

# DNL

## Archdiocese of Madurai

### News Letter

[www.archdioceseofmadurai.com](http://www.archdioceseofmadurai.com)

August 2017

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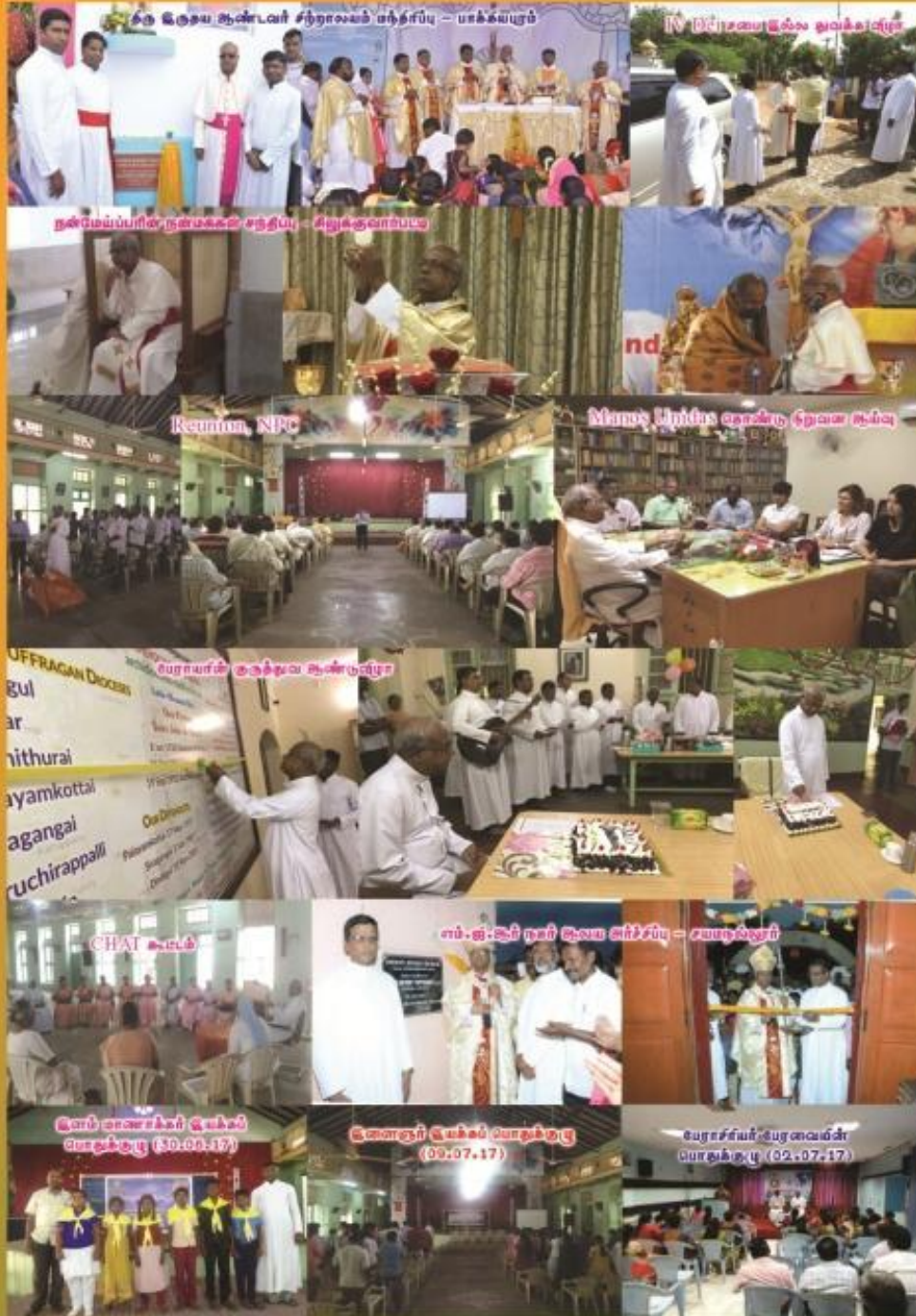
**தாய், மன்னோ, வணக்கம்!**



**வீனோற்படைந்த மரியே வாழ்க!**



**அருட்பணியில் புனிதம் காணும் ஆன்மீகம்**



Published by: Rev. Dr. John Diraviam, Chancellor, Bishop's House.  
MAVIGA, Nobili Campus, K. Pudur, Madurai - 7. Ph: 2561300



*Congratulations to His Grace on  
the Anniversary of INSTALLATION DAY  
as the Archbishop of Madurai (24.08.2017)*



*The Presbyterium,  
The Religious & The Faithful  
Archdiocese of Madurai.*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



Fr. Arul A. (04)

Fr. Amalraj A. (13)

Fr. Anandam L. (15)

Fr. Joachim I. (16)

Fr. Prince Amala Jesu Raja J. (16)

Fr. Cyprian S. (19)

Fr. Jeganivasagar L.M. (19)

Fr. Sahaya Ambrose Raja I. (20)

Fr. Gnanapragasam S. (26)

Fr. Lawrence S. (29)

Fr. Paulraj B. (29)

Fr. Edwin Sahaya Raja S. (30)



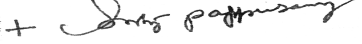


## The Voice of the Pastor

Given our human nature we tend to retaliate others when they do something wrong to us. But Jesus on the contrary gives us the law of forgiveness and of love of enemies. Jesus gives priority not to the rules and regulations but to the Spirit of the Law. Evil cannot be overcome by evil. The spirit of revenge will only add to the evil and aggravate violence. But Jesus teaches us: “Love your enemies; pray for those who persecute you” (Mt 5:44). We will be able to overcome evil with goodness and enmity with love. Here we can see very clearly that Christ gives the law a new Spirit that is non-retaliation.

To love someone who loves us is very easy and only natural. But the authentic and greatest proof of love is that we love the people who hate us, hurt us, and those who never encourage and appreciate us. Every person is sacred whether the person is good or bad. Our love towards the persons leads us to perfection and we are called “to be perfect as the Heavenly Father is perfect” (Cfr. Mt 5:48). Jesus while hanging on the Cross prayed for those who crucified Him: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Lk 23:34). His love for his enemies sprang not from any superficial feeling but from the heart. He determined to love them overcoming his natural tendency to retaliation and accepted them as they are. The example of Jesus gives us the courage not only to forgive our enemies but helps us to go a step further to pray for them. Let not our prayers be insincere and untrue but be sincere by loving our enemies and praying for those who hate us. Thus we become the true children of the Heavenly Father who loves both the good and the bad.

Your Loving Archbishop,

+ 

+ Most Rev. Dr. Antony Pappusamy



### Pope August 2017:

**Artists :** That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

#### பேராயரின் இம்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து

- ❖ குருக்கள் அனைவரின் உடல், உள்ள சுகத்திற்காக, பங்குத்தந்தையர்களின் இறைப்பணி வாழ்வு சிறக்க. . .
- ❖ இயல், இசை, நாடகம், ஓவியம், அறிவியல், மருத்துவம், விஞ்ஞானம் என்ற நிலைகளில் தங்கள் படைப்புத்திறனை வெளியிடுத்தும் நன்மக்களுக்காக . . .

#### இம்மாதம் விழா கொண்டாடும் பங்குகள்

- |   |   |           |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1. இராயப்பன் பட்டி, புனித பனிமயமாதா ஆலயம்       | — | ஆகஸ்ட் 5  |
| 2. முஞ்சிக்கல், தூய சலேத் அன்னை திருத்தலம்      | — | ஆகஸ்ட் 15 |
| 3. சுந்தரநாச்சியார்புரம், புனித லூர்தன்னை ஆலயம் | — | ஆகஸ்ட் 15 |
| 4. உத்தமபாளையம், விண்ணரசி மாதா ஆலயம்            | — | ஆகஸ்ட் 15 |
| 5. நாகமலை புதுக்கோட்டை, அமைதியின் அரரசி ஆலயம்   | — | ஆகஸ்ட் 21 |

இப்பங்குகளில் பண் புரியும் பங்குத்தந்தையர்களுக்கும், துறவறத்தருக்கும் இறைமக்களுக்கும் எனது வரலுத்துக்களும் ஜெபங்களும்.

+ பேராயர் அந்தோன் பரபுசாம்

### HAPPY FEAST

The Archbishop and the Archdiocesan Priests wish the following religious Congregations serving in our Archdiocese, a blessed Feast Day.

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (CSSR)                         | - 1 <sup>st</sup> August  |
| The Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Bon Secours (FBS)               | - 13 <sup>th</sup> August |
| Seva Missionary Sisters of Mary (SMSM)                                | - 22 <sup>nd</sup> August |
| Sisters of Charity of Saints Bartolomeo Capitanio and Vincenza Gerosa | - 24 <sup>th</sup> August |
| Secular Institute of Schonstatt Fathers                               | - 30 <sup>th</sup> August |

## ARCHBISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

01	Tue	M	Office Blessing, Christ the King Mat. HSS, Sengole Nagar
02	Wed	M	Blessing of the Shops, Kariyapatty
		E	Visitors by Appointment*
04	Fri	M	De Nobili Football Tournament Inauguration, K. Pudur
		M	Vianney Day Celebs, Archbishop's Hose, K. Pudur
		E	Vianney Day Celebs, Christ Hall Seminary, Karumathur
05	Sat	M	CRI Office Bearers Meet, NPC, K. Pudur
		E	Feast Mass, O. L. of Snows, Royappanpatty
06	Sun	M	All India Catholic Union TN Exe Meet, NPC, K. Pudur
		E	Sacerdotal Ordination, Michaelpalayam
09	Wed		Visitors by Appointment*
12	Sat	M	Ecumenical Chapel Blessing, Velammal Hospital
13	Sun	M	Month's Mind Mass, Palanganatham
14	Mon	E	Feast Mass, O. L. of La Salette, Kodaikanal
15	Tue	M	Chapel Blessing, Kamarajapuram, St. Mary's Cathedral
16	Wed		Visitors by Appointment*
19	Sat	E	Blessing of Holy Cross Convent, Sevugampatty
		E	Pastoral Visit, Kavirayapuram
20	Sun	M	Pastoral Visit, Ayyampalayam
23	Wed		Visitors by Appointment*
26	Sat	M	Youth Fest, Madurai
		E	Feast Mass, NagamalaiPudukottai
27	Sun		Youth Fest, Madurai
29	Tue	M	Archdiocesan Senate Meet, K. Pudur
30	Wed		Visitors by Appointment*
31	Thu	E	Flag Hoist, R. R. Nagar Parish

\* Appointments may be fixed by calling the Archbishop's Secretary at **+91 94433 86761** or by mailing to [abssecretarymdu@gmail.com](mailto:abssecretarymdu@gmail.com).

## Please Note

1. **Felicitations & Greetings:** Our Archbishop completes the Third Year of his Arch-Episcopate in our Archdiocese on the 24<sup>th</sup> inst., Thursday, the feast day of St. Bartholomew, the Apostle. While the Archdiocese rejoices and thanks the Lord for the shepherding of His Grace, the Archdiocese wishes our Archbishop, the constant assistance of the Spirit during the coming years. On this day we, the diocesan priests, the religious and the faithful, express our solidarity and cooperation to His Grace in his episcopal ministries. Ad multos annos.



2. **Annual Retreat 2017:** The Annual Retreat for the Clergy will be held at PILLAR from 17 – 22 of September 2017. The Retreat begins by Supper on 17<sup>th</sup>, Sunday and ends on 22<sup>nd</sup>, Friday with Lunch. All the Fathers are requested to mark the dates for this Annual Obligation (C. 276 §2, 4°). Our Archbishop wants that all our priests to participate in the retreat without fail. For valid reasons, if anyone is impeded to take part in it, one needs prior written permission from the Archbishop. The DNL wishes all the fathers a fruitful retreat 2017.



3. **Monthly Retreat** for August is Vicariate level.



4. **Feast, The Patron Saint of the Diocesans** :The DNL wishes all the Diocesan Fathers a very happy Feast Day on 4<sup>th</sup> inst., the Feast Day of the Patron Saint for the Diocesan Priests, **St. John Maria Vianney**. All the reverend Fathers are exhorted to celebrate this Feast Day in their parishes. Diocesan priests achieve and grow in holiness by exercising the pastoral ministries in *persona Christi*.

5. **Solemnity of Assumption & Independence Day** :DNL wishes all the readers a very happy Feast Day of **Assumption of our**

**Blessed Virgin Mother** while we also celebrate on this day the **71<sup>st</sup> Independence Day**. May our Blessed Mother intercede for our country **INDIA** that the fruits of freedom, namely Equality, Freedom, Realization of the basic needs of the poor people etc., may be achieved. God bless INDIA.



6. **Bio-Data Booklet:** The booklet (Bio-Data) distributed by Fr. Angel two years ago to all the diocesan priests need to be completed soon. Those who have not yet given back the Data are asked to send it immediately to the Chancery Office.
7. **Directory 2018:** The Archdiocesan Directory 2018 will be revised and edited. Hence if any information of your Institution or Congregation is missing in the old Directory kindly send data to the Chancery Office. Contact via email: mjdირავიამ@gmail.com.
8. தலித் கிறித்தவர்களின் வாழ்வுரிமை பறிக்கப்பட்ட நாளான ஆகஸ்டு 10 (1950) ஆம் நாளை இந்திய ஆயர்பேரவை கருப்பு நாளாக கடைப்பிடிக்கிறது. அன்றைய நாளில் தலித் கிறித்தவர்களை எஸ்.சி. பட்டியலில் சேர்க்க வலியுறுத்தி, பிற சபை தலித் கிறித்தவர்களையும் ஒருங்கிணைத்து நம் உயர்மறைமாவட்ட அளவில் நடைபெற உள்ளது. உங்கள் தேவைக்கேற்ப மறைவட்ட ரீதியாகவோ அல்லது பங்கு ரீதியாகவோ நடைபெற உள்ளது. எனவே பங்குத்தந்தையர்கள் அனைவரும் தம் இறைமக்களோடு இப்போராட்டத்தில் கலந்து கொண்டு தலித் கிறித்தவர்களின் உரிமையை நிலைநாட்ட தோள்கொடுப்போம்.

– சந்தனசகாயம், செயலர், எஸ்.சி. / எஸ்.டி. பணிக்குழு

#### 9. **Condolences :**

- DNL conveys its **deep condolences to Rev. Fr. Appoline Claret Raj** and the bereaved family members, who lost their beloved Mother, **Mrs. Helen Mary**, aged 85 on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Mons. J. Jeyaraj, the Vicar General on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Sunday at Palanganatham with a concelebration of the Presbyterium. May the soul of Mrs. Helen Mary rest in peace.



- DNL conveys its **deep condolences to Rev. Fr. I. Joachim** and the bereaved family members, who lost their beloved Mother, **Mrs. Anthoniammal**, aged 90, on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Mons. J. Jeyaraj, the Vicar General on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Monday with a concelebration of the Presbyterium. May the soul of Mrs. Anthoniammal rest in peace.



- DNL conveys its **deep condolences to Rev. Fr. Francis Borgia** and the bereaved family members, who lost their beloved Sister, **Mrs. Alphonsa Mary**, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. The Funeral Mass was celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017, Sunday at Rayappanpatti by Fr. Borgia. May the soul of Mrs. Alphonsa Mary rest in peace.

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**Printer's devil:** DNL, July 2017 p. 9: 02-04-1999 is to be corrected as 02-04-1989. –Editor.  
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**A Fourth Path to Sainthood:** The Holy Father Francis, with a new *Motu proprio* entitled *Maiorem hac dilectionem* has introduced on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017 an additional clause for beatification and canonization. The “*Offer of Life*” is the established new cause for the beatification and canonization process which is distinct from the causes based on martyrdom and on the heroic virtues. It came to force on the very day of its promulgation. This document offers special consideration and honour to “those Christians who, following more than closely the footsteps and teachings of the Lord Jesus, have voluntarily and freely offered their life for others and persevered with this determination unto death.”  
- courtesy: *L'Osservatore Romano*.



#### **The 5<sup>th</sup> Year of Pontificate of Pope Francis**

The Vatican has issued a commemorative medallion for the fifth year of Pope Francis' Pontificate, which will be available in outlets of the *Libreria Editrice Vaticana* and in the Administration of the Patrimony of the Apostolic See beginning July 28, 2017. Represented on the front



of the medallion is the Italian-Argentine Pontiff's emblem, the whole accompanied by the Latin writing "FRANCISCUS P.P. ANNO V MMXVII and of the artist's name, Mariangela Crisciotti. Indicated on the border is the place of origin ("E CIVITATE VATICANA") and the number of the medallion.

Represented on the back is a man with his hand extended in sign of help to another man, who is seated and looks like Christ. Beside him is a woman with a child in her arms. In the background there is a sail boat with the writing taken from Matthew's Gospel "HOSPES ERAM ET COLLEGISTIS ME," that is, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35)."

A numbered certificate of guarantee, with an embossed stamp of the State Secretariat and of the Printing Office and Mint of the Italian State accompanies every copy. The limited edition includes 50 copies in gold, 1,000 in silver and 1,500 in bronze, as well as 50 so-called "triptychs" (in gold, silver and bronze).

**Effect of Laudate Si :** The Governorate of Vatican City State has decided to turn off all the fountains, both the external ones located in St. Peter's Square, and the interior fountains including those in the Vatican Gardens. The move is in line with the teachings of Pope Francis in his Encyclical on creation Laudate Si. - Courtesy: Vatican.va

### திருஇருதய ஆண்டவர் சிற்றாலயம் பாக்கியபுரம்

கொடைக்கானல் பாக்கியபுரம் பங்கில் கட்டப்பட்ட புதிய சிற்றாலயம், திருஇருதய ஆண்டவரை மகிமைப்படுத்துவதற்காக 02.07.2017 ஞாயிறன்று **மேதகு. பேராயர் அந்தோனி பாப்பசாமி** அவர்களால் நேர்ந்தளிக்கப்பட்டது. இப்பங்கில் வாழ்ந்த முன்னோர்கள் விசுவாசத்தை வளர்ப்பதற்காக 90 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பாக பாக்கியபுரம் மேல்பகுதியில் குருசடி ஒன்றை நிறுவினார்கள். பங்கு ஆலயத்திற்காக புதிய நிலம் வாங்கப்பட்டு, பங்கு

ஆலயம் எழுப்பப்பட்டதால், பழைய நிலமானது கைமாறி விற்கப்பட்டது. தற்போது அந்த குருசடி மட்டும் பராமரிக்கப்பட்ட நிலையில் மூதாதையர்கள் விசுவாசம் வளர காரணமாயிருந்த இடத்தில், சிற்றாலயம் தேவை எனும் ஆர்வம் மக்களிடையே கடந்த 30 ஆண்டுகளாக நிலைத்திருந்தது. அதன் நிலத்தின் உரிமையாளர் **திரு. P.S. மத்தியாஸ் - திருமதி வசந்தி** குடும்பத்தாரை அணுகியபோது, மனமுவந்து 3 சென்ட் நிலத்தை சிற்றாலயம் கட்ட காணிக்கையாக 25.10.2016 அன்று கொடுத்தார்கள். 01.11.2016 அன்று அருட்தந்தை **S.M. பால்பிரிடோ** அவர்களால் புதிய ஆலயத்துக்கான அடித்தளமிடப்பட்டது. 8 மாதங்களில் பணிகள் நிறைவு பெற்று 02.07.2017 அன்று பேராயர் அவர்களால் அர்ச்சிக்கப்பட்டது. இப்பணிகளுக்கு உதவிசெய்த நமது மறைமாவட்ட குருக்கள் அருட்தந்தை **V. அருள் ஜோசப், அருட்தந்தை. M. பால் மற்றும் அருட்தந்தை S.M. பால்பிரிடோ** அவர்களையும், நிலம் நன்கொடை செய்த குடும்பத்தாரையும் இப்பணிகள் நிறைவுபெற ஆர்வத்துடன் உழைத்து உதவிநின்ற கொடைக்கானல் பாக்கியபுரம் பங்கு மக்களையும் நன்றியுடன் நினைவுகூர்கிறேன். பாக்கியபுரத்தின் தாய்ப்பங்கு மூஞ்சிக்கல் திருஇருதய ஆலயம் என்பதால் அவரது திருப்பெயருக்கு இப்புதிய ஆலயம் நேர்ந்தளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இவ்வாலயம் வளர ஜெப உதவி செய்த உங்களனைவரையும் நன்றியுடன் நினைக்கிறேன். - அருடஞானி **A.T. அடைக்கலராஜா**, பங்குத்தந்தை, பாக்கியபுரம்



### இளைஞர் பணிக்குழு

**தமிழகக் கத்தோலிக்க இளைஞர் இயக்கம்:** சூலை 09 அன்று மதுரை நொயிலி அருள்பணி மையத்தில் சிறப்புப் பொதுக்குழு அமர்வானது ஒருங்கிணைக்கப்பட்டது. இரண்டாவது உயர்மறைமாவட்ட இளைஞர் நாள் கொண்டாடுவது குறித்து முடிவெடுக்கப்பட்டது. ஆகத்து 26,27 ஆகிய நாட்களில் சிறப்பிப்பது என இறுதி செய்யப்பட்டது. கொண்டாடும் முறை, நிகழ்ச்சி நிரல் ஆகியன விவாதிக்கப்பட்டு தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டது. பணிகளை ஒருங்கிணைக்க குழுக்கள் உருவாக்கப்பட்டன. பகல் உணவுடன் பொதுக்குழு அமர்வானது நிறைவுற்றது.

சூலை 16,23,27 ஆகிய நாட்களில் மதுரை தூய செபமாலை அன்னை கோயில் வளாகத்தில் விழாக்குழுக் கூட்டமானது நடைபெற்றது. பாத்திமா



கல்லூரியில் இளைஞர் நாள் கொண்டாட்டங்களை ஒருங்கிணைப்பது என முடிவெடுக்கப்பட்டது. குழுக்களுக்கான பணிகளானது இறுதி செய்யப்பட்டு செயல்படுத்தப் படவேண்டிய பணிகள் முடுக்கிவிடப்பட்டன. விழாக்குழு உறுப்பினர்கள் மறைமாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள அனைத்து பங்கு இயக்கங்களையும் சந்தித்து, நிகழ்வில் பங்கேற்க இளைஞர்களை அழைப்பது என முடிவெடுக்கப்பட்டது.

**இளம் கத்தோலிக்க மாணாக்கர் இயக்கம் :** சூலை 16,22,23 ஆகிய நாட்களில் முறையே தூய செபமாலை அன்னை, ஒத்தையால், ஆர்.ஆர். நகர் ஆகிய பங்குகளில் இளம் மாணாக்கர் இயக்கமானது அறிமுகம் செய்து வைக்கப்பட்டு உருவாக்கப்பட்டது.

**இளம் மாணாக்கர் இயக்கம்:** சூன் 30 அன்று இயக்கப் பொதுக்குழு அமர்வானது மதுரை நொயிலி அருள்பணி மையத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. மாறிவரும் சூழலில் மத நல்லிணக்கத்தின் தேவை, அதனை இயக்கமாகக் கொண்டு சேர்ப்பதன் அவசியம் ஆகியன குறித்து பல்சமய உரையாடல் பணிக்குழுச் செயலர், அருள்பணி. அருள் அவர்கள் சிறப்புரை வழங்கினார். 2017-2018 கல்வி ஆண்டிற்கான ஆண்டுத் திட்டமானது உருவாக்கப்பட்டது. 2017-2019 ஆண்டுகளுக்கான புதிய பொறுப்பாளர்கள் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டனர்.

### தொழிலாளர் பணிக்குழு

**கத்தோலிக்கப் பேராசிரியர்கள் பேரவை:** சூலை 02 அன்று பேரவையின் பொதுக்குழு அமர்வானது மதுரை MMSSS அரங்கில் நடைபெற்றது. சிவகங்கை மறைமாவட்ட செயலக முதல்வர், அருள்பணி. பாக்கியநாதன் அவர்கள் பேராசிரியர்கள் குடும்பங்களில், சமூகத்தில், திருச்சபையில் நற்செய்தி அறிவித்தல் பணியினைச் செயல்படுத்தும் முறை குறித்த வழிமுறைகளை விளக்கி சிறப்புரையினை வழங்கினார். பேரா. புஷ்பராஜன் அவர்கள் பேராசிரியர்கள் கடந்த காலங்களில் ஆற்றியுள்ள பணிகளை நினைவுகூர்ந்து விரைவுபடுத்த வேண்டிய பணிகளை எடுத்துரைத்தார். 11,12 மாணவர்களுக்கு உயர்கல்விக்கான வழிகாட்டி பயிற்சி நடத்துதல், கல்லூரிகளில் அரசு பணியிடங்களுக்கான போட்டித்தேர்வுகளை அறிமுகப்படுத்தி பயிற்சி வழங்குதல், AAPS மையத்தில் தொடர்பயிற்சி வழங்குதல் ஆகியன குறித்து திட்டமிட வழிகாட்டினார். பகல் உணவுடன் கூட்டம் நிறைவுற்றது.

– செயலர், இளைஞர், தொழிலாளர் பணிக்குழுக்கள்.

## Indian Independence & Democracy – 5 Challenges

1. **Women Rights:** Women who are 50% of the total population hardly gets 10% representation in state assemblies and parliament. No wonder that rape, domestic violence, child marriage etc. are dealt causally or not an urgent issue for male chauvinist government.
2. **Corrupt Politicians:** The politicians in India are notorious for bribery, criminality and sandal.
3. **Income Tax:** Just 1 % of the population pays income tax in a nation of 1.24 billion which has at least 15% of them are liable for income tax.
4. **States' Governance:** Unmanageable & inefficient large sized states. India has only 29 states for a population of 124 crore against USA with 50 states for 34 crore people. More than 15 languages spoken by 10 million people doesn't have states and forcefully administered by government in alien languages such as Hindi, English etc. Hundreds of tribals have no say in the government for distribution of funds and natural sources. But government considers Maoists/naxals need military solution!
5. **Judicial System:** Faulty and slow justice system. There are four crore pending legal cases in various courts that destroy justice to the poor. With less than 6000 judges instead of minimum 20,000 judges, the judicial system is limping. Courts are closed for 2 months in summer instead of running 24x7.
6. **Black money transactions** in both domestic and foreign channels. None of the real estate, gold, business transactions are being reported to govt. correctly in a country of 2.40 Trillion Dollar economy!

However, the media highlights Bollywood gossips and masala news throughout the day but mentions nothing about the important things said above. The politicians are competing with each other to loot in next elections, real estate deals etc. And we expect India become a developed nation by 2020.

## CBCI Press Statement

New Delhi, 16th July 2017

Senior spiritual leaders and intellectuals have called upon the people to seek strength from India's deep spiritual reservoirs to end the increasing environment of hate, violence and disregard for the rule of law in which many innocents of religious and marginalized communities have been lynched in recent weeks.

Meeting in Delhi under the aegis of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, the group of 40 leaders called upon take Government to end impunity which was at the root of the atmosphere of fear that stalks the land today. It was felt that these developments threatened not just secularism, but the Constitution and the democratic fabric of the country.

Welcoming Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi's assurances to leaders of Opposition parties on the eve of the Monsoon session of Parliament, the meeting noted that the vast majority of the people of India of all communities had been shocked at the lynching in various states on the pretext of protecting cows. The Prime Minister must now see that State governments and their police forces acted against the guilty in an impartial manner.

### The meeting agreed on a five point urgent programme of action:

- **The ideology of hate** is a reality and needs to be challenged by Governments, political parties, civil society activists, the criminal justice system and religious communities in a concerted manner.
- Religious leadership must act at the grassroots to assert the **inherent unity of the people**. This will help restore public confidence and remove the mutual suspicion that had started growing.
- The leadership must generate literature as well as content for the traditional, mainstream and social media **to challenge falsehood and hatred**. Social media can indeed also be used to defeat hate and strengthen bonds between communities.

- Community leaders must come together at various levels so that tensions can be diffused and trust restored and strengthened. Similarly, national institutions including the **National and State Minorities Commissions and other structures** must be encouraged to actively work in restoring peace and help strengthen the rule of law. This would also go a long way in ensuring the devolution of development efforts under the 15 point programme and other government measures.

- **A National Inter-Faith and Civil society convention** will be held as soon as possible to discuss the developments and the measures that the governments need to take at the national and state levels.

The meeting was attended by Goswami Sushil Ji Maharaj, Vivek Muni, Dr Umer Ilyasi, Sardar Paramjeet Singh Chandhok, Dr Mohinder Singh, Dr Manzoor Alam, Dr Zafar Ullah Khan, Chairman of Delhi Minority Commission, Mr. Navaid Hamid, Delhi Minority Commission Member Sr Anastasia Gill, Rabbi Ezekiel Malekar, Prof TK John, Dr Denzil Fernandes, Dr Michael Williams, Rev Vijayesh Lal, Rev Richard Howell, Mr D K Manavalan IAS, Fr Alarico Carvalho, Fr Bento Rodrigues, Delhi Vicar General Msgr Susai Sebastian, Fr Freddy D'Souza, Mr AC Michael, Dr John Dayal, Msgr Chinnayyan Joseph and Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, the Secretary General of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India who had convened the meeting.

- **Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX**  
Secretary General,  
Catholic Bishops' Conference of India

### குடும்ப நல்வாழ்வு பணிக்குழு நடத்தும் திருமண முன்தயாரிப்பு நடைபெறும் நாட்கள்



5,6.08.2017	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
12,13.08.2017	உத்தம்பாளையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
19,20.08.2017	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
26,27.08.2017	கொடைக்கானல்	சனி, ஞாயிறு

அருட்தந்தை. ஜோசப், செயலர்



### Holy Childhood - 2016

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>2,23,149.00</b>
Gnanaolivupuram	2000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>2,25,149.00</b>
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### Holy See - 2016

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>1,02,036.00</b>
Holy Rosary Church	3000.00
Gnanaolivupuram	2000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>1,07,036.00</b>
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### Bible Sunday - 2016

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>1,26,022.00</b>
Melur	500.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>1,26,522.00</b>
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### Holy Childhood - 2017

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>1,77,524.00</b>
Nagamalai	3,000.00
Gnanaolivupuram	2,000.00
Kalladipatti	600.00
A. Nathampatti	250.00
Manalar	200.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>1,83,574.00</b>
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### Holy See - 2017

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>92,481.00</b>
Holy Rosary Church	3,000.00
Gnanaolivupuram	2,000.00
Nagamalai	1,000.00
Kalladipatti	600.00
Melur	500.00
Mangalamkombu	300.00
A. Nathampatti	250.00
Manalar	200.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>1,00,331.00</b>
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### Hunger & Disease - 2017

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>14,42,561.00</b>
Sundaranatchiapuram	73,000.00
Holy Rosary Church	50,000.00
Gnanaolivupuram	30,000.00
Nagamalai	30,000.00
Kadamalaikundu	3,000.00
Mangalamkombu	2,200.00
A. Nathampatti	2,000.00
Manalar	200.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>16,32,961.00</b>
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### Good Friday- 2017

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>6,65,087.00</b>
Sundaranatchiapuram	16,000.00
Nagamalai	15,000.00
Holy Rosary Church	10,000.00

Gnanaolivupuram	10,000.00
Jeyaraj Annapackiam College, Periyakulam	9,000.00
Kadamalaikundu	2,000.00
A. Nathampatti	2,000.00
Mangalamkombu	1,500.00
Kalladipatti	700.00
Manalar	200.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>7,31,487.00</b>
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**Vocation Sunday - 2017**

<b>Collection as on 23/06/2017</b>	<b>93,328.00</b>
Holy Rosary Church	3,000.00
Gnanaolivupuram	3,000.00
Nagamalai	1,500.00
Kalladipatti	600.00
Melur	500.00
Ammappatti	420.00
Kavirayapuram	325.00
Mangalamkombu	300.00
A. Nathampatti	250.00
Manalar	200.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>1,03,423.00</b>
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**St. Peter's Pence - 2017**

Sivakasi	17,140.00
Anna Nagar	5,000.00
Samayanallur	3,000.00
Packiapuram	2,520.00
Cumbum	1,400.00
Silukkuvarpatti	1,000.00
T.Vadipatti	1,000.00

Kottur	1,000.00
Pandian Nagar	510.00
Melur	500.00
Nilakottai	500.00
Mathankovilpatti	500.00
Kavirayapuram	470.00
Ammappatti	430.00
A. Nathampatti	300.00
Mangalamkombu	300.00
Thummichinampatti	260.00
Manalar	200.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>36,030.00</b>
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**Communication Day - 2017**

Anna Nagar	5,000.00
Samayanallur	3,300.00
Packiapuram	2,460.00
Cumbum	1,700.00
Nilakottai	1,000.00
T. Vadipatti	1,000.00
Kottur	1,000.00
Mathankovilpatti	500.00
Kavirayapuram	420.00
Mangalamkombu	300.00
Thummichinampatti	150.00

<b>Collection as on 22/07/2017</b>	<b>16,830.00</b>
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**KANI (Seminarians Fund )**

Fr. Parish Priest, Gnanaolivupuram	45,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest & Parishioners, Kalladipatti	30,000.00
Mr. Jemals & Mrs. Gladis, K. Pudur	10,400.00



MSFS Community, Pandian Nagar	10,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest & Parishioners, Munjikkal	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest & Parishioners, Packiapuram	5,000.00
Sr. Principal, Fatima College, Madurai	5,000.00
Parishioners, M.G.R. Nagar & Sathiya Moorthy Nagar	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Anna Nagar	2,200.00
Er. Lawrence, Madurai	1,000.00
Parishioners, Oormachikulam	500.00
Fr. S. Mathan Raj, Karumathur, Bination Masses	300.00
Fr. Devasahayam, Karumathur, Bination Masses	300.00
Fr. Alvares Sebastian, Karumathur, Bination Masses	300.00
Fr. A Ambrose, S.J, Karumathur, Bination Masses	200.00

**Collection as on 22/07/2017** **1,20,200.00**

### Mass Received From Parishes

Fr. Parish Priest, Vadipatti (2500 Masses)	2,50,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Bastin Nagar (200 Masses)	20,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Anna Nagar (200 Masses)	20,000.00
Fr. Michael McMahon, USA	12,570.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Palanganatham (100 Masses)	10,000.00
Miss Mary, Palanganatham, Gregorian Mass	6,000.00

**Collection as on 22/07/2017** **3,18,570.00**



### *Adoration Sunday*

August		September	
06	Kadachanendal	03	Sundaranachiapram
13	Anna Nagar	10	Usilampatty
20	Batlagundu	17	A. Nathampatty
27	Bodinayakanur	24	Y. Othakkadai



### *Necrology*

Fr. S. Peter Kulandai	02.08.2015
Fr. Valentine Diaz	06.08.1971
Fr. Joseph Xavier	08.08.1981
Fr. Sebastian	09.08.1991
Fr. Arulanandam V.D.	29.08.1991



### Madura Mission Historical Notes

#### II. St. Thomas: the Tradition and Indian Heritage

It is said that after the ascension and Pentecost the Apostles divided the world between themselves for evangelization and that India fell to the lot of Thomas. Thus St. Thomas came to India. Once again we affirm that it is St. Thomas (whose name appears in the list of the Apostles in the 7<sup>th</sup> place) who brought the light of faith first to India twenty centuries ago. Documentary evidences are lacking about the origin of Christianity in India since 2000 years separate us from Thomas time. However, most historians and scholars deduce from the vestiges of traditions and customs in India, that Indian Christendom owes its origin to the ministry of St. Thomas. The most convincing proof is the living and the oral tradition of Malabar (Kerala) Church in India which claims the uninterrupted apostolic origin of their faith. St. Ephrem (306-373), one of the renowned Fathers of Syrian Church often mentioned about the apostolate of St. Thomas. St. Gregory Nazianzen (329-390), another eastern Father while emphasising the apostolate of the twelve

apostles in different parts of the world, states “Peter indeed might have belonged to Judaea; but what had Paul in common with the gentiles, Luke with Achaia, Andrew with Epirus, John with Ephesus, Thomas with India or Mark with Italy?” St. Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan (333-397) in his treatise on the customs of the Brahmins, *De Mortibus Brahmanorum* states “even those kingdoms which were shut out by rugged mountains became accessible to them as India to Thomas, Persia to Matthew”. St. Jerome (342-420), one of the Latin Fathers of the Church while documenting the apostolate of the Apostles says, “Christ dwelt in all places: with Thomas in India, with Peter in Rome, with Paul in Illyricum, with Titus in Crete, with Andrew in Achaia, with each apostolic man in each and all countries”.

It is an established fact that the Romans traded with India and exported Pepper. The Roman trade with India made it easy for St. Thomas to travel to India since this trade was largely in the hands of his fellow Jews.

“The Act of Judas”, the early third century AD Syriac work, an apocryphal document originated in Upper Mesopotamia, perhaps at Edessa speaks about the apostolate of St. Thomas. The ancient account says that “the King of Gundnapar of India sent Habban to get an architect to build his palace. Habban took with him Thomas who was sold by Christ to him. Both landed in Sandroqmahosa (andropolis). Thomas converted the royal couple after performing a miracle. Both went to Gundnapar of India. Thomas sought money to build the palace but he spent it for the poor. Having been furious by this act, the king imprisoned Thomas. But when the king’s brother saw the palace in heaven Thomas built, Thomas was released and the royal brothers were converted into Christianity...”. Though one may doubt the historical authenticity of the above accounts, many scholars agree to some historical foundation to the main statement of the Acts, namely Thomas’ travel from Mesopotamia (present Iran – Iraq) region to the Indus valley and finally to the South India where he was martyred.

The Thomas Christians of Kerala, called *Nazaranis*, attribute their origin of faith to St. Thomas. Meanwhile we need to understand that among the 21 *suiiuris* Churches, which are all of them called CATHOLIC, three such Catholic Churches exist in India, namely, the

Roman Catholic Church, the Syro Malabar Church and SyroMalankara Church. Syro Malabar Church is the largest group of Saint Thomas Christians. The term Syro Malabar was coined by the Western Missionaries to denote ‘the Syrian Church of Malabar’ - and it denoted those Catholics who follow the Syro Chaldean rite. The Malankara Church, in its liturgy follows the Antiochan rite. Both churches in the liturgy use Syriac language an dialect from Aramaic which is spoken by Christ and the Apostles. In order to comprehend the ancient roots of these Eastern Churches one should know that Peter established Christendom first in Antioch. The See of Antioch then becomes the first, the oldest, and the most foundational Church in Christianity. History would tell us that the present Latin Church achieved its centrality due to the Residence of later Pontiffs.

The development of Christianity in India during the first century enjoys little certainty. All our information rests on the 16<sup>th</sup> century written sources of the Portuguese who came to India. Portuguese documents point out to the once flourishing community in Mylapore. From the accounts of Travellers and Historians we find that a scattered group of Christians formed a single large community inhabiting the Malabar coast upto Mylapore. During the early centuries there had been several migrations to India from West Asia. The first migration took place in 345 A.D. under the leadership of Thomas of Cana, a merchant and missionary. He brought to Malabar a colony of 400 Christians from Bagdad, Nineveh and Jerusalem. According to the tradition extant in the Malabar Coast, Cheraman Perumal, the Tamil ruler of Kerala, aiming at the commercial prosperity of his land, received them and invested them with high offices, privileges and rights for which he issued copper plate grants (It is good to remember that when Narendira Modi went to Israel last month he offered a gift to the Prime Minister of Israel, i.e., two copper plates which contained inscription on existed trade relationship between the Jews and India. However what Modi and the press have cleverly concealed is the *truth* about the trade relationship. Cheraman Perumal is a Tamil king and therefore the said trade relationship involved not Israel and India but Israel (Jews) and the Tamils. During the early centuries India did not exist.).

(to be continued)

- Jodir.