

MISSIONARIES OF ST.FRANCIS DE SALES – MSFS SOUTH WEST PROVINCE - INDIA



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Circular MK/25

20 February 2010

Dear Confrere,



The time has come for us to prepare ourselves through prayer, penitence, almsgiving and self-denial for the annual commemoration of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events linked to the Passion of Christ and culminates in Easter. During this season of lent I would like to exhort you *to live a life that is simple, to treat the earth more kindly, to give more attention and care and appreciation to relationships, to be more*

generous and charitable, to have a more peaceful mind and a warmer heart

My Trip to Europe

I am travelling to take part in the meeting of the Indian Provincials with the confreres in GAH (Germany, Austria, Holland). The decision to hold such a meeting has been taken in the last meeting of the General Administration with the Provincials of India. After the afore said meeting I will visit confreres from our Province in France, Germany, Austria, Italy and Switzerland, some benefactors and well-wishers. During my absence Fr. Kurian Aranjanilyil will be the Provincial Vicar.

The Provincials of India Forum

The Provincials of India Forum was constituted by Fr. Superior General by his letter dated 1st December 2009 and in its last meeting on the 4th and 5th of February Fr. Mario D'Souza was elected as the Chairman of the Forum. The forum is constituted to attend all matters concerning inter-province nature affecting them and the congregation following due process of procedures, permissions and approvals of legitimate authorities in the Congregation and the Church.

New Chairman for Suvidya Governing Body

On 5th February the Governing Body of Suvidya College designated Fr. Mario D'Souza as its chairman and is appointed by the Superior General. I am happy to hand over the charges to him and I would like to make use of this opportunity to thank the staff of Suvidya for their dedicated service to the cause of the Formation of future MSFS.

The Inauguration of the Main Block of St. Francis de Sales College

On 10th of February 2010 the Main Block of St. Francis de Sales College was blessed and inaugurated in the presence of the Governor of Karnataka and many other dignitaries (See also the report below). Heart felt Congratulations to Fr. Anthony Swamy, the Principal who was single minded in his devotion to the development of the College. I want to place on record his hard work, sense of commitment and deep interest in the well-being and progress of the College. Under his able guidance the College has grown and we can be sure it will soon be the best one in the locality. I thank him in a very personal way for the person that he is. I want to thank also Fr. Manu Kumbidiamakkal who was Principal in Charge in the absence of Fr. Anthony Swamy in the year 2009 and Fr. Jino Plathotathil who with his youthful energy and enthusiasm is a great source of support to the Principal and the College. I would like to thank Fr. Vinod Kanat who untiringly worked to get the building ready in time and has an immense capacity to manage the finances of our big centre in Hebbagodi. His administrative ability has made it possible that many institutions are built and managed in the Campus. I thank the Community for the support that each one rendered not only to make the inaugural function a beautiful one, but the great support they give to each other.

I would like to thank Fr. James Manjackal for having financed the entire wing. We have some balance payment and we firmly hope that he will help us to make the balance payment and give the finishing touch to the Block. The block is named as Fr. James Manjackal Block in gratitude for his love and concern for the work and ministry of the Province. Thank you Fr. James and we wish you all the best for your global preaching ministry.

We intend to start the MBA Program in 2011. Presently we have B.A., B.Com. B.C.A, and B.B.M. streams at the graduate level. With the new infrastructure all feel confident of getting more admissions next year.

Atma Jyothi Renewal Centre at Pattikad

The Atma Jyothi Renewal centre was inaugurated by Mar Andrews Thazhath, the Archbishop of Trichur on 12th February 2010 (See report below). We firmly believe that through this centre we can reach out to many couples in distress, young people and children who need direction in life and counselling. Fr. Tomichan Pulinthanam with his great experience in retreat preaching and spiritual guidance is taking lead in shaping the centre as a powerhouse of prayer and spiritual empowerment. I thank Fr. Mathew Kavithazhe for having not only supervised the work of the Centre, but did it by himself with the help of few workers. Thank you Frs. Mathew and Tomichan and we wish you all the best and God's Blessings for the ministry you started.

Our New Centre at Makkiyad

We are in the process of purchasing 23.5 acres of land in Makkiyad from Ananda Matha Ashram of the Cistercian Sisters. We have there a large community house (the Monastery with a beautiful Chapel, Kitchen, Refectory, Washing places, library, parlour, offices etc.) and with some 30-40 rooms, a Prarthanalaya with a number of self-contained rooms, a house with three large rooms opposite to the Prarthanalaya, another house with a hall and few rooms which was known earlier as the Postulant's house, and the old community house which is at the farthest end of the property. We have about 23.5 acres of land with mainly coffee, pepper and areca nut cultivation. We have not paid the full amount to the Sisters from whom we are buying the land nor have we registered the land in our name. We will do that in a short while. Meanwhile the sisters are leaving the place and so we have to take possession of the land and the building.

Fr. Devasia Koottarapallil is appointed there with Fr. Joby Mattathil as assistant and we can use this new MSFS house as a good retreat and prayer centre. The renewal of Christian life is one of the primary apostolate of the Congregation in fulfilling the Mission of the Lord. The need of the time in Kerala demands that people stand on more solid spiritual foundation. So our house at Makkiyad must serve also as a centre of prayer, spiritual renewal, spiritual empowerment and counselling. As we are in the initial stages we need to work hard to bring up this centre to that stature. The administration is confident of the ability of Fr. Devasia to organize this centre and define its ministry. Until the centre has gained a name as a spiritual empowerment centre, we will have hard time. But if it be God's will his Blessings will be upon us.

But as we have to make use of the immense facilities we have in Makkiyad, an administrative decision has been taken in the Council Meeting held on 07/08 February 2010 to shift our Novitiate from Mysore to our new facilities in Makkiyad. The necessary permissions are still to be sought from the Bishop of Calicut for establishing the house. Even if the large community house is used for this purpose still we will have enough rooms and convenience to do the other programs which we have envisaged there.

Our Land at Vinayakumar Ashram

Since long time we were having a number of cases and multitude of problems in our Estate land. There is even the possibility that we lose about 10 acres of the non Patta land, which has been in our possession and that of the legal owners before us since many years. I request all the confreres to pray that everything may work out in our favour, if it be God's will. Fr. Kokkandam is saying a Gregorian Mass in the Community for this purpose. We believe that with God everything is possible and so we shall join all together in praying for this intention.

Institute for Talent Search for Social Change and Transformation (ITSSCAT)

This is a new initiative in the province by Fr. Jose Karekatt as part of the innovative ministries of the province towards the education and preparation of the Children from economically unsound families but intellectually gifted to take on the responsibility of Leading and Serving the society and Nation through civil services and other public services. The centre will start functioning from academic year 2010-2011. The program will be started temporarily at our house in Vattiyoorkavu.

The goal is: “Creation of a just, welfare and non-corruptible society and better service through value based, motivated, educated and well trained persons in the system of governance and public service of the state and nation.” The program aims to be also a new method of Evangelization and proclamation of Jesus and his Gospel

Some of the Objectives are:

1. To identify intellectually bright students and help them do their studies with a focus on the service of the society and nation.
2. To provide assistance to poor families which find difficulty to educate their bright children.
3. To prepare and motivate them to enter into the civil and public service areas which are highly competitive and expensive.
4. To enable them to live and announce Jesus and the gospel values.

This project is specifically oriented to the children in High school who possess high intellectual calibre but are from economically backward families. The preference is to Catholic children. Admission is for both boys and girls but for this academic year it is restricted to only boys due to lack of facilities. The admission will be on individual merit with 75+ for high school and 90+ for classes XI & XII. The admission will be restricted to ten students to each class with a total of 50 students.

*Students of 8th and 9th standards only will be admitted this year. Children from our parishes are also given priority. Therefore you are requested to identify such children from your parishes and utilize the opportunity and help our people whom we serve. The information should reach the office of the institute latest by 31st March 2010 as it is important to obtain the admissions in the school. For detailed information you are requested to contact Fr. Jose Karekatt. Cell number: 09447576811, 09605149735. The maximum admissions for this year will be **Ten (10)**.*

Second Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

There were fifteen Priests for the second pilgrimage to the Holy Land which was from 27th January to 3rd February 2010. As informed earlier this Pilgrimage was sponsored by Rev. Fr. James Manjackal. We thank Fr. Manjackal for his generosity and kind gesture.

Appointments

1. **Fr. George Mariaraj** is appointed by the Bishop of Vijayapuram to the Mount Carmel Church, Moonnar for one year. His new address is: Mount Carmel Church, Moonnar P.O, Iduki Dt, Kerala, 685612
2. **Fr. Sudeep Paul** is appointed to SFS College Hebbagodi but will be doing pastoral ministry in Infant Jesus Church Viveknagar till May 2010.
3. **Fr. Bijil Chakiath** is appointed to the Community at Charis Bhavan.
4. **Fr. Ekka Anand** is designated to be appointed by the Bishop of Belgaum to one of his parishes or mission stations for a term of one year.
5. **Fr. Tony Erniakulathil** is appointed to Our Lady of Velankanni Church, Yelahanka New town, as assistant Parish priest till June 2010.
6. **Fr. Thadeus lakra** is appointed to the community at Chennarayapatna.
7. **Fr. Aneesh Palathadathil** is appointed to the Community at De Sales Skills Development and Technical Training Centre at Kolar
8. **Fr. Timson Parakottil** is designated to be appointed by the Archbishop Ernakulam Angamaly for one year. Temporarily he is doing his ministry in the parish at Pazhaganad and from the 28th of February he will be in St. Joseph's Church at Chunagamvely. His new address is: St. Joseph's Church, Chunagamvely, Erumathala P.O., Aluva, Kerala 683112
9. **Fr. Jose Puthukary** is appointed by the Archbishop of Trissur to the parish at Pavaratty. His new address is : St. Joseph's Parish Shrine, Pavaratty P.O., Trissur Dt, Kerala 680507
10. **Fr. Abey Thunduparambil** is appointed to Vattappara Community.
11. **Fr. Praful Tigga** is designated to go to the Philippine Mission. For six months he will be in Divine Retreat Centre, Muringoor.

12. **Fr. Cheriyaakavil Prince** is appointed as the Secretary to Provincial with effect from 17 February 2010. He was rendering service in St. George Forane Church, Amboori, in the Archdiocese of Changanacherry for the past one year. **Fr. Jais** will also continue in office till further information.
13. **Fr. Balavendra Jacob** is designated for studies and will do the Masters Programme in Pastoral Management at Jnanadeepa Vidyapeetha in Pune. He has been rendering service in the diocese of Chickmangalur for the past one year.
14. **Fr. Joby Mattathil** is appointed to assist Fr. Devasia in Makkiyad. He has been rendering service in St. Joseph's Church, Chunagamvely in the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly for the past one year.
15. **Fr. Jaison Kollarayath** is appointed to our Charis Bhavan community. He has been rendering service in Sacred Heart Church, Pambanar, in the Diocese Vijayapuram for the past one year.
16. **Fr. Riju Vazhaparambil** is appointed as the Assistant Director of Fides India Society with immediate effect. He rendered service in St. Thomas Church, Thiroor, in the Archdiocese of Trichur for the past one year.
17. **Fr. Shaju Arackal** is appointed to the community at Pattikkadu. He rendered his service in St. Antony's Church, Puthenpeedika, in the Archdiocese of Trichur for the past one year.

18. **Fr. Majish Vellisseriketil** is appointed to the SFS School at Ettumanoor with effect from 01. March 2010. He was rendering service in our community at Vattappara for the past one year.
19. **Fr. Jose Karekatt** is appointed to the community at Vattiyoorkavu. He will also be the director of the new project which he has envisaged for the gifted high school children.
20. **Fr. Kallacheril Joseph** is designated to be appointed by the Bishop of Kannur to Kannadiparamba.
21. **Fr. Wilson Kottam** is appointed by the Archbishop of Changanacherry as the Vice Principal of St. Joseph's College of Communication from first week of March. His new address is St. Joseph College of Communication, Kurisummood P.O, Changanacherry. He will be a member of the SFS Community at Ettumanoor and will be constantly in touch with the Superior and the Community.
22. **Fr. Devasia Koottarapally** is back from Philippines after his Post Graduate Programme of M Sc. in Guidance and Counselling from De La Salle University, Manila. He is appointed as the Program -Director of our new centre in Makkiyad.
23. **Fr. Vinoy Valachathinathu** is appointed as the Director of the Pre-novitiate Program for the year 2010. The Program will be conducted in May in Tejas Vidhya Peetha.
24. **Fr. Shino Puthusserry** will shift his residence from De Sales Bhavan in Kuvempunagar to Sannidhi, the Novitiate with immediate effect, so that he can be fully available as Socius in the Novitiate.
25. **Fr. Jose Maliekal** is temporarily appointed as Superior of the De Sales Community at Kuvempunagar.

Internal Audit 2009-2010

As per the directions of Rev. Fr. Superior General, dated 03 January 2010 we are to strengthen financial accountability and transparency in the Province. Accordingly the internal audit team in the Province headed by the Provincial Bursar, has planned out a programme to carry out the internal audit for the year 2009-2010. The Provincial Bursar will intimate to you the modalities and requirements for the same. Understanding the seriousness attached to this exercise in the province administration please join hands with the team and do the needful.

Ordinations of 2009-2010:

Fr. Mariaraj George



Date of Birth	:02-04-1982
Place of Birth	:T Sindalacherry, Tamil Nadu
Parent's Name	:K A Mariaraj & Philomina
Siblings	:1 brother & 2 sisters
Minor Seminary	:Pudukottai 1998 - 2001
Novitiate	:Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy	:Suvidya 2002 - 2005
Regency	:Savanur 2005 - 2006
Theology	: Tejas 2006 – 2009

He was ordained Priest by His Grace Dr. Bernard Moras, the Archbishop of Bangalore on 07 November 2009 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Bangalore.

Fr. Sudeep Paul



Date of Birth :01-04-1981
Place of Birth :Bangalore, Karnataka
Parent's Name :Basil Paul & Mary Gretta Paul
Siblings :1 brother
Minor Seminary :Ettumanoor 1998 - 1999
Novitiate :Sannidhi 1999 - 2000
Philosophy :Suvidya 2000 - 2003
Regency :SFS Ettumanoor 2003 – 04
MA in Communication:Mysore University 04 - 06
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Dr. Henry D'Souza, the Bishop of Bellary on 24 November 2009 at St. Francis De Sales Church, Hebbagodi.

Fr. Tony Erniakulathil



Date of Birth :13-10-1982
Place of Birth :Coorg, Karnataka
Parent's Name :Joseph AM & Valsamma
Siblings :1 brother
Minor Seminary :Ettumanoor 1998 - 2001
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 2005
Regency :Mermier Bhavan 2005 - 2006
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Mar Lawrence Mukkuzhy, Bishop of Belthangady on 27. 12.2009 at St. Thomas Church Gonikoppal, Kaikery.

Fr. Timson Parakkottil



Date of Birth :10-04-1980
Place of Birth :Kakkoor, Kerala
Parent's Name :Marthinose & Anna
Siblings :4 brothers & 2 sisters
Minor Seminary :Ettumanoor 1995 - 1999
Novitiate :Sannidhi 1999 - 2000
Philosophy :Suvidya 2000 - 2003
Regency :SFS Ettumanoor 2003 – 04
MA Economics :Madras University 04 - 06
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Mar Joseph Arumachadath MCBS, Bishop of Bhadravathi on 02 January 2010 at St. Joseph's Church Kakkoor, Koothattukulam.

Fr. Praful Tigga



Date of Birth :07-02-1979
Place of Birth :Ranchi, Jharkhand
Parent's Name :Late Jerome & Monica Shanti
Siblings :3 brothers & 1 sister
Minor Seminary :Divya Jyothi Ashram 1999-00
:Ettumanoor 2000 - 01
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 2005
Regency :Savanur 2005 - 2006
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Rt. Rev. Vinay Kandulna, the Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi on 03 January 2010 at Nirmala Church Samlong, Namkum.

Fr. Aneesh Mathew Palatadathil



Date of Birth :15-05-1983
Place of Birth :Thalipparambu, Kerala
Parent's Name :PJ Mathew & Alice Mathew
Siblings :2 brothers
Minor Seminary :Sudhirvana 1998 - 99
:Ettumanoor 1999 - 01
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 02
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 05
Regency :Charis Bhavan 2005 - 06
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Grace Mar George Valiyamattam, Archbishop of Thalasserry on 04 January 2010 at St. Joseph's Church Perumpadavu, Kannur.

Fr. Bijil Chakiath



Date of Birth :07.03.1983
Place of Birth :Alwaye, Kerala
Parent's Name :C.P.Antony & Baby Antony
Siblings :2 brothers
Minor Seminary :Sudhirvana 1998
:Ettumanoor 1999 - 2001
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 2005
Regency :SFS Ettumanoor 2005 - 2006
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Mar Sebastian Edayanthrath, the Auxiliary Bishop of Ernakulam Angamaly on 5 January 2010 at St. Mary's Church Thundathumkadavu, Varappuzha.

Fr. Abey Antony



Date of Birth :23-03-1983
Place of Birth :Edathua, Alappuzha, Kerala
Parent's Name :TM Anthony & Lisamma
Siblings :2 younger brothers
Minor Seminary :Sudhirvana 1998 - 99
:Ettumanoor 1999 - 01
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 05
Regency :Srinivaspur 2005 - 06
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by his Grace Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Archbishop of Chaganacherry on 07 January 2010 at Lourde Matha Church Pacha.

Fr. Anand Ekka



Date of Birth :26-01-1977
Place of Birth :Dina, Jharkhand
Parent's Name :Late Pascal Ekka & Emmaculat
Siblings :5 brothers & 2 sisters
Minor Seminary :Divya Jyothi Ashram 1999
:SFS Ettumanoor 2000 - 2001
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 2005
Regency :Chintamani 2005 - 2006
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Rt. Rev. Paul Lakra, Bishop of Gumla on 07 January 2010 at Holy Family Church Rajwal.

Fr. Thadeus Lakra



Date of Birth :22-07-1979
Place of Birth :Jamdhara, Chattisgarh
Parent's Name :Jageshwar & Matilda
Siblings :3 brothers & 2 sisters
Minor Seminary : Divya Jyothi Ashram 1997 -98
:Ettumanoor 1998 -1999
Novitiate :Sannidhi 1999 - 2000
Philosophy :Suvidya 2000 - 2003
Regency :Chintamani 2003 – 2004
MSW :Mangalore University 2004- 06
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Rt. Rev. Patras Minj, Bishop of Ambikapur on 08 January 2010 at Catholic Ashram Jamdhara.

Fr. Jose Puthukary



Date of Birth :02-07-1981
Place of Birth :Thellakom, Kerala
Parent's Name :PK Joseph & Claramma Joseph
Siblings :1 sister
Minor Seminary :Sudhirvana 1998 -99
: Ettumanoor 1999 - 2001
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2001 - 2002
Philosophy :Suvidya 2002 - 2005
Regency :Vinayakumar Estate 2005-2006
Theology :Tejas 2006 – 2009 Dec

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Mar Joseph Pallikkaparampil on 09 January 2010 at Holy Ghost Forane Church, Muttuchira, Kaduthuruthy.

Fr. Giridhari Lakra



Date of Birth :04.02.1978
Place of Birth :Holma, Orissa
Parent's Name :Birsay Lakra and Swapna
Kerketta
Siblings :3 brothers and 1 sister
Minor Seminary :Divya Jyothi Ashram 1998-99
: Ettumanoor 1999 - 2000
Novitiate :Sannidhi 2000 - 2001
Philosophy :Suvidya 2001 - 2004
Regency : Bero, Chad 2004 - 05
Theology :St Cyprien, Yaounde,
Cameroun 2005 - 2009

He was ordained Priest by His Lordship Rt. Rev John Barwa, SVD Bishop of Rourkela on 30 January 2010 at St. Joseph's Church Sikajore.

Bon Voyage



1. **Fr. Bipin Kishore Xess** left for our Chad Cameroun mission on 28th January 2010. He is appointed to our La Feuillette Community in Ngoya, Yaounde, Cameroun for sometime to get in touch with the culture, people and language. I thank Fr. Xess for generously and joyfully accepting to go the mission and to work there for a meaningful period of time. I wish him all the best and God's blessings to do the ministry entrusted to him.



2. **Fr. Santiago Rajkumar** left for Germany on 4th of February 2010. He is staying with our fathers in Germany for some days

and later he will be attending the language course offered by the Diocese of Munster in order to prepare intensely for the ministry. I wish him all the best and God's blessings.

Welcome Back

Fr. Devasia Koottarapally has completed his studies in Post Graduate Programme of M Sc. in Guidance and Counselling from De La Salle University, Manila. Philippines and has returned to India. He is given an appointment in Makkiyad. **Fr. K.V Joseph** is back to the Province after three years of service in Vanimo, Papua New Guinea. He is appointed as Parish Priest of Kannadiparamba.

On Holidays

Fr. Panamattathil Gijo and **Fr. Giridahri Lakra** are on holidays from the Chad-Cameroun Mission. Frs. **Johny Cheruvil** and **Binoy Kidangathukarot** who render pastoral assistance to our parishes in France are in India for their due Holidays. Besides **Fr. Johny Puthiyaparambil** and **Fr. Francis Kizhakkethazhe** are also in the country for their holidays. Fr. Kuzhuppil Joseph is presently having some refresher course on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee. Fr. Jimmy Parayankuzhiyil is in India for his Holidays. Frs. **Sibi Manickathan** and **Tomy Mullasseril**, **Saji Neendor** and **Joseph Mullakara** were on Holidays and have returned to the respective places of their ministry. We are always happy to meet our confreres who work abroad and visit most of our houses as a sign of friendship and their solidarity with our missionary apostolate.

In Loving Memory of Rev. Fr. Amirthanayagam Gabriel MSFS

Rev. Fr. A. Gabriel MSFS, South East Province, has left for his heavenly abode on 10th January 2010. It was a day of deep sorrow for the entire Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales. Fr. Gabriel was born on 7th July 1949 to Mr. Amirthanayagam and Mrs. Annamal at Thikkurichi, Tamilnadu. He was ordained a priest on 4th May 1979. After his service as an assistant Parish Priest in Kolar, Karnataka, for a short while, he was sent to Rome to complete his doctoral studies. On his return he was appointed as a professor in St. John's Regional Seminary Hyderabad. Fr. Gabriel was an excellent professor of Theology and Philosophy. He was a renowned scholar of high intellectual calibre who challenged and inspired his students with his classes. He was a professor in JDV Pune, St. Peter's Bangalore, Janmpet in Eluru, Suvidya College Bangalore and in Hyderabad, Goa, Mangalore, St. Pius Goregaon Mumbai and East Africa and in many other places. Besides these he served as the General Councillor of the Congregation for many years and for three years as Provincial Councillor. His sudden departure is a great loss for the entire Congregation and the Church. May his soul rest in peace!

Please Pray for the departed....

Mr. John, 66 years old, elder brother of Fr. Mathew Kalathungal died on 5th Jan-2010.

Mrs. Santhi Monica Mother of Fr. Praful Tigga, died on 31st January 2010.

Mr. Joseph, 95 years old Grandfather of Fr. Aneesh Palathadathil, one of our new priests died on 11th January, 2010.

Congratulations

Many of our schools have conducted their school days in a festive manner. I had the opportunity to take part in some of them. All the programs were of excellent quality and I would like to congratulate the Managers, Principals and Staff of the Schools for the magnificent performance of the children.

SFS ICSE Koppal on 22 December 2009

SFS Public School and Junior College Ettumanoor on 23 December 2009

SFS Junior College Hebbagodi, Graduation Day on 17 January 2010

SFS School Malur, on 18 January 2010

SFS School, Kannada Medium on 27 January 2010

SFS High School Hebbagodi on 30 January 2010

SFS School Savanur on 06 February 2010

SFS High School Koppal on 13 February 2010

Your Brother in Christ

Mathew Kozhuppakalam

Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam MSFS
Provincial

Glimpses from the life of the Province

SFS SCHOOL (ICSE) KOPPAL

SFS SCHOOL (ICSE) celebrated its 5th school annual day and Christmas on 22nd December 2009. The celebration had greater significance as the ICSE School conducted its first School Day celebrations independently. The celebration started at 5.30PM. His Grace Henry D'souza, the Bishop of Bellary Diocese was the chief guest. Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam, presided over the function.

SAVANUR

1. Christmas and inauguration of new floor

23rd December 2009, was a memorable day in the history of Savanur Mission. On this auspicious day we had triple celebrations in the SFS School premises. First, the new floor in the Nursery block was blessed and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam, the Provincial of South West Province. Secondly, for the first time we celebrated Kinder's day" i.e., a day set apart for the Nursery Children. Thirdly, the Christmas Celebrations. The beautiful Christmas Skit staged by Primary School Students was the

prime attraction. Mr. Shivanand Badashatti and Sr. Marykutty were the Chief Guests of the day.

2. Kumari Ashika Sindhur: our student who won the 6th place in abacus in Malaysia

The management, Staff and students of SFS School is proud of Kumari Ashika Sindhur of 4th Std. The little star of our school has won the National Championship in Abacus which was held in Chennai and secured 6th place in the International competition in Malaysia. This great achievement adds another feather to the School. Congratulations to dear Ashika.

3. Our Annual day's Programme

On 6th February 2010, the SFS School, Savanur, celebrated its 8th Annual day. On the dias, we had Fr. Joshy.T as the president, Mr. Prashanth Nalvar, our Thasildhar, Mr. M.D Kulakarni, the Civil Judge, Mr. M.D Ballari, Our BEO, Mr. Abdul Khadar Farash, the Municipality President, etc. SFS Stars put up beautiful and variety of entertaining programs which enhanced the occasion. During the programme, the children who excelled in arts and sports events were awarded.

Fr. A. Prashanth msfs

THE UPDATE AND RENEWAL PROGRAMME

The Update and Renewal Programme for the Group II was held in Charis Bhavan. The programme began on the 5th of January, 2010, at 6: 30 pm with the Eucharistic Celebration by Fr Noel Rebello, the General Councillor. There were 41 confreres as participants from different provinces. Fr Abraham Vettuvellil, General Councillor in-charge of the Innovative Ministries exhorted the participants to be good shepherds like Jesus in his keynote address by mentioning the role of Priests in today's society. The Message from Fr Superior General was also read out. Frs George Manalel, George Therukaattil, A. Rayappan, Innaci Muthu, Sr Marcellus SVM and Prof Cyriac Thomas, the former Vice-Chancellor of MG University gave talks on various themes. This programme concluded on the 10th of January. We thank and appreciate Fr. Henry Jose Kodikuthiyil the Convenor of the Programme for his hard work.

Bro. Anish Chirackalpuraidathil msfs

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES COLLEGE, ELECTRONICS CITY, BANGALORE



On February 10 2010 His Excellency Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, Governor of Karnataka inaugurated the main block (James Manjackal Block) of SFS College situated at the vast campus near Electronics City, which also houses many educational

institutions. This building is financed by Fr. James Manjackal from the offerings he received from the faithful.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor said, the Missionaries have silently served India and he also added that it has pained him to see the troubles faced by this minority community even though they have contributed much to the Indian Society. He congratulated the management for being in this locality rather far from the city for over 40 years, serving them at various levels especially through primary and secondary education. He expressed his happiness over the commitment of the college particularly to the backward classes and less privileged sections of the rural belt of Bangalore and for upholding the lofty objectives of moral values, faith in God, Selfless Service etc.

Dr. J. Alexander, IAS, Former Chief Secretary speaking on the occasion extolled the staff and management for their yeomen service in this locality where it was just a poultry farm few years back and now more than 5000 students are being educated in this centre of learning. Dr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, MSFS, The Provincial and General Manager of SFS College, was of the opinion that a centre of higher education has to operate in a quickly changing world but has to find a healthy harmony between external demands and pressures for change on the one hand and on the other, the need to preserve self-identity, and traditional values.

Fr. Sudeep Paul, MSFS

ATHMA JYOTHI RETREAT CENTRE, PATTIKKADU, TRICHUR

On February 12 2010 the second retreat centre of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales South West Province was inaugurated and blessed in Pattikkadu, Trichur by His Grace Mar Andrews Thazhath, the Archbishop of Trichur. The occasion was graced by the presence of numerous neighbours and well wishers, priests and religious. On this occasion Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, the Provincial, presented a short description of the services which the MSFS render to the Church today.

This house is named Atma Jyothi and it would serve the people by helping them to find the spark of the Holy Spirit within. The retreat house would begin with residential retreats, counselling programme, prayer of intercession, confession and inner healing services. The first programme in Atma Jyothi will be a week end retreat from 15 to 18 April 2010.

One Minute with St. Francis de Sales

Contrition is a repentance by which we resolve to break away from our sinful habits, detest the sins we have committed, and make reparation for the offence and damage to God and neighbour.- From Salesian Spirituality.