



# FAMILY BOND (VINCENTIAN BULLETIN)

Have charity the bond of perfection (Col. 3:14)  
(For private circulation only)

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A request: Kindly arrange to send the material for the next issue of the Family Bond by the middle of September 2015. Even the small events at your end add colour to the annals of the Congregation. Photos shall be sent in the original JPG format.

Editor



# I

## TEACHING VOCATION

EDITORIAL



As the Church has celebrated the golden jubilee of Vat II, it is worth to review the impact of the document *Gravissimum Educationis* – Declaration On Christian Education 1965 – on our Apostolic Activities too.

Our first schools had been started on public demand from the Christian communities and upon the realization that they would have some holistic impact on the Christian formation and value education of the public. It is also true that every Vincentian is not necessarily a gifted preacher but could be an esteemed member and administrator that what he contributes shall be of great value to the society. Reputation and economical gain were not the motive at any time in the past. We followed the Vat. II, “The Catholic School ... prepares its pupils to contribute effectively to the welfare of the world of men and to work for the extension of the kingdom of God” (GE.8 #1).

At the time of St. Vincent Popular Mission and Social works were much needed in a morally degraded France; so too at the infancy of our Congregation when academically qualified members were equal to almost nil. At the same time there were several preachers and good pastors; naturally the pendulum of our apostolic activities swung to that side. Time has changed, we have to recognize the role of education in our missions. As of now Elementary Schools as well as prestigious institutions of higher education are very much welcome and appreciated in the society. Hon. Justice Khanna in a judgment in the case of St. Xavier’s College Vs the State of Gujarath has upheld the right of the Minorities to appoint teachers and to administer according to their vision and faith and traditions. Thus the number of the Christian students does





not affect the rights granted in the Art 30 #1 of the Constitution of India. The brave can venture to open and conduct new institutions.

The presence of a vast number of educated but corrupt politicians and bureaucrats who wield power needs some urgent thought on an education that would bring true transformation among the youth. It is possible only through fruitful interaction between noble teachers and students in the class rooms and out of them, not by ‘cells and gibbets’. It is a sociological problem that could be solved by social interaction by the religious and the like minded people.

The Teacher Training Colleges are of great importance among the Institutions of Higher Education, “...one should attach considerable importance to those establishments which are particularly necessary nowadays, such as: professional and technical colleges ... and training colleges for teachers...” (GE.9 #2). The Council attaches some points of great importance in the selection and training of the teachers, “ They (teachers) should therefore be prepared for their work with special care, having the appropriate qualifications and adequate learning both religious and secular. They should awaken in their pupils a spirit of initiative and even after they have left school, they should continue to help them with their advice and friendship and by the organization of special groups imbued with the true spirit of the Church” (GE. 8 #3). This is possible if only we have our own training colleges which shall cater to our needs. The Vat. Council II also had appreciated the teaching vocation as it said, “The Sacred synod further affirms its deep gratitude to those priests,... who in a spirit of evangelical dedication have devoted themselves to the all important work of education ... . It exhorts them to persevere generously in the work they have undertaken, ... and to augment its beneficial presence in the world today and especially in the intellectual sphere” (GE. 12 #4).

In the Vincentian Way of Life (chapter two of our Statutes. The sections B & D sections of the Apostolic Activities had been discussed in our previous Synaxes. The mission under E (Educational Activities) needs to be discussed further to bring changes in our mind setup and to energize the congregation in toto.

Fr. Varghese Chackumkuzhy VC

Editor





## II Vincentian Generalate

### II. i. Visits

➤ Fr. Mathew Vattakuzhy went to Gumto for the blessing of the newly built Vincentian House and returned on 2nd June 2015 after visiting other Missions too.

➤ Fr. George Vettaparambil went to visit Tamilnadu mission and to participate in the Blessing at Ron and returned on 2 June. He takes classes in Vadavathoor Seminary two days a week from 10th June 2015.

➤ Travels of Fr. General:

Fr. Varghese Parappuram, S.G. left on 25th May 2015 to visit our confreres abroad. He will be back by the end of August. He attended the retreat in Germany up to 11th June. He visited on June 11 Fr. Antony Karikkinezham at Wolfsegg, Regensburg. On 12th Fr. James Mudakodil at Krummennaab and stayed at Schoenwald with Fr. John Arolichalil; met Fr. Francis Puthenpura at Selb and stayed at Immenreuth with Fr. Jacob Kudilungal on 13th.

On June 14th Fr. Varghese Parappuram travelled to Vienna and stayed at Vincentian House and Retreat Centre with Fr. George Vadakkekara and Fr. Xavier Ponganpara. He flew to Vincentian retreat centre, Berlin and was with Fr. Mathew Kakkattupillil and Fr. Thomas Ouseparambil on 15th.

Fr. General visited Fr. Philip Karikoottathil at Muenster on June 17; visited Bonn on 19-21 and met Frs. Dominic Kadankavil and George Kunnumpurath; proceeded to Tier on 22 to meet Frs. Jose Thazhathuveetil, George Parekandathil and Thomas Mulanjanany; went to Luvain on 23 to visit Fr. Varghese Chiraparambil and met Frs. Paul





Kalarickal and Emmanuel Aykkaramattam in Rreudenstadt on 24th June 2015. He also met Fr. Augustine Kizhakevalayil and Albert Kannaen on 25th and Frs. Joseph Mangalathukary and Kochukunnathuparambil on 26th. Fr. General visited Frs. Alex Thuruthikatt and Davis Arackal on 27th, Frs. Thomas Madavana on 28th; Rafy Vezhaparambil and Paul Pullan on 29th; Fr. Martin Mundackal on 30th June at Fuchsmuehl. He met Frs. Parambilthadathil, George, Xavier Parambil and Thomas Pullomparambil on July 01 at Pfreimd, Germany.

Fr. General visited Frs. James Azhakedath and Johnson Kattayil on 2nd July, Frs. John Nirappal and Saju Puthussery on the 3rd and Fr. Jenny Plamparambil

on the 4th. On July 05 & 06 Frs. Mathew Palakeel, Paul Manithottal and Joseph Vattathara were met and attended the monthly recollection with our priests in the parish of Fr. Paul Gnalian on 6th July.

On July 09th Fr. General took the Flight to USA. and visited Fr. Francis Cheruparambil.

On July 10 the visit was at VH, Washington, NJ, to meet Frs. John Manickathan and Sunil Aenekatt. July 11-13 – was for Prayer Centre, Toronto, Canada, with Fr. Joby Kachapilly and dared for mission appeal. July 14-16 - Saskatchewan, Canada: will visit Frs. George Chatholil, Raphael Vezhaparambil and Varghese Thoppilan.

## **II. i. 2. Appointments**

Fr. Sebastian Chooranoliccal arrived in the Generalate on 13 April 2015 from Vincentian House, Adichira, accompanied by Frs. Jose Matheickal, Mathew Olickal and Kaipadakunnel Jomon. He took charge as the Secretary to the Superior General when Fr. Paul Karayil left for Chinna Autapalli as rector of the Minor seminary on 12th May after a term of sincere service and having received the affection of the faithful of this area.

Jacob Kattiparambil took charge as Superior & Director, Care Centre, Thiruvanathapuram on 5th May in the presence of Fr. Mathew Vattakuzhy when Fr. Antony Padinjarekumbalath got relieved from the post for his studies.





Fr. Joseph Erambil is the new Spiritual Director in Vidyabhavan in the place of Fr. Antony Kakkanattu. Fr. Roy Varakath is the new Vice Rector in De Paul Institute, Bangalore .

## **II. ii. 1. News in brief**

➤ The annual retreat for our priests in USA was guided by Fr. Abraham Orapankal from April 20, 2015.

➤ We had a moderate celebration of the Feast of St. George in the Generalate community on the 24th evening. The community extended cordial festal greetings to Frs. Varghese Parappuram, Varghese Chackumkuzhy, George Vettaparambil, Varghese Puthussery, Varghese Kottackal and George Melukkunnel.

➤ All the members of the Generalate community participated in the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Marymatha Province held at Angamaly on April 25. Fr. Sebastian Chooranolickal went to Bharananganam, Pala to assist at the Popular Mission.

➤ Post-Regency Program: Seminarians who completed their regency did their Post-Regency Program under the guidance of Fr. George Vettaparambil at various places, at the Generalate, with the SDB Fathers at Vaduthala, at Popular Mission Bharananganam and lastly at the social service centre, Eramalloor, Cherthala from 2nd May.

➤ The Administrative Body Meeting was concluded on 21 May by noon. The members of the General and Provincial Administrative teams, as well as Regional Superiors and Mission Superiors were present for the meeting.

➤ Fr. Augustine Vallooran (Sr.) underwent an aneography at Lisie Hospital on 4th June. He was discharged on the same day with a prescription for further treatment.

➤ Fr. Jojo Maripatt preached a retreat for the priests in Eranakulam-Angamaly Archdiocese in the second week of June.

## **ii. 2. News from Rome**

John Cage once said “we carry our homes within us which enables us to fly.” It is a fact that everyone who lives away from his home/





country/ community is more attached to the same. It explicates one's religious spirit and thus, no matter where we are, there are opportunities to explore our koinonia.

It was a day of celebration for VCs in Italy together with our Superior General at Spoleto on May 29, 2015. Unique and united: We celebrated as one family the jubilee of our provinces. Fathers Jose Mecheril & Jose Thekkumattam were the organizational master-minds behind this idea of get-together to thank the Lord and to share our fraternal love and koinonia. Even though everyone could not participate due to certain unavoidable circumstances, we wholeheartedly welcomed the invitation and made ourselves available as members of the same family.

The jubilee gathering began with a warm welcome and refreshment followed by the Holy Mass in Malayalam solemnized by V. Rev. Fr. Varghese Parappuram according to the Syro-Malabar Rite. The liturgical celebration began with the words of welcome by Fr. Jose Mecheril, and the importance of the occasion was briefed by the Superior General. During the homily Fr. Varghese Parappuram invited us to recollect on the motto of our Congregation: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor...." (LK 4:18ff). The prayer of the faithful was made inspiring and meaningful by the personal sharing of each one present, by thanking the good Lord for all the blessings showered on all the provinces and the various ministries, and interceding for the various needs of our Congregation. We also gratefully remembered all the deceased members of our Provinces. After the solemn spiritual celebration it was the time for the fraternal meal. It was a day of „sharing one spirit“ in freedom and brotherly love. We thanked each other for having made the day a memorable one. Thank you very much Fr. Varghese Parappuram for your presence with us. May God bless us all, especially, our ministries, studies and endeavours.





## III Marymatha Province, Angamaly

### III. i. 1. News in brief :

➤ Fr. Provincial went to visit the Holy Land on 11 April 2015 as part of his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee Privilege. He returned to the Provincial house on 19 April.

➤ Archbishop Emeritus of Delhi, Rt. Rev. Vincent Consessao, visited Provincial House on April 15, 2015.

➤ Fr. Paul Parekkattil has come back from East Africa after the retreats.

➤ The fourth batch of the Renewal Seminar was held at Provincial House on April 13-14, 2015. Around 20 of our priests participated. The 5th batch was held on May 4-5 and the last batch on May 25-26.

➤ Mar Ephraim Narikulam, the Bishop of Chanda, visited the Provincial house on April 24th.

Fr. Provincial visited VH Thalassery on April 30 and VH Edathotty on May 1.

➤ His Lordship Simon Kaippuram CM, the Bishop of Balasore, Odisha, a close friend of Fr. James Chelappurath, visited the Provincial house on April 25th, 2015.

➤ Fr. Babu Vadakkekara has come back on April 21 after concluding his pastoral ministry in Australia.

➤ Fr. Anto Poonoly from Liechtenstein is on his holidays in Kerala.

➤ Bro. Alosi Kozhuppathadathil of St. Joseph Province is appointed in Christu Nivas for Regency.





## **Theology Studies**

Sl.no.	Name of the Seminarian	Seminary at
1.	Chinta Joji Babu (Satheesh)	Janampet
2.	Karedan Varghese	Janampet
3.	Malladi Mariadas	Shillong
4.	Pulickathottiyil Poulouse	Aluva
5.	Pullan Antony (Liyu)	Nairobi
6.	Puthenpurackal John	Janampet
7.	Thazhathuvallanal Stephan (Linto)	Nairobi
8.	Theningal Mathew	Aluva
9.	Unnukallil Augustine	Aluva

➤ The course in preparation for the Perpetual Profession of the major seminarians studying in East Africa and Shillong started on July 7, 2015 at Marymatha Provincial House, Angamaly. Fr. Alex Chalangady is the coordinator of the course.

➤ Fr. Francis Naduviledath, Fr. George Elengickalputhanpura, and Fr. Binu

Rathapilly left to US on June 9th for Mission Appeal.

## **Silver Jubilee Celebration:**

April 26, 2015 was a memorable day in the history of Marymatha Province as we celebrated the family day and the Silver Jubilee of the Province. The whole campus of the Provincial House was in a festive mood. The joy of the Silver Jubilee and the enthusiasm of the Family day were radiant on every face. Brothers from different seminaries and priests from far came the previous day and enthusiastically joined in the immediate preparations for the joyful day.





## **Jubilee Eucharistic Celebration:**

After a delicious lunch all gathered in the Ashram Church for the Jubilee Thanks Giving Mass. About 100 priests and 130 Seminarians participated in the Holy Mass. Fr. Jose Chettoor was the homilist. Fr. Alex Chalangady thanked all after the Mass.

## **Jubilee Gathering and Cultural Night:**

After tea break all hastened to the De Paul Auditorium for the general gathering. The gathering was presided over by Rev. Fr. Varghese Parappuram, the Superior General. It started with a melodious hymn of prayer by Fr. Augustine Puthenpura and team. Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva welcomed the chief guests and participants. Mar Thomas Chakkiath, the Bishop Emeritus of Eranakulam-Angamaly Archdiocese inaugurated the gathering by lighting the lamp. He appreciated the contributions of the Congregation to the universal church. Mar Mathew Vaniakizhakkal V.C gave the Anugraha Prbhashanam. Fr. Superior General after his presidential address launched the Star Vin Home Project in memory of the Jubilee.

## **Souvenir**

Fr. James Kallumkal, the Chief editor, introduced the Souvenir prepared in connection with the Silver Jubilee, and it was unveiled by Mar Thomas Chakkiath and the first copy was given to Rev. Fr. John Kandathinkara.

## **Felicitations**

Fr. John Kandathinkara, Provincial Superior, St. Thomas Province, Very Rev. Bro. Joseph Kongola, Superior General, CST, and Fr. Kuriakose Mundadan, Rector of St. George Basilica, Angamaly, were the Felicitators.

## **Book Releasing**

“Social Impact of Community Polytechnics in the Training of Youth”, a book authored by Fr. Josph Kavalakkattu was introduced by Fr. James Chelappurath and unveiled by Mar Mathew Vaniakizhakkal.





## **Honouring of the Former Provincials**

Fr. Paul Puthuva, the Provincial honoured Fr. George Kammattil, Fr. James Chelappurath, Fr. Varghese Parappuram and Fr. James Kallumkal by adorning them with “Ponnada”. Late Fr. Alex Aikkara was given a tribute by all spending one minute in silent prayer.

## **Launching of the Revised Website of the Province**

Fr. Jose Chettoor launched the revised Website of the Province [www.vincentians.in](http://www.vincentians.in).

The general gathering ended with vote of thanks by Fr. Francis Naduviledath.

## **Cultural Night:**

The religious and priests from the near-by communities and our close associates from the neighbourhood, together with our priests and seminarians, constituted the encouraging audience. Ranga pooja, Songs, Oppana, Mime, Skits, Dances, Group song, Musical Orchestra were the programmes presented by our Seminarians from Chinna Avutapally, Pinakkadamy, Thrikkakara, De Paul Bangalore, Ahmed Nagar, Kalichanadukom and Vidaybhavan. The programmes were well appreciated by the audience, and were the testimonies of the multiple talents our seminarians.

### ➤ **Gathering of the families of Rev. Deacons**

The Provincial house welcomed the Deacons of our Province and their parents on May 17th, 2015 for a one day gathering. Fr. Alex Chalangady led the input session. After the tea break all gathered in the chapel for the Eucharistic celebration of which Fr. Francis Naduvilaedath was the main celebrant and Fr. James Kokkandathil was the homilist. After an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Very Rev. Fr. Provincial spoke on the preparation for the ordination. Fr. Paul Parekkattil blessed the Anointing Cante and the Rosaries which were distributed to the parents. It was a joyous day for everybody.





### **III. i. 2. News from houses and Missions**

**Gumto:** The newly built Vincentian House at Gumto, Arunachal Pradesh, got blessed on May 26th, 2015, at 9.30 am by His Excellency John Katrukudiyil, the Bishop of Itanagar. Very Rev. Fr. Mathew Vattakuzhy, the Assistant General dedicated the House and Very Rev. Fr. Francis Naduviledath, the Assistant Provincial inaugurated the House.

#### **Ave Maria retreat Centre, Zadima :**

An old dream of the people of Kohima, Nagaland was fulfilled on May 29th, 2015 as this Centre has been blessed by Mar James Thoppil, the Bishop of Kohima, and inaugurated by Fr. Mathew Vattakuzhy and dedicated by Fr. Francis Naduviledath in the presence of Fr. James Kakkandathil.

Fr. Anto Chittinappilly welcomed the dignitaries and Fr. Sony Puthiyedam thanked all for their presence. Almost 1000 people including priests, nuns, pastors of other denominations, and political leaders attended the function. The programme ended with an Agape. It took almost one and half years to complete the construction. We are planning to conduct One Day Programmes.

#### **Buoye :**

The inauguration of the new Vincentian Prayer House at Buoye in the Western part of Kenya near to Kisumu, a town near to the Lake Victoria was held on May 28, 2015. The Centre was inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva VC, Provincial Superior, in the presence of Most Rev. Zaceus Okoth, the Archbishop of Kisumu. Fr. Alex Chalangady, Provincial Councilor, Frs. Biju Valliparambil (Reg. Superior, SH Region) and Geejo Pattath were present along with the Vincentian priests from Uganda. The Archbishop offered the Holy Mass.

#### **Mangalore:**

The prayer hall of Divine Prayer Centre at Mangalore was blessed by His Excellency Mar Lawrence Mukkuzhy on 19th April 2015. Fr. Paul Parekkattil VC, Provincial Councilor for Retreats, was present at the ceremony. The inauguration was officiated by Msgr. Dennis Prabhu,





Vicar General of Mangalore Diocese. Shri U.T. Khader, the honorable Health Minister of Karnataka along with J.R. Lobo, MLA, were present for the function.

This Silver Jubilee Memorial of Marymatha Province was blessed and inaugurated on May 16, 2015. Very Rev. Fr. Varghese Parappuram, the Superior General, inaugurated the building and Mar George Njarlakkattu, the Archbishop of Thalassery blessed the centre. Fr. Paul Puthuva, the Provincial Superior welcomed the guests during the Public meeting. Mar George Valiyamattam, Bishop Emeritus of Thalassery Archdiocese, gave the inaugural address. Fr. Kuriakose Aryankalayil, the Founding Director proposed the vote of thanks.

### **Divine Dhyana Ashram, Visakhapatnam**

The first official steps for the new retreat center in Visakhapatnam were made on 21st May 2015. Frs. Jose Kannampally and Mathew Malieckal reached the place accompanied by many of our Fathers the Region on May 21. Fr. Sunil Aenekatt's father Mr. Thomas welcomed them. The new missionaries will be staying in the house of Fr. Sunil for the initial works of the Centre. They get good response from the people who are really longing for a Vincentian retreat center in Visakhapatnam. Presently we are planning to have intercessory prayers in the House. Several people have promised their support for the same. Now fathers are busy in searching for a convenient place for the retreat center in the vicinity of the town. Address: Christu Nivas; Mig-A-B-299, Sujatha Nagar; Vishakapatnam – 530051

### **Divine Mercy Retreat Centre, Ladryambai:**

It is in the diocese of Jowai, Meghalaya. The property originally belonged to The Church of God before being handed over to the diocese. The Diocesan authority has entrusted the facilities to us to start the preaching ministry. The facilities include a well-furnished church, a priest's home and a few rooms and a hall which can accommodate almost 100 people..

The Divine Mercy Retreat Centre was blessed by His Lordship Most Rev. Thomas Memampampil the Apostolic Administrator





of Jowai Diocese and was inaugurated by Asst. Superior General Very Rev. Fr. Mathew Vattakuzhy. It was dedicated by Very Rev Fr. Francis Naduviledath, Asst. Provincial, in the presence of Rev Fr. James Kokkandathil. Priests and Religious from the nearby communities and a large number of faithful were present. The presence local MLA made the occasion more colourful. We have already started the one day prayer service on Saturdays.

### **Weruweru**

A new Vincentian bud has sprouted in the land of Tanzania. It is a quasi-parish entrusted to the Vincentian Fathers at Weruweru in the diocese of Moshi. During the Mass Bishop of Moshi, His Excellency Issac Amani, officially entrusted this quasi-parish to the Vincentians in the presence of the Provincial Superior Very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva and Rev. Fr. Alex Chalangady. Around 25 priests and 25 religious sisters from different Congregations along with thousands of faithful witnessed the ceremony. Frs. Joseph Elanjickal and Steby Kalloorkattu are the pioneers in Weruweru Mission.

### **III. ii. Arrivals And Departures Of Members**

- Fr. Joby Kocholickal has arrived from Nairobi for holidays.
- Fr. Jacob Mattappallil VC has come back from USA after completing his pastoral ministry.
- Fr. Jinu Puthussery and Fr. Dony Kumbuluvelil went back to Africa.
- Fr. Stephen Mulayinkal from Vikindu, Tanzania, arrived in the Provincial House on April 29th.
- Fr. Vincent Rathappilly doing Pastoral Ministry in Southbend, USA arrived the Provincial House on April 30th for his annual holidays.
- Fr. Sabu Adimakiyil is gone to Australia on May 18th for parish ministry in the Syro Malabar Diocese of Melbourne.





➤ Fr. Antony Parankimaly came for his holidays on June 17th before he starts his studies in Rome. His phone Number in India is +919495303814.

➤ Fr. Jomesh Kaithamana reached the Provincial House on June 18th for his Annual holidays.

### **III. iii.1. Health Corner:**

Fr. Varghese Chathapparambil was admitted in the LF Hospital, Angamaly.

### **III. iii. 2. Condolences**

➤ Fr. Cherian Pulikkunnel's maternal aunt (Aleykutty Joseph - 95 yrs) expired on April 17.

➤ Rev. Fr. Jemin Chiriyamkandath's maternal grandmother (Annamma - 80 yrs) passed away on 13th April 2015.

➤ Late Fr. Thomas Parayil's beloved father (Thomas - 82 yrs) died on 16th April 2015.

➤ Fr. Thomas Mullenmadackel CM (65), cousin of Rev. Fr. Thomas Mullenmadackel VC, expired at Bannimatap, Mysore.

➤ Fr. Paul Pambrayil's paternal aunt (Mary Paulose Pambrayil - 72 yrs) expired.

➤ Fr. John Kavunkal's sister (Annamma – 93 years) died on April 26. The funeral took place at St. Joseph's Church, Koovappally.

### **III. iii. 3. CONGRATULATIONS!**

➤ Fr. Shiju Athappilly VC, who did B.Ed. from Don Bosco College of Teacher Education (DBCTE) at Tura, Meghalaya has PASSED WITH DISTINCTION. He was just four marks short of rank.

➤ New Regional Councilors of Good Shepherd Region, AP:  
Fr. Martin K. (Vicar) and Fr. Peter M (Secretary)

➤ New Mission Councilors of St. Paul Mission, Ahmednagar:  
Fr. John E. (Hebic)(Vicar) and Fr. Devassia M. ( Jimil) (Secretary)





## IV ST. JOSEPH'S PROVINCE, KOTTAYAM

### IV. i. News in brief

#### **Congratulations !**

We congratulate our brothers who received the minor orders, received clerical dress, and made their first and final professions.

Bros. Kanayinkal Davies and Kochuthara Philip received the order of Sub-diaconate on May 12th, 2015 at Vincentian Vidyabhavan, Alwaye. The order was conferred upon them by His Excellency Mar Mathew Vaniyakizhakkal.

#### **First profession**

11 novices made their first profession on May 11, 2015 at Vincentian Novitiate, Padamugham.

- |                                |                                     |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Kochuparambil Thomas (Arun) | 7. Thekkanathu Antony (Jomy)        |
| 2. Kottayil Joseph (Freddy)    | 8. Thyparambil Varghese (Jerin)     |
| 3. Mandapath Francis (Mishil)  | 9. Vadakkeveettilan Thomas (Tony)   |
| 4. Palathinkal Joseph (Albin)  | 10. Vattoth Thomas (Subin)          |
| 5. Pallivathukal Joseph        | 11. Vazhavelikkakath Thomas (Akhil) |
| 6. Sagayaraj B.                |                                     |

#### **Vestition**

Bros. Mulamkombil Roney, Paimpillil Sibin and Plavunilkunnathil Tony received the clerical dress on May 19th at Vincentian Generalate, Edappally.





## **Perpetual Profession**

Nine brothers made their final profession on May 19th at Vincentian Generalate, Edappally.

1. D. Sonthosh Tontiarpet
2. Kannamkulam Francis (Sonu)
3. Karingattuparambil Antony (Manu)
4. Kumbukkal Thomas (Bebin)
5. Kurinjiparambil Philip (Terry)
6. Malieckal Thomas (Tony)
7. Palackal Joseph (Tibin)
8. Pendanathu Joseph (Abey)
9. Vaniyapurackalthuruthel Rintu (Job)

## **Our Seminarians (2015-16)**

This year also we are blessed with a good number of students for the first year seminary. We have 23 students at our first year minor seminary, Nedumkunnam and 16 students at first year minor seminary, Elavur. Congratulations to the vocation promoters for their hard work. The lists of the seminarians are given below:

### **First Year Seminarians, Nedumkunnam**

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ambattukuzhiyil Ronald    | Malayil Arun            |
| Aranjaniyil Joyal         | Mappilakunnel Vivek     |
| Cheruchilambil Nithin     | Medayil Christy         |
| Chirayil Richu            | Nelluvelil Vinu         |
| Edallarukuzhiyil Tony     | Paikayil Aby            |
| Kaithakulam Romeo         | Pallamkulathu Don Bosco |
| Kalapurackal Amal         | Plathottam Amal         |
| Kallenkakuzhiyil Praiswin | Puthenpurackal Paul     |
| Kappalumakkal Justin      | Puthiyedathu Tanson     |
| Kavil Akshay              | Thakarapallil Nikhil    |
| Kulangara Arun            | Vallyakarottu Anix      |
| Kunnuthara Bristo         |                         |





## **First Year Minor Seminarians, Elavur**

Adavanal Joseph (Juwel)  
Anthikad Thobiyas  
Jyanta Tudu  
Kanayananical Joseph (Alan)  
Kizhakkemuriyil Joseph (Joyal)  
Kulathinkal Augustin( Albin)  
Madamparambil Joseph (Shino)  
Mittathinanickel Joseph (Sanu)  
Nedumkallel Thomas (Jinil)  
Olickal Joseph (Amal)  
Palatty Varghese (Adhul)  
Panavelil Thomas (Amalraj)  
Poovathummoottil Joseph (Adon)  
Puthenpurackal George (Akshay)

Sibi Samson D.  
Vallithottathil  
Mathew (Mathewkutty)

## **Novices, At Padamugham**

Arayathumkara Mathew (Lijo)  
Kalappuraparambil Joseph (Joice)  
Kochuchira Kuriakose (Manu)  
Komparanirappel James (Jibin)  
Kunnel Abraham (Andrews)  
Olickal John (Ajin)  
Palamoottil James (Ojes)  
Paravettikuzha Thomas (Robin)  
Thottathil Abraham (Amal)  
Vadakkemangalathu Joseph(Jose)  
VellankanirappelJames(Amal)

## **Brothers in the study house for degree studies, Kuravilangad**

### **Degree 1st year:**

Kochuparambil Thomas (Arun)  
Mandapath Francis (Mishil)  
Vadakeveettilan Thomas (Tony)  
Vazhavelikkakath Thomas (Akhil)

### **Degree 2nd year:**

Maramkuzhiyil Joseph (Albin)  
Mukuleparambil Joseph (Jibin)  
Puthenveettil Joseph (Albert)

## **Brothers for Polytechnic study, Hubli**

1. Thyparambil Varghese (Jerin) - First Year
2. Kochuveettil Joseph (Tony) - Second Year





### **Brothers for Philosophy first year:**

Kottayil Joseph (Freddy)	Sagayaraj B.
Palathinkal Joseph (Albin)	Thekkanathu Antony (Jomy)
Pallivathukal Joseph	Vattoth Thomas (Subin)

### **Regents**

1. Chemblangal Xavier - Provincial House, Kottayam
2. Erupulakattil George (Sibil) - SSSmile, Vettikuzhy
3. J. Vinoth Jacob - V.H. Ron, Karnataka
4. Kizhakkekara Kuruvila (Cyril) - V.H. Chopra, Kolkata
5. Kozhuppathadathil Alex - Seminary, Chethimattom
6. Kozhuppathadathil Aloshi - Seminary, Thrikkakara
7. Kumblumkal Augustine (Charles) - V. H. Hubli (regency & study)
8. Kuthiramattathil Antony (Tony) - V. H. Jalalkhali, Kolkata
9. Mandapathil Mathew (Judish) - Seminary(Study House), Nazareth Hill
10. Mundiyanickal Mathew (Edwin) - V. H. Adaikalapuram
11. Pallickamyalil George - V. H. Padamugham
12. Panickaridom Mathew (Anoop) - V. H. Trivandrum
13. Vazhachalil Antony (Dino) - V. H. Mylady

### **Brothers for Theology first year:**

1. Mulamkombil Devasia (Roney) - Vidyabhavan, Alwaye
2. Paimpillil Sebastian (Sibin) - St. Ephrem's, Satna
3. Plavunilkunnathil Thomas (Tony) - Vidyabhavan, Alwaye
4. Karingattuparambil Antony (Manu) - Vidyabhavan, Alwaye
5. Pandanathu Joseph (Abey) - Vidyabhavan, Alwaye





## **Events and Engagements**

### **1. Family Day 2015**

We celebrated our Family Day on May 1, 2015, on the Feast day of St. Joseph. Around seventy members of the province attended the Family day celebrations. There were sharing sessions in the morning and Concelebrated Holy Mass in the afternoon. There was also combined meeting of different Cell members on that day.

### **2. On Vacation**

Rev. Fr. Francis Puthenpura, Fr. Mekkattu George, Fr. Thomas Ouseparambil from Germany, Thomas Mankuthel from Australia, Fr. Kurian Peruvelil (Jijo) from Rome came for holidays.

### **3. Health Corner**

Rev. Fr. Abraham Orathel had undergone a major surgery for his pancreas (a part of pancreas is removed) in PVS hospital, Kaloor, Ernakulam. He is taking rest at Vincentian Generalate, Edappally and slowly recovering. Kindly remember him in your prayers.

I am happy to say that all our senior members in different Ashrams are keeping fine. Our senior Fathers in Adichira Rev. Frs. Kadiyamkuttiyil Xavier, Kariamadam Paul, Nambiaparambil Luke, and Paliyakunnel Emmanuel are all fine. Fr. Karikulam Sebastian is also keeping fine in Pala minor seminary.

### **4. New Regional Superior, St. Xavier's Region**

Rev. Fr. Sebastian Padinjarekkutt was appointed Regional Superior of the St. Xavier's region and the councilors are Rev. Fr. Saju Kodamullil (Vicar) and Rev. Fr. Bijoy Kizhakkethottam (Secretary). Rev. Fr. Augustine Menonkariyil is appointed Finance officer of the Region. Congratulations to dear fathers !





## **5. Deacons' Parents Meet**

Deacon's Parents Meet was held on 18th June. The gathering was begun at 9.30 am and concluded by 3.30 pm. Fr. Ebin Neeruvellil gave a message for the parents and Deacons on that day and adoration was led by Fr. Thachethukudy Antony.

## **6. Award for Social Work:**

Rev. Fr. Varghese Muzhuthett was honored with "Nehru Award-2014-15" by Nehru Peace Foundation for his contributions to alcohol-prohibition, in a function held at Thiruvananthapuram. Congratulations dear father!

## **IV. ii. News from Houses**

### **1. Pungavadi, Blessing of Our Lady of Health Church**

The newly built Our Lady of Health Church at Pungavadi, Attur, Tamil Nadu was blessed by His Exc. Most Rev. Singarayar, Bishop of Salem and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. George Arackal, Provincial

Superior on May28, 2015. Congratulations to Rev. Fr. Thomas Palakkattu VC, parish priest of Pungavadi church for this achievement!

### **2. Ron, Blessing of the De Paul Academy**

The newly built De Paul Academy School at Ron, Karnataka was blessed by Rt. Rev. Dr. Peter Machado, Bishop of Belgaum and inaugurated by Sri H. K. Patil, Hon. Minister for RD & PR Gov. of Karnataka on June 1, 2015. Congratulations to Rev. Fr. Joji Kanjookaran and Rev. Fr. Lijo Thakarappillil for their great efforts behind this achievement!

### **3. Elanthur, Blessing of the New House**

The blessing of the newly built Building for the Silver Jubilee memorial Vincentian House cum Administrative Block for the social institution at Elanthur near Kozhancherry in the Diocese of





Kanjirappally took place on July 11th 2015. The House was blessed by Rev. Fr. Mathew Vattakuzhy VC, the Assistant Superior General. The blessing was followed by Holy Mass and Agape.

#### **4. Kuravilangad, Vincentian Seminary (Study House) at Nazareth Hill**

From last academic year onwards some of our Brothers (half number of the total strength) who had completed the Novitiate were sent for Degree studies. (In accordance with the decision of KCBC and the directive of the last General Chapter the seminarians are to do the graduation before Philosophy). Accordingly, this year we have started a study house for Degree students at N. Hill. The orphanage at N. Hill has been terminated and the students were shifted to Kaloor. The same building is now being used as the Study House for the seminarians who do the Degree studies. The seminary was blessed and opened on July 16. Rev. Fr. Plathottathil Shijo is appointed priest-in-charge/Rector of the seminarians at Nazareth Hill.

#### **5. Elavur ,Minor Seminary for St. Xavier's Region**

We have been thinking of beginning a minor seminary for the Region for a couple of years now. Only now it is getting materialized. Vincentian Minor Seminary at Elavur, near Chennai was officially blessed and opened on June 24, 2015. There are 16 students in the first batch. Rev. Fr. George Poonattu is appointed as the Rector and Rev. Fr. Edwardraj is appointed as the Vice Rector.





## **V St. Thomas Province**

### **V. i. Events in brief**

- Rev Fr Jose Parekkattil VC celebrated his sacerdotal silver jubilee on 28th May at St. Mary's Church, Moonnamparambu, his home parish.
- The Canonical Visits at Vincentian Ashram, Munnoorpilly and Vincentian Ashram, Hazaribag have been held in May - June.
- Most Rev Bishop Rafy Manjaly of Allahabad Diocese visited the Provincial House on 1st June.2015
- Ashram: As people in North India hold dearly and identify well with the name "Ashram," it will be a good idea to use the name 'Ashram' for our religious Houses instead of 'House'. During the last Family Gathering all felt it to be a good idea.
- Mission Appeal: Frs. Veluthedathukattil Sebastian and Parekkattil Jose went to the States for Mission appeal. Fr. Naickamparambil Varghese will join them.
- U.P. Mission - Councillors: Rev. Frs. George Mullapillichirayil and Prafulkumar Kerketta have been elected Councillors in the U. P. Mission and Raymond Pulakudichirakandathil as Finance officer.
- Annual Retreat: This year the annual Retreat for the members of St. Thomas Province will be from October 18 evening to 23 evening at the Faridabad Retreat Center.





➤ Fr. Panamattam Jose, Fr. Jacob Chennath and Fr. Velamparambil Paul who do pastoral work in USA came for holidays in April.

## **Novitiate**

Seven seminarians entered novitiate at Padamugham. Unfortunately two of them left after getting their plus two results and there are five of them remaining with eleven novices from St. Joseph Province.

## **Regents:**

Bro. Arackalchokky Devassy	-	Madhavgarh
Bro. Kureekattil Cyril	-	Munnoorppilly
Bro. Mattappallil Abraham	-	Meerganj
Bro. Vellakadayil Abraham	-	Aonla

## **Minor Seminaries**

There are 31 first year minor seminarians this year with 16 at Munnoorppilly and 12 at Meerganj. There are 30 second and third year minor seminarians at Madhavgarh. Some of them do not understand Malayalam. Hence Hindi or English must be used for communication.

Rev. Fr. Provincial blessed the renewed chapel and dormitory of Minor Seminary (CVN), Madhavgarh, Satna on 2nd July. On the same day the new academic year was inaugurated.

## **Departure**

(Fr.) Kallath Joseph has informed through email that he has been “legally married” and that it is “no way possible to come back to Congregation and Priesthood.” Our Statue 146 says, “A member shall be held dismissed from the Congregation by law itself, who ... has contracted or attempted marriage, even if only a civil one (CCEO 497. 1).”

Bros. Varghese Kalappurakudy (3rd year) and Puliyanal Joseph (2nd year) left the Congregation from De Paul, Bangalore.





## **Preachers' Meet (July 8 – 9, 2015)**

The Preachers' Meet at the provincial house began with the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on 8th July. Rev. Fr. Provincial, the Provincial team and the Fathers from all our retreat centers participated in it. After the discussions, sharing sessions and planning sessions, etc. It got concluded by the evening on 9th July.

### **Congratulations to:**

Bro. Martin Chandrankunnel who made perpetual profession on May 19, 2015 at our Generalate. Our Regents and Philosophers renewed their vows.

Fr. Kidangan Varghese (Baiju) has been appointed Pastor of St. Pius church, Edgewood, Ky., where he has been serving as associate pastor. St. Pious is arguably the largest parish in the diocese of Covington, U.S.A.

Fr. Valiyaparambil Martin has been selected for "Best Principal Award" and a "Certificate of Education Excellence" by International Institute of Education & Management, New Delhi. The award will be presented on July 20, 2015 at 4 PM on the occasion of the seminar on "Education & Industrial Development". Our congratulations, prayers and best wishes to all the above confreres.

## **V. ii. News from Ashrams and Missions**

### **Hazaribag - Blessing**

The newly constructed three storey residential building that can house about 100 people was inaugurated by Fr. John Kandathinkara and blessed by Rt. Rev. Anand Jojo, Bishop of Hazaribag during the night vigil attended by about 3500 people on July 4, 2015. It is worth noting that the building was constructed entirely of funds generated from the people coming for various programmes at the Center. Congratulations to Frs. Puthiyedath Augustine, Palaparambil Thomas, Kallikattukudy Joseph and Chemmazhikattu Scaria.





## **Madhavgarh**

The blessing of the extended Chapel and dormitory of Madhavgarh was on July 2, 2015. The extension was necessary due to the increased number of minor seminarians there this year.

## **New Missions - Bongaigaon**

The diocese of Bongaigaon has offered us four acres of land and promised to construct a hall. The diocese is offering another vacant hall and living facility by Gosaigaon parish for a retreat centre. At present we are in the process of signing a contract. Fr. Varghese Parayil did ministry in this diocese two years ago at the invitation of bishop Pulloppilly and studied the feasibility of opening a Center.

## **Dumka**

Fr. Pandimattam Abraham (Dinny) has been working in the diocese of Dumka for a year. A double storey building for the Vincentian Ashram is getting ready by the generosity of the Rt. Rev. Julius Marandi, the bishop of Dumka. Bishop has purchased another plot of land across from the present site for the Center, which makes it a total of about three acres. Fr. Provincial Fr. Karingan Varghese have visited the place.

## **Nagpur**

Archbishop of Nagpur had invited us to open a retreat Center in his archdiocese. Frs. Parathanam Augustin and Karingen Varghese went to meet the Archbishop and to see the location. The diocese is willing to entrust us a small parish of 20 families and about three acres of land with an old parish Church and a room adjacent to it, where one priest is able to stay. The place is situated 42 K.m. away from Nagpur on the Nagpur - Jabalpur four-lane highway.

## **Jhalandar-Chandigarh**

Archbishop Bharanikulangara invited us to open a Center in Jhalandar- Chandigarh area which comes under Faridabad diocese. He





is asking us to find a rented facility and work for the people and later establish a Center if we choose. Frs. Naickampambil and Parathanam visited the location.

### **Margerita, Assam**

We, the Vincentian fathers are keeping good health and busy with lots of activities. The climate of Assam is very pleasant.

We bade farewell to Sr. Anila S.J. and Sr. Juliana F.C.C. and expressed our sincere thanks for her selfless service to our community. Fr. Johnson, CMI, from Bhopal, who has come here for one month experience, went back to his place of Ministry. We are very grateful for his support and help.

### **Inauguration of additional facilities:**

The newly constructed rooms and dormitory were inaugurated and blessed by Fr. Thomas Emprayil (Bobby) and Fr. John Kandathinkara respectively on 1st April.

Visitors: Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind (Bishop of Dibrugarh), Rt. Rev. Thomas Pullopillil (Bishop of Bongagion), Rt. Rev. John (Archbishop of Guwahati), Rt. Rev. Andrew Marak (Bishop of Tura), Rt. Rev. Dominic Lumen (Bishop of Imphal), Rt. Rev. Lumen Mentro (Bishop of Agartala), Rt. Rev. John Thomas (Bishop of Itanagar) made a small visit to our community. They were on their way to Miao for a Meeting.

Fr. Bobby reached India on 1st of July after conducting retreats in USA and Germany. Feast of Sts. Paul and Peter: on 29th June we celebrated the Feast of Fr. Paul Kottaram.

**Website of Divine Margherita:** [www.divinemargherita.com](http://www.divinemargherita.com) and get the current news of Divine Margherita.

### **V.iii.1. Health Corner**

Fr. George Mullapillichirayil underwent a successful surgery to remove a 2 inch kidney stone at Lourde hospital, Ernakulam.





Fr. Joseph (Benny) Kulangara is improving and is taking rest at Munnoorppilly.

Fr. Sebastian Moolechalil is back in Delhi after two weeks of naturopathy at Moozhikulam.

Fr. Appassery George takes rest at Munnorppilly.

### **V. iii. 2. Condolences:**

We offer our prayers and condolences on behalf of:

Mr. Vareeth Morely (80), Uncle of Rev Fr Baby Puthussery VC died on 2nd April 2015.

Mr. Varkey (78), Father of Rev Fr Geo Kallikkattukudy VC died on 5th April 2015.

Mrs. Aelykutty (87), Mother of Rev Fr Benny Kulangara VC died on 28th April 2015.

#### ***Closest to the Sun - Pope Francis on 6th July 2015 on Christian life***

*“In Ecuador is the point closest to outer space: it is the Chimborazo, which for that reason is called the place ‘closest to the sun’, the moon and the stars. We Christians identify Christ with the sun, and the moon with the Church; the moon does not have its own light, indeed if it hides from the sun it will be enveloped by darkness. The sun is Jesus Christ and if the Church moves away or hides from him, she will be in darkness and no longer able to offer witness. May the coming days make all of us ever more clearly aware of how close is the sun which ‘dawns upon us from on high’. May each of us be a true reflection of his light and his love”.*





## VI NEWS FROM FORMATION HOUSES

### **VI. i. 1. Vidyabhavan News**

Congras to Counsellors: Fr. Sebastian Thundathikunnel and Fr. Ambathadathom Rinson have successfully completed their school counseling course, which they were frequenting for the last six months at Jyothi Darsana Institute run by CMI fathers at Prumbavoor.

Popular Mission at Bharananganam: Third and second year theology seminarians participated in the popular mission at Bharananganam. They were actively participating in it, including preaching, music ministry, house visiting etc.

Jesus Mission Retreats: The Jesus Mission Retreats for the students have been conducted by the seminarians in various parishes for the students.

Perpetual Profession Course: Experts took classes to the 16 participants at Vidyabhavan on various subjects related to different aspects of religious live. Their retreat was under the guidance of Fr Jacob Kattiparambil. Those who were preparing to receive cassocks also attended it.

Visit to Holy Land: Fr. Antony Kakkanattu could fulfil one of his dreams, when he visited Holy Land for the first time. He went for 9 days with the VC jubilarians.

### **Diaconate and Subdiaconate**

Bro. Ajesh Thundathil received Diaconate at Vidyabhavan on 12th May from Bp. Mathew Vaniyakizhakkal.





On the same day Sub- Diaconate was conferred to Bro. Kanayinkal Davis and Kochuthare Philip.

Re-opening of the Seminary: We have reached back after completing all our busy vacation programmes. The seven first years came on May 30th. Now we are altogether 28 brothers here. The new academic year opened up at Mangalapuzha on June 2nd and classes began on June the 3rd.

Rank Holders: We are proud to announce that the three batches of Vidyabhavan got ranks at Mangalapuzha.

Bro. Joe Molacherry of the third year – second rank ,

Bro. Jimmichen Kulathinkal of the second year – third rank,

Bro. Thomas Malieckal of the first year – third rank.

New Spiritual Director: Fr. Antony Kakanattu, after completing 4 years of successful spiritual direction, is transferred to Thrikkakara and Fr. Joseph Erambil took charge as the new spiritual director.

House Blessing: In connection with the beginning of the new academic year, we blessed the whole Vidyabhavan, including the members, building, premises, and the land. Bishop Mathew Vaniyakizhakkal was the main celebrant and all the priests were concelebrants.

### ➤ **Centre For Vincentian Animation:**

Novena and Quiz books: The books NOVENA TO ST. VINCENT (both in English and Malayalam) and ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: QUIZ, QUOTES AND BIOGRAPHY (both in English and Malayalam) are available now. If you need them to be distributed to the people in connection with the feast of our patron, they will be available at a reduced price. For details please contact the director of CVA by mobile 9447522325 or by email [sebastiantd@yahoo.com](mailto:sebastiantd@yahoo.com)

### **Tuesday Conference through Media:**

The Tuesday Conference of St. Vincent de Paul is being revived in the form of a new-weekly named “priest EXCLUSIVE” by the





seminarians of Vidyabhavan, under the leadership of Bros. Malieckal Thomas and Kulathinkal Jimmichen. It is sent to all our confreres by email. The theme will be different each week. Please, go through it and send us your valuable suggestions.

## **VI. i. 2. De Paul, Bengaluru**

Adding colours to De Paul, the new buds also have arrived. We have a renewed computer lab. We have paved the way with interlock from the entrance to the car shed. It would reduce the entry of dust to the refectory to a certain extent.

Sunday catechism for the school going students has begun and brothers find time to involve in this ministry. We celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary of the parents of Fr. George Melukkunnel, on the occasion of their visit to De Paul. Bro. Alex Parasseril went to visit his father who was hospitalized due to cardiac arrest. He needs our special prayers as he will be undergoing a heart surgery to remove two major blocks.

We celebrated the feast of St. Thomas on 3rd of July 2015. Our Rector, Fr. Varghese Puthussery was the main celebrant of the Solemn Mass. In the afternoon we had a spirited basket ball match. The main celebrant of the mass was Rev. Paulachan Kochapally CMI, president of Dhramaram Vidya Keshtram. He himself was the chief guest for the day and inaugurated the new academic year on 6th July. The handbook of the institute was released by Fr. Rector and it was received by Rev. Fr. Anand Raj OSM. Darshana wall magazine was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Joel. IC. Fr. Roy Varakath made a schola brevis on the idea of politics of recognition

## **VI. i. 3. Vestition in Kayunga, Africa**

The Vestition of Bro. Liyo Pullan VC was held on June 14, 2015 in De paul Boys' Home, Kayunga, Masaka. Very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva VC, our Provincial Superior blessed the religious habit. Fr. Biju





Valliparambil VC was the main celebrant of Eucharistic celebration. Fr. Alex Chalangady VC, the Provincial councillor, some other Vincentian fathers and seminarians in East African region were present in the ceremony. We congratulate Bro. Liyo Pullan and wish all the best in his future priestly ministry.

## **VI. i. 4. Marymatha, Trissur: First Rank**

Fr. Jibin Erambil has bagged the First Rank in the fourth year BTh. Examination of the Marymatha Major Seminary, Trissur. In fact he has been the First Rank holder in all the four years. He was specially honoured during the inaugural function of the seminary on June 1, 2015.

## **VI. i. 5. Janampet A.P.**

Fr. Annepogu Rajasekhar secured second rank in the B Th course with MAGNA CUM LAUDE in the Vijnananilayam Institute, Janampet, Andhra Pradesh.

## **VI. i. 6. Vikindu, Novitiate**

June 3, 2015 was indeed a historical day in the history of Sacred Heart Region, E. Africa. As another milestone of the growth of the African Mission we started the Novitiate on that day. Four seminarians who completed two years of minor seminary was officially welcomed to the Novitiate with a loving embrace by the new Novice master, Fr. Biju Puthiyaparambil. The presence of Fr. Provincial and Fr. Chalangady added colour and pomp to the wole ceremony. Very Rev. Fr. Provincial celebrated the Holy Mass and Rev. Fr. Alex Chalangady inspired the Novices with his thought provoking homily. Vincentian House, Vikindu which was the Minor Seminary isnow changed into Novitiate.

## **VI. i. 7. Novitiate House, Meenangady**

‘It is good that we are here...’ (Mk 9:5)

Trivialities of the world, keeping aside;

Low-lying plains of the earth, rising from;





Richness and beauty of God's presence, experiencing deeply;  
Here goes Fr. Guru with his 15 disciples:  
The ladder of God, climbing and climbing....

We express to you, dear reader, our glad tidings from the Novitiate House, Meenangady.

Living as a sweet and small family, we, Fr. Guru, Fr. Paul and 15 novices, being 'alone with the Alone' are encountering and experiencing the "POWER" on this holy mountain. These 15 new buds were replanted from three places viz; ChristuNivas, ChinnaAutapalli and Pinakkidimi minor seminaries on this soil by the sweet embrace of Fr. Guru and the authoritative guidance of Very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva, the Provincial superior on May 10th, 2015.

As the rays of the powerful sun is engulfing all the creatures of this earth, the deep silence among these pristine and awesome Waynadan hills fills us with the sense of the divine. As the three mighty apostles encountered God on Mount Tabor, we, too, are encountering the Same, True and Real God on Balesugiri.

### **The Old Shepherd Leaves...**

After leading the novices for six years Fr. Jose Panachimoottil left for the shores of USA on May 13th, 2015 as the Associate Director of the Divine Mercy Prayer House at Tampa, USA. His extraordinary and strenuous labour in the vineyard of the Lord for six long years will be cherished for ever.

### **The arrival of the Trailblazer...**

As the sun went down on the hills of the Wayanad, a new sun rose in our midst, in the form of Fr. Philip Nedumthuruthil, our new Guru and mentor. He stepped in to our house during the night of May 9, 2015, with a treasure of experience as a formator for the past many years. He was accompanied by the stalwarts of the Divine Retreat Centre-





Rev. Frs. Augustine Vallooran, Mathew Thadathil, John Mangalath and Jacob Arimpoor for the journey towards the mountain of God.

### **Handing over the Baton...**

After serving as the director of the Balabhavan for three years Rev. Fr. Antony Mangalath bid adieu to our community on May 18th, for taking up the charge as the finance officer at Vincentian House, Thachanpara. He handed over his baton to Rev. Fr. Saji Avangattu. No sooner did Fr Avangattu and Bro. Manavalan arrive, than they have begun accomplishing marvelous activities for “our little masters” in our Balabhavan.

### **Life among us...**

As our seniors professed the three evangelical counsels on May 11, 2015, our hearts were aflame with zeal and joy of having new and vibrant members for our congregation. Possessing huge deposits of God experiences in the pockets of their souls, our seniors climbed on to the next rung of their formation of degree studies in philosophy and other secular courses.

As we received our first assignments, we have embarked on a voyage with our Fr. Guru as the captain and navigator of our spiritual ship. Under his tutelage and mentorship, we are sailing steadily toward the shores of God.

### **The Balesugiri Flora and Fauna Speaks...**

As the first drops of divine blessings fell and bathed the thick foliage of our newly planted coffee saplings, rubber trees and other plants and animals, we remembered his blessings in our lives. Imbibing the spirit and mind of a modern scientific farmer, Fr. Paul Pambrayil is tirelessly working hard for the all round prosperity at our house and the estate.

### **The Laying of the Foundation-stone...**

Prayer life is the foundation stone of every novice. This was well-laid by the inspiring words, life examples and spiritually rich parables;





during the classes of Fr. Augustine Padinjarekutt. His words, examples and even, his very life have set us on a race to attain “MYSTICAL MARRIAGE”!!!!!!

### **Farewell....**

With folded hands and a praying heart we bid you farewell. We would be again presenting you with a fresh volley of news in the next edition. Till then, Goodbye...

## **VI. i. 8. Edathotty Seminary/ Study House**

After one year break Edathotty Seminary has been revived with a new face. On June 1, 2015 six seminarians who finished their Novitiate was admitted to the Degree Seminary who will pursue their Degree Studies in our De Paul College. Fr. Wilson Kuzhithadathil is appointed as the Acting Rector until Fr. James Azhakedath comes from Germany to assume the office of the Rector and Superior.

Fourteen Minor Seminarians who are admitted for St. Paul Mission and S. H. Region also were welcomed to the Seminary at Edathotty for their interim stay until they will be taken to the respective Seminaries at Ahmed Nagar and Chinnautappilly. Fr. Mathew Malieckal is taking care of them temporarily.

## **VI. ii. 1. Kalichanadukam**

Eighteen new comers have been admitted to the Minor Seminary at Kalichanadukom on May 31, 2015. Fr. Joseph Thazhathemury (Rector), Fr. Sony Edassery (Vice Rector), and Fr. Augustine Padinjarekkuttu are busy with acclimatizing the new comers.

### **Names of the Minor Seminarians, 2015**

<i>Surname</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Diocese</i>
Aravackal Puthuparambil	Joyel Wilson	Thrikkodithanam	Changanassery
Choorathottiyil	Noble Peter	Muthappanpuzha	Tamarassery
Kizhikkaran	Ashik K.V.	Puthukkad	Thrissur





Kochuparambil	Shinto Sabu	Kottathara	Manathavady
Konuran	Sirin Xavier	Naduvattom	Ernakulam Angamaly
Kuriyalassery	Abin K. Joseph	Koodathai	Thamarassery
Kuttikkadan	Christo Stephen	West Chalakudy	Iringalakkuda
Madassery	Figin Retty George	Tabore	Ernakulam Angamaly
Marangattu	Akhil Abraham	Athirumavu	Thalassery
Muthirakalayil	Joice George	Cherukattoor	Manathavady
Njaliyan	Anson Johnson	Amalapuram	Ernakulam Angamaly
Pallurathil	Ajith Tomy	Puravayal	Thalassery
Vadakkan	Nirmal Joseph V.S.	Ayyanthole	Thrissur
Valliyil	Ashil George	Njaralloor	Ernakulam Angamaly
Vayalunkal	Ashil Thomas	Kuppayakode	Thamarassery
Vettukattil	Joms V. Santhosh	Thrikkariyoor	Kothamangalam

## **VI. ii. 2. Blessing of the Mitemula Minor Seminary**

A long cherished dream has been fulfilled with the inauguration and blessing of St. Vincent's Seminary at Mitemula, Uganda on June 13, 2015, the feast day of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. There had been long discussions and plans for the formation of the indigenous seminarians from Africa. As per the decision of the Major Superiors, a land was bought in the Diocese of Masaka at Mitemula under Livule Parish. The foundation stone of the seminary was laid by Fr. Biju Valliparambil VC, the Regional Superior, on 15th March, 2014. The

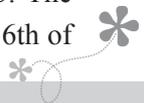




construction was entrusted to the care of Fr. Francis Kochuparambil VC. As the long awaited day came closer the Seminarians and Bro. Linto under the guidance of Fr. Jinu Puthussery, the Rector joined hands with Fr. Francis Kochuparambil worked hard to finish the immediate preparation for the day. All the Vincentian Communities in Uganda also actively involved themselves in all the preparations to make the day colourful. The presence of our Confreres from Tanzania and Kenya on the day was encouraging, and proved the spirit of solidarity. Many dignitaries from different fields, friends and benefactors were invited for the function.

On 13th June, in the presence of all the invited guests and dignitaries the newly built seminary was blessed by Rev. Dr. John Baptist Kaggwa, the Bishop of Masaka and inaugurated by Very. Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva VC, the Provincial Superior. In the Inaugural Mass Vincentian Fathers and the many Diocesans priests concelebrated. In the homily the Bishop expressed his high esteem for the remarkable mission of Late Rev. Fr. Joseph Kurupamprambil VC in the African Continent and he thanked the Provincial team for choosing Masaka Diocese as a main field of mission and establishing three Centers of Vincentian Congregation in Uganda in the Diocese of Masaka. We were blessed by the presence of the Bishop Emeritus of Anglican Church of Uganda and his dean who resides in our neighbourhood. The whole ceremony was attended by a good number of faithful from Luvule parish, where our seminary is located, Kayunga, Kabulassoke and Entebbe. The presence of many distinguished guests including Government officials during the Public Meeting was a sign of the approval of our ministry in Uganda. Our minor seminary can accommodate 30 seminarians.

Seven first year seminarians from East Africa have arrived at the new seminary in Mitemula, on the 1st of July 2015. That makes the total number of the seminarians here in the minor seminary 13. The official opening of the new academic year was held on Monday, 6th of





July 2015 with Eucharistic Celebration officiated by the Vicar General of the Diocese of Masaka. Your prayers and support will surely make us feel encouraged. We welcome you all to the new Seminary, Mitemula, Masaka.

***Educators and Environment:***

*“Educational communities play an essential role in the enrichment of civic and cultural life. It is not enough to analyse and describe reality: there is a need to shape environments of creative thinking, discussions which develop alternatives to current problems, especially today. Faced with the globalisation of a technocratic paradigm which tends to believe that ‘every increase in power means an increase of progress itself, an advance in security, usefulness, welfare and vigour; ... an assimilation of new values into the stream of culture, as if reality, goodness and truth automatically flow from technological and economic power as such’, it is urgent that we keep reflecting on and talking about our current situation. We need to ask ourselves about the kind of culture we want not only for ourselves, but for our children and our grandchildren. We have received this earth as an inheritance, as a gift, in trust. We would do well to ask ourselves: ‘What kind of world do we want to leave behind? What meaning or direction do we want to give to our lives? Why have we been put here? What is the purpose of our work and all our efforts?’”.*

*Pope Francis in Quito, Ecuador on 8th July 2015  
on University education.*





## VII Education and Media

### VII. i. Higher Education

#### 1. DiST, Angamaly

Good News: All the students of our first batch of B.A. Multimedia and Communication have passed the final semester examination in the M. G. University.

#### **New Arrivals:**

Fr Robin Chittuparambil VC has joined DiST as the Asst. Professor in the Department of Multimedia and Communication and also as the Director of Community Animation and Value Education. His presence has already given a new impetus to the Institute especially to the Department and Admissions.

Fr. Samir Macwan has taken charge as the Vice principal in the vacancy of Fr. George Elenjickalputhenthara.

Fr. Jibin Erambil has replaced Fr. Jacob Chirayil as the Director of Hostel

#### **Sad News:**

Two of our students died within a span three days. Charles Chacko of MCA Dual Degree died on 10th June and Ashif M.A. of MBA 13 died on 12th in an accident. The former has just completed the first year of the five year course and the latter has almost completed his MBA. May their souls rest in peace.





## **2. De. Paul Campus, Edathotty**

Last month of the year has been spectacular and splendid period for De Paul Campus Edathotty. De Paul Arts and Science College, a new venture of De Paul Education Trust has celebrated its first Annual Day on 10th April 2015. The chief guest of the function was Mr.VM Vinu, famous Malayalam Film Director.

### **De Home-14**

Mr.VM Vinu has handed over a Cheque of Rs.4,50,000/- to Ms.Josna Joseph, beneficiary of De Home-14. De Home- 14 is a students' initiative of the campus to construct a home for a homeless student of the campus. The project is visualized to construct 10 houses in ten years for the poor students of the campus.

### **Gate of the Campus**

De Paul Campus Edathotty is realizing a beautiful and academic ambience in the campus. As part of the realization of this aspiration we have initiated renovation of De Paul College, beautification of the campus, and construction of common entrance to the campus. The construction of gate is over and opened for usage of the students in the campus.

### **Examinations**

MG University's Off Campus Examinations of B Com and M Com are usually held in a govt. High School Pala. This year we are fortunate to have examination centre in the campus. The annual examinations have started on 25th April and will end by 23rd May 2015. Simultaneously we have II Semester examinations of Kannur University Regular batch.

Website, email id and new phone numbers

We are happy to inform you that website of De Paul Arts and Science College, Edathotty was launched by Mr.VM Vinu.

Website: [depaulkannur.ac.in](http://depaulkannur.ac.in) Email: [depaulkannur@gmail.com](mailto:depaulkannur@gmail.com)

Mob. (office) 9562442408, 9961366321





## **VII. ii. School Annual Exam Results - 100% in SSLC**

Repeating the history two of our schools- De Paul Angamaly and De Paul Choondal- managed to get 100% pass in the last SSLC Exam. In De Paul School Choondal 24 out of 126 students who wrote the exam got full A+. The final list of De Paul Angamaly is yet to come.

Congratulations to the principals and the staff. We appreciate your hard work and commitment!!

### **INDISPENSABLE LEADERS**

*“There exists a great temptation for leaders to believe themselves indispensable, step by step to head towards authoritarianism, to personality cults, and not to allow the communities renewed in the Holy Spirit to thrive. This temptation renders ‘eternal’ the position of those who consider themselves indispensable. ... We must be very clear that only the Holy Spirit is indispensable in the Church and Jesus is the only Lord. There are no others. ... A time limit should be established for roles in the Church, which are in reality a form of service. An important service carried out by lay leaders is to facilitate the growth and the spiritual and pastoral maturity of those who will take their place at the end of their service. It would be opportune for all roles of service in the Church to have a time limit – there are no lifelong leaders in the Church” Pope spoke to the members of the charismatic movement on 3rd July*





## VIII SOCIAL SERVICE

### VIII. i. NEWS FROM ViNSA, Angamaly

Meeting of the Students receiving Educational Scholarships

Vincentian Service Society by upholding its objective 'to provide facilities for the education of the people and to give financial aid to deserving students' helps the students from various parts of the country. In every vacation, under the initiative of ViNSA, VSS arranges various classes to the beneficiaries to motivate them to perform well in their studies. The half day class for the students for educational assistance programme was arranged in the VSS Seminar hall on 6th April 2015. Soon after the inaugural session Smt. Jaya Justy led the class on Positive Thinking. She enriched all the students through the stories and incidents that happened in the society. The objective of the class was to make the students aware of their talents and make use of them to achieve success. The next session was conducted by Mr. Dalin Dias on Body Language. It encouraged the students to use positive body posture in their daily living.

#### **DEFOSCAA MEETING: APRIL 2015**

The Vincentian Service Society (VSS) conducted a gathering of the old aged people on 11-4-2015 as a part of Geriatric Social Work. It was arranged in collaboration with Help Age India. This was the first time that VSS had associated with the NGO called 'Help Age India' and conducted the DEFOSCAA. Rev. Fr. Varghese Perinchery VC delivered the welcome Speech and introduced Mr. Shibin who actively





works in the advocacy Sector of Help Age India. Mr. Shibin spoke about policies and laws in relation with elderly people through Help Age India which aims at paying Care for the Fighting, Isolated, Poor and Neglected Elderly People. Sr. Nicey spoke on the opportunities of the elderly people.

### **Training camp for Women to make Value Added Products**

Under the leadership of ViNSA, Vincentian Service Society arranged a training camp on value added products for women in and around Angamaly on 10th April 2015. The camp was conducted to provide special coaching on making value added products from jack- fruit. The recipes for about fifteen value added products were explained during the session.

Smt. Mary Chithra enriched the all participants about the use of jackfruit and the tree. Soon after this session she taught on the various products such as baji, jam and pickle prepared during News from ViNSA, Angamaly

### **Social Service Directors' Gathering:**

As informed earlier the Department of Social Work of Marymatha Province (ViNSA) convened the province level Local Social Work Directors' meeting on April 26, 2015. The meeting started with the prayer led by Fr. Martin Palatty, Regional Director of Good Shepherd region. Fr. Francis Naduviledath, welcomed the participants and the dignitaries. Fr. Paul Puthuva inaugurated the meeting and gave a short message to motivate the members and encouraged them. The attraction of the meeting was the fruitful discussion led under the leadership of Asst. Prof. Rajeev SP on the theme of scientific perspective of social welfare scheme in the practical field. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Fr. Varghese Perinchery, Director of ViNSA.





## **VIII. ii. Congregation on the Path of Social Work**

(Social Work History Contd)

Social Work is “helping People to help themselves”. This is the shortest definition of ‘Social Work’. It is based on some basic principles, Dignity of man, Individuality of man, Freedom of man, Equality of man, Justice for all. When it is done for realizing a mission with faith and love and without any self interest it is response to the Divine Call.

The primary mission of social work as articulated in the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) code of Ethics says “to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty.” Acceptance of this Vision brought changes in the activities of the Vincentian Congregation also.

1. Social work became a department in the general administration of the Congregation. It is a growth from charity to systematic Social Work. A councilor was elected for the department – Social and Charitable Works. Guide line for the functioning was given in the directory. 3% of income of every house was asked to be given for Social Work – Half to the Province and half to the house level Social Work.

### **2. Members getting trained in Social work**

Fr Mathew Thoyalil, Fr Mathew Vattakuzhy, Fr Thomas Njarackel, Fr Martin Palatty, Fr Norvey Vithyathil, Fr. Varghese Muzhuthett, had formal training in Social work. They studied in different Universities and secured Post graduate Degree or Diploma in Social. Some of them got chances for working in real field and apply the knowledge and skill they gained in the formal training. They planned projects and programs for the department of Social and Charitable work in line with the vision of Professional Social Work.





### **3. Registered Societies:**

Vincentian Service Society at Angamaly and Bhimadole Development Society became active by the year 1978. Both of them gained FCRA and it helped support of foreign aid. Of course they had the responsibility of submitting returns in time according to govt. laws and agency regulations. Other registered Societies are Vincentian Social services Regd. in 1993 (Kottayam); Aiswarya Social Centre Regd. in 1990 (Marayoor); Tamil Nadu Vincentian Charitable Society (2005); Human Development Centre Regd. 1993 (Pala). Some of these societies are active and alive.

### **4. Training program in DiST:**

Starting of Social Work Post graduate Training program in DiST is one step forward for training of professional social workers for the future.

### **5. Social work Projects:**

#### **5.1. Andra Project:**

Vincentian Service Society and Bhimadole Development Society together implemented an integrated Rural Development Project with the support of Karl Kubal Foundation Germany and European Union. The project lasted for Ten (five plus five) years. Thirty villages under Bhimadole Parish was the project area. Fathers and Sisters along with lay people worked in the department of Literacy, Education, Health, Cottage Industries and Agriculture. Women welfare programs, School Dropout Prevention Programs, Child Labor Prevention and Rehabilitation programs, Stabilizer assembling unit, Garment making unit etc. were well appreciated by various Government Departments. BDS received an award from Government agricultural department.

The impact of the project on Eluru Diocese was tremendous. Before starting the project Bishop had an unsatisfactory impression about our work in the parish. In fact he told us straight that we have not developed





the parish like other religious doing the same work. As we started the project his impression changed. Ironically he asked other priests to go to Bhimadole and see whether they too could implement similar projects. He was very happy with our project and development works and was ready to give more opportunity and new centers. He did it, he entrusted property at Pinakadamy for college and seminary. The project gave a boost to our Andhra Mission, no doubt.

## **5.2. Deepthi Project:**

It is a housing Project with a difference. It is a joint venture. Vincentian fathers, CSN Sisters, and a few Laypeople jointly implemented this project with active participation of people. Voluntary agencies working in a particular area may be coming to the same people with their own programs could do better job in case they are doing it jointly. That was the vision behind the joint venture. It was a very successful venture as far as housing is concerned. 25 houses were constructed in the housing area named Deepthi Gramam. Each house with concrete roof is constructed in a plot of 4.5 cents of land. Entire expense was met with the contribution of the 'would be inhabitants'. It is a marvelous example of participatory development work. The role of the Social workers was in resource mobilization, direction and application of new technology in low cost house construction. From the beginning the organizers could create an impression among the people that they were not standing at the receiving end alone; they were involved in all the decision making and construction process. There was no handing over the keys to the beneficiaries at inauguration; just lighting the traditional lamp only.

There was a welfare center - a three storied building) and a Nursery School in the project area. This welfare center was constructed with foreign aid. 200 families living around Deepthi Gramam were supposed to be beneficiaries of this welfare centre. For some time the center functioned actively. Shirt making and food packing etc went on rather well. Marketing side was weak hence production center had to be closed





and space and equipments were rented out. It went on like that for more than ten years. Now efforts are going on to revive the project and run it actively with the cooperation of Vincentian fathers and CSN sisters, with the same vision – Joint venture.

### **5. 3. SSSmile Project:**

The SSSMILE Village, meant for the rehabilitation of people wandering in the streets. They serve the poor and the abandoned, wandering in the streets, by our loving, caring and healing touch - to keep them smiling, having given them the experience of God's tremendous love for them.

The De Paul SSSMILE Village began functioning in Vettikkuzhy on June 13, 2000 in a temporary shed. The official blessing and inauguration of the first three homes of the SSSMILE Village was done by His Beatitude Late Mar Varkey Cardinal Vithayathil, Major Archbishop of Syro-Malabar Church, on 27th Sep. 2000, on the Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul, the heavenly patron of the Village.

The Village is in its infant stage and has a long way to go. They need to build more homes for the homeless; find more volunteers. They have to create facilities for the living of the people who have volunteered to serve them without any salary or remuneration. Children capable of learning will be sent to School.

6. Social work Projects under Divine Retreat Centre: Preaching the word of God was the primary mission of divine retreat centre. Along with preaching Divine started presenting the Word of God in action also. Divine started Welfare / Charitable/ Social work projects and programs for different groups. Once Divine started these works public started supporting them generously. These are the programs and projects undertaken by Divine: Orphanage for junior/ senior boys/girls, Tailoring school, Care centre for people with mental health problems, De addiction and rehabilitation centre,





Home for aged, Home for neglected women and children, Home for AIDS patients and many more.

### **7. Lilian Fonds Project (for handicapped children):**

Fr George Kammattil was the Promoter and he handled this project for a long time. Several handicapped children were given help for treatment and rehabilitation. Fr Antony Kakkanattu also worked as the Promoter.

### **8. Creation of Social Work Network (VINSA):**

It was the vision of Fr Norvey to have a network of all the stake holders of Social Work. An office-set-up was created at Angamaly; new plans and programs were published; there after many things happened. VINSA is supposed to give direction and support to different types of Charitable and welfare works organized in houses.

### **9. De Addiction Program at Angamaly:**

That also was a Joint venture in the social work. Fathers, sisters, few doctors and a few de addiction animators worked together to persuade alcoholics to undergo treatment and join the follow up group. Group meetings, workshops, street play, prayer meetings, counseling sessions etc were the programs. The follow-up group was not an AA group but more of a family group. More than thousand alcoholics joined the group and became free from this menace. That program, fight against an evil, could bring peace and prosperity in that many families.

### **Conclusion:**

Going through the history of the Vincentian Congregation we can see the changes that happened in the value system of members and administrative set-up. New avenues for evangelization got open. Over the years society has changed, Pattern of family has changed. The whole world has changed. Perspective of members regarding Social





Work, one of the means to fulfill the mission of our Congregation also changed. “Yes, well, a lot of water has passed under the Mangalapuzha Bridge since then”. Still some of the members haven’t moved forward from charity concept to Social Work. Charity in the old form will be promoting dependency. The solutions we proposed for yesterdays problems are of no use to today’s problems. Vision of humanitarian work and charity work also has changed.

Department of Social Work of the Vincentian Congregation has promulgated a policy paper to make our works effective in the modern period. Guiding principles of the policy are ‘Dignity of the Human life, equality of man, justice for all, solidarity with suffering people and victims of exploitation, transparency and accountability’. The policy paper gives guidelines for a Coordination committee at the General level and Province level. Finally the policy paper has given possible areas for intervention in the local (house) level. It varies from works of mercy to development projects: Awareness programs to Social action programs. Policy Paper has identified twenty five possible areas for action in houses. Every house can choose suitable programs according to the needs of people. As conclusion, the policy paper states “This Policy will govern the social work program of the Congregation and Provinces. It will be a guide for the administration as well as the confreres in doing social ministry. Ultimately the organization urges all its confreres to establish a standardized and a professional culture fully based on the values of Catholic Social Teachings and teaching and example of St. Vincent de Paul”

Fr Thomas Njarackel VC





## IX

# History of our Houses and Institutions

## **A SHORT HISTORY OF DE PAUL INSTITUTE OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

### **Philosophate in Bangalore– Part II**

#### **Fr. John Vallayil VC**

The second batch of students (19 of them) arrived in Bangalore on 5th April 1995 to attend the contact classes and to appear for the university exams. They had to be accommodated in the farm house with meagre facilities.

Mr. Mathew Koratty, the contractor completed the first phase of the building project (chapel, class rooms, library hall, recreation hall, staff rooms, living rooms for the seminarians, guest rooms, kitchen, refectory etc..) by the end of May 1995. The inauguration and blessing of De Paul Institute of Religion and Philosophy took place on the feast day of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 24th June 1995. His Grace Rt. Rev. Dr. Archbishop Alphonsus Mathias, the Archbishop of Bangalore arrived and was received by the Superior General Very Rev. Fr. Antony Plackal with a bouquet. Fr. Superior General opened the main door by cutting the ribbon. Blessing ceremony took place within the Concelebrated Solemn Holy Mass presided over by the Archbishop. Very Rev. Fr. Superior General formally welcomed the Archbishop and the guests at the beginning of the Holy Eucharist and before the concluding prayer Fr. Rector thanked all those who made the day so beautiful and memorable.





We had over 300 guests attending the function. In fact two special buses were arranged to bring our members from Kerala. It is matter of great joy to mention that two of the pioneers of our Congregation Frs. Jacob Kallarackal and Joseph Thuruthikkatt participated in that memorable event. Very Rev. Fr. Varkey Vithayathil CSSR, the Prior Administrator of Asirvanam Monastery (Later the Archbishop of Ernakulam-Angamaly and then the Major Archbishop of Syro-malabar Church), Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Aykara CMI (the President, Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram), Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Kadankavil CMI (the Rector of Dharmaram College), Rev. Fr. Thomas Manninezhath CMI (Dean to the Faculty of Philosophy, Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram) and Very Rev. Sr. Digna FCC (Provincial Superior of the Clarist Congregation, Sacred Heart Province) were among the dignitaries. Many women and men religious from around Bangalore and so many friends and well-wisher were there to express their solidarity with us. Some major Seminarians from Vincentian Vidyabhavan, Always also were present.

Fr. John Arolichalil who was appointed the vice-rector and procurator of the new Institute arrived from Adaikalapuram on 20th May 1995. A Tempo Trax vehicle that was used at the Generlate was brought for temporary use in Bangalore. Two more members were added to the staff of De Paul on the very same day of its blessing. Fr. James Kokkandathil was transferred from Potta Ashram to take charge as spiritual father and librarian. Fr. Paul Edasseril (24th June 1995 - 24th June 1996) was appointed as fulltime spiritual father and professor. Mr. Baiju Chirayath (Driver), Mr. Sasi Tholkudy (Farm Supervisor) and Mr. John from Adaikalapuram (Cook) joined as the domestic staff<sup>2</sup>. After many years of service John left the job but Baiju and Sasi continued. Now their families are settled in the neighbourhood - Chellaghatta village.

In those days an agreement was made with Provincial Superior of the FCC sisters and the Superior General of the Vincentian Congregation to make available the service of one or two sisters for the philosophate. We have agreed to celebrate Holy Eucharist for the Clare





Bhavan community on week days. Two sisters from the Clare Bhavan Community Rev. Srs. Pancratia and Flowelet (retired teachers) were assigned to look after the library and teaching of Hindi respectively.

The construction of the second phase of the building (the whole of the top floor) continued after a short break. The plan was revised to accommodate 100 seminarians. There was the need for a small auditorium too. It was blessed by Rev. Fr. Antony Plackal, the Superior General in very simple ceremony.

The regular classes were started by the first week of July 1995. Right from the start an elementary course in Kannada language was offered to the seminarians. Many religious and lay people from in and around Bangalore have assisted De Paul in teaching philosophy and other subjects. The help of Frs. Thomas Manickamkuzhy CMI, Thomas Kadankavil CMI, Vineeth Vadakkethala CMI, Mathew Chandrankunnel CMI, James Narithookkil CMI, Thomas Muppanthinchira CMI, Sebastian Alackappally CMI, Mathew Kozhuppakkalam, MSFS, Mathew Kalathingal MSFS, Henry MSFS, Jose Kumblolickal MSFS, George Olivera OFM Cap, Felix D' Souza OFM Cap, Joseph Mathew OFM Cap, Basil OFM Cap, Patrick Crasta OFM Cap, Melvin OFM Cap (Music), Baptist OFM Cap (Music), Salvador Fernandes OFM Cap (Music), A. M. Joseph (St. Peter's Pontifical Institute), Jose Kaippayil MCBS (Jeevalaya), Jacob Manampurath MCBS, Shaji Kochupurayil MCBS, Celetus OSB, Benedict OSB, Boniface OSB, Maurus OSB, James OSB, Joseph OSB (confessors), George Augustine OSB (Music), Bernard OSB (Sp. Direction), Fr. Maurus OSB, Swami Vikrant SDB, some Brothers from Darsan Institute of Theology - Deena Seva Ashram (teaching music and musical instruments - Capuchin Theologate in Kengeri), Rajmohan IMS, Augustine Pamplany CST, George Mattam CMF, Anand Raj OSM, A. M. Joseph (St. Peter's Seminary), Reji Naickamparambil (Malankara Archdiocese of Trivandrum)<sup>3</sup>, Paul Kattukkaran (Thrissur diocese), Paul Vellarackal (Ernakulam-Angamaly Archdiocese), Biju Alappatt (Thrissur diocese),





Anto Cheranthuruthy (Ernakulam-Angamaly Archdioicese), Jose Pennaparambil (Thamarssery Diocese), Paul Kariamadam VC, Antony Plackal VC, Mathew Kachappilly VC, Varghese Parappuram VC, Jacob Arackal VC, Mathew Vattakuzhy VC, Chacko Arayathinal VC, Mathew Paliyakunnel VC, George Arackal VC (Sr.), Paul Thiruthanathy VC, Augustine Vallooran VC (Jr.), Thomas Njarackal VC, John F. Cheriavely VC, George Vettaparambil VC, Joseph Erambil VC, Philip Nedumthuruthy VC, Anto Chittinappilly VC, Augustine Puthenpura VC (music), Varghese Thuruthichira VC, Tomy Punnassery VC, Norvy Vithayathil VC, Shinto Mangalath VC, Charles Kurisseril VC, Rocky Pallipadan VC, James Kuzhivelil VC, Sr. Beena (St. Ann's, Bangalore), Sr. Valsa OP (Music), Sr. Sindhu MSMHC (Pushpasadan), Sr. Marina OSB, Sr. Bincy OSB (Music), Sr. Sheila CMC, Sr. Ajaya MSJ, Prof. V. C. Thomas from Pondicherry University, Mr. Cherian Alexander (Professor in St. Joseph's College), Prof. Antony Williams, Mr. John Varghese, Prof. Sreenivas Rao (Indian Philosophy) Mrs. Flavy, Ms. Aparna Vincent, Mr. Kishor Nair (computer), Mr. Srikumar Varma (Malayalam) and many others have contributed their best to our Seminary.

Rev. Fr. Jacob Kudilungal after his higher studies in Rome arrived on 6th July 1996. He took over as the Dean of studies (first dean of De Paul Institute). In those initial years Frs. James Chelapurath<sup>4</sup> and Thomas Pullosseril who were pursuing their studies in Pune came to Bangalore to give lectures.

One of the saddest moments of the initial years (18th May 1997) was the passing away of Bro. Dileep (Mathew) Pullikkattil, VC (completed first year here) in a very tragic jeep accident on his way back to Bangalore after his summer vacation. He was travelling along with his parents from his village Palakkayam to Palakkad railway station. The burial took place the very next day at the Marymatha Provincial house, Angamaly. He was an ideal and zealous Vincentian who loved all and was loved by all





On 23rd May 1997, Fr. James Kokkandathil bade farewell to De Paul as he was elected one of the Provincial Councillors (Finance Officer) of Marymatha Province. His valuable services are gratefully acknowledged and appreciated. It was on 11th June 1997 that Fr. Thomas Neerolickal joined as the resident staff after his higher studies in Rome. He was made vice-rector on 13th September 1998. Mrs. Flavy began to teach English language here from 16th June 1997 (she still continues to teach). Fr. Mathew Vaniakizhakkal<sup>5</sup> took over as the second rector of De Paul on 7th July 1997. On 15th July 1997 Fr. Thomas Pullosseril too joined the staff. Fr. John Vallayil<sup>6</sup>, who continued to be on the staff as teacher and spiritual father, was transferred to Vincentian Ashram, Angamlay as the Director of De Paul Computer Academy. Meantime Fr. Xavier Kadiyamkutty (residing in Adaikalapuram) was appointed non-resident Spiritual father and later on 29th April 1998 he came to reside in Bangalore. On the very same day Fr. Mathew Arackathottam arrived here as the new Finance Officer taking over from Fr. John Arolichalil. On 5th October 1998 Fr. Sebastian Nediyanil took over as the new finance officer where as Fr. Mathew Arackathottam continued as spiritual father.

Apostolic Visit on 13 and 14th July 1999.

His Excellency Most Rev. Anantharayar, Bishop Ootty and Fr. Aloshious Paul D' Souza were the visitors. It was part of the direction given by the Vatican to visit all the formation houses. They were given a very warm welcome and they celebrated the Holy Eucharist for the community, met the staff and the seminarians in groups and individually, inspected the library and other facilities of the seminary. They also interacted with the representatives of the neighbouring religious communities, former students and a lay representative (Mr. G. Vincent from Upanagar). There was a concluding session for the whole community followed by a prayer session.

His grace Archbishop Ignatius Pinto was the main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist on 27th September 1999, the feast of St. Vincent





de Paul. The valuable service of Fr. Thomas Pullosseril to De Paul Institute came to an end on 29th September 1999 as he moved abroad for his higher studies or so. Fr. George Vettaparambil<sup>7</sup> who returned from Rome after his Doctorate began to give lectures in the Institute from November 1999. Those days Fr. George was doing his ministry as parish priest at Adaikalapuram.

Farewell to the Rector : On 4th March 2000 De Paul gave a very affectionate farewell to the Bishop designate of Satna, Mar Mathew Vaniakizhakkal VC<sup>8</sup>. It was presided over by Mar Mathew and attended by so many priests, religious and friends of De Paul.

Fr. George Arackal (Sr.) the Provincial Superior of St. Joseph's Province delivered the homily. During the farewell meal many felicitated the Bishop. On 6th March he left for Kerala before moving to Satna for the Consecration. During his period Mar Vaniakizhakkal had taken De Paul to greater heights.

Sr. Pancratia FCC<sup>9</sup> who was serving as the Librarian of the Institute from its very inception got transferred and was given a very fitting farewell. She had a very positive influence on many seminarians as they looked up to her for spiritual guidance.

The year 2000 saw many changes in De Paul. The new finance officer Fr. Augustine Kizhakkevalayil reached here from Edathotty on 14th May. Fr. Augustine Padinjarekutt, the new spiritual father reached here from Meenangadi on 30th May. The new rector Fr. George Vadakkekara was cordially welcomed on 1st June 2000. Fr. Varghese Puthussery who returned from Rome with his Doctorate in Philosophy was another addition to the staff. He reached here on 11th June. On 27th June 2000 Rev. Sr. Bernard FCC took charge as the new librarian.

## **Dress code and affiliation**

A cream colour Kurtha was introduced as the official dress of the seminarians at liturgical functions from 30th August 2000. Another





milestone in the growth and development of De Paul Institute was its affiliation<sup>10</sup> to Dharmaram Vidyakshetram, Bangalore to provide B.Ph degree to our students . De Paul is given the freedom to arrange the courses and conduct examinations according to the general norms prescribed by Rome. On 14th February 2001, the necessary official papers were signed between both the Institutes.

## **More appointments**

The news of the election of two of the resident staff members, Frs. Augustine Padinjarekutt and Varghese Puthussery to the General Administration came on 24th April 2001 and fitting farewell was arranged for them on 16th. . Fr. John Kandathinkara joined the staff as spiritual father and professor on 7th June 2001. Frs. James Chelapurath and Rafy Vezhaparambil<sup>11</sup> were warmly welcomed and their arrival gave a great push in the ongoing growth of De Paul. After a very fruitful stint at De Paul, Fr. Mathew Arackathottam<sup>12</sup> moved to Kerala on 23rd June 2001. From the year 2001 onwards one of the students of De Paul Institute is given a chance to present a scientific paper<sup>13</sup> on a philosophical topic in an Academic Seminar conducted every year by the Faculty of Philosophy of Dharmaram Vidyakshetram . After six years of dedicated service to De Paul as formator, dean and Professor Fr. Jacob Kudilungal moved to Potta Ashram on 2nd May 2002 to take up the office of the Director of Popular mission of Marymatha Province. Those years (1996 – 2002) that Fr. Kudilungal spent here at De Paul in its very early stage have contributed definitely a lot in its forward march. His hardworking nature, scholarship, availability, communicating skill, sociability, unassuming nature etc. are thankfully remembered and appreciated. Fr. Rafy Vezhaparambil took over as the new dean.

It was on 1st October 2002 that Fr. John Vallayil began his second term of service in De Paul. In 2002 De Paul acquired 2 acres and 12 guntas of land<sup>14</sup> (a part of Survey No. 59) from one Mr. L. C. Ahsok (C.





Venkatesh who had the power of attorney signed the document). On 3rd June 2003 Fr. George Vadakkekara, the rector completed his term of office at De Paul and moved to Hubli Ashram. A fitting send off was arranged for him quite in advance on 30th April 2003 as summer holidays were approaching. He had taken over from Fr. Mathew Vaniakizhakkal and led De Paul skilfully and efficiently for three years.

Fr. James Chelapurath took over as the new rector and superior of De Paul. Meantime Fr. Augustine Kizhakkevalayil successfully completed his term of office as the finance officer. He too was given a fitting farewell on 22nd May 2003. His multifaceted talents have contributed a lot to De Paul. Samuel Kanathukadu, one of the former students of De Paul was appointed the new finance officer. Fr. Samuel arrived on 16th May 2003 to get acquainted with the new office. Meantime Fr. Paul Kottaram<sup>15</sup> was appointed as the spiritual father and he moved in on 8th June 2003 .

A memorable event that took place on 9th August 2003 was the visit of Archbishop Giuseppe Pittau, S.J. the Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education (for Institutes of Study) along with Msgr. Albin J. Grous<sup>16</sup>, the assistant secretary of the Congregation. They visited De Paul because of its affiliation to DVK, which is an institute under the supervision of the Congregation of Catholic Education. The dignitaries were accorded a very warm welcome and there was a gathering in the auditorium. Our Superior General Very Rev. Fr. George Arackal (Sr.) was present on that occasion. The dignitaries addressed the community.

During the academic year 2004 De Paul admitted some seminarians of the diocese of Satna<sup>17</sup> and some belonging to the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC) and Oblates of the Sacred Heart (OSH). Those students stayed with the Vincentian community. It was on 1st October 2004 that Fr. Francis Alackakunnel who had completed his doctorate in the University of Innsbruck joined the teaching staff of De Paul. Fr. Thomas Neerolickal, after 7 years (1997 – 2004) of dedicated service to De Paul as both Professor and Vice





Rector bade farewell to the Institute on 25th October 2004. De Paul will always be indebted to him for his selfless service in the formation of young seminarians.

## **Seminar:**

Another important event that took place in the forward movement of De Paul is the commencement of Fr. Varkey Kattarath Memorial seminar of October 2004<sup>18</sup>. It was instituted to commemorate the death anniversary of Venerable Fr. Varkey Kattarath the founder of the Vincentian Congregation. This seminar is totally organized by the seminarians on any current topic of philosophical relevance under the guidance of the staff. A member from each batch is entrusted with the task of preparing and presenting a paper. After the presentation of papers and the responses there take place group discussions and seminar day is concluded with a plenary session in the evening.

On 23rd September 2005, De Paul had to relive yet another tragic event that our seminarian Shinto Valooran who was under treatment for Cancer at Amala Cancer Institute, Thrissur passed away. Bro. Shinto was a great gift to the community but God had different plans. May the good Lord grant him eternal rest.

It was on 2nd February 2006 Fr. John Kandathinkara, after 5 years (2001 – 2006) of his devoted service to De Paul moved to take up a greater responsibility in the Province as the rector of Study House at Kothi in Satna. His teaching skill, scholarship, deep erudition in Psychology, experience and insights did make considerable impact in both the spiritual and intellectual life of De Paul. Fr. Joseph Edattu (Sr.) was the next spiritual father to De Paul and he was extended a very warm welcome on 13th February 2006. Fr. Mathew (Manoj) Kannamthadathil arrived on 2nd April 2006 as the new finance Officer. Fr. Samuel bade adieu to De Paul after introducing and entrusting the responsibilities of the office to Fr. Manoj. Fr. Rafy Vezhaparambil<sup>19</sup> handed over the responsibilities of Dean to Fr. Francis Alackakakunnel<sup>20</sup> in April 2006.





The long cherished dream of having a separate chapel for De Paul was approved in the June 2006 by the General Administration under the leadership of Very Rev. Fr. Varghese Puthussery along with the Provincial councils. The plan for the chapel was drawn by Mr. Aswin Shreenivas one of the architects belonging to Mysore Consultants Private Limited under the leadership Mr. S. R. Ramachandra the Managing Director. Phoenix Constructions under the management Mr. Thomas J. Biju Kolakuzhy was contracted for the construction. After procuring the necessary permission from the Local authority on 17th July 2006 the preliminary works for construction began. Very Rev. Fr. Varghese Puthussery, the Superior General laid the foundation stone on 17th August 2006.

Sr. Bernard FCC<sup>21</sup> had served De Paul as the librarian from 2000 June to April 2007. She was given an appropriate send off on 12th April 2007. She was a very quite worker and her valuable services are gratefully acknowledged. Sr. Leena FCC took over the post.

The Quinquennial course for our 68 young priests took place here from 14th to 16th of May 2007. The resource person was Fr. Michael Amaldoss SJ. In the same year (from May 17 – 19) the pre-regency programme too was conducted at De Paul under the guidance of Fr. George Vettaparambil.

Fr. Paul Manithottil<sup>22</sup> after completing his doctoral programme in Germany joined the staff on 25th May 2007. Fr. Paul Kottaram after a stint of three years as both the spiritual father and vice-rector at De Paul moved to Rewa Provincial House on 7th June 2007. His wide-ranging experience in different fields and his great dedication to formation have made a positive impact on the life of De Paul.

The blessing of the new chapel of De Paul took place on 3rd November 2007. Very Rev. Fr. Varghese Puthussery, the Superior General opened the chapel by slicing the ribbon. His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras, the Archbishop of Bangalore blessed the new





chapel and offered the first Holy Eucharist. All the three Provincials, several Vincentians, priests and religious from neighbouring religious communities and guests and friends joined the celebration and shared with us the festal meal. The architects, contractors, workers and all those who were involved in the construction project were duly thanked. The garden around the chapel and the pond beside and the grotto of St. Vincent de Paul were made later and got blessed on 8th April 2009.

After his second stint (2002 – 2008) at De Paul, Fr. John Vallayil moved to Divine Centre Murignoor to take charge as the press manager and to prepare his papers to go to Australia for pastoral ministry. He left on 2nd March 2008. On 20th September 2008 Fr. Varghese Parappuram moved to De Paul as resident spiritual father and professor and he was given a very warm welcome.

In the beginning of May 2009 there was already the move to notify our land in connection with the decision of Karnataka Government to form Nadaprabhu Kempe Gowda Layout. In this connection a preliminary survey was done on 2nd May 2009 and the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA)<sup>23</sup> proceeded to acquire our over 13 acres excluding the built up area. This acquisition procedure was seen as a big blow to the future development of our Institute and accordingly we moved a petition in the Karnataka High Court for the release of the land from acquisition.

The election results of General Synaxis of 2009 necessitated some changes in the staff set up of De Paul. Fr. Varghese Parappuram<sup>24</sup> was elected as the new Superior General. Fr. Joseph Edattu as the Assistant Superior General and Fr. James Chelapurath as one of the General Councillors. Their posts were filled by the appointment of Fr. Francis Alackakunnel and Fr. Abraham Kanjirakonam. On 24th May Fr. Alackakunnel took charge as rector and Fr. Rafy Vezhaparambil as the new Dean of studies. Fr. Kanjirakonam arrived on 2nd June 2009 as spiritual father. Both Frs. Chelapurath and Edattu were given a





very warm adieu on 14th June. Fr. Chelapurth was rector for six long years. He was associated with De Paul from its very inception and his scholarship in Indian thought and Vincentian Spirituality, his wide ranging experience in the field of formation and above all his love for the seminarians have contributed greatly to the development of De Paul into its present stature. The enjoyable presence of Fr. Joseph Edattu (Sr.) in De Paul was only for 3 years. But he has won the hearts of all who came into contact with him.

To compensate the loss of those shining stars from De Paul, she was rewarded with the great company of Fr. Varghese Puthussery the former Superior General. His second stint began with his arrival on 17th June 2009. On 24th June Fr. Paul Pambrayil arrived in De Paul to take charge as the Vice-Rector and professor. He was given a very warm reception. Fr. Cherian Kuttikattu who was appointed as the new Finance Officer arrived on 30th June 2009. The incumbent Finance officer Fr. Manoj introduced and handed over the responsibilities to Fr. Cherian and moved to the St. Joseph's Provincial House on 10th July 2009. To be the Finance Officer of De Paul is a very demanding assignment and Fr. Manoj had done it excellently well for three years.

Day Scholars: In the academic year 2009-10 De Paul began to admit non Vincentians as day-scholars. The first one to be admitted was a Rosminian (Institute of Charity). They have a study house (Rosmini Nikethan) near Asirvanam Benedictine Monastery. In the years following De Paul regularly admitted B. Ph. candidates coming from outside. They included besides Rosminians, the Benedictines of Asirvanam (2010) and the Order of the Servites of Mary (2014).

The modification works that started on 16th November 2009 on the old chapel facilities (Academic Wing) were completed and was blessed by Very Rev. Fr. Varghese Parappuram, the Superior General and officially inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva, the Provincial Superior of Marymatha Province on 13th June 2010. The lecture halls and Dean's Office got shifted to those facilities.





Fr. Augustine Vallooran (Sr.), the new spiritual father was given a very warm reception on 1st June 2010. On 12th August 2010 Fr. Paul Manithottil was given an affectionate farewell and he moved to Kerala on 13th August after a three year period of service. He will be always remembered for his scholarship and open nature. 19th September 2010 marked the arrival of Fr. Jose Thazhathuveetil as a resident staff member.

From January 11 to 13, 2011, there took place a Quinquennial Course here under the leadership of Fr. James Chelapurath, which was attended by 83 young priests. Frs. Shaji Kochuthara CMI and Joy Ullattil SDB were the resource persons.

After ten (2001 – 2011) years of dedicated commitment to De Paul as Professor, Dean and Animator, Fr. Rafy Vezhaparambil moved out of De Paul for Post-doctoral studies. His erudition and scholarship was much acclaimed and appreciated by all in the academic circle of Bangalore. He was a much sought-after teacher and he had presented many scholarly papers in many prestigious institutions. Fr. Jose Thazhathuveetil took over the Deanship.

Fr. Jose Palliyil who had completed his M. Ph. at JDV, Pune joined as one of the resident staff members on 7th April 2011. Fr. Paul Pambrayil after serving De Paul for three years as Vice-Rector and teacher moved to De Paul School, Choondal as its Principal. On 8th June 2011 he was given an affectionate farewell and he left De Paul 9th. On 13th June 2011 Fr. Joshy Kottackal who had completed his doctorate in Rome arrived at De Paul as the new member of the staff.

Another memorable event that took place on 25th September 2011 was the release of a musical album titled “Shine on me Lord” composed by De Paul community. On 2nd November 2011 Fr. John Vallayil returned after his pastoral ministry in Australia and joined the resident staff.





His beatitude Mar George Alanchery, the Major Archbishop of Syro-Malabar Church paid an informal visit to De Paul on 22nd Novemebr 2011. He arrived here in the evening and was given very cordial welcome. He addressed the community in the auditorium and delicious dinner was arranged in his honour. He spoke highly of the ministry of the Vincentian Congregation in the renewal of the Church in India and the Church at large.

Fr. Cherian Kuttikkattu handed over his responsibility as the finance officer to Fr. Jose Palliyil on 12th April 2012 and moved out on 6th May to take up the new assignment at the Novitiate House at Padamugham. Fr. Cherian was an efficient administrator and was a great success in discharging his responsibilities as finance officer.

Fr. George Vettaparambil succeeded Fr. Francis Alackakunnel as the rector. Fr. Francis was to take up pastoral ministry in Switzerland<sup>25</sup>. Fr. Vettaparambil was given a hearty welcome to De Paul on 10th May 2012. After his studies abroad Fr. Vettaparambil was very much associated with De Paul as a regular visiting staff member from Logos, Bangalore.

Fr. Xavier Pongampara, after successfully completing his M.Ph. at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune, joined the staff on 1st June 2012. Since the service of Fr. Jose Thazhatheveetil was requested by his Province, he was relieved from his responsibilities here<sup>26</sup>. Fr. Joshy Kottackal took over the Deanship. In the presence of Very Rev. Fr. Superior General Varghese Parappuram, Frs. Alackakunnel, Thazhatheveetil and Kuttikkattu were given an affectionate send off on 2nd June 2012. From 2004 to 2012 Fr. Alackakunnel had served De Paul in various capacities as Rector, Animator, Dean, Professor and so on.

The news of the election of Fr. George Vettaparambil as one of the General Councillors and the General Finance Officer came on 17th April 2013 and it was received with a mixed feelings of both joy and sadness – joy because one of the staff members is elected to such an important





position; sad because De Paul was losing its beloved rector just after a very short term of one year. The official announcement of Fr. Varghese Puthussery as the new rector was received on 15th May 2013 with great elation and joy. Fr. Varghese Parekkattil moved from Logos parish to De Paul as a resident staff on 2nd June 2013. Meantime following the request from the Provincial Superior, Fr. Xavier Pongampara was relieved from his assignment here for learning German language in view of taking up a ministry in the Vincentian Retreat Centre in Vienna, Austria<sup>27</sup>. The outgoing rector Fr. Vettaparambil was given a very warm farewell on 9th June and he moved to the Generalate. Fr. George always found time to avail his services to De Paul in spite of the various responsibilities he had to handle after his studies abroad. He was so regular in his teaching assignments. Though he could spend just one year in De Paul as rector and resident staff, he has left an unforgettable mark in the hearts of his students in De Paul.

### **Marian Grotto:**

One Mr. Abraham (contractor) from Logos Parish and a generous benefactor of Italy had sponsored this project. The foundation stone for the same was blessed by Fr. Augustine Vallooran (Sr.) on 30th January. The official blessing took place on 15th July 2014 by Rt. Rev. Dr. Bishop Jose Porunnedom, (Bishop of Mananthavady) who was here to inaugurate the Academic year 2014-2015. The statue of Our Lady had been blessed by His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry on 15th February 2014 at his visit accompanied by Msgr. Antony Kollannur (Chancellor of the Curia), Fr. Shaji Kochupurackal MCBS (Secretary to Syro-Malabar Commission for Migrants) and Fr. Riju Veliyil (personal secretary of the Major Archbishop).

In the month of May 2014, De Paul got the good news that Fr. Jose Palliyil has got a scholarship to pursue his PhD in Rome. Accordingly Fr. George Melukunnel was appointed as the new Finance Officer. He arrived here on 19th May 2014 from Vincentian House, Nilambur. A





befitting farewell for Fr. Jose Palliyil was arranged on 25th May 2014. Those three years of service that Fr. Palliyil gave as animator, professor and finance officer will be always remembered gratefully. The latest member to join the resident staff of De Paul was Fr. Roy Varakath<sup>28</sup> who arrived on 11th September 2014.

A judgement of some consolation: After a prolonged court procedure, the Honourable High Court gave a verdict on 11th July 2014 quashing the BDA acquisition procedure in developing the Nada Prabhu Kempe Gowda layout. This in fact was a great relief for us.

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1. *Later this farm house served as temporary residence to some CMI seminarians and priests belonging to Mysore Province who were doing university studies in Bangalore. With a view of establishing a house around here Brothers of St. John of God from Kattappana made use of the farm house. Once their facility was ready they moved out and incidently they had to sell the land and other facilities and move out of this area. Fathers belonging to the Heralds of Good News (HGN) made use of the farm house for a while for accommodation while the construction of their new house near Ashirvanam was going on. Currently two of our cooks and their families live in the farm house.*

2. *After many years of dedicated service at the Institute, they were transferred. In the meantime both of them have passed away and their valuable service for the Institute is gratefully acknowledged and appreciated and pray that the Good Lord grant them eternal rest.*

3. *Now he is His Excellency Dr. Thomas Mar Eusebius the first bishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Exarchate in the United States.*

4. *On 5th February 1998 Fr. Chelapurath defended his doctoral dissertation in Pune University. His doctorate was in Sanskrit Language.*

5. *He was the former Provincial Superior of St. Thomas Provinc. From De Paul, Fr. Mathew Vaniakizhakkal was appointed the Bishop of Satna in M.P.*





6. *Fr. Vallayil left De Paul on 1st March 1998.*
7. *Fr. George Vettaparambil continued to teach at De Paul as a visiting faculty until he was appointed rector of De Paul Institute in 2012. Again In 2013 he was elected as one of the General Counsellors and moved to Edappally. His valuable service is even now available to De Paul.*
8. *Fr. Rector Mathew Vaniakizhakkal was consecrated Bishop of Satna on 12th April 2000 by His Eminence Varkey Cardinal Vithayathi (the Major Archbishop of Syro-malabar Church). Most of the Fathers and some of the sisters from Clare Bhavan, Lioba Sadan, some seminarins from De Paul and Mr. G. Vincent from Upanagar participated in the function in Satna.*
9. *From Bangalore she moved to Thrikkakara FCC convent and then to Angamaly. Sr. Pancratia passed away on 11th January 2007 and was buried at Angamaly FCC convent chapel.*
10. *This was done after a very long communication between the Pontifical Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome. They have assessed our facilities, library, resource personnel, and track record and so on.*
11. *Fr. Rafy had completed his Doctorate in Philosophy at the prestigious University of Leuven in Belgium. His specialization is the Philosophy of Edmund Husserl, a renowned German philosopher.*
12. *Fr. Arcakathottam will ever be remembered for his unassuming personality, hardworking nature, sense of humour, positive outlook and unquenchable thirst for knowledge.*
13. *In 2001 the paper was presented by Bro. Martin Chittadiyil VC and the paper was very well appreciated. This tradition continues till today.*
14. *As a matter of fact the main entry from the Byrohally Road to De Paul was through this land.*
15. *Later on 7th October 2004 he took over as the new Vice-Rector from Fr. Thomas Neerolickal.*
16. *Msgr. Grous visited De Paul yet another time on 29th October 2007. On that occasion he conducted an informal dialogue with the seminarians.*





17. During the academic years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 De Paul admitted some candidates from Satna diocese and from the religious communities of OSH and CFIC. But later this practice was discontinued.

18. This seminar takes place every year in the month of October.

19. Fr. Rafy was the Dean of the Institute from 2002. During his deanship he could raise the academic standard of De Paul. His creativity and erudition have contributed a lot in organizing and introducing various useful courses.

20. In the beginning of his tenure as Dean Fr. Francis being an artist himself took the initiative to design a meaningful emblem for the Institute. This emblem spells out the motto of the Institute: Satyena Mukti ("Truth shall make you free" Jn. 8.32).

21. Sr. Bernard had a severe stroke and was under treatment at Sanjo Hospital in Perumbavoor. She passed away on 29th March 2014 and is buried at the FCC Convent cemetery at Perumbavoor, Kerala.

22. Fr. Paul's doctoral thesis, **Difference at the Origin** was published on 12th March 2008. It is Derrida's critique of Heidegger's Philosophy of art.

23. BDA wanted to create a new layout in this area (Nada Prabhu Kempe Gowda layout) for future expansion of the city of Bengaluru.

24. Send off celebration to Fr. Varghese Parappuram who was elected the new Superior General took place on 23rd July 2009, during one of his visits here. His short stint (2008 – 2009) De Paul is gratefully remembered and appreciated. Fr. Varghese is always an integral part of De Paul.

25. Fr. Francis has committed to give some lectures every year at De Paul during his holidays. That is something great.

26. Province wanted his service to take up a new centre in Germany in the diocese of Trier. During his short vacation, Fr. Jose always finds time to give a course at De Paul. This shows how much he loves De Paul.

27. A formal farewell was arranged in honour of Fr. Xavier on 16th February 2014.

28. Fr. Roy has very successfully completed his doctorate in Philosophy from the Pontifical Institute of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome.





### **A LITTLE ACT OF CHARITY**

*There are a number of minority scholarship schemes which the Government of India provide to Christian students under the SCHOLARSHIP AND NAI UDAAN SCHEMES UNDER MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (MOMA). It shall be an act of charity and social work to make the parents aware of them by referring to MOMA website [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in) .*

*Eligibility: In all schemes the marks in the previous final examination shall not be less than 50% .*

*1. For class 1-X - parents' annual income shall not be more than Rs. 1 lakh.*

*2. For studies in higher secondary school/ college/ university/ technical and vocational courses in ITI / ITC the parental annual income should not exceed Rs. 2 lakhs.*

*Reimbursement per annum: For the first category Rs. 6,000 – 10,000. Last date of application: 31 July 2015. For the second category Rs.10,800 – 15,500. Last date for application is 30/9/2015.*

*For Merit-cum-means Scholarship for professional and technical courses on the basis of a competitive examination the parental annual income shall not exceed Rs. 2.5 lakhs. The Reimbursement per annum shall be Rs 25,000 for day scholar and Rs.30,000/- for hostler. Apply by 30/9/2015.*

*All applications are to be submitted online through [www.momasholarship.gov.in](http://www.momasholarship.gov.in) or [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in) or [www.scholarships.gov.in](http://www.scholarships.gov.in) .*





## X Popular Mission & Retreats

### x. i. 1. Marymatha Province

- News from Divine Prayer Center, Mangalore

The prayer hall of Divine Prayer Centre at Mangalore was blessed by His Excellency Mar Lawrence Mukkuzhy on 19th April 2015. Fr. Paul Parekkattil, Provincial Councilor for Retreats, was present for the ceremony. The inauguration ceremony of the prayer hall was officiated by Msgr. Dennis Prabhu, Vicar General of Mangalore Diocese. U.T. Khader, the honorable Health Minister of Karnataka along with J.R. Lobo, MLA, were present for the function.

Kindly open the following link to view the photos:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/118137080623075048348/BlessingMangalorePrayerHall?authkey=Gv1sRgCLul2viJmPPIow&feat=email>

Popular Mission was conducted at St. Mary's Parish Chippilithode, Thamarassery Diocese, from May 3. Fr. Derbil Eattikkattil and Fr. Paul Pallichamkudiyil were the preachers.

### X. i. 2. Divine Retreat Centre Muringoor (English Campus)

#### Training Programme for the Lay Preachers

An updating course for the Lay Preachers of our Retreat Centres was conducted in the English Campus, DRC Muringoor, from June 19 to 21, 2015. 76 participants from Tabor (Kalyan), Faridabad, Coimbatore, Potta





Ashram, and Divine, Muringoor attended the training programme. The updating course was inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva, the Provincial Superior, with the Eucharistic Celebration. The facilitators were Rev. Dr. Michael Karimattam, Rev. Dr. Paul Mundolickal, Rev. Dr. Philip Thayil, Rev. Dr. John Cheriavely, Fr. Anto Kannampuzha, and Fr. Paul Parekkattil. Fr. James Kallumkal, the Superior of Divine Muringoor and Fr. Jose Pazheveetil, the Administrator (English Campus), Divine Muringoor celebrated Holy Eucharist. Most of the participants expressed their gratitude for arranging such a programme and requested to have it at regular intervals.

### **X. i. 3. Good Shepherd Region:**

A retreat was held in Rajahmundry Parish in the Archdiocese of Vishakhapatnam.

### **X. i. 4. Vincentian Retreat Centre, Toronto**

On June 5, 2015 almost 650 people including immigrants from 40 countries attended the one day prayer Service in the Retreat Centre. To promote devotion to Sacred heart pictures of Sacred heart was distributed to the people and families and nation were consecrated to the Sacred heart of Jesus. The increasing number of the participants is a sign of the thirst and hunger of the people for the word of God, and an appreciation for the Vincentian Ministry.

Week End Retreat: Though with a short notice 160 people attended the week end retreat.

Children's Retreat: A children's Retreat was conducted in the centre for the first time, and 60 students from St. Leo School (7-9th grades) attended the same. This attempt becomes relevant at the wake of the directives of the Ontario Education System which imposes sex education and other curriculum detrimental to the Catholic moral values. Such retreats are expected to give a healthy spiritual basis for the students in the backdrop of the present day moral decay.





As a preliminary step to transfer the Centre in to the name of the Congregation, we have to get the Congregation registered in Canada and the process is going on. Please pray for the smooth running of this process.

## **X. ii. St. Thomas Province**

### **X. ii.1. News from Divine Renewal Retreat Center, Margherita**

Retreat Programme: In the month of March, we conducted 3 Bible Conventions, 2 Parish Retreats, 3 Residential Retreats, 5 Night Vigils and few one Day Programme. Thousands of people participated in the Retreats and received an abundant blessing of the Lord.

In May, we conducted three special residential retreats: Retreat for Workers (3-6 May), Retreat for Mothers (10-13 May) and Pentecost Fasting Retreat (21-24 May). Thousands of people participated in these retreats and received abundant Blessings from the Lord.

A Bible convention was conducted at Attabari in Dibrugarh where two thousand people participated in it and majority of them were Non-Christians. Besides these, we conducted a few Night Vigils and one day programme in the month of May.

### **Forthcoming Programme of divine Renewal Retreat Centre, Margherita:-**

June 4.	Night Vigil, Bimlapur	5. First Friday Programme
7-10	General residential retreat Fellowship Day	13 Divine Youth
13.	One Day Convention, Nagaland	13 Night Vigil, Rajanagar
14-17	Childless Couples Retreat	20 Night Vigil, Khubang
30	Night Vigil July 2015	
1-4	Parish Retreat, Sreekantapuram	2 Night Vigil, Bimlapur
5-8	General Residential Retreat	





11	One Day Convention, Nagaland	11 Night Vigil, Rajanagar
12-16	Special Youth Retreat	18 Night Vigil, Khubang
19-23	Parish Retreat, Tinsukia,	
26-31	Priests and Religious Retreats	31 Night Vigil

### **X. iii. St. Joseph Province:**

St. Mary's Church, Bharananganam in the diocese of Pala joined for a Popular Mission Retreat in the last week of April. The preachers were: Frs. Jomon Kaipadakunnel, Jerish Kunnackattu, Tony Moonnupeedikackal, Shinto Mangalathu, Sam Koonamplackil and Sebastian Chooranlickal. Rev. Deacons and Post-Regency Seminarians also joined for the retreat.

### **Parithrana Retreat Centre, Adichira:**

Divine mercy convention is going on at Adichira Parithrana Retreat centre also. A good number of people are participating in it every day.

Divine Mercy Retreat centre, Elavur: A grand convention is going on at divine mercy retreat centre, Elavur for three days as part of divine mercy feast. A good number of faithful are attending the convention.

### **X. iv. Rome: Worldwide Priests' Retreat**

"Called to Holiness for a New Evangelization" was the general theme of the 3rd Worldwide Priests' Retreat held at St. John Lateran Basilica, Rome, on 10-14 June 2015. We had a very good and vibrant group of participants of 1300 (priests & bishops) from more than 90 countries. We, 9 VCs working/studying in 7 countries - India, Australia, Kenya, UK, Germany, USA & Italy - were fortunate to attend this retreat organized by ICCRS and Catholic Fraternity Communities (CFCCCF).

The presence of the VCs in the retreat was highlighted in golden colours with the testimony of Rev. Fr. Mathew Naickomparambil on the very first day of the retreat. I quote his own words: "my life and priestly ministry have completely changed ever since I attended the first





Worldwide Priests' Retreat held in Rome in 1984 after 8 years of my ordination.... I experienced a great anointing of the Holy Spirit during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the 4th day of the retreat.... On that day, I received the greatest gift in my priestly life after 8 years of my ordination. .... I could experience a great thrust and enthusiasm of a new evangelization after that retreat.”

The entire retreat was based on *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis, where he stresses “the Church’s primary mission of evangelization in the modern world.” Each day was focused on a special theme taken from *Evangelii Gaudium*, such as, ‘gathered,’ ‘reconciled,’ ‘transformed,’ ‘empowered’ and ‘sent for a new evangelization.’ We were blessed with the presence of the Cardinals who presided over the Eucharist on the days of the retreat.

On the solemnity of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Holy Father was seen very happy and excited. His Holiness greeted personally as many as he could on the arrival as well at the departure from the basilica. We, the Vincentians, were privileged to personally greet His Holiness by kissing his hands. He exhorted all the priests gathered to be “transformed by love and for love.”

Another blessing of the retreat was that all the Keralites participated in the retreat could find a time to gather together to pray under the guidance of Fr. Mathew Naickomparambil. After the introductory and sharing session we praised and thanked the Lord, and interceded for the whole world.

By God’s grace we were blessed to have the opportunity to celebrate the Holy Eucharist at the Polish Chapel of Our Lady of Czestochowa - Vatican Grottoes (Popes Tombs/underground graveyard/crypt) beneath St. Peter’s Basilica on 15 June. The Latin rite English Mass was presided over by Fr. Pius Kodakkathanath. On the same evening we, as members of the same family, gathered in the V.H., Rome, and shared our brotherly love and Koinonia.



**Evangelization:**

*“Evangelisation can be a way to unite our hopes, concerns, ideals and even utopian visions. We believe this and we make it our cry. In our world, especially in some countries, different forms of war and conflict are re-emerging, yet we Christians wish to remain steadfast in our intention to respect others, to heal wounds, to build bridges, to strengthen relationships and to bear one another’s burdens. The desire for unity involves the delightful and comforting joy of evangelising, the conviction that we have an immense treasure to share, one which grows stronger from being shared, and becomes ever more sensitive to the needs of others. Hence the need to work for inclusivity at every level, to strive for this inclusivity at every level, to avoid forms of selfishness, to build communication and dialogue, to encourage collaboration. We need to give our hearts to our companions along the way, without suspicion or distrust. Trusting others is an art, because peace is an art. Our unity can hardly shine forth if spiritual worldliness makes us feud among ourselves in a futile quest for power, prestige, pleasure or economic security. And this on the backs of the poorest, the most excluded and vulnerable, those who still keep their dignity despite daily blows against it.*

*Evangelisation does not consist in proselytising, for proselytising is a caricature of evangelisation, but rather evangelising entails attracting by our witness those who are far off, it means humbly drawing near to those who feel distant from God in the Church, drawing near to those who feel judged and condemned. The Church’s mission as sacrament of salvation also has to do with her identity as a pilgrim people called to embrace all the nations of the earth.” The Pope in Ecuador on 8th July 2015.*





## **XI** The Thottakom Case

Prelude: 1. The Thottakom Kovenda and the Kovenda Church was established on 20th Nov. 1904.

2. Canon law is the personal law of Catholics. All Catholics are bound by the canon law.

CCEO 509 #2: The matters mentioned in can.437 shall apply to houses of orders and congregations.

Canon law (CCEO) 437#1 (cfr. CIC 611). The permission for erecting a monastery, even a dependent one, includes with it the permission to have a church and to perform sacred ministries as well as to carry out religious works proper to the monastery in accordance with the norm of the typicon, without prejudice to the conditions lawfully stipulated in the document of erection.

The Thottakom Kovenda Church was made a temporary parish church in 1919, by Mar Aloysius Pazheparambil, the Administrator Apostolic of Ernakulam.

CCEO 280 #2. It is the competency of the eparchial bishop to erect, modify and suppress parishes after consulting the presbyteral council.

CCEO 282 #1: The eparchial bishop, but not the administrator of an eparchy, after consulting the presbyteral council, and with the consent of the major superior of a religious institute or society of common life in the manner of religious, can erect a parish in the church of the same





institute or society with due regard for canon 480. ( Canon 480: A parish cannot be established in the church if a monastery, nor can monks be appointed pastors without the permission of the patriarch within the territorial boundaries of the church over which he presides, or in other case of the Apostolic See.)

CCEO 284 #1: The right of naming pastors belongs solely to the eparchial bishop, who freely names them. #2: To entrust a parish to a member of religious institute or society of common life in the manner of religious, the major superior is to propose a suitable priest of his institute to the eparchial bishop for appointment, with due regard for agreements entered into with the eparchial bishop or authority determined by the particular law of the church sui juris.

The Thottakom parish church is formed and administered as per the laws of the catholic church (Code of canons for the Oriental Churches) and according to the particular laws of the Syro-Malabar Church, Sui Juris and the particular rules of the Ernakulam-Angamaly ach-diocese. The Thottakaom Church has a scheme of administration – Vicar, Kaikkarans, Parish Council and Pothuyogam.

The Thottakom Parish was established in the Thottakom Kovenda Church in accordance with the prescriptions of the Canon Law (CCEO) no.284 #2 (CIC 811), in 1919. Till then it was only a Kovenda Church, fully owned by the Kovenda and it has become a parish church too where the faithful have the right for Spiritual Services as in any other parish. It in no way means that the Kovenda church has lost its existence. The parish is an addition.

The Vicar (Pastor) is appointed according to the provision of canon law (CCEO) no 224 #2 (CIC 682 #1). The Major Superior will present a priest of his community to the bishop for appointment as vicar and





the Bishop appoints him as the vicar (pastor) of the parish. This rule is very important. It means that as long as the parish is attached to a Kovenda (Monastery) church, the bishop cannot appoint any priest other than the one presented by the Major Superior. Therefore the plea for a diocesan priest to be appointed as vicar of Thottakom parish is illegal and in no way possible. The only way to achieve the plan is to delink the parish from the Kovenda Church, which is in the authority of the Bishop according to Canon (CCEO) no. 280 #2.

We have to keep in mind that the Thottakom parish was established as a temporary parish for 41 families of Thottakom in 1919 and though about 95 years have already passed and the number of families in the parish has increased beyond 300, the parishioners could not make a permanent Parish church of their own, due to many reasons. Therefore, if they wish to have a parish of their own let them accept the generous offer of very Rev. Fr. Paul Puthuva, the provincial and a separate church be built for the parish in its own land and they can have a diocesan priest as vicar. And eventually the Thottakom Kovenda Church will be free from the obligations of the parish.

## II

There is an important law concerning the offerings or pious foundations. CCEO no. 1016 says: “The intentions of the Christian faithful who give or leave their goods to pious causes whether by an act that becomes effective during life or at death, once they have been lawfully accepted, are to be scrupulously fulfilled even as regards the manner of administration and distribution of the goods, without prejudice to the provisions of canon 1045#1 (which says: “The hierarch is the executor of all pious wills, whether they may be made during life or on the occasion of death”).

### **Fulfillment of pious wills**

“The wishes of the faithful who give or leave their goods (property) to pious causes, whether by an act *inter vivos* or by one *mortis causa*,





are to be carried out most diligently even regarding the manner of administering and spending the gifts, safeguarding only the rights of the Ordinary as laid down in canon (CIC)1515 (CIC1514). In this canon the Church enunciates a fundamental principle upon which she has always insisted, namely the careful and exact carrying out of the wishes of the faithful who makes bequest to pious causes. Undoubtedly the obligation is a grave one, both at law and in conscience.” (Ref.P.798; Canon Law, A text and Commentary by T. Lincoln Bouscaren S.J. and Adam C. Ellis S.J.)

Five registered sale deeds (see pages 18 – 26 of “Thottakom Kovendayum Palliyum” by Fr. Joseph Pampackal VC) clearly state the land is given to Mar Louis Pazheparambil, the then Apostolic Administrator of Ernakulam Vicariate by the respective persons for establishing a kovenda and eventually to offer Masses from the kovenda for their intentions. In compliance with the intentions of the donors, Mar Louis established the Kovenda at Thottakom through Very Rev. Fr. Varkey Kattarath, the then vicar of Vaikom Church.

It is to be noted that the land though registered in the name of the Vicar Apostolic of Ernakulam Vicariate, it is not for the Vicariate or for any other institution than a Kovenda in Thottakom. Therefore the land mentioned in the aforesaid documents now belongs to the Thottakpm Kovenda established by Mar Lois Pazheparambil, who was responsible to execute the will of the donors. So the Thottakom Parish Church or parishioners do not have any right in those properties given for the Kovenda, by their ancestors.

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Note: CCEO = code of canons of the easern churches

CIC = code of canon law





## **Annexure**

### **Prescription**

CCEO 1017 says thus: “The Church also admits prescription for temporal goods according to the norms of can.1540 – 1542 “

CCEO 1540: The Church accepts prescription as it exists in the civil legislation as a means of acquiring or losing a subjective right and of freeing oneself from obligations, unless otherwise established by common law.

CCEO 1019 says: “Immovable property, precious movable property, that is those things which are especially important due to artistic, historical or material value, personal or real rights and claims, which belong to the Apostolic see, are prescribed after a period of one hundred years; those which belong to some Church sui juris or to an eparchy are prescribed after a period of fifty years; those which belong to another juridic person are prescribed after a period of thirty years”.

*N.B. 1. Already 110 years has elapsed since the Kovenda was established and that Kovenda is in possession of the land and property given for the Kovenda, since then.*

*CCEO 423: A monastery, monastic confederation, order and congregation and their provinces and houses, legitimately erected are by law itself Juridic persons. Their capacity, however, of acquiring, possessing, administering or alienating temporal property can be excluded or limited by the typicon or statutes.*

