



PALAYAMKOTTAI DIOCESAN NEWS LETTER

Vol. 70

MARCH - 2018

No. 530/2018



"I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness."

John 12:46

Happy Easter!

BISHOP SPEAKS

Dear people of God,

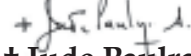
Peace of the Lord!

There is always a kind of hesitation to have a cross in our house. I have seen people not happy with any cross given as a gift! More than that people give away the crosses which are kept in the corner of the church! But so many have crosses made of silver and gold (finger rings / ear rings or Chain). We need to grow in the love and wisdom of the Lord who gave us eternal salvation in and through his ignominious death on the wooden cross! We all need to have the cross in a prompt place as our Christian symbol which according to St. Paul in our boast. "As for me, the only thing I can boast about is the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the World is crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal 6:14). Hence one has to have crosses in life and then only S/he is truly a disciple of Christ. For Jesus says, "Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple" (Lk 14:27).

May our blessed Mother Mary who stood near the Cross of Jesus intercede with her Son that we may, like her, accept the crosses in any form so as to participate in the Resurrection on the last day (Rom 6:5).

Wish every one of you a joyous Easter.

Yours in Jesus,



† **Jude Paulraj, A**

Bishop of Palayamkottai.

அன்புத் திருத்தந்தை அவர்கள் இறைமக்களுக்கு கடந்த மாதம் 23 ஆம் தேதி காங்கோ, தென்குடான் மற்றும் உலகம் முழுவதன் அமைதிக்காக உண்ணா நோன்பு மற்றும் செப நாளாக கடைப்பிடிக்க அழைப்பு விடுத்திருந்தார். எனவே நம் மறைமாவட்டத்தில் மார்ச் 2 ஆம் தேதி வெள்ளிக்கிழமையன்று அல்லது வசதிக்கு ஏற்ற ஒரு நாளன்று திருத்தந்தையின் வேண்டுகோளுக்கு ஏற்ப அந்த நாளை செபநாளாக கடைப்பிடிக்க அன்புடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அனைவருக்கும் நன்றி.

BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

March - 2018

Date	Time	Events
28 Feb - 01 Mar		Ongoing Formation, Bishop's House
02 Fri	07.00 PM	Way of the Cross & Mass, Nalankattalai
07 Wed - 09 Sat		Evangelization Seminar at NBCLC, Bangalore
13 Tue	11.20 AM	Novena Mass, Puliampatti
17 Sat	11.00 AM	இணையார் எழுச்சி மாநாடு, புனித சவேரியார் கல்லூரி, பாளை
18 Sun	02.30 PM	Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage, Kamanayakanpatti
19 Mon	04.30 PM	Sunrise School Building Blessing & School Day
20 Tue	06.30 PM	Novena Mass, St. Antony's Shrine, Palay Market
23 Fri	06.30 PM	Way of the Cross & Mass, Arulagam
25 Sun	07.00 AM	Palm Sunday, Cathedral
26 Mon	06.00 PM	Priests' Sanctification Day, Bishop's House
29 Thu	06.30 PM	Maundy Thursday, Nalatinputhur
30 Fri	03.00 PM	Good Friday, Kuruvikulam
31 Sat	11.00 PM	Easter Vigil Mass, Cathedral

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 11 Mar Fr. Rajesh F.X.
15 Mar Fr. Alphonse S.
23 Mar Fr. Peter Pitchaikan A.
26 Mar Fr. Joseph Kennedy A.
31 Mar Fr. Robin A.

ORDINATION

- 19/03/64 Fr. I. Lourduraj
23/03/69 Fr. Aloysius Michael
25/03/58 Fr. P. Amalraj
25/03/63 Fr. T.A. Berchmans
25/03/79 Fr. G. Kulandairaj

FEAST DAYS

19 Mar Solemnity of St. Joseph

Fr. S. Joseph Johnson
Fr. A. Joseph Kennedy
Fr. S. Joseph Raj
Fr. A.S. Susai Selvaraj
Fr. Joseph Vargese

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Vicar General's Desk

Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

The diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage will be held on 18th March 2018, the 5th Sunday of Lent in Kamanayakanpatti. The programme will be as follows:

- 02.30 P.M. Holy Rosary (Animated by Ambasamudram Vicariate)
- 03.00 P.M. Eucharistic Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation (Animated by Sankarankovil Vicariate)
- 04.00 P.M. Way of the Cross (Animated by Tenkasi Vicariate)
- 05.00 P.M. Holy Eucharist presided over by Rt Rev. Dr Jude Paulraj (Animated by Palayamkottai Vicariate including the Choir)

May I kindly request the Vicars Forane to take note of their field of animation and help the event. The preparation for the event will be taken care of by Kovilpatti Vicariate. May I kindly request all the fathers to come in advance to assist at the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 03.00 to 04.00 P.M. Kindly inform the parish priest of Kamanayakanpatti Rev. Fr Arulraj SM. (995201125) about the number of

participants from your parish for better arrangement and for providing supper.

Dear Fathers, Priests' Sanctification Day will be celebrated on Monday, the 26th March 2018 in the Bishop's House. The Rt Rev. Yvon Ambroise, the bishop of Thoothukudi, will animate us with spiritual reflection. We will follow the usual recollection timetable in the morning. In addition, we shall have the Way of the Cross at 03.30 P.M. in the Bishop's House and at 06.00 P.M. we will concelebrate with our bishop in the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral Campus. May I cordially invite all the priests, the diocesan priests and the religious priests ministering in our diocese to participate and renew the priestly promises.

Wish you all Happy Easter!

Rev. Msgr T. Xavier Terrence
Vicar General

Tribunal (February 2018)

I. The following Case was annulled:

Mrs. Jerlin Mary (Tenkasi) Vs Mr. Parthiban (Vallam)

II. The following Cases were admitted and the matrimonial process is on:

1. Mr. Carol. S (Udaiarpatty) Vs Mrs. Donna Nisha. C (Chennai)
2. Mr. Maria Louis (Kovilpatti) Vs Mrs. Lourdu Packia Sahayamary (Periyasampuram, Thoothukudi)
3. Mrs. Sahaya Mary, (Kamanayakanpatti) Vs Mr. Maria Selva Jeyanthan (Kovilpatti)

Fr. Xavier Devasagayam,
Judicial Vicar

Matha TV is available on following DTH Services

1. DTH Services
 - Tata Sky : 1557
 - Airtel : 816
 - Sun Direct : 618
 - Videocon d2h : 599
 2. Set Top Boxes
 - Set Top Boxes in Tamilnadu: Arasu Cable, SCV, TCCL, Aadaar and VK Digial
 - Set Top Boxes in Bangalore: Hathway, City Cable, ACT and IN Cable.
 3. Internet
 - LIVE Streaming in www.mathatv.in, iOS & Android Apps,
 4. IP Television (Europe, USA, Canada and Australia)
 - Lebara Play
 - Lyca
 - Roku
 - Salai TV
 - Chitram TV
-



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA (CBCI)

C.B.C.I. Centre, 1 Ashok Place, Near Gole Dakhana, New Delhi-110 001 India
Tel : +91 11 2334 4470 | Mob. : 987 114 7838

Most. Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas SFX
SECRETARY GENERAL

8 th February, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

Office-Bearers of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India

We are pleased to announce that **Cardinal Oswald Gracias**, Archbishop of Bombay, has been elected the new

President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India for a period of two years.

Most Rev. Joshua Mar Ignathios, Bishop of the Eparchy of Mavelikara, has been elected the new First Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India for a period of two years.

Most Rev. George Njaralakatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Tellicherry, is elected the Second Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India for a period of two years.

Most Rev. Thaeodore Mascarenhas SFX continues his three year term as the Secretary General of CBCI.

As per the tradition of the CBCI, the Office-Bearers are elected on a basis of rotation among the Rites.

The outgoing President, Cardinal Baselios Cleemis; First Vice-President, Archbishop ~~Andrews Thazhath~~ ^{RDNL} and the Second Vice-President, Archbishop Filipe Neri Ferrão, having already completed two terms were no longer eligible for election to the respective posts that they were holding.

We thank the outgoing President and Vice-Presidents for their services to the Catholic Church in India. We pray for the new Office-Bearers that they may lead the Church in India to the Mission of service and witness of India.

Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX
Secretary General, CBCI

This Month Collection
March - 2018 Holy Thursday - Hunger and Disease
Collection Good Friday - Holy land Collection

**XXXIII GENERAL BODY MEETING
CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA
(CBCI)
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY, 2 - 9, 2018**

**“United in Diversity for a Mission of Mercy and Witness:
'I am with you always, to the end of the age' “ (Mt 28: 20)**

FINAL STATEMENT

PREAMBLE

The theme of our General Body Meeting immediately invites us to reflect on the mystery of the Trinity. The great mystery of the one God, united in three Persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, is the foundation of our Christian faith.

We thank God for the unique nature of the Catholic Church in India who is blessed with three *sui iuris* Churches called to reflect in her life and mission the communion of the Holy Trinity.

Rooted in this vision, we, the 184 bishops of the Catholic Church in India gathered together for the 33rd General Body Meeting of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) at St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bengaluru, from 02 to 09 February 2018, to pray and reflect upon the theme: “United in Diversity for a Mission of Mercy and Witness: ‘I am with you always, to the end of the age’ “ (Mt 28: 20) to deepen our understanding of our own identity and to enhance our contribution to nation-building. We, the Catholic Bishops of India felt reassured and strengthened by the words of our Lord: “And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Mt 28:20). We have taken into account the final statement of the

Catholic Council of India (CCI) which met from 17 to 19 November 2017.

The Mission of Jesus

Jesus, who came to unite and reconcile the whole of humankind into one family of God, is himself the good news. He presented God to people in the way he loved all, namely, in feeding the hungry, comforting the disturbed, promoting the dignity of the marginalized, healing the sick, giving hope to the hopeless, freedom to the captives, forgiveness to the sinners, justice to the poor and life to the dead.

The Church in India

The Church in India received the gift of faith through St. Thomas, the Apostle of Jesus. Our Christian faith was nourished and strengthened by the efforts of many great saints such as St. Francis Xavier who is Patron Saint of Missions. We want to emphatically affirm that the Christian faith in India is as old as Christianity. India is what it is today is also due to the contribution of the Church in India.

With the evidence of yeoman service rendered by the Church, it is clear that India needs the Church just as the members of the Church continue to love India as they reach out to the very last and the least, in imitation of Jesus our Master. The Church believes that all people are our brothers and sisters as Jesus himself has taught us, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22: 39). The empowerment of the poor and the promotion of human dignity are values enshrined in our Constitution and are also cherished by the Church in her mission. The mission

of the Church carried out through all her activities has only one aim, to build up our nation on the four essential pillars of peace, that is, truth, justice, love and freedom (cfr. St. John XXIII, *Pacem in Terris*).

Understanding Authentic Nationalism and Constitutional Secularism

Any attempt to promote nationalism based on any one particular culture or religion is a dangerous position. It may lead to uniformity but never to genuine unity. Such misconceived efforts can only lead our nation on the path of self-annihilation. Mono-culturalism has never been and can never be the right answer to the quest for peace, progress and development, especially in a country like ours that has a rich diversity of culture, language, region, race and religion. Violence always recoils upon the violent sooner or later, “For all who take the sword will perish by the sword” (Mt 26: 52). We deplore the rising incidence of atrocities against women, killings, caste rivalries and communal violence which includes attacks on Christian institutions and communities. Therefore, let us follow the path of true nationalism that can lead our motherland to true peace, harmony, progress and prosperity. Authentic nationalism respects the human dignity of every citizen, regardless of one’s economic status, culture, religion, region or language.

We wish to urgently call all people of goodwill to uphold the rule of law guaranteed by our Indian Constitution. In a climate of violence, we make an appeal to all our fellow citizens to eschew mob culture and vigilantism in favor of peace. We appreciate and will collaborate with the

our country, to ensure progress and development of all and the protection of the environment. The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi has stated in clear terms that “The world has enough for everyone’s need, but not enough of everyone’s greed”.

The Precious Gift of Human Life

The Christian community upholds the absolute and transcendent value of human life which is a precious gift of God. Therefore, an assault on human life can never be inspired by God nor justified because of the diverse beliefs and practices. Human life of every individual person in our beloved motherland needs to be valued and defended.

The Church’s Mission of Mercy

Mercy that flows out of the heart of God alone, through the cross of Jesus Christ, can heal the wounded human hearts, restore the broken relationships between persons and communities and lift up out of misery those suppressed for centuries. Faced with this precarious situation we the disciples of Christ, resolve to be authentic witnesses of mercy, which is the essence of the Gospel and the manifestation of Christian discipleship. This is witnessed in the gentle hands and wrinkled face of St. Teresa of Kolkata and in the martyrdom of Blessed Rani Maria of Indore.

In our service to the nation, especially to the Dalits, Tribals and other backward classes, we Christians join hands with our fellow citizens to ensure the authentic human development of our people which is measured by the scale of human index, and not merely by economic standards.

Let us all resolve to go beyond narrow domestic walls of every kind in order to establish a truly secular, socialist and democratic nation as is enshrined in the Constitution of India.

To Live in Unity in the midst of Diversity, both within the Church and in the country, we propose the following:

1. To deepen and intensify our Christian life of discipleship at all levels by being a ceaselessly praying community, always living our unity in diversity in accordance with our Trinitarian faith.
2. To strengthen the bonds of communion among the laity, the religious and the clergy and to ensure that communion becomes the way of life for the Church at all levels.
3. To promote and intensify Small Christian Communities (SCCs) and Family Units for the all-round integral formation of the faithful and for inter-religious cooperation, peace and harmony.
4. To accompany families in their evangelizing mission in the world and to make sure that they become the focal point of the pastoral ministry of the Church; to manifest special care and compassion to families in distress and to enlighten our families on responsible parenthood.
5. To imbue our youth with the vision of an authentic Christian Life to enable them to play their role in Church and society; to empower our youth to play an active role in the Church by equipping them with the knowledge of the Word of God and with the

teachings of the Church through the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) and other Catholic Youth Movements; to help our youth to discern and choose the way of life which is the primary theme of the forthcoming Synod on Youth in Oct 2018.

6. To encourage and train our lay people and youth for nation-building through involvement in vitally important areas of our national life such as politics, civil services, defense, law and judiciary.
7. To ensure that formators in our formation houses guide the formees to respect the equal dignity of women and to promote the role of the laity in the life and mission of the Church.
8. To ensure adequate representation of women in all Church bodies.
9. To prepare seminarians, priests and religious to be authentic witnesses of mercy within the Church and society.
10. To seize every opportunity to promote dialogue across religious boundaries; our inter-religious dialogue will become more credible, fruitful and effective if we Christians make every effort to grow in our unity in Christ.
11. To take various initiatives to foster better cooperation among all Christians through dialogue with ecumenical groups and promoting common ecumenical services, common prayers and common endeavours.

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12. To make the Constitution of India more widely known in all sectors of Church and society, particularly highlighting some salient features such as the equality of all citizens, the freedom of religion, the freedom of conscience and the freedom of expression.
 13. To encourage and motivate our laity to be actively involved in the secular world in order to effectively contribute to nation-building in fulfillment of their proper vocation.
 14. To continue to make our service in the field of education a mission of mercy and to implement purposefully the “All India Catholic Education Policy 2007” of the CBCI in order to impart Gospel values.
 15. To make Catholic Health Services a mission of mercy and healing that is affordable, compassionate and caring, yet professional, self-sustaining and collaborative.
 16. To ensure the implementation of the CBCI Policy of Dalit Empowerment in every diocese, to work for the protection and integral development of the Tribals and Other Backward Classes (OBC’s) and to take special initiatives for the relief and welfare of farmers, fisher folk, migrants and other deprived and exploited communities by providing care, comfort and hope to them in their distress.
 17. To increase awareness of the importance of ecology as an integral part of our Christian commitment and spirituality and to take new initiatives to protect the environment and to promote love for Nature; to

ensure that every diocese has formulated an environment policy to implement the teachings of *Laudato Si*, the Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis.

18. To create an awareness of the plight of our brothers and sisters in prison and to assist them in their rehabilitation and the care of their families.
19. To ensure transparency in all spheres of the Church's administration and to stand for the same in society.
20. To set up an effective "think tank" for all our dioceses for taking up urgent matters and earnestly engaging in advocacy with all stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

The Church "exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God..." (Blessed Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, no. 14). "The Church and theology exist to evangelize, and not be content with a desk-bound theology" (Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 133). Even as we face many grave challenges and setbacks to the unity in diversity of our country we are proud to be Indian. We love our country as we continue to pray constantly for it and its wellbeing. Our Christian faith gives us hope to move ahead to continue our work for unity in diversity so as to establish peace and harmony and make our country live up to its exalted calling. We entrust ourselves in all that we do for the Church and society, to the loving care of Mary, Mother of Mercy.

Baselios Cardinal Cleemis
President,
Catholic Bishops Conference of India

33RD GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE CBCI

St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bengaluru

February 2-9, 2018

NEW OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE CBCI

President : His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias

Vice-President I : Most Rev. Joshua Mar Ignathios

Vice-President II : Most Rev. Mar George Njaralakatt

Secretary General : Most Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas SFX

NEW OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE CBCI OFFICES

Office for Doctrine

Chairman : Most Rev. Thomas Mar Koorilos

Members : Most Rev. Albert D'Souza

: Most Rev. Mar Joseph Pamplany

Office for Clergy and Religious

Chairman : Most Rev. Anil J. T. Couto

Members : Most Rev. Francis Serrao

: Most Rev. Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath

Office for Dialogue and Ecumenism

Chairman : Most Rev. Mar Joseph Perumthottam

Members : Most Rev. Raphy Manjaly

: Most Rev. Thomas Dabre

Office for Education and Culture

Chairman : Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza

Members : Most Rev. Mar Andrews Thazhath

: Most Rev. John Moolachira

Office for Health Care

Chairman : Most Rev. Prakash Mallavarapu

Members : Most Rev. Mar Jacob Manathodath

: Most Rev. Felix Toppo

Office for Labour

Chairman : Most Rev. Alex Vadakumthala

Members : Most Rev. Mar Jose Chittooparambil

: Most Rev. Nazarene Soosai

Office for Justice, Peace and Development

Chairman : Most Rev. Gerald Almeida

Members : Most Rev. Allwyn D'Silva

: Most Rev. Gerald Isaac Lobo

Office for Scheduled Castes/Backward Classes

Chairman : Most Rev. Sarat Chandra Nayak

Members : Most Rev. P. Soundararaju SDB

: Most Rev. Moses D. Prakasam

Office for Tribal Affairs

Chairman : Most Rev. Vincent Barwa

Members : Most Rev. Michael Akasius Toppo

: Most Rev. Paul Toppo

Office for Social Communications

Chairman : Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo

Members : Most Rev. Sebastian Kallupura

: Most Rev. Anthony Poola

Mercy - 2018

State Level Youth Prayer Convention

March 16, 17 & 18

at St. Xavier's College

Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli - 627 002.

For details, Contact :

Dr. Arul Raj (9843560065)

Prof. Christopher (9600278407)

Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2018

The following is the Message of the Holy Father for Lent 2018 on the theme: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24: 12).

Message of the Holy Father

"Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24: 12)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in His providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a "sacramental sign of our

conversion". Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (24:12).

These words appear in Christ's preaching about the end of time. They were spoken in Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, where the Lord's passion would begin. In reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might well find itself: amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many.

False prophets

Let us listen to the Gospel passage and try to understand the guise such false prophets can assume.

They can appear as "snake charmers", who manipulate human emotions in order to enslave others and lead them where they would have them go. How many of God's children are mesmerized by momentary pleasures, mistaking them for true happiness! How many men and women live entranced by the dream of wealth, which only makes them slaves to profit and petty interests! How many go through life believing that they are sufficient unto themselves, and end up entrapped by loneliness!

False prophets can also be "charlatans", who offer easy and immediate solutions to suffering that soon prove utterly useless. How many young people are taken in by

the panacea of drugs, of disposable relationships, of easy but dishonest gains! How many more are ensnared in a thoroughly “virtual” existence, in which relationships appear quick and straightforward, only to prove meaningless! These swindlers, in peddling things that have no real value, rob people of all that is most precious: dignity, freedom and the ability to love. They appeal to our vanity, our trust in appearances, but in the end they only make fools of us. Nor should we be surprised. In order to confound the human heart, the devil, who is “a liar and the father of lies” (Jn 8:44), has always presented evil as good, falsehood as truth. That is why each of us is called to peer into our heart to see if we are falling prey to the lies of these false prophets. We must learn to look closely, beneath the surface, and to recognize what leaves a good and lasting mark on our hearts, because it comes from God and is truly for our benefit.

A cold heart

In his description of hell, Dante Alighieri pictures the devil seated on a throne of ice, in frozen and loveless isolation. We might well ask ourselves how it happens that charity can turn cold within us. What are the signs that indicate that our love is beginning to cool?

More than anything else, what destroys charity is greed for money, “the root of all evil” (1 Tim 6:10). The rejection of God and his peace soon follows; we prefer our own desolation rather than the comfort found in his word and the sacraments. All this leads to violence against anyone we think is a threat to our own “certainties”: the unborn child, the elderly and infirm, the migrant, the alien among us, or our neighbour who does not live up to our expectations.

Creation itself becomes a silent witness to this cooling of charity. The earth is poisoned by refuse, discarded out of carelessness or for self-interest. The seas, themselves polluted, engulf the remains of countless shipwrecked victims of forced migration. The heavens, which in God's plan, were created to sing His praises, are rent by engines raining down implements of death.

Love can also grow cold in our own communities. In the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, I sought to describe the most evident signs of this lack of love: selfishness and spiritual sloth, sterile pessimism, the temptation to self-absorption, constant warring among ourselves, and the worldly mentality that makes us concerned only for appearances, and thus lessens our missionary zeal.

What are we to do?

Perhaps we see, deep within ourselves and all about us, the signs I have just described. But the Church, our Mother and Teacher, along with the often bitter medicine of the truth, offers us in the Lenten season the soothing remedy of prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

By devoting more time to prayer, we enable our hearts to root out our secret lies and forms of self-deception, and then to find the consolation God offers. He is our Father and he wants us to live life well.

Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. How I would like almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! For this reason, I echo Saint Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians to take up a collection for the community of Jerusalem as

something from which they themselves would benefit (cf. 2 Cor 8:10). This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist Churches and peoples in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God Himself. When we give alms, we share in God's providential care for each of His children. If through me God helps someone today, will He not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God.

Fasting weakens our tendency to violence; it disarms us and becomes an important opportunity for growth. On the one hand, it allows us to experience what the destitute and the starving have to endure. On the other hand, it expresses our own spiritual hunger and thirst for life in God. Fasting wakes us up. It makes us more attentive to God and our neighbour. It revives our desire to obey God, who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger.

I would also like my invitation to extend beyond the bounds of the Catholic Church, and to reach all of you, men and women of good will, who are open to hearing God's voice. Perhaps, like ourselves, you are disturbed by the spread of iniquity in the world, you are concerned about the chill that paralyzes hearts and actions, and you see a weakening in our sense of being members of the one human family. Join us, then, in raising our plea to God, in fasting, and in offering whatever you can to our brothers and sisters in need!

The fire of Easter

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

One such moment of grace will be, again this year, the “24 Hours for the Lord” initiative, which invites the entire Church community to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic adoration. In 2018, inspired by the words of Psalm 130:4, “With you is forgiveness”, this will take place from Friday, 9 March to Saturday, 10 March. In each diocese, at least one church will remain open for twenty-four consecutive hours, offering an opportunity for both Eucharistic adoration and sacramental confession.

During the Easter Vigil, we will celebrate once more the moving rite of the lighting of the Easter candle. Drawn from the “new fire”, this light will slowly overcome the darkness and illuminate the liturgical assembly. “May the light of Christ rising in glory dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds”, and enable all of us to relive the experience of the disciples on the way to Emmaus. By listening to God’s word and drawing nourishment from the table of the Eucharist, may our hearts be ever more ardent in faith, hope and love.

With affection and the promise of my prayers for all of you, I send you my blessing. Please do not forget to pray for me.

From the Vatican, 1 November 2017

Solemnity of All Saints

திருநெல்வேலி சமூக சேவை சங்கம் -

பாளையங்கோட்டை

2018 ஜனவரி 21 முதல் 2018 பிப்ரவரி 20 வரைக்கான அறிக்கை

1.0 வாழ்வாதார மேம்பாட்டுத் திட்டம்:

பெண்களின் வாழ்வாதார மேம்பாட்டிற்காக நாட்டுக் கோழி வளர்ப்பு குறித்த பயிற்சி 2 நாட்கள் நடைபெற்றது. இதில் 40 பெண்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர். இப்பயிற்சியை கால்நடை மருத்துவ கல்லூரி

பேராசிரியர்கள் Dr. தனசீலன் மற்றும் Dr. இனிகோ ஆகியோர் வழிநடத்தினர். பொருட்களை சந்தைப்படுத்துவதற்கான அறிவு மற்றும் திறன் குறித்த பயிற்சி 10.02.2018 அன்று நடைபெற்றது. தொழில் முனைவோர் வழிகாட்டி மைய இயக்குநர் திரு. வைரவராஜ் பயிற்சியை வழிநடத்தினார். இதில் 40 பெண்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர். மேலும் தொழில் தொடங்குவதற்காக இம்மாதம் 29 நபர்களுக்கு கடன் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

துறையூர் கிராமத்தில் இயற்கை வேளாண்மை இடுபொருட்கள் மற்றும் சிறுதானிய விற்பனை அங்காடியை 19.02.2018 அன்று இயக்குநர் அருட்திரு. M.மோட்சராஜன் அவர்கள் திறந்து வைத்தார். இந்நிகழ்ச்சியில் நிர்வாக மேலாளர் அருட்சகோதரி.ஷகிலா மற்றும் பணியாளர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

2.0 சிறுவர் பாராளுமன்ற துவக்க விழா:

திருநெல்வேலி சமூக சேவை சங்கம் தன்னுடைய பணிக் கிராமங்களில் 12 சிறுவர் பாராளுமன்றங்களை துவக்கி வழிநடத்தி வருகின்றது. இப்பாராளுமன்றங்களை ஒருங்கிணைத்து மாவட்ட அளவிலான சிறுவர் பாராளுமன்ற துவக்க விழா மற்றும் அவர்களுக்கான பயிற்சி 17.02.2018 அன்று TSSS கூட்ட அரங்கில் இயக்குநர் தலைமையில் நடைபெற்றது. இதில் 32 சிறுவர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர். பயிற்சியை தமிழக சமூகப் பணி மைய ஒருங்கிணைப்பாளர் திரு.செல்லப்பாண்டி வழிநடத்தினார்.

3.0 நிறுவன திறன் மேம்பாட்டு பயிற்சி:

நிறுவன திறன் மேம்பாட்டுக்கான தொடர் பயிற்சி மற்றும் கலந்துரையாடல் கூட்டம் 07.02.2018 முதல் 08.02.2018 வரை TSSS கூட்ட அரங்கில் நடைபெற்றது. இக்கூட்டத்தை CRS நிறுவன பிரதிநிதி அருட்திரு.செலஸ்டின், திரு.குஷால் தமிழக சமூகப் பணி மைய இயக்குநர் அருட்திரு.ஆல்பர்ட் தம்பிதுரை, உதவி இயக்குநர் அருட்திரு. ஆரோக்கியசாமி ஆகியோர் வழிநடத்தினர். இக்கூட்டத்தில் இயக்குநர் மற்றும் அனைத்து பணியாளர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டு நிறுவன வளர்ச்சிக்கான செயல்திட்டங்களை தயார் செய்தனர்.

4.0 இதர செயல்பாடுகள்:

வருவாய் பெருக்குத் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் 147 பயனாளிகளுக்கு பல்வேறு செயல்பாடுகளுக்காக கடன் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

நலவாழ்வு கருத்தரங்கு திருமலையப்பபுரம், அயிரவன்பட்டி, ஓலைகுளம் ஆகிய கிராமங்களில் நடைபெற்றது. மேலும் கடையம் ஒன்றிய செயற்குழு கூட்டம் பொட்டல் புதூரில் நடைபெற்றது. இதில் 47 நபர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர். கோல்பிங் திட்டத்தில் கடந்த மாதம் 4 புதிய குழுக்கள் உருவாக்கப்பட்டது.

சரணாலயம்

பிப்ரவரி 2018 மாத பணிஅறிக்கை

- **குழந்தைகள் வரவேற்பு** பிரிவில் புதிதாக 10 சிறுவர், 06 சிறுமியர் என மொத்தம் 16 பேர் அனுமதிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளனர். தற்போது இல்லத்தில் 6 சிறுமியர் 12 சிறுவர்கள் என 18 பேர் தங்க வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளனர்.
- **திறந்தநிலை புகலிடத் திட்டத்தில்** தற்போது தையற்பயிற்சி, கணினி, தட்டச்சு, ஓவியம் மற்றும் கைவினை பயிற்சி வகுப்புகள் நடைபெற்று வருகிறது. அரசு பொதுத் தேர்விற்கு மாணவ, மாணவியர் பயிற்சி பெற்று வருகின்றனர். தற்பொழுது மையத்தில் சிறுமியர் 14, சிறுவர்கள் 19 ஆக 33 குழந்தைகள் தங்க வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளனர்.
- **திருநெல்வேலி சைல்டுலைன் 1098** மூலமாக மீட்கப்பட்ட குழந்தைகள் 36 பேர், இதில் 15 சிறுமிகள், 21 சிறுவர்கள் ஆவர். இதில் 05 குழந்தைத் திருமணம் தடுத்து நிறுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது.
 - **சிறப்பு நிகழ்வுகள்:** வெளித்தொடர்பு விழிப்புணர்வு நிகழ்ச்சி நாஞ்சான்குளம் பகுதியில் மானூர் காவல் ஆய்வாளர் திரு.இராபின்சன், ஊராட்சி ஒன்றிய செயலர் திரு.டேவிட், R.C.தொடக்கப்பள்ளி தலைமையாசிரியர், முன்னாள் ஊர் நாட்டாமை திரு.புங்கையா ஆகியோர் தலைமையில் சிறப்பாகக் நடைபெற்றது.
 - அரசு புத்தகக் கண்காட்சி வ.உ.சி மைதானத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. இந்நிகழ்வில் மாவட்ட ஆட்சிதலைவர் உயர்திரு.சந்தீப் நந்தூரி, அமைச்சர் இராஜலட்சுமி ஆகியோர் தொடங்கிவைத்தார்கள். இந்நிகழ்வில் சரணாலயம் சைல்டுலைன் 1098-க்கு அறை ஒன்று ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது. மேலும் இதில் சைல்டுலைன் சார்பாக குழந்தைகளை வரவேற்கும் விதமாக ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் மிக்கி மவுஸ் வேடம் அணிந்து மக்களுக்கு விழிப்புணர்வு கொடுக்கப்பட்டது.
 - மேலும் இம்மாதம் 07 பள்ளிகளிலும், 2 ஆட்டோ ஓட்டுநர்களுக்கும், 2 சுயஉதவிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களுக்கும், 24 கிராமங்களில் சைல்டுலைன் 1098 விழிப்புணர்வு நிகழ்ச்சிகள் நடத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது.

- **குழந்தைத் தத்து திட்டத்தில்** தற்போது 6 ஆண் குழந்தை, 2 பெண் குழந்தை என மொத்தம் 08 குழந்தைகள் உள்ளனர்.

சிறப்பு நிகழ்வுகள்

- மகாராஜாநகர் பங்கு, வின்சென்ட்தே பவுல் சபையினர் குழந்தைகளைச் சந்தித்து கலந்துரையாடி, தங்கள் வாழ்க்கை அனுபவங்களைப் பகிர்ந்து கொண்டனர்.
- அருட்திரு.அலெக்ஸ் ரவீந்திரன், HGN, தன்னுடைய இத்தாலிய நண்பர்கள் 13 பேருடன், ஆலங்குளம் விடியல் குழந்தைகள் இல்லத்தைச் சந்தித்தனர்.
- மனோன்மணியம் சுந்தரனார் பல்கலைக் கழகத்தின், முதுகலை குற்றவியல் மற்றும் நீதித்துறை மாணவ – மாணவியர் 22பேர் சரணாலயப் பணிகள் பற்றி கலந்துரையாடி அறிந்து கொண்டனர்.
- வி.எம்.சத்திரம், தூய அந்தோணியார் பள்ளியின்(CBSC) சார்பில் சரணாலயம் மற்றும் விடியல் குழந்தைகள் இல்லத்திற்குத் தேவையான பொருட்கள் வழங்கப்பட்டது. தாளாளர் அருட்திரு.எளிக் அவர்களுக்கு எம் நன்றிகள்.

விழாவின் மகிழ்வில் எம்மோடு:

பிறந்தநாள் : பிரகாஷ்ராஜ், இராமகிருஷ்ணன், குரு, ஷான்விகா

திருமணநாள் : திரு.அம்புரோஸ் - ரோஸ்லின்

நினைவுநாள் : இராஜகுமார், சுப்பிரமணியன், உமா, பீட்டர்.

- **வெள்ளி விழா ஆண்டை** முன்னிட்டு இயக்குநர் அவர்கள் வெங்டாச்சலபுரம், கருத்தப்பிள்ளையூர், புளியம்பட்டி, கயத்தார், கோவில் பட்டி, பேட்டை, சங்கர்நகர், தாளார்குளம், காமநாயக்கன்பட்டி, வேலாயுதபுரம் ஆகிய பங்குகளுக்குச் சென்று திருப்பலி நிறைவேற்றி, சரணாலயப் பணிகள் பற்றி எடுத்துக் கூறினார்கள்.

அருட்தந்தை. செயபாலன். அ

இயக்குநர், சரணாலயம்.

குடும்ப நலவாழ்வு பணிக்குழு அறிக்கை

பாளை மறைமாவட்டம் - பிப்ரவரி மாத அறிக்கை - 2018

1) திருமண முன் தயாரிப்பு பயிற்சி

பங்கேற்றவர்கள் - ஆண்கள் 17 பேர், பெண்கள் 21 பேர்

மொத்தம் பங்கேற்றவர்கள் - 38 பேர்

2) திருமணத் தகவல் நிலையம்

பதிவு செய்தவர்கள் - 18 பேர்

தகவல் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது - 45 பேர்

திருமணம் முடிந்தது - 5 பேர்

3) மாநில பொதுக்குழு அமர்வு

19.02.2018 அன்று பூண்டியில் வைத்து நடைபெற்ற மாநில பொதுக்குழு அமர்வில் செயலர் தந்தை உட்பட நான்கு பேர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

4) திருமண முன் தயாரிப்பு பயிற்சி விபரம்

மார்ச் 2018 02, 03 முதல் வெள்ளி, சனிக்கிழமை
காலை 9.00 மணி முதல் மாலை 4.30 மணி வரை
16, 17 மூன்றாவது வெள்ளி, சனிக்கிழமை
காலை 9.00 மணி முதல் மாலை 4.30 மணி வரை
ஏப்ரல் 2018 06, 07 முதல் வெள்ளி, சனிக்கிழமை
காலை 9.00 மணி முதல் மாலை 4.30 மணி வரை
20,21 மூன்றாவது வெள்ளி, சனிக்கிழமை
காலை 9.00 மணி முதல் மாலை 4.30 மணி வரை
அன்புடன்,

அருட்தந்தை அ.சாக்கோ வர்க்கீஸ்,

செயலர், திருப்பூர் நடுவார்ட்டு பணிக்குழு, பாளையங்கோட்டை.

**PARISH MONTHLY COLLECTION
(OCTOBER TO DECEMBER – 2017)**

S.No.	Parish Name	Mission Sunday Oct. 17	African Mission Nov. 17	Ockhi Dec. 17
1	Agarakaitu	30,132.00	1,675.00	2,551.00
2	Alangulam	7,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
3	Alavanthankulam	27,055.00	1,855.00	2,160.00
4	Ambasamuthuram	23,790.00	3,100.00	6,600.00
5	Avudayanoor	6,500.00		
6	Cheranmahadevi	51,000.00	2,400.00	2,600.00
7	Chidambarapuram	5,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00
8	Duraisampuram	1,500.00	500.00	500.00
9	Ilayasanendal	29,100.00	1,050.00	6,000.00
10	Iruthayakulam	40,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
11	Iruthayanagar	37,903.00	3,000.00	15,447.00
12	Jawaharnagar	518,235.00	7,975.00	40,000.00
13	Kadayam	7,000.00	800.00	7,000.00
14	Kallidaikurichy	12,206.00	1,859.00	2,700.00
15	Kalugumalai	51,000.00	2,900.00	3,900.00
16	Kamanayakanpatti	67,305.00	5,500.00	
17	Karuthapillaiyur	37,000.00	3,500.00	3,475.00
18	Kayathar	16,980.00	2,010.00	
19	Kovilpatti	410,356.00	13,110.00	102,340.00
20	Kuruvikulam	9,850.00	1,390.00	1,790.00

21	KTC Nagar	6,000.00	7,300.00	9,350.00
22	Maharajanagar	28,510.00	2,500.00	
23	Melailandaikulam	20,000.00	1,994.00	1,000.00
24	MelaMeignanapuram	17,500.00	2,000.00	5,265.00
25	Nallatinputhur	5,313.00	1,112.00	990.00
26	Nettur	4,000.00	300.00	
27	Palayamkottai	366,718.00	12,472.00	
28	Palayamchettikulam	48,000.00	1,467.00	3,800.00
29	Pandarakulam	12,000.00	742.00	529.00
30	Pavoorchatram	24,300.00	610.00	7,715.00
31	Pettai	14,700.00	900.00	5,000.00
32	Puliankudi	10,650.00	1,500.00	10,000.00
33	Puliampatti	56,500.00	7,100.00	28,500.00
34	Sankarankoil	9,000.00	2,500.00	3,800.00
35	Sankarnagar	40,113.00	2,180.00	2,260.00
36	Sendamaram	35,000.00		
37	Shanthinagar	106,355.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
38	Singamparai	20,015.00	3,125.00	3,900.00
39	Surandai	25,000.00	1,100.00	3,350.00
40	Tirunelveli Town	22,500.00	2,500.00	10,000.00
41	Tenkasi	85,100.00		16,500.00
42	Uthumalai	5,600.00	1,200.00	11,690.00
43	Vadiyoor	62,219.00		
44	Vandanam	13,784.00	593.00	1,023.00
45	Veeravanallur	14,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
46	Velayuthapuram	11,500.00	910.00	1,050.00
47	Venkatachalapuram	22,675.00	2,163.00	3,315.00
48	Vickramasingapuram	17,000.00	3,200.00	10,100.00
49	Xavier Colony	154,501.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
50	Thalarkulam	6,400.00	1,490.00	5,490.00
51	Nalamkattalai	8,500.00	610.00	5,000.00
52	Kalvettankuli	10,160.00	4,050.00	20,075.00
53	Senkottai	6,000.00	700.00	1,500.00
54	Vallam	20,000.00	1,460.00	3,980.00
55	Vaikalipatti	7,041.00		
56	Diocesan Shrine			10,581.00
57	Education Commission	210,000.00		

We appreciate and thank all the Parish Priests and parishioners for their valuable contribution. We specially thank the Parish Priests and the Parishioners of Jawaharnagar, Kovilpatti, Palayamkottai, Education Commission, Xavier Colony, Shanthinagar who have made a higher contribution.

ஆயிரின் நலநிதிகள் - பிப்ரவரி 2018

குரு மாணவர் நிதி:-

Mrs. Selvamary Thilagam, Avudayanoor	6,000.00
Mrs. Francis Jothi Thangaraj, Avudayanoor	5,000.00
Mr. Arul Victor, Melakrishnaperi	5,000.00
Mrs. Marthal, Maruthadiyoor	3,000.00
Mr. Arulappan Pappaya Family, Avudayanoor	1,500.00
Mr. Prince, Maruthadiyoor	500.00
Mr. Arul Pandiyaraj, Avudayanoor	500.00
FSAG அருட்சகோதரிகள், ஆவுடையானூர்	500.00
திருமதி. எலிசபெத்பிலிப், பாளை	300.00
இம்மாத வரவு	22,300.00
முன்கையிருப்பு	11,03,930.00
மொத்த இருப்புத் தொகை	11,26,230.00

குடும்ப நல நிதி:-

ஆவுடையானூர் இறைமக்கள்	2,957.00
முன்கையிருப்பு	5,95,939.00
மொத்த கையிருப்பு	5,98,896.00
இம்மாதம் வழங்கியது	10,000.00
மொத்த இருப்புத் தொகை	5,88,896.00

ஏழை மாணவர் கல்வி நிதி:

நொபிலி ஆசிரியப்பேரவை, ஆவுடையானூர்	2,000.00
முன்கையிருப்பு	6,20,237.00
மொத்த கையிருப்பு	6,22,237.00
இம்மாதம் வழங்கியது	15,000.00
மொத்த இருப்புத் தொகை	6,07,237.00

நற்செய்தி பணி நிதி:-

மொத்த இருப்புத் தொகை	1,31,937.00
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விவிலிய நிதி:-

மொத்த இருப்புத் தொகை	1,47,677.00
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