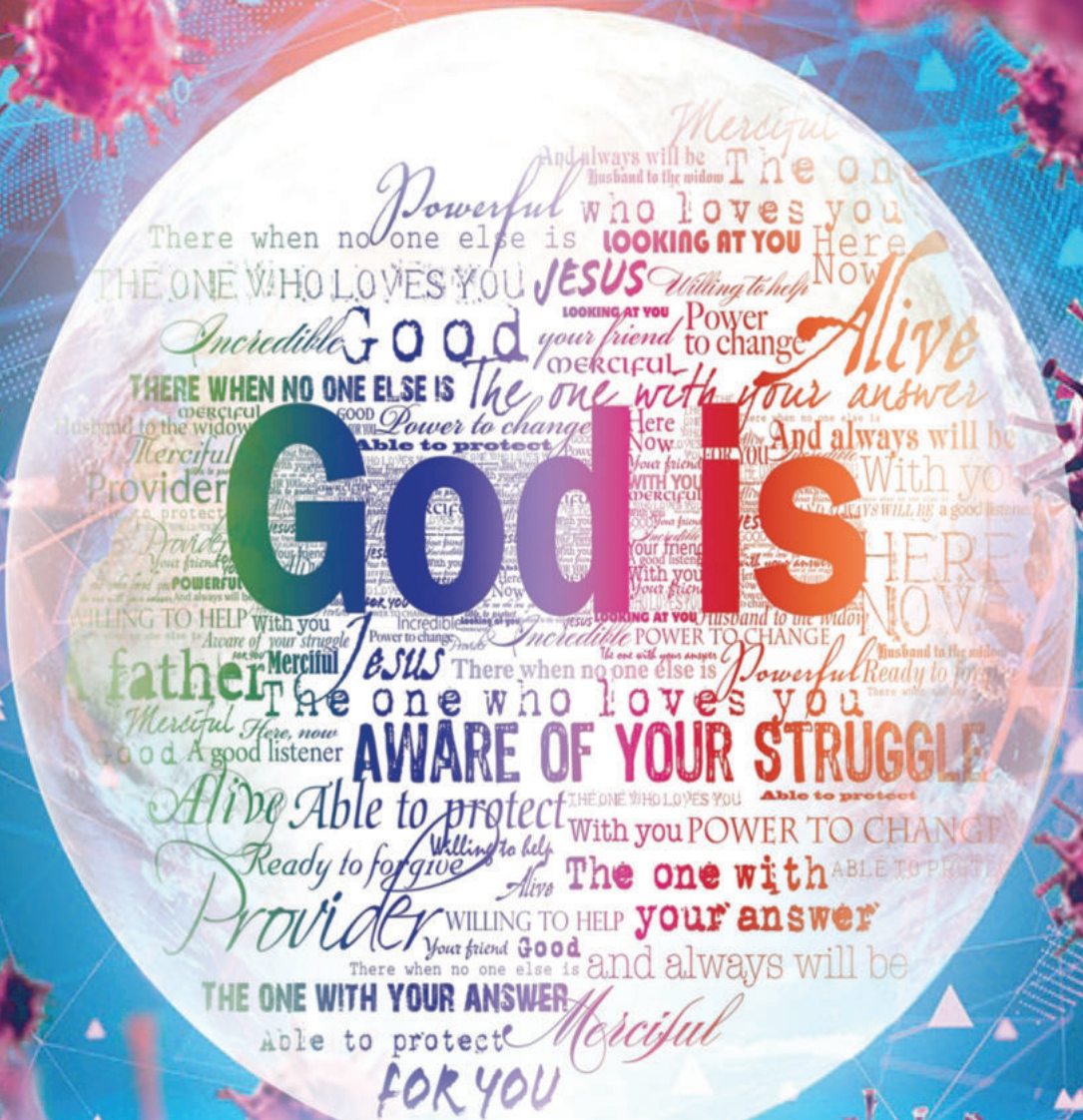




**FMA - Trichy**

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**January - August 2020**



**Pandemic-A call for  
Creative thinking, Compassionate reach out & Courageous action**



*Congratulations!*

**Golden Jubilee**

*We  
celebrate your*

**50**

*Years of Fidelity*

**Sr. Susaimanickam Josephine**

**Silver Jubilee**



**Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi**



**Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam**



**Sr. Rayappan Selvi Cecily**

*We Thank for your 25 years of joyful Service*



## PANDEMIC TIME OF CONVERSION

*Let us pass from the hyper-virtual, fleshless world to the suffering flesh of the poor. This is the conversion we have to undergo. And if we don't start, there will be no conversion.*

*Let us thank God for the saints who live next door. They are heroes: doctors, volunteers, religious sisters, priests, shop workers – all performing their duty so that society can continue functioning*

*“The Lord does not leave his miracles half-finished.” If we become aware of this miracle of the next-door saints, if we can follow their tracks, the miracle will end well, for the good of all. God doesn't leave things halfway. We are the ones who do that.*

*We have the chance to begin. So let's not let it slip from us, and let's move ahead.*

- Pope Francis



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## Editorial:

It was a Religion class and the professor entered the class and wrote on the board: God is... and turned to the students and said, 'can some of you try completing that statement?' and asked them to come over to the board to complete it. Many tried replacing those dots with things like; God is ...love, great, merciful and so on. Some ironically tried completing it with things like, God is ...absent, dead, forgotten, unnecessary, useless and so on! The professor at the end of it all smiled at them and said: 'I can complete that sentence even without touching a piece of chalk.' He went to the board and rubbed off the last two dots... and it read: God is. Not only grammatically, even theologically it is a perfect and complete sentence!



Corona, the infectious virus has hit us very badly leaving its fatal mark in our human history. Our campuses are left in gloomy silence, turned extremely weird and totally empty without the vivacious presence of our students in our schools and boardings. On the other hand we are busy in arranging the online classes, getting tied up with our digital devices, social distancing, frequent hand washing, constant use of masks and gloves, unattended funerals, absence of daily liturgical services, fear of catching cold or fever, finding remedies and boosting our immune systems. The Almighty seems to be very silent, unconcerned towards our cry for deliverance. Sometimes we are not even sure whether it is a pandemic or a mere political game as they impose and implement the acts and policies like **EIA** and **NEP 2020**

One of the heart touching films, I could watch along with my community during this dull, dark and dreary days of lock down was “SILENCE” released in 2016. It speaks of the two Portuguese young missionaries, who are persecuted in Japan to renounce their faith. Like us, during their agonizing time of suffering they cry out, 'Lord I am unable to bear the weight of your silence’. Is God really silent and indifferent towards our suffering? Whether joys or sorrows, trials or triumphs, celebrations or temptations, successes or struggles, THE LORD IS. God is with us! He speaks to us in gentle whispers and caresses us in our moments of discernment and decision making. In moments of struggles and strivings he is there as our stronghold. For all seasons... God IS.

This issue brings to you the events that we had before the epidemic, our present relief works that had given life to many in our locality and our initiatives to celebrate a special year of **Laudato Si'** announced by Pope Francis from 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Our solidarity with the poor and our concrete actions to nurture Mother Earth have become the proof of God's presence to humanity. It may take a long time to go back to our normal life but this tragedy or an emergency is a call for creative thinking, compassionate reach out and courageous action. Let us fight together to turn this challenge into a chance to make a difference in our life and in the lives of others. May God bless us all!!!

*Sr. John Bosco Edal Queen*



**LAUDATO SI**  
**Special Anniversary Year**  
**24 May 2020 - 24 May 2021**



On 24 May 2015 Pope Francis signed *Laudato Si'*, the watershed encyclical letter that called world's attention to the increasingly precarious state of our common home. Five years on, the encyclical appears ever more relevant. The multiple “cracks in the planet that we inhabit” (LS, 163), from the melting ice caps in the Arctic to the raging wildfires in the Amazon, from extreme weather patterns around the world to unprecedented levels of loss of biodiversity that sustain the very fabric of life, are too evident and detrimental to be ignored any more. Pope Francis' prophetic words continue to ring in our ears: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” (LS, 160) The poor communities around the world are already the early and disproportionate victims of the current ecological degradation and we cannot remain indifferent any longer to the increasingly desperate “cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (LS, 49)

The fifth anniversary of the encyclical comes in the midst of another watershed moment - a global pandemic - and *Laudato Si'* message is just as prophetic today as it was in 2015. The encyclical can indeed provide the moral and spiritual compass for the journey to create a more caring, inclusive, peaceful and sustainable world. We have, in fact, a unique opportunity to transform the present groaning and travail into the birth pangs of a new way of living together, bonded together in love, compassion and solidarity, and a more harmonious relationship with the natural world, our common home.

Truly, COVID-19 has made clear how deeply we are all interconnected and interdependent. As we begin to envision a post-COVID world, we need above all an integral approach as “everything is closely interrelated and today's problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis” (LS, 137). The anniversary year and the ensuing decade will indeed be a time of grace, a true Kairos experience and “Jubilee” time for the Earth, and for humanity, and for all God's creatures.



***Prayer for the year:***

*“Loving God, creator of Heaven, of earth and of all that they contain, open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we can be part of creation, your gift. Be present to the needy in these difficult times, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic. Make us courageous in embracing the changes geared to the search for the common good. Now more than ever, may we be able to feel that we are all inter - connected and interdependent. Make sure that we succeed in listening and responding to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world. We pray to you through Christ our Lord, under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians. Amen.”*



## THE EDUCATING COMMUNITY MEET - MADURAI

The Educating Community Meeting was organized at Auxilium Convent, Sirudur, Madurai on 25 January, 2020. The Coordinator of each community accompanied the respective educating Community members for the meeting and there were 147 members were present for the day. The meeting began at 09.30am with a meaningful prayer service led by the members of Sangamam Community at Keelaeral.

The community of Therespuram welcomed the gathering and in particular Sr. Margaret Amalanathan, Mother Provincial and other dignitaries on the stage and felicitated them with a shawl. Sr. Margaret Amalanathan the Provincial, gave an introductory talk presenting the three years preparations planned at the national level in view of the centenary celebration of the arrival of the Salesian Sisters in India. She invited every member to go through a spiritual renewal during these three years of preparation of the centenary celebration.

### Presentation of Themes

**Strenna 2020** : Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal, Coordinator of the Educating Community presented the Strenna 2020 of the Rector Major, “Good Christians and Upright Citizens”. She emphasized on the call of our Rector Major to be attentive to the great human challenges of the world, such as honesty as people, living as a committed citizenship, opting the most disadvantaged, and ensuring our service through politics.

The Strenna 2020 offered the participant the

opportunity to rebuild what Don Bosco thought and what his way of doing and acting among his young people was.

**Pope's Peace Message**: Sr. Antony Nirmala Rani, from Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur presented the key points of Pope's message on the theme; 'Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion'. She explained that the world does not need empty words, but convinced witnesses, peacemakers who are open to a dialogue that rejects exclusion or manipulation.

**International Year of Plant Health 2020**: Since the United Nations General Assembly has declared 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health. Sr. John Bosco Edal Queen from Broadway animated the third session and raised awareness among the participants on the theme. As the healthy plants constitute the foundation for all life on earth, making up the oxygen we breathe and over 80% of the food we eat the participants pledged themselves to take care of the plants which is the key to the sustainable intensification of agriculture to feed the growing global population by 2050.

The group discussion and general Assembly convened by Sr. Soosai Magnificat helped the entire assembly to take concrete action plans to realise our objectives of the year. The Community of Thiruvottiyur delivered the vote of thanks and the day ended with a happy sharing experience.

Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal



## HEADMISTRESS MEET

*“Leadership is not a position or a title; it is an action and example”*

In order to form, encourage and evaluate, the Headmistresses of the province of INT were invited for a day of animation. The meet was conducted by Sr. Majella the academic coordinator of the province on 16th February 2020 at St. Francis Xavier Convent, Broadway.

The meeting began with the short prayer invoking the Almighty's blessing and graces. Sr. Vaidegi the advocate from the legal cell, Chennai was the facilitator of the day. She was introduced and welcomed by Sr. Margaret Sebastian the Headmistress of Our Lady's School, Tiruvottiyur.



Sr. Vaidegi gave her talk on the legal frame work for our mission in all catholic institutions. She explained how to handle our problems legally, not giving way for other's to find fault with us. She also enlightened us for fee fixation and matters related to the academic sector. Her talk was a great help and guidance for all the participants and she also clarified all the doubts and uncertainties. In

the afternoon there was a discussion animated by Sr. Majella on the activities in all our schools. A Time for evaluation was set apart and we planned for the forthcoming days in the third term. The day came to an end with a hymn to Don Bosco asking his grace to be effective ministers of love amidst the young.

Sr. Fernando Majella



#### XIV SOUTHERN ZONAL CONFERENCE OF SALESIAN COOPERATORS

The two day conference of 14<sup>th</sup> southern zonal conference of the Salesian cooperators began on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Don bosco, Manikandam, Trichy. The day's event commenced with a prayer service animated by Rev. Sr. Rosy FMA Delegate INT. After breakfast, cooperator's flag was hoisted by Rev. Fr. Agilan SDB, the provincial of Trichy and then followed by the photo session. The inaugural ceremony of the conference was started by 09.00 am with a Prayer dance by Regunathapuram girls. Mr. Xavier, the provincial coordinator of Trichy welcomed all.

Rev. Fr. Agilan, the INT provincial, Rev. Fr. Albert Johnson SDB, the National Delegate, Fr. Thomas Louis SDB, the Salesian Family delegate INT, and Mr. Antuvan, the world councilor were felicitated by the members of the organizing committee and they addressed the gathering by their encouraging and inspiring speech. The participants for the two day conference included a total number of 65 participants from seven Provinces namely, Delhi, Hyderabad, Trichy, Chennai, Mumbai, Goa and Bangalore.

Rev. Fr. Agilan in his talk, emphasized to make this conference to get more clarity to reach the common goal and renewal of our mission. He asked everyone to experience the essence of this meet." Rev. Fr. Albert Johnson enlightened everyone saying that the animation programme should give us the joyful experience of being in this mission. Rev. Sr. Amalanathan Margaret the Provincial of INT-FMA gave her inspiring talk on service to humanity appreciating the commendable ministry of Mr. A. Xavier Amaladass the Provincial coordinator of INT Province as the chair person of the Child Welfare Committee in Salem, who has reached out to 750 poor and abandoned children.

#### DAY II:

The second and final day of the conference started with the Morning Prayer animated by the Mumbai province. After breakfast, group discussion took place which was moderated by Rev. Fr. Mariadoss SDB., the Delegate of the Trichy province. We had group discussion and wonderful suggestions and creative answers were





suggested by the various groups which will be taken as the Action plan for the coming year.

- ☛ To concentrate on the Family ministry
- ☛ To involve in Politics in the local level
- ☛ To involve in the parish activities with the Youth.

The conference ended with the Eucharistic celebration solemnized by Rev. Fr. Albert Johnson SDB, the National Delegate and pledged to serve society in the

spirit of our founders. At the closure of the day we gathered around the flag post. Mr. K.E.Arockia Arasu, the South Zone coordinator thanked all, specially the host Province who put a lot of effort in making this conference a memorable one. The flag was lowered by the Mr. D.S.Antuvan, the world councillor and was handed over to the provincial coordinator of Goa province.

Sr. Antony Swamy Rosy

## VIDES MEET

### CLUSTER MEET - TVT CHENNAI

The VIDES CLUSTER MEET was held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in Tiruvottiyur. 25 Members actively participated in it. Sr. Rayappan Sampooranam, the VIDES Province coordinator spoke on 'Volunteerism' and Sr. Margaret Sebastian, the Animator of the Community introduced the topic. Mr. Britto explained about Citizen Amendment Act(CAA) and The National Register of Citizens (NRC). Miss. Subhatra spoke on the Theme of "Women Violence and Gender Equation from Auxilium Synergy Source for Integrated Social Transformation (ASSIST) Centre, Manikandam, Tiruchirapalli.



### VIDES GENERAL BODY MEET - KEELA ERAL

VIDES general body meet was held on 01.02.2020 at Keela Eral, Tuticorin. 11 sisters and 15 Vides numbers participated. Prayer was conducted followed by introductory talk by Sr. Rayappan Sampooranam, the province VIDES coordinator. The UNO theme was presented by Sr. Vedamuthu Saveriammal. After the lunch break, the plan and project and evaluation were discussed in two groups. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks. The VIDES members and sisters were given a gift by Sr. Sophia Rayan, the animator of the community.

Sr. Rayappan Sampooranam



### CLUSTER MEET - VADAKKU PAGANOR

The second VIDES CLUSTER MEET was held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in Vadakku Paganoor. 53 VIDES members actively participated in it. The introductory talk was given by Sr. Rosy Antony, the animator of the house. She delivered the message on Love and Generosity. Sr. Rayappan Sampooranam, the VIDES Province Coordinator Spoke on Volunteerism. Sr. Vedamuthu Savariammal also presented the Strenna of the year 2020. The session was animated on theme "women violence and gender equation" by Sr. Azarias Arokia Mary Selvi from Auxilium synergy source for integrated social transformation (assist) centre, Manikandam, Tiruchirapalli.



## IN PREPARATION FOR PERPETUAL PROFESSION

### Set Apart...

*"You have been set apart as holy to the LORD your God, and he has chosen you from all the nations of the earth to be his own special treasure."* Deut 14:2

Such was our feeling, one of having been "set apart" - as we Sr. Samson Gnana Jennifer and Sr. Ponraj Amudha Selva Rani found ourselves at the month long preparatory course towards our Perpetual Profession, organized by Don Bosco Renewal Centre, Bangalore, from 6<sup>th</sup> January to 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2020. Our joy of being *set apart* by the Lord, came not without a surprise. The surprise consisted in finding ourselves as the only two female disciples, like Martha and Mary, amidst the whole band of 47 Salesian Clerics from various Salesian provinces of India. The preparatory course was coordinated by Rev. Fr. Bosco Ponthokkan sdb. The residential arrangement was made at Maitreya, Holy Cross Sisters Spirituality Centre, an institution close by, as a section at the building of Don Bosco Renewal Centre was under renovation.

### The Course ahead...

The course was organized and scheduled with utmost care for four weeks with different Salesian resource persons who animated with their own style and creative initiatives. The opening prayer service, with the melodious choir of the brothers in voices and with instruments, was a fitting start to the event. The topics covered in the course of the weeks were Salesian vocation by Fr. John Rosario, Prayer and Word of God by Fr. James Theophilus and Psycho-sexual integration by Fr. Bosco Ponthokkan. Then the participants were divided into four groups for a Group Therapy led by four Psychotherapists for the entire second week. The therapy

intended to help us get in touch with our deep inner self, accept the past, understand the family influences and undo any unfavourable patterns of behaviour.

### The Latter part...

At the end of the intense week of group therapy, there was a pleasant surprise for all of us, as a one-day trip to Mysore was arranged. Visiting the historical sites and religious places and the time spent in Salesian joy were a welcome relief. The following week, with sessions on Youth work and Youth policy animated by Fr. Casimir Raj, on Missionary spirit by Fr. T.C. George, on Constitutions and Fraternal communion by Fr. Bosco Ponthokkan, and an orientation and assessment of the past by Fr. John Rosario, brought the general programme to the climax of the preparatory experience: the Spiritual Retreat. The last week was devoted to a Guided Retreat led by six Guides in small groups offering us a unique experience, with ample possibility for a meaningful inward journey.

### A fitting close...

What could be more apt than to conclude such four weeks of course, with the solemn feast of our Father and Founder St. John Bosco, on 31<sup>st</sup> January. A special prayer moment was arranged at noon in the Don Bosco Renewal Centre and a solemn festive meal that followed, filled our grateful hearts with an unforgettable experience of Salesian fraternal communion, even as we prepared to bid good bye to each other eager to get back to our own communities!

*Sr. Samson Gnana Jennifer (Thanjavur)  
and Sr. Ponraj Amudha Selva Rani (Puliadithammam).*





## FIRST PROFESSION

While the Church echoed with the mandate of Jesus, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News", the eight novices of both INT and INM provinces were like the eight Beatitudes of Christ pronounced their First YES to Lord who called them by name and sent forth to bear His witness to the world that is wounded by crisis and calamities specially the pandemic COVID-19 this year. The theme "ABIDE IN CHRIST, GENERATE NEW LIFE" was the driving force for our vibrant young women, to pronounce their first vows. The eyes of these new brides of Christ were twinkling with JOY, LIGHT and COURAGE, as it was the most important and memorable day of their life, when they were to become a daughter of Mary Help of Christians, on the day dedicated to her.

The Auxilium Provincial House resounded the praises of Mary Help of Christians at the dawn of 24<sup>th</sup> May, the whole gathering fervently participated in the Morning Prayer, which was followed by the procession to the Chapel while the salesian anthem "O QUAL SORTE" was raised to Mary triumphantly. The eight sisters who are going to be professed adored Jesus in the Eucharist with Aarthi and thanked God for their gift of Vocation. The novices took a snap as a group with the Novice Mistress, Formators and the Provincial, after a meaningful morning worship.

The peak of the day was when the eight novices who were about make their profession made a solemn and prayerful entry into the Eucharistic Banquet in the Hall of Auxilium Provincial House, as simple yet graceful brides of Christ, with the blessing of all the sisters. The Retreat Preacher Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB, was the main celebrant of the day and Salesians priests from Don Bosco Alaihal Media, Manikandam and AMSAM Don Bosco, the other Chaplains from the Congregations of Holy Cross fathers, of MSFS and of OCD solemnly concelebrated the Holy Eucharist. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB enlightened them with three words, "COVENANT, BEERSHEBA- the place to

renew the covenant and 'NON NICETE DOMINI (God is the only reward)'. The sisters were welcomed with sandal paste and kumkum into the Holy ceremony, while the faithful implored the graces of the Lord.

- Sr. ANTONY SAMY Reshma,
- Sr. BELAVENDIRAN Sudha Violet Mary,
- Sr. KABRIEL Gracy Marthal,
- Sr. PREMKUMAR Josephine Keerthana,
- Sr. RAVI JOHNES Sorna Rani
- Sr. SAHAYARAJ Infanta,
- Sr. SANTHIAGU Mary Theresa
- Sr. SUSAINATHAN Ayesha Bindhu

The above eight novices were presented by Sr. Cruz Anthony Michaela the Novice mistress and the Provincials Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala (INM) and Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret (INT) accepted their vows. The assembly of the faithful invoked God's blessings on them while they professed their vows of chastity, poverty and obedience according to the Constitutions of the Institute of the FMA, relying on God's fidelity and the support of the sisters. They received their Constitutions and the Holy Crucifix and glowed with the light of Christ while they stood carrying the lighted lamps as a sign of God's LOVE to themselves and to the world. The angelic Choir elevated the hearts and minds of all to the holy throne of God. Finally with thankful hearts the newly professed sisters expressed their Gratitude to God and to everyone and sang melodiously a grateful Hymn to the Creator who had made them His own on this gracious day.

After the holy Euchriast the newly professed sisters were wished by everyone with grand singing and to make the joy complete a sumptuous meal was arranged for the entire group. Thus the day was magnified with the cheer of the Lord.

THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS THE JOY OF THE SOUL!

by Sr. Santhiyagu Mary Theresa



## JUNIORS SUMMER COURSE

The Sixteen INT Junior Sisters along with Sr. Augustine Sagaya Rani INM had their summer course from 12 to 22 May 2020. The resource persons were Sr. Amalanathan Mary the INT Provincial, Sr. Margaret, dealt in depth the Identity of the FMA with more practical examples. The sessions were more of discussion where the junior sisters enumerated the problems they face in community and together they tried to figure out their identity as FMA amidst challenges. Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela, the Novice Formator, focused on vows. It was almost a comparative

study where the references are quoted from different catholic literatures and saints lives. Sr. Ambrose Little Flower, the Province Secretary gave a unique experience of driving into Mother Mazzarello's LISTENING WITH THE HEART. They facilitated these young and energetic religious to focus on their life of commitment and love through various sessions on constitution, scripture and Salesian spirituality. Three days of question session with Fr. Biji Thomas SDB was a great help for them to lead a life of prayer with holy perseverance to the Lord in responding to His call generously in every walk of life.



## RENEWAL OF THE VOWS

“Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality.” In the light of a new day we thanked God and prayed for the 16 temporary Professed Sisters of INT Province as they prepared themselves to renew their commitment to the Lord. The holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB in the Auxilium Provincial House Conference Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020. During his homily he encouraged our sisters on the theme “Set me like a seal on your heart”. He spoke about

the love of God that is ever personal, ever in need of us and our generous response to his great love. He emphasized to serve His people according to the charism of our congregation and in return how they could find Our Blessed Mother in us the perfect model for all who seek to discover the will of God for them. The community that was present there interceded for God's graces upon the young sisters to be faithful to His love and might grow in communion with each other.





## PERPETUAL PROFESSION

*"It was a celebration of a lifelong commitment to God and God's people."*

The Daughters of Mary Help of Christians rejoiced, celebrated and thanked God for the permanent and final commitment made by Sr. Samson Gnana Jenifer and Sr. Ponraj Amudha and promised their love for God and others perpetually and to live as vowed members of our congregation throughout their life. The joyful ceremony took place on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at the Eucharistic Celebration in the Auxilium Provincial House of INT Province. It was certainly God's plan that even in the midst of lockdown against the severe spread of the COVID 19 in India, the celebration took place in a simple yet meaningful and significant way only with the presence of their parents.

The Main celebrant was Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB, and the priests from Don Bosco Alaihal Media,

Kallukuzhy Provincial House and the confreres from Holy Cross, MSFS and OCD congregations were present to concelebrate the Holy Eucharist solemnly. Fr. Biji Thomas in his homily stressed on God's love that is beyond and within all other relationships, that is part and parcel of this forever commitment. The vows presuppose a permanent dialogue with the God who called us, over and over again in a constant development of alliance and fidelity to Him. The genuine prayers of the faithful, abounding blessing of the holy men and women around, and the unconditional graces of the Almighty made our sisters to radiate His love on that day and forever. The festal agape and the Salesian typical wishing were well programmed by the Novitiate community to congratulate the Perpetually Professed Sisters and honor their parents.



## INITIATION INTO RELIGIOUS LIFE

### **"I have called you by name, You are MINE"**

We, the 12 Postulants made our Retreat in Sacred Heart Home, Katpadi, from 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020, animated by Rev. Fr. A.T. James SDB. On 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020, we came to Novitiate. All the sisters and Novices welcomed us joyfully. In preparation to receive the Novice's medal, our Mother Mistress explained to us the Coat of Arms which is "the symbol of our life in the spirit" as each small symbol in our medal that portrays the Holy Spirit, Mother Mary, Don Bosco, Mary Mazzarello, a call to the sanctity, the cardinal virtues of faith, hope and charity, chastity, loving kindness and our motto "Da Mihi Animas Cetera Tolle".

In short the Coat of Arms is the outline of the spirituality of our Institute. 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020, on the feast of Pentecost, as Disciples of Christ, with lighted lamps and radiant faces we marched to the altar of the Lord,

With the invocation of the Holy Spirit  
With the burning love of the heart of Jesus  
With the accompaniment of our Blessed Mother  
With the blessings of our founder Don Bosco  
With the guidance of our Co-foundress Mary Mazzarello.

We were initiated into Religious Life by Rev. Sr. Margaret Amalanathan, the Provincial of Trichy Province. In a short exhortation, she reminded us of the importance of our religious vocation and she also insisted us to be open and docile to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as we would undergo the 2 years of formation in the Novitiate. As we heard in the reading on the call of Samuel, we responded to our call singing, "Here I am Lord", with our whole heart and soul. At the end of the ceremony Mother Provincial entrusted each one of us to Mother Mistress.

God showered His blessings on us in abundance through sisters. This was an apt day for us to be initiated into Religious Life with the enlightenment, guidance, strength, gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

by Christina Jenifer (1<sup>st</sup> year Novice)



service for the occasion began with the procession from outside of the chapel with each aspirant carrying a lighted candle to the altar. It was a joyful occasion for the aspirants to enter another step in their vocational journey with the strong conviction that they belong to Christ and Mary Help of Christians.



### RECEPTION OF THE POSTULANTS' MEDAL - 2020 SACRED HEART HOME - KATPADI

This year we are blessed to have 4 aspirants and 11 postulants for INT and 6 aspirants and 1 postulant for INM receiving their initial formation in Sacred Heart Home Katpadi. The twelve young Aspirants of INM and INT with great desire to follow the holiness of our Sainly foundress prepared themselves spiritually with three days retreat, to say their first "Yes" to God. The three day retreat from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> August animated by Rev. Fr. Sundar SDB, rector of Don Bosco Katpadi. The 3 days of retreat helped the candidates and Aspirants to encounter Jesus personally and experience his merciful Love.

On 5<sup>th</sup> August, with joy and happiness the 12 Aspirants received the 'Postulants' medal from Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala, Provincial of Madras (INM) in the presence of the council members, Superiors and sisters from Auxilium College and Auxilium Home. The prayer

### FRESHER'S DAY

"Today is not just another day. It's a new opportunity, a new chance, a new beginning."

The six Aspirants and twelve Postulants were bubbling with joy to exhibit their talents to one another and to the community on 09.08.2020. They prepared themselves and introduced themselves in a creative way. There were performances like singing, dancing, composing and singing of a song and reciting of poems. All were loaded with many gifts and talents.

Sr. Robinson Jenny Grace



### பின் தொடர்வேன் இறைவா

சிப்பிக்குள்ளே என்னை முத்தாய் வளர்க்கிறாய்  
சிப்பியாகி சித்திரை நிலவாய் ஓளிரச் செய்கிறாய்  
அல்லல் என்னை தீண்டாமல் அல்லும் பகலும் காக்கிறாய்  
கவலையெனும் சிலந்திவலையில் சிக்காமல்  
வாழ்வின் வழிகளை சீர்படுத்தி தருகிறாய்  
அறவழியில் சென்றிட ஆசானாகி அறிவுரை தருகிறாய்  
தோல்வியில் துவண்டால் தோழனாகி தோள்கொடுகிறாய்  
எத்தவம் முற்பிறவியில் செய்தேனோ எல்லாமாகி என்னை சுமக்கிறாய்  
இனி எத்தனை பிறவிகள் எடுத்தாலும் என் சிலுவை தினம் சுமந்து  
பின்தொடர்வேன் இறைவா உன்னை

- அல்பென்டா ஜோ  
(Postulant)

### வாழ்க்கை

வெற்றி என்பது சிரித்து மகிழு வைக்கும்  
தோல்வி என்பது சிரித்து வாழ வைக்கும்  
தடைகள் வரலாம் தாண்டி செல்  
பிழைகள் ஏற்படலாம் திருத்திக் கொள்  
தோல்விகள் தோன்றலாம் கற்றுக்கொள்  
குற்றதை நினைவில் கொள்  
நினைவில் உள்ளதைப் பயிற்சி செய்  
பயிற்சியோடு முயற்சி செய்  
இலக்கைத் தொட்டுவிடலாம் - வாழ்க்கையில்

- ஜெர்லின் ஜுவிதா  
(Postulant)





## RETREAT - 2020

**EVEN IN THE WORST TIMES OF LIFE, GOD'S MIGHTY HAND WORKS POWERFULLY...**

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (Romans 8:35)*

This Divine experience of God's work was very vividly witnessed by our INT province during this pandemic, where the whole world was locked down in fear and anxiety, we were with Christ in retreat, healing, transformation and peace. Neither the pandemic nor the lock down was able separate us for the love of Christ. The retreat 2020 was a remarkable spiritual renewal for the entire province of INT as it started on March 19<sup>th</sup> and continued till the end of June. As we know God's grace flows from heaven and does not go back without drenching every nook and corner of earth, similarly batch by batch almost everybody in our Province got drenched in this amazing experience. How fortunate we were!

This retreat was animated by Fr. Biji Thomas SDB from Kolkata Province for the whole INT Province, where the sisters of every batch had the spiritual renewal through his preaching of the Word, connecting God's word across the Old and New Testament with its significance and implementing it according to our lives. It was actually a big miracle of transformation to all. Everybody who

carried a doubt or disturbance in their mind and heart were rightly answered through the day's talk by father; it was another miracle where everyone agreed on it.

Through his vibrant and practical way of preaching, the retreat preacher instilled in us the real taste to read the scriptures. And the most significance part of the retreat was the good confession made by everyone, and the true encounter with the merciful God, a soothing experience of healing to the mind and heart, reconciling with the past wounded history, renewing our relationship with God and neighbour thereby we were able to develop strong convictions to say no to sin.

The morning prayers, Divine hour, rosaries encouraged our spirit and soul to continue our journey in the track of retreat and accompanied us very perfectly. The prayer moments especially during lent increased with great fervor helped us to participate worthily in the Lord's passion. The prayer of anointing and healing really boosted our spiritual strength.

Nothing we lacked even in pandemic but we were rejuvenated, filled, healed, reconciled, transformed. We repented and returned back to GOD... This retreat was a great boon to our Province.

Sr. Joseph Prettencia .L & Sr. Antony Swamy Renuga



*Dear consecrated brothers and sisters, you are simple men and women who caught sight of the treasure worth more than any worldly good. And so you left behind precious things, such as possessions, such as making a family for yourselves. Why did you do this? Because you fell in love with Jesus, you saw everything in him, and enraptured by his gaze, you left the rest behind. Religious life is this vision. It means seeing what really matters in life. It means welcoming the Lord's gift with open arms, as Simeon did. This is what the eyes of consecrated men and women behold: the grace of God poured into their hands. The consecrated person is one who every day looks at himself or herself and says: "Everything is a gift, all is grace". Dear brothers and sisters, we did not deserve religious life; it is a gift of love that we have received.*

*- His Holiness Pope Francis*

## ASSIST

### PROUD TO LIVE IN THE LAND OF CHOLAS

On 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March 'ASSIST' the Social Development Office organized an education tour for the Evening Study centre students from Manikandam, Ambedkar nagar and Vadakku Paganoor to the Brahatheesvara temple at Thanjavur. It was a one day trip and there were hundred students. We were all curious to witness this monumental evidence of the Cholas' architecture. By the time we reached the venue it was 10:30am.

The temple is located in the heart of Thanjavur district. This temple is a marvelous piece of architecture and one of the wonders in the world. It was clean and very well maintained. This is a vast temple which is built in a natural way without any paintings because it is carved out of granite and at the entrance there are two statues which were very large, also there is a nandi statue in the middle of the temple.

I really enjoyed the trip, the staff of ASSIST spoke in detail about the construction of the temple, the scientific mind of the early Tamils and the glories of the past. It was not only an educational trip but also a cultural trip and a one which made us to appreciate our history. We returned home to share our experience with our friends and pledged to become great architects of future history.

Mr. Sethupathy  
Evening Study Centre, Manikandam



### Celebration of Women's Day as a path towards Gender Justice

'ASSIST' had organized a Poster Exhibition on Women's Right as part of its Women's Day celebration on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Ms. Subathra, the Women Program Coordinator, ASSIST along with the other staff of ASSIST organized a poster exhibition in the Trichy Bus stand as a means to promote awareness on Gender Based Violence and rights of women. The photo exhibit highlighted some of the key issues faced by women and girls in Tamilnadu, vividly illustrating some of the realities. Nearly 300 people viewed the posters and engaged in a healthy conversation with the staff regarding Gender Based Violence.

It was also an opportune moment to learn the status of awareness about women's rights among the different category and age groups in the society. The effort was greatly appreciated by the public and Policemen who gave permission to conduct the exhibition. As we called it a day in the evening, the event marked the meaningful celebration of Women's day.

Ms. Subathra  
Women Program Coordinator, ASSIST



### COVID 19 RELIEF WORK

The first case of the 2019-20 coronavirus pandemic India was reported on 30 January 2020, originating from China. On 22 March 2020, India observed a 14-hour voluntary public curfew at the instance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The government followed it up with lockdowns in 75 districts where COVID cases had occurred as well as in all major cities. Further, on 24 March, the Prime Minister ordered a nationwide



lockdown for 21 days, affecting the entire 1.3 billion population of India. On 14th April, the Prime Minister extended the ongoing nationwide lockdown till 3rd May which was further extended till 31st May. The economic devastation caused by the lockdown, has huge effects on informal workers, micro and small enterprises, farmers and the self-employed, who are left with no livelihood in the absence of transportation and access to markets.

These measures are having very serious repercussions on the livelihoods of the poor and the vulnerable living in the rural areas. Life is especially difficult and miserable for the group who are categorized as the 'daily wage laborers'. Though government has announced many relief packages, they are limited when faced with the size of population in India.

Our target group consists of the rural poor who are daily wage laborers, lepers, gypsies and beggars located in Manikandam Panchayat. We have been associated with these communities for the past 18 years. We have seen a gradual growth and transformation in their mentality, lifestyle and competencies.

Now during this turbulent time we feel called to reach out to 684 families located in 3 villages. We work in collaboration with the local leaders and community volunteers to meet the need for food supplies.

ASSIST the Social Development Office of the Province along with the community of Divyadhanam and the Provincial House have succeeded in mobilizing funds and providing food supplies to families of our Evening study center students, Self-Employment Group members and those in need in the surrounding 3 villages. We have also provided 75 sets of PPE (Mask and Gloves) to the local Police. Currently the members of Sudaroli Self-Employment Group are engaged in stitching masks.

Date	No. of Families	Village/Category
15.03.2020	30	Leper Colony, Manikandam
09.04.2020	117	Daily wage earners Ambedhkar Nagar
10.04.2020	15	Housekeeping & Farm labourers
16.04.2020	43	QA Students
18.04.2020	116	SC families in Manikandam
24.04.2020	95	Daily wage earners, Ambedhkar Nagar
30.04.2020	128	Gypsies & Beggars, Gandhi Nagar
19.05.2020	214	Daily wage earners, Ambedhkar Nagar

We express our gratitude to Mother Provincial for her approval and financial support. Our heartfelt thanks to Sr. Michaela Cruz, for generously sharing the donations and allowing the Novices to prepare the food supply packets with prayer and love. Our special thanks to the Donors, Local Leaders and Police for their collaboration in extending our helping hand to the people in need.

Sr. Azarias Arokia Mary Selvi  
Social Development Coordinator



*Religious life has grasped in these months of pandemic a great call for closeness, for the nearness of people. The Spirit needs our docile, active, constant, creative participation. This can be the concrete way to revive the gift of God that is in us, keeping lit with daring, without fear, His fire that burns in the heart of all of humankind and that perhaps in this moment, risks to weaken, and in some cases, to become extinguished. (Cir - 999)*



## MARIALAYA GEORGE TOWN

### WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

*"I alone cannot change the world. But I can cast a stone across the waters to create many Ripples".*

*Mother Teresa*

Mariyala was proud enough to organize women's day celebration at St. Gabriel Higher Secondary School Campus, Broadway on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The programme started around 03.30 p.m. The Chief Guests of the day were Mrs. Vasugi, National Vice President of all India Democratic women's Association, Mrs. Velicham Asha Sherin, President of Thai Savithiri Poole Women's Movement, Fr. Edwin George, Rector and Correspondent of St. Gabriel Higher Secondary School and Sr. Soosaimuthu Arul Mary, Director of Marialaya. The Women's day was declared open making the colourful balloons to fly high by the Chief Guests. It was followed by the Welcome speech by Mrs. Teresa our staff.

There were two thousand women with colourful dresses who participated in the programme. Mrs. Vasugi, National Vice President of all India Democratic women's Association spoke about gender equality where men and women complement each other to build a better future for everyone in the society. Mrs. Asha Sherin, spoke on the role of women in the economic, Political and social activities and highlighted the ways to handle anger and explained how most of the problems in our life are created by us and being aware to avoid such a situation with a positive outlook on life. She also presented the consequences of anger such as depression, low self confidence, eating disorders, etc.

The programme came to an end at 07.00 p.m with a beautiful cultural program by various women groups expressing their joy of living their womanhood lively. The bank managers also participated in the event and appreciated the sisters for their effort to empower the women in our society.



## ARCH BISHOP L.MATHIAS HOME - TIRUVOTTIYUR

### OUR LADY'S NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL GRADUATION DAY CELEBRATION:

Kindergarten Graduation is an exciting milestone for Pre-Primary children as it's their first step towards a future full of hopes and possibilities. It marks a new beginning that adds new dimensions to their School life and the journey they begin towards knowledge and education.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Our Lady's Nursery and Primary School wore a festive look, illuminated with shining faces of kindergarten Students as the School celebrated the Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony of their Upper Kinder Garten Students. To bless the students and encourage them to be great learners, Mr. Sunil Kumar Reddy B.Sc, M.Sc, Senior Manager, Central Bank Tiruvottiyur Branch, Chennai, Sr. Sebastian Margaret Mary the Correspondent of Our Lady's Nursery and Primary School, Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani the Principal

and the Community Sisters graced the occasion with their presence.

The smart tiny tots walked the ramp adorned in the traditional convocation gowns and caps. Their smiling faces were welcomed by rapturous applause from the audience as they received scrolls of merit on the dais. It was indeed heartwarming to see overjoyed parents as they watched their little angels grow into butterflies ready to flit away into the sky yonder.

The programme began with an invocation to God the Almighty, followed by a welcome address given by the Lower Kindergarten Kids which was well prepared and applauded by the gathering. The various dances of the kids with vibrant music, breathtaking colours and highly coordinated movements promptly set the tone and mood for the celebration which was appreciated by all. The Chief Guest in his convocation address complimented the graduates on their achievements and

congratulated the Sisters and the teachers for their dedication and hard work in shaping the Students through education and other co-curricular activities.

The Chief Guest along with the Correspondent and the Sisters felicitated the Students with a Certificate of Graduation. It was indeed a joyous and memorable day for not only the little ones but also a proud moment for the Parents and the dear ones as they witnessed their

children receiving their Kinder Garten Graduation Day Diploma's from the Guests. May God bless these tiny "Graduates" as they continue their education in the main stream of the school! This day served as a platform for many Kids to shed their inhibition and come forward to perform and make the parents proud.

Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani



### ST.FRANCIS XAVIER CONVENT - BROADWAY

#### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ANGLO INDIAN HR. SEC. SCHOOL New Year sharing with the auto drivers:

*"No human masterpiece has been created without great labour"*

At the beginning of this New Year 2020 we decided to honor the auto drivers of our school who bring our students very safely every day. So we gathered them in our campus and shared towels, bed sheets and other needed things from the collection of charity day this year.



#### Seminar on CAA (Citizen Amendment Act):

The students of St. Francis Xavier A. I. Hr. Sec. School and Our Lady's Center school had a day of awareness seminar on Citizenship Amendment Act by Mr. Britto a staff from ASSIST. He explained about the present situation of Indian government, its authorities, politics, demerits and other consequence of this act. This helped our students to know more about their fundamental rights and be committed to be true citizens of our country.



#### Celebration of the Salesian week:

##### • *Feast of St.Mary Mazzarello and Pongal celebration:*

"Do the right things at the right time and at the right place" remembering the exhortation of our saintly mother, the staff and the children of St. Francis Xavier A. I. Hr. Sec. School, Broadway celebrated the feast of St. Mary Mazzarello along with the celebration of Pongal on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Mr. Irudhaya Raj, Tamil Pandit from St.Gabriel Boys School was present as a judge for the debate and presided over the whole day's program. The joyful day began with the short enactment of the life of St. Mary Mazzarello highlighting values of our saint which inspired many of our students to live in great love for God and others and they pledged themselves to be holy. We also shared pongal with our students thanking God for the gift nature and the toil of our farmers.



##### • *Feast of Bl.Laura Vicuna, St. Dominic Savio and Vocation day:*

"I want to do all I can, to make God known and be loved"  
Bl. Laura Vicuna

The day was set apart to honour the young saints of our Salesian family on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. The life history



of both saints was presented creatively by the students and appropriate hymns were sung by our children. Inspiring our catholic girls with the example of these young saints, we animated the day for vocation promotion and helped them to discern for their life. We took the Girls of X, XI, XII std into our convent and showed our life style inside the convent and explained our life of poverty, chastity and obedience. Sr. Majella the animator welcomed them and gave them the introductory talk on discernment and some of our community sisters shared their call story which were breathtaking. Our students were happy to know this and few of them expressed their desire to join us.

**Retirement and Jubilee celebration :**

*“The good life is a collection of happy moments to cherish, rejoice and prosper- Denis Waitley.*

This day also was filled with the jubilation, solemnizing the retirement of Mrs. Berny and the Silver Jubilee of Miss. Isabel the senior and dedicated staff of our school. The celebration reached its peak with the felicitation of Rev. Sr. Majella the animator and correspondent of our school which was followed by Staff and students. Both the celebrants expressed their heart enduring speech which made spectators choked to their feeling. Thereafter a grand mass was solemnized by Rev. Fr. Sebastian invoking God's blessing on the staff and their families.



• **Feast of St. Francis De Sales;**

“Nothing is as strong as gentleness and nothing is as gentle as real strength”

The feast of St. Francis De sales the patron of our congregation was celebrated on 24.01.2020, enacting his life history, the students came to know



of this gentle saint and learnt to be kind and patient in their dealing with others.

**Feast of Don Bosco :**

“Give me souls take away the rest'

Celebrating the feast of Don Bosco our founder is the greatest joy for each one of us in the campus making alive his educative method of the preventive system. We presented the incredible values of our saints on 30.01.2020 and detailed the different works of our salesian family by its various groups. The students danced and sang glorifying the Lord for this great saint of the young to the church and to our congregation.



**Outreach programs by our students.**

*A selfless service to humanity is a selfless service to God.*

Bearing the torch of love, and having the noble thought to serve people, the students of St. Francis Xavier A. I. Hr. Sec. School had the chance of meeting the poor and needy on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020. A group of students had been to Perunganur to an old age home called 'Uyeroli' along with sisters and teachers to share their love and concern celebrating New year 2020. The people over there were pleased and happy. Our children presented a New Year programme and shared clothes, provisions and other needed materials for the old aged people. On the same day, the students from Bharat Guides movement and Road safety patrol had been to the Children residential home in Varadharajapuram, Chennai for the yearly sharing. There were around 50 poor children who are orphans and we shared our joy with them through our short programme and we also shared gifts like stationary and other needed things.



### Annual Past pupil meet and sharing:

The Annual Past pupil meet was held on 26<sup>th</sup> January and there were 20 past pupils present for the day. We commenced the meet with a prayer and a short video on the attitude of gratitude. They shared their wonderful experience that they had in the school and how they practice their daily life. As we have planned earlier after the meet we went to an old age home at Royapuram run by the sisters of Mary Help of Christians. Every one spent their valuable time with the old people and offered needed provisions for them.



### Valedictory and the annual day celebration:

*"We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already- J.K.Rowling"*

7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 was a day for the students of St. Francis Xavier A. I. Hr. Sec. School to look back to their success in their destination of leadership during the academic year 2019-2020. It was a mark of educated minds to be able to accept what they ought to be of their own will power. The captains, leaders, volunteers, from STD I to STD XII laid down their office and showed their sign of gratitude thanking the management, staff for their term of office.

"Success is not an accident; it is hard work, perseverance, sacrifice and love for what you are learning to do". These values of our institution complied many achievers for the years to come. We celebrated the whole year's success on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 as we had come to the end of this successful academic year 2019-2020.

The honorable chief guest Mr. Rangarajan the ex IAS officer and the state committee member of the civil service had presided over the function. The students who received their general proficiency for the year and various other activities were awarded. Every event lit the flame of grandeur and magnanimity to the evening show.

Mr. Sekar Babu the member of the legislative assembly accepted our invitation and was present for

the conclusion of the programme and expressed his appreciation and gratitude to our institute which gives life and knowledge to the girl children in the locality. The glory and honour of our institution was highlighted with feathers high, reaching the pinnacle of pride which can never fade for decades.



### Retreat for catholic Students

"Those who leave everything in God's hand will eventually see God's hand in everything"

The catholic students of our schools were given a chance to spend a day with the Lord in silence and prayer on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020. A team of people from "Kadugu vithai Gospel group" animated the day with lively programmes like action songs, puppet show, magic, and games and made the day more fruitful for the students. This session helped the students realize the facts that they are good and are being still valued in the presence of God. Special prayer sessions were guided for the students who are going for their Government examinations. The day was spent in prayer and action and the children left with the word of God in their hands and hearts.

Sr. John Bosco Edal Queen





## OUR LADY'S CENTRE MATRICULATION SCHOOL - BROADWAY

### PONGAL CELEBRATION:

Honouring the farmers we celebrated pongal in Our Lady's Matriculation school on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in a grand manner. Rev. Sr. Majella the animator and Sr. Sampooranam the headmistress were present for the programme and encouraged our children. The students also shared pongal with their friends and the day ended with joy and immense satisfaction of everyone.



### MUTHAMIZH VIZHA CELEBRATION:

On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 the school held the celebration of Muthamizhvizha and all the students were gathered in the ground after 10:15.a.m and many programs like speech, song, dance and skit were performed from Std III to Std IX. The Chief Guest of the day was Mrs. Saraswathi, a Tamil pandit from Chindadaripet Government High School and was honoured by our Tamil teachers. The chief guest to our wonder recited the Tamil names of 100 flowers and received the appreciation of every one present there. She insisted on the young ones to show more interest in the Tamil subject and become eloquent in their mother tongue.



### PRIMARY ANNUAL SPORTS MEET

The Primary Annual Sports meet of our school was

organized on 29.01.2020. The function began at around 9:00.a.m. Mr. Ilanchezhian, B.Tech, M.B.A the Assistant Commandant, CRPF was our chief guest. He was greeted by our school band along with the other honoured dignitaries. The whole playground had been decorated with flags and colorful balloons. The Chief Guest took the salute and made our students feel proud of what they were performing.

The students showcased mass drill, pyramids, yoga, fun races and relays. The sense of sportsmanship and enthusiasm in the students display increased the excitement of the audience. During his address the chief guest insisted that the students should be punctual in everything they do in their life and be obedient to elders. He distributed prizes to all the winners of the day.



### SALESIAN FEASTS:

In order to inculcate the values of our salesian saints in the hearts of our students we celebrated the feast of our saints with due preparation and inspiring programmes. St. Mary Mazzarello, Bl. Laura Vicuna and St. John Bosco were honored on their respective feast days and children took part in all the events with great enthusiasm and involvement.

Sr. George Mary Vijila Rani



## MADURAI

### AUXILIUM MATRICULATION SCHOOL

### PONGAL & MUTHAMIZH VIZHA :

"Pongal is an occasion that makes joy and cheer and brings along everything that is best". Our school celebrated the twin celebration of Pongal and Muthamizh Vizha on 13<sup>th</sup> January. The three main parts of Muthamizh Iyal, Isai and Nadagam was performed in a unique way. Our state Tamil Nadu incredibly stands for

its culture and heritage and this was depicted through dance and skit. An interesting Debate was conducted on the theme "The necessity to find the ancient memory through Archaeology. The members of each party spoke vigorously to prove their facts. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi the chief guest of the day from Government Higher Secondary School appreciated the children for their dedication and talent. With the contribution of children,



sweet pongal was prepared and served with sugarcane. That was lovely for everyone to celebrate with joy and cheer.



**FEAST OF DON BOSCO:**

“Walk with your feet on earth but let your heart be in heaven”

The man who won over millions of hearts of young people is Don Bosco. He used the technique of being lovable and kind. Loving kindness is the substance of a psychological intuition. The feast of Don Bosco was celebrated in Auxilium Matriculation school on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020. They enacted a show in which Don Bosco's life of prayer was questioned and proved that he always lived in God's presence. As it was a Salesian month, they highlighted the life of Blessed Laura and St. Francis de sales. The prayer was conducted with the aim to live always in the presence of God.



**ANNUAL DAY:**

With the colourful lights and the glowing faces of the Children and their parents Auxilium Matriculation School celebrated its annual day with unprecedented fanfare on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 in the twilight at the school premises. The school was decorated elegantly. A grand stage had been set up with a professional sound system. The chief guest Mr. Siva Kumar the Thasildar, and Mrs. Ganga Durga Vice President, Inner wheel were given a traditional welcome accompanied by the Guide Girls, before he inaugurated the programme. Being the day of Don Bosco the father and friend of youth, the students honoured him through a song.

The students presented mesmerizing cultural events such as dances, plays both in Tamil and English. The highlight of the day was the tableau about the

endangered games of Tamilnadu, those were played by 80's and 90's kids. The Principal Sr. Leema Rose read the annual report of the school and made the audience aware of the school's achievements in academics and co-curricular areas. Prizes were given away to the toppers and other students who had brought laurels to the school in various competitions and contests. Addressing the occasion Mrs. Ganga Durga applauded and praised the school for raising the educational standard for the rural children.



**ENGLISH MARATHON:**

This year we got a well trained and qualified teacher for spoken English. Along with the management the staff trains the students with great effort. Every day before the assembly the children are gathered and taught vocabulary and they are asked to write and memorize and practice those words in their daily usage.

The English club members along with the spoken English teacher Mrs. Isha, conducted **English Marathon** for one week in the month of February. Different competitions were conducted such as memory games, sentence chain, scrambled words, spell bee, Tongue twisters, Anagram and others. Both the students and Teachers partook with eagerness and interest.



**TALENT WEEK:**

“With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance all things are possible”. The Auxilians exhibited their talents

through various competitions held in the talent week during the month of March. We had fancy dress competition and MR. AUXILIUM and MISS. AUXILIUM were chosen and awarded. Every child with its own innocence and creativity presented themselves. There were national leaders, teachers, policemen and above all kuttu Don Bosco. This was a great chance to reveal their talents. In the afternoon the higher class students had the King and Queen with vegetables ornaments made by themselves on the spot. The students continued to have the competitions like vegetables printing, photo frames, tailors shop and mechanical engineer. With attractive title, the activities were carried out with numerous students who participated with real preparation and interest. On the last day of the talent week the campus

was filled with the sweet odor and tempting fragrance of the relishing food items prepared by the students. From standard VI To IX most of the boys and girls joined in cooking competition named as Sheriff's Kitchen. They brought all the required things and prepared variety, tasty, delicious and sumptuous food. The teachers from the higher secondary school were the judges who appreciated and encouraged the effort.

Sr. Soosai Leema Rose



### AUXILIUM HR. SEC. SCHOOL

#### Connecting the unconnected

The Auxilium Girls Hr. Sec. School Madurai has the vision to empower the rural poor girls of the locality through education. This mission of providing strong Christian education to the needy children had been made more effectual even during this menacing situation of pandemic and incessant lockdown. Since many of our students come from very poor background, with no proper mobile and other digital devices, we were not able to reach them through online classes. And so Sr. Savariammal and Sr. Annamanikam went in person to meet them and gather them in their villages like Muruganpatti and Nithanpatti, to arrange for the ways and means to attend the classes daily. Some of our parents, those who have mobiles came forward to

support the other children of their villages to attend the classes online. The efforts made by our sisters and the generous contribution by our parents and regular follow up by our staff made our mission possible to go on. The children themselves gather in a place with the supervision of the parents they attend the classes, submit their assignments and do their best in the online examinations. May God bless all our hard work.

Sr. Vedamuthu Savariammal



### FR. PATRICK HOME - SRINGERI NAGAR, MADURAI

#### REMEMBERING SR. ASIRVATHAM AMLORPAVAM

*"Fidelity lived in all its fullness, finds its completion in death, the final seal of our religious profession and the moment of total communion with God."*(C.Art.107)

We had the 40<sup>th</sup> day Mass on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in our house at Sringeri Nagar Madurai along with our inmates, gratefully remembering our dear Sr. Asirvatham Amalorpavam who had left us for her heavenly abode. Rev. Fr. Joseph Selva Raj, an executive member of Fr. Patrick Isaac Home of Hope for Women and Children, was the main celebrant of the day's Eucharist and stated

that Sr. Amala was a mother beyond her religious consecration. After Mass we gathered together as a family shared our memories and gratefully prayed for her soul. May Sr. Asirvatham Amalorpavam continue to bless and intercede for all of us. May her fidelity in love inspire us to carry on our mission among the young at risk.





## A WONDERFUL MIRACLE—MARRIAGE OF OUR ORPHAN:

*“Whatever you do to the little ones you have done to me” (Matthew. 25: 40)*

Miss. Meera (35), a deaf and dumb girl is an inmate of our Fr. Patrick Isaac Home of Hope for women and children, Sringeri Nagar, Madurai. She was here for more than 12 years helping us in the kitchen and earning for her life. She was sincere, hardworking and very responsible. She expressed her desire to be married. Providentially we met Mrs. Santhiya who is a handicapped Trainer who guided us to reach the “The Tamil Nadu Association of Handicapped” that has a branch in every district of Tamil Nadu. The main focus of this Trust is to help the handicapped with Government grants and settles them in their life. As we approached Madurai Branch and applied for her marriage settlement they guided us to provide certificates and other processes to chose the proper partner and follow it up.

We were happy to find Mr. Selva Ganesh who is also deaf and dumb from Azhagapa Nagar, Madurai. We met the family and saw to every detail and they were happy to accept her. Therefore we proceeded for all the marriage arrangements and provided her the necessary things with the help of benefactors and well wishers for the marriage celebration. The grand marriage ceremony was held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Balaji Nagar, Eekatuthangal, Chennai, in the wedding hall of Sri Geetha Bhavan with 48 couples from all over Tamil Nadu arranged by the Association. The couples were blessed at 8.00 a.m. in the presence of Dr. Mrs. Saroja the Social Welfare Minister, Sri Ramanantha Guruji, and Mr. Joni Tom Varghese IAS the director and commissioner of Social Welfare Board Tamil Nadu. It was a grand, happy and successful moment in her life.

We had the reception in our community at Sringeri Nagar on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 in the evening at 6.30 p.m. We began it with a Prayer Service where Most. Rev. Antony Pappusamy the Arch Bishop of Madurai and President of our Trust, Fr. Joseph Selva Raj the Chancellor of Dindugal Diocese and the executive member of our Trust, local Parish Priests, Religious, Salesian Sisters, Parishioners, Youth and Benefactors were present, prayed and blessed the couple. There were representatives from the Bridegroom side too. It was a great rejoicing event to proclaim the wonders of God and His loving accompaniment to give life to the poor. There was a slide presentation about our Trust followed by a cultural programme given by Auxilium students, Sirudur.

The participants blessed the couple with gifts. The celebration was concluded with a sumptuous meal. We are grateful to God for His marvels in our life and in our mission. “Blessed are those who find joy in serving the poor”.



## DON BOSCO AMIDST US.....

It was a happy occasion to prepare and to celebrate the Feast of Don Bosco in our Fr. Patrick Isaac Home of Hope for Women and Children. During the Triduum we spoke about Don Bosco's life and his work for the poorest of the poor to the inmates. This created an atmosphere of joy and spontaneity among them. At the last day of the Triduum they watched the film on the life of Don Bosco which inspired them to appreciate their life here.

On the day of the Feast we began the day with a short prayer service on Don Bosco's call to work for the Youth at Risk. We prayed together through the intercession of Don Bosco for the countless youth who are deprived of shelters, homes, food and persons to accompany, while we thanked God for our inmates who are from different situations of life have been brought here by God's Providence. We prayed for their intentions, for their families and for their future which is bleak. At the end they all sang a hymn to Don Bosco with their beautiful voices. The house resounded with “வாழ்க தொன்போஸ்கோ”. We also conducted a drawing competition for them which made them very happy and thrilled. The day was concluded with small prayer and a hymn to Don Bosco. Everyone in our community could feel the presence of Don Bosco amidst us throughout the day. Long live Don Bosco.





## A MOVE TOWARDS THE YOUTH FOR YOUTH YEAR

As the CRI of Madurai Diocese has taken a decision to move towards the youth through their families, the local CRI of our Parish decided to form a team of Religious along with the parish priest to animate the families in four zonal levels with a theme "Women responsibility in the Family". We allotted a week with timing from 6.00 p.m to 8.00 p.m in the evening when the families are available at the following places:

26.01.2020	-Sebasthiyar Puram,
27. 01.2020	-Vithiyathana Puram
28. 01.2020	-New Elis Nagar
29. 01.2020	-S.S.Colony

We gave the animation through a power Point and presented a street play on the challenges of the family today. We had a group discussion along with the members of the families and evaluated their daily life. The participants were happy to see the sisters coming close to them and to animate them spiritually. They came in great numbers from each family for the animation and it had renewed their faith life, increased their commitment to family responsibilities. They also promised to live their Christian vocation consciously. We too were happy to use this opportunity to go close to the youth and their family.

Sr. Antony Muthu Lourdu Mary



## AUXILIUM CONVENT-PUTHENTURAI

### PONGAL CELEBRATION:

We celebrated Pongal, the festival of thanksgiving on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Teachers and non-teaching staff prepared pongal and shared it with our students and workers. Rev. Fr. Godfrey, the Parish Priest of Puthenthurai, was present for the day and blessed everyone. It was a day of joy and great celebration.



### ANNUAL DAY:

The Auxilium School had the immense privilege to celebrate the annual day on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 around 5.00 pm. The day's events commenced with a beautiful prayer song by students of STD I. Rev. Fr. Godfrey, the Parish Priest of the Holy Rosary Church, Puthenthurai,

was the Chief Guest and he encouraged the students and motivated them to study well. Mr. Karunaharan, the retired teacher wished and appreciated the students. Mr. Boargius, the Vice- president of the Parish council - Puthenthurai appreciated the talents of the students and he wished that the Auxilium School will stand for hundred years in Puthenthurai.

The school Annual report was presented by Sr. Abraham Epsibai and then brilliant and breathtaking performances were staged by the students from Pre.K.G to STD III. The winners were awarded with medals and prizes.



## GRATITUDE DAY:

With a heart filled with gratitude, we the Auxilium school and Holy Infant Jesus middle school joined together and celebrated gratitude day in the campus of Holy Infant Jesus middle school on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The day was turned more colourful by the performance of the students of both the schools. Rev. Sr. Josephine the animator appreciated the students and invited them to live obediently and to grow as good Christians and honest citizens in society.

SR.EPSIBAI FMA



## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION:

Auxilium staff started taking online classes from 29.6.2020. Since the children started to study, the management decided to celebrate Independence Day and provide the opportunity for the students to grow in their talents. We conducted competitions and asked them to send the video on 15.8.2020. They took into heart and expressed their respect to the country by exhibiting their talents. We, the management admired the student performances, background and their costume. Around 80 students sent their video clippings in the form of speech, song, drawing and dance, based on the theme of Independence Day. We marveled at their creativity, apt background, and colorful costume. We immediately appreciated the students and the effort of their parents. The students and parents really appreciated our comments and thanked us for the opportunity given.

## STAFF MEETING AND MEDIA COURSE:

The staff gathered together to evaluate the online class, and also to attend the media course which was sent by the media coordinator on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020. We began the meeting with a prayer. The theme of our prayer was "Come to me....(Mt 11: 28-30) we viewed a

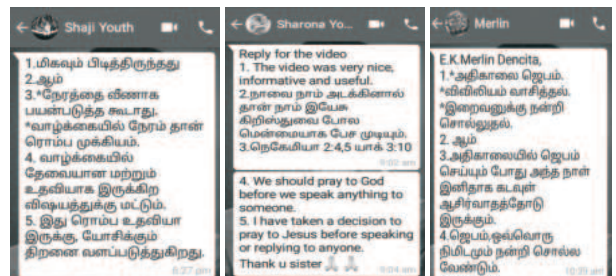
short film based on the Word of God. That was very inspiring and motivated us to hold on to God in the time, both joy and sorrow. After the prayer Sr. Anthony M. Ponraj appreciated every one for the effort taken by the staff to teach the students through online classes. Fr. Benni Sdb from Alaigal media centre was present for the day's animation and presented the "Fundamentals of photography". He explained very well about different kind of shots, framing, and also the head space. Then we discussed about it in the group and clarified our doubts. The staff thanked him for the informative and knowledgeable session and concluded our meeting with a short prayer.



## REACHING THE YOUTH THROUGH ONLINE MEETINGS:

The Holy Rosary Church youth movement functions in Puthenturai. Due to the pandemic we were unable to gather the youngsters for the meeting, In order to form the youngsters in Christ values and create in them social awareness especially during this lockdown we decided to meet them online. We created the whatsapp group and were able to send videos on particular themes such as time management, first things first, union with the Lord , control of our senses and these were prepared based on scripture. The youngsters were eager to share their views in the whatsapp group and to make use of their time in a constructive way.

Sr. Amudha





Retreat - Time of Renewal





## Final Profession



## RECEPTION OF THE NOVICES' MEDAL





## First Profession



## RECEPTION OF THE POSTULANTS' MEDAL





# "Youth Empowered towards change"



Boardway



Coimbatore



G.T. Marialaya



Tiruvottiyur



Novitiate



Madurai



Vadakku Paganoor



Wellington



# Year of Youth - 2020



Regunathapuram



Thanjavur



Tiruppur



Puliadithammam



Keela Eral



Therespuram





# *Celebrating the Special Year of LAUDATO SI'*



All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to her own culture, experience, involvements and talents - Pope Francis



# Bearing Him in our Hearts



Provincial Community



Dindigul



Ulagampatti



Boardway



Thanjavur



Regunathapuram



Tiruvottiyur



Sringer Nagar



# Sharing Him with the needy



Madurai



Potthur



Puthenthurai



Keela Eral



Therespuram





# Bearing Him in our Hearts



Coimbatore



Tiruppur



Tiruppur



Tiruppur



G.T. Marialaya





# Sharing Him with the needy



Assist



Assist



Novitiate - Manikandam



VIDES



Past pupils



Cooperators





# Lock Down Special



## A GARDEN FULL OF HAPPINESS:

I am Raphina of 12 D from FX Broadway. I love to spend time with my school friends, but this pandemic has distanced me and my friends. So I thought of making new friends with plants and greens by planting it in my house. Since I am already an Eco Club member in my school and have been motivated and taught to create a garden of my own, I took effort to put up a terrace garden and that has become an exciting experience of my life. Watching the plants grow and flower, watering and feeding them

is really a great feeling of fulfillment. I spend my time fruitfully instead of wasting it in front of the television. Now I am also playing a part to save mother earth my only home.

Raphina - St. Francis Xavier AIHSS, Broadway

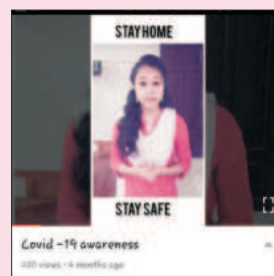
## TRAIN TO TRAIN OTHERS:

“All of the top achievers I know are life-long learners - Denis Waitley

I am Isabella a staff in Marialaya for the Self help Groups. I work here for more than 17 years and I feel that this is my second home. I could not meet the women in the area directly since the outbreak of the pandemic and I decided to spend my time fruitfully and in turn teach others the same. I revived my art of tailoring which I had left 17 years ago due to work and family issues and I am now able to stitch and prepare wire bags to earn my daily income. I also give guidance to many of my women group members and train them to do the same. I am happy to be an inspiration to others.



Mrs.Isabella Staff, Marialaya - Chennai



## A STEP FORWARD:

I am Desouza, 1<sup>st</sup> year B.Sc Physics student from Auxilium College - Regunathapuram, Thanjavur. As we have been deeply distressed about this deadly corona virus, I wanted to do my part to serve humanity specially during this lock down. With the help of our sisters in the college I was able to give awareness about this pandemic and our simple ways to prevent and join the fight against it. It gave me an encouragement and satisfaction to be with the suffering.

Miss.Desouza (B.Sc., Physics), Regunathapuram

## JOINING OUR HANDS IN SERVICE:

Recalling the Words of the Lord “What so ever you do to the least of my people you do unto me “(Mathew 25: 40) I joined my colleagues adopted a village and supplied the needed provisions for their daily living. Since I was the former secretary of Adaikala Annai parish Tanjore, I who would knew many generous people help and collected the funds for the relief work.

Mr. Ganaseelan - Past Pupil, Thanjore.



## TIME FOR CHANGE:

Being a VIDES member I have been encouraged to be a socially responsible person and stand for the right values in life. So I made use of this lock down as an opportunity to make a change in and around me. I gave awareness and supported our village people financially who were suffering very badly. I got local sponsors and gave rice and other needed provisions for 1000 families. Along with a group of volunteers I prepared medicinal water made out of neem and other herbs and distributed to everyone by going around on my cycle. With the help of the police I was able to prohibit illegal transport of government materials to other states and made those things available for our people in the locality. Thanks to the sisters who instilled this admirable spirit of serving others in me.

Mr. Magesh, VIDES - Keela Eral



## LOCK DOWN SPECIAL

### PRAISE THE LORD AT ALL TIMES :

We, Amitap of STD X and Minolta of Std VIII are brother and Sister of Auxilium Matriculation School, Madurai. We are grateful to our parents and teachers, and sisters who have brought us up in a very pious way and used this lock down time in a worthy manner. I Love Music and learnt to play the Keyboard and my sister is a good singer. So both of us joined together and sang devotional songs and prepared an album. Also every day we conduct a prayer service and upload it in the YouTube Channel. The sisters in our school send our prayer and videos to our classmates through class whatsapp group that leads every student to God. We are happy that our school has recognized us and gave us the opportunity to speak about God to our friends. Apart from that we also learnt making chocolate at home and now we are providing different kinds of Home Made Chocolates to our friends.



Amitap of STD X and Minolta of Std VIII, Auxilium Matric.School, Madurai.

### CHALLENGE THE UNEXPECTED :

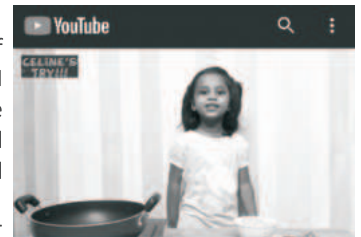
“Motivation is the art of getting people to do what you want them to do because they want to do it”. I am Ellakiya from a lower middle class family and an energetic Catholic woman with two children. I work as a Tuition staff in Marialaya. I work as a helper in the Primary Health Centre and give awareness programme on health issues in the slum areas. This COVID- 19 Pandemic has locked me inside, but I didn't want to waste time in idleness. So I found out a way through online, selling sarees and churidars, through which I could get some income Though I am not highly educated, now i am able to do well with help of our sisters I am becoming popular in this field and even I get chance to meet my MD personally to continue the business. I have learnt to relate and mobilize people for a greater purpose.



Ellakiya, Marialaya – George Town

### CELINE'S TRY :

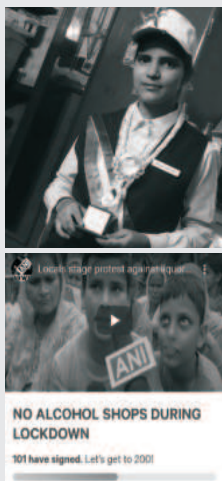
I am Celine studying UKG in Our Lady's Primary School Thiruvottiyur. This time of quarantine has helped me think differently and with my parents' guidance and help I could begin my channel in YouTube called *Celine's Kitchen*. At the beginning I was able to make some food items like cutlets, cakes and salads. My father took the video and started to post it on the channel and now it has increased my interest to learn more and show to the world that I can do something greater.



Celine, Our Lady's Primary School, TVT

### VOICE OUT FOR THE RIGHT :

There are only two ways to live your life. Tolerate things the way they are. Or take responsibility to change them. I believe in living by the later. Usually we never have time to reflect over things that are happening in our country. But due to this world wide pandemic, I started to watch the news and read the newspapers. I could accept and go in peace with the announcement of government to open liquor , tobacco shops from the third phase of lockdown (04.05.2020). I felt that this decision at this time is not right as it may cause so many problems in each family. So, I raised my voice against this by starting a petition at [change.org](https://www.change.org) and shared my petition with all my friends, teachers and even with the sisters and they all supported me by signing the petition. Though this pandemic gave us pain, it has also provided lot of opportunities to think over the things for which we had never spent time before. My school has always taught me to raise my voice for justice and this was my first step towards it.



Sangeetha, St.Francis Xavier A.I.Hr.Sec.School, Broadway



## AUXILIUM COLLEGE - REGUNATHAPURAM

### BLOOD DONATION CAMP:

The Red ribbon club of our college conjoined with Thanjavur Medical College hospital, Regunathapuram Primary Health Care Centre and HDFC Bank, conducted a blood donation camp for the first time in our college on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020. The students expressed their desire to donate blood every year since it will be a great service for the suffering humanity.



### CAMPUS DRIVE

It was a dream realized as Mr. M. Saravanan, MBA, Founder & CEO of Youth Point, Karur, engaged in offering complete Training, Career & Consultancy services like Job Placement, Educational Guidance & Business Plan since 2013 visited our final year students. Two days Campus Drive on 04 & 05 March 2020 was conducted by his Team, brought 4 companies for placement in Kanjipuram, Chennai, Madurai and Trichy. Among 135 students who have paid 750 rupees and registered their names for two days training and placement, 121 were selected for various companies with Rs 12000/- to 15000/- salary. Their parents also were present for the first day of training to have knowledge about it and to clarify their doubts on their daughter's placements, safety and job security. Happy about the initiative of the institution they thanked the management. Students too expressed their joy in getting jobs with a dignified salary.



### JOINING HANDS WITH MADHA TV ON PONGAL CELEBRATION

We were fortunate enough to present our Pongal Celebration an Madha.T.V Channel on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. This was initiated by the Secretary of our College Rev. Sr. Dr M A Mariapushpam who organized the celebration with the responsible persons of the Channel. The students showed their total involvement by their fantastic dance performance and by their active participation in all other competitions and programmes. It was telecast on 15<sup>th</sup> January at 8.30, 9.30 pm and 16<sup>th</sup> January repeatedly.



### TENTH GRADUATION DAY:

We had great pleasure in celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> graduation day on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020. God blessed our college this year with the total number of graduates 358 among those 289 Under Graduates and 69 Post Graduates. There are 5 University Rank Holders in Mathematics, physics, commerce, English, and B.C.A in Under Graduation . 4 University Rank Holders in Post Graduation in Mathematics, Physics and 2 in Commerce. We thanked God for the abundance of His blessings.

### FIRST STEP FOR NAAC ACCREDITATION

This year our college has taken the first step for NAAC accreditation by taking Auxilium College, Vellore as our mentoring institution in promoting Quality Assurance in Higher Education by 2022 through PARAMASH SCHEME. The MOU was signed on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019.





**CORONA PANDEMIC**

- This year till March all the college activities were done following the calendar plan but from April onwards because of the corona pandemic, everything stands still.
- Economically poor though most of our students, they are one with the suffering humanity and much involved in service.
- Past pupils recalled their alma mater and its service during the time of natural calamities and launched into the places where their help was needed.
- They created YOUTUBE videos on precaution, awareness and to be in safe surroundings.
- They reached out as much as they could to help those who suffer. Students and staff organize and participated in online webinars, certificate courses, conducting project and viva voce examinations.

**SPECIAL AND REMARKABLE ACTIVITIES OF THE COLLEGE IN 2020:**

**• ORIENTED FOR SERVICE**

Besides giving Higher Education, students are oriented for service and the final year students from all Departments extended their service in their own locality wherever there is a need and opportunity. Students are motivated and volunteered themselves for a noble cause during their semester holidays. They taught the students of Panchayat Union Schools and Government Hr Sec. Schools in nearly 14 surrounding villages. Joyfully they returned to the college with excellent appraisal certificates from the Heads of the institutions.

**• SERVICE EXTENDED**

Every week on Saturday a group of 15 volunteers go to Joy Home, Gopal Nagar 15 km away from the college to lend their service to the elderly people who reside there. The management appreciates and encourages all our magnanimous students.

**• VILLAGE ADOPTION**

Auxilium College, Regunathapuram, has taken a project of adopting villages to enhance the quality living of the dwellers. Staff, students and office bearers visit villages

to see to their better lifestyle. They make villagers understand the benefits of sanitation and help them in managing toilets, sanitation and clean drinking water, make them stop early marriages, give awareness on health issues, sicknesses, Educational loans and scholarships for Higher Education, meeting the Government ministers, giving petitions, etc.. Each department will have a constant follow up on one particular village for at least three years until we have the satisfaction of the growth and development of the village. This year the Department visited them thrice.

Mathematics	Kottaikadu, Pudukkottai Dt.
Computer science	Aiyipatti, Pudukkottai Dt.
English	Vettenuvidudhi, Karambakudi
Commerce	Komapuram, Pudukkottai Dt.
Physics	Soorakkadu, Pudukkottai Dt.
Tamil	Vulavayal, Pudukkottai Dt.

Sr.Peter Selva Rani



**ARUNODAYA- PULIADITHAMMAM**

**AUXILUM MATRIC. HR. SEC. SCHOOL ANNUAL DAY:**

The school Annual Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at the school premises. A grand stage had been set up with a good sound system. Rev. Dr. S. John Vasantha Kumar, Principal

of Ananda College was the Chief Guest who graced the occasion. Mr. Pandi Mahalingam President of Puliadithammam Panchayat was the guest of honour to give away the prizes. They were given a floral welcome before they inaugurated the programme.

The Correspondent and Principal Rev. Sr. Regina Mary presented the annual report highlighting the success of the school. She made the audience aware of the school's achievements in academics and co-curricular areas.

Most of the students participated in the cultural items and presented mesmerizing cultural events such as dances, plays, debates etc. The chief guests admired and appreciated the talents and performance of our students. Prizes were given to the toppers and other students who had brought laurels to the school in various competitions and contests.

At the end Mrs. Immaculate, our school staff thanked the chief-guest, dignitaries and parents for having spared their time to attend the function, and also thanked students, teachers and the Correspondent and Principal for organizing the function successfully.



**ECO CONCERN "LAUDATO SI":** "Healthy plants constitute the foundation for all life on earth. This year UNO invites us to promote and implement activities in favour of preserving and sustaining global plant resources. As we know that the plants sustain the life of human being as well as the functioning of Ecosystem, we need to protect plant health and the Environment. And so the community of Arunodaya Puliadithammam decided to spend one hour of regular gardening to clean and plant new varieties of plants, collecting the neem seed for oil, preparing the manure pit and other vital activities that support green life in our campus even at this time of Pandemic Covid -19, Everyone experienced joy and a sense of belonging and also facilitated the implementation of the International Year of Plant health 2020.



**EVENING STUDY CENTRES :**

**CHILDREN PARLIMENT ACHIEVEMENT:** On 26th January 2020 the Children Parliament members from Indira Nagar and Puliadithammam wrote a petition to boycott the public exam for Std. V and VIII that was imposed on the student community by the government of Tamil Nadu. The children were courageous enough to have a signature campaign in their own villages and presented the petition to the Village President during Village Gramsaba meet. Sr. Xavier Jenophia Josephine and the members of parliament observed the meet and its activities. We appreciated their courageous act during the evening coaching class.



**ANNUAL DAY:**

On 1st March 2020, the annual day celebration for the Arunodaya evening coaching class children was conducted at the Auxilium school premises.

The Children from eleven centres were brought to the spot by the School van. The participants were of two hundred and fifty in number. Various sports event were conducted and the winners were selected. The students were very happy to exhibit their talents by preparing the best out of waste. The Salesian Co-operators who gave a helping hand were taken up by the intelligence of the children and appreciated their talents.

Every cultural item performed by the children from various study centres were based on the theme, "preservation of the Environment".



The chief guests, Rev. Sr. Antony Regina Mary, Sr. Madalaimuthu Pokkisha Mary and Mr. Arul Elango the delegate of the Salesian co-operators admired the simplicity of these children and encouraged them to develop their talents.

Sr. Antony Regina Mary



## AUXILIUM CENTER - TANJORE

### VALEDICTORY FUNCTION AT HR. SEC. SCHOOL:

The Valedictory Ceremony of the Higher Secondary School was held on 21<sup>st</sup> January. The short and meaningful function began with the school band ushering the Pupil leaders to the stage. Each of them, starting from the School Pupil Leader, and following with the House Captains, Secretaries and Volunteers laid down their office in the presence of the Correspondent and the Headmistress. The leaders were appreciated and thanked by Sr. Soosai Magnificat, the Superior and Correspondent for their sacrificing spirit and were congratulated for their spirit of service to the School.



### A WEEK WITH DON BOSCO:

“Young people are capable of great dreams and demanding enterprises, because even in the most wretched of the young there are points sensitive to what is good and the task of an educator with a vocation and competence consists precisely in bringing forth the extant good, however small it may be, in order to rebuild strong personalities”.

To make these lines into a reality, we the community of Auxilium Centre, Thanjavur organized a week with Don Bosco which consisted of a series of competitions and contests where most of the Boarding students participated and showcased their talents in various fields. The students took part with great enthusiasm and desire. Some of the competitions were Drawing, Essay writing, Poem on Don Bosco, Quiz, Singing and Drama. The teachers of our schools took turns to judge the talents, knowledge, and the creativity of our students. On the last day we had a cultural programme on Don Bosco. The winners were awarded with exciting prizes by our Superior Sr. Soosai Magnificat to kindle the flame of their hidden potentials and encourage them. It was a remarkable memory in the life of the children.

### PAST PUPILS' MEET:

It was a great pleasure to meet our past pupils for the second time which was held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Nearly 60 past pupils gathered in our campus to cherish the sweet memories of their past days. The meet began with prayer followed by the mission and vision game by Sr. V. Rosario Jebamani. During the game of 'Bombing the states' the ones who were out were asked to say their mission and vision of their programme for 2020-2021.

The following points were discussed on how the past pupils can be long hands and reach out to the needy youth.

The challenges

- 1 Bring new admissions for Tamil medium classes from VI std to X std.
2. Give 2 sets of free uniforms to the new Tamil medium students.
3. Past pupils will pay the fees for these new Tamil medium students.
4. Be a sponsor and find sponsors for the poor girls

They started to bring the poor new students and promised to pay and find the material benefactors and meet the Superior and the Headmistress once again. Sr. Soosai Magnificat appreciated their new plans and ended the meet with a short prayer.

### THINKING DAY:

'Expand your thoughts and you will enlarge your world' is a quote from Baden Powel, the founder of Scouts and Guides Movement. His birthday, 24<sup>th</sup> February is celebrated every year as 'Thinking Day' by the scouts and the Guides Movement.

On this day, this year Sr. Antony Nirmala Rani, the in-charge of Guides along with Mrs. Josephine and Mrs. Rosy gathered the members of this movement and prepared them in self-discipline and motivated them to do voluntary service in the school and in the society. 48 new Guides received the Scarf enthusiastically from the hands of the Correspondent Rev. Sr. Soosai Magnificat and the Headmistress Rev. Sr. Viagappan Rosario Jebamani, as a sign of their membership in the movement. Altogether 70 of them participated.

Different types of programmes were offered by our guides, like various types of yells, songs based on Lord Baden Powell, dance and also the beautiful drama which highlighted the need to save nature and heal the world. Then the Animator appreciated their wonderful performance and encouraged them to continue to do good to the society. Towards the end, Sr. Soosai Magnificat inaugurated their tent, wherein the guides had prepared a variety of gadgets and handicrafts, which inspired the children to appreciate and come to knowledge of the purpose of this event. The Guides were lauded for their creativity.



#### HOSTEL DAY:

“Give thanks to the Lord for His Love endures forever”. On 7<sup>th</sup> March the vibrant youth of Auxilium Youth Centre, Tanjore celebrated Hostel Day and the girls were motivated spiritually for this joyous event. “Youth are happy because they have the capacity to see and to create beauty in everything”. Various competitions were held as planned and every girl participated enthusiastically. Sr. Soosai Magnificat the Animator of Auxilium Centre was the Chief Guest. She appreciated their talents, and their ability in their performance of dance, drama, songs and mime through which they expressed their gratitude to God and to the community. She concluded her message on the good values which guide us and give new hope to challenge our life courageously. At the conclusion, Sr. Superior distributed nice prizes to all the winners, who enthusiastically

participated in the competitions. The girls appreciated the gifts, and her loving presence and direction. They once again extended their thanks to Sr. Antony Nirmala Rani for her motivating guidance which enabled them to experience God's love.



#### THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH:

We celebrated the feast of St. Joseph with a few students, staff and hostellers who remained, amidst the crisis of the pandemic COVID 19. At 06.00 in the evening with all the decorated lights lit, our patron Saint was glittering in colours, as Fr. Sahayaraj SDB, Principal of Don Bosco arrived to celebrate the holy Eucharist.

It was an unusual moment as there was silence and inaction all around due to the health crisis, however we joined in jubilation, celebrating in a special way our working staff, as we also keep this day, as workers' day. The lay staff participated and animated the Eucharist. The celebrant in the homily presented eight qualities of St. Joseph, for us to emulate them.

After the festal dinner Sr. Superior presented each of our domestic staff a token of our love and appreciation and they received it happily with grateful hearts. God bless them and their families.



Sr. Samson Gnana Jenifer

### VADAKKU PAGANOR- TRICHY

#### LIVELY EXPERIENCE OF THE NOVICES

*Every experience in life is being orchestrated to teach something that we need to know to move forward.*

Such a beautiful Experiential Learning was arranged for the second year Novices of both INT and INM for ten days from 20<sup>th</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020. These dazzling ten young birds with the wings of inner motivation, self discipline, hard work, willing to take risks, innovative ideas, effective listening, cooperation, courage, compassion and creativity took a flight from Novitiate

under the able guidance of Mother Provincial, Mother mistress and the accompaniment of Sr. Wilson Anitha their Assistant, reached Vadakku Paganor. After having experienced different types of life style they returned back carrying with them the sweet memories to the Novitiate. As soon as they reached the Mother bird with the other siblings enquired of them about the trip. Here then they share their happy memories and fruitful stay at Arul Sudar community in Vadakku Paganor.



**Mother Bird:** Are you all happy about your stay and experience at Vadakku Paganoor? What about your prayer life?

**Bird-1:** Yes, It's our pleasure to share with you all, our happy journey that we truly enjoyed for the past ten days. We had more time to pray with the community, spent time in reflection. We had the chance of going for Mass in the Parish. Sr. Rebecca and Sr. Priyadharshini shared their vocation and sowed the seed of vocation in the hearts of the young people.

**Mother Bird:** We are very happy to hear that you wonderfully spent your time in prayer. Congratulations! Then how did you nourish yourselves?

**Bird-2:** "Be proud of who you are and don't worry about how others see you". Yes, we were happy in the Lord that He had given us the unforgettable experience of being ourselves. We were in a group to cook for ourselves which made us to understand the difficulties of an ordinary woman in the family. We nurtured our surrounding by cleaning, preparing the pots for the new plants where we were able to feel the pain of the daily coolies, the poor workers who work hard to earn for their daily bread.

**Mother Bird:** Well done sisters. I am so proud of you. Then what about the food that was provided for the growth of your intellectual capacity?

**Bird-3:** We had class everyday in the morning. Fr. Jeyan Joseph SDB, enlightened us with his talk on the Tamil Culture, Laudato si' the second encyclical of Pope Francis "On care for our common home" and Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) 2020. Mrs. Clara the Nurse spoke about "Health and Hygiene". Mrs. Louisa the Women Coordinator made clear to us about the different schemes for the upliftment women in the society. Mrs. Deepa the Sub Inspector of police explained the schemes and policies regarding the protection of the girl children and the women. Sr. Anthonysamy Rosy the Province Delegate of the

Salesian Cooperators gave details about the history, spirituality, formation, rules and regulations of the Salesian Cooperators. Fr. Savariyannan Soosai the rector of AMSAM enlightened us to be rooted in Lord. Sr. Wilson Anitha helped us to know about the relationship that we should have with ourselves, with the other person and with God. We also had a session on human rights by Sr. Arockiasamy Rani Celine Mary in which she explained to us about the teachings of the Church on Human Rights, responsibility of Religion in Safe guarding Human Rights and the violation against Human Rights on girl children and women. Thus through these input sessions we were able to analyze the new challenges that we face at present which enabled us to live our life more authentically. We thank all the resource persons who made their sharing more meaningful and worth.

**Mother Bird:** Excellent sisters. Though it's a very short time, you were able to profit from every experience. Congrats. Then what about your mission? Were you able to meet young people?

**Bird-4:** Oh, Yes dear sister. We had coaching classes everyday for the children of the village. During lockdown it was a great opportunity for us to educate our poor children making alive the preventive system.

**Bird-5:** With all these experiences we are very grateful to all the community sisters at Vadakku Paganoor who inspired us through their hard work, sense of belonging, selfless service, joy filled presence, togetherness, mission oriented and prayerful presence.

Yes dear Mother Provincial Sr. Amamlanathan Margaret, Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela Mother Mistress who gave us this wonderful opportunity to learn from life experiences. We thank Sr. Anthony Samy Rosy the animator and Sr. Anitha who lovingly accompanied us, and all the community sisters for being with us. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made these ten days of our journey a blessed one.



## DIVYADHANAM NOVITIATE-MANIKANDAM

### Human rights education seminar to the novices

*“To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity”\_ Nelson Mandela*

The Educators shape the personality of the youth of a nation. It is the need of today that the Educators should be equipped in imparting human Rights Education along with the vocational , formal , informal and non-formal educational practices. As this is one of the Prime motives of the human right sector of the province, there was an animation on 07.02.2020 for the novices to impart the importance of learning and teaching Human Rights in the Schools. Sr. Arockiasamy Rani Celine Mary the province delegate for the human rights animated the day. It commenced with the prayer followed by a warm welcome given by Sr. Antony Rayappan Jothy. It was followed by the talk by Sr. Cruz Anthoni Michaela appreciating the effort taken. Sr. Arockiasamy Rani Celine Mary presented the different aspects of Human Rights, its Culture, education and the outcome of it. She enriched them through related videos and sharing the life experience of bravery acts of present youth such as Swarnalatha, Malala Yousafzai and Greta Thumberg who raised their voice against the injustice done to the girl children and nature.

They too in turn interacted well after listening and viewing the pictorial charts which were displayed. A-questionnaire was given to be discussed and very good responses came out. They understood and realized that Human Rights Education is the only way to empower people. They pledged themselves to help the young people to respect their rights and of others.

Sr. Arockiasamy Rani Celine Mary

Arokia Mary Selvi and Rayappan Cecili Selvi in the Lord's vineyard. On this special occasion, the community congratulated them as they begin the year of celebration, remembering their decisive 'fiat' to the Lord to be with Him in the service of young people. The Eucharistic banquet was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB and the Community prayed for them which was followed by the heartfelt wishes of everyone.

Sr. Antony Rayappan Jothy



### Feast of Our Lady of Snow:

The Provincial community celebrated the feast of our Snow on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020 along with the juniors who were present for their juniors' course. The special Morning Prayer was animated by our juniors. As three gracious years have swiftly glided after the erection of our Province, they thanked God for the marvelous ways that He and our Blessed Mother lead and guided the whole province. Mary who makes Jesus tangible, concrete, accessible to our senses is always present with us. On this beautiful day, we thanked our Blessed Mother and joining with all the Sisters of our Province, renew our entrustment to our blessed mother and pray for our Young People and the entire human race. After the prayer the novices and the sisters of the novitiate community wished and shared their gifts and prayers with them. The day's Eucharist was solemnized by Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas and invoked God's blessing on each one present there.



### Celebration of the Silver Jubilee:

**“Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice”**

These words of the scripture resounded in the community of Divyadhanam and the Auxilium Provincial house on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020, as we gathered around the table of the Lord to celebrate the 25 years of devoted and enthusiastic service of our dear loving sisters, Sr. Azarias





## MARIALAYA – TIRUPPUR

### WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

The international women's day was celebrated at Marialaya, Tiruppur on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. There was joy and enthusiasm on the faces of 108 women as they arrived from different villages in and around Tiruppur. Mrs Abinaya Jagdesh, motivational Speaker and psychologist inaugurated the rally by waving the flag. Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam the Director of Marialaya gave the inaugural talk and explained the importance of the day. The women from the villages performed a cultural event and the young girls of Marialaya staged a street play on the issues of women and children faced in the family, in the work place and in the society. The Chief Guest Mrs. Abinaya Jagdesh appreciated the women for their courage, enthusiasm and hard work and encouraged them to become builders of love, unity and peace in their own family and society.



### ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

The Annual day celebration 2020 was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi the principal of Arts and Science College, Avinashi, Mrs. Saraswathi Inspector of All women police station, Avinashi, Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam the Director of Marialaya, Mr. Suresh the Social worker of District child protection unit (DCPU) and other guests were present. There were around 513 students and 42 staff members from 18 villages, parents, youth and the inmates of Marialaya also witnessed the grand celebration. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi urged the students to excel not only in their studies but also in various extracurricular activities. Mementos were distributed to all the children for their performance in different areas such as education, regular attention and best students.



**GROUP INAUGURATION:** The community gathered together with the inmates for the group inauguration of 2020-2021. They were divided into five groups named as word of God, Bell, Marian, Don Bosco and Bl. Laura Vicuna. A meaningful prayer service was started with lighting of the Kuthuvilakku. "Do whatever He tells you" was the theme of the year. Each group member came forward to take the oath in front of the community sisters with their friends. Each group member creatively presented their group symbols and its meaning.



**INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION:** Every one's heart was filled with joy and eagerness to celebrate the seventy fourth year of Independence obtained by "Non Violence". Our shelter Home Children did a March past with music and performed every act more diligently. The special invitee was Fr. Valan from the Society of African Missionaries. Beautiful dances, speech and Mime were presented by the beneficiaries. Indeed it was a day of joy, a day to love and respect our country and make it a better place for Indians to live in and experience freedom, peace and unity in diversity.



**AWARENESS CREATION:** The young girls of Marialaya were invited by the District Superintendent of Police for an awareness programme on COVID 19 and the ways to protect oneself and be sensitive to other persons. It was done through a street play at the Bus stand, Avinashi, Tiruppur in network with All women police and Law and order department of police.

Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam

## AUXILIUM CONVENT - THERESPURAM

### CATECHETICAL SEMINAR FOR TEACHERS:

To enhance lay spirituality that unfolds in family life and its relationships we had a catechetical seminar for teachers in Little Flower R.C High school Therespuram. There were nearly thirty teachers who participated with full enthusiasm. The day was co-ordinate by Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani as a resource person. Rev. Sr. Pushpa Jeya the superior of Auxilium convent Therespuram was present to inaugurate the day and she spoke on the urgency of education in the catholic school with the spirit of our founder Don Bosco and Mary Mazzarello.

Sr. Arockiam Gracy Rani presented the Methodology for teaching value Education. She underlined the importance of value education and the need to teach the children today. She also presented her views on some of the important universal values like truth, responsibility, and forgiveness. In the afternoon session the teachers were divided into groups and given a value for each group they were asked to prepare the lesson plan according to the method taught. Every group worked seriously and presented it in a creative way. The teachers found this seminar very constructive for their family life as well as to improve their teaching and become good Christian educators.



### ENGLISH ASSOCIATION:

In order to develop the fluency of English in their speech the school organized the English Association for this academic year 2019-2020. N. Jose Snowvika the president of the association welcomed Sr. Josephine Fernandez the chief- guest of the day. The program started with a beautiful prayer. An English song was sung by the students of Std VI which helped them to memorize their poem. A few proverbs were recited in English by the students of Std VIII. A small skit entitled "Think Like Me and Be With Me" was enacted by the students of Std IX. It brought out the theme like the need to think before acting and the habit of respect and to cultivate this habit of respect towards their parents. Thus each and every item performed by our students

brought forth very good morals. The valuable and encouraging words of our chief guest enlightened our students.

### FEAST OF DON BOSCO:

*"The true Christians obeys his parents, his teachers and his superiors because he sees in them God himself, whose place they take".*

With the meaningful Triduum preparation we celebrated the feast of Don Bosco on 31th January 2020



Sr. Santhana Mary animated the morning prayer and the children acted out an incident from the life of Don Bosco prepared by Mr. Manikandan the English teacher. The children were really edified by Don Bosco and his life. We concluded the program with a prayer and song honoring our founder Don Bosco

### VOCATION CAMP

*"A vocation flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people".*

We animated the vocation day on 01-02-2020 to encourage our girls to respond to God's call. There were around 25 girls who took part in the program and started our session with prayer Sr. Santhana Mary began the programme with a welcome speech. Sr. Pushpa Jeya, the animator of the community and Sr. Josephine Fernando, were present for the program. Sr. Pushpa Jeya gave the introductory talk and made the children feel at home by her casual and friendly talk. Sr. Josepine Fernando shared her vocation story with the girls and spoke about the importance prayer and the virtue of purity. Sr. Santhana Mary shared about Don Bosco and his vocation and mission. The girls were taken to the chapel for the concluding prayer. The community provided a small souvenir for them as a remembrance.





## INAGURATION OF THE NEW ENTRANCE :

As we read in the gospel of St. John 14:6, Christ is the gateway for us to enter into Gods kingdom. Having Him as our head we inaugurated the construction of the new entrance for our campus on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Marcel Lincoln sdb the assistant parish priest of Therespuram, Thoothukudi and thanked God for the visit of our provincial Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret and various events of the community. Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret provincial of Trichy province, Fr.Rathinam Noel Raj sdb the parish priest of Therespuram the staff, some of the students from three schools, lay collaborators, the engineer, and his workers gathered along with our community members for the event. The priest priest of Therespuram blessed the entrance gate, and Sr. Amalanathan Mary Margaret opened the gate with the solemn cutting of the ribbon. Sr. Santhana Pushpa Jeya the animator of our community thanked all those who were present for the function.

EDUCATING COMMUNITY MEET: The Local Educating community meeting was held on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020. There were around 30 members gathered in the Roman Catholic primary School Hall. Sr. Arockiam santhanamary the coordinator of the community explained the strenua and peace message to the members and Mrs. Princy who had taken part at the Educating Community Meet at Madurai explained about UNO theme of the year. Sr. Santhana Pushpa jeya told them of the Major repair to be done in the school as the sun shades were falling. They promised their prayers and support in all these endeavours.

Sr. Arockiam Santhama Mary



## DON BOSCO - WELLINGTON

### GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION AND FEAST OF DON BOSCO:

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 we celebrated a twin celebration commemorating the 50 Golden years of service of Sr. Periyapuram Bridget and the feast of Don Bosco. His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. A. Amalraj D.D Bishop of Ooty was present on the day and celebrated the Holy Eucharistic Celebration. Sr. Poobalarayan Nirmala the animator welcomed the gathering and honoured Sr. Periyapuram Bridget with a garland and crown. The Eucharistic was concelebrated by priests from nearby parishes. There were Sisters from neighborhood convents, family members of Sr. Periyapuram Bridget, co-operators and staff. After a melodious song performed by the Forestdale Parish choir, Sr. Irudayaraj Victoria gave the introduction, reading of the Life Story of Sr. Periyapuram Bridget with symbolic offerings. During the homily the Bishop, presented Don Bosco as an example for everyone to follow and he asked them to live the present happily as Don Bosco did. Soon after of the holy Eucharistic celebration, a jubilee programme was presented in the Main Hall of our convent. His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. A. Amalraj D.D Bishop of Ooty was present for

the event. All the sisters and fathers of Wellington gave an opening chorus congratulating Sr. Periyapuram Bridget on her golden jubilee with a huge smile on their faces and waving cheer garlands (pompoms) on their hands. Further, the life history of Sr. Periyapuram Bridget was showcased through a skit by our women from the packing section who also gave a dance and sang a beautiful song. Fr. Amalan, SDB Chennai praised the Golden Jubilarian for her loving virtue of hospitality. A key note address was given by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. A. Amalraj D.D Bishop of Ooty. A delightful dance was performed by the kids of St. Ann's Convent Study Centre. A word of appreciation was delivered by the Parish Priest and cooperators. The festal lunch was provided and all well-wishers shared their love and happiness with Sr. Periyapuram Bridget.

Sr. Iruthaya Raj Victoria





# MISSION AT COVID-19

## COVID 19 RELIEF WORKS

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. (Mt: 25)*

It was just only in Wuhan when Corona began and it moved from country to state and district to our town. Out of many south Indian states, Tamil Nadu was the second most affected state with ever increasing number of infections even after the precautionary lockdown started. The lockdown began on 24<sup>th</sup> March for 21 days, and then it continued every 15 days and now we are almost locked up inside our houses nearly for the past eight months till August and still it goes on.

The Government has locked down the transport,

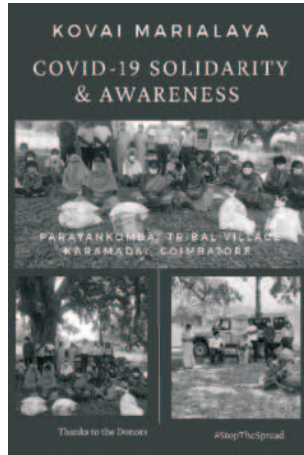
exports and imports and every citizen of their country, but can we lock down the very basic needs of human beings like food, shelter and clothing?

As we are unable to take up our daily tasks, many have become jobless which has led to many poor families starving for days together. The agony of the people in our locality and words of our Lord in the scripture were the predominant conception to embark on the mission of feeding the hungry, needy, poor and aged people.

The following initiatives were undertaken by the houses in the province of INT to express our solidarity with the suffering humanity.

## MARIALAYA - COIMBATORE

- Marialaya distributed rice and other provisions for 25 families in Parayankombai Tribal Village, Maramadai, Coimbatore on 25.4.2020
- The same were distributed for 8 families in Sivananthapuram, for 31 families in Aaddhi Dravidar Colony, Apanayakanpalayam, on 10.05.2020
- 100 families were benefited in Kethaikadu Tribal Village from Nellithorai Block and Guntoor, Eluthukal Pudur from Velliyankadu Block, Karamadai Zone, on 15.05.2020



## MARIA ANJALI - DINDIGUL

The corona virus cases were identified in Dindigul District in the month of March 2020. Taking into account the socio-economic context and the spread of the epidemic, the community at Dindigul helped 200 poor families who were identified with the help of the past students. Majorities were daily wagers and they suffer without work and other basic needs due to unremitting lockdown. This project was realized with the help of the Association called "la gioia di vivere" from Rome and our

local sponsors. Thanks to the generous benefactors Signor Stefano Conedera and his team. God bless them.





## AUXILIUM - ULAGAMPATTI

Auxilium Ulagampatti community had undertaken a mission "feed the needy" for Covid-19 Pandemic relief and about 150 families benefited by this initiative. Protective masks were distributed to the poor children and their families together with VIDES and teachers. **Financial aid** was given to 50 sponsored children in order to sustain their family needs. With the help of **ASSIST** the children were conscientised on the effects of Covid-19. In addition to the above activities, the Community arranged and spent one hour of adoration daily in front

of the Blessed Sacrament for the people who are affected by the corona virus and invoked the Lord to put an end to this deadly virus.



## ST.FRANCIS XAVIER CONVENT - BROADWAY

The community was able to distribute rice and other provisions for the house staff and workers of both the school periodically with the generous help of Mr. Keith our French master in the school and Mr. David. On 30<sup>th</sup> September we gathered the poor of the locality from Asirvathapuram nearly 100 in number and offered 5 kg of rice bags and the very next day we gave for our oratory children 10Kg of rice bags and other provisions. The community is grateful to Mr.Keith and Mr.David our

benefactors who stood beside us in reaching out to the needy especially during this epidemic.



## MARIALAYA - GEORGE TOWN

At particular intervals the community of Marialaya in George Town had met the people and distributed provisions for the poor. Around 300 children and their families in different study centres, women groups have received help from the sisters and their daily need of food and clothing were fulfilled. They also shared a relief package consisting of foodstuff, soap, toothpaste, surgical mask etc. with love among sixty-five families.



## MARIALAYA SHELTER HOME - POTHUR

The sisters began their search on 7<sup>th</sup> March and found the aged in their locality. They offered them with 5 kg of rice and basic provisions and around 50 families were supported by them. The community extended their concern and support to the shelter home children who were with their families. They organized a health check up for everyone and gave basic provisions for 22 families. The timely help given to them.

### ***Support to the group of migrants***

The daily living had become an adversity and hardship for the migrants who work in our state from the north. It was a very pathetic scenario together with than the COVID 19 as these poor migrants started walking all the way from Tamil Nadu to their respective Northern states. After many news reports and complaints, the Tamil Nadu government had initiated the transportation facilities and there were around 1500 to 2000 people

who were sent in batches through special trains from Tiruvallur to Northern parts of India on 15.05.2020. With the permission of higher officials and support from the police and with the help of Fr. Bosco SDB, we were able to reach nearly 1000 migrants and distributed at least one meal for their long tiring journey. We were moved to see their eyes flooded with tears of gratitude and joy as they received our help and support.



### A.B.L.M HOME - THIRUVOTTIYUR

The sisters of ABLM Home, Thiruvottiyur, Chennai, extended their solidarity with the poor people of the locality and were able to reach out to fifty seven poorest families to meet their basic needs during the pandemic. They offered rice, dhal, eggs, buns, oil and other groceries to all the workers and 15 families in their neighborhood. Further they also distributed a sack of rice and dhal to the 30 migrant families. The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well

informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and spreads. Hence they gave awareness to remember and to practice in their daily life.



### SIRIDUR - MADURAI

Since the outbreak of this Pandemic it has left the people of our country specially the rural poor families hungry with no income and daily work. So the Auxilium Hr. Sec. School Madurai along with the community came forward to help 275 of our students in the school as well as boarding, teaching and non teaching staff, workers in our schools on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020. Mr. Kulandai Francis, Founder President, of integrated village development project (IVDP) Krishnagiri who has the visionary zeal, profound faith in community energy and sustained programmes gave his generous and financial support to

provide rice of high quality and provisions for these poor families. The day was brightened with the joy of our beneficiaries and they thanked the community for the help.



### PUTHENTHURAI

#### BY ST. JUDE THADDAEUS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL:

To support the children of our School at Pallam during this lockdown, the faculty of our School collected funds from the teachers and distributed the necessary things for the daily use. About Rs.102000/- was spent nearly for 168 Students on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

5<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Parents and the students were happy in receiving the things and thanked the sisters and the staff.

#### RELIEF WORK by INFANT JESUS MIDDLE SCHOOL:

The faculty of Infant Jesus middle school had decided to serve the poor and those who are underprivileged, and gave Rs.500/- worth of things for nearly 20 children. Each teacher came forward to contribute Rs.5000/- and the Headmistress along with the staff distributed the provisions to the families on

**COMMUNITY RELIEF WORK:** The community of Puthenthurai provided necessary provisions worth of Rs 500/-per head for the selected 25 families on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

SR. VIRGIN





## MARIALAYA - TIRUPPUR

The sisters and staff of Marialaya stepped into the villages and to the migrants, studied the situations and the living conditions and provided few dry rations and grocery items.

### SPIRITUAL SUPPORT:

The Community sisters, staff, children, young people and women in distress spent 72 hours of continuous adoration pleading to the good Lord God almighty for the deliverance of this corona virus, praying particularly for the entire Nation, people who are infected and affected, for the Doctors, Nurses, Health Workers, Police and Government Departments, NGO'S and Volunteers. It was a wonderful experience for all of us.

### MATERIAL SUPPORT:

Marialaya had the opportunity of Supporting 15 families of migrant youngsters by distributing Dry Ration Materials Grocery items and Vegetables at KVR Nagar, Tiruppur. As a second phase of Corona Relief work was

done for 75 families at Murugakoundan pudur village and 40 families of Chettipudur colony with the due permission from the government.

It was distributed in the Presence of Mrs. Shanthi, Thasildhar of Avinasi Block, Mr. Bharathi VAO, The leaders and the senior members of the village. Grocery items and 250 Masks were distributed and awareness on COVID 19 was addressed and handouts were distributed to everyone. On the same day dinner was prepared (chapatti) and was given to 55 Migrant young girls who are left unnoticed in the hostels.



## KEELA ERAL

Millions of people are experiencing sudden hardship as a result of the restrictions imposed to slow the spread of the virus, so many families in Keela Eral and Madhapuram had lost their daily wage earning jobs. Sr. Rayan Auxilia Sophia and the community sisters expressed their concreteness of small acts of kindness to the people around by sharing the provisions for one week such as rice, grocery items, for 25 families.



## THERESPURAM

The community of Therespuram offered their support by sharing rice and provisions for the poor and the workers in their campus.

The staff of R.C.Primary school along with Sr. Santiago Celine, reached out to the affected on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020.



They distributed rice, vegetables and coconuts to 460 families of our students with the help of Mr. Edwin Pandian the councilor from AMMK party and Mr. Vetrivel the sub inspector. The parents were happy and contented.

### CONTRIBUTION BY VIDES

*“Not all of us can do great things but we can do small things with great Love” St. Theresa*

The VIDES of Therespuram gathered for a greater cause to help the needy who are affected badly due to COVID-19 and its nation wide lockdown. Fishing is the primary work & livelihood of the people of this coastal town Tuticorin. Moreover, fishing was banned by the Government of Tamilnadu during Covid-19 lockdown, added to that the yearly ban of fishing period has caused

great difficulty for the people financially and psychologically. With all these in mind we have planned to help at least 20 families in and around Therespuram. Thus we gathered in the School campus on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and divided the Relief fund and essential materials collected. Packing was also done by the members in the campus itself. Then the members went around surveying which are the families really poor and struggling for livelihood.

It was a great effort by the Vides members sacrificing their time in helping the poor and they were very happy to render their service. They were also grateful to Sr. Jeyarani who motivated, guided and encouraged them to carry out this great charity work in helping the needy at the right time. Let their service to the humanity continue to grow day by day.

Sr. Jeya Rani



### THANJAVUR

Our Salesian spirit is active and alive in the hearts of our past pupils and cooperators of Thanjavur to reach to the poor and needy during the Pandemic.

#### Cooperators :

The Cooperators of FMA Thanjavur Auxilium unit gathered at Anna Nagar on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020. We began with half an hour adoration in the adoration chapel adjacent to the parish church, and offered our fervent prayers for the suffering humanity. Everyone prayed for particular intentions which are of concern in the world at present especially during this covid-19 pandemic. Following this the reflection was given on “Everything will pass away” The members were motivated to trust more and intensify their prayers, to heal the world completely. We discussed on effective ways of involving ourselves in our service as salesian cooperators and to reach out to the needy people during this pandemic especially to the less privileged. The cooperators along

with Sr. Nirmala the coordinator of the unit distributed the relief fund to the deserving families.



Sr. Antony Nirmala Rani

#### Past Pupils :

➤ **Mrs. Mathimalar** our past pupil and former Panchayat president of Nanjikottai Tanjore helped the poor in her area with the support of few generous people in the locality. In the second week of July 2020, she collected Rs 80,000 from Madakottai parish and distributed rice, different grains, face masks and



sanitizers. 22 families of scavengers and co-workers were profited.

• **Mrs. Joy** a past pupil and the president of Inner wheel club of Tanjore, offered Rs 15,000 to a poor family near her house to repair their hut. It was a great

help during this pandemic. Along with her friends and sisters she distributed provisions worth of Rs.8000/- to the staff in her bakery.

Sr. Viagappan Rosario Jebamani



## COOPERATORS

Rev. Sr. Anthony Swamy Rosy and Rev. Fr. Joseph Charles along with FMAs, SDBs local delegates for the Salesian Cooperators participated in the interactive on line meeting held on 22 July, 2020 on how to reach out to the needy in collaboration with FMA and SDB units in Tamil Nadu. They have decided to contribute to each unit

as much as they can. In that way Covid 19 Relief fund had been collected from the cooperators around Rs.1,06,800 and disbursed to 11 units both FMA, and SDB for 42 families. It was a great initiative of the cooperators.

Sr. Anthony Swamy Rosy



### SQUEEZE YOUR BRAIN ...

- 1) What can you put in a bucket full of water to make it lighter?
- 2) Name three days consecutively where none of the seven days of the week appear?
- 3) What has two ends but no beginning?
- 4) What gets broken without being held?
- 5) Which word contains all 26 letters?
- 6) Imagine you are in a dark room. How do you get out?



*(Turn the page No. 57 for Solution)*



## PUBLIC EXAM RESULTS 2019-2020

Heartfelt congratulations to all the students who in collaboration with their management and Teaching Staff have secured good results in the Public Exams for the year 2019 - 2020.

S. No.	Place	Name of the School	Class	Percentage
1.	Broadway	St. Francis Xavier Anglo Indian Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	100%
			XII	99%
		Our Lady's Centre Matriculation School	X	100%
2.	Madurai	Auxilium Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	98%
			XII	100%
		Auxilium Matric. Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
3	Keela Eral	Auxilium Matric. Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	100%
			XII	100%
4	Puliadithammam	Auxilium Matric. Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	100%
5	Therespuram	Auxilium Matric. Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	100%
			XII	95%
		Little Flower R.C. High School	X	100%
6	Tanjore	Auxilium Matric. Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	100%
			XII	100%
7	Tiruvottiyur	Our Lady's Hr. Sec. School	X	100%
			XI	99%
			XII	99%

*Oh, Give thanks to the Lord for He is Good! His mercy endures forever  
Psalm 136:1*





## FORMATION

### PCI MEETING:

The online meeting on the Formation of Formators and the sharing of **Guidelines and Itineraries for the Formation of Juniors** and for **ongoing formation** was animated for the Provincials, Formators and Animators of the seven Provinces of the Inter-Provincial Conference of India (PCI) from 24th to 28th August 2020. There were about a hundred participants in the meeting. The meeting opened on 24th August with a prayer and greeting of Sr. Kanickaraj Mary Tamizharasi, National Coordinator for Formation and Secretary of the Province of St. Thomas the Apostle (INM). Sr. Maria Nieves Reboso, General Councilor for Formation was present and encouraged the participants to live the ministry of Formation with joy and to carry it out lovingly, "with the power of persuasion and love alone" (Const. 7). This was followed by an orientation talk on the spirituality of encounter. Sr. Tamizharasi animated the participants on the Psychology of Relationships from 24th to 26th August 2020.

On 29th August 2020, there was a zoom meet of seven Provincials of PCI with Sr. Ozhukayil Lucy Rose, General Visiting Councilor. The meeting commenced with an orientation talk by Sr. Lucy Rose based on the exhortations of Mother Marinella Castagno to Mother Antonia Colombo when she took up the leadership of the Institute as Superior General. During the meeting there were also interesting interactive moments on our preparation for the celebration of the Centenary of FMA presence in India, a brief reflection on the forthcoming GCXXIV, the challenges and plan encountered during COVID 19 in the Provinces. May God bless our efforts and accompany us moment by moment.

### LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME:

Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi animated a Webinar on Leadership Training for all the Sisters of our Province on four Thursdays beginning from 15th July, 2020. The sessions were dealt on the theme such as challenges and weaving network for effective leadership at this time of pandemic. She also presented the emerging leaders approach to reach out to our young people that helped the sisters to rethink and preplan our objectives for the days to come.

## ACADEMIC

- Sr. Fernando Majella - the Academic Coordinator of the Province called upon twenty-five Headmistresses of the Province to rethink on the Education Ministry during Covid 19, with the aim of reaching out to the rural children in our educational institutions on 4th June 2020. Through their sharing, they decided to reach out to the students through online classes.
- Headed by Sr. Borja Runita and Sr. Pfozhumai Neli Lolia Annie, Sr. Saminathan Clara PCI Academic Coordinator organized a video conference for the seven Academic Coordinators from seven FMA Provinces of India on 30th May 2020. The main aim of the meeting was to take innovative steps to reach out to the educants and prepare a checklist for an educative response to Covid 19 Pandemic. The conference advocated enriching pragmatic mutual exchange of ideas among the participants.
- **NEW EDUCATION POLICY AND HMS MEETING:** Sr. Fernando Majella the Academic Coordinator of the Province along with some HMs, Staff and Sisters participated in the Webinar seminar on **Implications of the National Education Policy** on the present Educational System animated by Mr. Britto the Advocate and Director of VAAN MUHIL Educational System on 1st August 2020.
- Sr. Fernando Majella coordinated the Meeting on New Education policy with the help of Mr. Prince Gajendran on 15th August, 2020 for all the Sisters of the Province followed by HMs Meeting on the effect of Online classes on students, teachers and parents and the need to train and share the resources between the Schools.

## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi - the National Development Coordinator organized a video conference on **“Planning strategies for Social Ministry to respond to the impacts of Pandemic in our mission at the National Level and to identify Inter-sectoral possibilities”** for twelve participants of seven Provinces from 24th to 25th April, 2020. The aim of the conference was to orient the Province Team members to reflect upon the impacts of pandemic and plan our responses sector wise.
- The Social Development Office organized a Video Conference on **Planning Strategies to respond to the impact of our mission as a Province** in order to orient the Province Team Members to reflect upon the impacts of the pandemic and plan our responses sector wise on **7th May, 2020** for 16 participants. The sharing helped the Team Members and Province Councilors to draft action plans to make concrete choices in the sectors.
- On **18th July 2020**, an online meeting was held for fifteen coordinators of Children and women on drafting **Action Plan for 2020 - 2021** by Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi, Sr. Remegius Angel Veda, Sr. Antony Lourdu Sagayam, Mr. Jahir and Ms. Subathra staff from ASSIST.
- Headed by Fr. Joseph Xavier the consultant, a Google meet for SDCs and Core Team Members was organized by NDFC on 4 July, 2020 to discuss on Strategies on Campaign against Covid 19 and plan the training programme.
- **CAMPAIGN AGAINST NEW EDUCATION POLICY:** The staff of Auxilium Synergy Source for Integrated Social Transformation - ASSIST along with Sr. Azarias Arockia Mary Selvi - the Social Development Coordinator participated in an awareness session on New Education Policy organized in preparation for the Face Book Campaign organized by the Federation for the Protection of Education, Tamilnadu & Puduchery from 24th - 30th August 2020.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

An Online Meeting for the Responsible person of ISS FMA and the Provincial Coordinators for Youth Ministry was animated on 23rd July 2020 on the theme **“The Covid 19 Pandemic in reshaping education, challenges and possibilities for the network of ISS- FMA”**. Sr. Amirthasamy Maria Pushpam, Sr. Peter Selvarani and Sr. Ayundukayam Arockia Malarjothi participated in the meeting, which was animated by Sr. Runita Borja and the team belonging to the Youth Ministry Sector.

## SALESIAN FAMILY

### VIDES

Thirty delegates and office bearers from ten VIDES units of the Province participated in the online meeting held on 31st July, 2020 on the theme **Monetarism and accompaniment of God in the Current Scenario** headed by Sr. Rayappan Sampooranam.

### SALESIAN COOPERATORS:

- Twenty-five SDB and FMA Provincial Delegates and Provincial Councilors responsible for the Salesian Family participated in the interactive on line meeting headed by Fr. Ashok Lawrence Britto SDB, the Province secretary of INT on 17 July, 2020. Sr. Anthonyswamy Rosy - Province Delegate for Salesian Cooperators and Sr. Poobalarayen Nirmala Provincial Councillor responsible for Salesian Family, participated in the meeting on the topic **the current situation of Salesian Cooperators and the need to strengthen their faith life**.
- Under the able guidance of Sr. Carmen Lucrecia Uribe of Colombian nationality, the World Delegate of the Association of Salesian Cooperators (ASSCC) for the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians animated an interactive online meeting for ten FMA Salesian Cooperators, Province Delegates, on 18th July, 2020. Sr. Anthonyswamy Rosy participated in the meeting and briefed everyone about the status of the Salesian Cooperators in the Province, statistics, formative programme, activities carried out, plan for the future and the effect and response of Covid 19 in the Province.



- Sr. Anthonyswamy Rosy along with FMA's, SDB's local delegates for the Salesian Cooperators participated in the interactive on line meeting held on 22 July, 2020 on how to reach out to the needy in collaboration with FMA and SDB units in Tamil Nadu.

- **INTSDB AND FMA COOPERATORS DELEGATES ZOOM MEETING:**

Fr. Joseph Charles SDB and Sr. Antonyswamy Rosy the Provincial Delegates for Salesian Cooperators, Coordinated the Zoom Meeting. It was held for thirty SDB, FMA Delegates along with the Provincials, Vice Provincials, the Salesian Family Provincial Delegates and the World Councilor Mr. Anthuvan on 27 August 2020 between 11 a.m to 12.30 p.m. Fr. Albert Johnson SDB, the South Asian Salesian Family Delegate animated them on "The Role of Local Delegates in reference to COVID19 Pandemic."

## ADMINISTRATION

### ECONOMERS MEET:

Sr. Madalaimuthu Angela the Province Economist coordinated the Economers Google Meet on the effects of COVID 19 on "Finances " leading to a discussion, resulting in the need to draw guidelines to meet the challenges emerging during COVID 19 Pandemic on 8th August 2020.

### DISTANCE MONITORING:

Misean Cara animated a **Virtual meeting with key informants** on "Human Resource Development Center project on 17th August. Sr. Azarias Arokia Mary Selvi and Sr. Kanickairaj Shermila along with the staff and beneficiaries of the project from Chennai Province participated in the Meet. Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala, the Provincial and Sr. Puliyani Lucy the Provincial Economist of INM were present for the entire meet and elucidated the process in progress of attaining the aimed results of the project.

### *Chains of Prayer ...*

*Oh... consumed... it's gone, foliage bitten to usurp,  
Even a worm paces steps to attack the opponent,  
Ah, a pest, VIRUS, epidemic, a havoc I would say,  
Millions of bodies scattered among the streets,  
Pathetic indeed to identify kind remains!*

*Never expected to multiply so vigorously,  
A word that is updated in the mortals' dictionary,  
An infant to the aged, dread in fear,  
We are inside safe with cushions of warmth,  
We lay surrounded by a ray of luxury.*

*Alas, no, let us be filled with LOVE,  
LOVE for Humanity,  
Shed tears for our brethren victims,  
Who die and return to DUST every day.  
"His ways are His ways; we cannot comprehend. "  
Just speak upto God; link chains of PRAYER.*

- Sr.Sundaram Bernadette Neha

### மூன்றெழுத்து ...

கொரோனா என்று மூன்றெழுத்தில் வந்த நீ  
உயிர் என்ற மூன்றெழுத்தைக் குறித்து  
பயம் என்ற மூன்றெழுத்தை உண்டாகி  
வாழ்வு என்ற மூன்றெழுத்தை ஆட்டிப்படைக்கிறாயே!  
தனிமை என்ற மூன்றெழுத்தில்  
வதைப்பது வறுமை என்ற மூன்றெழுத்து  
இறைவா என்றழைத்து உயிர் விட்ட மக்களுக்கு  
நன்றி என்ற மூன்றெழுத்தைக் கூறி  
விண்ணக வாழ்விற்காக வாழ்த்துகிறேன்  
டாட்டா என்ற மூன்றெழுத்தில் வழி அனுப்புக்கிறேன்.

- ஜென்சி ஆரோக்கியா ஜோ  
(Postulant)

1. A Hole  
2. Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.  
3. A rope  
4. A promise  
5. Alphabet  
6. Stop Imagining



## PROFILE OF THE DEPARTED

### A BRIEF PROFILE OF SR. ASIRVATHAM AMALORPAVA MARY



On 19th December 2019, the Lord called unto Himself our dear Sr. Asirvatham Amalorpava Mary belonging to the house of Madurai – Sringerinagar. Sr. Amalorpava Mary fondly called Amali by her family members was born to Mr. S. Asirvatham and Mrs. Elizabeth on 24th February 1956, baptised on 28th February 1956, confirmed on 31st March, 1963 in Kakkaveri, Salem.

She was fortunate to be born in a good Christian family with five children. She had two elder brothers and two elder sisters and she was the youngest in the family. She enjoyed her childhood days with her family. Her parents gave importance for the faith formation. The family frequented the Church for daily Mass and took an active part in all the church activities. Since she was the last child in the family, she was favoured by all and she was attached to her father. She loved our Blessed mother very much and she felt proud to be her daughter in the institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

She completed her primary studies in her village. She was lucky to be a student in Standard three where her own father was her class teacher. He was very firm and kind with regard to her studies. He trained her well in language and pronunciation. She completed her high school studies in the Municipal High School, Rasipuram a town near her village. Tamil was her favourite subject. Being nurtured in a teacher's family, from her tender age she developed interest in teaching. She used to help and correct the one word answers for her father. During her High School she took part in the speech competitions and bagged many prizes.

Being educated under the loving care of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary during the Catechism class, the seed of her vocation began to take root in her heart. After her High school studies she went to St. Mary's convent Vellore to do her teacher Training. From small she was devoted to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. She prayed to Our Blessed Mother to show her where she should join to become a religious.

She worked in St. Mary's Primary School – English Medium. At St. Mary's, Vellore, Sr. Elizabeth George the animator encouraged her to become a daughter of Mary Help of Christians. Moreover the cheerful and gentle ways of the Sisters coupled with prayer and dedication among the poorest young people attracted her like a magnet to the Salesian Congregation. Also looking at the community Sisters, happy, friendly and free to relate with the students, spurred her to become a Salesian Sister.

**Aspirantate :** She entered the Aspirantate in Katpadi on 13th September, 1977. Sacred Heart Home was a happy abode for animating retreats, meetings and visitations of the superiors. Since sisters had to be accommodated in the house, she with her thirty four aspirants in her group were sleeping in the auto shed and had their meals under the luscious trees. Sr. Amala recalls these opportunities as moments of joy and communion though they had to experience discomfort and inconvenience.

As a postulant she cherished with joy the visit of Fr. Benjamin Puthotta the then SDB Provincial to the Sacred Heart Home. He recommended them to love and pray to our blessed Mother for their holy perseverance. From then on she used to pray the three Hail Mary's for her holy perseverance. She entered the Novitiate in Bangalore on 24th July 1980. She was privileged to be in close contact with the pioneers Sr. Teresa Merlo and Consiglia Taricone and the missionaries during her novitiate.

She made her first Profession in Bangalore on 24th May, 1982 and her final profession on 5th August 1988. After becoming a sister, she completed her BA in History in Mathuranthagam Arts College, Vellore and B.Ed. through Correspondence in Madras University. As a Sister, she was open, simple and very cheerful. She related with everyone



genuinely. She cherished her relationship with the poorest Children. She obeyed and respected her Superiors and elders.

Sr. Amala availed herself generously for any type of work that was assigned to her. She had the joy of helping and serving the poor children of primary Schools for 29 years in Katpadi, Tiruvottiyur, Pallikonda, Thanjavur, Arni, Tirupattur and the last five years of her service in an elementary School established by the Salesian Fathers in Polur. As a teacher she got an award for neat handwriting. For five years she extended her service as an economer in Pallikonda, Manikandam and Thanjavur. She also worked in the parish of MPT quarters in New Washermenpet for one year. She was very happy to be with the Children of Marialaya in Coimbatore for one year and Patric Isaac Home in Madurai from 2014.

She had fever for a few days and on 30th November she developed numbness in her hands and feet. Immediately she was taken to the hospital. There she was diagnosed to be affected with GBS - Guillain-Barré syndrome which is a rare neurological disorder in which the body's immune system mistakenly attacks parts of its peripheral nervous system-the network of nerves located outside of the brain and spinal cord. She developed breathing difficulty so immediately she was shifted to Madurai Menakshi Mission Hospital. During the treatment, she had a heart attack and kidney failure. She bore up her pain with serenity and patience. It seems that she was well prepared for her last journey to the father with much preparedness. On 19th December 2019 Sr. Amala took her flight to heaven. Though Sr. Amala has gone to her heavenly abode, we cherish her simple and beautiful life.

Sr. Amala, thank you for your beautiful life. With sentiments of deep gratitude we entrust your soul through the hands of our blessed Mother to the heavenly Father.

#### BRIEF PROFILE OF SR. BARBON AROKIA JEBAMANI



On 14th February, 2020, the Lord called Sr. Barbon Arokia Jebamani to celebrate Valentine's Day - the feast of Love, in his heavenly mansion. She was born on 26th August, 1954 to Mr. Yagappa Barbon and Mrs. Packianathan Maria Rajammal and baptized on 3 September, 1954 in Adaikalapuram – Tuticorin. She grew up happily in a joint family with an elder and a younger brother and two younger sisters. The family felt the intervention of our Blessed Mother at the moment of her birth. She is fondly called Jeba.

The family frequented the parish every dawn and dusk. The parents trained the children to be faithful to the sacramental life and daily night prayers in the house. From her mother she learnt to be tender and forgiving. The family was very much devoted to Our Blessed Mother and they tangibly experienced the presence of our Blessed Mother in her illness and moments of difficulties.

As a young girl, she desired to remain as a spinster, help her parents and do social service. But her parents guided her either to become a nun or get married. She felt that Jesus loved her more than anyone else in this world, so she preferred Jesus to be her life partner. She was fond of gathering the children at home and she used to play and teach them values. With the able guidance of Fr. Amaldoss the then Parish Priest, and Mother Fernando Helen the then Provincial she discerned her Vocation and joined the Salesian Congregation. Even in the initial stage she showed signs of detachment from worldly things as an expression of her love for Jesus. She entered the Postulancy on 24th July 1979 in Katpadi at Sacred Heart Home. She made her Novitiate in Bengaluru and first profession on 24th May, 1982 in Bengaluru.

She specialized in History and rendered her service as a teacher, an Animator, a Boarding mistress and an economist. She served as a teacher for seven years in Arani, Vellore. She worked as a Head Mistress for fourteen years in Tiruvottiyur, Thanjavur, Chetpet, Arani, Therespuram and Vyasarpadi. She was a good Animator for seven years: in Therespuram, Yelagiri and Dindigul – Ulagampatti.

During the course of her religious life, she was noted for her life of simplicity, humility, endurance, frankness, positive thinking, excusing others, love for justice, concern for sisters, fidelity in little things, spirit of discernment, visioning, care fronting and courage to face challenges. Her life was richly sprinkled with Salesian Sensitivity - love for the poor, fidelity to the Charism, sense of belonging, family spirit and Marian devotion. She was a pioneer in Therespuram - Tuticorin in 2001. She worked in a diocesan High School which did not have a school building and Government recognition. She celebrated her silver jubilee in the newly constructed school premises on 31st January, 2008. That year God flooded her life with another joy – centum result for X standard students. In her tenure as Headmistress, she constructed a science lab, upgraded the schools, and got government recognition for the school and Government Post for teachers in Therespuram. She attributed all her laurels to God, our Blessed Mother and to the miraculous intervention of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus.

Recalling her educative intervention in the lives of the students, one of the boys in Therespuram recounts she was able to set right the quarrels among children with a smile, ease and amiability. Another boy recalls when one of his masters showed impatience at him, he ran away from the school immediately. But the parents brought him back and quarreled with the Headmistress impolitely. But she never retaliated nor showed any reaction to the student when he got back to the school. Her kindness won him over. Her example has left an indelible mark in his life. She retired from her post as a Headmistress on 26th August 2012. Doing everything well, solely for Jesus was her guiding principle. She used to say: “All for Jesus. This is what I did, I do and I will do. I am convinced that every work I do in my religious life has equal value. They are part of my mission.”

In Ulagampatti she reached out to the children in remote villages by visiting them personally and motivating them to attend the coaching classes and Neighbourhood Children's Parliament. She was prompt and accountable in submitting her monthly reports and always tried to facilitate the effective execution of the common plan. Her community Sisters affirm that, she was hard working, simple, without guile, gentle in handling problems, deeply rooted in prayer, a good animator in facilitating a rich sacramental life, faithful in giving spiritual nourishment. She was hospitable in receiving visitors and ever ready to offer herbal medicines to promote the well being of others, a caring shepherdess seeking after the weak and the fragile children and providing them with things needed for their daily life, lover of creatures, creation and the creator.

She was faithful to animate the co operators and enthusiastic in motivating vocationable girls to join the religious life. Though she worked efficiently for about thirty years in the formal sector, after retirement, she was able to insert tranquilly in the non formal work with zest and ease. The construction of the Vocation Training Centre in Ulagampatti is her brain child. She was eagerly waiting for the completion and blessing of the building. But the Lord of her life beckoned her to celebrate her love and friendship with him on 14th February, on the feast day of St. Valentine and bless the centre from above. May the message of her sudden death resonate in our lives: “Let us be prepared to encounter the Lord at any moment of our life.” As she enjoys the bliss of paradise, may she bless the house, parishioners, young people and all of us from heaven.



# *In Loving Memory of*

*"The eternal God is your refuge, and his everlasting arms are under you..."  
- Deuteronomy 33:27*

*Dear*  
**Sr. Barbon Arokia Jebamani**

*You will always  
be in our hearts...  
Because in there  
you're still alive.*





*Your Life is a tree that bears fruit*



*Thank You  
Dear  
Mother*



*We celebrate your life and your gift to each of us*

**INT - FMA**