



Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales

SOUTH WEST INDIA PROVINCE

MSFS Provincial House,

P.B. No. 25, 1052, New Kantharaj Urs Road,

Kuvempunagar, Mysore 570 023, INDIA.

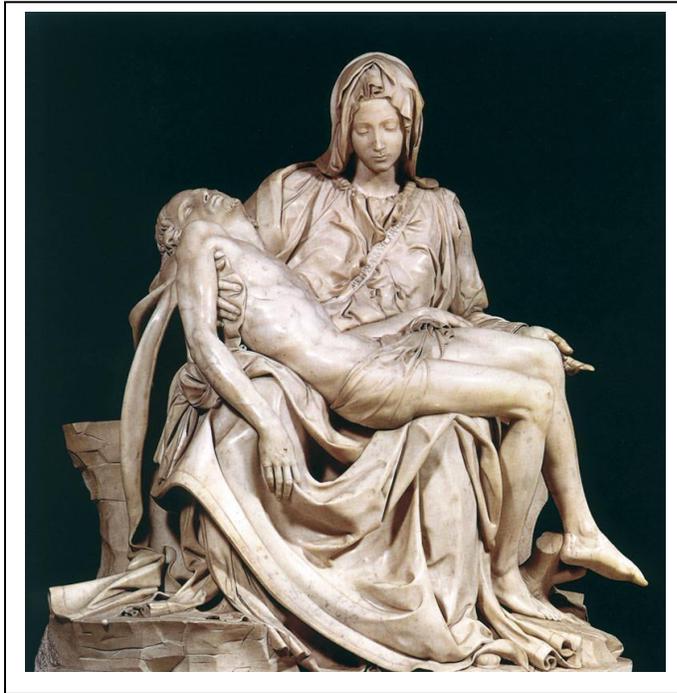
Tel. (0821) 2541135, 2541348, 2541148 (pl), Mob: (0)9845111206, (0)9448480379

Website: www.msfsouthwest.org e.mail: msfsmys@dataone.in, msfsmysore@yahoo.com

Circular MK/9

15September 2007

My dear Confreres,



Today we celebrate the feast of Mother of Sorrows, our patroness. This is an opportunity for us to reflect over our religious commitment and missionary spirit as Fransalians. Mary's sorrow on Calvary was deeper than any sorrow ever felt on earth by any one, for no mother in all the world had a heart as tender as the Heart of the Mother of God. As there was no love like her love, there was no sorrow like her sorrow. She bore her sufferings for us that we might enjoy the graces of Redemption. She suffered willingly in order to prove her love for us, for true love is proved by sacrifice. It was not because she was the Mother of God that Mary could bear her sorrows but because she saw things from His point of view and not from her own – or rather,

she had made His point of view hers. We should do the same. The Mother of Sorrows will be on our side to help us. I wish you all a happy feast.

Fr. James Manjackal

Fr. James Manjackal continues to be an inspiration for thousands especially in Europe and Middle East. I would like to write a few lines to throw some light into the wonderful ministry he is engaged in. Since four years Fr. James conducts the biggest Catholic programmes every year in Slovenija which is a Catholic country with a population of 2 million. It is at the premises of Marian Centre at Kureschek near Lublijana, gathering about ten thousand people in the month of June. The *Marien Centre* at Medjugorij in 2002 gathered 100 000 people, for his convention, the largest crowd ever came there at one time according to the news papers. Fr. Jose Parappillil,

the then provincial too had attended it. The recent book of Fr. James "*Behold I knock*" is printed and published in English by Maria Publications, Bangalore and simultaneously published in German, French, Slovenian, Spanish, Portuguese and Croatian by Charis books, Munich. It is about the many blessings behind the Sacrament of confession. It helps many people especially in Europe to go for confession. Fr. James continues working among the Muslims for evangelization. Recently he was in Iraq, Iran and in Saudi Arabia. Please pray for him and his mission.

Fr. Josey Ponnambel

I would like to share with you the good news of Fr. Josey's reintegration into the Province. Fr. Josey Ponnambel has taken a "leave of absence" for the last two years. Provincial reintegrated Fr. Josey into the Province by symbolically giving him the New Constitution in the chapel. Fr. Josey in turn reaffirmed his willingness to take part actively into the life of the Province. He will be completing his M.Phil in MSW within a year's time. He is appointed to the community at Saumya Sadan in Mysore with immediate effect.

Address:

Fr. Josey Ponnambal MSFS, 16, BKR Nagar, C/o Sirajuddin, Sathy Road
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu- 641 012

Congratulations to:

Fr. Rajkumar passed B.Ed with 80% fromCollege, Koppal
Fr. Josey Ponnambal passed MSW Ist Rank with Gold medal from Bhartiya University,
Coimbatore

Diaconate

Two of our scholastics, Bros. Periyannayagam and Jijo Panamattathil will be ordained deacons on -----by the bishop of Obala

Perpetual Profession in Vinayalaya

Bros. Giridhari Lakra and Boban Elanjimattathil will make their perpetual profession on the 12th of September at Vinayalaya.

Apostolic Community Meetings

Apostolic community meetings are opportunities for confreres in an area to come together, to pray, reflect, discuss and to plan the apostolic activities in that area. As some of the confreres are living alone and in very small communities with only a regent it is absolutely imperative that all take part in such meetings. It is as our Constitution says:

"to promote the fraternal unity among different Local Communities and individual confreres and to facilitate more interaction and mutual support among them...(it is) established to

strengthen the religious life of the members within a Province and to extend mutual support to their respective pastoral concerns” (Art. 267 – 268).

The Mysore and Kannur Apostolic Communities

The Mysore and Kannur Apostolic communities used to conduct their meetings together. In the Apostolic Community meeting held in Kannur it was decided to hold three meetings together and to have the other meetings as separate units. From now on the Kannur Apostolic Community will comprise of Kannur, Pappinissery, Ulickal, Nilambur, Calicut, and Ellukochi.

The Mysore Apostolic community will comprise of Provincial House, Sannidhi, Saumya Sadan, Chennarayapatna, and Sultan Batherry.

Gone Abroad

Fr. Sebastian Conrad left for USA on July 6, 2007. Fr. Augustine Tharappel has promised to look a place for him in Tyler Diocese. He is now completing the formalities to begin his ministry there. He has already made a driving licence and got his stay regularised there. We wish him all the best and God’s choicest blessing on his mission and apostolate in USA.

Fr. Devasia Koottarapally left for Philippines on 25 August 2007. He will pursue his doctoral studies in Psychology and Counselling in one of the Universities in Manila. But in the beginning he will be with the confreres in one of the parishes in Philippines. He will get thus introduced to the culture and language of the place before he starts his studies there.

Parish at Ellukochi, Belthangady Diocese

Bishop Lawrence Mukkuzhy, the Bishop of Belthangady requested us to take up the pastoral care of St. Thomas Church Ellukochi. Ellukochi is near Panathur but is in Karnataka. Geographically it is separated from Belthangady as there is no access road from there to Ellukochi. It is very close to the Kerala border and has 63 Syrian Catholic families. There has not been any parish priest there till now and the spiritual and pastoral care was being met by the Parish Priest of Panathur of the diocese of Tellicherry. All are migrants from various parts of Kerala. The centre has therefore its own problems but it is worth caring for so many families who are not cared for. We have not yet made any agreement with the diocese but the diocese is willing to give the centre to us if we so wish. Fr. Thomas Chennakattukunnel is appointed by the Bishop as Parish Priest of this newly erected parish. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Fr. Thomas for having taken up the difficult task of organizing this mission. Fr. Thomas will stay in the Presbytery of Panathur till further arrangements are made. His Address is: St. Mary’s Church, Panathur P.O. Kasargod Dt. Kerala 670 531.

Rajarajeshwari Parish in Mysore

Thomas Anthony Vazhapilly, the Bishop of Mysore has entrusted us the care of a Parish in Mysore. Originally the parish was to be only in Datagally area. Upon request the Bishop has agreed to extend the Parish boundary to include also Nivedita Nagar and Sarada Devi Nagar and

TC Layout IVth stage, including the present Provincial House up to Andolana Circle. We are very grateful to the chancellor and the Bishop for this generous gesture.

Pastoral Ministry to the Immigrants

The Bishop of Mysore also has entrusted to us the Pastoral Ministry to the Immigrants in Mysore City and its peripheral. Mysore is growing to the stature of a cosmopolitan City and many people come here from neighboring states for the sake of studies or in search of jobs. The spiritual welfare of these immigrants has to be taken care of and necessary spiritual support is to be given to them so that they can sustain their faith and remain faithful to their religious duties.

The Bishop of Bangalore has entrusted to us the Pastoral Ministry to the Immigrants of Kolar area. Fr. Biju Palankunnel is appointed as the priest-in charge of this ministry in Kolar Sector.

Third Year Theologians from Tejas on Free Semester

The mission-oriented theological program in Tejas envisages a study of one semester in one of the other theological faculties of the country. This is to be done in the first semester of the third year. This so called free-semester of the centre is to enable the students to have exposure to another theological faculty and its teaching for a semester. Accordingly the brothers have gone to the following places:

Jnana Deepa Vidya Peetha: Prince Kurian
Vidya Jyothi : Jeevan Prasad
Bipin Xess

Appointments

Fr. Sebastian Conrad is designated to be appointed in Tyler Diocese, Texas U SA. Now he is staying with Fr. Augustine Tharappel and completing the formalities to begin his ministry.

Fr. Josey Ponnambel is appointed to the community at Saumya Sadan, Mysore with effect from 08.08.2007

Fr. Dijo Koikkara is appointed to the community at Charis Bhavan with effect from 09.09.2007.

Provincial's Telephone Numbers

+919448480379(Karnataka). If you know that I am in Kerala you can get me also under the following number +919495677820(Kerala). The number of the Provincial House is: 0821 2541 135. The Fax number is: I will not be using the Airtel number 9845111206 and landline 0821 2541148 hereafter.

Let us pray for the departed

Mr. ? Puthussery aged 82, father of Fr. Thomas Puthusseryl, died on 00 July 2007.

Mrs. ? ...Kodikuthiyil aged 00, mother of Fr. Henry Kodikuthiyil died on 03 September, 2007

Mr. Mathew aged 80, maternal grand father of Fr. Sathish Vellaramkunnel, died on 04 September, 2007.

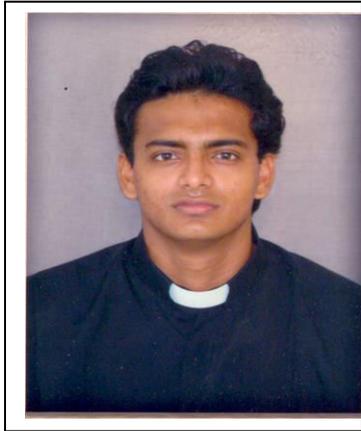
On going Formation

I would like to make you aware of some of the courses that are available at national centres in India, which help us to update ourselves and improve our pastoral and spiritual skills. Any one wanting to go for any of the programmes may contact the centre directly or go through the Provincial's Office. There are so many other opportunities that are available in many centres in India. Getting ourselves updated in an age where knowledge is power is important. For our patron St. Francis de Sales also: "Knowledge is the 8th Sacrament for a Priest."

- Community Animators' Course Unit I, 27 Jan to 21 Feb. 2008, Unit II, 24 Feb to 23 to March 08 for Leaders of communities preparing to take charge or already in office in Don Bosco Renewal Centre, Bangalore, Tel. 080 265 83 718, email: dbyp@vsnl.com
- Pastoral Leadership and Management (18-31 May 2008) for Major and Local Superiors, Principals etc in Don Bosco Renewal Centre
- Fully Alive after 50 (3-14 June 2008) In Don Bosco
- Personal Growth Group (March 29-April 25 and Sep. 19 – Oct. 9) in Sadhana Institute, Lonavala 410 401, Tel 02114 2733 70 Email: Sadhana@vsnl.net , – an opportunity for personal growth and inner healing.
- Midi Sadhana (Oct. 17-Dec. 9, 2008) in Lonavala for those in leadership and whose work involves caring for others (formation personnel, spiritual guides, superiors etc.)
- Counseling Skills (Sep 22 – Oct. 24 2008) in Lonavala
- "Paurohitya Sannyastha Naveekaranam" in Socio-Religious Centre, Christ Hall, Calicut 673 009, Tel. 0495 2371 826, Email: srcdir@gmail.com
- Sangamom – A Programme for Renewal and Integration in SRC, Calicut
- Certificate Course in Basic Counselling and Life Skills 1 month full time program and Certificate Course in Family Counselling part time in Sampurna, 184 Old Madras Road, Bangalore 560 038 Tel 080. 2528 3320, Email: montfort@vsnl.com Please enquire dates about 2008
- Appropriate Mind Management and Application: Duration 3 days in Sampurna
- Postgraduate Diploma in Psychological Counselling (1 year course) in Darshan College, R.V. College Post, Mysore road, Bangalore 560 059 Tel. 080 2860 5444 Email: director@darshancollege.org
- Indian Contemplative Retreat 19-24 Nov. 2007 in NBCLC, Bangalore . There is also a course on Christian Leadership and Community Building for Superiors every year
- Self Awareness for Personal Growth Nov. 4 – Dec. 2 2007 in NVSC, Pune email: benjoesj@rediffmail.com
- Intensive Course on Personal Growth and Transformation Jan. 21 – 16 March 2008 for formators, superiors, teachers in Ishvani Kendra, Pune, Tel 020 270 33507 Email: ishvani@dataone.in
- Inner Freedom Retrat (Nov. 4-20) for Priests and Religious, in Atma Darshan, Mumbai, Tel. 022 2836 3120, email atma@mtnl.net.in

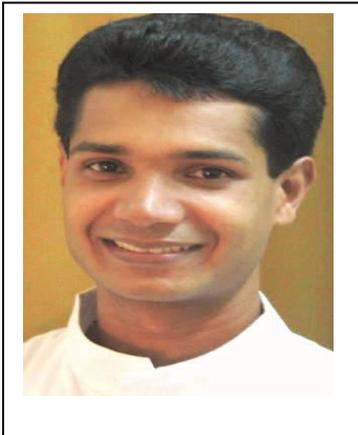
- Certificate Course in Pastoral Communication in NISCORT Tel 0120 -2773200 email: niscort@vsnl.com

GLIMPSES FROM THE LIFE OF THE PROVINCE
HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PRIESTS



Fr. Manoj Arackal

Born : 05.07.1976
 Minor Seminary : SFS Seminary, Ettumanoor
 Novitiate : Salesianum, Vizag
 First Profession : 08.06.1996
 Philosophy : Suvidya College, Bangalore
 Regency : St. Joseph's Church, Chintamani
 Theology: : Ecole Theologique Saint- Cyprien,Ngoya
 Ordination : 24.07.2007



Fr. Scaria Kannezhathu

Born : 28.03.1974
 Minor Seminary : SFS Seminary, Ettumanoor
 Novitiate : Sannidhi, Mysore
 First Profession : 11.06.1999
 Philosophy : Suvidya College, Bangalore
 Regency : St. Joseph's Church, Chintamani
 Theology : Ecole Theologique Saint- Cyprien, Ngoy
 Ordination : 24.07.2007



Fr. T. Paul Raj

Born : 21.06.1979
 Minor Seminary : MSFS Seminary, Pudukottai
 Novitiate : Sannidhi, Mysore
 First Profession : 11.06.1999
 Philosophy : Suvidya College, Bangalore
 Regency : MSFS Mission, Koppal
 Theology : Ecole Theologique Saint- Cyprien, Ngoya
 Ordination : 11.08.2007

Our confreres at Divine Retreat Centre at

Muringoor

Frs. Thomas Illikattil, Dijo Koikkara and Selvaraj started rendering their service to the Divine Retreat Centre from the month of February 2007. Fr. Dijo serves the Malayalam centre and Frs. Thomas and Selvaraj are in the Kannada centre. Fr. Dijo will terminate his services there on 8th Sep. 2007, but others will continue for some more time.

News from FIDESIndia

A group of students from the University of Burgos in Spain rendered volunteer services to the Supportive Educational Ventures of the Society for a month. The interaction was a learning experience for both Burgos and FIDESIndia team. The students under the able leadership of Prof. Jesus Maria participated in various programs organized by FIDESIndia and visited many of our mission centers. The team contacted us through Fr. Jose Kumbloickal. Their stay with the children in the NEST (children's village) left a deep impression in their minds and the minds of the children. The team spent a considerable amount of time with Indian Institute of Spirituality and used it as an opportunity for cultural exchange. Thanks to Fr. Henry Jose they were accommodated during their stay in Bangalore in Vinayalaya. They were positively impressed by the activities of Fransalians in India.

Ms. Eva Chase from Germany is working as a volunteer in the NEST project (Children's Village) for a period of six months. She is very interested in the welfare of the children. Hearty welcome and pleasant stay.

Gurukula is a cluster of free tuition centres animated by FIDESIndia Society. These centres situated in villages and slums provide an opportunity for the less privileged children a better educational possibility. At present there are about 25 centers catering to about 800 children. Most of the animators are college going students and the honorarium they get is used for their studies.

Fr. Johannes Haas OSFS on visit

Fr. Johannes Haas OSFS a long time friend of Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam and a well wisher of Fransalians was on a two weeks tour to India. He visited many of our centers both in Kerala and Karnataka.

Focus on Sunshine Gokunte

A Very Happy Feast of Our Patron on September 30 Photo of Mermier

Yours Sincerely,

Mathew Kozhuppakalam

Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam msfs
Provincial