Seminary, he joined the retired community at Aaraam, Deepti Mount in May 2013. Since he had no serious health issues, he was active in



serving the Aaraam community and was available for pastoral assistance in the neighbouring parishes.

In July 2019, Fr Kochayankal was diagnosed with renal disorders (kidney failure) which was the last stage of chronic kidney disease, at Caritas Hospital, Kottayam. From then, he had been undergoing periodic dialysis of three days in a week at Carmel Hospital, Pala. However, he was able to live his normal routine without any assistance. For almost last two weeks of his life (from 26 August to 8 September), he was admitted at Carmel, Pala due to several ailments. It was noticed that he had the problem of Ascites (abnormal build-up of fluid in the abdomen), which was caused mainly due to



the disorders in kidney and liver. He was being visited by our priests and family members, and was eating normal food in light-diet. He was very conscious and was able to talk until the last moment. Rev. Fr Thomas Kumblanthanam, the Director of Aaraam was by his side at the time of his last breath.

In consultation with the family members of Fr Kochayankal, the funeral service was scheduled on Thursday, 10 September 2020 following the formalities of Covid-protocol. On that day, the body which was preserved at the mortuary of Devamatha Hospital, Koothattukulam was taken to the house of his nephew – Mr Tomy Kochayankal at Kadaplamattam in the morning, where Bishop Jacob Muricken led the First Part of the funeral prayer by 9.30 a.m.



By 11.00 a.m., the body was brought to Deepti Mount. It was first placed at the Chapel of Aaraam where prayers were offered by the Aaraam community. Then it was kept at the open hall of Deepti Bhavan for public viewing. Many priests from the eparchy of Pala, members of the religious communities from the vicinity, local political leaders, members of the MST, associate missionaries, friends and neighbours came forward to offer homage to Fr Kochayankanal. The second part of the funeral service began at 2.00 p.m. led by Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, the Vice Director. The third part including the Holy Qurbana was officiated by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General. Bishop Mar Joseph Kallarangatt of Pala administered the final rites of the funeral ceremony. Due to covid restrictions, the funeral service was directly participated by only limited number of MSTs, friends and family members. The ceremony was live telecasted and was attended by many. After seven days, a special Holy Qurbana and prayers were held on 16 September which was also attended by his family members. The obligation of 'offering one Holy Qurbana for a member on his demise' (C&D16 vii) had been reminded by the Director General to all members of the MST. Let us be grateful to Fr Kochayankanal for all that he had been to us and shall imbibe inspiration from the

missionary legacy he has left behind. As customary, 'A Tribute to Fr Kochayankanal' is added to this Bulletin, prepared by his colleague – Rev. Fr Kurian Valiamangalam.

3. Demises of Mission Superior and Collaborators

The past few months witnessed the demises of many important persons closely related to the MST. They are:

Mar Paul Chittilappillil: The first bishop of Kalyan and the third Bishop of Thamarassery was called to eternal reward on 6 September 2020. As the bishop of Kalyan he was the mission superior of St Alphonsa Region for six years (1990-1996).

Sr Marietta Angadith S.H.: One of the pioneer religious sisters in Ujjain mission who was our long term missionary collaborator for 51 years from 1969, breathed her last on 28 July 2020.

Rev. Fr Joseph Padannamakal: He was Rector (1975-78) and Professor/Spiritual Director (1970-75) at Deepti College, departed on 25 August 2020.

Rev. Fr George Thoomkuzy: Formerly a priest incardinated to the Eparchy of Ujjain, he was our collaborator in mission for 23 years (1972-1995), and was called to eternal rest on 26 August 2020.

Rev. Sr Justy Mannoor FCC: She was our missionary collaborator in St Alphonsa, Region for 10 years serving at Lanja and Khed, and left for eternal reward on 20 September 2020.

Rev. Sr Infant Tresa SABS: Joining Ujjain mission in 1996, she worked with many of our members of St Paul Region for 26 years and slept in the Lord on 27 September 2020.

Rev. Sr Therese Kochuvelickakam SABS: Joining Ujjain mission in 1999, she worked in the Diocese of Jhabua and later in Ujjain, and slept in the Lord on 6 October 2020.

The Director General or the members of the General Council, or the Regional Director of St Paul Region, and other MST priests were present in their funeral services held in different places. Let us pray for all of them, gratefully remembering their love for and collaboration with the MST. Paying our respectful homage to all of

them, short obituaries are given towards the end of this Bulletin.

4. Vestition and Promise of Incorporation

The vestition and renewal of the temporary Promise of Incorporation of three seminarians, who had successfully completed their missionary training in the field (Regency), were held at the chapel of Deepti College on 4 August 2020, the feast of St John Maria Vianney. The ceremonies were presided over by the Director General and were



participated by family members of the three seminarians: Arackaparambil Michael (Shalgin); Irurickal Kuriakose (Noyal) and Kizhakkekkara Joseph (Ashil).

Due to the lockdown measures, the first temporary promise of incorporation of the students who completed their Missionary Orientation Course was received by the Director General or his delegate in different places (Deepti Bhavan; Santhome, Thamarassery; and Sant Thoma Bhavan, Kolhapur) before they proceeded for the study of philosophy to different seminaries. Their names and the assigned major seminaries were given in the previous *MST World* of Dukhrana 2020.

5. Draft of C&D and Extraordinary General Assembly

The final documents of the review and study of the draft of *The Constitutions and Directives of the MST* (C&D) were submitted by the Convener of the Committee on 21 September 2020. With the submission of the final documents, the Committee which was constituted in accordance with the first resolution of the General Assembly 2018 has fulfilled its mandates and henceforth stands

dissolved. Sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Convener – Rev. Fr Joseph G. Aryankalayil and the Members of the Committee for their expertise and commitment in fulfilling the entrusted responsibility in time.

The committee which started its work from November 2018, conducted series of study sessions on the first draft at regional/zonal levels for six different groups and collected feedbacks until July 2019. Having three intensive workshops on the feedbacks and the opinions gathered, the Committee came up with a second draft of the C&D which was submitted to the Director General on 3 April 2020 including an extensive report on the acts of the Committee and analyses of the data with graphic presentation. After obtaining feedback on the second draft through the Director General (by 20 August 2020), some of the observations from the expert(s) and of the members had been integrated to the text. The rest of the observations and suggestions are organized chapter-wise into a different file. Along with the new draft, all the observations/suggestions will be placed for the deliberation and consideration of the proposed extraordinary General Assembly which will be convoked in the near future.

6. Higher Studies of Priests

Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, some of the universities in Europe are not enrolling any new students for the upcoming academic year 2020-2021 and the consulates are not issuing visas either. Therefore, those who had been relieved from their apostolates for foreign studies will be doing language preparations or will be given temporary assignments, until they are able to join their programmes.

a. Completion of Studies:

Rev. Fr Vibin Vanmelil completed his M.A. in English Literature from Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati. He completed his studies with CGPA of 8.83 which awarded him Gold medal (first rank).

Rev. Fr Lithosh Karingadayil completed the course for M.A. in

Hindi Literature from Pune University.

Rev. Fr Saneesh Panthaplackal successfully completed B.Ed. studies from Christ University, Bangalore with high first class.

Rev. Fr Bibin Vadayaparambil completed the course of B.Ed. studies from Barkatullah University, Bhopal.

Rev. Fr Vincent Varakil completed the course of B.Ed. studies from Barkatullah University, Bhopal.

b. Beginning of Higher Studies:

Rev. Fr Prayan Kongatt is beginning B.Ed. studies in Barkatullah University, Bhopal.

Rev. Fr Benedict Varappadavil is beginning studies in Special B.Ed. in Vikram University, Ujjain.

Rev. Fr Lijo Vadakkemuriyil (Neyyoor) has started studies for Licentiate in Oriental Canon Law at Paurastya Vidyapitham, Vadavathoor, Kottayam.

Rev. Fr Joseph Edamanacheril has started studies for Licentiate in Spiritual Theology at Indian Institute of Spirituality, Bangalore.

7. Sacerdotal Silver Jubilarians

Fourteen of our priests are celebrating the silver jubilee of their priestly ordination this year (ordination batch of 1995-1996). The Generalate level celebration, which is annually held in the month of November, is not possible this year due to the pandemic. Although many of them would complete the jubilee year by the first week of January, it is now being planned to have a celebration at Deepti Bhavan from 3 to 4 February 2020.

The MST recognizes the contributions of all the following jubilarians for their 25 years of priestly-missionary ministry in and through the MST.

1.Fr	Kannamthadam Joseph (Benny)	27 December 1995
2.Fr	Mandapathil Thomas (Tom)	27 December 1995
3.Fr	Koorumullumpurayidom George	29 December 1995
4.Fr	Mampillil George	29 December 1995
5.Fr	Mecheril George	30 December 1995

6.Fr	Aikkarakunnel George (Sojan)	31 December 1995
7.Fr	Njallaniyil Ephrem (Prakash)	1 January 1996
8.Fr	Maniamkeril John (Johny)	2 January 1996
9.Fr	Mangalathil Thomas (Tom)	3 January 1996
10.Fr	Kollamparampil Mathew	4 January 1996
11.Fr	Pulickal Joseph	4 January 1996
12.Fr	Vadakeputhenpura George	4 January 1996
13.Fr	Kureeckal Francis	17 April 1996
14.Fr	Kalathoor Chandy (Tomy)	24 April 1996

Let us thank all of them for their sacrifices and committed services in their places of apostolates, and pray for a joyful and healthy life ahead.

8. Online Meetings with the Administrative Units

The Director General, the members of the General Council and the Treasurer General had formal online meetings with the members of the following administrative units, to have interactions on the concerns of Covid-19.

St Alphonsa Region: The Regional administrative team of St Alphonsa Region held a joint meeting of all the members of the Region with the general team on 20 July 2020, for two hours from 11 to 1.00 p.m. It was attended by all members of the General Council and majority members of the Region.

MST in USA: The coordinator of the MSTs in USA - Fr Antony Thundathil hosted a zoom meeting of all the MSTs in America with the general team from 9.00 p.m. on 20 July 2020.

MST in Germany: Under the leadership of Fr Alexander Vanderkunnel, the MSTs in Germany held two meetings with the general team on 12 July and on 2 August respectively. The first one was for fraternal interactions to share about the Covid situations, while the second meeting was to have discussion on the second draft of C&D of the MST.

St Thomas Region: The Regional administrative team of St Thomas Region held a joint meeting of all the members of the Region with

the general team on 16 August 2020. It was also attended by all members of the General Council and majority members of the Region.

General Council with Regional Councils/ Delegation: The administrative teams of the Region and the Delegation (the Regional Directors, the Delegate and Councillors) and the General Council came together for a virtual meeting on 2 October 2020, to share and discuss about the developments at the central and unit levels. The meeting lasted for two hours.

9. Mission Expansion

St Alphonsa Region: On 3 July 2020, a new mission station was started under the leadership of Rev. Fr Antony Pedickattukunnel, at a village called *Padal* in the district of Kolhapur. Sincere appreciation to Fr Pedickattukunnel, the regional team and all the missionaries in the Region. The details of this new centre are given under the news section of St Alphonsa Region.

Odisha Mission: Two more new centres have been started by the missionary team in Orissa on 1 October 2020, in the South Western districts of Orissa and two priests each are assigned to the centres. Now there are five mission centres in Odisha. Congratulations and prayerful wishes to the missionary team in Odisha. The details are given under the news section of the Odisha Mission.

10. TRC Shifted to Thumboor

The Thomasine Research Centre (TRC) and the Department of Historical Research and Documentation of the MST (DHRD) are now shifted from Deepti Mount, Melampara to the new MST Centre in Thumboor, Irinjalakkuda. Rev. Fr James Kurukilamkattu continues as the Director of the above departments, in addition to being the Director of the MST Centre in Thumboor. Rev. Fr Joseph Vazhuthanappally also resides at this house, heading the responsibilities of the offices related with Christian Archaeological Research initiated by him.

11. Portfolios of Benefactors and Website

The responsibilities related with the portfolios of Benefactors and Website are changed from Fr Justin Vettukallel, and are now directly under the Director General. Kindly make all related correspondences to the Director General.

12. Ongoing Formation Programme

The ongoing formation programmes for the junior priests of the last five ordination batches are scheduled to take place online from 5 to 7 November 2020. The details of the programme will be informed to the junior priests in the upcoming days.

13. Online Annual Retreat

The Generalate is hosting an online annual retreat for the members of the MST from 16 to 20 November 2020 (Monday to Friday). Rev. Fr Joy Painadath of the diocese of Kannur is the retreat preacher. The duration of the retreat talk and the online details of the retreat will be communicated in a few days.

14. Changes in FCRA Regulations

In the light of the recent Foreign Contribution Regulations Act enacted by Parliament, a webinar by our Chartered Account will be organized from the Generalate from 09.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m., on 23 October 2020. The online details of which will be informed later.

15. Priestly Ordinations in Common

The MST has 11 priestly ordinations this year. Due to the pandemic, it is decided to conduct priestly ordinations in common at Deepti Bhavan on 27 December 2020 and the first Holy Qurbana in the respective parishes of the ordinandi, at their convenience. His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry, the Major Archbishop has consented to confer all the ordinations.

16. Web-camp: Missio Dei

Santhome Fellowship is organising a *Missio Dei* (Web-Camp) in this mission month, on 25 October 2020. It provides an opportunity to include children from our families of MST priests and of Santhome

fellowship members. This camp includes missionary sharing from veteran missionaries in the field. With the modern gadgets it is easy to show the mission field and people around. It is intended to help the children know more about MST and its missionary activities in different parts of the world. It can facilitate some vocations from our own families. The details of the web-camp will be informed by Fr Monse Karuvakunnel, Director of Santhome Fellowship.

17. Webinar: Samvet 2020

A webinar named - 'Samvet 2020' was organized for all members of the MST, for ten days from 8 to 17 October 2020 between 6.30



p.m. to 8.00 p.m. This online seminar was organized in the context of the pandemic Covid-19, which continues to affect our personnel, ministries and the communities we serve around the globe. The participants and speakers of

this seminar were solely the members of the MST. The webinar was intended to help our members comprehend the challenge of this pandemic to the major realms of our missionary existence, and plan proactive response towards setting our missionary endeavours and priorities relevant and efficient to the evolving scenario.

Samvet-2020 was organized by Rev. Fr James Kurukilamkatt and Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, supported by Fr Joby Maprakavil. *Samvet* is a Hindi word of Sanskrit origin, meaning – assembled together in a place. The name was coined by Fr Kurukilamkatt. *SAMVET*, for us is **S**earch for **A**daptive **M**issionary **V**ision in the **E**volving **T**imes.

The webinar was attended by more than 130 members every day. Altogether 55 of our members were formal speakers in the webinar, on different topics. It is planned to hold 'Samvet' every year in the month of October, in the preceding week of the World Mission Sunday.

III. Transfers and Assignments/Appointments

A. St Paul Region

Aranjanal Jose - Relieved from the Eparchy of Jagdalpur

Kalarickal Thomas is appointed to assist in the translation ministry, residing at Kripa Training Centre, Chandessary, Eparchy of Ujjain

Kongattu Mathew (Prayan) - Relieved from Jamner and is appointed assistant priest in charge in Mana, Eparchy of Ujjain

Nattunilath John - Relieved from Susner and is appointed assistant priest in charge at Jamner, Eparchy of Ujjain

Vadayaparampil Augustine (Bibin) - Relieved from Mana and is appointed Formator at Vikas Maitri (MOC), Kotra, Eparchy of Ujjain

Varappadavil Benedict - Relieved from Mandsaur and is appointed as assistant priest in charge and Rector of the Hostel at Harsodan, Eparchy of Ujjain

Velloor Augustine (Jithin) - Relieved from Nadga and is appointed as assistant priest in charge at Mandsaur.

Pendanath Thomas (Shinto) - Relieved from the diocese of Jagdalpur and will be joining Ujjain mission soon.

B. St Thomas Region

Malieckal Hubby (Michael) is appointed Director, Rural Development, St Thomas Region

C. Seminaries

Karingadayil Mathew (Lithosh) - Appointed formator and professor, Ruhalya Major Seminary (Philosophy Section), Ujjain

Kozhipatt Mathew (Joby) - Appointed formator, Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery

D. Other Ministries/Centres/Studies

Anithanam Mathew - Appointed Eparchial Director of the Department of Catechism, Eparchy of Faridabad (Additional to the Parish Priest of Burari, Delhi)

Edamanacherril Joseph – Assigned for licentiate studies in Spiritual Theology at Indian Institute of Spirituality (MSFS), Bangalore.

Kurukilamkatt James – Appointed Director of MST Centre in Thumboor, Irinjalakkud (Additional to the TRC- Director)

Ottalankal Jose – Relieved from the Eparchy of Thuckalay and is appointed Ass. Manager, Deepti Rubber Estate, Koranchira, Palakkad

IV. Change/Correction of Contact Information

A. Postal Address

Akattukudy Joseph: Fr Joseph Kuruvilla MST, Box 2130, 201, 4th Avenue E., Canora, SK S0A 0L0, Canada.

Alencherry Rony, Santhome Bible Centre, Puthurkunnu, Pariyaram Medical College P.O., Kannur Dt – 670503, Kerala

Aranjanal Jose, C/o Deepti Mount, Melampara – 686578, Kottayam Dt, Kerala

Kalarickal Thomas, Kripa Training Centre, Premnagar, Chandessary-456664, Ujjain Dt, M.P.

Kannathukuzhy Joseph, Aaraam, Deepti Mount, Melampara – 686578, Kottayam Dt, Kerala

Karingadayil Mathew (Lithosh), Ruhahaya Major Seminary (Philosophy) P.B. No. 4, Agar Road, Ujjain City P.O. - 456 006, Madhya Pradesh

Kocheettathottu Siby, St Mary's Syro Malabar Catholic Church, 2581 S. Sanford Ave, Sanford, FL 32773 USA

Kongattu Mathew (Prayan), St Alphonsa Church, Mana – 465667, Kurawar (via), Rajgarh Dt., Madhya Pradesh

Koothottil Biju, Residenza Orsini, Via Meleagro 31, 00058 Santa Marinella (RM), ITALIA

Kottakkavil Augustine (Jijo), Sacred Heart MST Mission Centre, C/o Pradeep Kumar Lima, Aditya Nagar, Near OMC Office, Laxmipur-765013, Koraput, (Dist), Odisha

Kozhipatt Mathew (Joby), Santhome Minor Seminary, P.B. No. 22, Estate Rd, Vezhupur, Thamarassery – 673578, Kozhikode Dt., Kerala

Kuliraniyil Mathew: Fr Benny Mathew Kuliraniyil, St. Louis the King Catholic Church, 264 Silver Creed Road Marquette, MI 49855 USA

Kurukilamkatt James, Chaama Bhavan (MST House), Thumbur-680662, Lower Kodungallur, Thrissur, Kerala

Kuzhiyadiyil Mathew (Binish), Sacred Heart MST Mission Centre, C/o Pradeep Kumar Lima, Aditya Nagar, Near OMC Office, Laxmipur-765013, Koraput, (Dist), Odisha

Maliekal Michael, Santhome, P.B. No.42, Engineering College Road, Mandya Dt. – 571401, Karnataka

Mandapathil Thomas: Fr Tomy Augstian Mandapathil, MST, Box 639, 401 Southesk St., Whitewood, SK S0G 5C0, Canada

Maniyalil Sebastian (Jibin), Little Flower Mission Centre, C/o Siba Rao, Nuaguda, Near Kundra Jaganath, Temple, Kundra (P.O.), Koraput (Dist), Odisha - 764002

Mulluvengapurathu Mathew (Joby): Don Jobi Thomas, Parrocchia Santa Maria Annunziata, Via Mascagni n. 21, 37060, Castel D’Azzano, Verona, Italia

Nadackal Varghese: Pater Varghese Nadackal, Dammweg.4, 8952 Schlieren, Switzerland

Nattunilath John, Shanti Bhavan, Jamner- 465 335, Shajapur Dt, Madhya Pradesh

Ottalankal Jose, Deepti Rubber Estate, Koramchira, Kizhakkencherry – 678684, Palakkad Dt., Kerala

Puthenpurayil Chacko: Pater Benny Kurian, Kirchenweg -14, 86391, Stadtbergen, Germnay

Tharapputhottiyil Joseph (Josin), Little Flower Mission Centre, C/o Siba Rao, Nuaguda, Near Kundra Jaganath, Temple, Kundra (P.O.), Koraput (Dist.), Odisha - 764002

Vadayaparampil Augustine (Bibin), Vikas Maitri, Kotara P O, Rajgrah Dt 465669, Madhya Pradesh

Valiyaparambil Antony (Libin), Nirmal Jyoty Mission, C/o St Thomas Catholic Church Baliguda, Khandamal, Odisha - 762103

Varappadavil Benedict, Jai Amala Bhavan, Harsodan, Maksi Road, Ujjain, 456661, M.P.

Vattukulathil Thomas, House No. 562, Dongi Waddo, Assonora P.O., Bardez, Goa-403503

Velloor Augustine (Jithin), Nirmal Jyoti Special School, PB No.7, Nirmal Nagar, Near Gausala, Pratapgarh Road, Mandsaur – 458002, M.P.

B. Phone Numbers/Emails

Anjilithoppil Joel: +972583906967

Arangasserry Lonappan: 7649024292; 8078902042

Kolliyil Aby: kollyilaby10@gmail.com

Manjakkal Jins: 636346657

Mulluvengapurathu Mathew (Joby): +39 3288191874

Puthenpua Benny: +4917642798325



V. News from Seminaries

A. Deepti College, Melampara

1. Dukrana

Amidst Covid-19, the feast of DUKRANA 2020 was celebrated with a solemn “Raasa.” Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Director General MST was the main celebrant. Because of the Corona pandemic the First year Theologians of Ruhahaya seminary stayed at Deepti campus from July through September 15, 2020. The participation and presence of the Theologians added more joy and beauty to the DUKRANA feast.



2. Inauguration of the Academic Year

Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, Vice Director of MST inaugurated the new Academic year, DIYA and DCLA 2020-21. Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment.

In his inaugural address he stressed the need of discipline, hard work and co-operation among the students. Students should have a burning fire inside to achieve higher goals. After the inaugural functions and cultural programs we had a sumptuous meal together with all the fathers and brothers in the campus.

3. Feast of Alphonsa and Newcomers' Day

Covid- 19 pandemic has traumatized the world and brought all human



beings on their knees. For the first time in the history of Deepti seminary seminarians were not able to visit the tomb of St Alphonsa on her feast day. But on 28 July we had a solemn celebration of Holy Mass. Fr Kuriakose Kunnel, Treasurer General MST was the main celebrant of the Holy Mass. He spoke about the early life of St Alphonsa and asked brothers to inculcate her childhood virtues in



life. The brothers watched a documentary on St Alphonsa in the morning. A video presentation of seminary life and a song honouring St Alphonsa sung by seminarians were shown in the evening. Fr Lijesh

Panackavayalil and Fr Joby Maprakavil were the master brain behind the Video documentation and presentation. Congratulations dear Fathers.

Newcomers' day was celebrated in the evening with variety of cultural programs. It was an opportunity to show off their multifaceted talents to their seniors. First year Theologians were also present at the occasion. The Benjamins of Deepti could impress all of us with their superb performances. Fr Justin Vettukallel, Secretary General was the chief guest of the day. Fr Kisincher Aniyekattu, Father Prefect of the New comers animated them at every step. Congrats dear father and brothers for your superb performance.

4. Independence Day



Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General hoisted flag and delivered message of the day at the Generalate campus. The seminarians performed cultural items and delivered speeches, in addition to march-past. The programme was attended by all in

the Deepti Campus.

5. Exams & Onam



Before Onam celebration, we conducted the exams from August 20 through 28. Onam was celebrated on August 31st with traditional colour and flavor. “Pulikali,” Mass entry of *Maveli*, *Ona p p a t t u k a l* ,

pookkalam, etc. were some of the special events of the day. Theology students were also actively participated in it. Together with the non-teaching staff we had a sumptuous lunch on “Thiruvonam.” Due to the Covid-19 brothers couldn’t go for Onam vacation. Brothers celebrated Onam by watching movies and playing indoor and outdoor games in the seminary.

6. Rev. Fr Joseph Kochayankanal

Rev. Fr Joseph Kochayankanal completed his earthly life and started his heavenly journey on the feast of the Nativity of Bl. Virgin Mary. Considering the Covid -19 protocols we made all the arrangement for his funeral service and his body was laid to rest at the cemetery chapel on September 10, 2020. The Holy Mass was officiated by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor Director General of MST and Mar Joseph Kallarangattu bishop of Pala diocese officiated the concluding part of the funeral services. The seminarians were of

great help in making all the arrangements. Dear Father we are very grateful for all the help you have rendered to the seminary especially in hearing the confessions of the seminarians. You are in our prayers; please keep us also in your prayers.

7. Deepti Olympic 2020



The much awaited Mission Sunday competitions, better known as Deepti Olympic was conducted on 25 & 26 September, 2020. Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Director

General MST inaugurated the competitions and took the salute of the seminarians during the colourful march past.

Fr Joby Maprakavil together with jury members meticulously organized all the competitions. Congratulations dear friends.

8. Annual Retreat

The Annual retreat 2020 was preached by Fr Scaria Thamarakattu MST, Rev. Sr Tessa MSMI and Sr Jerin MSMI. It started from



October 6th and is concluded by 10th. The retreat has really rejuvenated their spiritual life. He asked them to become a “New creation in Christ.”

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

B. Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery

The Santhome Family at Thamarassery is doing well and all its members of 53 brothers and seven fathers along with the non-teaching staff are keeping healthy and spirited in this difficult time of Covid-19. Although the surrounding places have reported positive cases of Covid-19, our Vrundavan Estate is protected very special way by God!

Though not affected by Covid-19 Pandemic, we are taking extremely careful measures avoid any kind of bad remarks from the part of the Health Departments. We had cancelled sports for weeks when our Ward was declared a Containment Zone. We were spared from closing down of our roads to Vrundhavan Estate.

I would like to start the News and events of our Seminary from the beginning of the Academic year 2020 – 2021.

1. Arrival Benjamins of the Seminary



There are 25 First year Brothers and all are keeping fine and are very much talented in various fields. The Second Years (15) and the Third Years (13) are fully tuned to their studies! Brothers came to Santhome Seminary at different times and days keeping the Covid-19 Protocol. All Brothers were kept in House Quarantine for One Month, till the end of July without sports but confined to the indoor games! Free-Will time table for the First Years for the First week helped them a lot get to know each other and get out of home sick! All the Staff remained in the Seminary itself during the lockdown

and holidays.

2. Inauguration of Academic Year



The Academic Year 2020-2021, though began on 22nd June 2020, the official inauguration was held later. It was done by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Our Director General on 26th July. SCLA (Santhome Cultural and Literary Association) was also inaugurated on the same occasion.



3. Wonderful S.S.L.C. Result

All the 25 New Comers were anxious to know their SSLC Result on 30th June and they secured very high

marks in their SSLC Examinations. One of them secured Full A Plus and another One, Nine A Plus!

4. Feast of Dukhrana

The Feast of St Thomas the Apostle ('Dukhrana') was celebrated most solemnly with RAZA Qurbana in the morning followed by some Indoor Games! It was really an experiential ceremony!

5. Freshers' Day



The Freshers' Day, celebrated on 26th July, was a colourful event with many beautiful programme. The batch is really talented and exhibited

many new and good programme. Our Director General was the

6. Promise of Incorporation

Due to the Covid-19, the First Temporary Promise of Incorporation into our Society for those who completed M.O.C. was conducted here on 27th July. It took place during the Holy Qurbana, administered by Very Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General.



Nine Brothers who are from the Malabar Side took the First Promise of Incorporation and the rest of the Brothers who completed MOC did it at Deepti. It was a new experience for the Santhome Seminary and our Brothers!

7. Feast of St Alphonsa & Vanakkamasam

The Feast of St Alphonsa was celebrated solemnly on 28th July. As a preparation for the Feast, we had Novena too. The One Month “Vanakkamasam” to St Thomas the Apostle came to an end on 31st July with solemn Novena and “Pachor Nercha.”

8. Feast of St John Maria Viannie

The feast of St John Maria Viannie, the patron saint all priests, was very solemnly celebrated on 04th Aug. and Brothers wished all Fathers with a flower and sang songs. Rector on behalf of the Staff thanked all the Brothers for great gesture of thoughtfulness and prayers.

9. Inauguration of Competitions

Santhome Seminary started its Mission Sunday Competitions on 04th August, inaugurated by Fr Rector. There are four teams: St Thomas, St Alphonsa, St George and St John Maria Viannie. All groups are equally strong and compete with sportsman spirit. Most of the Indoor items are over and the Sports items will be held after the Exams on 17 – 18th Oct.



10. Arrival of New Staff Member

Rev. Fr Joby Kozhipatt joined to the Santhome Seminary Staff on

09th August.

11. Independence Day & Feast of Assumption



Rev. Fr Siby Ponpara C.M.I., the Principal of St Mary's H.S. School, Koodathai was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana, who hoisted the National Flag and delivered an inspiring

message. The cultural programmes were staged by Bothers at 10.30 a.m.

12. Santhome Koinonia

Santhome Seminary had a Community meeting (Santhome Koinonia), first of this kind, on 01st Aug. where all Brothers and Fathers came together. Brothers had a first-hand sharing and expression of their views for the better functioning of the Seminary and the Staff took the proper decisions then and there. All the concerns and questions that Brothers raised had their explanations and answers. So, Brothers appreciated such Community gathering and the Staff assured them that such gatherings will take place at least twice a year!

13. Covid-19 Precautions

The increasing numbers of Covid-19 cases made us introduce gargling, inhaling with steamer three times a day after meals for all Brothers. Brothers strictly followed it.

14. Birthday and Send-off of Fr Alencherry

Fr Rony Alencherry celebrated his birthday with us on 26th Aug. and we said adieu to him from Santhome Seminary as he got a change in his residence from here to Santhome Bible Study Centre, Pariyaram. This change of residence is meant only to enhance his vocation trips and



contacts with the Parish Priests in the Archdiocese of Thalassery. He went to his new residence on 27th Aug. On 28th Aug. Santhome Community celebrated the Feast of Rev. Fr Augustine Marottikudy.

15. No Onam Examinations and Vacations

It was decided early that the Brothers would not be sent home for Onam Holidays and there would not be Onam Examinations. The Academic year 2020-2021 is divided into Two Semesters and the Brothers will have only Semester Examinations. Some free days will be given during the Onam and before the Bi-Annual Retreat instead.

16. Onam Celebrations



The Onam celebrations were extremely good and Brothers requested for Batch-wise Flower Carpet competitions. Due to the scarcity of flowers, they decided to have use only natural items like leaves, seeds, soil etc.. They collected some wild flowers and made three beautiful

Flower Carpets on the Eve of the Onam. Judges from outside judged and awarded the First prize to the First Years! On the Onam day, the Second year Brothers prepared the *Ona Sadhya* with 34 item and the First Years performed *Pulikali* etc. The Third Years organized various other games including Tug of War. All Fathers also actively participated in all the programmes.



Onam holidays started on 30th Aug. to 03rd Sept, the last day being a day of Common work in the field!

17. Monthly Recollections

The Monthly Recollections in this Academic Year are conducted on the First Thursdays as against Sundays of previous year. Fathers

and Sisters from our vicinity come to give talks and to lead Adorations. MSFS and MCBS Fathers help us in hearing the confessions.

18. Bi-annual Retreat

A Charismatic Bi-annual retreat was preached by Rev. Fr Zacharias Thadathil from 03-06th Sept. All Brothers enjoyed the experiential retreat. We could see the change of aptitude for prayers among the Brothers after the retreat. A big thanks to Rev. Fr Zacharias Thadathil for conduction such a fruitful retreat for our Brothers. The Retreat was attended by all Fathers too as they did not attend in the Annual Retreat of this year due to Corona!

19. Semester Examinations

All Brothers are in the examination mood as the first Semester Examinations started on 03rd Oct. and it will come to an end on 16th Oct.

20. One Act Play Competitions

In order to remember our Founder, Mar Sebastial Vayalil, we have decided to conduct a One Act Play competition between the Three Batches on Saturday 21st November and the winner will be awarded trophy and cash prizes.

21. Month of Rosary Devotion

We have decided to pray common Rosary for the whole month with the intension of cessation of Covid-19, setting aside the Novenas of St Thomas and St Mary. Ten days of Solemn Rosary will start on 22 – 31st October.

22. Akhanda Japamala

Akhanda Japamala or Non-stop Rosary for 24 hours will be conducted on 28 – 29th of this Month.

23. Keeping the Protocol of Covid-19

When our ward was declared a containment zone, we decided to divide the community into three groups of 20 people each and celebrated the Holy Qurbana and prayers in these groups, all wearing

masks for the Qurbana and prayers.

24. Visitors to Santhome Seminary

Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Fr Thomas Karamel, Fr Joy Kunnel, Fr Sebastian Kizhakkal, Fr Joy Kochupara, Fr James Kurukilamkatt, Fr George Keeranchira, Fr Manu Maprayil, Fr Hubby Maliekkal, Fr Sijo Azhakath, Fr Daey Kunnath, Fr Joison Puthenpura, Fr Monse, Fr Manoj Parackal, Fr Rajesh Pallickavayal, Fr Siby Ponpara, SABS Sisters, Sr Ans Maria CMC and Team, Sr Jinu MSJ and Team, Sr Philo MSMI and Team etc.



25. Celebration of the Sept.08



The feast of the Nativity of Our Bl. Lady was celebrated very solemnly. There was a Rosary Procession in the evening. The Third Year Brothers decorated the

Grotto with lights, giving a heavenly atmosphere.

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

C. Jeevan Jyoti, Srirangapatna

1. Group Dynamics Class by Fr Muringassery

Once brothers had finished the quarantine period, Rev. Dr Viju Muringassery was invited to take group dynamics classes for them. Knowing the pulse of our younger buds, Fr Viju, guided them through sessions of Personality Development, Face to Face Interaction and Time Management. Brothers had very high appreciation of the ways these sessions were conducted by Fr Viju Muringassery.

2. Visit of Mar Adayanthrath



On July 12th His Excellency Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath visited our Jeevan Jyoti community. He offered the Holy Mass for us. And during the homily he underlined the importance of knowing God through *Karma Marga*, *Bhakti Marga* and *Njana Marga*. His Excellency during his friendly chit-chat with brothers had also shared his seminary life and about the peculiarities of the age group of 18-20. All of us are really proud of His excellency as our Pastor of Mandya Diocese.

3. Inauguration of the Academic Year

The Academic year of 2020-21 was inaugurated by our Regional Director Very Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott on 13 July. On the



inauguration day Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott celebrated the Holy Mass and encouraged us with his contextual homily from the point of view of a Missiologist. And in the inaugural address too, he highlighted the need for having a missionary formation during this M.O.C.

4. Feast of St Alphonsa

Unlike the previous years, this time the feast of our patroness St Alphonsa on 28 July was very simple and minimum due to Covid 19 pandemic. This year, since the brothers came very late, neither they could get ready with Kannada Holy Qurbana nor we could invite the Christians from the village for the feast. May be the first time in the history of Jeevan Jyoti such a simple way the feast of St. Alphonsa was celebrated.

5. Beginning of J.C.L.A. Meeting

Officially the curtain was raised to begin the *Jeevan Jyoti Cultural and literary Association (JCLA)* on 19th July. Rev. Fr Josekutty Kalayil was the chief guest for the inaugural session, and by lighting the lamp he officially declared the JCLA inaugurated.

6. Independence Day and Feast of Assumption

This year, 15 August was special because it was on this day we officially inaugurated the Kannada Holy Qurbana. Rev. Fr Salas Karikkandathil, the Regional Procurator of Mandya was the main



celebrant of the day. The Holy Mass was followed by the ceremony of Flag hoisting, Saluting the Flag and a Common Meeting. In the evening a friendly volley-ball

match was also conducted.

7. Onam Celebrations



The Jeevan Jyoti community celebrated Onam in a very grand way. It was almost a full

day celebration, which included, Athappookkalam, Onasadhya and Onam games. Brothers and fathers actively participated in all the celebration and thus Onam was an opportunity to boost our community feeling.



8. Extraordinary Day of Prayer

Following the special request by our Major Archbishop, in preparation for the *Ettu-Noyambu*, the Jeevan Jyoti community observed Friday 4th September 2020, as the day of Prayer, Fasting and Adoration with the special intention of praying for the covid affected world. After the Holy Mass in the morning we started the 12-hour adoration. Brothers were divided into 3 groups to facilitate the adoration. All of us wholeheartedly prayed before the Blessed Sacrament for the corona affected world.

9. 33 Years of Jeevan Jyoti

It was on 8 September 1987 the foundation stone of Jeevan Jyoti

at Ganjam was blessed. Remembering that day, we renewed the blessing of the Jeevan Jyoti community, seminary and its premises.

Thanks to Rev. Fr Hubby Maliekal who was very much available to come to Jeevan Jyoti on 8th September in order to celebrate the solemn Holy Qurbana and to renew the blessing of the seminary. He also shared with brothers his experiences in Mandya mission as the first Regent. Brothers eagerly listened to him, while he narrated his personal experiences in the Mandya mission.

10. First Semester Retreat

The first semester retreat for the brothers was conducted from 27-30 September 2020. Rev. Fr Domenic Puthenpurackal guided the brothers in four days of prayer and meditation. It was an enriching experience for the brothers. During the retreat brothers dedicated more time for discerning their missionary vocation.

11. Jeevan Jyoti Gets New Kitchen Staff

Mr Nilesh Dhawar and his wife Mrs Arati Dhawar our Kitchen Staff



since 2019, terminated their service at Jeevan Jyoti on 2 October due to the pressing insistence from their parents living in M . P .

However, Jeevan Jyoti community was very much indebted to Mr Nilesh and his wife for their dedicated service. They were given a sendoff on 2 October and the following day they left for M.P.

In the absence of kitchen staff, for one week we ourselves managed the kitchen. From 10 October, we have a family from Kerala (husband and wife) to work in our Kitchen.

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

D. Ruhhalaya

1. Lockdown and Holidays

In the wake of the rapid spread of Covid 19, the Prime Minister of India announced a nationwide lockdown limiting the movement of the entire 1.3 billion population of India as a preventive measure from the 24 of March. It was ordered after a 14-hour voluntary public curfew on 22 March. As a result of this unexpected curfew and lockdown, the brothers were unable to go on holidays on 24 March. However, most of the Theology brothers went home by the last flight from Indore while some 15 of them stayed back at Theologate. Many exams of the Theology brothers could not be conducted and had to be postponed. During these days of the lockdown brothers followed a holiday time table. There were special adoration and benediction every evening. The fathers were not able to go for Masses to the neighbouring Convents because of travel restrictions.

There was a shortage of food materials and vegetables in the market. Possibilities of travelling to Kerala or to the respective Dioceses of the brothers were sought however, no means of transportation was



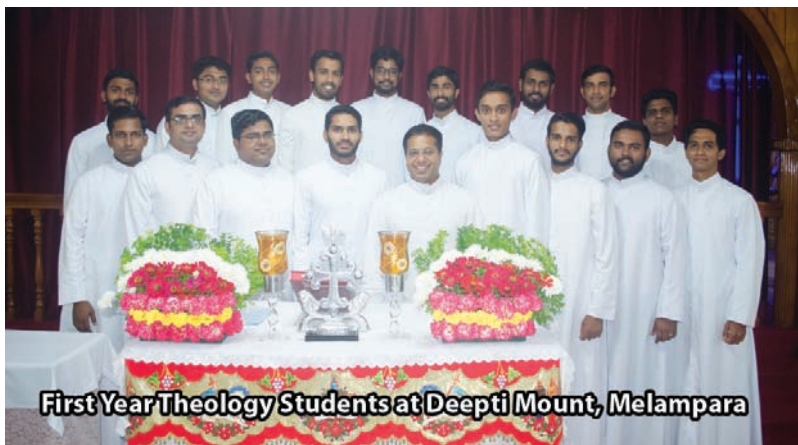
available till 17, 24 May and 1 June when brothers travelled to Kotta, Rajasthan (240 kms from Ujjain) by special buses to catch



special trains from Delhi. All brothers and three fathers left by 1 June and the rest of the staff members and the entire non-teaching staff and their family stayed back in Ruhhalaya.

2. Refurbishments at Ruhhalaya

Major refurbishments were undertaken at both sections of Ruhhalaya during the lockdown/holiday time. Painting was done in students' rooms, classrooms, auditorium bathroom-toilet complex, verandas (Theologate) and in dormitories, classrooms, auditorium



(Philosophate). There were days when up to 60 people were working to finish the refurbishments before the arrival of the brothers

after their extended holidays due to the lockdown. The fathers who stayed back also got themselves engaged in many kinds of work in both the flower/vegetable gardens and the lawns.

There was a major alteration work done in the Vice Rector's room which involved joining two adjacent rooms together and making a new entrance from the veranda. The old Alphonsa dormitory in the Philosophate was given a facelift by new flooring, new toilet section and partition into cubicles.

The mud road in Ruhhalaya Theologate campus was repaired and



paved with interlock during this time. Ruhhalaya places on record her heartfelt gratitude to Rev. Fr Joseph Venattumattam for his generous contribution towards this endeavour.

3. Reopening of Ruhhalaya and the Return of the Brothers

Though classes started for the Theology brothers in three different places - Deepti Preshitharam for the First Year Theology students, at Deepti estate, Palakkadu for the Second and Third year Theology students and at Impact Communication Centre, Aluva for the Deacons, in the first week of July 2020, nobody was able to travel

to Ujjain during the lockdown period.

The Philosophy students stayed back at home awaiting their IGNOU exams which were postponed. The brothers started to return to Ujjain by mid-August on different days by special trains. Over a period of five weeks all brothers reached back Ruhhalaya. They were picked up by special buses from Ratlam railway station. All remained in quarantine for two weeks before resuming their classes. The exams which were pending are conducted. In the new normal situation that we find ourselves, there are many changes and adaptations to the program of the Seminary.

Unlike the previous years, the Deacons are not able to go to the parishes for diaconate ministry nor are other brothers able to go for the village/social ministries. There are no weekly outings nor walks as it is not safe to go to the city or leave the campus. There wasn't a formal inauguration of the academic year 2020-21. We haven't been able to organize the New Priests' Day this year as they are not able to travel and there is the need for quarantine.

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



VI. NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS

A. St Paul Region

In these testing times, realizing the pathetic condition of the people around, our missionaries stepped out to extend their helping hands to those people for whom even one square meal was a struggle.

Nirmal Jyoti, Bhopal distributed grocery items to nearly 150 families. Those families are connected with the SHGs reeling under poverty and lockdown amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Masih Ashram, Karondia under the auspices of Kripa, Social Work Department of Ujjain Diocese, distributed 135 food kits. The beneficiaries are the poor families in the vicinity of Masih Ashram, who were pushed deeper into poverty.

1. Results of St Thomas School, Pawasa

This year St Thomas School, Pawasa could witness outstanding and exceptional results of their gallant band of students when the ICSE Class X results were declared on July 10, 2020. We were super proud to have two school toppers securing 97.4% thus becoming the district toppers. 15 students secured above 90%, 47 students with distinction, 34 with first class and 2 with second class.

2. Construction of Priest Quarters- Kachrod



The aspiration of having a priest quarters at Khachrod started getting realized when His Excellency Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel blessed and Rev. Fr Shiju Pottananickal laid the foundation stone on July 7, 2020 in the presence of the Regional Director, several fathers and sisters of the neighbouring communities.

3. Demise of Senior Missionaries

We also witnessed the sad demise of some pioneering missionaries in Ujjain during these times. Rev. Sr Marietta SH was called to eternal rest on July 28, 2020. Rev. Sr Infant Tresa SABS (88) slept in the Lord on September 27, 2020 and Rev. Sr Therese Kochuvelickakam SABS (81) on October 6, 2020.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Abhilash Pattasseriyil, St Paul Region)

B. St Thomas Region

All the missionaries of St Thomas Mission Region have been radically committed to bearing witness to the Gospel of Jesus through various apostolates. During the days of pandemic Covid 19, our apostolates are affected and we have adapted ourselves to the context and started many activities understanding the felt needs of the people. Besides all the regular activities and social involvement, Priests and Sisters of Mandya region made use of the time for personal prayer, reading of the Word of God and introspection. Some of the important events which took place in the last few months in Mandya mission are the following.

1. Social Involvement

Understanding the hardships and sufferings of the people, our Fathers and Sisters played active roles to alleviate the sufferings and agonies of the people. One of our main concerns was that nobody should go to bed without having something to eat. Hence food kits were provided to several groups of people like students of our special schools, mental patients of 'Manasadhara,' and many poor people associated with our mission centres. Realizing the need of the local people, 'one meal' a day program was started at Arakere mission station. Many poor people are benefitting the fruit of it. 10 poor families were helped with loans to buy cows to make them self-reliant.

Recently St Thomas Mission Society, Mandya got sanctioned its first project from the Ministry of Science and Technology, government

of India. This project aims to scout, document, develop, popularise and disseminate the innovations of local people from nine districts of South Karnataka. This is a one-year project which will be renewed every year. The Ministry has already asked if the Society could cover the entire state of Karnataka from next year.

2. Education Ministry

Online classes were started in all our schools. Following the instruction of the Karnataka state government, we started



“Vidhyagaman” program in our schools in Karnataka. Accordingly, teachers go to different villages and organize classes for the students in some common places in the village. Parents

also actively cooperate with this program.

Rev. Fr Joseph Maliparampil memorial award to honour the toppers of SSLC and PU of our schools and college was organized on 26th September at Santhome Regional house, Mandya. Together with the toppers, their parents, managers and principals of our educational institutions were present for the program. It was a good beginning.

3. Construction Works



progressing well. Newly built class rooms and computer lab of Santhome school, Bannur were blessed on 4th October 2020.

Construction of class rooms is progressing in many of our schools. The first school building of Santhome school, Ichoda in Telangana is



Construction of compound wall and class rooms with science labs



of Santhome International school, Sathyamangalam is on full swing. Construction of two class rooms and computer lab of Divya Jyothi school, Halagur is reaching its completion.

Three class rooms are already built at Jeevodaya school, Arakere. Santhome Public school and PU college have constructed some class rooms. Construction of some class rooms is still pending. A beautiful hall is built on the second floor of Deepti Nivas.

4. Honouring of St Thomas Mission Society

St Thomas Mission Society was honoured in a public meeting following the covid regulations with Mother Theresa Samaja Seva award on the feast of St Mother Theresa by Dr Devaraj Arasu



Society. The award was given for the social involvement and humanitarian works of the Society. The organisers of the meeting appreciated St Thomas Mission Society for its active social involvement and its works of

mercy and charity. Thanks to all the missionaries who worked strenuously in St Thomas region, Mandya.

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

C. St Alphonsa Region

1. Beginning of New Mission Station at *Padal*



It was the ineffable blessing of God Almighty that the Sangli mission is able to begin a new mission station at a village called *Padal* in the district of Kolhapur. We are having two catholic

families in this village who regularly and actively participate in the services and activities of the St Joseph church, Kodoli. Under the leadership of Rev. Fr Pedikkattukunnel Antony MST we have begun the mission station in a rendered house. Regularly we have celebration of the Holy Qurbana and prayers in which many participate. On Sundays we have about 20 villagers participating in the Holy Qurbana. *Padal* is a village in the district of Kolhapur. It is about 18.6 km from the Regional house, Sant Thoma Bhavan, Raman mala, a journey of 36 minutes. We are warmly welcomed in the village. We wish Rev. Fr Antony Pedikkattukunnel all the prayers for his new endeavour.

2. Webinars

Due to the extraordinary pandemic situation of Covid 19, the normal lives of the missionaries were affected. But it has not reduced the missionary spirit. The missionaries have come up with many webinars to keep the warmth of the priestly Koinonia and also to update themselves on various subject matters that affect the life of the people. The missionary vocation is actively continued nowadays using the advancement of the technology of internet.

a. Meeting with the General Council: All the members of the region prayed and interacted with the General Council headed by the Director General on 20th of July. The web meet was an

encouragement for the missionaries of the region.

b. Online Retreats: Rev. Fr Benny Arthanakunnel and his team are wonderfully going on with the online conducting of retreats in which hundreds take part. Many have found consolation and blessings from this ministry of Fr Benny. Talks can be accessed from the YouTube page entitled: ***Amala Ashram***

c. Monthly Recollections: The fathers in the mission were unable to come together to have monthly recollections. But this doesn't hinder the priests in self examining themselves and conducting prayers. As a result monthly recollections were conducted district wise as the time and situation permitted.

On 1 October 2020 all the fathers of the mission came together in a Google meet to have a common monthly recollection. Recollecting and saying the rosary, the rosary month was given a prayerful beginning.

d. Commemorating Mar Chittillapally: The missionaries participated and prayed together for the Holy soul of Mar Chittillapally the first bishop of Kalyan diocese. The web meeting was organized by the Kalyan diocese and the missionaries of the Mission participated in it. May the Holy Soul of Mar Chittillapally rest in peace!

e. Webinars for the teachers and social work staff members: Under the direction of the social action team of Sangli mission, various webinars were conducted to update the staff members and teachers on various subjects.

f. Online Classes: As the regular classes in the schools are impossible, looking towards the bright future of the future citizens of the nation all the schools of the mission have begun the online classes from the beginning of the academic year itself.

g. Education Meet on New Education Policy: A webinar was conducted of the New Education Policy of the Government for the priests of the region. It was a useful and eye opener towards the new policy. The session was conducted by Rev. Fr

Kallupuraparampil, brother of Rev. Fr Jayaprasad MST.

3. 70th Birthday of Rev. Fr Elanjimattom



St Alphonsa Region wished a very happy 70th birthday to Rev. Fr Elanjimattom on fourth of October. In accordance with the local governmental

instructions of the covid 19, the fathers of the neighbouring mission stations gathered at Herle on behalf of whole mission to wish Rev. Fr Elanjimattom all the wishes of *Saptati*. The Alphonsa region greatly acknowledges and appreciates the great service rendered by Rev. Fr Elanjimattom in the region.

4. Covid institutions

Alphonsa School, Karanjoshi was extended to the authorities as the covid hospital to the area. Rev. Fr Lijo Arackanputhenveetil and the sisters extended all the possible help for the cause.

Various other institutions of the Region like Jeevdan, Zarap; Alphonsa School, Ichalkaranji; Anugraha Special School, Khed were extended as quarantine centres of the area.

(Reported by Fr Arun Karakkattu, St Alphonsa Region)

5. Mar Thoma Catholic Personal Parish, Kalyan

a. Observation of Thomasine Month : July: Since the patron of our personal parish is St Thomas we observed the month of July as Thomasine Month. Every day, the families read one chapter prescribed in the book named “One Month along with St Thomas “ and recited the prayers given.

On 31st people prepared sweet dishes to mark the conclusion of the observation. People were blessed to have more information of St Thomas and they could imbibe his missionary spirit.

b. You Tube Channel : From the first week of August we started

to upload regular liturgical prayers on our YouTube channel ,in Marathi. We upload : 1. Sunday Mass; 2. Morning Prayer; 3. Night Prayer; 4. Way of the Cross; 5. Adoration; 6. Divine Mercy; 7. Prayer for the Dead; 8. Novena of Mother Mary; 9. Novena of St. Alphonsa and 10. Videos of devotional Hymns



Marathi Novena: Mother Mary

c. Eight Days Fast: All our people observed 8 days fast as preparation for the birthday of Mother Mary. We uploaded daily Holy Mass and Novena of Mother Mary on our YouTube channel. On 8th people had festal meal and sweet dishes to share the joy of the birthday of Mother

Mary.

d. Google Meet Holy Rosary: Every year we used to celebrate the feast of the Holy Rosary on the last Sunday of October with Holy Mass offered by Bishop Mar Thomas Elavanal followed by Rosary procession. This year we have planned to have 10 days google meet Rosary from 19th.October.



Marathi Novena St Alphonsa

e. Fruits of Covid -19: Covid 19 provided us great opportunity to translate prayer books from Malayalam to Marathi. Now the corrections are going on .Next month we might present the books to the

Bishop. Prayer book Translated are: 1. One Month along with St Thomas; 2. Prayers of the Blessing; 3.Burial Service and Prayers for the Dead; 4. Holy Sacraments; 5. Holy Week; 6. Prayers of Christmas and 7. Prayers for New Year and Year Ending.

(Reported by Fr Paul Painadath, Mumbai)

D. MQMD, Delhi

1. Sant Yusuf Sadan and St Thomas School, Bathinda

a. Fr Thazhathuveettil Joins Bathinda Mission: With great joy,



Sant Yusuf family welcomed Rev Rev Fr. Devasia (Binoy) Thazhathuveettil, the newly appointed Manager of St. Thomas School on 5th October,

2020. All the wishes dear father.

b. Adieu to Fr Thelliyil: The manager, staff, parents and students of St Thomas School Deon Bathinda bid adieu to Rev. Fr Francis Thelliyil and acknowledged his committed service. We wish him God's blessings in his new endeavours. Fr Francis was the third principal of St Thomas school. We acknowledge the hard work and the service he has done for the school.

Father Thelliyil is gratefully remembered for his love and selfless service. Rev. Fr Francis was given an emotional farewell, echoing both gratitude for his noteworthy service as principal of St Thomas school Bathinda and good wishes for his new responsibility.

c. New Admissions: During the lock down our school has got almost 70 admissions in our school. All the children are provided online video classes (guidelines and teaching materials through created videos). All our teachers supporting our children very well and we have already conducted almost 4 online video competitions too.

(Reported by Fr Joice Puliyammakal, Bathinda, Punjab)

2. Mother Teresa Mission, Ludhiana

a. Teachers' Day: Teacher's day Celebration: Teacher's day was celebrated at St. Thomas School Rurka, Dehlon (Ludhiana) on 10th September 2020. Due to Covid pandemic there was no cultural programmes. Fr. Bobby Kaiyalakakathu gave a message to teachers on value of teaching.

b. Gandhi Jayanthi: Gandhi Jayanthi was commemorated at St. Thomas School Rurka on 2nd October 2020 at 10 am. A valuable message about Mahatma was given by Sr. Reena OSF through online platform to the students of St. Thomas School.

c. School Construction: The construction work of St. Thomas School Rurka, Ludhiana is in full swing. The first phase of the construction is in the final stage.

d. Onam Celebration: The annual harvest festival of the state of Kerala, Onam was celebrated on 30th September 2020 at Mother Teresa catholic mission Dehlon. The significant observances of “sadya” was done on the day with Sisters,



fathers and layman from neighboring communities. The floral pookkalam was prepared by the community members together on the eve of Onam.

(Reported by Fr Bobby Kaiyalakakathu, Dehlon, Ludhiana, Punjab)

3. Deepti Ashram, Najafgarh

a. Parish Feast: Sacred Heart parish Najafgarh conducted our parish feast on 2, 3 and 4 October. There was an active participation from the part of parishioners for the feast day celebration.

b. Rosary Devotion: We started rosary devotion in our parish on 5th October for ten days. Every day evening we are conducting Rosary followed by Holy mass.

c. New Director for Deepti Ashram:



Fr. Joseph Karodan took charge as the Director of Deepti Ashram and as the Vicar of Sacred Heart Parish, Najafgarh. He was given a warm welcome to Deepti Ashram by all the residents..

d. Online Classes for Children: All the children of Deepti Ashram are attending the online classes from July onwards. Even though , they are not able to go to school, there is lot of improvement in their studies.

e. Farewell to Fr Antu Alummoottil: Deepti ashram bid farewell to Rev. Fr Antu Alummoottil on 9 October . We sincerely thank him for his dedicated service in Deepti Ashram for one and half years.

(Reported by Fr Antu Alummoottil, Najafgarh, Delhi)

4. Deepti Foundation, Delhi

a. Report Support to Farmers of Konkan Region: National lock



down was blow to the farmers, fruit and vegetable sellers and daily wagers as it blocked their income. People flew to their native places by walk. Roads became flooded with crowd. It is in later stage government lean excuses and came forward to

control the situations. But Deepti Foundation under the leader ship of Fr. Santhosh MST came forward to help the banana farmers in Konkan region as they got marginal price of Rs.17 and poor order from Maharashtra market due to state lockdown. Deepti foundation made arrangement for selling the banana in Delhi. First slot of banana was brought to Delhi on 01-07-2020. It was 9 tonnes of the banana. This continued till 04-09-2020. By the time prices in Maharashtra rose to Rs.30. we had provided them Rs.20,25 and 30 respectively as per the demand. It was great help for the local banana farmers at the time of national and state lockdown.

b. Report on Flood: Comparing to previous years Delhi witnessed torrential rain this year. Delhi becomes disaster prone during rainy

seasons due to traffic congestions, tree felling, over flowing drainages and sewerages, mixing of waste water with drinking water, formation of holes in the roads and pavements, electricity failure etc. Even



though there are seasonal comforts it is very difficult for the public to move out from homes and shelters due to the heavy volumes of stinking water floating everywhere causing by continuous rain.

Bhalaswa dumping site is a matter of hot discussion as it reached its exhaustion point last year. Since then government and civil bodies has been working on it. As part of cutting down the height of the site, authorities have been replacing the waste heaps to the back side of the location. Murgifarm falls at the back side of the dumping site. It is here wastes are relocated and re-dumped in massive scales. It has been in the notice of the public and they even pointed out the risk involved in it.

Since the July 2020 Delhi receives the weekly rain. And moving into the month of August rain becomes heavy and thick. So on 13-08-2020 there was the torrential rain by which a large portion of waste heap along with waste water slid to the Murgifarm side. Six families lost the hutments and two hutments were literally under the water and waste heaps. Rest of the hutments become flooded with wastes and waster. One of the person named Rafique who is 20 years, earlier associate of Gyansarovar, was covered with wastes, water and mud. He was pulled out by the neighbours. And rushed to the government hospital nearby. After a day's investigation and primary medication he was sent back. As per the primary medical investigation he is with minor injuries.

On that day itself Gyansarovar staff reached the spot and reported the incident to the office. On that day Fr. Santhosh, Director Deepti Foundation advised the office bearers to do the needful for the

affected people of the area. Gyansarovar accompanied the affected person to hospital for further investigation and now he is under regular medication. We have also collaborated with INAYA- a forum for relief work during covid-19, government officials. As we have intervened in the matter local governing bodies became aware of the situation. As the result Mayor, ward counsellor, ADP, and SDM reached the spot and examined the situation. They have understood the circumstances. So we could avail them with immediate relief tent. We have cooked food provided them with four days meals as meal packets provided by government was insufficient [government is considering all the affected areas]. We have sensitized the people on taking care of the safety and standing united. They were provided with clothing [Saree, ladies suits, Pants, Shirt] and cooking utensils. Children are given kids wears and biscuits. Gyansarovar provided them even 30 bamboos and 90 poles to make temporary shelters. But they have moved to rented rooms nearby. It is they who have decided to take the safer side. Gyansarovar assured them the assistance and support in times of need.

c. Welcome to Fr Kuruvanplackal: On 19-08-2020 Fr. Abin Kuruvanplackal was officially welcomed to the Deepti Niwas by Fr. Santhosh MST, Director of Deepti Foundation. Fr. Abin MST



was transferred from Bikki-new mission centre, Punjab. Fr. Abin MST would continue in Deepti Niwas as the house in charge while he completes his post-graduation in Social

Work. We wish him all the best.

d. Teacher's Day Celebration:

On 05-09-2020 Deepti foundation facilitated its staff members on the special occasion of teacher's day. Fr. Santhosh MST, Director



of Deepti Foundation specially thanked all the members for the wonderful and valuable service rendering. All the staff members were provided the gift packets to mark the occasion.

e. Manos Project: Manos project is connected with the community members as the area is under the influence of Covid-19. Project runs tailoring centres, Beautician and Mehendi courses by following the advisories from the governments. Project also supported the families who are in utmost need in the form of ration and monthly provisions in the months of July, August and September, 2020.

f. Caritas Project: Caritas project continues its support to the needy and marginalised in the form of monthly provisions, medicines and counselling. The project was also named as 'Gram Nirman Cluster'. The project also advised the beneficiaries to follow the guidelines of the governments to wear mask and keep the social distancing.

g. Report On Covid 19: Deepti Foundation is still working amidst the people who are affected with covid-19 pandemic. Under the supervision of Fr. Santhosh and project co-ordinators, and animators food materials and face masks are distributing according to the need and capacity.

(Reported by Fr George Kachirayil, Dilshad Garden, Delhi)

5. Alphonsa Bhavan, Dhuri, Punjab

Feast of St. Alphonsa: Feast of St Alphonsa and Dhuri House



feast was celebrated with full enthusiasm and prayer. Since it was the first feast celebration of our station in Dhuri we have invited all the nearby communities. There were also a

number of malayalee migrants who are working in different parts of Punjab for the Holy Mass and the celebration. Rev. Fr Abin Kuruvanplackal was the main celebrant and Rev. Fr Joice Puliyannackal gave a beautiful homily.

6. Maria Bhavan, Bhikhi, Punjab

Feast and Farewell: Maria Bhavan celebrated its feast (the feast of Assumption of Mother Mary) on 15 August. Rev Fr Abin Kuruvanplackal got transferred to Dilshad Garden. He will be doing his higher studies (MSW) from there. He was given send off on August 15. Thank you dear Fr Abin for the great service you have done for Maria Bhavan.

(Reported by Fr Sanoj Pathrapankal, Delhi Delegation)

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

a. ARTICLES to Books and Journals

Authored *Article* on 'Kabir: Religion and Religions' — in 'The Other in My Religion' (Book) – published by Udasin Karshni Ashram, Mathura, p. 117-130 — in 2019

Authored *Article* on 'Three ways of Being Clean' — in 'Religious Teachings on Social Issues' (Book) – published by Alhikmah Foundation, New Delhi, p. 193-203 — in 2019

Authored *Article* on 'Holiness in Indian Spiritual Traditions' — in 'Oriens Journal for Contextual Theology' (Annual Journal) – published by Oriens Theological Collage, Shillong, Vol. 10, p. 80-

94 – in 2019

Authored *Article* on ‘Values of Religions – Values for all’ — in ‘Platform’ (Bilingual Half-yearly Magazine), Kolkata, p. 28-31 — in July 2020

Authored *Article* on ‘Diversity of Religions and Harmony’ — in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol.29 Issue No.29, p. 22-23 — on 20-26 July 2020

Authored *Article* on ‘Faith, Inter-faith and Harmony among Faiths’ — in ‘Vidyajyoti Journal of Theological Reflection’ (Monthly Journal), New Delhi, Vol.84/8, p.43-61 — in August 2020

Authored *Article* on ‘Covid 19: A Wake up Call for Unity among Faiths’ — in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly Magazine), New Delhi, Vol. XXXII, Issue No. 33, p. 28-30 — on 10-16 August 2020

Authored *Article* on ‘Covid 19: A Wake up Call for Unity among Faiths’ — in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol.29 Issue No. 33, p. 06, 10 — on 17-23 August 2020

Authored *Article* on ‘Liberty and Fraternity (Their Constitutional Implications for Life)’ — in ‘Voice of Civil Society’ (Quarterly Journal), New Delhi, Vol. 01, Issue No. 06, p. 05-07 – in July-September 2020

b. LECTURES at Webinars and Meetings

Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Raashtreeya Shikshaa Neeti ke Paathyakram aur Sarv Dharm Moolya’ (Values of All Religions and National



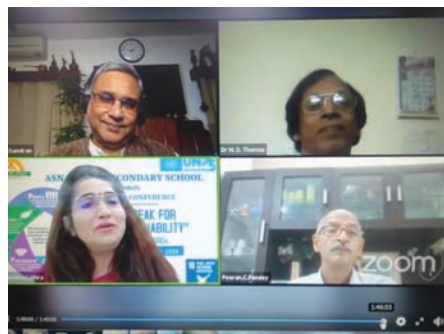
Education Policy) – during Webinar on ‘Impact of New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 on Minority Educational Institutions’ – organized by Federation of Muslim Educational Institutions (FMEII), New Delhi – at New Delhi – on 06 September 2020

Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Swami Agnivesh: Ek Kraantikaaree, Sarv-dharm aur Saamaajik Sudhaarak’ (Swami Agnivesh: A Revolutionary, Multi-faith and Social Reformer) — during Condolence Meeting on ‘The Demise of Swami Agnivesh Jee’ — organized by World Peace Organisation, New Delhi, and Al-Hind Taleem-e-Jadeed Foundation, New Delhi — at Tasmia Conference Hall, New Delhi — on 22 September 2020

Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions’ – during Virtual Conference ‘Speak for Sustainability’ on ‘Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions’ organized by ASN Senior Secondary School, New Delhi, in collaboration with United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan, New Delhi – at New Delhi – on 26 September 2020.

c. VIEWS at Webinar

Delivered Views on ‘Towards an Effective Strategy for Awakening



the Majority Community against the Impending Tragedy posed by the Majoritarian Politics of the Country’ – during Zeitler Memorial Webinar Lecture on ‘Promoting Pluralism in the Times of Majoritarianism’ – by Prof. Ram Puniyani, Human Right Defender and

Former Professor, IIT Mumbai) – organized by Ishvani Kendra, Pune – at Pune – on 21 September 2020

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

E. Odisha Mission

1. Live Mission Sharing

MST Odisha Mission had the chance to join the webinar conducted by CML of Arch Dioceses of Thallassery. There were deferent meetings such as Zone Meeting, Vice-Directors meeting and Directors meeting. We had the chance to share mission work of Odisha and the discussion on collaborating with the mission. It was a great chance for us to involve in the live sharing and discussions on the mission during the lockdown period. This sharing and discussion helped all the participants including we, the missionaries to enrich ourselves in our missionary vocation and commitment.

2. Church cum Community Care Centers



We have resumed the work of the village churches which were begun last year. Due to Covid-19, the works were stopped and as the lockdown is lifted the

work is resumed. Majority of villagers of Khandamal and Kolahandi districts are in the forest and it is very difficult for us to reach to them on a daily basis and they also find it very difficult to reach the centre for the social, education and charitable programs and the prayers. So we construct small church cum community care centres (CCC) to gather the villagers for prayers and the educational and social programs.



As per the number of people in each village we decide the size and interiors of the CCC. Villagers cooperate in the construction through

their labour and land for the construction. This centre will be used for prayer gatherings, the training programs, Non formal Education programs, integrated development programs like skill development trainings, medical camps, etc. At present we are constructing seven such CCCs in Baliguda and Rampur mission centers.

3. Two New Centres to MST Mission

Our young, vibrant, new missionaries after completing their language studies and integration programmes were ready to venture into pioneering missionary work in Odisha. The coordinator had frequent visits and interaction with fathers and villagers in Southern Odisha from July to start the missions in this area. From the visits and feasible study we could identify that there are chances and opportunities for Syro-Malabar Church to explore and establish new communities through direct evangelization.

There are six districts with 60 blocks in southern Odisha. Of these, 22 blocks are having Latin presence (eparchy of Raygada) and other 38 blocks are potential areas for us to start our mission. Majority of the population in Southern Odisha is *adivasi and tribal* people. Moreover, these areas are less affected with religious fanatics compared to Khandamal area. On 1st of October, 2020 we started two new centres in Koraput districts of Sothern Odisha.

a. Sacred Heart Mission, Laxmipur



MST Odisha Mission's history was marked with the inauguration of a new mission centre in Laxmipur, Koraput on October, 1, 2020. The

inaugural function started at 10 a.m. with lighting the lamp followed by the Syro Malabar Qurbana in Odia officiated by Fr Jomon Ayyankanal, the Coordinator of MST Odisha Mission. Fathers from Raygada diocese, our missionaries and few villagers were part of the event.



Fr Jijo Kottakkavil is taking the charge of the centre and Fr Bineesh Kuzhiyadiyil will help Fr Jijo in developing the mission. This Centre

consists of four civil blocks of Koraput Districts. Fathers will be visiting these blocks and villagers with the help of the appointed catechists. Laxmipur is situated 55 kms away from Raygada town on the way to Koraput.

b. Little Flower Mission Centre, Kundra



MST Odisha Mission is happy to share the joy of starting another new mission centre in Kundra, Koraput, Odisha. Fr Jomon Ayyankanal the Mission Coordinator of MST Odisha Mission inaugurated the centre with lighting lamp and the

celebrated the Syro-Malabar Odia Mass together with MST Odisha Missionaries and well-wishers from nearby Latin Parishes and villages. This Centre is situated in southern district of Odisha and close to Jegadalpur, Chathisgarh.

Fr Josin Tharapputhottiyil taking charge as the director of the Centre and Fr Jibin Maniyalil to help Fr Josin in developing the Centre in



Kundra. This Centre consists of four civil blocks such as Kundra, Jeypur, Boipariguda and Kotpad. It is situated just 20 km away from Jeypur, which is the main commercial city of Southern Odisha, with a small air strip and railway station.

4. Nirmal Jyoty, Baliguda, Khandamal

Fr Libin Valiaparampil has joined Nirmal Jyoty Mission in Baliguda, Khandamal to help Fr Manu Pottananickal in developing the Khandamal Mission of MST. We humbly request you to remember and pray for the MST Odisha Mission and Missionaries to fulfil the Will of God and the expectation of the Society and of the Church.

(Reported by Fr Manu Pottananickal, Odisha Mission)

5. Divine Mercy, M. Rampur

a. Eucharistic Procession in Villages



In the months of July and August many of our villages were very badly affected by viral fever, malaria and other seasonal diseases. Some of our villagers lost their lives and under panic villagers requested our help and fervent prayers. We arranged Eucharistic procession in 7 villages and situations turned totally different. Many miraculous healings

were reported in the villages. Praise be to the Eucharist Heart of Jesus!

b. Distribution of The Holy Bible

We distributed 200 Catholic Edition of The New Testament Bible, different families. They started to read it in common during evening prayers.

c. Demise of Catechist Jyogeswar Nayak

Mr Jyogeswar Naik, our catechist, locally known as the St Paul of Kalhandi District died on 19 Sep 2020 due to kidney related diseases



and Covid 19. He was only 58 years old. He is fondly called as the St. Paul of Kalahandi district. Born as Hindu, he became Christian at the age of 17 through a personal encounter with Christ as St Paul during an accident. From then, he started sharing Christ in the remote villages of Kalahandi and Khandamal districts of Odisha.

He is the father in faith of above 4000 Christians and their generations in 21 villages. He had joined our missionary team as a catechist in the month of July 2020. He introduced us many villages and was working as a dynamic and committed missionary. Hundreds of people still continue to grieve over his death and his absence is a great loss for our mission.

d. Construction of Village Churches



This year we had started the construction of churches in our 8 villages. With the generous contributions received from a few parishes in Kerala and other generous

individual donors we completed the work of 5 churches and the other 3 will be completed soon. These churches are named after the apostles of Christ. Our Donors are:



Name of the Church and Donors

St Peters Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Kentuluba, sponsored by St Mary's Forane Church, Maruthomkara, Thamarassery

St Thomas Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Badopadar, sponsored by CML, Qatar

St James Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Bondelipadar, sponsored by Mr Sebastian Thomas Kuzhipillil, Bangalore

St Jude Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Sikla, sponsored by Mr Jose Thomas Kizhakkekunnappillil, Thodupuzha

St Bartholomew Syro Malabar Catholic Church, Pattamaska, sponsored by St Vincent Church Kalpaetta, Mananthavady

e. Village Medical Camps

In the context of devastating health situation in the villages Block development office and District medical office requested our services



in the villages. Networking with the Govt machinery we could arrange 6 free medical camps in the affected villages. More than 1000 people attended medical

camps from these villages. They have promised free medicine and service of medical team in the future also.

f. Distribution of Fruit Trees, Saplings and Vegetable Seeds

One of the top priorities of our mission centre is the improvement of the physical situation of our villages through promotion of farming and agriculture. Mr Jatindra Naik, our chief Coordinator of the

Catechists, succeeded in establishing good relationship with various Govt departments like Soil Conservation, forest department etc.



The government departments were ready to supply trees and saplings in huge numbers free of cost. We distributed them in the villages at their expense of transportation. For irrigation and household water supply Diesel motors were supplied in two villages.

g. Skill Development Programs and Distribution of Tailoring Machines

Six women from our villages completed *six months central government accredited tailoring course* conducted by St Joseph's Sisters at Bhuvaneshwar. They successfully completed the course



and returned to their own villages. We distributed tailoring machines to them. They are engaged in stitching masks for the use of the villagers.

h. Distribution of Food Kits



Due to pandemic Covid 19, a few families in two of our villages were in abject poverty. We distributed food kits to them in the presence of the Sarpanch of the village.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Ambrose Kollamattam, M. Rampur, Odisha Mission)

F. Arunachal Mission

1. Sagalee Mission

a. Covid Updates: Although normal routines is not resumed the parish and school, people are not very bothered about the spread of corona. As we cannot start the public services as usual we spend a lot of time in personal activities. We made a very yielding vegetable garden and a lot of flower pots during this period.



b. Church Construction:

The proposed land for church construction was filled with mud more than one and half meters high. The soil filling itself would cost more than 13 lakhs. The entire work is sponsored by a contractor called Mr Techika. During the work Honorable MLA - Mr Nabam Tukki visited the place.



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

2. Pakke Kessang Mission

a. St Mary's Catholic Church Pakke Kessang: Regular Holy



Mass is resumed here, as covid is getting subsided. People have started coming to the Church in small and large. We find it little difficult to motivate the people for church participation, as they were being absent for several months.

c. St John's Church, Ngoleko: It is also a substation of St Mary's



parish, where the church construction is on progress. People are collaborating and passionate to have their church finished soon, because the present church cannot accommodate everyone.

b. St Thomas Church, Passe: This is a prominent substation of



Pakke Kessang Parish, where a new church is under construction from January 2020. The foundation stone laid by Fr Benny Kulirany before his departure to America.

(Reported by Frs Chakkungal and J. Thundathil, Pakke-Kessang, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh)

G. Overseas Missions

1. United States

a. Pandemic Situation and Zoom Meeting

Just as in many other parts of the world, US still has not yet achieved a comfortable control over the pandemic. However, most of the churches are functioning with an attendance of a limited percentage of capacity. We had Zoom meetings where all shared the current issues, concerns, and unpredictability of the future events in their own respective areas of ministry. A fruitful discussion on 'The Impact of Covid 19 in North America and its implications on the MST and its Apostolates,' the topic of the upcoming webinar was the main highlight of the past zoom meetings.

b. New Assignments

Rev. Fr Benny Mathew Kuliraniyil is appointed as the associate pastor St. Louis the King Catholic Church in Marquette and started his ministry from 1 July 2020.

Rev. Fr Siby Kocheettathottu was transferred from Charlette Syro-Malabar Church and he has taken up his new assignment as the pastor of the Syro Malabar Church in Orlando, Florida

We wish them all the best for their new assignment

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

2. Austria

a. First Holy Communion

The postponed First Holy communion of the children of two Parishes



conducted on 13 September 2020. Rev. Fr Sabu Maprakavil at Grosskrut church and Rev Fr Joy Punnakuzhy at Bernhardsthal Church officiated it respectively.

b. Day of Pilgrimage

Our Aux. Bp: Stephan Turnovszky organized one day Pilgrimage in our Dekanat on 9- 08. 20, with 160 participants, walking 26 Kms and visiting some ancient churches. We three MST priests and some our Parishioners participated in the one day Pilgrimage, which started with holy Eucharist and ended with holy Adoration. It was a wonderful experience for all.

c. Erntedank Fest



Erntedank Fest is a harvest, thanks giving solemn Holy Mass with grant procession on the last Sunday of September every year. During the offertory the farmers offered their fruits of the harvest with a thanks giving prayer. The main celebrant blessed the harvest fruits and offered them with the bread and wine at the Altar. In all the churches we could celebrate this traditional thanks giving Harvest fest with the participation of good number of faithful and concluded with the Solemn Agape.

d. Vegetable Garden; Flower Garden& Rabbit Farm

During the summer we have planted varieties of vegetables like green chili, tomato, bitter-gourd, ladies-finger, pumpkin and spinach etc. We could store and supply to our neighboring Indian Priests enough Bio Vegetables for the coming winter. Rev Fr Sabu Maprakavil made a beatiful flower Garden and lawn around his presbytery. Lot of

parishioners are visiting and appreciating his hard work. Fr Sabu Maprakavil started a new Rabbit Farm project to overcome the Corona emptiness.

e. Kirtagsmesse - Parish Feast

We celebrated the feast of the patron saint of the parish in two Parishes with solemn Mass and special blessings were given to jubilee couples and other couples which ended with an Agape



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

3. Germany

a. Pastoral care in Covid

After summer holidays corona cases are increasing in Germany. It is feared that this trend may continue in the coming Winter. Prayers in the churches are conducted with strict rules and regulations.

b. Zoom meet with Director General

In this difficult time of corona pandemic, we had Zoom meeting with Director General and councillors and they expressed concern and solidarity.

c. Updates on Members

Fr Cyriac Moothasseril has successfully completed B2 level of German language course. Congrats to Fr Cyriac and we wish all the best for his studies.

Fr Benny Puthenpura has taken charge as the kaplan of the Parish Stadtbergen from 1 September onwards. All the best to him.

(Reported by Fr Pradeep Alex Mattathilanickal, Germany)

4. Canada

Pastoral Updates from Nelson: The Diocese of Nelson is a mission diocese of Canada in British Columbia. Three members of

MST priests are witnessing our faith and our Missionary spirit through our lives, contacts and pastoral help to the members of different parishes. Bishop tries to have regular contact with his priests and faithful of the parishes through Zoom meetings, pastoral letters and information. As missionaries and priests, we try to reach out as many people as we can. In spite of all the regular Masses with the maximum number of participants, we find it hard to reach out every member of the parishes.

As soon as the Covid restrictions came, we closed all of our churches as a protection and had online Holy Masses either through Facebook accounts or through Zoom or through other electronic medias. These helped many to continue in developing and holding their faith.

But faith is strengthened through reception of sacraments, our family, our community, our church icons such as crucifixes, statues of Mary or saints etc. Absence of the community gatherings has diluted the faith of some of the people. All social distancing has increased mental disorders and problems that many get depressed. We are trying to reach out every one, sharing the compassion and comfort of the Lord.

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

5. Switzerland



New Parish of Schlieren:

On 1st October 2020 I took charge of a new parish called St Joseph Church Schlieren. It is one of the developing cities of Switzerland. It is an extension of Zurich city, the financial capital of

Switzerland. Due to the increasing catholic population in this suburban city they have constructed a Catholic church with most modern facilities. Oval shaped Church Building, a tall bell tower, newly



renewed parish house, well facilitated modern offices, a three storied parish Hall, an old multi-purpose building – these are the main features of this parish center.

Almost 60% of the Catholics are hailing from 14 other countries. There are some well settled Syro-Malabar Malayalee Catholics in this parish. Many of them are citizens of Austria or Switzerland. Out of 18310 total population there are 10,000 christians, 3227 Moslimes, 3155 atheists and the rest are

from other religions. Last Sunday on 4th October 2020, was the welcome Mass in Schlieren.

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

6. United Kingdom

1. St Simon Stock, Ashford, London

I have been serving the Parish of St. Simon Stock, Ashford of Southwark Diocese. Ashford is in Kent County, South Eastern part of England which is known to be the Garden of England. St Simon Stock is one of the genuinely active Latin parishes in Kent. I also have the Pastoral duty of the Syro Malabar Mission named 'Mar Sleevea' comprising of the Historic places such as Dover and Canterbury. Mar Sleevea mission members are very much involved in the church activities along with the local community.

We have been going through the unprecedented situations and events since March 2020. Ashford was one of the worst affected areas in England with Covid-19. We have had quite a few cases among the Syro Malabar Community and a some of our people had severe infections. But our people stayed united in prayer helping each other and fought this disease. It is the deep faith in God and the prayers that guide us forward in this time of crisis. The face of the church has changed during the time of COVID 19 pandemic. But with the aid

of technology, Mass was reinstated via online in English and Malayalam, which was a great success even though people missed the opportunity to come to the church.

The Government permitted to reopen churches for private prayer in the middle of June, Mass with congregation on 4 July. St Simon Stock church commenced Holy Mass with lay community on 5 July and I started both Latin and Syro-Malabar Qurbana on the same day and it is going on without any break. Though the participation of congregation at the beginning was not so encouraging, but slowly it improved. St Simon Stock parish is entering into Silver Jubilee Year of the Consecration of the Church on 1 November 2020 and it began planning programmes for the whole year.

(Reported by Fr Hans Puthiakulangara thorough Fr Roy Muthumakkal, U.K.)

2. St Margaret, Clitherow, London

Parish Life and COVID-19: I've been happily ministering in St Margaret Clitherow's parish for a year and a half. It is a small little parish with weekend Mass attendance of 100/120 in normal times. On Sunday there is also a Brazilian Mass that has a larger congregation - 150/200. But with the onslaught of Covid and lockdown everything changed quite dramatically. The real parish life came to a standstill and virtual life became normal - zoom meeting, live-streaming of Mass and what not! With the lifting of lockdown, yet retaining some of the restrictions, parish life seems to have returned to some sort of normality. But Mass attendance has come down substantially - 60/65; the Brazilian community has not yet come back.

Though Covid has a devastating impact on life, we could also see something positive in it. It is, indeed, an eye opener, at least to me. Being freed from the hustle and bustle of parish life (as for instance, meetings one after another!), there has come about an order/discipline in life; able to spend a little more time on some of the important things in life, both spiritual and temporal - regular personal prayer, spiritual reading, physical exercise etc. all of which contributing to

better health both for me and for the parish community as well. The parish is now also involved in some building works in and around the church, parish hall and presbytery.

(Reported by Fr Luke Marappillil through Fr Roy Muthumakkal, UK)

7. Tanzania

We thank the Lord, for even in the midst of corona virus, the liturgical celebrations and other church prayers continued as usual. There was no lockdown here in Tanzania. The Tanzanian Bishops had given certain regulations like receiving the Holy Communion in hands, keep distance (man to man) in the church, every person should wash their hands before entering the church etc. They asked the parish priests to see and arrange the necessary things needed for the safety. We have increased the number of liturgical celebrations and cut off the children's mass for the safety of the faithful. We were able to conduct an awareness programme in the parish. The programme was guided by a doctor. He explained about the measures to be taken to avoid Covid-19.

Madale Parish, Dar Es Salaam

a. First Communion & Confirmation

There were around two hundred and thirty children received the first holy communion on 8th of august 2020. The first communion



was given to them under the leadership and guidance of Rev. Fr Biju Pullapalliyil.

There were one hundred and eighty five children received the



sacrament of confirmation on 29th August 2020. The church was full with faithful of Madale parish. Most Rev. Msgr. Deogratias Mbiku was the main

celebrant. He had the lunch with children who received the sacrament of confirmation.

b. Seminar for Youth

The Madale parish was extremely happy to conduct one day seminar for the youth. It was conducted on 27 September 2020. There were four hundred youth who attended the programme. They had liturgical



celebration in the morning and then they inaugurated the programme. They were given snacks in the morning and lunch in the afternoon. The seminar continued till evening.

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

8. Australia

Syro-Malabar Mission in Shepparton and Bendigo

It has been very encouraging to see Covid 19 numbers dropping so dramatically in recent weeks in this state of Victoria, Australia. In this region, Shepparton and Bendigo the number of Covid 19 cases is zero now for many weeks. Throughout the various changes in restriction over the last six months Catholic Churches in Victoria

have shown themselves to be resilient , well managed and safe carefully communicating each set of restrictions and ensuring their implementation. Now schools are working regularly and restaurants and pubs and all other public sectors are open with very little restrictions but churches are asked to remain closed in Victoria. Now people made a petition that titled “Equality for Victoria’s People of Faith” and addressed to Victoria’s Premier, Daniel seeking equitable treatment for Victoria’s people of faith and places of worship under the government’s ‘Roadmap for Reopening’.

Even if churches remain closed for last six months the Syro Malabar Eparchy in Australia is very active in organising many activities and creating opportunities for the faithful. Bible classes and retreats are conducted for the elders , youth and children separately through the media of zoom application or webinar. ‘Logos Bible Quiz’ and ‘Gospel Writing Challenge’ for all and Pencil Drawing and Colouring Competition for catechism children are other opportunities for the faithful for their faith formation. I am very happy to say that in Logos Bible Quiz competition conducted for all Syro Malabar Catholic faithful 1st Prize (level youth), 3rd and 4th place (catechism students) place above 80% are won by my parishioners. In my parishes Shepparton and Bendigo catechism classes are conducted online on every Sunday . Every day in the month of October we come together by zoom application for praying Rosary .Winter has just gone here and people of this place started enjoying good weather of Spring.

(Reported by Fr Varghese Vithayathil, Shepparton, Australia)

9. Sweden

a. St. Singfrid Seminary, Stockholm

Life in the seminary goes as usual. This year two seminarians were officially accepted as the candidate of the diocese of Stockholm. Their admission took place in the cathedral on 21 and 28 of September. They started their studies. They are Antonio and Gustav from Sweden itself. I am also happy to inform you all that we have



got a deacon recently. The diaconate took place also in Stockholm by our cardinal Anders. Probably we will have a priestly ordination next year.

COVID pandemic continues as usual but the life is as usual here. Everything functions as usual and no look down!

b. Syro-Malabar Communities in the Scandinavian

We celebrate mass every Sunday in zoom. Almost 60 to 70 families participate in Mass from our communities. Unfortunately I can't fly to Norway and Finland so at present this is the only option for them. There is still restrictions in Norway and Finland.



But masses in Sweden we have as usual. At present I celebrate masses in three different communities. They are all happy with the arrangements. But a lot of travels! Many of the families

lost the job because of the pandemic! Let's us remember them in our prayers.

(Reported by Fr Binu Thottiyil, Stockholm, Sweden)

VII. NEWS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES/ CENTRES

A. Vocation Promotion

1. South Zone

It is with immense joy and gratitude to all of you we write the report of the South zone. May God bless all of us to carry out His works in the best way possible. In addition to the previous number of students we have admitted eight more suitable candidates to join MST and the total number of the students reached here in Deepti Minor Seminary is raised up to 31. Among them there are four graduates, three of them have completed their plus two and rest have finished the SSLC.

We would like to thank all the fathers and brothers for your valuable support and encouragements in promoting good candidates to MST. In this special situation of Covid 19 we are not able to move around freely, so we request your help and support for the next year. Though we are locked down here, we could make some contacts to initiate the vocation promotion activities for the next academic year of Deepti Seminary. Thank God almighty for all the blessing we present this report.

(Reported by Frs Puthukkattu and Karuvakunnel, Vocation Promoters, South Zone)

2. North Zone

With immense gratitude to God, I write this report about the vocation promotion 2020. God's abundant grace was upon us all throughout this year. We have 27 good and eligible candidates for MST from Northern zone (Malabar). We have **Fourteen** candidates from the Diocese of Thalassery, **Five** from Manantavady, **Three** from Kottayam, and **Six** from Thamarassery. Rev. fathers Antony Perumanoor, Francis Kureeckal, Thomas Karamel and all the fathers in the staff were very happy about the new candidates of this year. Now all the students feel at home and very happily move around

here at Santhome. Due to the spread of corona virus we couldn't send them for their Onam vacation.

Heartfelt thanks to the members of the General Council, Rev. fathers in the staff at Santhome for your support and encouragement throughout this year in the field of Vocation Promotion. I can't forget the role played by Fr Abin Kochupurackal who had the additional duty of Vocation Promotion. He was really a great help and support for me this year for finding out candidates especially from the Diocese of Thalassery. A big thanks to fathers Francis Kureeckal and Thomas Karamel, the representatives from the central administration, who had come to the Malabar zone, visiting the houses of the possible candidates whom I had selected, and Fr Joseph Pulavelil the Rector, who gave admission to the seminary in the presence of the General Councillors. I remember with gratitude those MST fathers, who helped me in finding out good candidates for MST. I thank from the bottom of my heart for the sincere support the staff at Santhome Seminary had given me throughout this year. They always encouraged me, supported me, prayed for me, helped me in many ways.

I make this opportunity to request you all dear fathers for your support in vocation promotion in this critical condition of covid 19. Please enquire in your contact lists, family members and relatives so that we may be able to recruit many good and eligible candidates to MST.

(Reported by Fr Rony Alencherry, Vocation Promoter, North Zone)

B. Santhome Fellowship

1. Fasting and prayer day by missionary associates

Missionary associates of MST had observed a day of fasting and prayer before the feast of St Alphonsa. Each member was assigned with a particular day. And all the prayers were dedicated to MST mission. And the associates observed the fact that when we pray for the mission we are more attached.

2. DG addressed the potential missionary associates

August 4th we celebrated the feast of Saint John Maria Viyani, the

patron saint of priests. On that day the potential missionary associates gathered together and made a prayer for all the priests in the world. Special occasion was blessed by the presence of the director general of MST. Fr General addressed the potential missionary associates. He emphasised the fact that the missionaries are entitled to live and die for Christ and his mission.

3. Web Series on Interpersonal Relationship in Pandemic

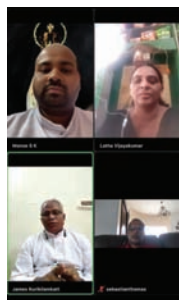
Family life during Covid period, a web series has organised for Santhome fellowship members and missionary associates. Classes were guided by Rev Fr Dr Abraham Kollithadam. 18 days classes were organised and circulated to all the Santhome fellowship groups and it made a great impact on some of the families. And they commented that it was very helpful to manage some of the situations during the time of Covid. Santhome fellowship family would like to express our heartfelt gratitude towards Frs Kollithadam and Fr Akil Mlavil and Fr Joison.

4. Zoom Meeting for Indoor Unit

Santhome fellowship Indore unit came together for a prayer section and discussion on 15 August 2020. MST fathers from Indoor participated in that meeting. We took the decision to conduct monthly recollection for the indoor unit and all so the secretary expressed the concern of doing some charity during the time of Covid19.

5. Class on Nature and Purpose of Missionary Society

Potential missionary associates had undergone Two days online program on purpose and nature of Missionary Society. The classes were initiated and led by Rev Fr James Kurikilamkattu. Fr James explained the origin of missionary Society in Syro Malabar Church and it was a great chance for the missionary associates to know more about missionary Society. And all the sections were very interactive. The purpose of the society really entrenched the missionary associates.



6. Bible Convention for Santhome Fellowship Members

Convention was organised for Santhome Fellowship members in India and Abroad on 30th August. Fr Saju Elanjiyil preached the retreat. Families from Indore mainly participated and missionary associates from different parts of Kerala and abroad.

It was really a spiritual enrichment for the Santhome Fellowship numbers. Our retreat was really successful by the technical assistance given by Frs Akhil Mlavil and Joison.

7. Marian Retreat for Missionary Associates and Santhome Fellowship Members

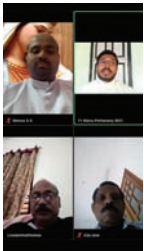
In order to prepare fellowship members for the feast of Blessed Mary on September 8 we conducted Marian retreat. Fr Saju Elanjiyil preached the retreat and all the missionary associates and potential missionary associates participated in it. This retreat helped both the missionary associates and Santa



fellowship members to deepen their faith in mother Mary and Fr Saju emphasised in his retreat the sufferings in our lives during the pandemic time can be offered to the sanctification of the world.

8. Mission Sharing: Fr Manu (Orissa Mission)

A meeting was conducted for Santhome Fellowship members in Kothamangalam diocese. The regular protocols of the meetings observed. Fr Manu Pottanani from Orissa explained the mission work of MST. It helped the members to understand the

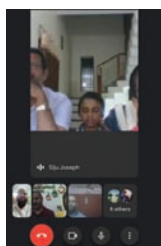


difficulties in the mission .They all assured their prayers for the great susses of the mission in Orissa.

9. Zoom Meeting for Vannapuram Group

A zoom meeting organised for the Santhome fellowship group in Vannapuram. The meeting started with a prayer section. Fr Justin Vettukallel participated in the meeting. He explained the purpose and mode of functioning of Santhome Fellowship to the members. The secretary of the group presented the report and the meeting ended with divine mercy rosary.

10. First International Santhome Fellowship Group



It was an ever cherished dream of Santhome Fellowship to organise a group from abroad. And it came true in this pandemic era .we could gather 20 families from middle east. First gathering was conducted on 10th October.

11. Contributions towards Orissa



Missionary associates of MST handed over one lack to Baliguda mission station in Orissa. This station was adopted by the associate's. The money was handed over to Rev Fr Manu by Fr Peter the council in charge of missionary associates in the presence of associate

members. Associates offer one decode of the rosary for the particular mission station.

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

C. SANTHOME – IMPACT, Kochi

Activities of July-Sept 2020

Because of COVID 19 we could not do many of our usual activities like parish mission animation outreach ministries, outdoor and indoor camps, classes, seminars etc. Santhome Media had some activities.

1. Ruhhalaya Deacons' Course: Santhome-IMPACT was blessed



to have 15 Deacons of Ruhhalaya here from July 4 to Aug 25. First part of their Fourth year course was conducted here. They had direct and online classes. They spent their time here happily, qualitatively and enthusiastically. They wholeheartedly helped in the household works inside and outside and the whole campus was made clean and beautiful.

2. Vianney Day August 4: We celebrated solemnly the feast of St John Maria Vianney. Fr Jimmy Karthanam, the parish priest of Thevackal was the main celebrant of the solemn Holy Qurbana.

3. Marian Grotto: IMPACT had a front side facelift by the construction of a Marian Grotto. What is to be specially mentioned is that the Grotto was built by the artists among the Deacons. All Deacons co-operated with them. We thank the Deacons for their voluntary and selfless service. We raise our hats to those artists



among the Deacons. It was blessed by Mar Sebastian Vaniapurackal, the Curia Bishop on August 15.

4. Celebration of August 15: On August 15 we were blessed by the presence of Mar Sebastian Vaniapurackal, the Curia Bishop,



Rev. Fr Justin Vettukallel, Secretary General and IMPACT Councillor in-charge and Rev. Fr Jimmy Karthanam, the Parish Priest of Thevackal, our Parish. Mar Sebastian Vaniapurackal offered solemn Holy Mass in

our chapel and afterwards attended our Independence day ceremony and blessed our Marian Grotto. Fr Justin Vettukallel concelebrated in the Holy Mass, hoisted the flag, gave the Independence Day message, participated in the blessing of the Grotto and gave a blessing message. Fr Jimmy Karthanam participated in the Independence Day Programme and the blessing of the Marian Grotto and gave a blessing message. We the IMPACT Community and the Deacons express our heartfelt gratitude to all our chief guests.



5. At Major Archbishop's House: We the members of IMPACT and the Deacons were invited by the Major Archbishop to spend the evening of August 15 with him and the other members of the Curia. We had the Ramsa and Rosary in the Chapel with the Curia community. Then we had supper with the Major Archbishop and the community. During supper all introduced themselves and Deacons sung one Marian Syriac song and one Hindi patriotic song. One Deacon expressed our heartfelt thanks towards the Major Archbishop and the community. His eminence Cardinal George



Alencherry gave an enlightening message to the Deacons and some presents to all. We thank the Major Archbishop and the community wholeheartedly.

6. Fr Siju Azhakath: Fr Azhakath was the Editor of True Blaze magazine for last two years, is relieved of his duty wef. from August 15. We the IMPACT community express our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for his selfless dedication and commitment to IMPACT activities. Best wishes for his continuing apostolate in the Curia of the Major Archbishop. Fr Johnny Vanmelil took charge as the new Editor and Circulation Manager of True Blaze. In addition to this he is also appointed the Director of Mission Animation activities of MST. It is happy news that he successfully completed his post graduate studies in English at Assam Don Bosco University with gold medal. Hearty congratulations and best wishes to him.

7. Santhome Media-IMPACT

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

a. Marvalah: This is an online Prayer conducted by our MST priests, brothers and missionary associates from all over world in preparation for the celebration of St Thomas Day. This is uploaded in our YouTube Channel.

b. Vanakkamasam: It is our great achievement that we could upload the audio version of *Vanakkamasam* of St Thomas in our YouTube Channel. This is the only *vanakkamasam* of St Thomas for 30 days.

c. **Adi Kittiyavante Thudi:** This is a poem recited by Rev Sr Therese Alencherry. This speaks about the feelings and emotions of religious sisters in this modern world.

d. **Ammathan Chaare:** This is a nine days Marian reflection by Rev Fr Daey Kunnath for the preparation of Nativity of Mother Mary.

e. **Syro malabar online catechism:** 5th standard malayalam catechism's pre and post production work is done by us.

f. **Domus cat:** 12th standard ninth chapter malayalam catechism of ernakulam- angamaly archdiocese's post production work is done by us.

g. **Audio recording:** santhome media audio recording studio is blessed with eminent personalities like kester, mithila micheal, sr rincy alphonse sd, teena mary abraham, chitra arun, alice mathew, shaju cheriyan and vipin roldent. More than 6 devotional songs, documentary voiceover and audio magazine were recorded here.

h. Invitation to all MSTs to collaborate with Santhome Media-IMPACT: Santhome Media-IMPACT invites all the members of MST to avail its facilities to manifest their talents in communication. Santhome media will technically support the MST members to work out their creativity and bring out as media productions.

i. Upcoming Initiatives of Santhome Media-IMPACT:

1. Capsule type Short Films
2. Motivational Classes
4. Web Series

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

8. IMPACT Publications

Publication of Mission Magazine "Kadukumani" was resumed after

lockdown. English magazine “True Blaze” for English medium children could not be published due to the closure of schools.

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

D. Santhome, Pariyaram

1. Covid 19 Situation at Pariyaram

As you may all know, Santhome Bible Centre is in the vicinity of Kannur Government Medical College at Pariyaram. Ever since the pandemic Covid 19 broke out, this medical college has been at the epicentre of Covid 19 treatment in the two districts of Kannur and Kasargod. Only Covid 19 patients are admitted in this hospital since some time and now it has no more room to admit Covid patients. The nearby Government Ayurvedic Medical College Hospital is also converted into Covid treatment centre. As the number of Covid patients is increasing daily, the authorities have taken several buildings, lodges, apartments as treatment centres. Since someone from most of the Catholic families here is working in the Medical College Hospital, many families have Covid patients. Some of our neighbouring families are shifted to Kannur for treatment as there is no more room here. Because of the grim situation of Covid positive cases in our immediate neighbourhood, we cannot even get out from here. Even our public Mass is stopped for the time being due to the increase of Covid cases.

2. New Arrivals

In the past few months Santhome, Pariyaram, has welcomed a few new arrivals here. Rev. Fr Siju Kolthambrayil has come back here after his one year service in Chanda Eparchy. Now he is doing B2 German course online. Rev. Fr Rony Alencherry, the northern zone Vocation Promoter, got transferred here from Santhome Seminary at Thamarassery. Since the major seminaries were closed due to Covid 19, six MST brothers were supposed to come here during this pandemic. But only three of them turned out and reached here.

As we heard in the webinar, lack of the Eucharist and sacraments has weakened the resolve of some brothers to pursue their goal of priesthood. We are now a big community of nine here. One of the brothers left for Aluva Seminary a few days ago. Those MST students studying at Dharmaram College are still here attending online classes. All of us engage ourselves in manual labour in the evening hours.

3. St Michael's Prayer Centre

Ever since the outbreak of the pandemic Covid 19, Fr Zacharias Thadathil is not going out for preaching retreats nor does he receive people for prayer and healing here. Instead, he prays for those who request him in the morning hours between 9 am and 11.30 am. During this period he preached retreat at Santhome Minor Seminary at Thamarassery and at SABS Provincial House there.

4. FTAK Run by Fr. Joy Kochupara

Although the pandemic has very badly affected our farmers, FTAK (Fair Trade Alliance Kerala) has managed to buy the products of their member farmers (around 5000) on time and to export them to Europe. When the state government was reluctant to buy farmers' products like cashew nut, FTAK purchase centres collected their products giving them good price. It was indeed a boon to the members of FTAK. The Covid 19 pandemic has not hindered the on-going programs of FTAK. In spite of his heavy duties at Bedshi Ayurvedic Hospital in Sangli Mission, Fr Joy Kochupara finds time to co-ordinate the activities of FTAK in northern Kerala.

5. Autobiography of Fr Antony Pedickattukunnel



Fr Antony Pedickattukunnel made use of his free time during the Covid 19 lock-down to write his life memoir. He sent his weekly manuscript here and it was typed at Vimala Press, Thalassery. Since a few days he is here at Santhome,

Pariyaram, for the author's proof reading. The printed book will be out within a few days. This autobiography is the first of its kind among MST fathers. It is inspiring as well as challenging. We will feel to read the whole book at one single sitting once we start reading it. But it is not possible as it is 496 pages big. All its readers will enjoy reading this book and gain a lot of new ideas and perspectives.

6. Santhome Bible Commentary

The publication of the next volume of Santhome Bible Commentary is deliberately delayed due to Covid 19 as there is no possibility of circulating it. The next volume is on the Epistles to Thessalonians. We may publish it next year.

7. Santhome Fruit Garden

As informed earlier, Santhome Fruit Garden is growing steadily with all kinds of fruit trees. Our bananas and plantains are ripe and ready now. If it were not Covid 19 pandemic period, you could come here and enjoy the first fruits of Santhome Fruit Garden. You can come here after this period of health emergency and enjoy various kinds of fruits.

(Reported by Fr Sebastian Kizhakkeyil, Director Santhome, Pariyaram)

E. Thomasine Research Center (TRC)

Thomasine Research Center (TRC) is happy to enter its third year of service to MST and the Syro-Malabar Church. Though the Covid 19 lock down has hampered many of its activities, we are happy that we are able to continue our online ministries.

1. Online Diploma Course

We have already successfully completed two semesters of the online diploma course in Thomasine Studies. The students from various parts of India have successfully written their examinations of the two semesters. This four semester course will get over by September 2021.

We are planning to launch a Malayalam version of this online course

in the next year. We hope to enlist mainly the catechism teachers of the various Syro-Malabar dioceses for this online course.

2. Fr Joseph Maliparampil Memorial Mission Webinar

The fifth edition of the Fr Maliparampil memorial mission seminar was conducted this year as a webinar on 20 September 2020. The theme of the webinar was Ecclesial life of the faithful after covid 19. The webinar had a large participation and was well appreciated. Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, our Director General welcomed all to the webinar. The Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church His Grace Cardinal Mar George Alenchery inaugurated and blessed the webinar. He exhorted all to be guided by the Holy Spirit to continue their pastoral and missionary activities in tune with the changing times and according to the needs of the times. Re. Fr Dominic Vechoor from St Thomas Ap. Seminary, Vadavathoor outlined various means of overcoming the negative impacts of the pandemic in his inspiring talk. Bro. Ceetley George, Director of the FIAT Mission spoke about the challenges posed by the pandemic covid 19 from the perspective of a committed lay catholic faithful.

The webinar was well attended and well appreciated and we thank Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, our Director General, Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, the Councillor-in-charge of TRC, Rev. Fr Monse Karuvakunnel and Fr Joby Maprkavil for their support and timely help.

3. New Residence and Office

I am happy to inform you that the office and residence of the TRC is shifted to Thumboor near Chalakudy. I thank very sincerely Rev. Fr Jospeh Vazhuthanappally for making it available to MST. The place suits our purpose very well as it is close to several historic places like Puthenchira, Kuzhikattusery, Sampaloor, Thazhekad, Kodungallur etc.

(Reported by Fr James Kurukilamkatt, Director, TRC)

VIII DEPARTED FOR ETERNAL REWARD

A. Necrology

Parents and Family Members of the MSTs

As informed by members (1 July – 15 October 2020)

Mrs Thresiamma, Mother of Fr Sebastian Koottumkal

Mr P.T. Joseph, Father of Fr Panackavayalil and Brother in law of Fr Vattukulathil

Mrs Rosamma, Mother of Fr John Nattunilath

Mrs Aleykutty, Mother of Fr Thomas Kalapurackal

Mr K.S. Antony Kollamkudy, Father of Fr Ashok Kollamkudy

Mr John Mani, Father of Fr Jobin Edamanacherril

Mr K.M. Devasia, Father of Fr Binoy Kottumkal

Mr K.J. Joseph, Father of Fr Joseph Unnieppallil

Mr Francis M.A., Father of Fr Viju Muringassery

Mr John Nadackal, Brother of Fr Varghese Nadackal

Rev. Fr Thomas CST, Brother of Fr Jose Ottalamkal

Mrs Aleyamma Mukalathu, Sister of Fr Thomas Kumblanthanath

Mr Joseph Parayadyil, Uncle of Fr Thomas Parayadyil

Mr. Mathew Vellasherry, Brother in law of Fr Thomas Chirayil

Mrs Mariamma Thekkanatt, Grandmother of Deacon Elamthuruthiyil

Mr Ulahannan Munjanattukunnel, Grandfather of Fr John Nattunilathu

Mr Joy Choondiyanipurathu, Brother-in-law of Fr Abraham Kollithadam

Mr Peter Kunnuthara, Uncle Fr Josekutty Kalayil

Mr K. J. Joseph Kaithottumkal, Uncle of Fr Antony Kaithottumkal and Granduncle of Fr Justin Kaithottumkal

Rev. Fr V.D. Mathew Vezhambasseril SDB (85), Uncle of Fr Jose Palakeel

Mrs Thresisamma, Grandmother of Fr Aby Kolliyil

Mr Joseph Britto Chirathalayath, Grandfather of Fr Alan Mathasseril

Mr Jogeshwar Naik, Catechist of Odisha Mission

B. OBITUARIES

1. Bishop Mar Paul Chittilappilly

The MST grieves at the demise of His Excellency Mar Paul Chittilappilly, the first bishop of the Eparchy of Kalyan and the third Bishop of the Eparchy of Thamarassery. The MST is indebted to Mar Chittilappilly in numerous ways. As the Eparch of Kalyan, he was the primary instrument and inspiration for the Sangli Mission Region of the MST which began in 1990. When the MST purchased property of the present Santhome Minor Seminary in 2005, Mar Paul



Chittilappilly was the Eparch of the Thamarassery. Later as the Bishop Emeritus, he used to visit the Seminary and was very happy to interact with and inspire the young seminarians. The MST is highly indebted to His Excellency for his outstanding promotion of its Sangli Mission, by entrusting four civil districts of the Eparchy in its South-Western area to us. When the Eparchy was created in 1988, only four MSTs were working in its territory in the area of the Diocese of Pune. Bishop Chittilappilly sought the support of the MST in organizing the communities into parishes, in Mumbai area. The MST vehemently collaborated with him, and there around 30 MSTs working at one time for the Eparchy in the Mumbai, in addition to other priests in the Sangli Region. His simplicity, nobility, farsightedness and encouragement given to the missionary priests facilitated the organisation of the parish-communities and the growth of the mission territories.

I cherish a half century long close acquaintance and deep friendship with Bishop Chittilappilly. He arrived in Mumbai in 1988, two years of prior to the erection of the Eparchy of Kalyan in 1988 and his installation as its first bishop. The purpose of the erection of the diocese itself was for the service of the Syro Malabar Catholics. I remember that MST had begun its pastoral ministry in Pune from 1984. Bishop Valerian D'Souza, a brave and generous soul, as I

think of him, was the then bishop of Pune. Following the guidelines of the II Vatican Council, he spared the diocesan priests of his diocese for the pastoral needs of the Syro Malabar Catholics. It was an extraordinary historical move inscribed in the history. Whenever possible, Msgr. Chittilappilly was invited to the Pune Mission. His paternal visits immensely instilled great enthusiasm in the priests and the faithful. I now deem it an honour and a great privilege to have served as Episcopal Vicar in Pune and later in Sangli Mission with Bishop Chittilappilly. The proposal for the present Sangli Mission with four civil districts had invited great opposition. But his conviction that 'let us not stop those initiate to do good' prompted him to allot four districts to Sangli mission and to promote Chavara and Vincentian missions by the CMs and VCs respectively. These ventures have invariably led to vast growth of the Diocese, good of the faithful and ultimately the glory of God.

I trust that Bishop Chittilappilly had special love for the MSTs and especially for its Sangli Mission. He was very generous in promoting and encouraging the young MST priests who helped him organize communities and parishes in the Mumbai area. He visited Sangli even after he moved to Thamarassery was very earnest about its



development. He loved to keep the friendship and cordiality with MST priests, and always kept a special place for

MST in his heart. I have the fond memories of visiting him in Thamarassery. The last time I talked to him was on his feast day on his patron's day on 29 June 2000. He was well prepared to make his heavenly journey. Although he breathed his last on 6 September, I trust that, while in heaven, he will continue his love for the MST and will intercede for all of us in fulfilling our missionary responsibilities.

By Rev. Fr George Kavukatt, The First Regional Director of St Alphonhsa Region

2. Rev. Sr Marietta Angadiathu S.H.



Rev. Sr Marietta Angadiathu (1928-2020) S.H. was born on 04 September 1928 at Neyyassery in Kothamangalam, Kerala. After a few years her service in Kerala as a religious sister she received her higher vocation for Missionary life she set out, on 29 June 1969, along with four of our other pioneer members and sisters of FCC convent Kothamangalam,

to Ujjain Mission. Late Bishop. John Perumatton MST. then the Exarch invited and received them with all the paternal care and concern. From then she is a loving mother for all including the Sisters of other Congregations. Her pleasant presence with a lot of humour sense was the greatest quality attracted many to Sr.Marieta (Mariettamma).

She started her mission apostolate by visiting villages and running a dispensary named Pushpa Dispensary in Ujjain along with other sisters. Pushpa Dispensary got upgraded to a small Hospital by December 1974, she was appointed as the first administrator of it and continued till 1977. She along with other sisters and Rev. Fr John Plackeel, the director, took up all the struggles of the infancy of the hospital. She altogether served 47 years in Puspha compound as the administrator, Nurse, Local Superior of the Community and in-charge of the boarding rendering restless and selfless service without counting the reward. She spent her three years of her life from 1995 – 97 in S.H. Regional House (then), now the Provincial House Mendya as the local Superior. The only time she spent her life out of Pushpa premises is during this time. Thus she is the first and the only missionary of Ujjain who made the longest service in our mission for 51 years.

She was very good collaborator and very good friend of many MST priests. The personal contact she could make with the people was outstanding. She loved being with people and helping them in all possible ways. She interacted with every one especially patients

with compassion, kindness, love and empathy. Her readiness to do any kind of humble work and availability for everyone is gratefully remembered by all the sisters and fathers. She was well known for her affectionate approach and concern for the needs of others and strenuous hard work. Mariettamma lived to the last and had created an everlasting image of Mother in the hearts of everyone whom she encountered. The beautiful soul of Mariettamma returned to the Lord on 28 July 2020, on the feast day of St Alphonsa. Let us pray for the repose of the departed soul. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus embrace her in love and receive her in the heavenly abode.

By Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, Regional Director, St Paul Region, Ujjain

3. Rev. Fr Joseph Padannamakal



Born on April 13, 1931 at Aruvithura in Kottayam district, he was ordained a priest for the diocese of Palai by Mar Sebastian Vayalil. He served the church at various capacities. After finishing higher studies in Paris, he served as parish priest at Lalam Old, Cherpumkal, Maniamkulam, Chemmamattam, Kadanad, Monippally and Anthiyalam. He had been the Director of CML and Catechism, member of Priests' Senate, Judge in Diocesan Tribunal, member of diocesan administrative Council, member of pastoral Council and Eparchial Consultor. His services at priestly training institutions at Deepti Minor Seminary, St Joseph's Pontifical Seminary Alwaye, G.S.M. Seminary Palai, Adono Ashram Mallikassery etc. were praise worthy and very much appreciated by all.

Our experience with Fr Padannamakal is at Deepti Minor Seminary as our Rector during 1975-1978. However, he had served in different capacities at Deepti from 1970 onwards. He had been known for his seriousness and zero compromise with discipline but we, his students enjoyed his sincere love and concern for every one of us. There was a common saying in the community that Fr

Padannamakal's colour is black but his heart, fully white. Known for his simplicity and humility both in individual and public life, he always stood by the students specially the weak. He was a man of prayer and sincerity, free from egoism and malice. The special love he had for the mission and missionaries reflected very much in the formation as the Rector of Deepti.

He retired from his public life on February 22, 2014 and breathed his last on August 25, 2020. We, his Deepti students are deeply saddened by the demise of one of our beloved Rectors, Fr Joseph Padannamakal. We remain in solidarity with him in prayer. May he rest in peace with Jesus.

*By Rev. Fr Augustine Marottikudy, Santome – Thamarassery
(Student of Fr Padannamakal in Deepti)*

4. Rev. Fr George Thoomkuzhy



Fr George Thoomkuzy was one of the pioneers of Ujjain mission and a good friend of MST priests. He was a zealous missionary of Ujjain in its infancy and a trusted resort for poor villagers at all times. He loved and enjoyed his mission of helping the poor and visiting them in their villages. Fr. George was very earnest in preaching ministry and in conducting prayer meetings in various

villages. Fr George Thoomkuzy, was born on the 31 January 1944 at Chemmalamattam in Kottayam district. He was ordained a priest on 1 January 1972 for the Eparchy of Palai. After a short period of service in the Eparchy of Palai, he opted for Ujjain Mission towards the end of the year. He was entrusted with establishing a new mission station at Barnagar in Ujjain District. While living at a rented accommodation, he acquired land for the mission and realized his responsibility. He was appointed as the Diocesan Procurator and served in that capacity for the period 1974–1978. During this term, he fulfilled his pastoral responsibilities of Chandessary and founded

village mission stations of Bhajarangarh, Chandukhedy and Harshodan. He also had the responsibility as the Director of Diocesan Social Work and Pushpa Mission Hospital, Ujjain. St Paul's school was his initiative which is a famous Higher Secondary School in Ujjain today. He initiated a mission station at Maksi in 1981 and opened Kolping Convent School there. He was transferred to Shujalpur in 1992, and while he was at Shujalpur he opened Akodia mission station and opened a school there. In 1995, Fr George opted for pastoral work in the Diocese of St Paul and Minneapolis in Minnesota, USA. After returning from the USA in 2014, he opted for pastoral ministry in the Eparchy of Faridabad, Delhi. Fr. George Thoomkuzhy was called for eternal reward at 2.30 pm on 26th August 2020.

I recall my sweet memories with Fr George Thoomkuzhy at Shujalpur. Both of us commenced our mission there in 1992 and concluded our missionary responsibilities at Shujalpur together in 1995. I was his only assistant priest during his entire pastoral life. We had a very good time serving the Lord, and the whole missionary community at Shujalpur enjoyed the loving, caring and peaceful family atmosphere under the fraternal leadership and care of Fr. Thoomkuzhy. He visited neighbouring villages very often and motivated religious sisters at the mission stations and encouraged me to do the same. The villagers embraced Fr. George and they would join him for the prayer services.

He used to invite villagers to the mission station during Christmas and Easter and they used to stay there for a couple of days attending Holy Qurbana and other spiritual activities. He was conscientious in his prayer life and maintained decorum in the midst of his busy schedule. He had perpetuated exemplary relationship with fellow priests and majority of his friends were MST priests. He used to acknowledge and appreciate the dedicated service of MST priests in the establishment of the Eparchy of Ujjain. He had touched the hearts of so many who owe him a lifetime of gratitude. On behalf of MST priests, I salute Fr. George Thoomkuzhy with love, respect and gratitude and bid him adieu with prayers as he embarks on his

eternal abode.

By Rev. Fr Hans Puthiakulangara, UK (Worked with Fr Thoomkuzhy in Shujalpur)

5. Rev Sr Justy Mannoor FCC



It is with lot of pain the Sangli mission and I received the news of the demise of Rev Sr Justy Mannoor (75) known among us a Justinamma. She was called to eternal bliss on 20 September 2020. She had been working in our St Alphonsa Region, Sangli for 10 years until 2018 (Lanja-7 years and Khed 3 years). For the past two years, she was undergoing treatment for cancer residing

at FCC Vimalagiri (Nirappu) Convent at Vazhappilly East near Moovttupuzha.

I came in contact with her in the year 1999 while taking part in the Marathi course conducted at Sant Thoma Bhavan, Kolhapur. She was the eldest in our batch to learn Marathi. She reached the mission after her retirement from as a headmistress of a school in Kerala. Though she was more in age, she had a youthful missionary mind that I could see in her especially in her language study. From then she is a good friend of Sangli mission and me. Her service in Lanja in its initial years and then in Khed is more than praise worthy. Her hospitality and welcoming nature gives a motherly nature. Even the local people found a mother in her. Her loving attitude to listen to the people, love them and help them in the possible manner made her price worthy in the minds of people. I have encountered her many times spending long hours of prayer in chapel.

At times, her hard work was visible in the beautiful garden, vegetable garden etc. "There is no stone that is not over turned by her in Lanja station or Khed," we made fun of her seeing her hard work. She was particular about cleanliness in the area. Her old age never hindered her from rendering service to the mission in the all possible manner. I often have wondered how she was able to work with

such enthusiasm even having many physical ailments. Even once I asked her “Justiamma, how could you work in such a pace?” Her reply was a beautiful smile raising her head towards the heaven. Her demise is a real lose for the mission, but we are more blessed to have an ever smiling saint in heaven interceding for the mission. She knows the very beat of the mission. Let us remember her committed service in the MST mission and pray for the repose of her soul.

By Rev. Fr Sebastian Njalliyil, Regional Director, St Alphonsa Region, Sangli

6. Sr Infant Tresa Naduvilekuttu SABS



Rev. Sr. Infant Tresa was born on 1st June 1932 at Kadanad in the diocese of Palai. After her initial formation she made her first profession on 4th June 1954 and accepted the name of Sr. Infant Tresa. From 1959 she rendered her services in Muttuchira hospital as a staff nurse and as a nursing matron. Sr Infant Tresa had an ardent desire to become a missionary and from 1990 to 1996, she offered her service in Shimoga mission. In 1996 she came to Ujjain mission. She was a good co-worker of many of the MST fathers. She served in Jai Rani Hospital Ghonsla, Nirmala Hospital Chandessary and Vimala dispensary Navada. Later on she was engaged in adoration apostolate at St. Mary's Cathedral Ujjain, St. Mary's Cathedral Khandwa, St. Francis Cathedral Indore, Aradhana Sadan Chandessary and Provincial House Kamed.

She was very loving and compassionate to the patients and also to the poor people. She always accepted her sufferings and difficulties with calmness. She served the congregation for 66 years with full joy and satisfaction. On 26 September 2020 she received the Holy Eucharist and the sacrament of the anointing of the sick consciously answering 'amen' to all the prayers and left for his heavenly journey. Let us pray for the repose of the departed soul. May the Risen Lord embrace her in love and receive her in the heavenly abode.

Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, Regional Director, St Paul Region, Ujjain

7. Rev. Sr Therese Kochuvelickakam SABS



Rev. Sr. Theresa Kochuvelickakam was born on 8 October 1939. She hails from Neeranthanam Parish, Ramapuram. She entered the SABS in the year 1966 and served as a teacher as well as Head Mistress in Vadakara, Kanjiramattam, Xavierpuram and Aruvithra.

After her retirement in the field of education with great zeal to serve the Eucharistic Lord she joined the Jyothirmai Province, Ujjain in 1999, and was in Jhabua for 10 years. Later she was the Superior of Upasana Convent, Ujjain and spent her life in Eucharistic adoration at the Cathedral of Ujjain. In the last years of her consecrated life, she spent most of her time adoring the Eucharistic Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and interceded for all in Aradhana Sadan, Chandessary. She was a very loving and caring, and a good friend of MSTs in Ujjain.

As she was diagnosed covid positive, she was given treatment in Indore. After a few days of struggle, she was called for her eternal reward on 6 October 2020. Her funeral was under the covid protocol and hence was attended by only five persons. Let us be sure that all her sufferings in the final days will add to her virtues and that she will intercede for all of us from heaven.

By Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, Regional Director, St Paul Region, Ujjain



A TRIBUTE TO REV. FR JOSEPH KOCHAYANKANAL MST (1934-2020)

By Rev. Fr Kurian Valiamagalam

It is just more than a month since Fr Kochayan (this is how the friends used to call him) is not with us. He breathed his last on 8th September – the feast of the Nativity of Mary the blessed mother of Jesus. May he rest in Peace! RIP. I am here attempting to pay our homage to his sweet memory. First of all a brief record of his life as a priest and missionary member of our society.

Life Sketch



Life together: I am lucky and happy to spend my seminary time and missionary and pastoral work together with him. He was a year junior to me in the minor seminary (Good Shepherd's, Palai). Both of us did our major seminary studies in the Sacred Heart Seminary, Poonamallee, Madras. I was ordained on 11 March 1964, at Bharananganam and Fr

Kochayamkanal in Mumbai, at the Eucharistic Congress on 1 December 1964 in the presence of Pope Paul VI. We began our priestly life in Palai and joined the Society in the beginning, but continued to work in Pala itself until we were called to join the missionary group in Ujjain under the leadership of Bishop Mar John Perumattam. During seminary days we had plenty of occasions to work together. Many a time there were combined studies. Kochayan was a good foot-ball player. He had interest in working in the vegetable garden, flower garden and such manual work. This quality in him is seen throughout his life. He was called by the people in Ujjain as *Kisan Father* as he showed great interest in farming. In Ruhalya he was formally appointed as spiritual father but he took also interest in the cultivation. Here in Aaram he showed special care in planting tapioca, colocasia (*chembu*), yam (*chena*), etc. He was hospitalized only for three weeks. Till that time he was after the works to put manure to the plantain. This trait in him was seen from

seminary days. I was fond of books, while he was fond of farming and cattle - rearing – a true Kisan father. Handled important responsibilities well; e.g. Procurator of Ujjain Diocese, of the MST Ujjain Region, Treasurer General of the Society (MST), Diocesan Secretary of Education, Manager of St. Paul's School, Ujjain and the Schools in Nagda and Narasingarh and of Rubber Estate, Ruhhalaya Professor and Spiritual Father, Asst. Director of Aaram, etc.

As a Priest



Although interested in farming his first interest was pastoral, priestly work. Wherever he was appointed, whether in Palai or in Ujjain or in the matters of MST, he showed special care in the welfare and Christian formation of the people under his care. Wherever he worked, he took interest to know the people there. He had a special gift to remember their names even after

the elapse of long time. Occasionally, people from the parishes like Theekoy, Vellikulam, Palai, etc. would come to meet him or some other father here, he easily remembers them and call them by their name and enquire about the well-being of the children, relations and the neighbours. He retains the same interest in the mission areas too whenever visiting them in their homes, he easily adjusts with their simple poor circumstances; no demands for posh treatment; satisfied with simple things. No hesitation to walk long distances if need be.

When father Francis Kandathil started the first village mission station at Piploda, Fr Kochayan came to his help to put up a hut there. The same is our experience at Bachukheda. Then he was the diocesan procurator. We built our house there without the help of any mason or carpenter or even a coolie. It

was a simple station planned by Fr Kandathil and Fr Kochayan. It was a temporary house and finished in two days and we began to stay there on the third day.

He was great success in all the places he worked. His dealings with the staff and the workers were pleasing, he was sympathetic to them, and he knew to get their whole hearted support in all the activities of the institution. He was careful not to waste money and material like water, electricity etc. His needs were minimum. When he was the manager of the St Paul's, though there was a jeep and a car in the Bishop's house and a driver at his disposal, he seldom used them. Instead he bought a small motor cycle (moped) for his daily use. While in Aaram, he took special care to switch off extra fans and lights, thus saved electricity.

A model Priest: he was attached to Church and liturgy. Before going to Ujjain, served in many parishes as Asst. Vicar in the initial years and thereafter as Vicar. The people of the place still remember him; more than that he still remembered them. In Ujjain too, he worked as the Priest in charge of many stations. Although there are not many Christians in those places, he cared well those few. Every station there has a convent. He was interested in their welfare too. While in retirement living in Aaram, he gladly went to the places whenever he was called to help for hearing confessions, to say Holy Mass etc. He was confessor and spiritual father in Ruhahaya for six long years. In this capacity he was a guide of many of our young fathers. His nephew Fr James is a parish priest in Palai and he often sought and got his uncle's help in the parish work. Fr Kochayankanal was an early riser. Here in the Aaram, he would be in the chapel by 4 a.m., arrange the altar for adoration and would wait for others. The adoration would start only at 5 a.m., he was always ready to say the community mass, never missed the common prayers like



Breviary, Rosary etc. This he continued till the last. Calm and quite, never boisterous but pleasing at conversation, would crack jokes, had good memory of places and people. He was 'a reference book' for us. Seldom got angry, but keeps contacts and friendships. He was ready to help people in need by lending money. His friends would cite instances and Fr Kochayan lent rather big amounts while he was Procurator. I do believe that nobody failed to return the amount in time.

Conclusion

God blessed him with a pretty long life. He died at 86; enjoyed good health, was never bedridden except for the last nearly three weeks in the hospital; received the last sacraments consciously. He accepted death peacefully, prayerfully. We firmly believe that he is in the heavenly company of saints and angels singing the eternal song of God's glory.

To draw a picture of dear Fr Kochayankanal in a few words: smart and pleasing; with well-built body, healthy, never tired of work – hard physical work; a frugal eater, satisfied by any kind of food; get along with almost all types of people, submissive and obedient to superiors; open and co-operative with companions; treat the workers kindly and join with them if needed. In spite of external activities, he didn't sideline religious duties. He was not a great preacher but his life was giving out the message just as Gandhiji said "my life is my message." We need many such missionaries to fulfill the command of the Lord "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations and baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28, 18 -20).

Circular No. X-14/2018-2023

29 August 2020

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers, Deacons 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, in this alarming time of Covid-19.

1. Observance of *Ettu Nombu*

In the context of the rapid spread of Covid-19, through a special circular, our Major Archbishop has exhorted us of a recent decision by the Synod of Bishops regarding the observance of the traditional fast of eight days (*Ettu Nombu*) in preparation for the feast of Nativity of Our Lady (Prot. No. 0989/2020, dated 24 August 2020). In addition to this, all priests of the Syro-Malabar Church are requested to offer the Holy Qurbana of the upcoming Friday (4 September 2020) beseeching the mercy of God so that the world can overcome the raging pandemic. In obedience to the above direction of the Major Archbishop, I request all of you to observe *Ettu Nombu* and offer the Holy Qurbana of 4 September 2020 for deliverance of the world from corona-pandemic.

2. Covid-restrictions in Deepti Campus

As there is community spread of Covid-19 in the vicinities of Deepti Mount (Thalappalam Gram-panchayat) and in several parts of the state of Kerala, it has been decided to implement restrictions for the inflow and the outflow of people in Deepti campus for the next two weeks (until 15 September 2020). Therefore, people from outside are not encouraged to enter Deepti campus (Deepti Bhavan, Deepti College and *Aaraam*); and the outside travels for the residents of Deepti campus are also restricted to emergencies. The seminarians of Deepti College are not being sent home for *Onam* holidays. Instead, they will have holidays in the seminary itself. These measures are to help us be cautious, as there are many students, sick and senior members living in this campus.

May I take this opportunity to remind all our members in different

parts of this world, to take necessary precautionary measures against this pandemic as it is still continued in the phase of community spread. Let us continue our prayers for the whole world and for each other. Wishing you every greeting of the feast of Nativity of Our Lady and invoking Her intercession upon each of us and our apostolates,
Yours in Christ Jesus,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

Circular No. X-15/2018-2023

2 September 2020

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers, Deacons and Brothers,
Prayerful greetings from Deepti Bhavan!

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

Pioneer Members of the MST

The general body meeting of the first members of the MST (which is reported as ‘General Assembly’ in the book of Acts and Deeds) held on 11 March 1969 at Bishop’s House, Pala had passed a resolution that “priests joining the Society within three years from the date of erection of the Society shall be considered pioneer members” (Page No. 5 of Book No. 1 - *Acts and Deeds of the General Assembly and Central Council*). In compliance with this resolution, all priests who made the promise of incorporation into the MST within first three years of its erection are the pioneer members of the Society. Accordingly, the MST is blessed to have 21 priests as its pioneer members. The original copies of their promise of incorporation and other evidences of their membership in the MST are available in the archives of the Generalate. May I present the following list of 21 priests along with the date of their promise of incorporation into the MST.

Name of Priests**Promise of Incorporation**

1. Ayathamattam Joseph (Late)	16 July 1968
2. Ettackakunneel Abraham (Late)	16 July 1968
3. Kadookunneel John	16 July 1968
4. Kuthivalachel George (Late)	16 July 1968
5. Kuzhikandathil George (Late)	16 July 1968
6. Maliparampil Joseph (Late)	16 July 1968
7. Mattam Joseph (Late)	16 July 1968
8. Parappuram Abraham (Late)	16 July 1968
9. Perumattam John (Late H.E. Bishop)	16 July 1968
10. Plackeel John (Late)	16 July 1968
11. Plathottam Jacob (Late)	16 July 1968
12. Porunnolil Abraham (Late)	16 July 1968
13. Pottanany Sebastian (Late)	16 July 1968
14. Puthenpura Augustine	16 July 1968
15. Thudipara Zacharias	16 July 1968
16. Valiamangalam Kurian	16 July 1968
17. Kandathil Francis (Late)	27 March 1969
18. Naickarakudy Paul (Late)	27 March 1969
19. Thakadiyil Abraham (Late)	12 May 1970
20. Kochayankanal Joseph	19 May 1970
21. Karikilamthadathil Joseph	8 December 1970

The names given in **bold** are the members who were not placed in the previously published list of the pioneer members of the MST. They are:

Rev. Fr Abraham Porunnolil (Late): He belonged to the Eparchy of Pala and was one of the first members of the MST (promised on 16 July 1968), who served also as the Secretary General in the

initial years. He was sent to Rome for higher studies and later he moved to the United States for pastoral work. He was called to eternal reward on 31 January 1986 and was buried at Pala.

Rev. Fr Abraham Thakadiyil (Late): He belonged to the Eparchy of Pala who made the promise of incorporation into the MST on 12 May 1970. He continued serving the Eparchy of Pala in different parishes. He was called to eternal reward on 3 November 1990 and was buried at Bharananganam.

Rev. Fr Joseph Kochayankanal: As a priest of the Eparchy of Pala, he had applied to join the MST on 13 February 1968. He made the promise of incorporation on 19 May 1970. He served the MST and the Eparchy of Ujjain in different capacities until his retirement. He resides at *Aaraam* and is now struggling with serious ailments.

Rev. Fr Joseph Karikilamthadathil: As a priest of the Eparchy of Pala, he also had applied to join the MST on 13 February 1968. He made the promise of incorporation on 8 December 1970. He served the Eparchy of Ujjain in different mission centres. After retirement, he is now residing at *Aaraam*.

With gratitude, let us remember all the pioneer members of the MST who contributed to the inception and growth of the MST in different ways. As we pray for eternal reward to all the departed ones, let us wish and pray for good health and happy days for those pioneer members in retirement.

Invoking the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary on each of us and wishing you every greeting of the imminent feast of Her Nativity on 8 September!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

Circular No. X-16/2018-2023

28 September 2020

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers, Deacons and Brothers,
Prayerful greetings from Deepti Bhavan!

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

1. Mission Webinar – *Samvet* 2020

A webinar named - ‘*Samvet* 2020’ is being organized for all members of the MST, for ten days from 8 to 17 October 2020 between 6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. This online seminar is organized in the context of the pandemic Covid-19, which has severely affected our personnel, ministries and the communities we serve around the globe. The participants and speakers of this seminar are solely the members of the MST. Through this webinar, we are trying to comprehend the challenge of this pandemic to the major realms of our missionary existence and are collectively planning a proactive response towards setting our missionary endeavours and priorities relevant and efficient to the evolving scenario. The details of ‘*Samvet* 2020’ will reach you within a few days, including its link. Kindly schedule your time and days to join this webinar without fail.

Samvet is a Hindi word of Sanskrit origin, meaning – assembled together in a place. Through *Samvet* 2020, the MSTs are assembling together in the virtual world, prior to the celebration of the World Mission Sunday (18 October 2020). *SAMVET*, for us is Search for Adaptive Missionary Vision in the Evolving Times. I am planning to hold *Samvet* every year, in the week prior to the World Mission Sunday.

2. Last Will and Testament

According to C156 of the *Constitutions and Directives (C&D) of the MST*, “Every member shall write and keep a valid last will and testament. Sealed copies of such wills should be left with the Director General or Regional Director; or at least clear information

must be given as to where such wills have been deposited.” Those who have not yet followed the above norm are now kindly reminded to do it at the earliest. The model for a last testament is given on the final pages of the *C&D of the MST*.

At the departure of a member, the MST is obliged by only what is mentioned in the last will and not bound to follow the directions of the family of the deceased in any matter. May I remind you of a new directive incorporated into the C&D of the MST by the General Assembly - 2018 that “the MST is not bound to follow the suggestions of the families of the members regarding the treatment and the funeral” (D16 b vi).

3. Shrinking Resources of Communion

It is alarming to note that the recent payments for the treatment of the members are considerably affecting our resources and challenging our healthcare in future. Please note also that the

personal contribution of the members in terms of the intentions of the Holy Qurbana is very meagre (36 Qurbanas by those within 15 years of ordination, i.e $36 \times 100 = 3600$; and by others only 12 Qurbanas, i.e $12 \times 100 = 1200$, per annum), compared to the average medical expense per member. Besides, there are apprehensions regarding the availability of the intentions of the Holy Qurbana in the future due to the situations like the present pandemic. Therefore, the current situations compel me to make the following proposals of action to generate fund for the ‘Communion.’

a. Personal Contributions: I appeal to all MSTs who are able to make personal contribution, in big or small, to do it in favour of ‘Communion.’ Their contributions will be set aside to raise the corpus fund for ‘Communion.’

b. Nominee of the Investments: It is recommended that the members register the Director General of MST as the nominee for their savings and investments in Operating Accounts, Fixed Deposits, Life Insurance plans or other capitals in financial firms.

c. Last Will in Favour of the MST: As perpetually incorporated

members of the Society, all of us shall consider MST as the legitimate recipients of our possessions, because it is to the MST that we are indebted most for what we have earned. Hence it is a fraternal reminder that the MST shall be our priority in making our last will.

d. Health Insurance: I suggest that those of us who can personally afford to pay the premiums, please join health insurance policies. For those who wish to join health insurance policy but cannot afford to pay insurance premium, the MST shall try to meet the cost with discretion. Kindly contact the Central Committee for Communion (CCC) which is looking into the possibilities of enrolling selected members to health insurance policies.

Upon each of you, I invoke the intercession of St Theresa of Child Jesus - the Patroness of the Missions whose feast we celebrate on 1 October.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

Thank You, Fr Lijo Vadakkemuriyil Neyyoor!

Sincere gratitude to Rev. Fr Lijo Vadakkemuriyil Neyyoor who was very supportive in editing the *MST World* as its Associate Editor for the last one year. All the good wishes to him, as he has begun to pursue licentiate studies in Canon Law at Paurasthya Vidyapitham, Kottayam.

Editor, MST World





Seminarians, after Vestition and Renewal of the Promise of Incorporation



**“The Eucharist is the highway to heaven.
The more Eucharist we receive, the more we
will become like Jesus, so that on earth we will
have a foretaste of heaven.”**

Blessed Carlo Acutis

MST Generalate, Deepti Mount, Melampara P. O. Bharananganam 686578,
Kottayam Dt, Kerala. Tel: 04822-236353

(For Private Circulation only)