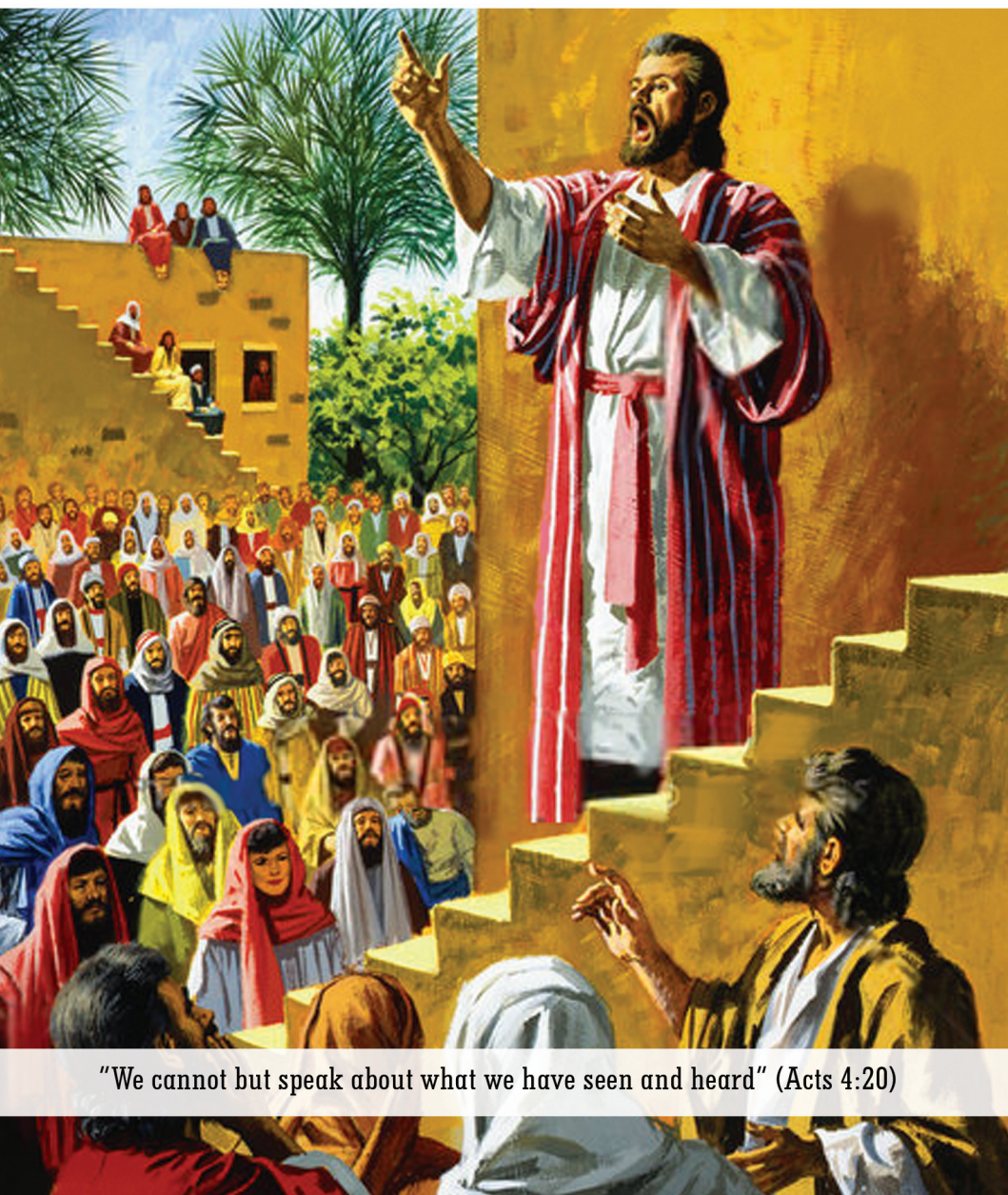




MST World

MST News Bulletin 03/21

Mission Sunday 2021



"We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20)

Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee



Fr Kannathukuzhy Joseph
5 January 1972

Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee



Fr Muthumakkal George
26 December 1996



Fr Puthusseril Kuriakose
26 December 1996



Fr Thonikuzhiyil Augustine
26 December 1996



Fr Palappurath Benedict
29 December 1996



Fr Kulathupurayidom Jacob
1 January 1997



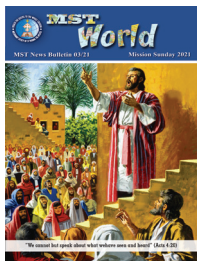
Fr Arthanakunnel Joseph
28 December 1996



Fr Vanderkunnel Alexander
2 January 1997



Fr Chakiriamthadam Joseph
3 January 1997



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Cover Picture: Painting of the missionary preaching of St Peter at Pentecost

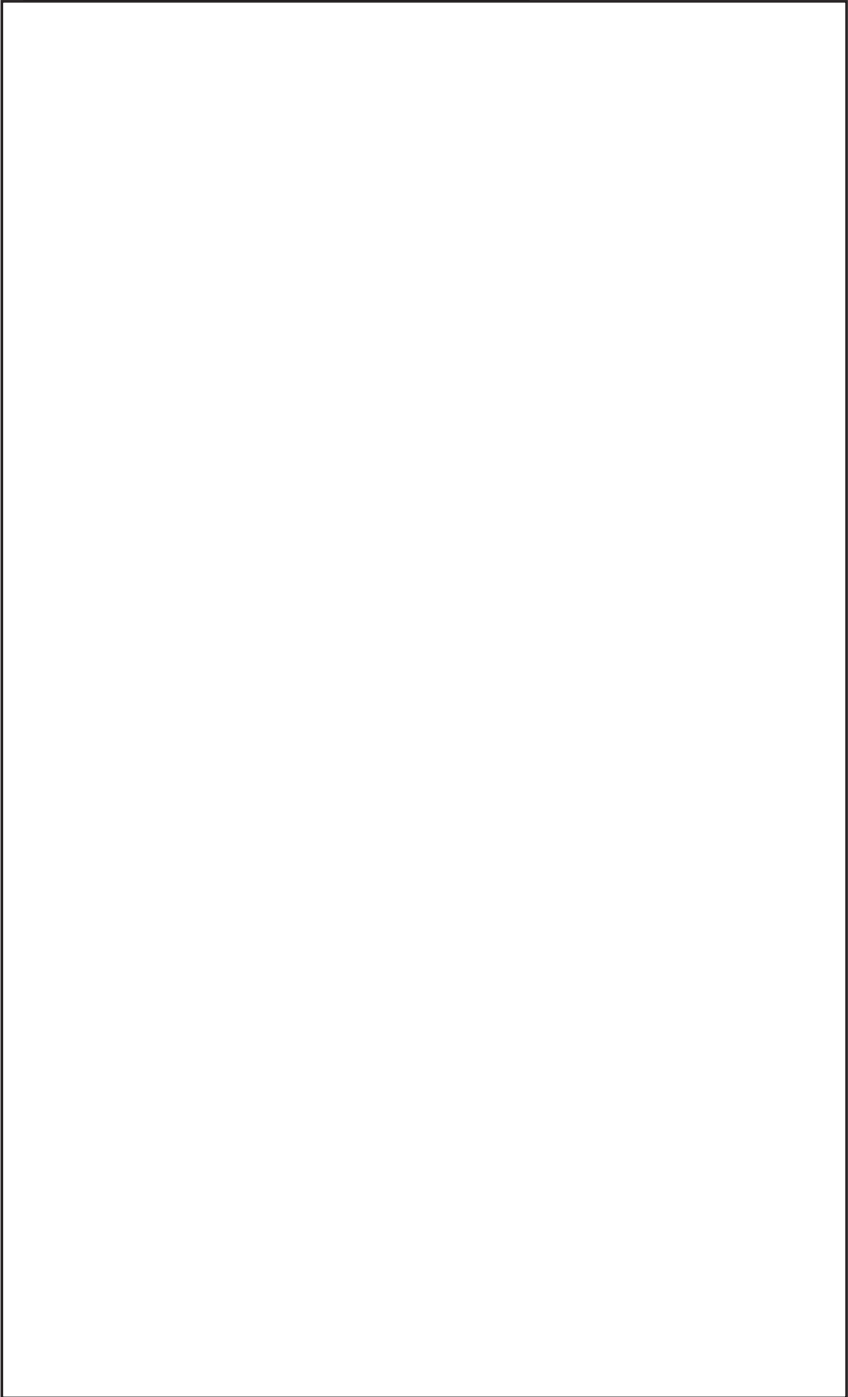
Artist: Peter Schmidt (1741-1812), Germany

Description: Peter preaches to the crowds in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, a painting of 1783

Courtesy: Lifeway Collection







II. NEWS FROM THE GENERALATE

(From 20 July – 10 October 2021)

1. Vestition and Temporary Promise of Incorporation

On 3 July 2021 – the Dukhrana of our heavenly Patron St Thomas the Apostle, 18 seminarians who have been promoted from MOC were solemnly admitted to the Society after they made the temporary promise of incorporation before the Director General. All of them were sent to Ruhahaya for Philosophy studies. They are:

1. Attuchalil Abraham (Jison Sebastian)
2. Avimoottil Joseph (Jibin Baby)
3. Chakkalackal Joseph (Dominic Shaji)
4. Chollampuzha Abraham (Abin Abraham)
5. Kakkaniyil Mathew (Linto Charley)
6. Kallikadan Lazar (Edison Sebastian)
7. Karakkattu Joseph (Ben K. Shibu)
8. Kolamkuzhyil Mathew (Martin K. Roy)
9. Komath Rockey (Adarsh Rockey Francis)
10. Manayathukudy Joseph (Abin Biju)
11. Maannarmattathil Rockey (Abilash George)
12. Marottikkuzhyil Ulahannan (Alvin John)
13. Nedunganal Joseph (Sebin Thomas)
14. Parakkattu Martin (Biljo Mathew)



15. Pariyathottathil Joseph (Justin Joseph)

16. Urumbil Joseph (Joyal Joy)

17. Vadakkedath Joseph (Jomal Joseph)

18. Vadayanezhath Alex (Alex Mathew)

On the same day, eight seminarians who were doing regency in the past year made the renewal of their temporary promise of incorporation and received the priestly cassock. All of them were



promoted to the next stage of formation in Ruhalya for theology studies. They are:

1. Kanjirathamkunnel Sebastian (Abin Sunny)

2. Makkiyil Chacko (Amal Sebastian)

3. Paruthickal Simon (Binil Varghese)

4. Thadathil Joseph (Ajith Joseph)

5. Vazheparambil Jithin Michael (Alex)

6. Velloor Mathew (Gintumon James)

7. Vembenickal Joseph (Joseph V.J.)

8. Vettukallel Michael (Michael Mathew)

2. Silver Jubilee of Ruhalya (Theology)

Theology section of Ruhalya Major Seminary celebrates its silver jubilee (1997-2022) this year. The beginning of the jubilee celebrations took place on 4 August 2021, inaugurated by His

Excellency Mar Sebastian Vadakel in the presence of Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of the MST in a simple manner. His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry is invited for the conclusion of the jubilee scheduled on 25 November 2021. Due to the situations of the pandemic Covid-19, the jubilee celebrations are very minimal and simple.

Let us take this opportunity of silver jubilee to thank God for the kind of progress and contributions made by the seminary in the formation of 312 priests to the Church. We are indebted to the ecclesiastical authorities, eparchial bishops, visiting faculty, benefactors, students, neighbouring communities and very specially to the Eparchy of Ujjain for all their support to the seminary in varied ways. The Rectors, staff and other formators who served/serve the seminary in the past and present deserve our special appreciation and gratitude in facilitating its growth. Unitedly as a family, let us wish jubilee greetings to Ruhalaya and pray that it rightfully fulfils the mission of training future missionaries relevant to the times. An evaluation of the formation programme of Ruhalaya is being planned to be conducted after the jubilee celebrations.

3. Plenary Council – 2021



The Plenary Council of the present tenure of administration in the MST was held for five days from 4 to 8 October 2021, at Deepti Bhavan. The Council consisted of 20 members including six elected delegates and 14 ex-officio members. The meeting formally began at 10.00 a.m. on Monday 4 October with the welcome and inaugural address by the Director General. Rev. Fr Roy Pullatt was elected as the secretary of the Plenary Council.



A general briefing on the mission regions, delegations, coordination and the seminaries were done in the first four sessions of the plenary council by the respective representatives present. The rest of the sessions engaged discussions on the items of the agenda of the Council which were codified by the Secretary General and other items directly received by the Director General. During the morning sessions of the final day, the minutes of the discussions were presented by the elected secretary. The Council concluded with the formal closing message of the Director General at the end of which he declared that having fulfilled the required formalities, the plenary council of present tenure of administration is concluded. Thus the plenary council-2021 came to a close by 2.00 p.m. on Friday 8 October 2021. Copies of the report of the Council will be sent to all the members when it is made ready by the elected secretary.

4. New Schedule of Extraordinary General Assembly

The Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) which was convoked on 25 February 2021, had scheduled to start its sessions on 15 September 2021. The procedures for the EGA like the election of

the delegates by the election committee, and the compilation of the agenda by the agenda committee are done in time. The copies of the agenda for the EGA are already circulated electronically to all members of the MST and the printed copies are delivered to all delegates of the assembly.

However, considering several limitations of the present context the schedule of the Extraordinary General Assembly is postponed to **15 March 2022**. The delegates of the EGA shall arrive at Deepti Bhavan latest by 4.00 p.m. on 15 March 2022. The EGA will formally start by 6.00 p.m. with the inaugural session and will continue until it finishes its agenda.

Other than the uncertainty of the third wave of Covid-19, other factors that compelled the postponement of the EGA include: the unfinished extension/renovation works at the Generalate due to heavy rain-falls and lockdowns, and the inconvenience for the delegates from our seminaries (11 delegates) to attend the assembly during the academic year. Let us earnestly pray for the smooth conduct in the new schedule. This information was already shared to all of you through a special circular (Circular No. X/24) dated 1 August 2021 and is appended to this bulletin.

5. Aligning the District of Nagpur with St Paul Region, Ujjain

Based on the discussions held during the joint meeting of the Regional Councils and the Central Council held between 27-28 January 2020 and with the consent of the General Council and in consultation with the Regional Directors of St Paul and St Alphonsa Regions, the territorial boundaries of St Paul Region and St Alphonsa Region have been modified by aligning the civil district of Nagpur (Maharashtra) with St Paul Region, separating it from St Alphonsa Region that it originally belonged to. This arrangement is in the context of the territorial modification of the Regions effected through the contract between the Eparchy of Shamshabad and the MST on 3 July 2020 which resulted in the extension of St Paul Region bordering the district of Nagpur. Geographically, the city of Nagpur is closer to Ujjain than to Kolhapur. By appending Nagpur to St Paul Region,

the missionary involvement already initiated by St Paul Region in Nagpur (started in January 2020) would receive momentum to plan its programmes in a formal setting. The above rearrangement in the territorial boundaries of the two Mission Regions came into effect on 23 August 2021.

6. Samvet and Maliparampil Memorial Webinar -2021

Samvet and Maliparampil memorial webinar was held from 19-21 September 2021 (from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm) through online (zoom) platform. Rev. Frs James Kurukilamkatt and Sebastian Kizhakkal (presented through Fr Manoj Parackal) were the two chief resource persons for the first two days. The third and the final day was dedicated to retrieve and celebrate the fond memories of late Rev. Fr Joseph Maliparampil, facilitated by the personal sharing by selected group of persons who had acquaintance with Fr Maliparampil at different levels. The webinar was organized by Thomasine Research Centre (TRC) under the leadership of Rev. Frs Francis Kureeckal and James Kurukilamkatt. A detailed report of the same is presented by TRC towards the end of this bulletin.

7. Completion of Studies

Arimattathil Joseph (Boby): Successfully completed Masters in Multimedia (M.A.) from St Joseph College of Communication, Changanacherry of M.G. University.

Kizhakkeparampil Joseph (Binish): Successfully completed Masters in Social Work (M.S.W) from De Paul College of Social Work of M.G. University.

Vadakkethalackal Mathew (Bijo): Successfully completed licentiate studies in Theology and Religious Studies from Catholic University, Leuven, Belgium.

8. Beginning of Higher Studies

Kappiparambil Kuriakose (Joby): He is sent to Spain for post graduate programme (Master in Global Communication, Leadership and Corporate Diplomacy) at the University of Ramon Llull, Blanquerna in Barcelona.

Karakatt Antony (Arun): He is sent to Italy for Licentiate Studies in Sacred Scripture (Holy Bible) at the Pontifical Biblical Institute (Biblicum), Rome.

Kottakkavil Augustine (Jijo): He is sent to Belgium for Licentiate Studies in Theology and Religion at Catholic University, Leuven

Manikombil: He is sent to Italy for Licentiate Studies in Islam at Pontificio Istituto di Studi Arabi e d' Islamistica, Italy, known as PISAI in Rome.

9. Overseas Ministry

Archdiocese of Lanciano–Ortona, Italy: Rev. Fr Kadaparambil Thomas (Rijo) joined the Archdiocese of Lanciano – Ortona as a parochial vicar at the Basilica of St Thomas the Apostle in Ortona.

10. Sacerdotal Golden and Silver Jubilee

Rev. Fr Joseph Kannathukuzhy is celebrating the sacerdotal golden jubilee this year. Similarly, eight of our priests are celebrating the silver jubilee of their priestly ordination this year (ordination batch of 1996-1997). They are:

1. Rev. Fr Joseph (Benny) Arthanakunnel
2. Rev. Fr Joseph (Saji) Chakiriamthadam
3. Rev. Fr Kuriakose (Raju) Puthusseril
4. Rev. Fr Augustine (Benny) Thonikuzhy
5. Rev. Fr Roy Joseph (Roy) Muthumakkal
6. Rev. Fr Jacob (Lalu) Kulathupurayidom
7. Rev. Fr Benedict (Benny) Palappurath
8. Rev. Fr Alexander (Sajimon) Vanderkunnel

The Generalate level celebration, which is annually held in the month of November, is not possible this year due to the pandemic. Although many of them would complete the jubilee year by the first week of January 2022, it is now being planned to have a celebration at Deepti Bhavan in the middle of January 2022.

The MST recognizes the contributions of all the jubilarians for their

50/25 years of priestly-missionary ministry in and through the MST. Let us thank all of them for their sacrifices and committed services in their places of apostolates, and pray for a joyful and healthy life ahead.

11. Meeting of MISAL

MISAL (Missionary Institutes of Societies of Apostolic Life) organized a zoom meeting of all the heads of the Missionary Societies on 15 April 2021. Since MST is exclusively a missionary Society we are given membership in it. Twenty two Superior Generals from different continents were



connected to it. It was an honour and privilege for the MST to be part of this online platform to share our various *ad gentes* missionary involvements in India and outside. The Director General highlighted in his sharing the Balaswa project in Delhi, Himalayan and Odisha missions. The Participants really appreciated enthusiasm and zeal of the MST in its mission *ad gentes* activities.

12. SMRC Webinar

There was also a webinar conducted by SMRC (Syro Malabar Religious Conference) on 30 July, from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. on the subject *Opportunities and Challenges of Religious Life in the Post – Covid World*. More than 200 Major superiors were connected with this



online platform together with the Father and Head of the Syro Malabar Church. The Major Archbishop in his concluding message appreciated and acknowledged in a special way our missionary methodology and involvements in carrying out mission *ad gentes* activities in various parts of India.

13. Meeting of Major Superiors and Rectors of Major Seminaries

An online meeting of the Rectors and Major Superiors of the Religious Congregations was held on Tuesday 27 July from 10.00 am to 12.30 p.m. Cardinal Alencherry was invited for the inaugural message. In his inaugural address the Major Archbishop exhorted to be vigilant of the secular values creeping into religious and priestly life. Approving the need to adapt all that is good in the world, he reminded, not to compromise the essential values of the religious commitment. In this digital and internet era, he said, it is necessary to take care of fostering the Gospel values and thus becoming effective witnesses of Christ our Lord. The Rectors and Major Superiors have to see that our future religious and priests are equipped for the evangelization of today's world. He urged the members to focus all our formation activities for the glory of God and to the good of the people.

Cardinal Mar Alencherry in his concluding remarks said that he personally favours the proposal to have a centre for higher studies in Missiology, and he promised that this matter will be discussed in the forthcoming Synod. It was proposed by Fr Chandy Kalthoor and supported by Director General in the online meeting. He also emphasised the need for having a meeting of all the rectors of major seminary to share their difficulties and anxieties. He was of the opinion that the participation of the parents of the seminarians must be there in the formation. He suggested having a *Formation Council* for every seminary in which the representatives of the parents also could be included. The formators must be very keen in analysing the nature, tendencies, the positives and negatives of the world today; and then

should equip the seminarians to take up challenges to evangelise the world. Formation should take care of the psychological maturity of the seminarians. They must be able to enter into mature relations.

14. Finance Council of the MST

An online meeting of the Finance Council was held on 16 August 2021, from 2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. The Director General presided over the meeting. All the members of the Finance Council were present for the meeting.

15. Ongoing Formation Programme

The ongoing formation programmes for the junior priests of the last five ordination batches are scheduled to take place online from 21-23 October 2021 at Vishwadeepti Missiology Centre, Kolhapur in St Alphonsa Region. The details of the programme will be informed to the junior priests in the upcoming days.

16. Elevation of Delegation to a Region

In accordance with 'Resolution Number Two' of the Tenth Ordinary General Assembly-2018 and following the norms of C58 of the *Constitutions and Directives* of the Society, the process for constituting **St Mary Queen of the Missions Delegation** (Delhi) as the fourth Mission Region was initiated on 23 August 2021 (Please see: Circular No. X-25 in the Appendix).

As part of the process, an open invitation has been made to all priest-members of the MST, who would like to be assigned to the proposed Mission Region, to send their names to the Director General by **30 November 2021** (by email: <mstgeneralate@gmail.com> or by postal letter only). The names received will be considered in consultation with the respective Regional Director of the applicant and with the consent of the General Council (C&D 44).

III. Transfers and Appointments

A. *St Paul Region*

Edattukaran Jose: Relieved as Priest-in-charge of Maksi, and appointed at Pachore, in the Eparchy of Ujjain.

Kadaprayil Joseph: Relieved as Priest-in-charge of Kanad, and appointed Priest-in-charge at Harsodan, in the Eparchy of Ujjain.

Mailadyil Joseph: Relieved as Priest-in-charge of Harsodan, and appointed Priest-in-charge at Ambodia, in the Eparchy of Ujjain.

Pinamarukil Alexander: Relieved as Priest-in-charge of Mana and appointed Priest-in-charge at Piploda, in the Eparchy of Ujjain.

Thekkeattam Sebastian: Relieved as Priest-in-charge of Ambodia, and appointed Priest-in-charge at Mana, in the Eparchy of Ujjain.

Thevarkunnel Augustine: Relieved as Priest-in-charge of Shajapur, and appointed Priest-in-charge at Rajgarh, in the Eparchy of Ujjain.

B. *St Thomas Region, Mandya*

Arimattathil Joseph (Boby): Appointed Principal, Divya Jyothi School and Asst. Director, Seva Sadana, Halagur.

Kappiarumalayil Sebastian (Sherit): Appointed Director and Correspondent, Santhome Nivas and Santhome School, Kokkasmannur, Ichoda, Adilabad.

Madavana Emmanuel: Relieved from Santhome Nivas and Santhome school, Ichoda and appointed Director and Correspondent, St Thomas School, Boath, Adilabad.

Thottappallil George (Akhil): Relieved from Divya Jyothi school and Asst. Director, Seva Sadana, Halagur.

Vazhuthanappallyil Kurian (Abin): Relieved from Jeevodaya, Arakere, and appointed Asst. Director, Seva Sadana, Halagur.

C. *Other Missions/Centres/Ministries/Studies*

Cheriampanatt Joseph: Relieved from Divine Mercy Centre, M. Rampur, Odisha.

Keeranchira Sebastian (Ashish): Appointed Asst. Priest-in-charge of Nirmal Jyoty, Baliguda, Odisha.

Kizhakkemuriyil Thomas (Tony): Appointed Asst. Priest-in-charge of Santhome, J.K. Pure, Rayagada, Odisha.

Kollamattam Ambrose: Appointed Priest-in-charge of Divine Mercy, M. Rampur, Odisha.

Kozhipatt Thomas (Joby): Relieved from Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery.

Pezhumthottiyil Sebastian: Appointed Priest-in-charge of Sacred Heart Mission, Laxmipur, Odisha.

Poovathinkal Paul: Appointed Priest-in-charge of Holy Trinity Catholic Mission, Chirgaon, H.P.

Puthukattu Joseph (Joison): Relieved as Vocation Promoter of the MST (Southern Zone).

Thannippara Jose: Appointed at Deepti Gardens, Moochankund, Palakkad.

Vadakketh Jacob (Jobin): Relieved as Asst Director of Santhome Centre, Thannimood, Nedumkandam and Vocation Promoter in the Eparchy of Idukki; and appointed at Santhome Public School, Mira Road, Mumbai.

Vadakkethalackal Mathew (Bijo): Appointed Vocation Promoter of the MST - Southern Zone (w.e.f. 01-11-2021).

Valiyaparambil Antony (Libin): Appointed Priest-in-charge of Nirmal Jyoty, Baliguda, Odisha.

IV. Change/Correction of Contact Information

A. *Postal Address*

Arimattathil Joseph (Boby): Seva Sadana, Gollarahalli, Halagur – 571421, Malavalli Taluk, Mandya Dt., Karanataka.

Edattukaran Jose: Prarthana Nikethan, Dultaria, Pachore-465 683, Rajgarh Dist., Madhya Pradesh.

Kadaparambil Thomas (Rijo): Parrocchia di San Tommaso Apostolo, Via Episcopato 6, 66026 Ortona, Chieti, Italy.

Kadaprayil Joseph: Jai Amala Bhavan, Harsodan, Tajpur -456661, Ujjain Dt, Madhya Pradesh.

Kappiarumalayil Sebastian (Sherit): Santhome School, Ichoda, Ichoda Mandal, 504 307, Adilabad Dt., Telangana.

Kappiparambil Kuriakose (Joby): Convent dels Caputxins de Pompeia, Avinguda Diagonal 450, Barcelona 08006, Spain.

Karakkatt Antony (Arun): Istituto San Giovanni Damasceno, Via di Boccea 480, 00166 Roma, Italy.

Keeranchira Sebastian (Ashish): Nirmal Jyoty Mission, C/o St Thomas Catholic Church, Baliguda - 762 103, Kandhamal (Dt), Odisha.

Kizhakkemuriyil Thomas (Tony): MST Mission House, Sri Kshetra Township, Amalabhata, Penta P.O.756 017, J.K Pure, Rayagada, Odisha.

Kottakkavil Augustine (Jijo): Holy Spirit College, Naamsestraat 40, 3000 Leuven, Belgium.

Kozhipatt Thomas (Joby): C/o MST Generalate, Deepti Bhavan, Melampara-686578, Kottayam Dt.

Madavana Emmanuel: Saint Thomas E/M School, House Number 5- 52, BoathPochera P.O. 504 304, Adilabad Dt, yTelangana.

Mailadyil Joseph: C/o Bishop's House, P.B.No.234, Maria Nagar, Dewas Road Ujjain - 456 010, M.P.

Manikombel Emmanuel (Lijo): Pontificio Collegio Nepomuceno, Via Concordia 1, 00183 Roma, Italy.

Pezhumthottiyil Sebastian: Sacred Heart MST Mission Centre, C/

o Pradeep Kumar Lima, Aditya Nagar Near OMC Office, Laxmipur-765013 Koraput (Dt), Odisha.

Pinamarukil Alexander: Prem Nivas, Piploda, Dwarkadhish P.O. 456006, Ujjain Dt, Madhya Pradesh.

Poovathinkal Paul: Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Yashpal Niwas, Sunda Bhoura, Chirgaon P.O. 171 208, Shimla Dt, Himachal Pradesh.

Puthukattu Joseph (Joison): Thara Home, 168 Old Airport Rd, New Bowenpally, Balanagar, Secunderabad - 500 011, Telangana.

Thannippara Jose: Deepti Gardens, Moochankund – 678507, Govindapuram, Palakkad Dt, Kerala.

Thekkeattam Sebastian: St Alphonsa Church, Mana – 465667, Kurawar (via), Rajgarh Dt., Madhya Pradesh.

Thevarkunnel Augustine: St. Mary's Catholic Church, Rajgarh P. O. 465661, Rajgarh (Dt), Madhya Pradesh.

Thottappallil George (Akhil): C/o MST Generalate, Deepti Bhavan, Melampara-686578, Kottayam Dt.

Vadakketh Jacob (Jobin): Santhome Bhavan, Near Santhome Public School, Plot No 270, Kanakia Road, Mira Road (E), Thane – 401107, Maharashtra.

Vadakkethalackal Mathew (Bijo): Deepti Bhavan, Melampara-686578, Kottayam Dt.

Vazhuthanappallyil Kurian (Abin): Seva Sadana, Gollarahalli, Halagur-571421, Malavalli Taluk, Mandya Dt., Karnataka.

B. Phone Numbers

Kadaparambil Thomas (Rijo): 0039 375 719 3430

Kappiparambil Kuriakose (Joby): 0034 660 97 65 80

Karakkatt Antony (Arun): 0039 328 962 0737

Karamullil Sebastian (Veenus): 7558006281; 9074350836

Koottumkal Sebastian (Sr.): 94816 82852 (Additional)

Kottakkavil Augustine (Jijo): 0032 465 42 45 73

Manikombel Emmanuel (Lijo): 0039 327 579 5587

V. News from Seminaries

A. Deepti College, Melampara

1. Dukhrana and Inauguration of the Academic Year

We had solemn holy Eucharist and the main celebrant was Fr Thomas Karamel. The homily was preached by Fr Monse Karuvakunnel. In the evening we had the inauguration of the new academic year, DIYA



(Talent Board) and DCLA (Deepti Cultural and Literary Association). Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of MST officially inaugurated the

academic year 2021-22. Brothers conducted various and colorful programs under the guidance of Fr Kisincher Aniyekatt, the dean of study. Fathers from Generalate and the first year philosophy students (who were in Deepti Mount for Hindi course) attended the programme. After that we had a sumptuous dinner. On 4 July we had a friendly basketball match between fathers and brothers. The brothers' team was comprised of minor seminarians and the first year philosophy students. Fathers' team was comprised of fathers from Deepti Campus. The brothers put up a variant fight against the fathers but fell short of a few points.

2. Monthly Recollections

July 7: Fr Saju Elanjyil MST preached the recollection based on 2 Corinthians 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for you."

August 5: Fr Ajo Peedieckal preached recollection based on "How to become a good friend of Jesus Christ."

September 9: Fr Joby Kappiparambil MST preached the recollection based on "Mother Mary."

3. Holy Qurbana by Director General



Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, DG of MST came to Deepti Seminary and celebrated Holy Qurbana in the academic year 2021-22. He spoke about the importance of nurturing the gift vocation to priesthood each one has received. It's not to all

but we are specially chosen. The most important phase of priestly formation begins in the minor seminary.

4. Feast of St Alphonsa and Freshers' Day



This year we were very fortunate to have 15 young and vibrant candidates. As preparation for the feast we had a Novena to St Alphonsa. The Holy Qurbana was solemnized by Fr Justin Vettukallel, the

Secretary General of MST. He gave a very thought provoking sermon on St Alphonsa. Deepti Choir composed and sang a new entrance hymn for the Holy Qurbana. The Freshers' day programme started at 6 p.m. The chief guest of the day was Fr Joseph Vadakkechirayath, the Director of *Aaram*. All brothers actively took part in it. The chief guest appreciated everyone for the outstanding performance. Thanks to Fr John Manjamattom who took the leadership in guiding the cultural programme.

5. Feast of John Maria Vianney

The feast of the patron saint of all priests was solemnly celebrated.

Rev. Dr Abraham Kollithadam was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana. He gave us an inspirational message for the day.

6. Feast of Assumption and Independence Day



We had the Novena of Mother Mary in preparation for the feast of Assumption. After the solemn Eucharistic celebration by Fr George Kuppayil we had the independence day parade and flag hoisting. Sri Mani

C. Kappan MLA hoisted the flag and Smt. Anupama Viswanath, the president of Thalapalam Panchayath, many fathers of Deepti Mount and neighbors of Deepti blessed the day with their presence. The brothers delivered independence day speeches in Malayalam, English and Hindi. The chief guests joined us for breakfast. In the evening we had a wonderful volleyball match amongst brothers. Congrats to Fr Manu Kochumala for organizing the 75th independence day celebrations.



7. Onam Feast

Frs Akhil Mlavil and Monse Karuvakunnel, the vocation promoters of Deepti solemnized the Holy Qurbana. A gorgeous 'Pookkalam' was arranged at Deepti



Auditorium by the brothers. The joy of Onam was multiplied by different games like ‘Pulikali,’ ‘Chendamelam,’ ‘Kalam thallipottickal,’ ‘Valu pari,’ ‘Kulam Kara,’ ‘Ball-passing,’ etc. There



was also a tableau describing the meaning of Onam. All the fathers and brothers with the accompaniment of ‘Chendamelam’ marched towards Aaraam and

entertained our senior fathers. Of course, the ‘Onasadhya’ with a variety of mouthwatering dishes was the highlight of the day. Congrats to Fr John Manjamattom for his artistic creativity and leadership.

8. Feast of Nativity

Fr Joseph Kannathukuzhy was the main celebrant of the day. He gave a very good homily on the importance of devotion to Mother Mary especially in the life of a seminarian.

9. Semester Exams

First semester exams for first and second years started on 17 September and were completed by 30 September. Plus One Board Exam began on 24 September.

10. Volleyball and Basketball Coaching



Brothers had volleyball coaching by Mr Joseph Thottakkara and basketball coaching by Fr Arun Olickalputhenpura.

11. Health and Hygiene

Mrs Rinta Sibu MSc., a member of American Heart Association and curriculum committee, gave a seminar on “First Aid and Know Your Body”. It was very beneficial for the students.

12. Birthday Celebration

Deepti seminary celebrated the birthdays of Fr Francis Kureeckal, the Vice Director and Fr George Kuppayil, the Rector on 4 October and 27 September respectively.



13. Visits of Missionaries

Bishop Sebastian Vadakel, Frs Jobin Vadakketh, Jubil Muricken, Binu Thottiyil, Binoy Purayidom, Jijo Kottakavil, Joby Kappiparambil, Roy thengumkudiyil, Antony Thundathil, Abraham Pandampadathil, Varghese Nadackal, Sabu Njarolickal and Joseph Karodan. Thanks dear fathers for your valuable presence and inspiring messages.

14. Members of Plenary Council at Deepti College

All 20 members of the Plenary Council of the MST joined the seminarians for Holy Qurbana in the morning and dinner in the evening. The Regional Directors led the celebration of the Holy Qurbana and Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura preached the homily. A sumptuous dinner was served in the refectory in the



evening. The seminarians were so happy to meet various missionaries from different regions of MST. We are grateful for their support and concern for Deepti.

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

B. Santhome Minor Seminary, Thamarassery

The Santhome Family at Thamarassery is doing well and all its members comprising 50 seminarians and six formators along with the non-teaching staff are keeping fine. Fr Joby Kozhippatt, the seventh Formator who said adieu to Santhome Seminary on 25 September, is getting ready to go to Germany. As a whole the seminary is doing well.

All brothers who returned to Santhome Seminary after Onam holidays were asked to bring RTPCR report of Covid-19 test. Anyway, a week after their arrival one first year brother was diagnosed Covid positive on 7 September. The entire activity of the seminary was then cancelled. Since then, special arrangements had been made for the Covid cases, arranging a dormitory for those who showed symptoms. I would like to start the news and events of our seminary from the beginning of the academic year 2021-22.

1. Arrival of Benjamins

There are 24 first year brothers and all are keeping fine. The second years (13) and the third years (13) are fully tuned to their studies and seminary life. Brothers came to Santhome Seminary at different times and days keeping the Covid-19 Protocol. Free-will time table for the first years for the first two weeks helped them a lot get to acquainted with the new situation!

2. Arrival of New Staff Members

Rev. Fr Benny Kannamthadam (Vice-Rector) and Fr Binoy Purayidom (Spiritual Father) joined Santhome Seminary staff on 18 June. Hearty welcome to both of them!

3. Official Welcome for First Years

The official welcoming ceremony for the first year brothers was held on 29 June 2021. There were 24 New comers! Fr Joseph Pulavelil, the Rector of the seminary, officially welcomed all the first year brothers with a bouquet of flowers. All the new comers introduced themselves and performed some programme. Fr Rony Alencherry, the Vocation promoter was thanked sincerely by the Rector for his hard work and service. Fr Rony thanked all the staff for their cooperation and help.

4. Inauguration of the Academic Year

The academic year 2021-22, though started on 14 June 2021 for the second and the third years, the official inauguration was held



later. The official inauguration of the academic year was done by His Excellency Mar Remigiose Inchananiyil, Bishop of Thamarassery in the presence of Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of MST, Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram and Rev. Fr Joy Kunnel on 11 July 2021. SCLA (Santhome Cultural and Literary Association) was also inaugurated on the same occasion.

5. Feast of Dukhrana

The 'Dukhrana' of St Thomas the Apostle, our Father in Faith, was celebrated most solemnly with RAZA Qurbana in the morning followed by a volleyball match and a festive dinner! It was really an wonderful day!

6. S.S.L.C. Result

All the 24 new comers were anxious to know their SSLC results on 17 July and they secured very high marks in the examinations. Five of them secured full A Plus and two others, Nine A Plus! Kudos to them all!

7. Death of Bro. Thekkemury's Father

We heard the sad news of the death of the father of Bro. Cyriac Thekkemury, a third year brother, in the evening on 20 July and fathers took him in the evening itself to his home at Bheemanady and paid homage to his father and consoled the bereaved family. Fr Rector and Vice-rector participated in the 41st Day of his Commemoration and celebrated the Holy Qurbana in their parish.

8. Official Visit of Director General



The Director General - Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor made an official visit to Santhome Seminary from 26 to 28 July and met all seminarians and formators. He was the chief guest for the 'Freshers Day.'

9. Feast of St Alphonsa and Freshers' Day

The feast of St Alphonsa was celebrated solemnly on 28 July and the main celebrant was Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor. As a preparation for the feast, we had novena to St Alphonsa too.

The 'Freshers Day' celebrated on 28 July, was a colourful event with many beautiful programmes. The first



year batch is very talented and they exhibited many new and good programmes. The cultural programmes lasted for one and a half hours. It was conducted under strict Covid protocol. The Director General was the chief Guest!

10. *Vanakkamasam* of St Thomas

One Month “Vanakkamasam” to St Thomas the Apostle came to an end on 31 July with solemn Ramsa, novena, sermon and ‘pachor nercha.’ Fr Thomas (Joby) Kozhippatt was the main celebrant.

11. *Santhome Koinonia*

The usual community meeting – Santhome Koinonia – was held on 2 August from 01.30 – 04.00 pm. It was a beautiful experience where Fathers and brothers discuss matters together and find a way out.

12. Feast of St John Maria Viannie



The feast of St John Maria Viannie, the patron saint all priests, was very solemnly celebrated on 4 August. Fr Johny Kariathil was the main celebrant. brothers wished all fathers with a flower and sang songs. There was a volleyball match.

13. *Monthly Recollections*

The first Sunday of every month is set apart for the Monthly Recollection. Fathers from the neighbouring seminaries of the diocese, MCBS and MSFS help us in hearing the confessions.

14. Birthdays and Feast Days

Birthdays of Fr Binoy Purayidom (26 June) and of Fr Benny

Kannamthadam (7 August) were celebrated very well. Feasts of Fr Joby Kozhippatt (3 July), Fr Binoy Purayidom (25 July) and Fr Augustine Marottikudy (28 August) were commemorated.

15. First Term Examinations

The first terminal examinations started on 9 August and finished on 17 August. All exams were conducted immediately after the lunch.

16. Celebrations of Independence Day and Feast of Assumption

Rev. Fr John Oravankara, the Vicar General of the Diocese of Thamarassery was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana, who hoisted the National Flag and delivered an inspiring speech. Some cultural programmes were staged by brothers after the flag hoisting.

17. Flower Carpet Competition



After the first term examinations, a 'flower carpet' competition was held batch-wise in the evening on 17 August. Brothers gathered some wild flowers and the seminary provided some flowers from the

campus. Three MCBS fathers were the judges. The second year brothers won the first place and the first years and the third years got the second and the third places respectively. It was a very tight competition.

18. Onam Celebrations

Before going for holidays, the Santhome Community celebrated Onam on 18 August with many programmes. Fr Peter Kavumpuram was the main celebrant for the



Holy Qurbana and the chief guest of the Onam celebrations.

19. Onam Holidays

Brothers went home by private vehicles. A Tempo Traveller was hired for 20 brothers hailing from Kannur and Kasaragod districts. Some parents came to the seminary to pick up their children. The seminary staff visited the houses of the most of the brothers during the vacation.

20. Mission Sunday Competitions

Fr Rector inaugurated the Mission Sunday competitions. There are four teams of 12 persons each in all teams.

21. Teachers' Day Celebrated

Brothers prayed and wished all the fathers here on 5 September – the Teachers' Day. They thanked all fathers with a bouquet of flowers for their great service of imparting knowledge to them and arranged a small programme during the supper.

22. Send-off to Fr Kozhippatt

A warm but very simple send-off was given to Fr Joby Kozhippatt on 25 September for his dedicated service at Santhome Seminary for the last more than one year! Brothers were in tears as they said good bye to him. Fr Rector thanked him sincerely for being a good Formator and friend.

23. Bi-Annual Retreat

The bi-annual retreat and group dynamism were planned for the second week of September. Both of them got postponed due to the Covid! They will be conducted in later on a conducive time!

24. One Act Play Competitions

In order to remember our Founder, Mar Sebastian Vayalil, we have decided to conduct a one act play competition among three batches on Sunday 21 November and the winner will be awarded trophy and cash prizes. The plays will solely be on Biblical themes.

25. Month of Rosary Devotion

We have decided to pray common Rosary for the whole month

with the intension of cessation of Covid-19. Ten days of solemn Rosary will start on 22 October. *Akhanda Japamala* or non-stop Rosary for 12 hours will be conducted on 31 October from morning (8.00 a.m.) to evening (8.00 p.m.).

26. Beginning of New Semester

It is decided to begin the new semester on 1 November. The sports and games competitions of Mission Sunday will be conducted in the second week of November.

27. Some Visitors to Santhome Seminary



Mar Remigiose Inchananiyil, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, Rev. Fr John Oravankara, Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram, Fr Joy Kunnel, Fr Joy Kochupara, Fr Monse, Fr Rony Alencherry, Fr Kuriakose Moonjeli MCBS, Fr Mathew Olickal (Rector) MCBS, Fr Francis Kodiyan MCBS, Fr Binu Areethara, Fr Rajesh Pallickavayal, Fr Joseph Vandanoor, SABS Sisters, MSJ Sisters and Sr Philo MSMI and team visited Santhome in the past months.

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

C. Jeevan Jyoti, Srirangapatna

1. Inauguration of the Academic Year

It was on 6 July, the new academic year 2021-22 was officially inaugurated by Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, the Regional Director of St Thomas Region. In the welcome speech Rev. Fr Rector presented to the brothers the scope of Jeevan Jyoti and invited them to make use of their life of one year as an opportunity to dream and act out their missionary outlooks. From the part of brothers, he also demanded a special attention on discipline, punctuality, attendance, commitment, mutual respect and a spirit of gratitude which are unavoidable for missionary formation. Quoting Alfred Mercier, he said “what we learn with pleasure we never forget.” Rector wished all the brothers a very fruitful scholastic year 2021-22.

Rev. Fr Joseph Thekkekarott, in his inaugural address emphasized the particular importance of this formation period called M.O.C., and invited the brothers to start the academic year with right earnestness and missionary zeal.

The academic year in Jeevan Jyoti is divided into three semesters comprising three months each in a semester.

2. Kannada Language Course

This year the Kannada language course was organized in two phases. In the first phase, the preliminary section was taken by Rev. Fr Saji Naduviledam. In the second phase, Rev. Fr Zacharias Thadathil



took three weeks classes in Kannada grammar. The classes concluded with exams and the brothers came out in flying colours with good results. At the conclusion of the Kannada classes by Rev. Fr Zacharias we organized a cultural evening on 21 August.

3. Feast of St. Alphonsa

On 28 July the Jeevan Jyoti family celebrated the feast of our Heavenly Patroness St. Alphonsa. It was also the day of official inauguration of the Kannada Holy Qurbana. Rev. Fr Marin Kandamparambil was the main celebrant of the day. And Rev. Fr Biju Aranjanilyil led the choir. Due to the corona pandemic, this was consecutively the second year that we could not invite our Christian



neighbors from the Ganjam village for the feast. Sincere thanks to Rev. Frs Sebastian Koottumkal and Biju Aranjanilyil for spending their valuable time to teach our brothers the Kannada Holy Qurbana.

4. Celebration of Independence Day and Assumption

On 15 August, commemorated the 75th Independence day. Rev. Fr Zacharias Thadathil was the main celebrant for the Holy Qurbana. Immediately after the Holy Qurbana, we had the flag hoisting and a common meeting. In his independence day message, Fr. Zacharias Thadathil invited all of us to become genuine citizens of our nation, who have to fill hearts with true patriotism and courage.

5. Inauguration of JCLA and Jyoti Flash

An integral formation enables one to develop and grow beyond classroom learning, which are very much needed for a future missionary. For this purpose we have at Jeevan Jyoti, the common forum called JCLA (Jeevan Jyoti Literary and Cultural Association), and Jyoti Flash, to help our brothers develop their literary talents.

Fr Hubby Maliekkal officially inaugurated JCLA and Jyoti Flash this year on 30 August. While addressing the common meeting, he shared his experience of school life and highlighted the need of developing the literary talents in us through manifold opportunities



that we get in Jeevan Jyoti.

6. Onam Celebration

Our cultural and traditional feast of Onam was celebrated at Jeevan Jyoti without losing its traditional features. Brothers had prepared a very charming 'Athappokkalam.' In the morning all of us together prepared 'Onasadya' with many traditional Kerala dishes. The afternoon was dedicated to different traditional games of Onam.

7. Visit of the Director General

Our Director General paid an official visit to Jeevan Jyoti on 2 September 2021. He was given a very warm welcome by the staff and students. In the evening an outdoor supper was organized in the courtyard of the seminary. Everybody enjoyed the surprise of the evening, which was marked by group games, agape and mutual interactions. On the next day morning Very. Rev. Fr Director General



offered the Holy Qurbana for the Jeevan Jyoti family. In the homily he explained the unique feature of M.O.C. in the formation programme of MST. He also addressed the brothers in a common meeting which was organized after the breakfast.

8. Community Day Celebration

Understanding the challenge of forming a progressive community by balancing the interests of each individual and that of the community, we celebrated the community day on 18 September 2021. Everybody enjoyed the day and it was a first time experience for some of our brothers. The celebration started with the Holy Qurbana. And there were also common games and sharing of experiences from the part of the staff. With all these varieties the community day became an unforgettable event for all.

9. Living in Mission Exposure

The living in mission exposure, which is another important missionary involvement activity that provides a first-hand experience to our brothers, is taking place these days (from 28 September to 13 October 2021). This year our brothers are sent to 10 mission stations. We have given priority in selecting the mission stations with village activities rather than schools.

Our sincere thanks to our Regional Council and our dear missionaries of Mandya for their kind cooperation with us, especially in accepting our young missionaries and imparting them with basic missionary values and methods.

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

D. Ruhalaya Major Seminary, Ujjain

1. Reopening of Ruhalaya

Ruhalaya reopened on 20 July after a prolonged summer vacation for nearly three and half months because of the Covid pandemic. On their arrival, all brothers remained in quarantine for one week. We are grateful to God for the safe journey and for having successfully completed the quarantine period without any Corona case. There are 16 fathers on the staff, 65 brothers at the Theologate, 103 brothers and two Rev. Sisters at the Philosophate

Rev. Frs Joseph Vedikunnel and Venus Karamullil joined the Ruhalaya staff as the Spiritual Director (Theologate) and the Dean of Studies (Philosophate).

2. Inauguration of the Academic Year 2021-22

The official inauguration of the Academic Year 2021-22 was done



in the Philosophate on 28 July on the Feast Day of St. Alphonsa. There was no official inauguration ceremony at the Theologate as the on-line classes had already started for them. The main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana at the Theologate was Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, the Rector while Rev. Fr Venus Karamullil celebrated at the Philosophate. The Holy Mass was concelebrated by the fathers on the staff.

Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel was the chief guest of the meeting for the inauguration of the academic year, during which he emphasized on the importance of 'formation for mission.' The awards for the academic excellence were given away during the meeting. Having concluded the on-line classes, the in-class sessions started for the theology students on 29 July.

3. Choir Selection

The choir selection at the Theologate and Philosophate took place on 29 July and 1 August respectively.

4. Visit of Bishop Athikalam

Bishop Mar James Athiklam of the Eparchy of Sagar paid a short visit to Ruhelaya in the evening of 31 August on his way to Jabuha.

5. Inauguration of the Silver Jubilee of Ruhelaya Theologate



The Silver Jubilee of Ruhelaya Theologate was formally inaugurated on Wednesday, 4 August. The Holy Qurbana was officiated by Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel and concelebrated by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumannoor, the Director General, Rector and staff. In the Silver Jubilee inaugural meeting, Bishop Mar Sebastian Vadakel, Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumannoor, Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, the Regional Director of St. Paul's Region of MST, Ujjain, Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, the Rector, were the dignitaries on the stage.

6. Inauguration of RCLA & Home Herald

The platforms for the cultural and literary activities at the Philosophate - **RCLA** & **Home Herald** were inaugurated on Thursday, 7 August by Dr. Kriti Didi, the Director of Nirmala College of Education,



Chandassery. Rev. Fr Lithosh Karingadayil, the Director of RCLA & Home Herald welcomed the chief-guest, the staff and students to the event. The brothers showcased their musical, cultural and artistic talents during the inauguration meeting.

7. Feasts of Assumption and Independence Day

Holy Qurbana, march past, flag hoisting and cultural programs were conducted separately at the Theologate and Philosophate. Rev Fr Joseph Placheril of the Diocese of Ujjain was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana and the chief-guest of the meeting at the Theologate. Rev Fr Justin Kaithottumkal was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana at the Philosophate and Rev. Fr Jose Kondoor was the chief guest of the flag-hoisting ceremony.

8. Onam 2021

The cultural feast of *Onam* was celebrated in Ruhhalaya Philosophate and Theologate separately on 19 and 22 of August during which brothers presented some traditional Kerala cultural entertainment programs which was followed by sumptuous *Onasadya* prepared by the brothers and the kitchen staff.



9. Freshers' Day

The Benjamins of Ruhhalaya - the first year theology and philosophy students- conducted the Freshers' Day on 29 August with 45 minutes each cultural programs by the freshers of each section.

10. Home Day Competitions

Talash 2021 and *Tarang 2021*, the Home Day competitions for the Theologate and Philosophate were inaugurated on 26 August. and 1 October respectively and have been underway. The entire community (brothers) is divided into different groups and cultural, artistic, sports competitions are being organized.

11 Nativity of Our Lady & the Community Day

The Holy Qurban for the entire community was celebrated at the Philosophate followed by common breakfast and batch-wise party games at the Philosophy grounds. All gathered together at the Theologate in the evening for the cultural programs and common



supper. It was a day to foster the community spirit by the wholehearted participation of all the fathers and brothers in variety entertainment programs.

12. Mission Sharing

Rev. Frs George Kavukattu and John Kizhakkarakattu visited Ruhahaya, celebrated the Holy Qurbana and shared their mission experience with the fathers and brothers. There was a special one-hour mission sharing by Rev. Fr George Kavukattu for the benefit of the philosophy brothers in the evening of 24 September.

13. Arts Day

The brothers at the Theologate celebrated their 'Arts Day' on Sunday, 26 September as part of the Home Day competitions and exhibited a smorgasbord of their talents.

14. Debate

A debate was organized by the RCLA under the leadership of Rev Fr Lithosh Karingadayil on the proposition, 'Social Media is a Blessing' which was moderated by Rev. Fr Venus Karamullil. Two panels of three each brothers argued their case *pro* and *contra* and the *pro* panel was voted to win the debate.

(Reported by Very Rev. Fr Chandy Kalathoor, Rector, Ruhahaya, Ujjain)

VI. NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS

A. St Paul Region

1. Requiem Mass For Frs E. Mattathil and J. Nattunilath



Reverend Fathers working in the Region gathered together in the Regional House for the requiem Holy Mass for Reverend Fathers Emmanuel Mattathil and John Nattunilath on 4 August at 6.30 p.m. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we were not able to gather earlier.

Rev. Fr Vincent Kadalikkattilputhenpura, the Regional Director welcomed all and gave a short memoir and reminisced their contributions to the Missionary Society and the Church at the beginning of the Holy Qurbana. Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor graced the occasion with his presence and offered the 'Office of the Dead'.

2. Gathering of Junior Priests



The third meeting of the junior priests of the region was arranged on 16 September 2021. Eleven of them participated in the

gathering. Rev. Fr Prayan Kongattu presented the report of the committee of their visit to Harda. There was also a discussion on the proposal from the Generalate to entrust Odisha mission to St

Paul Region.

3. Visit of The Director General



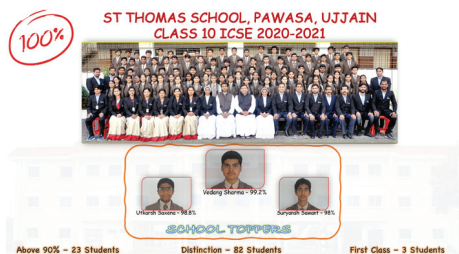
Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor visited the Regional House on 4 August and participated in the prayers for our deceased members. During his visit, he took time to visit most of the mission stations in Ujjain. He stayed at the Regional house for three days and had discussions on the developments of the centres of MST.

4. Tailoring Centre at Mandsaur



A new tailoring centre was started at Mandsaur as part of a new social apostolate. The centre was officially inaugurated on the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel by Rev Fr Sojan Unniepillil. This centre is deemed to be of a great help for the unemployed women in this area.

5. ICSE District Topper from St Thomas School, Pawasa



ICSE 2021 Examination results were declared on 24 July 2021. Students of St. Thomas School, Pawasa performed extraordinarily well with 82 Distinction and 3 First Class. 23 students scored above 90%. The

school topper, Master Vedang Sharma secured 99.2%. He is also the district topper.

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

B. St Thomas Region

The painful and horrifying situation created by pandemic covid 19 is gradually disappearing and life in most parts of Mandya region is coming to normalcy. Schools are opened from the beginning of September in Telangana. While in Andhra Pradesh schools were opened in the second half of August itself. Since the situation has improved a lot in Karnataka, schools are opened for the students from the VI standard. Though the covid situation in Tamil Nadu has improved very much, schools will be opened only from the beginning of November. We thank the Lord for protecting our people and all of us from serious sicknesses.



St Thomas region is very happy to announce that a beautiful school building is constructed at Kokkasmannur, Ichoda in Adilabad

diocese. Five class rooms and a toilet block were constructed with the generous support of the MST and different agencies. We are grateful to all who supported us in different ways. The school building was officially blessed on 25 August 2021 by Bishop Mar Prince Panengadan, bishop of Adilabad. Our school compound at Kokkasmannur is lively and active with the opening of school from the beginning of September.



All the missionaries were in the forefront during the pandemic covid 19 with their dedicated involvement in the society for the social and economic welfare of the people. Our Fathers and Sisters work hard to alleviate the sufferings of the people and to bring relief to them in their struggles and moments of pain.

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

C. St Alphonsa Region

The Covid-19 pandemic has led our entire mission works to an unprecedented challenge economically and socially. The recent flood that happened during the last week of July made the situation worse. But our fathers were not ready to give up easily. We gave a fight, which became a great relief for the many who were affected.

1. Flood and Timely Intervention



The torrential downpours during the last weeks of July necessitated the discharge of water from dams which led to floods in Chiplun, Watul, Kolhapur and Sangli. The whole Sangli town was

flooded and the water reached even the ground floor of Santhome School. But the timely decision of Fr Binoy Vechupadinjarethil to shift all things from the ground floor to the upstairs saved all things. He also helped the nearby villages with necessary things.



Kolhapur also was affected very badly. Many villages near the rivers were engulfed by water. The Sangli Mission Society in collaboration with Caritas India helped 900 families who were affected by floods in Kolhapur and Sangli districts.



The ground floor of our Special School in Watul was submerged in the floodwater. Nearly 80% of Chiplun town was flooded and 213 lost their lives. The

Mary Matha Church, Chiplun was drowned in water and all its interiors got spoiled. More than 150 families were given shelter at our school in Chiplun. Fr Joe Anson Kattuthara shared all that is left with these families. These people



were experiencing the love of Christ through the hands of the Mary Matha community. Frs Michael Puthenpura and George Kottukappallil extended help to Chiplun from Ratnagiri. Frs Binoy, Siju, Subin, Lijo, Anish, Arun and 10 non-teaching staff from Santhome School, Sangli helped to clean up Mary Matha Church in Chiplun.

2. Reopening of Schools

It is both exciting and encouraging to report that after the nearly two years break, the schools are now alive and rejuvenated with the presence of kids. The enthusiasm and cheerfulness of the students are filling the whole school campus. Most of our schools in the Sangli Mission have already started the classes from lower primary onwards.

(Reported by Fr Arun Vedikunnel, St Alphonsa Region)

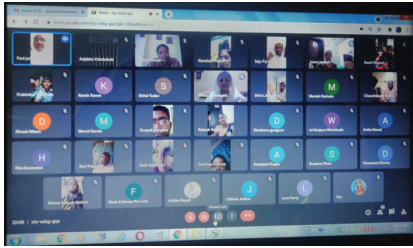
3. Mar Thoma Catholic Personal Parish, Kalyan

a. Observation of Thomasine Month – July: Month of July was observed as the month of St Thomas. Our people used the St Thomas ‘vanakkamasam’ book to pray with St Thomas and to imbibe his missionary spirit. We uploaded the video of St Thomas



‘vanakkamasam’ prayer on YouTube in Marathi.

b. Feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary: During the lock down since churches were closed we had online Rosary and Marian reflections .Nearly 40 families participated in the prayer on Google meet.



Our *Asmita* students shared the reflection in Marathi. Rev

Fr Saju Painadath MCBS preached in Marathi on the feast day. It was a matter of great joy to see our *Asmita* students taking interest in preaching Marathi sermons.

On the feast day our non-malayalee Syro-Malabar Christians in Mumbai prepared sweets at home and shared the joy of the birth of Mother Mary with their friends and relatives.

c. Family Retreats: Because of the Covid restrictions we could not have retreats for our people for the last two years. And also there was no chance for confessions. So from September, we are inviting two families at a time to our residence for one day retreat. The whole day people pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament along



with their parish priest. They are given opportunity for counselling and a special confessor is arranged for confessions. Following day morning we have Holy Mass and they receive Holy communion

after a long gap of six months.

We find that people are longing to receive Holy Communion. They are also very happy to spend one day in prayer sacrificing their daily income. We have two retreats in a week.

(Reported by Fr Paul Painadath, Mumbai)

D. MQMD, Delhi

1. Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Chirgaon



Delhi Delegation is blessed to have one more mission station in Himachal Pradesh in the name of Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Chirgaon, in Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh. The new centre is situated just fifteen

kilometres from Kristjyoti Catholic Mission, Rohru, the first mission in Himachal Pradesh. The new mission was blessed by His Excellency Mar Jose Puthenveetil, the Auxiliary Bishop of the eparchy Faridabad-Delhi on 11 September 2021, in the presence of Fr Santhosh Olapurackal, the Delegate, Fr Joseph Karodan, the Councillor, Fr Sanoj Pathrapankal, the priest in charge of Kristjyoti Catholic mission Rohru and Fr Siby Poovathinkal, the priest in charge assigned for the new mission. In his message Bishop Jose insisted on the responsibility and participation of the laity in building up the Church in the locality. There were around sixty people present for the blessing and inauguration ceremony. The purpose of the mission is evangelization and forming new Catholic Community.

2. Mother Teresa Catholic Mission Dehlon, Punjab

a. Arrival of the New Regent: The community of St Thomas Convent School, Rurka is immensely joyful to have Bro Blesson Kottavila as the new regent. He made his way towards the community on 2 August 2021. Fr Bobby Joseph MST and the sisters wholeheartedly welcomed him and were glad to have the first ever regent of the mission centre. May God bestow his choicest blessings upon him



and mould his life so as to have fruitful regency this year ahead.

b. Resurgence of School Endeavours: St Thomas Convent School, Rurka was extraordinarily blessed to have the activities of the school recommenced. On 16 August 2021 the school began the offline classes. They received a positive response from the part of the parents who eagerly brought in their acceptance to the proposal set forth in the reopening of the school. The Punjab Government gave the allotment to begin schools for all the classes. For a short period of time the school will be strictly following the Covid – 19 protocols so as to keep the aspects of health under control. May God outpour his rich blessings upon them and make their endeavours effective with his divine touch.

c. Feast of St Teresa of Calcutta: The community with utmost joy celebrated the feast of their patron saint, St Teresa of Calcutta on 5 August 2021. The day commenced with the solemn Eucharistic Celebration which added a sweet flavor of happiness in everyone. Fr Abhilash Akkattu MST was the main celebrant who also delivered an inspiring sermon wherein he mentioned some important facets of the day. The community invoked God's graces through the intercession of Mother Teresa and prayed fervently to the patron saint so as to aid them in imbibing the spirit of Peace, love and Charity.

d. Teachers' Day Celebration: On 4 September 2021, St Thomas Convent School celebrated the teachers' day in a great fashion. On this day the students performed various programmes and explained the motive of having the teachers' day celebration. Fr Abhilash Akkattu MST was the chief guest for the function and he gave a thought provoking reflection that it is the sole responsibility of every student to give due honour to the teachers who are the architect of a child's life.

e. Hindi Diwas Celebration: On 14 September 2021, St Thomas Convent School celebrated the Hindi Diwas. It was held to depict the importance to learn and promote Hindi language. There were many competitions held which were in connection with Hind Diwas.



Speech, storytelling, reading, Essay writing, etc. were the competitions organized. The students displayed some magical performances which are being telecasted on the

YouTube channel of the school. Students received prizes and awards for the competitions held.

f. World Peace Day Celebration: St Thomas Convent School

celebrated the World Peace Day on 21 September 2021. This day was given in dedication to all the people who strived to



achieve peace for the good of the society. The management organized a short seminar which depicted the importance of imbibing the quality of a peaceful person. The teachers took turns and explained the facet of having peace amidst this world. The Students were eager to bring in their active involvement in the seminar conducted.

3. Deepti Foundation, Delhi

a. New Centre in Basantdada Patel Nagar: Delhi along with the other parts of country was badly hit during the second phase of pandemic. It was heart-stopping to see the fear stricken communities and children. To assess the situation in the area Deepti Foundation undertook an area online survey. We could complete this task by 45 days. We have covered 1768 families in Murgifarm, Kaalimandir, Bengali Basti, Kabadigali, Vsihwanathpuri, kalandhar Colony, and Basantdada Patel Nagar. During the assessment we found out that there are many unemployed and wandering children. There is also demand for vocational trainings. To address the immediate the situation we have opened a new non-formal centre in Basantdada

Patel Nagar. There are 45 children attending the centre as per the pandemic protocol.

b. Visit of Country Head of Kindernothilfe: Funding Agency of Deepti Foundation Kindernothilfe has got a new Country head Ms. Alka Singh, he had visited the Deepti Foundation on 12 August 2021. She reached the Gyaansarovar Child Resource Centre at 10.30 am. Fr Olapurackal, Director of Deepti Foundation gave a floral welcome to the guest. Fr Director briefed about the organization and projects. Further she visited the non-formal centres of the projects. By 12.45 pm we had lunch. After the lunch we had discussions on the current situation in the area. By 2.00 pm we have concluded the program.

c. Unseasonal Rain-falls: Comparing to previous years Delhi witnessed a unseasonal monsoon this year and it lasted till 30 September. Due to the torrential rain there were waste mountain slide and water logging in the adjourned places of Gyaansarovar Deepti Foundation Child Resource Centre. Fr Olapurackal and staff members of Deepti Foundation team reached out to the needy and extended the support. Ward member and Municipal Chairperson had visited the area and assured support and help in solution to the situation.

d. Medical Camps: A medical camp was organised on 09 September 2021. The doctors and staff members from Jeevodaya hospital, Ashok Vihar had come to Rajeevnagar and Kaalimandir centre. The entire team was divided into two. There were 207 participants for the camps. The medical team had reached the spot at 2.00 p.m. and consultations lasted till 4.00 p.m.

e. Staff Training: There were a staff training programs conducted on 11 September 2021 and 25 September 2021. Ms. Kalyani Venkattaraman and Shalini were the resource persons. The programs begun at 10.00 a.m. and lasted till 3.30 p.m. The sessions focused on the staff capacity building and life skill trainings. The staff of Deepti Foundation Gyaansarovar Child resource centre could be guided and enriched by the training programs.

f. Pastoral Visit: His Grace Arch Bishop Kuriakose



Bharanikulangara, Archbishop of Faridabad visited Deepti Niwas on 27 September 2021. Along with Archbishop there were also the Chancellor, Vicar General, Parish Priest, and Assistant Parish priest who blessed the occasion with their presence. Fr Santhosh Olapurackal MST, Delegate of Delhi Mary Queen Mission and Director Deepti Foundation, cordially welcomed the Archbishop and team. After a short prayer in the Chapel the team had moved to the office premise and had discussions. And visit ended with the sumptuous meal with other members of the house and associates.

4. Kristjyoti Catholic Mission, Rohru (HP)

a. Reception of Sacraments of Initiation: The most happiest moments of Kristjyoti Catholic Mission, as we could train a few number of faithful and could confer the Sacraments of Initiation. More than seventeen people received Sacraments of Initiation on different occasions starting from 14 July. People were given one week class and coaching before receiving the Sacraments. Importance of Sacraments and Catholic life was



explained to the prior to the reception of the Sacraments. Fr Sanoj Pathrapankal was the minister of these Sacraments and Fr Siby Poovathinkal shared the Word of God.

b. Catechetical Children's Camp: One day Catechetical camp



was arranged for our faithful Children at Kristjyoti Catholic mission Rohru. The camp was organized on 14 August. The aim of this camp was to introduce and teach Catholic prayers and Sacraments to our children. There were more than thirty children gathered

for the camp aged from first standard to twelfth standard. The camp began from 10:30 a.m. and ended at 5:00 p.m. Rev. Fr Siby Poovathinkal and Fr Sanoj Pathrapankal led the classes. The camp ended with one hour of indoor games. This Catechetical camp helped the children to know more about our faith.

c. Visit of Mar Jose Puthenveetil: His Excellency Bishop Mar



Jose Puthenveetil made his visit to Kristjyoti Catholic mission Rohru. He was with the people of the mission from 10 to 14 September. He was really happy to be involved in the field and was actively participated in different prayer services. He administered

Sacraments of Initiation to six members of a family. He also took the leadership to visit and conduct prayers in different houses of our faithful. On Sunday we was the main preacher and he taught about the importance of the Word of



God. There were more than 150 people present for the Sunday service and he specially prayed for each family. It was during this occasion we could distribute prizes to the children which they gained during different competitions through Mar Jose. He was accompanied by Rev. Fr Santhosh Olapurackal and Fr Joseph Karodan. Visit of His Excellency really encouraged our people and it was a great blessing for all.

d. Visit of Fr Saju Elanjyil: Rev. Fr Saju Elanjyil, renowned Charismatic Preacher visited Kristijyoti Catholic mission Rohru for three days. He took the pain to visit and pray for the sick and needy. On Sunday we have a half day convention and prayer. There were more than 90 people present for the prayer. People really benefited spiritually through his visit and prayer.



5. Deepti Ashram, Najafgarh

a. Dukhrana cum Jubilee Celebration: Delhi delegation celebrated the feast of St. Thomas (dukhrana) on 7 July at Deepti Ashram. All the MST fathers those who are working in Delhi and Punjab participated in the one day programme. Together with the feast we also celebrated the silver jubilee of our dear father George Mecheril MST. Fr Mecheril was the main celebrant for the mass and he enlightened all of us with his thoughts and 25 years of priestly



experience. After the prayers our children performed some cultural programs and greeted all the fathers with a flower.

b. Self-defence Classes for Girls: In order to have an awareness about self-defence among children, we have arranged self-defence class for girls in Deepti Ashram in collaboration with Delhi police. A lady police officer came from Dwarka police station and took class for fifteen days. There after assistant commissioner of police distributed the certificate and congratulated our children for their active participation in it.



c. Independence Day Celebration

On 15th august we celebrated the 75th independence day of our nation. In the morning after the prayers Fr George Kachirayil hosted the flag and followed by there were some beautiful cultural programs by our children.



d. Nursing Studies for Girls

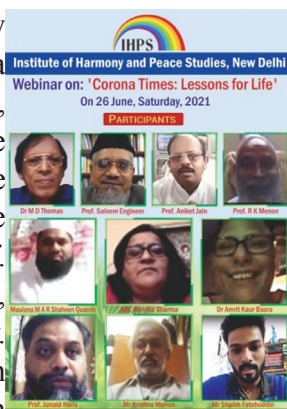
Two of our children Munitha and Kareena after completing their plus two studies we have send them Jalandhar at Sacred Heart Medical College for their nursing studies. On 30 September along with Fr Joseph Kardon and Sr Ashritha they went to Panjab.

(Reported by Fr Sanoj Pathrapankal, Delhi Delegation)

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

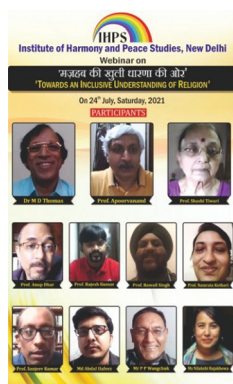
a. Webinar on -Corona Times: Lessons for Life: Institute of

Harmony and Peace Studies (IHPS), New Delhi, organized a webinar on 'Corona Times: Lessons for Life' on 'Zoom' app, on 26 June 2021, at 17.00 hours. The webinar was live streamed on the YouTube channel of the institute. The speakers of the webinar were Prof. Saleem Engineer, Prof. K. R. Menon, Prof. Amrit Kaur Basra, Prof. Anekant Jain, Prof. Junaid Harris, Adv. Monika Sharma, Maulana M. Shaheen Qasmi, Mr Krishna Menon, Janab Shaikh Fatehuddin and Fr Dr M. D. Thomas, along with several others participating in it.



b. Webinar on -Towards an Inclusive Understanding of

Religion: IHPS organized another webinar on 'Towards an Inclusive Understanding of Religion', on 'Zoom' on 24 July 2021, at 17.00 hours. The webinar was live streamed on the YouTube channel of the institute. The speakers of the webinar were Prof. Apoorvanand, Prof. Shashi Tiwari, Prof. Anoop Dhar, Prof. Rajesh Kumar, Prof. Rawail Singh, Prof. Namrata Kothari, Prof. Sanjeev Kumar, Janab Mohammad Abdul Hafeez and Dr M. D. Thomas, along with several others participating in it.



c. National Webinar on - Life is the Centre, not Religion:

On 21 August 2021 IHPS organized a national webinar, involving professors from universities on 'Life is the Centre, not Religion', on 'Zoom' app, at 17.00 hours. The webinar was live streamed on the YouTube channel of the institute. The speakers of the webinar were Prof. Lajwanti Chatani, Prof. M. Afzal Wani, Prof. Manjit



Singh, Prof. Vidya Jain, Prof. Ram Kumar Rana, Prof. Shaheena Khatib, Prof. K. V. Dominic, Prof. Alok Gadia, Prof. Biswajit Das, Prof. Anamika Girdhar, Mr Pushkar Jha, Mr Sameer Mishra and Dr M. D. Thomas, along with several others participating in it.

d. Lectures at Seminars

i. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Vidyarthiyon ke Liye Adhyaatm ke Praasangiktaa’ (Relevance of Spirituality for Students) – during ‘International Spirituality Olympiad’ – organized by International Spirituality Council, New



Delhi – at India International Centre, New Delhi – on 08 August 2021.

ii. Delivered *Keynote Lecture* on ‘Samvaad se Samanvay aur Shaanti ke Or’ (From Dialogue to Harmony and Peace) – during



‘Launch of Samvaad Project’ – Two-Day Seminar for Social Workers in Uttar Pradesh Dioceses — Organized by Caritas India, New Delhi – Hosted by Meerut Seva

Samaj, Meerut - - at Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh – on 15 September 2021.

iii. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Saamaajik Kaaryakartaaon ke beech Samvaad’ (Dialogue among Social Workers) – during ‘Launch of Samvaad Project’ – Two-Day Seminar for Social Workers of Uttar Pradesh Dioceses — organized by Caritas India, New Delhi – Hosted by Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut — at Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh – on 15 September 2021.

iv. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Saamaajik Kaaryakartaaon dwaaraa Sabhee Samudaayon ke saath Samvaad’ (Dialogue with All Communities by Social Workers) – during ‘Launch of Samvaad

Project’ – Two-Day Seminar for Uttar Pradesh — organized by Caritas India, New Delhi – Hosted by Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut – at Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh – on 15 September 2021.

v. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Vividh Samudaayon mein Samvaad ke Vividh Aayaam aur Dishaayein’ (Diverse Dimensions and Directions of Dialogue in Diverse Communities) – during ‘Launch of Samvaad Project’ – Two-Day Seminar for Uttar Pradesh -- organized by Caritas India, New Delhi – Hosted by Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut — at Meerut Seva Samaj, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh – on 15 September 2021.

vi. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Mauzoodaa Haalaat mein Ahimsaa kee Saarthakataa’ (The Significance of Non-violence in the Current Context) – during Seminar on ‘World Non-violence Day and Gandhi’ – organized by Anuvrat Samiti, New Delhi and Anuvrat Vishwa Bharati Society, Rajsamand, Rajasthan – at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi – on 04 October 2021.

e. Lectures at Webinars

i. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘The Biblical Roots of the Pandemic Corona Virus’ – during Webinar on ‘Asia Alliance Religious Peace Camp’ – organized by Office of Interfaith Dialogue, World Alliance of Religions for Peace (WARP), Seoul, South Korea – on 30 July 2021.

ii. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Teaching the Respective Religious Communities during Corona Times’ – during Webinar on ‘Asia Alliance Religious Peace Camp’ – organized by Office of Interfaith Dialogue, World Alliance of Religions for Peace (WARP), Seoul, South Korea – on 30 July 2021.

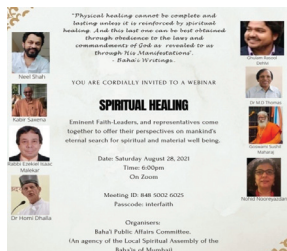
iii. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Friendship: the Litmus Test of Life’ – during Webinar on ‘International Day of Friendship’ – organized by Indian



Council for Human Relations (ICHR), New Delhi – on 03 August 2021.

iv. Delivered *Keynote Lecture* on ‘Making a Harmonious India’ – during National Webinar on Celebrating India of My Dreams’ (<https://youtu.be/5lohk1bnW8g>) – organized by NEIRBC Commission for Dialogue and Ecumenism and SANSKRITI-North Eastern Institute of Cultural Research, Guwahati – on 14 August 2021.

v. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Spiritual Healing: Implications and Dimensions’ – during Webinar on ‘Spiritual Healing’ – organized by Baha’i Public Affairs Committee, Mumbai – on 28 August 2021.



vi. Delivered *Special Lecture* on ‘World Peace: Dimensions and Prospects’ – during Webinar on ‘International Day of Peace’ (Progressive Strides of Sustainable India)– organized by ASN Senior Secondary School, New Delhi – on 21 September 2021.

vii. Delivered *Lecture* on ‘Kshamaa Yaachnaa (Michchhaami Dukkdam) se Vishwa Maitree kee Or’ (World Peace by Asking for Forgiveness) – during Webinar on ‘Kshamaapanaa aur Vishwa Maitree Diwas’ – live telecast on Paras TV Channel, Haryana – organized by Digambar Jain Mahasamiti, New Delhi – at New Delhi – on 26 September 2021.



f. Video Messages on Social Media

On YouTube Channel of Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies (<https://www.youtube.com/InstituteofHarmonyandPeaceStudies>) – shared on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mdthomas53>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/mdthomas53>) – circulated on WhatsApp

(9810535378) among over 7000 persons – sent by E-mail to several thousands of concerned Individuals and Institutions across the globe.

i. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘World Population Day 2021’ (English) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 11 July 2021.

ii. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Eid-al-Azhaa 2021’ (Hindi) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 19 July 2021.

iii. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘International Friendship Day 2021’ (English) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 30 July 2021.

iv. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘International Youth Day 2021’ (English) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 12 August 2021.

v. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Swatantrtaa Diwas / Independence Day (Hindi) 2021’ – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 15 August 2021.

vi. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Onam 2021’ (Hindi) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 21 August 2021.

vii. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Janmaashtmee 2021’ (Hindi) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 30 August 2021.

viii. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Shikshak Diwas / Teachers’ Day (Hindi) 2021’ – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 05 September 2021.

ix. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Hindee Diwas 2021’ (Hindi) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 14 September 2021.

x. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘International Day of Peace 2021’ (English) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 21 September 2021.

xi. Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Gaandhee Jayantee 2021’ (Hindi) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 02 October 2021.

g. Views at Diverse Platforms

i. Delivered *Views* on ‘Corona Samay: Swaasthya Sambandhee, Saamaajik aur Raashtreey Sudhaar’ kaa Vishesh Sandarbh (Corona Times: Special Context for Health Related Social and National Reforms) – during ‘Online Meeting of Religious Leaders with Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi, in view of offering Support to meet



the Challenges of Corona Pandemic’ – organized by Dharmik Jan Morcha, New Delhi – on 28 July 2021.

ii. Delivered *Views* as on ‘Shree Radhe Shiam par Vyaakhyaan aur Granth’ (Lecture and

Book on Shree Radhe Shiam) – during discussion on ‘Saamaajik Kaaryakarta Swargeey Shree Radhe Shiam ke Saamaajik Yogdaan’ (Social Contribution of Social Worker Late Shree Radhe Shiam) – organized by Prof. Bharti, Professor, National Law University, New Delhi – at Press Club of India, New Delhi – on 01 October 2021.

h. Messages

Delivered *Video Message* on ‘Hate Speech Violates Religion and Ethics’ – to Ms Nilakshi Rajkhowa, Director, Office of Public Affairs, National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’is of India — for ‘Call for End to the Campaign against Baha’is’ in Iran’ at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 15 July 2021.

i. Interaction with Dignitaries

i. Had *Interaction* with Mr Iqbal Mulla, National Secretary, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, New Delhi, along with Mr Waris Hussain and Mr Zaheer Ahmed – on ‘Dharmaantaran kaa Maslaa: Kya Sahee, Kya Galat?’ (The Issue of Conversion: What is Right, What is Wrong?) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 13 July 2021.

ii. Had *Interaction* with Mr Iqbal Mulla, National Secretary, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, New Delhi, along with Mr Waris Hussain and Mr Zaheer Ahmed



– on ‘Desh kaa Maujoodaa Haalaat aur Vikaas kaa Utaar-Chadhaav’ (The Current Situation of the Country and the Ups and Downs of Development) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 13 July 2021.

iii. Had *Interaction* with Mr Iqbal Mulla, National Secretary, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, New Delhi, along with Mr Waris Hussain and Mr Zaheer Ahmed – on ‘Mazhabee Kattartaa aur Naitik Khokhlaapan’ (Religious Fanaticism and Moral Hollowness) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 13 July 2021.

iv. Had *Interaction* with Mr Iqbal Mulla, National Secretary, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, New Delhi, along with Mr Waris Hussain and Mr Zaheer Ahmed – on ‘Mazhabee Deewaaron se Oopar Uthen aur Insaan-Insaan mein Dostee Kaayam Karen’ (Rise above Religious Walls and establish Friendship among Human Beings) – at IHPS Office, New Delhi – on 13 July 2021.

v. Had *Interaction* with Mr Manish Agrawal, Deputy Director, Quality Council of India, New Delhi – on ‘Gunvatta hee Jeevan kee Pahchan Hai’ (Quality is the Hallmark of Life) – during Gandhi Peace Foundation Lecture Series 2021 on ‘Mahatama Gandhi’ by Professor Sudhir Chandra – at Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi – on 02 October 2021.

j. Articles to Journals, Books and Websites

i. Authored *Article* on ‘The Spirituality of Science’ – in ‘Indian Journal of Spirituality’ (Quarterly Journal), Bangalore – April-June 2021, vol. XXXIV, NO. 2, P.215-224.

ii. Authored *Article* on ‘Believers, Heaven is for Good Persons!’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 28, p.06-07 – on 12-18 July 2021.

iii. Authored *Article* on ‘Stan Swamy Pursued the Footprints of Jesus’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 29, p.14-15 – on 19-25 July 2021.

iv. Authored *Article* on ‘Stan Swamy Pursued the Footprints of Jesus’ – in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly Magazine), Delhi, Vol. XXXIII,

Issue No. 30, p. 35-37 – on 19-25 July 2021.

v. Authored *Article* on ‘Making Population a Strength’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 30, p.14-15 – on 26 July 2021-01 August 2021.

vi. Authored *Article* on ‘Friendship’ the Litmus Test of Life’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 31, p.14-15 – on 02-08 August 2021.

vii. Authored *Article* on ‘Youth the Architects of Tomorrow’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 33, p.08-09 – on 16-22 August 2021.

viii. Authored *Article* on ‘Gareebon kee Aazaadee ke saath khilwaad’ (Playing with the Freedom of the Poor) – in ‘Sandesh (Monthly Magazine), Patna, Year 72, vol.7-8, p.14-15 – in July-August 2021.

ix. Authored *Article* on ‘Temples v/s Human Temples!’ – in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly), New Delhi, Vol. XXXIII, Issue No. 37, p. 32-33 – on 06-12 September 2021.

x. Authored *Article* on ‘Temples versus Human Temples!’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 37, p.01-03 – on 13-19 September 2021.

xi. Authored *Article* on ‘Peace’ Makes the World Humane!’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 38, p.06-07 – on 20-26 September 2021.

xii. Authored *Article* on ‘Peace’ Makes the World Humane!’ – in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly), New Delhi, Vol. XXXIII, Issue No. 38, p. 30-31 – on 20-26 September 2021.

xiii. Authored *Article* on ‘Life is the Centre, not Religion’ – in ‘The Secular Citizen’ (Weekly Magazine), Mumbai, Vol. 30, Issue No. 40, p.01-03 – on 04-10 October 2021.

xiv. Authored *Article* on ‘Life is the Centre, not Religion’ – in ‘Indian Currents’ (Weekly), New Delhi, Vol. XXXIII, Issue No.41, p.29-30 – on 04-10 October 2021.

k. Articles to Blog ‘Towards Harmony’ (<https://drmdthomas.blogspot.com>)

- i. Authored Article on ‘Making Population a Strength’ (World Population Day / 11 July 2021) on Blog ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 12 July 2021.
- ii. Authored Article on ‘Tarzeeh De, Jaan ke Maalik kee Marzee ko’ (Give Preference to the Will of the Master of Life) (Eid-al-Azhaa / 19 July 2021) on Blog ‘Samanvay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 20 July 2021.
- iii. Authored Article on ‘Friendship’ the Litmus Test of Life’ (International Friendship Day / 30 July 2021) on Blog ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 31 July 2021.
- iv. Authored Article on ‘Youth the Architects of Tomorrow’ (International Youth Day / 12 August 2021) on Blog ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 13 August 2021.
- v. Authored Article on ‘Meraa Desh Jaag Jaaye, Aazaadee ke us Swarg kee Or!’ (Wake up my Country, towards that Heaven of Freedom!) (Independence Day / 15 August 2021) on Blog ‘Samnavay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 16 August 2021.
- vi. Authored Article on ‘Onam Insaan-Insaan mein Sambhaav Badhaaye’ (Onam should increase Equality among the Humans) (Onam/ 21 August 2021) on Blog ‘Samnavay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 22 August 2021.
- vii. Authored Article on ‘Shree Krishn se Nishkaam Karm Saadhnaa Seekhen’ (Learn Nishkaam-Karm from Shree Krishn (Janmaashtmee / 30 August 2021) on Blog ‘Samnavay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 31 August 2021.
- viii. Authored Article on ‘Shikshak ‘Guru’ Bane aur Chhaatron kee Zindgee Banaaye’ (Teachers should become ‘Gurus’ and make Student’s Life) (Teachers’ Day / 05 September 2021) on Blog ‘Samnavay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 06 September 2021
- ix. Authored Article on ‘Taaki Hindee Bhaarat ke Dil-Dil ko Jod Sake’ (So that Hindi connect the Hearts of India) (Hindee Day / 14

September 2021) on Blog ‘Samnavay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 15 September 2021.

x. Authored Article on ‘Peace’ Makes the World Humane!’ (International Day of Peace / 21 September 2021) on Blog ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 22 September 2021.

xi. Authored Article on ‘Gaandheejee kee Prerna se ‘Aazaadee’ kee Ladaaee Chaltee Rahe’ (May the Inspiration of Gandhijee Keep the Freedom Struggle Going!) (Gaandhee Jayantee / 02 October 2021) on Blog ‘Samnavay kee Or’ / ‘Towards Harmony’ – on 03 October 2021.

I. Award: UN World Interfaith Harmony Week 2021 Prize to IHPS

Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies (IHPS), New Delhi, is awarded the ‘Third Prize’ of the 11th UN World Interfaith Harmony Week 2021. The Prize was approved, established and declared by the United Nations and is sponsored and administered by King



Abdullah II of Jordan. The ‘citation and medal’ to the above effect was awarded to Fr Dr M. D. Thomas, Director of the above institute, by His Excellency Mohammed El Kayed, Ambassador of the Embassy of the Hashemite (Jordan), in a

simple function held at the embassy, on 06 September 2021.

The award has come to the institute as against the diverse ways of celebrating the ‘World Interfaith Harmony Week 2021’ undertaken by the Director of the institute, in line with the declaration of the United Nations, backed by its committed efforts to this cause.

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

E. Odisha Mission

1. Covid-19 Relief Work:

Jyoty Marg Education and Charitable Trust, Odisha made another



history in Odisha by reaching out to more than 1500 tribal families and widows with the spark of love and care through the Covid-

19 Project of *Sneha Charitable Trust* and *Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation*. We executed this programme in ten civil blocks with the help of three Mission Centres, such as Nirmal Jyoty Social action Centre, Baliguda in Kandhamal, Sacred Heart Centre, Laxmipur in Koraput and Little Flower Mission, Kundra in Koraput. The lockdowns that followed the first and second waves of the pandemic made these people unemployed and led to the brink of starvation. The people are all dependent on daily wage labour and we reached them with the survival kits including food, groceries and household cleaning materials, masks and sanitizers. It was a great chance for us to address the immediate needs of people of our mission. Through this project we could reach out to the maximum with the love and care and it helped us to bring the ray of hope and smile to the face of poor and needy tribal people of Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Rayagada and Koraput districts of Odisha.

2. Visit of the Director General and Team



MST Odisha Mission was blessed with the visit of Very Rev. Fr Director General and Rev. Frs Peter Kavumpuram and Joy Kunnel from 9 to 16 September 2021. The visit was marked with the visits to all mission centers, village visits and prayer services, blessings of the community care centers (CCC- village prayer halls) inauguration of the non-formal education programs for the school dropout children of the villages, blessings of the foundation stones for the presbytery buildings in deferent missions, etc.

Last day of the visit was set apart for the sharing and the evaluation by the missionaries on the basis of their experiences in the field for last two years. It was flowed by a planning session. The meeting concluded with the message from the Director General,



where he appreciated the great initiatives taken in the mission in spite of the struggles and limitations of the pioneer work. The Director General also mentioned his wish to bring as many as possible members of the Society to visit Odisha Mission to have a first-hand experience of the mission, which may help to have more missionaries to Odisha.

3. Blessing of the Village Churches

MST Odisha Mission is happy to share the joy of the blessing of three more new village churches in deferent mission centers of the mission by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor in the presence of Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram and Rev. Fr Joy Kunnel. St Francis



Church, Kadhamchalo of Sacred Heart Mission, Laxmipur was blessed on 10 October 2021. St Joseph Church, Jabapadar of Little Flower Mission, Kundra was blessed and opened for the people



on 11 October 2021. St Peter Church, Sindhiguda of Divine Mercy Centre, M Rampur was blessed on 13 October 2021.

With the blessing of these three churches we have 18 village churches in our Mission in Odisha. During the blessings of these village churches Very Rev. Fr General expressed the gratitude and appreciation to the missionaries and the villagers for their hard work taken for the completion of the construction of these village churches. We do remember our benefactors who contributed generously for the construction of these churches in our mission.

4. Entrusting Rampur Mission Centre to MST by FIAT

Divine Mercy Centre, M Rampur was established on 29 May 2019 under the leadership of Rev. Fr Joseph Cheriampanattu with the collaboration



and help of FIAT Mission. After completing the Odia language course Fr Ambrose Kollamattam joined the mission in the month of June 2019. It is the spiritual and financial support of FIAT and the missionary commitment of Frs Joseph Cheriampanattu and Ambrose Kollamattam that made the mission a fruitful one in M Rampur block.

It has 12 villages with catholic presence, in which 11 village have small church building to come together for worship. Other than the pastoral activities, the Centre has educational and social programs such as educational scholarship for the village children, water shed programs, awareness programs, etc.

On 30 July 2021, the FIAT mission handed the mission over to MST as they face the financial problems due to the pandemic. Until then, the FIAT Mission had been helping us with the complete financial support for the maintenance of the missionaries and mission center, meeting every expense and providing every necessary provision like vehicles, driver, furniture, etc. When they withdrew the support, except the sumo-jeep and a motor-bike, everything else was left for the use of the mission. On 13 September 2021 Very Rev. Fr Director General honoured FIAT Mission for their committed service and support in developing the mission in M Rampur and handing it over to MST. As a token of our love and gratitude, a memento was presented to Bro Ceatley George, the Director of FIAT Mission by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor. We the MST family, especially the Odisha Mission express our gratitude and love for the great support and collaboration that the FIAT Mission makes in this mission.

5. Foundation Stone Blessing for Presbytery

Foundation stones for future Presbytery buildings for Nirmal Jyoty



Mission, Balliguda, Divine Mercy Centre, M. Rampur and Little Flower Mission, Kundra were blessed by Very Rev. Fr General on 16

October 2021. We have been working in these areas for the past two years and have reached out to many villages staying in rented houses. Now it is time for us to establish and start different ministries

and programs. We have already purchased land properties in Balliguda and M Rampur and land registration processes started for Little Flower Mission, Kundra.

6. House Blessing at Balliguda



A temporary building for residence for Nirmal Jyoty Mission at Balliguda was blessed on 15 September 2021 by the Director General Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor. It is a two

bedroom building where the missionaries of Balliguda are going stay and continue their ministry. They were staying in a rented house since its beginning and staying in our on land will help them to develop the land and look after the construction being done in the land.

7. Syro-Malabar Catholic Youth Movement, Odisha

SMCYM Shamshabad extended its unit and programs to MST Odisha Mission. Fr Ambrose Kollamattam is appointed as the in charge of Youth Movement of MST Odisha Mission. The unit was formerly inaugurated on 15 August 2021 through an online flat form. Youths from all our mission centers are being coordinated by Fr



Ambrose. Divine Mercy Centre, M Rampur has a well-organized youth group that help our missionaries in the faith formation programmes, especially in the training for our Holy Qurbana and other sacraments.

8. Sent-Off to Rev. Fr . Cheriampanattu

Rev. Fr Joseph Cheriampanattu was honoured and remembered



with gratitude for the great contribution he made for the establishment and development of the Divine Mercy Centre, M Rampure on.27 September 2021. Fr Jose started the mission in collaboration with FIAT Mission in 2019 and within a short period of two and half years it has developed in to a great mission with 12 Catholic villages. After the completion of the contract with FIAT Mission, he has taken a break for three months to prepare some catechism books for the faith formation programmess of Odisha mission. He will be re-joining the mission in January 2022 to start a new mission and training cum prayer center for the faith formation in Khandamal district. Fr Ambrose Kollamattam has taken charge as the in charge of the mission to continue the programs and ministry started by Fr Jose. We the missionaries of Odisha express our gratitude and love for the great work that Fr Jose has done to establish and develop the Divine Mercy Centre.

(Reported by Rev. Fr Jomon Ayyankanal, Coordinator, St Joseph Mission, Odisha)

F. Arunachal Mission

1. Pakke Kessang Mission

a. Celebration of the Nativity of Our Lady

The Catholic communities in our parish are very particular in solemnizing the feast of our Lady, especially to give a different witness to their Protestant neighbors. With this purpose, on 8 September and a few following days too, the statue of our Lady was carried in devotion to many of the houses in the parish. People in the



neighbourhood would also join for the procession making the celebration very devotional and prayerful.

b. Funeral Services in Arunachal Pradesh

There are some typical customs in conducting the funeral services of the deceased in the tribal culture. Recently a young college girl passed away in our parish. It was saddening to note that in addition to all clothes and utensils she used, all the awards



and prizes including her academic certificates were buried with her body. The people are very scared to keep anything that was used by the deceased, once they are no more alive.

c. Rosary Devotion in Families



In this month of October, we have the custom of praying rosary in different family clusters. The family units make arrangements to solemnize the Rosary devotion, in a particular house. The families in that clusters also make special offerings to Mother Mary. The

faithful conduct the rosary devotion in a celebrative manner.

d. St Thomas Church, Passa



Another sub-parish, St Thomas Church Passa which comes under St Mary's Church Pakke Kessang is a growing community. This is a prominent substation of Pakke Kessang Parish, where a new church is under construction from January 2020. The foundation stone laid by Fr Benny Kulirany before his departure to America. The communities are extending their free labour for construction. It is getting ready for Blessing in the month December 2021

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

2. Sagalee Mission

a. Construction of a New Church



The construction of Parish Church at Sagalee started recently and it is progressing well. People are co-operating well for the work. Please pray for its successful completion on time. After the lockdowns, the parish community is very active now and is regular for church activities. The youth association also is getting ready to arrange some good programs for Christmas. Thanks be to God for his numerous blessings.

b. Reopening of School and Hostel



The School and hostel reopened in the first week of September 2021. All usual activities are resumed and are going on well. By the grace of God so far all the children in the hostel are healthy. A team of doctors and

nurses came from the government hospital to give instruction regarding health and hygiene for the school children. The government gave solar emergency lamps for all the children.

(Reported by Fr Saji Choorakunnel, Sagalee, Itanagar)

G. Overseas Missions

1. United States

Mission Appeal of 2021

Since the churches in the US started reopening for services after covid in the month of April 2021, we were invited to preach the mission appeal in four different dioceses this summer. This year we could not get the service of our visiting MST priests for mission preaching. Hence our MST priests here, despite their prime responsibilities to their parishes, were willing to sacrifice some days for the mission preaching. We are grateful to all of our fathers for their commitment and support for the mission appeal.

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

2. Austria

a. Christopher Sunday

On 25 July 2021 Christopher Sunday was celebrated in all our parishes and a special collection for MIVA was also made. After the Holy Mass special blessings were given to all kinds of vehicles brought for it and Christopher stickers from MIVA were distributed to all.



b. Assumption of Bl. Virgin Mary

On 15 August 2021 the feast of the Assumption of Bl. Virgin Mary was solemnly celebrated in all our parishes. After the Holy Eucharist, herbs and flowers were blessed which people brought from home as special offerings. The Catholic women movement prepared and organized the Celebration.

c. Holy Mass at Lake

To commemorate 130 years of fire and rescue service of the Fire brigade of Bernhardsthal, Holy Eucharist was celebrated at

Bernhardsthal Lake (Feldmesse beim Teich) on 22 August 2021. Lots of people attended the Mass. The celebration and Holy Mass were prepared and organized by the volunteers of the fire department. And the Lake Mass in Katzelsdorf was on 8 August 2021.



d. Feast of the Patron saints of the Parishes

The parish feast and the H. Eucharist were solemnly celebrated in Katzelsdorf on 22 August 2021 and on 5 September 2021 in Bernhardsthal. The celebrations were organized by the parish choir and music band. After the Holy Mass all marched towards a nearby restaurant with a music band for lunch.

e. Holy Mass for Hunters

On 12 September 2021, a special Holy Mass was arranged for the hunters (Jägermesse bei der Hubertus Kapelle) of Bernhardsthal in the field near St Hubertus Chapel. Lots of people attended the Holy Eucharist. Foods and Drinks were served after the Mass. The celebration is prepared and organized by hunters- club of Bernhardsthal.

f. Pilgrimage to Ödendorf Cross

On 12 September 2021 (Sunday afternoon), people from different parishes pilgrimed to Ödendorf Cross – Cross Church (Sternwallfahrt



zum Ödendorfkreuz) and special prayers and adoration were conducted under the leadership of the nearby priest. It is believed that in that

place of the Cross, a large church and a vibrant Christian community were there in the medieval period (13-14 centuries).

g. Harvest Feast

By the end of harvest-period, thanksgiving masses are arranged in all our parishes for the good crops of the year. A big crown is made with wheats and other grains and fruits. People gather in a special place and the harvest crown is blessed. The farmers carry the harvest crown in procession with a music band to Church. The altar and the church is decorated with fruits and vegetables. We also have a harvest thanksgiving Mass in all our Mass centers. The celebrations and agape are organized by the farmers in the parish and the parish council.

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

3. Germany

a. July Gathering of MSTs



After a long time of waiting due to the corona pandemic, we decided to conduct our July gathering. On 5 July (evening) we reached 'Pax Gästehaus' in Unkel. On 6h July we celebrated Requiem Mass for our departed priests Fr Emmanuel Mattathil and Fr John Nattunilath. Tuesday was set apart as a recollection day. Rev. Fr Tomy Kummaniyil gave us an excellent talk, followed



by confession and adoration. Evening we had a Zoom Meeting with the Director General – Very Rev. Fr Antony Parumanoor.

On 7 July we celebrated the Jubilee Mass with Rev. Fathers Alexander Vanderkunnel, Benedict Palappurath and Fr Johny Maniamkeril. Fr Baiju Nellikunnel, the Coordinator felicitated the jubilarians. After the breakfast we conducted the meeting of our Registered society. Afternoon we went out for sightseeing.

On 8 July we celebrated Holy Eucharist and the feast of “Dukhrana”. The gathering concluded with Lunch.

b. New Arrivals/Transfers

Fr Joby Kozhippatt and Fr Shejin Puthenpurayil will be arriving shortly in Germany. Both of them will be appointed in the diocese of Würzburg. Hearty welcome dear Fathers!

Rev. Fr Tomy Kumminiyil is transferred to the parish Neresheim (Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart) and he will be staying in Ohmenheim. He is planning to take charge on 8 November 2021. Best wishes to Rev. Fr Tomy!

c. Description about the Parish- Bad Segeberg, Hamburg: by Fr Moozhayil

Loving Greetings from Fr Kuriakose Moozhayil in the Archdiocese of Hamburg, to all our dear fathers of MST.



I have been working in the Archdiocese of Hamburg since 2010 and in the Parish St. John the Baptist, Bad Segeberg since 2015. There are three more Priests working here and we have nine parishes. The nearest Parish is eight kms and the last parish is 52 kms

away from where I stay. Only 10% of the people are Catholics and all others belong to Evangelist or free Evangelist churches. There are so many who do not believe in any God. It is a mission area and is known as Diaspora. Due to the present situation of corona, we had to celebrate this year's first holy communion in nine parishes on different Sundays. In my place we had to celebrate it in two groups. The first group celebrated on 5 September and the second group in the 3 October 2021. On such special Sundays we have three holy Mass so that all the faithful get the opportunity to take part in the holy mass.

(Reported by Fr Pradeep Alex Mattathilanickal, Germany)

4. Canada

a. Pastoral Updates from Nelson, British Columbia

After a long awaited reopening the churches for worship, we were thrilled to celebrate Holy Mass in all the three parishes: Christ the King Parish, Oliver; Our Lady of Lourdes church, Okanagan Falls; and St. Gregory's Church, the First Nation Catholics of the Parish. But some of the unidentified persons burned St. Gregory's Church on June 20, 2021.

i. Burning of the Churches: The diocese of Nelson had four active First Nations Churches in our deanery. All the other 25 churches are inactive. But all of our four active churches were burned in just six days. We had resumed our Church activities and Holy Masses with alternative arrangements. Bishop Gregory Bittman was there as the Pastor to feed and protect the sheep with encouraging words. This arsoning was a warning for all the Catholic Churches for their further security. Thereafter many of our churches have CCTV Cameras, gates to control Church premises and parking space from any suspicious activities. In spite of being a Christian Country, we are suffering from many persecutions.

Persecution and martyrdom were the beginning landmarks of our Church from its origin till the present times. We are not an exception from these persecutions. Every martyrdom gives growth and



strengthening of the Communities in faith.

ii. Car Accident: After years of my driving, I had a car accident on 23 September at 1.30 p.m. on my way to the next parish for pastoral work. Both of us drivers were hospitalized and the cars were written off. I may get a few dollars to buy another car. I was consoled and supported by many of my parishioners, classmates, batch mates and family members. Let me thank God that I am alive and in one piece to continue my service as a missionary.

Mission work is always hard in any part of the world. But we are proud to be in our MST as missionaries capable of adjusting with any person, any place, any country, any liturgy and any situation. We are proud of our formation and missionary zeal. But we should thank everyone with whom we work, that they are able to accept and accommodate us priests who are sent to them for service. As I see, the parishioners as well as co-workers who have to work with us are better heroes than many of us as they are the sheep. But are we the true good shepherds who keep the sheep in one sheepfold?
(Reported by Fr Tom Kakkaniyil, Nelson, BC, Canada)

b. Archdiocese of Regina, Saskatchewan

The Archdiocese of Regina is very much engaged in its missionary activities. There are different programs to rejuvenate and embellish the life of the clergy and the faithful. Archbishop Donald Bolen, a person having fire in the soul is always there to encourage and motivate

his flock with new ideas and initiatives, asking everyone to be God-friendly. There are a few important news to share here

i. World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly: On Sunday, 25 July the Archdiocese celebrated the first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The theme chosen by the Holy Father for the day is “I am with you every day” (cf. Mt. 28:20) and intends to express the closeness of the Lord and the Church to the life of each elderly person, especially in this difficult time of pandemic. The archdiocese, parishes welcomed their elderly very specially and had special prayers for them.

ii. The Archdiocese of Regina Lay Formation Program: The sad truth is, nearly 75% of young people, even those raised in religious homes, will leave the Church by the time they are 25 - well before many of us retire! Some of the most common reasons given for leaving one's faith behind include; perceived conflicts between faith and science, Christians behaving badly, a lack of evidence for the existence of God and difficulties with some of the Church's teachings. The Archdiocese of Regina has already prepared a detailed study project and dates to hold this programme in the best way possible.

iii. St Philomena Walking Pilgrimage 2021: The third annual Saint Philomena Walking Pilgrimage was in August 2021. The pilgrimage started at St Gerard's in Yorkton on Wednesday August 11th, and it ends at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine at Rama on Saturday 14 August. This was a supported walk, rest stops and meals were provided and a trailer carries camping supplies between nightly stops. Pilgrims were invited to join for all or part of the walk. Pilgrims were free to walk at their own pace, and may join, even for part of a day.

iv. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: The Canadian government proclaimed 30 September as a new national statutory holiday, a national day for ‘Truth and Reconciliation’ to honour survivors, their families, and communities. The Catholic Church has a significant role and responsibility for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. Archdiocese of Regina had different programmes and

included special prayers in the liturgy of the day. This day gave us an opportunity to reflect on the history of residential schools and grow in our understanding towards a commitment to true healing and reconciliation.

v. Clergy Study Days: It takes place every year in October four days of study programme for the clergy of the diocese. The Archdiocesan clergy along with the Archbishop are fully there to attend to refresh their mind and heart with new enthusiasm and vision. It was a great time to meet and stay together, but unfortunately, due to the pandemic the study days are online.

The three MST priests (Frs Thattuparampil, Akkattukudiyil and Mandapathil) who are serving the Archdiocese of Regina are keeping fine and enjoying the summer days fulfilling their responsibilities wholeheartedly. We take some effort to meet together at least once a month and share our fellowship. It's Rosary month, we keep rosary in our parishes before the Mass, and the faithful too come and join very earnestly. May Mother Mary intercede for us.

(Reported by Fr Tom Mandapathil, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada)

5. Switzerland

a. New Corona situation in Switzerland

The number of new reported coronavirus cases rose over the summer. After peaking in August, the rates of new Covid infections and hospital admissions have started to fall. Almost 59% of the population are fully vaccinated against Covid. A vaccination campaign targeting young people has been launched on social media channels. From 13 September, Swiss residents must show a Covid certificate to access indoor spaces like restaurants, bars, CHURCHES and museums in order to quash a fourth wave of infections that is putting pressure on hospitals. More than 10,600 people have died in connection with Covid-19 in Switzerland, which has a population of 8.6 million.

b. From my Parish

We have started our routine programmes in Swiss Churches. Once

a year we celebrate «A day for the Migrants». We celebrated it on 26 September 2021 with many and different religious and cultural programmes of various nationalities in my parish. In my parish there are Catholics



from 16 countries. On 9 October 2021, 17 youngsters have received the Sacrament of Confirmation in two groups. October being a month of Rosary the Malayalee community of my parish have conducted 10 days of consecutive rosary prayer. This was an inspiration for other parish members indeed. On 24 October we are going to celebrate a 'Thanksgiving Harvest Festival' (Erntedank). This is a tradition in Switzerland that we give thanks to God for a good harvest which we received this year.

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

6. United Kingdom

a. Parish Life and Focolare Movement

The Focolare Movement began in Trent, an Italian town in 1943. Chiara Lubich (1920-2008), a Catholic, is the founder whose inspiration came from Jesus's prayer for unity, 'that they may all be one'. In the climate of violence and hatred of the Second World War, she saw God's love as the only antidote when civil life was crumbling around her. A group sharing her vision joined in helping those in the shelters and in the poorest parts of the town. When World War II ended, the women who lived together in Trent, who had formed the core of the movement, moved to different places. Eventually it spread to Europe and then worldwide. Those in Focolare live out the gospel values to erase division and create world peace. Its members come from many religions and even include those who are non-religious, though the movement is largely Catholic. Chiara Lubich was the first President of the movement; she was succeeded

by Maria Voce and the current president is Margaret Karram. The heart of Charism of Unity of the Focolare Movement is trying to put into practice the prayer of Jesus, 'That all may be one'.

In Britain the movement is active. Since 2001 I have been closely associated with a group of 10/12 members - Catholic priests and deacons - belonging to this movement and regularly attend the Word of Life meeting every first Tuesday. We usually meet in the evening, read and reflect on a particular verse from the Bible, especially from the New Testament and share our experiences and conclude with evening prayer and meal together. This month (October) unfortunately, being not well, I could not join the group, but read and reflected on the Word of Life for this month, **'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.'** (MK 9:35). I focussed on one aspect, 'Jesus had confidence in the disciples, despite their fragility and fears', in conjunction with the sharing of the experiences of two Focolare members: Fr Jonathan Cotton OSB and David Hickey. Fr Jonathan, from his personal conviction and ecumenical experience and still remaining a faithful Benedictine monk, says: 'I have a kind of revelation that God not to be found only in ritual and obedience to the Catholic Church, but that God himself loves me. I can see this from the presence of many people, from all walks of life and different strands of Christian living.' David Hickey says: 'When Jesus prayed "That all may be one", it was the dream of a God-Man. And we see it realised partially every time we experience real unity, not despite our differences, but often because of them.'

With these two inspiring experiences I shared with the parishioners my own reflection on Jesus' instruction to his disciples on love and tolerance. When Jesus found that his disciples could not accept the views of others who did not belong to their group, he categorically made it clear to them: 'Anyone who is not against us is for us.' Jesus came to save all peoples and to cooperate with him and continue his mission he chose the apostles. Through their successors we are to continue the same mission today with greater tolerance than ever, especially in the midst of various religions and denominations in the

same religion. It is this tolerance, born of love, that can respect others' right to their own thoughts, words and deeds of truth. What is this truth? God Himself as Jesus said: 'I am the way, the life and the truth.' Here we should keep in mind that there is far more than one way to God, as Tennyson, the Victorian poet says, 'God fulfils himself in many ways' or sixteenth century novelist and dramatist, Cervantes says, 'Many are the roads by which God carries his own to heaven.' It is this tolerance that welcomes a Mother Teresa, a Pope Benedict XVI, a Pope Francis, a Prime Minister Boris Johnson, a Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a President Joe Biden or anyone for that matter without any conflict of Christian or gospel values. Yes, mysterious are the ways of God. Let us remain united, not despite, but because of our differences. God Bless!

(Share by Fr Luke Marappillil, London, UK)

b. St. Simon Stock Roman Catholic Church, Ashford, Kent.

St Simon Stock Catholic Church, Ashford is in Kent, the far South-East corner of Britain. Kent is known as 'the Garden of England' because of its abundance of fruit orchards and is just 15km across the English Channel from the north coast of France.



It was the first area of Britain to be converted to Christianity in the 6th century after Pope Gregory I had sent the religious missionary Augustine (later St. Augustine of Canterbury) to Christianize Kent, and he became the first Archbishop of Canterbury in 597. The Diocese of Canterbury became England's first Episcopal See and Canterbury Cathedral remains the 'Mother Church' of Christianity in England.

The Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel moved from their home in Palestine in the 13th Century and in 1247 came to Aylesford, Kent, the home of Simon Stock, when they migrated to England. The Blessed Virgin Mary is traditionally said to have appeared to Simon Stock and given him the Carmelite habit, the

Brown Scapular. He became one of the earliest Priors of the Order in Aylesford, which is still the site of a Carmelite Monastery and a place of pilgrimage and retreat.

24 kms from Canterbury, and 36 kms from Aylesford, is the market town of Ashford which is well known for the busy international railway station, numerous industrial estates, extensive retail outlets and an expanding general hospital.

The parish of St Simon of England, later renamed St. Simon Stock, was established in Ashford in 1987 and the church was consecrated on 31 October 1996. The parish is celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year on Sunday 31 October. Most Reverend John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark is the principal celebrant. Former parish priests and priests from neighbouring parishes concelebrate with him which add the flavour of the celebration. On this occasion the parish is producing a glossy souvenir publication to mark the Jubilee with contributions from the Archbishop, all the former Parish Priests and many well-wishers.

2021 has also been a year of great celebration and blessing for the parish as, on 17 July, David Hunter, a young man who was baptised in our parish church, was ordained to the priesthood and he is the first one from our parish. He offered his first Mass in St Simon Stock Church and people were so enthusiastic to attend this august function.

(Reported by Fr Hans Puthiakulangara, Parish Priest, Southwark, UK)

c. Mar Sleeva Mission, Ashford (Eparchy of Great Britain)

Mar Sleeva Mission is functioning as a 'quasi' parish for the Syro-Malabar Catholics in Ashford, Kent. The geographical boundary of this Mission covers half of Kent region including many historical places such as Canterbury, Dover



and Ashford. Ashford is the hub of this Mission. Considering the vast area of it we have Holy Qurbana and catechism classes at two places namely Aylesham and Ashford on every Saturday and Sunday respectively. On special occasions we hire some common place where all can gather together for celebrations and boost family bindings.

As COVID 19 lockdown was lifted on 19 July 2021 we restarted various activities. The first step was to organize a one-day get together for the youth and it was a wonderful experience for them. We had a series of administering sacraments such as Holy



Communion, Sacraments of initiation and wedding which were held back due to the lockdown. The Mission Council took a major decision to celebrate Mission Feast and mission family gathering in September.

Mar Sleeva Mission, celebrated its mission day and the feast of the exaltation of the Holy Cross on 18 September 2021 at Canterbury. Reverend Father Tebin Puthenpurackal CMI, the Regional (London) Youth Director was the main celebrant and Fr Jose Palliyil VC preached the homily. The colourful procession carrying statues of saints led the faithful to walk with nostalgic experience. The auction of garden products made the congregation more active and vibrant. As the part of mission day celebration there was public meeting and entertainment programmes. Award winners from catechism classes and different competitions were given prizes and all couples completed 25 years of married life were felicitated and honoured in public. The variety of cultural programmes were presented by kids and youth became one of the highlights of the ceremony.

Moving forward we restarted face-to-face catechism classes from the first week of October after the successful organization of the

online classes during the covid-19 restriction time.

(Fr Hans Puthiakulangara, Mission Co-ordinator, Eparchy of Great Britain, U.K.)

7. Tanzania

a. Blessing of the Church



22 August 2021 was a memorable day for the people of Madale. The parish of Madale was celebrating the parish feast. The day was coloured with Confirmation, Social Marriage and above all, the blessing of the newly

built church at Madale. One hundred and forty two children received the sacrament of confirmation, and eighteen couples received the sacrament of marriage. The Archbishop of Dar es salaam, Yuda Thaddeus Ruwaichi, blessed the newly built church. Three thousand faithful participated in the ceremonies.



Archbishop Yuda Thaddeus Ruwaichi reached the place at 7.30 am on 22 August 2021. Fr. Biju Pullapallyil, together with other priests and faithful, received him solemnly into the parish. The blessing of the parish started at

9.00 am. Thereafter continued the sacramental celebrations of confirmation and social marriage. The church was fully built by the small contributions of the faithful of Madale parish. The Archbishop appreciated the hard work of the faithful of Madale and their contributions to the church.

We served food for all the faithful participated in the parish feast and sacramental ceremonies. The faithful from the station churches also were presented for the ceremonies.



The joy of the day was more coloured with the esteemed presence of Frs. Zacharias Azhikannickal and Sahiju Kizhakkekuruvithadathil, the MST fathers working in Tanzania (East Africa) other than Madale parish. They reached here one week before the ceremonies and helped a lot for the smooth functioning of the ceremonies.

b. Station Church Declared as Parish

Yuda Thaddeus Ruwa'chi, Archbishop of Dar Es Salaam, declared one of the station churches of Madale parish as the parish on 7 July 2021. The parish was given our patron's name St Thomas the Apostle. All were happy to hear the news and congratulated the hard work and missionary zeal of the priests working here. The Archbishop congratulated fathers along with the leaders of the church for their great missionary zeal for the bringing up of the faithful and developing the church.



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

8. Australia

Updates from Nowra, Wollonggon (Sydney)

We, in the state of NSW, have been in lockdown since June 2021. Masses, essential meetings and appointments have moved online.

Sick call visits and Communion requests are permitted. Recorded Masses are uploaded every Saturday at 5pm, each church community taking turns. All six church communities of Berry, Bomaderry, Culburra Beach, Kangaroo Valley, Nowra and Vincentia stay updated via parish weekly bulletins published in the parish website, Facebook and sent to all on the Email list. Hard copies are distributed by local volunteers to those without internet access.

Restrictions are expected to ease state-wide by 11 October for those who have taken both doses of the vaccine (70% state target). Further restrictions are expected to ease when the state achieves 80% double dose vaccinated population status. Mass in churches will resume by 25 October with restricted numbers, social distancing, masks and double vaccination.

By 1 December, all restrictions will be lifted and everyone, irrespective of vaccination status, will be able to attend Mass without wearing masks or social distance.

The vaccination drive is the most coveted campaign. The 'Million Dollar Vax' campaign is rewarding vaccinated people here with cash prizes and gift cards for doing their part, with a jackpot up for grabs worth \$1 million. Plus, there's another \$3.1 million worth of consolation prizes being given away. Every day in October, 100 winners are being drawn to win gift cards of \$1000. Looking forward to having people back in churches and life back to normal finally!

(Reported by Fr Joseph Pothenparampil, Wollongong, Australia)

9. Sweden

Our life with Covid is much better in Sweden now. We celebrate the Masses in the parishes, missions and everything in the diocese is as usual. We have still covid cases but the restrictions are taken out. People above 65 and risk groups have started getting the third dose of vaccine recently.

a. Stockholm Seminary News

This year we sent the new seminarians to seminary in Valladolid,



Spain for one year course. The seminary is run by the English fathers. Our aim is that these countries don't have big number of seminarians and if they study in the big seminaries

with big groups, they may experience the real seminary life and the formation is much better.

b. Formation for Converted Protestant Pastors

We have three converted pastors from protestant churches and they have to study for four years to become priests in the Catholic diocese. Once a month in a weekend they are here in the seminary to



experience the community life. Their studies are all on-line. Just now they have finished one-third of their training. This week our Bishop will visit the 3 seminarians in Rome who are studying in 3 seminaries in Rome.

c. Study Tour to Holy Land

The diocese is arranging a study tour for the priests, sisters and leaders who are working with a vocation group together with some other dioceses. If everything goes well the tour will be in January 2022.

d. Syro-Malabar Mission in Scandinavia

i. Celebration of Holy Masses: As the restrictions are over, we have started normal masses for the faithful from Kerala who are in Sweden and Finland. Norway is still having many restrictions and hence we have no mass in



Norway. We have no more on-line masses at present.

ii. Catechism for the Children: We have started on-line catechism classes for the children in Sweden, Norway and Finland. It has got a very positive response. It is very useful at this time of pandemic and as we are in different countries.

(Reported by Fr Binu Thottiyil, Stockholm, Sweden)

10. Brazil

Church Construction at Apore, Jathai



My present parish community has a history of almost a century in this part of the town. The Catholic community was organized here in the year 1928 near the river- Corrente. Later in 1938, they moved to the

banks of the river Apore and built the present church, and named it after St Augustine.

The present church was insufficient to contain the community and was in need of reconstruction. Now the original church is demolished and the construction of the new one started on 8 October 2021. The members of the community earnestly contribute to the construction of the church.



(Reported by Fr Joseph Thekkel, Jathai, Brazil)

11. Italy

A few important things have occurred recently in Italy as far as the MSTs are concerned. Three MST priests reached Italy for study/ ministry, three MST priests got transferred to new parishes and two others changed their residence.

a. New Arrivals in Italy

Rev. Frs Rijo Kadaparambil, Lijo Manikombel and Arun Karakkattu

reached Rome on 14 September 2021. After 10 days of quarantine, they are now in their respective places of stay, study and ministry. Fr Rijo is appointed the assistant priest-in-charge at St Thomas the Apostle Cathedral parish, Orthona and he reached the Cathedral on 24 September. He has already started his service in the parish, along with Fr Biji Kudukkamthadam MST, the outgoing assistant priest-in-charge of the Cathedral parish. Fr Lijo stays at Pontificio Collegio Nepomuceno in Rome and does his studies at the Pontifical Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI) at Viale di Trastevere in Rome. Fr Arun stays at Collegio Damasceno at Via Boccea in Rome and does scriptural studies at Pontifical Biblical Institute (Biblicum) at Piazza della Pilotta in Rome.

b. Archdiocese of Lanciano–Ortona



Rev. Fr Biji Kudukkamthadam served the Cathedral parish at Ortona for about six years and Rev. Fr Joseph Koren served the parish at Tollo for about ten years. Now both of them are transferred to Crecchio, where Rev. Fr Joseph Koren will be the Parish Priest.

This is a parish that lies in between Ortona and Tollo. They took charge of the parish on 7 September 2021 during the Holy Mass. Archbishop Emidio Cipollone and Angelo Giordano, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Lanciano-Ortona were present during the First Mass of the new priests in the parish.

The parish at Crecchio has a beautiful church at Crecchio and four substations with churches at Casino Vezzani, Villa Tucci, Selciaroli and Villa Consalvi. Holy Mass is



celebrated in all these churches. There are not many parishioners living around the central church at Crecchio. The majority of them live around the four substations. It is like a mission parish and the people are good. Now Fr Joseph Koren stays in a rented house for some time until the renovation works of the presbytery are complete. Fr Biji will later join Fr Joseph. African priests were there in this parish for about fifteen years and now it is entrusted to the MSTs.

c. Archdiocese of Spoleto-Norcia

Rev. Fr Elvis Mangalappilly, after having served the parishes of Torre



Orsina and Collestata in the Archdiocese of Spoleto-Norcia for nine long years, is now transferred to the parish of Cereto di Spoleto, some forty km away. This parish, on the way to Cascia, the city of St Rita, the patroness of families, has some twelve churches under it. It has also

proximity to Norcia, the city of St Benedict. This is an area affected often by earthquakes and many buildings, including the presbytery, are partially ruined. The renovation work of the presbytery is going on and till it is over Fr Elvis stays in a rented house. Archbishop Renato Boccardo introduced Fr Elvis to the new parish during the inaugural Holy Mass at Cereto di Spoleto on 3 October 2021.

Frs Joby Koottumkal and Tony Mampilly moved out of Collegio Damasceno. Fr Joby will stay at Casa San Giuseppe of the Missionaries of Divine Redemption at Via Appia Nuova and continue his studies. Fr Tony will stay at the Procura of the Syro-Malabar Church in Rome and continue his studies. All the MSTs in Italy are keeping fine and doing well.

(Reported by Fr Joby Koottumkal, Rome)

VII. NEWS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES/ CENTRES

A. VOCATION PROMOTION

It is with immense gratitude to God that we begin our vocation promotion this year. It was really a tough time for us to find out suitable candidates for priest-hood in the previous year. But God's grace was always upon us throughout the year that we could bring almost forty-five candidates to our minor seminaries. We also thank all the fathers for their keen interest in finding out good and eligible candidates for MST.

I am happy that I have an assistant for vocation promotion this year. Rev. Fr Manu Pottanany after doing great mission work in Odisha has reached with full spirit and enthusiasm, thanks to the superiors for their concern and love. This year good news is being heard that the schools as well as the Sunday schools are going to reopen after a long time. We have already started our ministry in different ways. This year we are also planning to visit all the families of our own fathers so that they may refer to us good vocations from their parishes and family members. We request your constant support in the field of vocation promotion.

(Reported by Frs. Rony Alencherry and Manu Pottananickal, Vocation Promoters – North Zone)

B. SANTHOME FELLOWSHIP

1. New Group in Progress in the United States

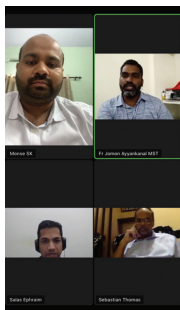
The Formation of a new group of Santhome Fellowship members is in the process of evolution which is to be found together with MST and our missionary ventures in India and overseas. Thirteen members joined from different parts of USA with a view to praying for the mission and working in hand with the missionary endeavours of MST. They gathered together on 27, September for a small gathering on the zoom platform. They expressed their willingness and disposition to pray and help the mission and missionary endeavours by way of various means and succour.

2. Flourishing of Santhome Fellowship in Bangalore

We are colossally delighted to apprise you that we could gain people from Bangalore with the aid of Fr Jobin Edamanacheril to be part of Santhome Fellowship. The director of Santhome Fellowship got a chance to delineate the missionary activities carried out by MST across India and expounded the functioning by which they can collaborate with the missionary ventures of MST and the Church at large via Santhome Fellowship. A few of them exuded their preparedness to join hands with MST by other ways and means.

3. Adoption of JK Pure Mission, Odisha by SF in Dubai

Santhome Fellowship group in Dubai adopted JK Pure mission of MST in Orissa. Fr Jomon Ayyankanal, Director of Jaipur Mission, elucidated the possibilities of the missionary ventures explored in the area. We gathered on 11 September and resolved to support the Jaipur mission both spiritually and financially. Fr Jomon presented a project of Rs. 21,00,000/- and it was approved by the group members and some of them have already assured us of financial aid to carry out this particular project in the mission. Group members do gather every Tuesday at 9 o'clock to recite a rosary for the completion of this project and also for the integral amelioration of the people in the mission.



4. Ammayodoppam (Rosary Devotion)

In view of the preparation of the Nativity Feast of Blessed Virgin Mary, Santhome Fellowship group gathered to recite Rosary carrying the intensions of mission and the missionary activities done by MST and concluded with the reflection on Bl. Virgin Mary by Fr Joby Kappiparambil.



5. Zoom Monthly Meetings of Santhome Fellowship

Monthly meetings of Santhome Fellowship were arranged on zoom platform. Dubai, Vannapuram, Kanjirapally, Alakodu groups held their meetings on the zoom platform. All members have placed their

requests for the physical meetings in the upcoming months.

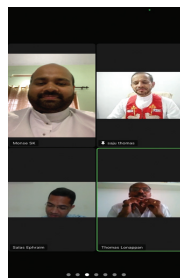
6. Sponsorship for Seminarians by Santhome Fellowship

Santhome Fellowship could arrange 10 sponsors for our major seminarians. People are really interested to support and promote our brothers.

7. Monthly Collection for Missionary Associates

The Monthly recollection was arranged for missionary associates of MST. Both batches were present for the monthly recollection. Fr Saju Elanjickal broke and inspired them with the Word of God.

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



C. SANTHOME – IMPACT, Kochi

1. Santhome IMPACT News

a. Dukhrana: The community celebrated Dukhrana feast in a simple manner. Fr Panjikanan Offered the Dukhrana Mass at Mary Immaculate Church, Kaitharam, North Parur and gave a homily on Mission of St Thomas and MST.

b. Ruhhalaya Brothers: Santhome IMPACT was very happy to



welcome 11 Ruhhalaya Theology Brothers on 9 of July. They were here for a week to shoot their short film **Porul** in collaboration with Santhome Media.

c. Classes and Retreats: Fr Daey Kunnath conducted a three days psychodrama class at Danahalaya, Alappuzha in the first week



of September. He also led a three days retreat for the SD Sisters of Changanacherry Province in the last week of September.

2. Publications

Kadukumani was printed and posted to around 2000 individual subscribers. It was also published online through sending PDF copies. *Blaze* could not be published as the schools are not yet open.

3. Santhome Media-IMPACT

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

a. Hai Good Talk: This is a motivational video talk in Malayalam which is uploaded in our YouTube Channel.

b. Santhome Bible Study Series: It is our great achievement that in association with Santhome Bible Centre, Pariyaram we could upload the Bible Study Series led by Rev. Dr Sebastian Kizhakkeyil MST in our YouTube Channel. This video is uploaded twice a week (Sundays & Wednesdays).

c. Santhome Media Rosary Quiz 2021: This is a Quiz for the Rosary month of October 2021. More than 100 participants are participating in this quiz programme from different parts of India. Quiz questions are prepared by Rev. Dr Sebastian Kizhakkeyil MST.

d. Porul: Ruha vibes of Ruhailaya Seminary Ujjain in association with Santhome Media produced a Malayalam short film named *Porul* which is well appreciated in social media platform. It was filmed and edited here. It was prepared and



acted by Ruhailaya Theology Brothers in collaboration with other actors. They stayed here for a week.

e. Audio Recording: Santhome Media audio recording Studio is blessed with eminent personalities like Kester, Wilson Piravom,



Mithila Micheal, Teena Mary Abraham, Chitra Arun, Alice Mathew, Shaju Cheriyan and also Rev. Fathers and Sisters from different dioceses and congregations. More than 15 devotional songs, Documentary Voiceover and Audio Magazine were

recorded here.

f. Invitation to all MSTs to collaborate with Santhome Media-

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



g. Upcoming Initiatives of Santhome Media-IMPACT:

Cartoon Animation

Motivational Classes

Media Workshop

*** To watch all our programs please visit our Website: www.santhomemedia.com, You Tube Channel and Facebook Page. Please subscribe and like our You Tube Channel and Facebook Page.**

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

D. THOMASINE RESEARCH CENTRE (TRC)

Thomasine Research Centre (TRC) completed one year of its existence in its new abode Chaama MST Bhavan Thumbur on 27 September 2021. We remember warmly Rev. Fr Joseph Vazhuthanappilly whose generosity in handing over the whole establishment of CHAAMA to MST will ever be remembered with grateful hearts. Within this one-year TRC was able to establish itself

in the new surroundings and as the only MST house in the diocese of Irinjalakuda it is trying to create a bond of friendship and cooperation with the diocese and its various parishes. Here are a few activities undertaken by TRC in recent months.

1. SAMVET 2021 and Fr Joseph Maliparampil Memorial Webinar

TRC organized SAMVET 2021 and Fr Joseph Maliparampil Memorial Webinar from 19 to 21 September 2021. The theme chosen for this year's seminar was *Reflection on our Missionary life in the year of St Joseph*. Samvet 2021 had an official opening with the inauguration by Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumanoor, the Director General of MST. Rev. Fr James Kurukilamkatt and Rev. Fr Sebastian Kizhakkeyil presented papers on the themes *St Joseph a sure help in combatting slacktivism* and *St Joseph a patron to turn to especially at the times of crisis* respectively. The paper of Rev. Fr Sebastian Kizhakel, in his absence, was presented in the seminar by Rev. Fr Manoj Parackal. The third day was set apart for paying tributes to Rev. Fr Joseph Maliparampil, one of the great luminaries of MST. Rev. Fr Chacko Puthiyaparampil, Rev. Fr Joseph Kochuparampil, Mr Jimmichan Muttathupadam and Rev. Fr Lithosh Karingadayil paid rich tributes to Father Maliparampil and all expressed the hope that one day we will be able to pray for the intercession of Fr Maliparampil. Rev. Fathers Jobin Vadaketh, Chandy Kalathoor and Jose Ariyankalayil were the moderators of the different sessions of the webinar. We place on record our immense gratitude to Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, the councilor-in-charge of TRC, for the great pain he took to organize this great event.

b. Online Diploma Courses

The first batch of students of the online diploma course in Thomasine Studies successfully completed their course. Nine of them have been awarded diplomas from the Paurasthyam Vidyapitham, Vadavathoor. Of these nine, two are from Kalyan diocese, one is from Tirupati and the rest are from Kerala.

We have 29 students in the ongoing batch which started in the first

week of September. There are people from various walks of life and they show great interest in the course. This course is of the duration of one year and will get over in July next

(Reported by Fr James Kurikilamkatt, Director, TRC)

E. ANGEL HOME, KADANAD

1. Resident Priests Went Abroad

Angel home was enriched by the presence of two young priests during the Covid pandemic. One of them was Rev. Fr Rijo Kadaparambil. Fr Rijo went to Italy for pastoral work. Father left Angel home on 17 August to Italy. Fr Rijo is appointed at *Basilica of San Thommaso Apostolo, Ortona, Italy*. It is in this Basilica the relics of Apostle St Thomas is preserved. We wish all the best and blessings to Fr Rijo. Second one was Fr Joby Kappiparambil. Fr Joby left Angel home on 10 October to Barcelona, Spain. Fr Joby is going for higher studies in Global communication and Management to Ramon Llull University, Barcelona, Spain. Father is the pioneer of MSTs to Spain. We wish all the very best and the blessings of God for his studies. Angel home thank these two fathers for their availability and service to this home of the MST.

2. Another Marvel during Pandemic

Fr Jose Oppenmakal published his third book. The name of the



book is *NJAN KANDA LOKAM*. The book comprises of the images and travel sharing of 23 countries of Fr Jose's travel. The book was published on 5 October

at Deepti Bhavan by Very Rev. Dr Antony Perumannoor, Director General of MST. Fr General gave its first copy to Rev. Dr Joseph Thekkekarott, Regional Director of St Thomas Region, Mandya with the presence of the plenary members of MST. We thank Fr General, Fr Joseph and the plenary members of MST for their support and encouragement.

3. Month of Rosary Devotion

At Present in Angel Home we have six students who are from class IX to BSc Nursing. October is a month when we celebrate the devotion of Rosary to Blessed Virgin Mary. We had 10 days of Solemn Rosary devotion at the Grotto of Blessed Mary of Fatima. On the last day, we had a solemn procession of Mother Mary through reciting the rosary.

(Reported by Fr Jose Oppenmakal, Director, Angel Home, Kadanad)

F. SANTHOME BIBLE CENTRE, PARIYARAM

1. Based on a book of Fr. Kizhakkeyil, a Rosary Quiz is going on in this Rosary month of October. It is being conducted on four Sundays by Santhome Media, Kochi. Four of our fathers have offered cash prizes to the winners of the quiz.
2. Two new books of Fr. Kizhakkeyil are with two publishers, St. Pauls, Mumbai, and ATC, Bangalore. The first book is on *Charism of the religious and societies of apostolic life*, and the second book is a textbook for theology students on *Eschatology*.
3. A new book in Malayalam on *St. Joseph* is under preparation and it will be published soon by Sophia Books of Shalom.
4. His book titled *The Priest* had been out of print for some time. Now it is again available with ATC, Bangalore. All the official Church documents of the last 100 years on priesthood are included in this book. It is a good reference book for giving talks.
5. St. Michael's Prayer Centre celebrated its anniversary of blessing on 1st October. This centre had been very active with people streaming to it seeking prayer and counselling help as well as for getting deliverance from evil powers. But it had to be closed for some time since one of the fathers here was diagnosed with Covid 19. All the fathers here were on quarantine for several days. Now the Centre is again open and people have started coming to the centre and Fr. Zacharias Thadathil has resumed his ministry.
6. Fr. Manu Pottanany has attended a retreat and a counselling course recently and he is very excited with the various gifts that he

has received and is thankful to God. He may grow to be a good spiritual resource person.

7. Fr. Joy Kochupara makes frequent travels between Bedshi Ayurvedic Hospital in Maharashtra and Santhome, Pariyaram. He is sending a lot of various medicines from different places in Kerala. The hospital seems to be going on in full swing.

8. Fr. Rony may start with his school visits for the purpose of vocation promotion once the schools will reopen soon in Kerala. Fr. Manu will assist him in promoting vocations.

9. Both Fr. Rony and Fr. Manu are giving classes on Commandments and on Church History to formees in a convent not far from here.

10. Fr. Kochupara's NGO named FTAK has started a factory at Thadikadavu to make manure for farming and it is mainly meant for its member-farmers.

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

G. AARAAM, DEEPTI MOUNT

1. Feast of Assumption and Independence Day

The Day began with Holy Qurbana by Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram as the main celebrant of the day. Fr Peter reminded in the homily regarding the importance of the day:-1) Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary, and 2) Our Independence Day.

Rev. Fr Francis Kureeckal, the Vice Director of MST was the chief guest for flag hoisting. All of us gathered around the new poll erected recently, to express our love and patriotism for our country. Fr Kureeckal gave an inspiring message by exposing the current



situation in India and pressed for the need for radical changes to be made among the leadership.

2. Onam Celebrations

After the Holy Qurbana, some of us joined the celebrations at Deepti Seminary. At noon we had the Special Onam Sadya, consisting of



traditional vegetarian dishes on banana leaf with different tasty 'payasams.' Very Rev. Fr Antony Perumannor, our Director General was the chief guest of the day. He conveyed 'Onam' greetings to all fathers

and staff members and he offered the prayer of blessing. He appreciated the banquet and enjoyed being with us on this special day.

3. Crowning of Blessed Virgin Mary

1 October - Dedicated to Mother Mary was marked with the crowning of the statue of Bl.

Virgin Mary. The Holy Qurbana was offered by Fr Manu Nattunilath who reminded us of the importance of October devotions practiced in the Church especially in our Syro-Malabar Church. After the



Qurbana the new crown was blessed by Fr Manu and Fr. Sebastian Thuruthel was asked to crown the Mary. In his short message, he reminded us of the love of Mary as a mother's love for her children. She is our mother who always cares for us and listens to our pleas.

(Reported by Fr Joseph Vadakechirayath, Director, Aaraam)

H. Kalasadhana, Mumbai

1. Ministry of Kalasadhana

Kalasadhana has completed 11 years in service of teaching music

and sharing the love of God through Music education and production of devotional songs. Throughout these years, there were productions of several musical albums of devotional lyrics. In the recent past due to the pandemic of corona we launched some of our productions online and they received very high ratings in the number of viewers, even more than two lakhs.



2. Kalasadhana Moved to Kharghar

Our house in Kharghar is the location of the music academy now. The institute is totally shifted to its home location at Kharghar. The house is renovated with sufficient facilities for conducting music classes and furnished with every necessary provision to run the academy.



3. Reopening of Kalasadhana in New Location

The sound of music is back in full fledge as Kalasadhana is now reopened for the students who are attending piano, Guitar. Drums and Hindustani vocal classes. The students are now appearing for the exams of grade 1 to 8 conducted by Trinity College, London. Students are enthusiastic in preparing for the online examinations. The institute now has a Grand Piano on which students get to prepare for the examination conducted by Trinity College, London.



(Reported by Fr Ashok Kollamkudy, Director, Kalasadhana, Mumbai)

VIII. Departed for Eternal Reward

A. Necrology: Family Members & Collaborators of the MSTs As informed by the members (20 June -12 October 2021)

Mrs Monikutty, Mother of Fr Karimpanackal

Mrs Mary Kurian, Mother of Fr Antony Thundathil

Mrs Rosamma Joseph, Mother of Fr Pinakatt

Mr Pappachan, Brother of Late Fr Mattathil

Mrs Aleyamma Veliyamkalathel, Sister of Fr Olikkara

Mrs Mary Joseph Thaikkattil, Sister of Fr Arangassery

Mrs Mariyamma Thayyechath, Sister of Fr Madhavapllil

Mr Baby, Brother of Fr Moozhayil and Uncle of Fr Vadakkethalackal

Mrs Aleyamma Nadackal, Sister of Fr Kizhakkeyil

Mrs Aleyamma, Sister of Fr Joy Punnakuzhy and Aunt of Fr Pradeepan Punnakuzhy

Mr Chacko Thalanany, Brother of Fr Thalanany

Mr Mathew Pattethukuzhiyil, Grandfather of Fr Kuzhiyadiyil

Mrs Alice George, Grandmother of Fr Kuzhiyadiyil

Mrs Accamma Kurian, Sister-in-law of Fr Pinamurakil

Mr John Muckanickal, Uncle of Fr Panjikan

Mr Vinu Thattuparampil, Nephew of Fr Thattuparampil

Mr Scaria Thekkel, First Cousin of Fr Joseph Thekkel

Mrs Theyyamma Wilson, First Cousin of Frs Thomas Kalarickal and Jose Kalarickal

B. Obituaries

1. Mr Thaison Tran



Mr Thaison Tran (91), one of our regular sponsors for seminary formation, was called to eternal bliss on 26 June 2021. Born on 20 July 1930 in Vietnam, he came to the United States in 1935. Along with his wife Thuy, he used to attend daily mass and was very particular to join at 9.00 a.m.

Sunday Mass in my parish (Our Lady Queen of Peace, New Port Richey). He had been sponsoring three of our MST Seminarians. He had always been charitable, especially by supporting the church in poor countries like India and Vietnam. He was very curious to know about our missions and missionaries through me and was interested in keeping regular contact with the seminarians he sponsored. His family and daughter recently visited and informed me that they want to continue their support to the MST. The MST is indebted to him for his support for our seminarians and his love for the MST priests in this parish. Let us keep his wife, children, and grandchildren in our prayers. May his soul rest in peace.

(Fr Sebastian Earthedath, New Port Richey, Florida, USA)

2. Mrs Laura Jean Ebert

Mrs Laura Jean Ebert (73), one of our generous benefactors from the diocese of Marquette (Michigan, USA), was called for her eternal reward on 5 July 2021. She was a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Menominee where Fr Joseph Vandanoor was the parish priest for many years. She, along with her husband Michael sponsored SEVEN of our



seminarians among whom four are already priests (Frs Kadaparambil, Dominic Puthenpurackal, Kappiparambil and Vadakkethalackal), and three are in the seminary (Bros Poovatholil, Varickickal and Vattamannil). She came to know about the MST and our missionary activities through her parish priest - Fr Vandanoor. She loved the missions and was very dear to the Keralite priests working in their parish and was generous a friend of the MSTs. Along with Fr Sebastian Kavumkal, I was present for her funeral service that was held on 12 July. Let us pray for the repose of her soul and shall keep her husband and her family in our prayers.

(Fr Benny Kuliraniyil, Marquette, Michigan, USA)

3. Rev. Sr. Francis Sales SABS

Rev. Sr Francis Sales, commonly known and called by everyone as ‘Salesamma’ is one of the great models as a missionary. She was a loving “doctor” sister for the villagers in Kotra (Eparchy of Ujjain). Whatever resistance she got from the village people, she faced it with a smile, pacified them and made them her friends. She would scold them with love and won their hearts even if she felt so much irritation in her heart. She enquired always about her old patients, whenever she got a chance. She was also a missionary without tiredness -day and night, without rest, she was ready for the people with a sweet smile. She had a solution for every problem and was really a mother, equally for children and adults. Played with children, entertained the community and spent much time for prayer. She was such an attractive and sincere personality, so that we could not deny anything to her loving request. She was a loving motivator for those who lived and worked with her and a saintly person who motivated my life so much when we



worked together in Kotra for a few years. She found her abode with the Lord on 12 August 2021. May the Good Lord grant her eternal bliss!

(Fr Gracious Naralakkattukunnel, Augsburg, Germany)

4. Rev. Sr. Bertha SH (1951-2021)

Rev. Sr Bertha Thadathil S.H. (70) was one of the outstanding woman missionaries that I have worked with in Ujjain mission. Born in 1951 and professed as a religious nun of the SH Congregation in 1969, she breathed her last on 9 September 2021. She was a very educated and talented nun, but with a very simple and humble nature to undertake any ministry in the mission. Her contributions in developing our missionary schools in Biaora and Barnagar cannot be forgotten. I was blessed to be a co-worker with her at Barnagar as the Manager of the School and Priest-in-charge of the center, when she was the principal. I always had great admiration for her extraordinary commitment and caliber in running a missionary school. She used to know every student personally and was very wise in her judgments. She displayed a propound missionary spirituality that was very tangible not only in her prayer life but also in her decisions and approaches to the people. It also has to be noted that she opted to be at Bajrangarh mission even while she was physically ill. We have lost a smart sister at the departure of Sr Bertha as she was only 70. I am sure that we have a missionary saint interceding for our mission work and the Diocese of Ujjain in heaven with Jesus. As coworkers, she will always be in our memories. May her soul rest in peace.



(Fr Tom Kakkaniyil, Nelson, BC, Canada)

IX. APPENDIX

Circular No. X-24/2018-23

1 August 2021

Your Excellencies, Reverend Fathers and Brothers,
Warm and prayerful greetings from Deepti Bhavan!

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

1. New Schedule of Extraordinary General Assembly

The Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) which was convoked on 25 February 2021, had scheduled to start its sessions on 15 September 2021. The procedures for the EGA like the election of the delegates by the election committee, and the compilation of the agenda by the agenda committee are already done. You will get a copy of the agenda for the EGA within a few weeks.

However, considering several limitations of the present context, with the consent of the General Council I do postpone the schedule of the Extraordinary General Assembly to **15 March 2022**. The delegates of the EGA shall arrive at Deepti Bhavan latest by 4.00 p.m. on 15 March 2022. The EGA will formally start by 6.00 p.m. with the inaugural session and will continue until it finishes its agenda.

Other than the uncertainty of the third wave of Covid-19, other factors that compelled the postponement of the EGA include: the unfinished extension/renovation works at the Generalate due to heavy rain-falls and lockdowns, and the inconvenience for the delegates from our seminaries (11 delegates) to attend the assembly during the academic year. I invite your understanding in this regard and request your

prayers for its smooth conduct in the new schedule.

2. Plenary Council in Online Platform

May I hereby inform you that the Plenary Council-2021 is going to be conducted in an online platform from 10.00 a.m. on **4 October 2021**. I request your prayers for a fruitful Plenary Council-2021.

3. Health Insurance:

In continuation to my suggestion for individual health insurance policy (Circular No. X-16, dated 20 September 2020), may I request all those who are **below the age of 75** to join the insurance policy latest by **31 December 2021** (if you have not yet done so). Companies like National Insurance, New India Assurance, Oriental Insurance and Star Health Insurance are the preferred firms that provide reliable service. You may enroll for the policy of **three lakhs**. If you cannot personally afford the cost of the annual premium, 'the Communion' will meet the cost. For those who need financial help with the payment of the premium, kindly contact Rev. Fr Peter Kavumpuram, the Convener of Central Committee for Communion (CCC) before you enroll in the policy. All of you (in India) are requested to send a copy of your insurance card to Rev. Fr Kavumpuram by **31 January 2022**.

Invoking God's blessings and your prayers for each other,
Yours in Christ Jesus,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Sd/-

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

Circular No. X-25/2018-23

23 August 2021

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

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

The Process of Constituting a New Mission Region for the MST: In accordance with 'Resolution Number Two' of the Tenth Ordinary General Assembly-2018, with the consent of the LXII General Council meeting held on 31 July 2021 and following the norms of C58 of the *Constitutions and Directives* of the Society, I do hereby initiate the process for constituting **St Mary Queen of the Missions Delegation** (Delhi) as the fourth Mission Region of the MST on 22 February 2022.

In the above direction, I place an open invitation to all priest-members of the MST, who would like to be assigned to the proposed Mission Region, to send your names to me by **30 November 2021** (by email: <mstgeneralate@gmail.com> or by postal letter only). The names received will be considered in consultation with the respective Regional Director of the applicant and with the consent of the General Council (C&D 44).

The minimum number of members required for constituting a new Mission Region is 12. (C58-c).

The appointment/election (D116) of the new Regional Director will be considered after assigning members to the new mission Region, based on their numerical strength (D116-c).

Invoking God's blessings and your prayers for the success of this process,

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Sd/-

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST

Reverend Fathers, Deacons and Brothers,

Warm and prayerful greetings from Deepti Bhavan!

As directed by His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry, the Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church, may I remind you of the following two matters regarding the celebration of Holy Qurbana based on the decisions taken in the second session of the XXIX Synod of Bishops that was held online from 16 to 27 August 2021.

1. Revised Malayalam Text of the Syro-Malabar Holy Qurbana

The Apostolic See has given its approval for the revised text of the Holy Qurbana that was submitted for its review. The revised text in Malayalam will come into force on the first Sunday of the new liturgical year that falls on 28 November 2021 – the beginning of the Season of Annunciation. The translation of the text into English, Hindi and other local languages is being taken up and it might take a few more months to get them finalized and implemented.

2. Uniform Mode of Celebration of the Holy Qurbana

You are well aware and informed of the exhortation of the Holy Father regarding the uniform mode of celebration of the Holy Qurbana in the whole Syro-Malabar Church from 28 November 2021. In this context, the synod studied and discussed the above exhortation of the Holy Father in detail and confirmed its obligation to exhort every faithful to obey the directives of the Holy Father (*CCEO* c. 45); and has exhorted everyone to implement that decision promptly and to follow it faithfully in the entire Syro-Malabar Church.

Hence the synod has decided for the revised text of the Holy Qurbana in the uniform mode of celebration from the beginning of the next liturgical year, may I request all the MST priests to follow such directions faithfully in all places of our apostolates, as applicable. The post-synodal pastoral letter of the Major Archbishop (Prot. No. 0923/2021 dated 27 August 2021) that explains the decision and its details, is appended to this letter [It is avoided here].

Let us continue our prayers for the Syro-Malabar Church that these decisions be accepted wholeheartedly by everyone and become a blessing.

With fraternal regards,

Sd/-

Fr Antony Perumanoor
Director General, MST

Sd/-

Fr Justin Vettukallel
Secretary General, MST





*First Year Theology Students of MST
After Vestition and Renewal of the Temporary Promise of Incorporation*

**“We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard”
(Acts 4:20), is a summons to each of us to ‘own’ and to
bring to others ‘what we bear’ in our hearts.**

(From the Message of Pope Francis for World Mission Sunday 2021)



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