

namaste⁺



Claretians-Province of Chennai, India. Issue-53 April 2019

MARCHING AHEAD...

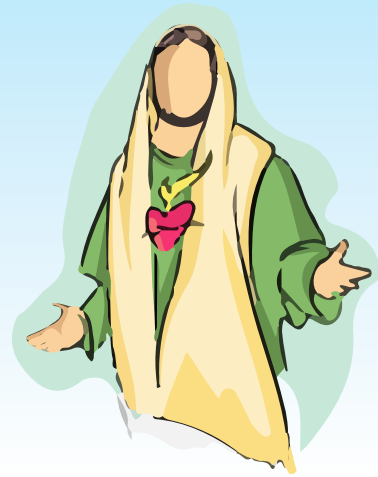
mission with the mentally challenged



MANASU

adds meaning to life

A message from Provincial



Dear brothers,
I am happy to wish you a HAPPY EASTER. May the Risen Lord fill us all with his joy and peace.

"Peace be with you" (Jn 20:19). With these words the Risen Lord met the apostles. His presence brought them peace and joy. The death of Jesus shattered their life and pushed to a hopeless situation. The fear for their life led them to remain behind the closed doors, but when the Lord appeared to them, they were strengthened. Peace is the message Jesus brought to the world. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours" (Lk 2:14) was the song of the angels when he was born. The prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled in Jesus as "the Prince of Peace" (Is 9:6). The parting gift of Jesus to his apostles was, "Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace which the world cannot give, and this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid" (Jn 14:27). In his experience of accompanying the Corinthian community St. Paul exhorted the members, "God is a God not of disorder but of peace" (1Cor 14:34). While animating the community of Galatians he presents peace as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22). As we are celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord, the Risen Lord invites us to be the messengers of his peace.

Peace is not only physical safety and political harmony, but it is unity and accord; it is "the spiritual harmony brought about by an individual's restoration with God." It is a result of response to our God experience. Those who have experienced

peace in God will work of the peace among people. Thus they start living as children of God. Jesus tells, “Blessed are the peace makers: they shall be recognized as children of God (Mt5:9).” On the contrary those who experience “the god of confusion”, will go for disturbing the social harmony, creating division and destroying peace. It is the pride that leads us to destroy the peace both in the personal and social levels. Humility and service mindedness pave way to discover the importance of every individual and give a due respect he or she deserves.

In the present scenario of the world, we are witnessing the fragility of peace being lacerated by the individual and institutional pride. While on the one side the persons of good will are working for peace, on the other side the poisonous elements of the humanity is promoting the ways to destroy peace among people. In the name of exaggerated nationalism and self-assertion, both the individual as well as the society are becoming victims of these false approaches.

The call of the Risen Jesus for Peace is reminding us a touching gesture of the Holy Father Francis who on 11th April this year knelt down and kissed the leaders of South Sudan, a country that suffers from civil war, asking them to work for peace in their nation. “At the end of a highly unusual spiritual retreat for the political leaders of warring factions, Pope Francis knelt at the feet of the leaders of South Sudan, begging them to give peace a chance and to be worthy “fathers of the nation.” As a brother, I ask you to remain in peace. I ask you from my heart, let’s go forward. There will be many problems, but do not be afraid,” (Catholic News Service, April, 11, 2019).

The message and action of the Pope reminds us how to be a channel of the Peace of the Lord in this world. To be a messenger and channel of peace, we are called to be generous in loving, forgiving, understanding, consoling and helping. It is through these acts we manifest our openness for peace and harmony both in ourselves and in the society.

In this edition of Namaste, let us gratefully and prayerfully remember and pray for our missionaries departed to the House of Our Father: Fr. Santhanasamy, CMF (11-2-2019) and Fr. Abraham Valiakandam, CMF (18-3-2019). May their soul rest in peace.

Fraternally yours
S.Jesu Doss cmf,

.....



“Mind over Matter”

MANASU caters to the needs of the wandering people, especially of those who are suffering with mental health issues.

In 2015, Mr. D. Indhal, who was found naked in a public toilet at Tirusulam was forced into physical harassment by the public and was later rescued by two policemen. As he was found to be suffering with mental illness and whiling away on the street, he was admitted in MANASU for mental health rehabilitation by the policemen. He gradually got recovered well after four years of psychiatric treatment and therapies, then he was sent back to his family in Patna in February 2019. The Times of India, a reputed English newspaper, of Chennai edition, published an article with a sub title “SEA CHANGE” focussing on his recovery.

Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Maria Abella CMF, the then General Superior of Claretian Congregation on his visit to Chennai expressed to Rev. Fr. Vincent

Anesthasiar CMF, the provincial superior of Chennai province, to respond to the sufferings of the people in the streets of Chennai. Thus, the provincial superior requested Fr. Sekar CMF to make a preliminary study in the months of April and May 2010 and Bro. Soosai Antony CMF joined him to bring out the proposal. After visiting many NGOs and having done street surveys, the proposal was presented to the provincial assembly on 30th May 2010 to work for those people, who are suffering from mental health disease on the streets in Chennai. Rev. Fr. Vincent Anesthasiar CMF, the provincial superior and his council made a decision to launch out this new mission reading the signs of the times. Fr. Sekar CMF was appointed to initiate the ministry for people suffering with mental health issues on the Streets of Tirusulam, Chennai in June 2010, and Bro. Soosai Antony CMF was asked to work in co-ordination along with him. After the completion of one year, Fr. Sekar CMF was transferred and Fr. L. Antony CMF was appointed to initiate the mission with the same proposal in June 2011. After a few months of study and planning, MANASU, a home for the destitute mentally ill, was officially inaugurated on 2nd of December 2011 by Rev. Fr. Vincent Anesthasiar CMF, the provincial superior in the presence of Mrs. Sarasvathi Jeyasanker, the panchayat president of Tirusulam, in an existing small building of CLAP activity centre where meetings and activities for the physically challenged and HIV patients were organized.

The first resident of MANASU was erected on 5th January 2012 by Fr. L. Antony

Bihar man reunited with family after 4 yrs

MT.Saju@timesgroup.com

Chennai: In 2015, found naked in a public toilet at Trisulam, D Indhal was about to be beaten up by the public when two policemen arrived.

They took him to a nearby rehabilitation centre where for more than two years, despite counselling, he just uttered the word 'Patna'.

A year ago, he began responding to treatment. On Thursday, Indhal, now 24 and fully recovered, boarded a train to Patna with his father.

Four years ago, Indhal just got married when he left for Chennai to work in a construction company but he didn't return. His



SEA CHANGE: A 2015 photo shows an emaciated Indhal (bare-bodied) when he was rescued. A recent photo of him (inset)

father-in-law was even seeking to get his daughter remarried when volunteers at the Chennai rehabilitation centre managed to contact the president of his village a month ago and

apprise him of his condition. Now, Indhal's wife is set to welcome him at Patna railway station.

Before leaving for home on Thursday, Indhal recollected the day he rea-

ched Chennai with some friends to find a job, but couldn't recall what happened after that.

"I am happy I am returning to my native place after four years. My life has changed a lot, now I know what I am doing. I will help my father in agriculture," he said.

Doctors found it difficult when he didn't respond to their questions, but they persisted. Once he began talking a little, they asked him about the place, shop and theatre that he last went to.

He repeated the name of a theatre three times and volunteers immediately called the closest police station. "A policeman there said the theatre

didn't fall under his jurisdiction. But he gave us the contact number of another police station where a constable helped us reach the panchayat president of the village where Indhal lives," said Soosai Antony, who heads Manasu, a transit home for wandering men with mental illness in Trisulam.

Antony's team has since the home's launch in 2010 rescued more than 120 mentally ill people, of whom more than 60 men of ages between 22 and 48 have returned to their families across the country. Sadly, some stay back because their families don't want them back.

"We will miss Indhal," said Antony.

CMF, the first director of MANASU. Fr. S. Kulanthaisamy CMF served as the assistant director of MANASU from 2013 to 2015. By the support and guidance of the province, local people and well-wishers, the director took up all challenges in establishing MANASU with the limited facilities and resources in all respect. In 2014, MANASU received a licence to run psychiatric rehabilitation home for 12 people from the Institute of Mental Health (IMH), Tamil Nadu. The building had the capacity of accommodating 5 to 7 residents in the house until 2015. Fr. Soosai Antony CMF was appointed in 2015 as an Assistant Director of MANASU after completing his study in Social work, specialising himself in medical and psychiatry and in 2017, as the director of MANASU. In February 2015, a new building was inaugurated in the same campus and after a year, based on the need for the service, the first floor was built and inaugurated in August 2016. Now the building has the capacity to accommodate 40 residents. Currently there are 34 residents on the process of recovery. Fr.

Karun Sagar CMF joined as the assistant director in 2018. MANASU team consists of Psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric social worker, nurse and other staff.

MANASU obtained a licence to run psychiatric rehabilitation home for 45 people in 2019 from IMH, Tamil Nadu. MANASU was one of the organizations that was on the list of proposal for nomination as the representative of NGOs serving for mental health issues in Tamil Nadu in 2018 according to the guideline of the mental Health Act 2017. MANASU closely works with the police department of SCRB (State Crime Records Bureau) of Tamil Nadu and the local police. MANASU has become one of the recognized NGOs for the humanitarian service in Chennai. This is very



visible when the Madras high court judge Justice. J. K. Ilanthiraiyan gave a judgement to donate money to MANASU in March 2019 to a client in order to settle a case in the high court.

The Current Activities of MANASU in Five 'R's

1. **Rescue:** MANASU team rescues wandering men suffering with mental illness from streets with a help of local government authorities.
2. **Recovery:** The rescued persons are given medical and psychiatric treatment for the recovery of physical, mental, social and spiritual wellbeing with the assistance of the healthcare professionals.
3. **Rehabilitation:** The residents are trained through occupational therapies and vocational training such as organic gardening, candle making, paper cover making, broom making, goat rearing, poultry farming, housekeeping, kitchen assisting, etc. in order to rehabilitate them
4. **Reintegration:** They are reintegrated with their families with their consent after recovery. More than 75 people have been reintegrated with their families in 15 states of India till February 2019.
5. **Reach-out:** MANASU is reaching out the public in promoting health through the following initiatives: Medical & mental health camps, Counselling, Health Awareness to the public, Food distribution to the destitute, Facilitating internship programme for college students and Foot reflexology treatment, Reflexology Treatment

MANASU looks for a space to state a rehabilitation home for recovered residents who have no possibility of reintegrating with their families and for long time psychiatric rehabilitation home. It is important to start a vocational training centre.

MANASU continuously needs dedicated Claretians to work with humility and patience. 'The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few (Mat 9: 37)'. We, the missionaries, who are called to follow the footsteps of St. Claret, experience the proclamation of the Word to the people in every reunion and express the compassion of the Jesus to the lost sheep.

.....



“Marutham Mahalir Mandram”

Women empowerment has become the slogan of the day. The women do always seek and try to protect their rights in all the spheres of the fields. It does greatly imply the ability in women to take decisions with regard to their lives situations, work and always gain equal rights such as: personal and interpersonal relationship, social and economic , political and legal and so on. The concept of empowerment has not been just limited to an urban land and working women who involve frequently in public fields alone but the women live their lives silently even in remote towns and villages who are now increasingly making their voices heard louder in the society. They are able in asserting their personal, social, cultural and political rights through which they make their presence felt, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds.

“Marutham Mahalir Mandram”

The inmates of Sambai organize and work themselves under the name of “Marutham Mahalir Mandram”. It has made ample efforts within their capacities

to be louder in their own society. Even though they struggle under unequal conditions from the moment of birth, however, their potentials, and their capacities echo their ability to perform better and able to create a new world. Though they live under same roof and rule of their father or husband or the sons, the socio-economic dependency and the presence of unequal gender relations never affect their growth. They do destroy from poverty and discrimination through the medium of “Marutham Mahalir Mandram”.

The Objectives:

- Changing woman's role of dependence, marginality and insecurity. Strengthening their independency.
- Development of their potentials and strengthen income generation activities (Productive) of the women.
- Development of leadership skills, decision-making, self-esteem, personality development and organizational strengthening.

Activities realized:

Making men aware of women rights and of the inequities and their suffering at homes and in the Society. The most important thing in the process of empowering of the women is to make men to understand that the discrimination against women really does exist and it needs immediate rectification. It has been made through different courses, namely Gender Equality and Participation of women in the society, Fundamental Human Rights, Freedom and Dignity, Women Rights according to Indian Legislation and the Need for men and women to work together in the protection and Promotion of Women Rights are organized for men to



give knowledge in order that they may give sufficient space for women to exercise their duty and rights in the society.

Strengthening of women organization and their level of leadership skills:

It is to consider that the women has become conscious of their rights and the importance of working together as a team. In order to facilitate them for being organized, united, having access to different resources and defend their rights, different programs are organized. The experts to seek their motivation, personality development, social awareness, leadership formation and capacity building present these programs. The following are the courses organized for the women: Together we remain, divided we fall, Economical management, challenges in working together, personality development and leadership skills.

Facilitating women to have economic resources:

There are five different economic activities managed by five different groups. The purpose of these activities is: women have access to the economic resources generated on their own not depending on their partner, strengthening the leadership quality and self-esteem, improving their power status within their family and allowing them to decide by themselves. The economic activities are; Supplying drinking water, Rentals of furniture and utensils for celebrations, Snacks making, community shop and Fish breeding.

The extension of the economic activities i.e. Pickle making, Preserving fish through salting and drying (dry fish) is a sign that the project begins to evolve in a given condition through the tireless hard work and cooperation of the women.



.....

List of members for the Independent Delegation of Kolkata

CONGREGATIO MISSIONARIORUM FILIORUM
IMMACULATI CORDIS B. MARIAE VIRGINIS
(Missionari Claretiani)

SECRETARIA GENERALIS

Via Sacro Cuore di Maria, 5
00197 ROMA
Tel. 06 809 100 11 – Fax 06 809 100 47
Email: secgen@cmfgen.org

Prot. 54/19

Rome, March 3, 2019

Dear Major Superiors

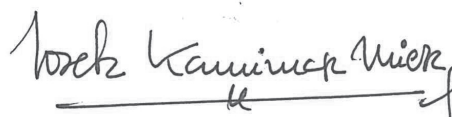
Father Jesu Doss S. CMF Provincial Superior of Chennai
Father Lawrence V. CMF Superior Delegate of Kolkata

According to the express wish of our Superior General, Father Mathew Vattamattam, I write the list of the Claretian Missionaries - Priests, Students, Novices - who, as of today, will be part of the Independent Delegation of Kolkata with the effect of its July 16, 2019 on.

This list of members can be made known and used for the sounding that will have to be carried out for the election voting of the Government of the Independent Delegation of Kolkata.

We entrust, from now on, to God the life and mission of this Independent Delegation through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, of Saint Anthony Mary Claret and of the Claretian Martyrs.




Joseba Kamiruaga Mieza CMF
General Secretary



“Irular Housing Project”

Kavasam: Primitive Tribe Irular Housing Project.

Kavasam is one of the communities of Claretian Missionaries, located in Mangalapuram village on the main road connecting Viluppuram and Thiruvannamalai. It is 20 Km away from Viluppuram.

Irular tribal community is one of the target people of Kavasam mission. This mission among Irulars is a shared mission with Irular protective front (pazhangudi irular Padukaappu changem), an organization of lay people. Sisters of St. Anne's of Chennai also participate in this mission.

Housing project among Irulars is taken up by us. The 50% of them are still landless, not even having a piece of land for a small hut of their own. Many of them are given two cents of land for housing but still waiting for assistance to construct a house.

Some of these people are fortunate to get assistance to build a house. But most of them

are not in a position to receive the housing project and complete it according to the conditions given by the Government. Kavasam, along with the irular protective front supports such government housing project of irulars and helps them to construct houses.

Already in Siddhalingamadam, we have helped for 82 (eighty two) houses which got completed in the year 2016. Now we are assisting for 09 houses in siruvalai and 16 houses in Veeranamur.



.....



“Life and Mission of Claret Bhavan

COURSE ON SOFT SKILL

A course on “soft skills” was conducted for the students of Claret Bhavan in the month of January by Mr. Paul Raj. The course was completely focused on improving reading, writing, speaking skill, and it offered some basic knowledge on playing guitar and Keyboard. Invariably, all the students found it to be beneficial for them. Although the programme lasted for four days, yet it was not boredom, as it was a mesmerizing moment. The tutor was creative in his teaching and presentation of every part. He provided useful materials containing new vocabularies, which were used by the famous speakers across the world, and philosophical vocabularies which were found to be very useful for the student’s intellectual pursuit. Besides all these, he also gave guidance on value based life and new methods to improve the study. By sharing his personal life experience, he made us to become aware of our own limitations and encouraged us to remain focused.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Fr. V. Selvaraj CME, the prefect of youth and vocation ministry interacted with the Brothers and offered inputs on the dynamics of fostering and strengthening the relationship with the youth. He also screened some of the motivational videos, actions

songs and conducted few exercises. He also spoke of the difficulties that the youths are faced with in the present scenario and reminded us about the role that they need to play for the growth of the Church. He exhorted the Brothers to treat the youth with due respect and accept them as they are. Generally, the sharing was an eye opening for all as it would enable us to value the worth of the youth in the service of the Church.



UNIVERSAL CLARETIAN MISSION DAY

‘The Universal Mission Day’ was celebrated with utmost gaiety and grandeur. Fr. Louis Franklin CMF, the Mission Procura of the Province of Chennai offered a keynote address. He highlighted the intricacies the ‘Universal Mission Sunday’ in the background of the teachings of Jesus Christ and the message of Holy Father Pope Francis for the world mission day 2018. He also explicated the Charism of the Claretian Congregation and the Congregation’s response to the Universal Mission. His sharing of the personal experiences of our priests and brothers in mission inspired everyone.



REFLEXOLOGY

A course on foot reflexology was conducted for the students of Claret Bhavan from 13th to 15th September 2018, under the expertise of Rev. Fr. Raphael CMF and Rev. Fr. Packiaraj CMF. As foot reflexology is found to be one of the best ministries of Claretians, the students were given the golden opportunity to learn more about this alternative therapy. Indeed, this course helped our students to deepen their knowledge and instill in them a desire to offer better service to the people who are in need of physical healing. A comprehensive explanation on the healing of each organ and its related sickness were explained clearly and distinctly to all.

RETREAT

Spiritual energy is highly essential for living a meaningful religious life. In order to deepen the spiritual strength of the brothers, an annual retreat is usually organized at the beginning of the academic year. In the academic year 2018 - 2019, the annual retreat was organized from 3rd June to 8th June 2018. Fr. V. Selvaraj CMF, the Prefect of youth and Vocation ministry was the retreat preacher. His deep seated reflections and the sharing of his own spiritual experiences inspired the brothers profoundly. All the brothers took

part in it meaningfully and gained wonderful spiritual fecundity. It also enabled the brothers to have their interior self-discovery. The Retreat preacher delivered three talks in a day and inspired all to be very active and vibrant. His innovative techniques impressed everyone and enabled the participants to sing action songs in order to make the retreat lively. In the evening the brothers were given an opportunity to share their personal experience of God. It was done with an intention to inspire each other. He exhorted us at the end and said that our life is filled with challenges and therefore wanted us to remain prepared accordingly. Thus, by God's grace we had fruitful retreat. God be praised!

THE BIBLE WEEK CELEBRATION AND SPORTS

The members of the community organized "The Bible week" celebration on 10th December 2018 and it lasted up to 15th December 2018. The Bible week celebration commenced with the solemn Morning Prayer, Bible Procession and Eucharistic celebration. The members of the community were divided into four groups for the purpose of leading and animating the liturgy each day. In order to deepen the knowledge of the Bible, competitions such as – Memory, Quiz and Skit were conducted based on the Biblical themes. The bible week celebration enabled us to become familiar with the Biblical texts. Reflections shared by the formators and organizers during the Eucharistic celebration and adoration inspired everyone. All the members had extended their whole hearted co-operation and support, made the bible week celebration very meaningful. On the concluding day of the Bible Week celebration, the students were given prizes by Rev. Fr. Stanislaus, the Rector, who thanked all the members of the community for taking creative initiative to organize and celebrate the Bible Week Celebration.

LITERARY ASSOCIATION MEETING (LAM)

One of the most important activities of intellectual formation of the students is organizing 'Literary Association Meeting.' Besides pursuing the philosophical studies in the college, the students are motivated to participate in Literary Association Meetings (LAM), which serve as a platform for improvising the intellectual competency of the students and develop their skills.

The skills that are inbuilt and nurtured during the formation would be beneficent for our future mission. The auditorium of Claret Bhavan community witnessed a display of the spectacular talents of our brothers, who manifested their skills in the form of speeches, dances, essays and debates so on and forth. The inauguration of LAM took place on 20 July 2018, and it was presided by Rev.Fr.Jeyaraj the Vicar General, of Madurai archdiocese. The Chief Guest in his presidential address appreciated all the participants and he said that he was enthralled by the latent talent of the students. He also encouraged the students to acquire more knowledge in different disciplines as it would be helpful

for the Church. The LAM has produced numerous singers, orators and writers. It can be said that the theoretical study of philosophy is practiced & actualized in reality through the fiery debates that took place in the LAMs. During the entire academic year, 12 LAMs were conducted in Claret Bhavan on current themes and issues. The subsequent meetings were presided over by the neighbouring priests & college professors of the various religious institutions.

COMPUTER COURSE

A one day course on 'Computer operation and programming' was conducted in the month of December 2018. Rev.Fr. Rayappan CMF was the resource person of the day. He shared new techniques insights which were helpful to all. He enabled us to become familiar with the operation of hardware and software programming of the computer. He also shared some insights regarding the programming of the Bible dairy, editing photos and videos, and animations etc., All the brothers were interested to learn computer and got benefitted a lot.



MUSIC CLASS

An initiation to become familiarized with the musical instruments and music, music class was organized in the month of January 2019. Mr. Luke Martin, a renowned music master animated the classes. During the class, all the brothers were eager to learn at least an instrument from him. In addition, they were very much inspired and amazed by his profound teachings and songs. He taught music with different perspectives and ideas, which took the brothers to different realm. It initiated a deep seated desire among the brothers deep to master at least an instrument.

ENGLISH COURSE

In order to enable the students to acquire competency in English language skills, a one week course on English language was held in the month of June 2018. Rev.Fr. A. Irudhayaraj CMF was the resource person. It was conducted to empower the students to become fluent in English language, and it was found to be very useful. In order to help the brothers to learn English, new methods such as delivering speech, tongue twisters, learning new vocabularies, grammar, and homework etc., were initiated in the course. These activities prompted all the brothers to improve their English language skill.

.....

Claret Vidyaniketan, Ranchi

Inauguration And Valedictory Ceremony Of Literary Association

The colorful inauguration of the literary association was held on July 16, 2018 having Rev.Fr.Deepak Valerian Tauro, the Rector of St.Albert's college, Ranchi as the president. The students performed lively programmes expressively for the audience. A good number of religious from neighboring religious communities graced the occasions. In his address the president wholeheartedly appreciated the budding priests and advised them to be integrated from inside out and outside in. The valedictory of the literary association was celebrated along with the community day celebration on 19th March 2019. The chief guest of the day was Rev.Fr.Florence Kujur SJ, the principal of St.John's Inter-college. A lot of meaningful programs were a fine treat to the spectators and the theme of the celebration was "Persistence leads to success". In his presidential address, the chief guest asked the students to be persisting till the last breath. He also gave a thrust that with the power of God we can do wonders keeping the persistence as the important criterion. The students were given away prizes for exhibiting their talents during the CLAVACO (Claret Vidyaniketan Annual Competitions).

COURSE FOR THE FORMEES

A course on "Psycho-Social, Psycho-Sexual and Psycho-Spiritual Integration," which is an inner journey toward psycho spiritual wholeness and wellbeing was conducted for the formees of Ranchi archdiocese from 19 to 21 October 2019. The resource person of the course was Rev.Fr.Johnson Maria of Agra Diocese. 120 Participants from various men and women religious congregations began from where they were, looking at what was happening on their spiritual journey. They then moved on to explore the psychological dynamics that affect their social, sexual and spiritual realm and integrate them in healthier ways to create more satisfying life patterns and make their formative process more fulfilling and fruitful.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP

FOCOS (FOrmation COmmunities of Saparom) organized a blood donation camp to help the 175 thalassemic children across Jharkhand who need regular blood transfusion in their life time. This is the third blood donation camp since 2016 that was spearheaded by the Claretians of Saparom. There were 28 donors of different

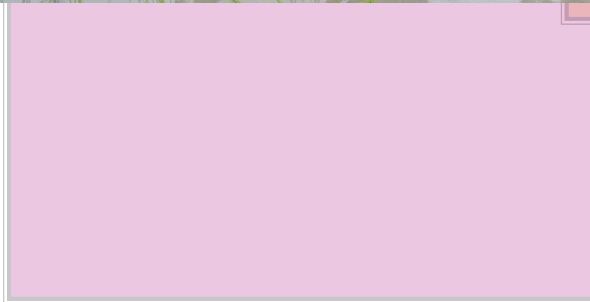
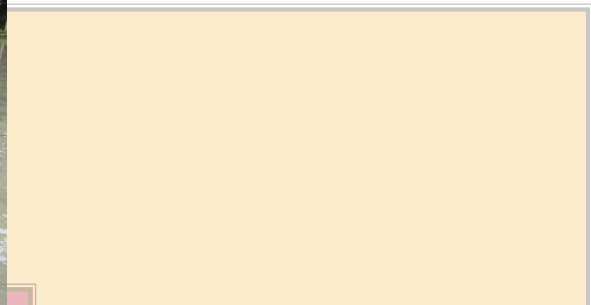
congregations and the donors who were quite enthusiastic in sharing their life with those who had thalassemia, which is equivalent to leukemia. The arrangements were made in collaboration with Sadar Hospital and Atul Gera of Life Savers, Ranchi.

.....

Claret Nivas, Barrackpore

If anyone is not willing to work, then he is not fit to eat. (2 Thes. 3:10)

Transplantation and harvesting of paddy is one of the main manual works of Claret Nivas Community apart from their theological studies. As part of their formation, the students are initiated to do such activity. This is an occasion for them to deepen their sense of belonging to the community. During this activity all the members share their family spirit joyfully. In the academic year 2018 -2019, the transplantation work commenced on 24th July, 2018. After a reasonable gap, the students began the harvesting and thrashing of paddy from 9th to 27th November, 2018. Let this spirit of communion and fellowship deepen our sense of belonging.



.....

St. Clare School, Barrackpore

The Scouts and Guides movement:

The movement of Scouts and Guides was started in the year 2012 in order to enable the students to become competent in life skills, leadership skills and galvanize them to become socially responsive through curricular and co-curricular activities. The movement is very popular as it gives the students a broader outlook and have break from their routine academic life. The activities of the movement empower them to inculcate the spirit of sharing and team building. The hiking, trekking, and the exposure to the out-station give them an opportunity to build their self-reliance and the spirit of independence.

The following are the few of our memorable events that took place in the academic year 2018-19.

21st July to 26th July 2018

A campaign was organized by the Barrackpore Association of the Bharat Scouts and Guides' at Shyamnagar station Platform no. 1 & 2, where the importance of consuming clean drinking water was insisted. This creative initiative benefitted all the passers-by of the area. The service which commenced at 10 am came to an end at 2 pm. The service was rendered to all and even the traveling passengers became beneficiaries of our work.



27th July 2018

On 21st July 2019, the students of our first Batch of Scouts and Guides, who attained the Rajya Puruskar level, were felicitated by his Excellency Shri Kesharinath Tripathi, the Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal. Our students were surprised by the stateliness of the Hall of Audience and it was indeed a proud moment for them to be part of the ceremony, where they



witnessed the modus operandi and grandeur.

25th August 2018

The senior members of the group were given an opportunity to have an exposure of undertaking a 15 km hike through the greener parts of Barrackpore.

Having been given a map and envelop of instructions, the group was entrusted with the task of finding out the route and building tents at the destination point. The hike ended with the sharing of snacks and subsequently discussion continued about how God's Providence blessed the intrepid students with a sunny day to have profound experience even in the middle of the monsoon.

27th September to 2nd October 2019

50th District Camp at Dhotrey.

September is a hot and humid month in West Bengal, and it is during this month the monsoons retreat, but the fresh winter wind is about to make its arrival. The half yearly exams being over, the parents were more than willing to let their children go up to the mountains, in order to witness and experience the cool pine scented hills near Darjeeling.

Six schools came together to participate in the district camp. The proper planning and execution of the programme with good discipline enabled us to have much time available. There were hikes, treks, rock climbing and a visit to a local school. On the eve of the last day, celebration of singing and dancing took place around campfire, where all the groups performed songs and dances, displaying the unique specialty of their school and district.

The second visit to Raj Bhavan took place a few months later. The entire team went to capture the glimpse of a historic monument, built in 1803, which designed by Capt. Charles Wyatt on the lines of the Kedleston Hall of Derbyshire.

The Raj Bhavan follows a Neoclassical style with distinct Baroque overtones. Inside, this palatial residence hosts a museum with



many historic documents, including an original copy of the Constitution. One of the original fourteen copies contains the signatories of the men and women, whose names have gone down in blazing letters in the history of Independent India. On a lighter note, the students admired a phaeton, the most fashionable of the carriages, circa 1820.

Rabindra Jayanti Celebrations, 2018:

The birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore is always celebrated on 8th May with much pomp and glory along with a display of culture. It is a special day so dearer to the heart of every Bengali and it brings out the creativity in all levels of society. If the elite society attends a carefully choreographed and tastefully staged events based on the works of this great humanist, there are many NGOs who take this day for distributing books, drawing materials to the poorer sections of society and the street children.



The management and staff of St Claret School provided a spectacular opportunity to the students in order to let them display their originality and creativity.

On this day the Students are encouraged to take part in solo singing and art contests. There are many budding authors, who love to write on this day came forward to pen down stories for the school magazine. Many students chose to recite poems and declaim famous speeches from various sources. Writing and recitation are encouraged in all the three languages that are taught in the school Viz., English, Bengali and Hindi.

Given below are a few snapshots taken on that day.

To the kids, first and foremost, Rabindranath means a luxuriant beard. So happy they too dabble with colours! That too, for a couple of periods, no less!!!!

.....

Canonical Erection of Independent Delegation

CONGREGATIO MISSIONARIORUM FILIORUM
IMMACULATI CORDIS B. MARIAE VIRGINIS
(Claretiani)

SECRETARIA GENERALIS

Via Sacro Cuore di Maria, 5
00197 ROMA
Tel. 06 809 100 11 – Fax 06 809 100 47

Prot. SG 229/18

Rome, October 22, 2018

Dear

Jesudoss S. CMF Mayor Superior of Chennai
Lawrence V. CMF, Superior Delegate of Kolkata

On behalf of the Superior General and his Government, I would like to inform you in an official way of the approval of the canonical erection of the Independent Delegation of Kolkata to take effect on July 16, 2019. This decision was taken in the General Council session on October 17, after evaluating what you have done to accompany and prepare the Delegation in order to assume the responsibility proper to an Independent Delegation.

We need to take into account the richness of the diversity of India and the need for unity amidst diversity as an evangelizing witness of God's love, which is important for our missionary fruitfulness in the Church in India. Hence, the General government asks you to pay attention to the multicultural composition of both the Province and the new Independent Delegation, and promote fraternal living in community and effective service to the people of God. As part of the preparation towards the beginning of the new Organism, we ask you the following:

1. Continue the process of consolidation of the aspect of community-mission (MS 70) and the formation of local superiors in the exercise of authority in a Claretian way (MS 72).
2. As a rule, the missionaries working in the Delegation will be members of the Independent Delegation. However, the Provincial Superior and the Delegation Superior together should see to the proper distribution of personnel for the integral good and holistic growth of both Organisms. This would imply that some missionaries from the North be part of the Province of Chennai.
3. Regarding the students and the novices who are in initial formation, the Provincial Superior and the Delegate Superior together make a list of distributing them to both the Organisms by involving these formandi in a process of discernment and present the list to the Superior General for his consideration and eventual confirmation.
4. Taking into account the good of the Indian Church and the potential of our Congregation to contribute effectively to her evangelizing mission as Claretians, the General Government decided to imply all the Major Organisms of India to mark the territories in the context of this new reorganization of Claretian presence in India. This is to facilitate our missionary presence in India with a common vision and missionary commitment in close collaboration and communion among the Major Organisms for the good of the people of God. The Major Superiors of the four Major Organisms and the Delegate Superior of the Dependent Delegation of Kolkata will study the matter and present their proposal to the General Government during our Encounter in Indonesia.

Canonical Erection of Independent Delegation

5. We suggest the following time line for some necessary steps:

- The list of names of Members of the Independent Delegation with active and passive voice should be published by the end of December 2018.
- The Sounding among the members for the Delegation Government (January-February 2019).
- Decision by the General Government in the council meetings of March 2019.
- Inauguration of the new Independent Delegation on July 16, 2019.

It is the wish of Father General and his Government to communicate to you our gratitude and joy for the growth of the Delegation of Kolkata. May the decision to raise it to a Major Organism be for a more urgent, timely and effective missionary service to God, to his Kingdom, to His People, through the evangelizing service of the Word. We commend you to the intercession of Saint Anthony Mary Claret and of the Blessed Martyrs of our Congregation. You will enjoy the accompaniment and consoling presence of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as you go forth in the mission of her son Jesus Christ our Lord.

A cordial greeting.



Joseba Kamiruaga Mieza, CMF
General Secretary

The re-distribution of territories of Major Organisms of India

CONGREGATIO MISSIONARIORUM FILIORUM
IMMACULATI CORDIS B. MARIAE VIRGINIS
(Missionari Claretiani)

SECRETARIA GENERALIS

Via Sacro Cuore di Maria, 5
00197 ROMA
Tel. 06 809 100 11 – Fax 06 809 100 47

Prot. SG 283/18

Rome, December 29, 2018

Dear Major Superiors of India:

A cordial greeting.

I write to you on behalf of the Superior General and his Council.

In the context of the erection of the Dependent Delegation of Kolkata into an Independent Delegation in 16 July 2019, the re-distribution of territories among the Major Organisms of India was deemed necessary. Superior General asked Fr. Jesudoss, Provincial Superior of Chennai, to convene the Major Superiors of the Major Organisms of India and the Delegate Superior of the Delegation of Kolkata to discern together regarding the territorial division among the Major Organisms in India and send their proposal for confirmation to the General Government (letter dated 8 November 2018). Accordingly, Fr. Jesudoss convened the meeting on 22 November 2018 in Barackpore and sent their proposal to the General Government in a letter dated 27th December 2018. The General Government had also opportunity to listen to the Governments of the Major Organisms during the ASCLA Encounter held in Medan from 9-19 December 2018.

In the General Council held on 24 December 2018, General Government approved the consensus arrived by the Major Superiors of the Major Organisms in India and the Delegate Superior of Kolkata Delegation with some specifications. The proposal of the meeting is to maintain the existing arrangement of 2015 as the base for territorial division in the new context. Accordingly, the following will be the arrangement of territories for missionary service among the Major Organisms of India from 16 July 2019:

1. Bangalore Province: The states of Karnataka, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Punjab, Hariyana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra (except the dioceses of Kalyan and Chanda), Andhra Pradesh (except the diocese of Adilabad), and in Jharkhand the diocese of Daltonganj consisting of the civil districts of Palamu, Garhwa and Latehar.
2. St. Thomas Province: The States of Kerala, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, in Maharashtra the diocese of Kalyan (consists of fifteen civil districts: Sindhurg, Kothapur, Rathagiri, Sangli, Satara, Solapur, Raigarh, Pune, Thane, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Nashik, Jaigon, Dhule and Namdurbar), in Andhra Pradesh the diocese of Adilabad (civil district of Adilabad) and in Uttar Pradesh the diocese of Gorakhpur (consists of seven civil districts: Basti, Sidharthnagar, Santi Kabir Nag, Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoria and Kushinagar).
3. Independent Delegation of North East India: The seven states of North East India together with the State of Sikkim.

The re-distribution of territories of Major Organisms of India

4. The Province of Chennai: The states of Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh accept the diocese of Gorakhpur. The mission of Malaysia will be of Chennai Province.
5. Independent Delegation of Kolkata: the States of Bihar, Jharkhand (except the diocese of Daltonganj), West Bengal, Uttaranchal, union territory of Andaman Nicobar Islands. The mission in Bangladesh will also form part of the Delegation of Kolkata.

The General Government appreciates the spirit of fraternal communion, shared vision and collaboration among the Major Superiors for the growth of Claretian mission in India. The territorial arrangement aims at organizing the missionary service of the people of God more efficiently. While each of the Major Organisms focuses on developing the missions within its respective territories, it is important to keep in mind that authentic missionary growth in the country needs sharing of personnel and resources as well as closer cooperation between the Major Organisms in the different regions of the Country and the various areas of apostolates.

The above territorial arrangement for the missionary service among the major Organisms in India would make sense only when passion for Christ and passion for humanity overcome the temptations of competition and comparison between the Major Organisms of India, and fraternal love triumphs over attitudes of superiority or inferiority based on the strength of institutions and resources. Therefore, in the future when there are opportunities for more effective service to the people of God by making changes in the above arrangement especially in areas with no Claretian presence, the Superiors of the Major Organisms concerned should discern the matter together, keeping in mind the common good, and present the matter to the General Government for approval.

We commend the Claretians in India to the Immaculate Heart of Mary to illumine their minds and hearts in the tender love of her heart to become authentic witnesses of the joy of the Gospel to the people of India.



Fr. Joseba Kamiruaga Mieza CMF
General Secretary

List of members for the Independent Delegation of Kolkata

PRIESTS

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ajit Kumar Kullu | 34. Maurice Kullu |
| 2. Alex Marandi | 35. Michael Raj S. |
| 3. Alexius Besra | 36. Michael Raja A. |
| 4. Anim Prakash Indwar | 37. Paul Toppo |
| 5. Antony L. | 38. Peter Johnson A. |
| 6. Antonish Lakra | 39. Philip Dhayanand S. |
| 7. Arockiasamy S. | 40. Ponson Toppo |
| 8. Bhyju V.A. | 41. Prabhat Tara Ekka |
| 9. Augustus Kujur | 42. Raimund Tigga |
| 10. Basant Kispotta | 43. Richard Soreng |
| 11. Bijay Kumar Panna | 44. Samuel Hembrom |
| 12. Christu Raj I. | 45. Sanjay Lakra |
| 13. Christu Raja J. | 46. Sony John G. |
| 14. Clarans A. (Deacon) | 47. Subodh Kisku |
| 15. Deosahay Minj | 48. Sunil Xaxa |
| 16. Elias Tirkey | 49. Telesphor Aind |
| 17. Ferdinand Tigga | 50. Thomas Lakra |
| 18. Fulgence Kerketta | 51. Vincent Anesthasiar S. |
| 19. George Gomasto Soren | 52. Vinnarasu T. |
| 20. George Nagendran R. | |
| 21. Jagatpal Minj | |
| 22. Jain Charles A. | |
| 23. Jegan Venislas M. | |
| 24. Jeyabalan A.S. | |
| 25. Jaswant Nayak | |
| 26. Jini P. | |
| 27. John Bosco Kujur | |
| 28. John Soren | |
| 29. Joseph Selvaraj A. | |
| 30. Kashmir Kerketta | |
| 31. Kuldeep Dung Dung | |
| 32. Lawrence V. | |
| 33. Martin Soren | |

STUDENTS

1. Abinash Toppo
2. Arun Tirkey
3. Honest Raj B.
4. Robert R.
5. Sahaya Rajan L.
6. Sonoth Murmu
7. Suraj Tete

NOVICE

1. Judeson Abinesh A.

Official designation of the Independent Delegation of Kolkata

CONGREGATIO MISSIONARIORUM FILIORUM
IMMACULATI CORDIS B. MARIAE VIRGINIS
(Missionari Claretiani)

CURIA GENERALIS

Via Sacro Cuore di Maria, 5
00197 ROMA
Tel. 06 809 100 11 – Fax 06 809 100 47
E mail: secgen@cmfgen.org

Prot. SG 118/19

Rome, March 28, 2019.

Dear Father S. Jesu Doss CMF
Provincial Superior of Chennai

A cordial greeting.

In today's General Government session, Father General has informed of the arrival of your electronic message today, March 28, 2019, in which a letter (dated on the same day) was attached:

1.- informing of the sounding conducted (as of March 14, 2019) for the official denomination of the Independent Delegation (as of its canonical erection as such on July 16, 2019);

2.- making and reasoning the request of the following denomination: "Independent Delegation of Kolkata".

After the dialogue in this regard, Father General and his Council approve the aforementioned denomination: **INDEPENDENT DELEGATION OF KOLKATA.**

Please, convey this decision to the current Government of the Dependent Delegation of Kolkata and to all the members of that Delegation.

In Corde Matris.

Your,



Fr. Joseba Kamiruaga Mieza CMF
General Secretary

Obituary

Rev. Fr. John Bosco CMF

July 21st 1962: Born in Trichy, Tamilnadu.

June 12th 1983: First Profession.

May 31st 1989: Perpetual Profession.

April 28th 1991: Priestly Ordination.

Fr. J. John Bosco CMF was the eldest son among the three children of his parents. He joined Postulancy at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur in 1979. He completed his philosophical studies from 1983 to 1986 in Arulandar College, Claret Bhavan, Karumathur, Tamil Nadu and did his theological studies in Morning Star College, Claret Nivas, Barrackpore, West Bengal.



He was prayerful and cultivated throughout his vocation as faithful son of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. One of the attractive characters of Fr. John Bosco is his helping attitude to the needy. He would go out of his way to secure helps for education of the poor children and sick people. In his ministry of the Word he would attract the faithful to listen to the Word of God by his cheerful and consoling Gospel message. As a committed missionary among the Santhals, he learned Santhali language so well and identified himself with the Santhals culture and customs. He was very devoted to the holy Eucharist and spent long hours at night in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. This attracted the non-Christian hostel children of Sahanagar to kneel behind him in the chapel and pray. He organized many healing retreats for lay people and for the coming year he had the plan of forming 100 catechumens and baptizing them.

Fr. John Bosco was a man of community living. He made everybody to be happy with his sense of humour. His presence was always promoting joy to all. On 15th June, 2017 he was traveling by motor-bike to Sahanagar and met with an accident. He was buried in Claret Illam, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu. The following are ministries he carried out during his 25 years of missionary life.

1991 – 1992: Assistant Parish Priest, Salaigramam, Sivagangai, Tamil Nadu.

1992 – 1993: Assistant Parish Priest, Holy Family Mission, Ettamada, Tamil Nadu.

1993 - 1996: Econome & Assistant Priest Incharge, Holy Family Mission, Kearchand, West Bengal.

1996 -1997: Superior Delegate & Parish Priest, Holy Family Mission, Kearchand, West Bengal.

1997 -1998: Vicar, Econome & Co-pastor, Jeevan Jyothi Mission, Amarda Road, Odisha.

1998 -2001: Superior Delegate & Parish Priest, Jeevan Jyothi Mission, Amarda Road, Odisha.

2001 -2003: Superior & Parish Priest, Holy Family Mission, Ettamada, Tamil Nadu.

2003 -2006: Vicar, Econome & Mission Incharge, Marsal Sadan, Sahanagar, West Bengal.

2006 -2010: Superior & Parish Priest, Marsal Sadan, Sahanagar, West Bengal.

2010 -2011: Superior & Secretary of School, Marsal Sadan, Sahanagar, West Bengal.

2011 -2013: Treasurer, St. Claret School, Sahanagar, West Bengal.

2013 -2016: Vicar, Econome & Treasurer of School, Claret Vihar, Basmata, Jharkhand.

2016 -2017: Vicar, Parish Priest & Social Work Incharge, Claret Vihar, Basmata, Jharkhand.



Rev. Fr. John L CMF

Born: January 23rd 1967, in Pollipparikalam, Tamilnadu.

First Profession: May 31st 1987:

Perpetual Profession: May 30th 1993

Priestly Ordination: May 3rd 1998



Fr. L. John CMF was one among the eight sons of his parents. He joined Postulancy at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur in 1982 and made his first profession on 31st May, 1987. After completing his philosophical studies from 1987 to 1990 in Karumathur, Tamil Nadu and theological studies in Morning Star College, Claret Nivas, Barrackpore, West Bengal, he was ordained on 3rd May, 1998.

Fr. John was a man of availability with helping mentality. He was a committed missionary always ready to go to different religious communities and the parishes for celebrating Eucharist in times of need and emergency. He had cultivated the quality of simplicity from the initial formation onwards. He was well known among women religious for his dedicated service. In June 20, 2017 he was appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest and econome of Claret Arulagam, Moonandipatti in Madurai Diocese, Tamil Nadu. This was the final mission in his life. On 20th October, 2017 he was getting ready for morning prayer but the uneasiness he had had felt led him to lie down on his cot for a while and there he breathed his last with a massive heart attack. His body was taken to Claret Illam, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu and buried after the funeral mass attended by his family members, Claretian Missionaries and his friends on 21st October, 2017. The following are the ministries he carried out during his missionary life.

1998-1999: Econome at Claret Illam, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu.

1999-2000: Econome at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur, Tamil Nadu.

2000-2001: Parish Priest in Eraviputhenthurai, Asst. Parish Priest in Chinnathurai at Holy Family Mission, Ettamada, Tamil Nadu.

2001-2002: Asst. Parish Priest at Holy Family Mission, Ettamada, Tamil Nadu.

2002-2004: Econome at Claretian Provincial House, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

2004-2006: Vocation Facilitator at Claret Illam, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu.

2006 - 2010: Member and MSW study (Madras Christian College, Chennai) at Claretian Provincial House, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

2010 - 2013: Superior and Econome at LIFE Centre, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.

2013 - 2014: Member at Claret Home, Villiavarambil, Tamil Nadu.

2014- 2016: Financial Administrator of Communication at Claretian Provincial House, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

2016 - 2017: Farm In-charge at Claret Illam, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu.

2017: Asst. Parish Priest and Econome at Claret Arulagam, Moonandipatti, Tamil Nadu.



Rev. Fr. Santhanasamy CMF

Born: November 2nd 1957, at Mettupatti in Dindigul, Tamilnadu.

First Profession: May 31st 1981

Perpetual Profession: May 30th 1987

Priestly Ordination: December 18th 1988



Fr. Santhanasamy CMF was born on November 2nd 1957 at Mettupatty, Dindigul, Tamilnadu into a loving and devoted family. He was one among the five children of his parents. He had his minor seminary formation at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur in 1979 and made his first profession on 31st May, 1981. After completing his philosophical studies from 1981 to 1984 in Karumathur, Tamil Nadu and theological studies from 1985 to 1989 (Academic Year) in St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Claretian Seminary, Bengaluru, he was ordained on 18th December 1988.

Fr. Santhanasamy CMF was an active priest and particularly known for his commitment in the missionary works. He was good at sports. His relationship with people was very vast. He was very much appreciated for his hospitality and receptivity which attracted many friends. In 2015 he was diagnosed with Multiple myeloma. He never let his frail health to be an obstacle or to dissuade him from his missionary work in his last day of life. He eventually died on February 11th at the age of 62. The following are the ministries he carried out during his missionary life.

1989 (6 months): Assistant Parish Priest at Puliya.

1989 – 1990: Assistant Parish Priest at Satharasanpatty.

1990 – 1992: Econome at Claret Illam, Kumbakonam.

1992 – 1993: Parish Priest at Moonandipatty, Madurai.

1993 – 1994: Superior & Parish Priest at Holy Family Mission, Ettamadai.

1994 – 1997: Econome at Claret Nivas, Barrackpore.

1997 – 1998: Superior at Claret Sevasadan, Bishrail.

1998 – 1999: Studies

1999 – 2000: Member at Claret Illam, Kumbakonam.

2000 – 2006: Superior & Prefect of Pre-novices at Claret Vidyaniketan, Ranchi.

2006 – 2010: Econome at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur.

2010 – 2013: Superior, Econome & Director of Book Centre at Claretian House, Ranchi.

2013 – 2016: Administrator & Treasurer at Sanyasa, Bengaluru.

2016 – 2017: Superior at Claret Anbagam, Thiruninravur.

2017 – 2018: Superior & Parish Priest at Claret Anbagam, Thiruninravur.

2018 – 2019: Member at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur.



Rev. Fr. Abraham Valiakandathil CMF

Born: December 5th 1951, at Kurianadu in Kottayam, Kerala.

First Profession: May 31st 1971

Perpetual Profession: May 31st 1975

Priestly Ordination: April 3rd 1978



Fr. Abraham Valiakandathil CMF was the fourth one among the nine children of his parents. The members of the Chennai province first came to know Rev. Fr. Abraham Valiakandathil, fondly called as Fr. Valiakandam in the year 1979 as econome to the formation community of Claret Bhavan, Karumathur, Madurai. We found him very friendly, jovial, care-free and active. He used to be generous in spending for the community members. One of his qualities very deeply etched in our memories is his zealous hospitality. At any time, day or night, rain or Sun shine he was willing to go to the railway stations, bus stands or airports to pick up anybody, not only Claretians but others also including friends and relatives of other Claretians. He showed interest in taking them around and treating them with love and care. He was also a voracious reader and notes taker which were used for his teaching and preaching. He showed interest in obtaining secular degrees and started taking classes also in Arul Anandar College, Karumathur. As formator, he took care to be with the students during manual work and games. His favourite game was ball-badminton. He picked up Tamil quite fast and started celebrating Holy Mass and preaching in Tamil. His Tamil pronunciation was very good. He also showed interest in vocation promotion and visited many places in Tamil Nadu and brought many vocations to the province.

He was also a person very much open for any service to the congregation. When he was asked to go the Barrackpore, Kolkata in the year 1985 as Superior and Formator for the Theology students at Claret Nivas, Barrackpore, he was ready and willing. As formator he used to be very kind and generous to the students. He also taught history in the Philosophy department of the nearby Morning Star College and he is remembered as a good professor who used to mix jokes with lessons to keep the class alive. Then, when there was a need for a priest with B.Ed qualification to serve as the head master of St. Claret School at Barrackpore, he joyfully and cheerfully said an unconditional “yes” and took it up. He was incardinated to Province of Chennai in 2012 and served in the school from 2012 - 2015 first as Head Master and then

as its Secretary. He was insisting that a Claretian School should be different in its approach. He was firm that even very weak students should be admitted, and all poor families should be helped with concession in fees. Addition to it he was convinced that all the families of the children should be visited by the priests working in the school at least once in a year. He was regularly out in the evenings for such visits. He was very convinced that this relationship with the families will have very great missionary impact on the students and the family members. He loved the people of West Bengal and its culture and food. He has very good friends around Claret Nivas among the ordinary people. He had special concern for the poor and has helped many poor families in different ways and they all remember him as a very loving priest. In the community he was a friendly presence to all. All fellow priests and students respected him as a senior priest and an elder brother. He was suffering from high diabetic condition and it deteriorated badly towards 2015 and therefore he had to be taken to the South India for better medical treatment, and he succumbed to it. He underwent medical treatment happily in Tamil Nadu. As a happy missionary, he was spending his last days in Claret Illam, Kumbakonam. The fine morning on 8th March, 2019, he gave up his last breath peacefully. He will be remembered as a very friendly, happy and generous missionary for ever.

1979 – 1985: Econome Claret Bhavan, Karumathur and Asst. Professor in History Department at Arul Anandar Collage, Karumathur, Madurai

1985 – 1992: Superior & Formator at Claret Nivas and History Professor at Morning Star Seminary, Barrackpore, Kolkata.

1992 - 1993 Study at AVP, Carmelaram

1993 - 1996 Don Bosco School, Guwahati Mission at Claret Villa, Shillong

1997 & 2003 Claretian Ashram Wardha

2001 - Priest in Charge Mary Matha Church Vijaynagar

2007 - Christu Nilaya Vettampara.

2010 – 2012: Principal at St. Claret School, Barrackpore.

2012 – 2013: Secretary at St. Claret School, Barrackpore.

2013 – 2014: Principal and Secretary at St. Claret School, Barrackpore, Kolkata.

2014 – 2015: Secretary at St. Claret School, Barrackpore.

2015 – 2016: Vicar and Preaching Mission at Casa Claret, Kanyakumari.

2016 – 2017: Member at Claret Bhavan, Karumathur.

09th January, 2018: Member at Claret Nilayam, Vettampara, Kerala.

07th July, 2018: Member at Claret Amaithiaham, Erachakulam, Kanyakumari.

17th November, 2018 - 2019: Member of Claret Illam, Kumbakonam.



GRACE & GRATITUDE



The Concluding Ceremony of Silver Jubilee of Province of Chennai was held in Claret Nivas, Barrackpore, Kolkata. on 23rd November, 2018.

The Journey Continues...

