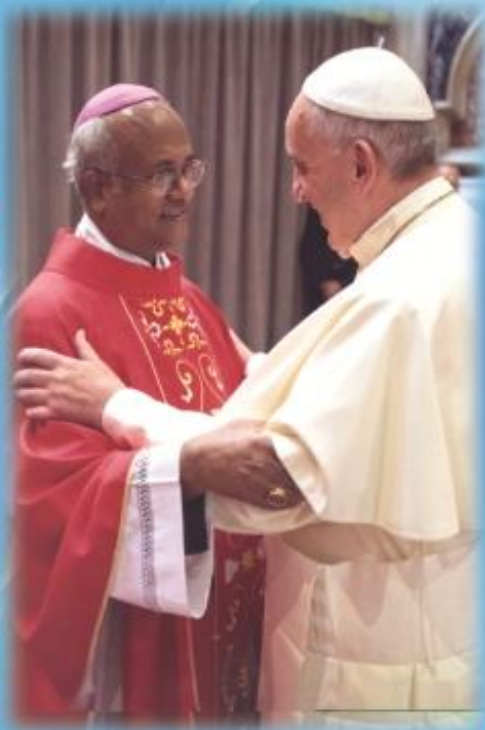
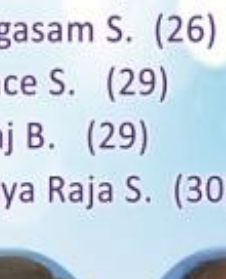
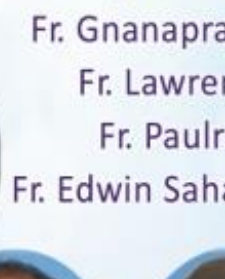
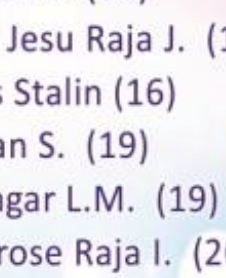
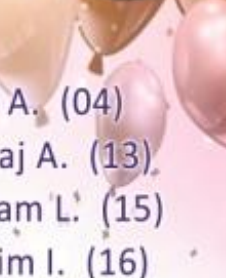


*Congratulations to His Grace on the
5th Anniversary of INSTALLATION DAY
as the Archbishop of Madurai (24.08.2019)*



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

Greetings on Birthday





DNL

Archdiocese of Madurai

News Letter

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No. 675

The Cross that built INDIA



Published by: Rev. Dr. John Diraviam, Chancellor, Bishop's House, MAVIGA, Nobili Campus, K. Pudur, Madurai - 7, Ph: 2361300

The Voice of the Pastor

My dear Fathers, brothers and sisters,

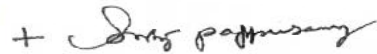
Jesus teaches us that we should love God and our neighbour and this should be the essence of our Religion. To be Christ like makes us true Christians.

We are tied down by many rules and regulations and on account of this we tend to forget the core of the Christian message namely 'the love of God and love of man'. Love should regulate all our activities and hence it is well said: "Charity is the measure of all". Though we speak a lot about Charity, it is very difficult for us to put it into practise. But Christian Charity consists in concrete actions. Jesus tells us, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt-25/40). The least ones are the sick, the aged, the poor, the marginalized and the needy. We must be prepared to open our eyes and see their needs and help them.

In short, we must be ready to help people who are in trouble whether they are known to us or not. We should be able to render help by giving practical expression which goes beyond sentiments and compassion. Hence if our love is genuine it must find expression in helpful deeds. Then only can we call ourselves true disciples of Christ.

May God bless you

Your Loving Archbishop

+ 

+ **Most Rev. Dr. Antony Pappusamy**

Archbishop of Madurai



Pope's Intention for August 2019:

Universal: That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth".

பேராயரின் இம்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து

விதைக்க : வருத்தத்தை உன்னிடமிருந்து தொலையில் விரட்டிவிடு (சீராக்க 30:23)

வளர்க்க : இயேசுவின் பிறரன்புக் கட்டளையை இன்றைய சமூகத்திற்குத் தந்து மாற்றத்தை வளர்த்திட

வாழ்வாக்க : அடிப்படை உரிமைகள் மறுக்கப்படும் கழலை வேறுந்து முழு மனிதம் காண.

இம்மாதம் விழா கொண்டாடும் பங்குகள்

1. இராயப்பன்பட்டி, புனித பனிமயமாதா ஆலயம் - ஆகஸ்ட் 5
2. மூஞ்சிக்கல், தூய சலேத் அன்னை திருத்தலம் - ஆகஸ்ட் 15
3. சுந்தராநாச்சியாம்பரம், புனித லூர்தன்னை ஆலயம் - ஆகஸ்ட் 15
4. உத்தமபாளையம், விண்ணரசி மாதா ஆலயம் - ஆகஸ்ட் 15
5. நாகமலை புதுக்கோட்டை, அமைதியின் அரசி ஆலயம் - ஆகஸ்ட் 22

இப்பங்குகளில் பணி புரியும் பங்குத்தந்தையர்களுக்கும், துறவறத்தாருக்கும் இறைமக்களுக்கும் எனது வாழ்த்துக்களும் ஜெபங்களும்.

+ பேராயர் அந்தோனி பாப்டுசாமி

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 st August |
| The Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Bon Secours (FBS) | - 13 th August |
| Seva Missionary Sisters of Mary (SMSM) | - 22 nd August |
| Sisters of Charity of Saints Bartolomeo Capitanio and Vincenza Gerosa | - 24 th August |
| Secular Institute of Schoenstatt Fathers | - 30 th August |

Archbishop's Engagements

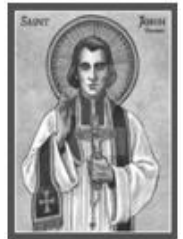
01	Thu	E	Feast Mass, Anjal Nagar
02	Fri	E	Golden Jubilee, Tindivanam
03	Sat	M	Blessing of Golden Jubilee Hall - MMSSS
04	Sun	M	Confirmation, Gnanaolivupuram
		E	Jubilee Mass, Gnanaolivupuram
06	Tue	E	Bishop's House Community Recollection, Bishop's House
08	Thu	M	Monthly Recollection - Palayamkottai
09-13			CCBI Meeting, Bangalore
14	Wed	M	Blessing of Salethmathapuram Chapel, Michaelpalayam
		E	La Salette Feast Mass, Munjikkal
15	Thu	E	Inauguration and Blessing of Holy Spirit Philosophical Seminary, Karumathur
16	Fri	M	MMSSS - General Body Meeting
		E	Diocesan Finance Committee Meeting, Bishop's House
17	Sat	M	Silver Jubilee Function, Veilankanni Matha Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Batlagundu
18	Sun	E	Church Blessing , Kailasapuram, Palayamkottai
19-27			Lectures on Pastoral Theology, St. Paul's Seminary, Trichy
25	Sun	M	Nuptial Blessing, Anna Nagar
		E	Inauguration of Packianathapuram Parish
28	Wed	M	Golden Jubilee, St. Pius X Seminary
29	Thu	M	RIP Mass, Leuca Convent
		E	Flag Hoisting, Anna Nagar

From September 1st to October 10th - Ad Limina Visit Rome.

* Appointments may be fixed by calling the Archbishop's Secretary at +91 94433 86761 or by mailing to abssecretarymdu@gmail.com.

Please Note

1. **Felicitations and Greetings** : His Grace completes the fifth year of his Archiepiscopate of Madurai on 24^{th inst.}, the Feast Day of Apostle Bartholomew. On this joyous occasion, the Archdiocesan *Presbyterium*, Religious and the Laity convey their prayerful felicitations to our Archbishop, **Most Rev. Antony Pappusamy** and wish him all God's abundant graces for the further Episcopal Ministry.
2. **Annual Clergy Retreat – 2019 will** be held at PILLAR from 15th to 20th September 2019. The Retreat starts with the supper on the 15th and ends on 20th Friday with lunch. All the Fathers without fail are to participate at this annual spiritual Obligation (C. 276 §2, 4^o). Our Archbishop exhorts every priest of the Archdiocese to participate at this holy exercise and grow in *persona Christi*. DNL wishes all the Madurai Clergy a meaningful preparation and a fruitful Retreat next month.
3. **Monthly Retreat** for August will be Vicariate level.
4. **Feast of St. John Maria Vianney**: DNL wishes all its readers a very happy Feast Day, the Patron Saint for all the Diocesan Priests in the world. All the Parish Priests are exhorted to celebrate this Feast Day meaningfully with their people in the parishes. The Charism of a Diocesan Priest flowers in the exercise of his *PASTORAL MINISTRY* entrusted to him.



5. **Solemnity of Assumption & Independence Day**: DNL wishes all the readers a Happy Feast of Assumption and Independence Day. May our Blessed Mother, Assumed into Heaven, the symbol of victory and power, intercede for us that we may strive ever boldly to protect the unique values of Our Country INDIA – Fraternity, Freedom of expression,

Right to decent livelihood, Equality among all people, National Integration, Multi-diversity and Pluri-religiosity.

6. **Directory 2019** is at the final shape. All the religious Congregations, whose data are left out in the old Directory are to send their address and information at once to the Chancellor at this e-mail id., mjdირავიამ@gmail.com, before August 15th.
7. **Reunion II 2019:** The Second Reunion of 2019 was held on 23rd and 24th of July at Pastoral Center. Two of recent Holy Father's Documents were analyzed and studied with the help of Resource persons, Rev. Dr. Rayappa and Rev. Dr. Gilbert Choondal SDB. The documents are the following: i) *Vox estis lux mundi* – the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis, *Motu proprio*, “The Norms to deal with Sexual Misconduct of Minors and Adults”. ii) *Christus vivit* – The post synodal Apostolic Exhortation on the Youth.
8. Since the Archbishop will be in Rome in the month of September, those who would like to collect the *congrua* are requested to get his signature by the end of August itself. - Fr. Secretary
9. We begin the dismantling work of NPC main building on 03.08.2019 and we request the prayers of priests, religious and lay faithful for the quick completion of the new building. - Director, NPC

Synopsis: I. VELM:

- i) A priest is a public person 24 hours. A priest is to observe *perfect and perpetual continence*. *Celibacy* is a gift of God by which priests remain close to Christ with an undivided heart. Because of celibacy, priests can dedicate themselves more freely to the service of God and the neighbor (c. 277).
- ii) Paul boldly states about his public ministry thus: “how *holy* and *righteous* and *blameless* was our behavior to you, believers” (I Thes, 2,10).
- iii) Diocesan Priests by virtue of Cc. 277, 1037 and the religious (Sisters, Brothers and Priests) as per c. 599 are to observe Celibacy and Chastity.

- iv) One who violates celibacy, by way of attempting marriage, living in concubinage, fathering a child, causing continuous scandal to the faithful by his immoral life is to be punished with suspension (c.1394, 1395) if not repented with Dismissal.
- v) Sexual misconduct of clergy and the religious are the serious delicts and crime both in Canon Law and civil law and the persons involved in such crime could be punished by both the laws.
- vi) The current Norms on Sexual Misconduct has come into force from 1st June 2019 for a period of three years.
- vii) The most serious penalty for these offences is not excluding the penalty of Dismissal from the Clerical State.
- ix) Sexual Misconduct with the Minors (below 18 years of age) is a very serious crime; and the Church is deeply committed to protect the young and innocent children of God, and is committed to provide a safe environment in the Church for children.
- x) By this Norm the Holy Father has extended the area of the sin against the sixth commandment, namely he has included the sins against the adults and vulnerable people too.
- xi) Any sin violating the sixth commandment against “vulnerable persons” – be it religious sisters, priests, novices, seminarians, adult persons who are under the authority of the one, and who are unable to resist the crime against the one, who misconducts are all considered victims of sexual abuse.
- xii) All abuses are to be reported to the diocesan bishop, who will initiate immediate action as per the Direction of CDF.
- xiii) Priestly fraternity, constant spiritual direction and devotion to Blessed Mother are the easy ways and means for a priest to grow in perfect continence.
- xiv) Archbishop said, “We, priests who share in the same Priesthood of Christ which is holy, are to be holy in the same way.” Based on the research of TNBC, he said that priests' lives should be edifying to the people and priests should treat people respectfully.

Participatory Structures

i) As per the Universal Law every juridic person (parishes, institutions, province, dioceses, congregations) should have a Finance Council. C. 537 states: “In each parish there is to be a **Finance Committee** to help the parish priest in the administration of the goods of the parish.” As per c. 536 and the particular law of the Archdiocese “each parish should have a Parish Council.” Those parish priests who do not have both these councils are seriously advised to constitute such participatory structures in the parishes.

II. Cv: i) Every priest is a special catechist. “Priest’s lips preserve knowledge and instructions are to be sought from his mouth” (Mal. 2:7).

ii) A priest is a Teacher of faith and he is the first faith formator of his people in his parish. Especially as TNBC has decided to celebrate the year 2020, as the ‘Year of Youth’ we need to concentrate on the young people in our parishes and institutions.

iii) The Religious, though involved in other ministries in the institutions, have the serious duty to collaborate with the parish priest in faith formation activities in the parish.

iv) *Christu svivit* is a papal document that elaborately researches about our ministry to the Youth, rather to the young people in the Church.

v) The Church is alive because the young persons are alive. The Apostolic Exhortation starts with the statement: “Christ is alive; if so you, the young people are alive; and after 299 articles of 300 pages the document ends with the statement “ you, young people are alive and therefore the church is live”.

vi) Cv has 9 chapters which can be divided into 3 thematic points such as a. Theology of the youth b. Interpretation of youth life c. Discernment process of youth.

vii) Cv portrays a lot of young saints in the Church and also throws light on young biblical figures of both Old and New Testaments.

viii) Pope says that today the youth suffer more from ideological colonization by Media (Cell phone, internet, facebook, whatsapp, computer etc).

ix) Young people are advised to come to Christ constantly however they fall down.

x) Parish priests and religious should be youth friendly. Make your parishes youth friendly; welcome them; listen to their stories and be with them in their activities. As a man of God listen to their stories of failures and sins and don’t condemn them. Accept them as they are. Accompany the youth and reach out to them in your ministry.

Conclusion : a) In conclusion the Archbishop said that the Archdiocese is committed to protect the children and the young people. Any sin against the sixth commandment, be it against minors, which are more serious, or any other adults is a serious sin and will be dealt very seriously. He finally said that as we are participating in the PRIESTHOOD of Christ which is HOLY, we, priests are to strive to grow in holiness.

b) The parishes which do not have parish council and parish finance council should immediately start such mandatory structures.

c) Every priest should send Quarterly Accounts on time.

d) We will form Groups to fight against the Central Government’s life destroying projects such as Hydro Carbon projects, Neutrino Project and Geil pipe line projects.

e) A bishop is a common man and I appreciate all your ministries and go ahead with your fruitful ministries. – Fr. Chancellor.

குடும்ப நல்வாழ்வு பணிக்குழு நடத்தும் தீருமண முன்தயாரிப்பு நடைபெறும் நாட்கள்



03,04.08.2019

நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்

சனி, ஞாயிறு

10,11.08.2019

உத்தமபாளையம்

சனி, ஞாயிறு

17,18.08.2019

நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்

சனி, ஞாயிறு

24,25.08.2019

நிலக்கோட்டை

சனி, ஞாயிறு

அருட்தந்தை. ஜோசப், செயலர்



Prison Ministry Sunday: 11th August

*“I was in prison and you visited me”
– (Mt. 25:36.)*

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Friends loving greetings from volunteers of Prison ministry in Madurai archdiocese unit. Remembering that we are simple instrument handled by God the Father to reach out the incarcerated behind the bars in Central prison Madurai for women, Sub-jails in Nilakottai, Usilampatti,

Thirumangalam, Virudunagar, Periyakulam, Uthamapalayam, Theni and Melur Borstal school. Our Faith experience is that every inmate we encounter in person and in group counseling is helped to experience the forgiving unconditional LOVE of the GOOD SHEPHERD. God works miracles in their transformation, renewal and rehabilitation and finally to re-join in the main stream.

We are grateful to our beloved Archbishop for his guidance and care. We thank you for all your support and encouragement specially through financial help. This enormous help enables us to meet prisoners' medical need, Legal Aid, their children's education, fine for release, Christmas, Holy Week, Easter celebrations, national festivals, women's day, awareness and renewal programmes both for prisoners and Staff, rehabilitation of the released to reclaim their dignity in the society. Kindly continue the Good work God has started through you. Help us to help the prisoners.

Through the intercession of Saint Maximilian Kolbe our Patron Saint, whose Feast day we commemorate on 14th August and on 11th August we celebrate PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY. We request you to celebrate Holy Eucharist on that day for the transformation, renewal and rehabilitation of the prisoners, pray for their families, PMI Volunteers and prison officials.

God bless you. Thank you friends.
Sr. Fathima Antony SJL
Co-ordinator for Prison Ministry

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019 TO 25.07.2019

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 10/02/19	Holy See 31/03/19	Hunger Disease 18/04/19	Good Friday 19/04/19	Vocation Sunday 12/05/19
1	A. Nathampatti	300	300	3000	1000	400
2	Alankulam	1000	1000	9000	9000	1000
3	Ammapatty	800	800	8300	4200	1000
4	Anjal Nagar	6080	5672	70938	45470	
5	Anna Nagar	10360	9810	130000	20000	8453
6	Aruppukottai					
7	Ayravathanallur	4500	2450	15000	15000	2000
8	Bastin Nagar	12000	8000	130300	31000	8500
9	Batlagundu	2600	3000	40000	10000	3000
10	Bibikulam	5000	3140	40580	12580	3330
11	Bodinayakanur	500	500	10000	3000	400
12	Chinnamanur	500	500	10000	1000	500
13	Cumbum	1550	1450	20250	4550	1600
14	Devadanam	2000	1500	24500	4500	1500
15	Ellis Nagar	9845	10534	101192	22510	5984
16	Gnanaolivupuram	7500	7000	125000	45000	6500
17	Hanumanthanpatty	1300	1500	15000	8000	1600
18	Holy Rosary Church	4500	4500	45000	10000	3500
19	Iyyampalayam	1120	328	1050	1510	300
20	K. Pudur	8370	2000	73870	71780	3000
21	Kadachanendal	2000	2000	30000	20000	2000
22	Kadamalaikundu			4500	4000	
23	Kalladipatti	500	500	4000	1000	
24	Kariapatty	1000	1000	8140	5380	1000
25	Karumathur	1450	750	2020	5050	500
26	Kavirayapuram			7100	7140	
27	Kottur	1100	1200	14500	13800	1500
28	Lourdupuram	1500	1000	6795	6100	1000
29	Megamalai	300	200	300	1000	200
30	Mangalamkombu	500	500	4330	2670	500
31	M. Meenatchiapuram	1410	1630	6800	5210	1690
32	Mathankovilpatti	600	500	620	2300	600
33	Marianus Nagar	500	500	8000	6000	1000
34	Meenmpatti	3100	2064	35000	5000	1952
35	Melur	1350	1000	25000	10000	1500

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019 TO 25.07.2019

	St. Peter's Pence 30/06/19	Communication Day 14/07/19	Prision Ministry 11/08/19	Bible Sunday 29/09/19	Mission Sunday 20/10/19	African Mission 03/11/19	Peter the Apostle 24/11/19	Opus 02/12/19
1								
2	500	500						
3	900	900						
4								
5	6500	9110						
6								
7	2450	2500						
8								
9	2700	3000						
10								
11	500	500						
12	500							
13	1000	1000						
14								
15	12180	12372						
16								
17								
18								
19	350	350						
20								
21	2000	2000						
22		1000						
23								
24								
25	500	500						
26								
27	1200	1400						
28								
29								
30	500	500						
31								
32	500	530						
33								
34								
35	1200	1300						

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019 TO 25.07.2019

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 10/02/19	Holy See 31/03/19	Hunger Disease 18/04/19	Good Friday 19/04/19	Vocation Sunday 12/05/19
36	Melakovilpatti			5000	2200	
37	Michaelpalayam					
38	Munjikkal					
39	Nagamalai	4000	2000	90000	20000	3000
40	Nakkaneri	1000	1000	11500	2000	1000
41	Nilakottai	1000	500	6400	4200	1000
42	Niraivazhvu Nagar (VNR)	1000	1000	10000	10000	1000
43	Othaiyal	300	200	700	1100	400
44	Packiapuram	2350	2250	25350	10220	2370
45	Palanganatham	6000	5000	150000	25000	5000
46	Pandian Nagar					
47	Periyakulam					
48	Perumalmalai	1500	1500			
49	R.R. Nagar	3000	3000	35000	6500	2000
50	Railway Colony	2600	1200	5100	4100	1100
51	Rajapalayam	1500	1200	18200	3400	1400
52	Rayappanpatti	6000	3500	30000	25000	3500
53	Rayapuram			10200	3350	
54	Samayanallur	3000	3300	50000	11000	4000
55	Sattur					
56	Shenbaganur	3000	3200	11000	3500	2000
57	Sengole Nagar	2000	2000	60000	43500	2500
58	Silukkuvarpatty	1000	1000	10000	5000	
59	Sivakasi	11500	12500	116200	50200	10500
60	Srivilliputhur			15000	40000	
61	St. Mary's Cathedral	10000	5000	60000	50000	5000
62	Sundaranatchiapuram					
63	T. Sindalacherry	3000	1000	19400	20600	1000
64	T. Vadipatti Shrine	1100	1000	10500	16300	1500
65	Theni	4200	3600	42015	19043	3722
66	Thirumangalam	1600	1100	3600	6010	1450
67	Thirunagar	1500	2000	7500	21000	1500
68	Thiruthangal	3800	2200	25000	9000	3000
69	Thummuchinampatty	750	570	820	1000	850
70	Ugarthe Nagar	2000	2000	25000	15000	2000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019 TO 25.07.2019

	St. Peter's Pence 30/06/19	Communi- cation Day 14/07/19	Prision Ministry 11/08/19	Bible Sunday 29/09/19	Mission Sunday 20/10/19	African Mission 03/11/19	Peter the Apostle 24/11/19	Opus 02/12/19
36								
37								
38								
39	3000							
40								
41	700	1000						
42								
43	320	200						
44	5206	3976						
45								
46								
47								
48								
49								
50								
51								
52	3500	3500						
53								
54	3000	3100						
55								
56								
57								
58								
59								
60								
61								
62								
63								
64								
65	4200	3300						
66								
67	1500	1500						
68								
69	900	900						
70	2000	2000						

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019 TO 25.07.2019

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 10/02/19	Holy See 31/03/19	Hunger Disease 18/04/19	Good Friday 19/04/19	Vocation Sunday 12/05/19
71	Usilampatti	3000	1000	25000	6000	1000
72	Uthamapalayam					
73	Virudhunagar	9500	9500	130000	70000	9500
74	Vadapatti Mission	200	300	400	600	245
75	W. Pudupatti	1000	1000	9468	10956	1000
76	Y. Othakadai	2000	1022	16141	19725	1830
	Fr. Lourduraj Arockia Illam			1400	1000	
	Holycross Convent, Pambarpuram	10000				
	Fouriere Home, Pambarpuram	10000				
	Total	209535	150220	2065979	951254	140376

நொபிலி அருள்பணி கையாடல்

புதிய கட்டிடம் மலர்வுதற்காக தாராள மனதுடன் உதவும் உள்ளங்கள்

Diocese of Venice in Florida, U.S.A. (Through Fr. T.R. Jayabalan)	14,40,699.96
Saint Alphonsus Congregation, U.S.A. (Through Fr. Britto Raja Suresh)	6,15,616.62
Fr. Valentine Joseph, USA	1,65,504.00
Fr. Britto Raja Suresh, USA	1,39,835.00
Fr. Arul Joseph, USA	1,04,816.00
Fr. G. Lourdu Raj, Arockia Illam	55,000.00
Fr. Dhivyanandam	50,000.00
Fr. Arul, Secretary, Dialogue Commission	50,000.00
Mr. & Mrs. Irudaya Raj - Lilly Rose, Annanagar	50,000.00
Fr. A. Antony Samy, Secretary, C.C.L	25,000.00
Fr. Vincent Mathan Babu	20,000.00
Fr. M. John Diraviam, Chancellor	15,000.00
Fr. A. Vedamanickam, Palanganatham	10,000.00
Fr. I. Maria Arul Selvam	10,000.00
Mr. Arulanandam, Rtd., H.M, Annanagar	10,000.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019 TO 25.07.2019

St. Peter's Pence 30/06/19	Communi- cation Day 14/07/19	Prision Ministry 11/08/19	Bible Sunday 29/09/19	Mission Sunday 20/10/19	African Mission 03/11/19	Peter the Apostle 24/11/19	Opus 02/12/19
1000	1200						
9500							
1000	1000						
69306	59138						

71
72
73
74
75
76

Amaladass Nithya, Annanagar	10,000.00
Mr. Jeevanandam & Elizabeth Mary, K. Pudur	10,000.00
The Teachers, R.C. Mid.Sch. P. Chettiapatti, Usilampatti	5,000.00
Fr. Gnanasandanam, Arockia Illam	5,000.00
Nazrane Isabella Family, Usilampatti	1,000.00
Mrs. Badma James, Kadachanendal	1,000.00
Total	27,93,471.58

From the Procurator's Desk

Dear Rev. Fathers,
Kindly verify the above statement and confirm the remittances. If any discrepancy is found, you are welcome to correct the same with the receipt available with you.
Kindly remit all the Diocesan Collections (13 Nos) and the DMF (1%) Collections seperatly by Cheque or Bank Draft favouring **The R.C. Diocese of Madurai** to the Procurator's Office. This is in accordance with Government norms for restricting cash transactions.
- Fr. Procurator

KANI (Seminarians Fund)

Opening Balance as on 26.06.2019	32,97,556.77
Fr. Charles Heston, USA	25,000.00
Fr. A. Maria David, P.P., Thuckalay, K.K. Dist	15,000.00
Sr. Agnes, CIC, Diravianagar, Nilakottai	10,000.00
The Principal, Arulanandar College, Karumathur	10,000.00
Mr. Irudayasamy, Varatharajanpettai	10,000.00
Mr. A. Sahayaraj, Nagamalai	10,000.00
Sr. Superior, St. Mary of Leuca Convent, Alagarkoil, Madurai	5,000.00
Fr. John Diraviam, Chancellor	2,000.00
Fr. Gabriel, P.P., Palanganatham	1,000.00
G. Usha Bernadett	1,000.00
P. Gnanapackiam, Aarapalayam, Madurai	500.00
	33,87,056.77
Add: Bank Interest - 24025	24,025.00
	34,11,081.77
Closing Balance as on 25.07.2019	34,11,081.77
Cash in Hand : Nil	
Cash at Bank : 34,11,081.77	
	34,11,081.77

Mass Received From Parishes

Vadipatti (2000 Masses)	2,00,000.00
Ellis Nagar (300 Masses)	30,000.00
Packiapuram (20 Masses)	2,000.00
Total	2,32,000.00

From the Procurator's Desk

Dear Rev. Fathers,

I am very happy and express my sincere thanks for your kind co-operation in the diocesan financial management. I also like to draw your kind attention for the following matters also for little more effective financial management.

Diocesan Maintenance Fund (1%)

Please ensure the remittance of DMF collection before 10th of the every month.

Diocesan Collections

I earnestly appeal to all parish priests to remit the special collections immediately to the diocesan curia.

Centralization of Account

It is our combined effort and plan to centralize the Financial Management of our Archdiocese and we have worked on it for the past few years. Many of our parishes have linked their accounts to the diocesan server. May I request and remind the priests who have not yet linked their accounts to the diocesan server to do it immediately. It will help a lot to the diocese as well as the parishes.



Adoration Sunday

August		September	
04	Sundaranachiapram	01	Karumathurm
11	Usilampatty	08	Theni
18	A. Nathampatty	15	Sengole Nagar
26	Y. Othakkadai	22	Melur
		31	Pudur

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

XXVII. Martyrdom Accounts

The soldiers who went to Christian villages namely *Kurunthangudi, Anumanthangudi, Ponnangudi, Kannappan Kottai* entering into arson destroyed the churches and houses of Christians. The next day on 9th January 1693 the contingent took our saint in a criminal parade through villages and they reached Ramanathapuram on 11th January.

In Ramnad Fr. Britto was kept in a dark cell like our Lord together with the new Christians. There he was exhorting and encouraging the Christians to understand and accept God's will for him. The news that the Saint was going to be martyred reached all the villages of the kingdom and also the Jesuit Quarters. Fr. Britto knew that his trusted Catechist,

Kanagappapillai and ThadiyaThevar would not fear to do anything to free him from the death sentence and therefore he wrote letters to Christians and Upadesimars that their love for him should not deprive him of the heavenly grace of Martyrdom. The Jesuit superiors too sent letters to Fr. Britto. In reply Fr. Britto wrote to them and requested them to pray for him continuously and to pray for him with penance and vigil.

Fr. Britto was kept in custody for a week without any enquiry and interrogation. When Sethupathy returned to his palace the high priest persuaded the king to issue death sentence to the Saint without any inquiry. For he knew that a public enquiry would create revolt among the people and a public debate with Fr. Britto would surely end in failure. Therefore he secretly devised a plan of executing Fr. Britto.

Before that he ordered his petti King, ThadiyaThevan to worship Hindu gods. But the valiant new Christian King categorically announced that he would worship only the one true God and none other. Upon hearing the defiant and open disobedience, the raged Sethupathi drew his sword to kill ThadiyaThevar; immediately he also to his astonishment and shame saw that the soldiers of ThadiyaThevar also drew swords in return. Hence he decided to carry out the execution secretly. Meanwhile Poompavanam, the court priest challenged ThadiyaThevar that he would murder Fr. Britto by occult rituals and yagas offered to goddess Kali. He made a clay effigy of Fr. Britto and threw it into fire; with rage he made spell on the Saint; but nothing happened to our Saint. Astonished Poompavanam did again and again the same puja and yagna of destruction but nothing happened to the Saint. Then he did a very deadly spell called “Salbism” on the Saint and believed that it would destroy the God-man and nothing happened to our Saint. It was a great humiliation for the priest.

When it was communicated to Sethupathi he felt all the more humiliated and defeated. Another shocking news shared by his Minister UdayaThevar shattered him. The secret survey conducted told that many of his officers in the army and the court have become Christians. The King thought that the current situation would cause great danger to his throne itself. Therefore he asked to produce Muthu and Arulanandam,

the Catechists before the throne and asked his soldiers to shoot at them. They obeyed. What a miracle! The guns were not cooperating. When it was aimed at the wall the guns worked. Real miracle!.

The next time when the shooters were about to take aim at the Saint, the valiant ThadiappaThevar ran in front of Fr. Britto and showing his chest in front of the Saint shouted: “ Shoot me first”. The astounded and frightened King cancelled the shooting order and hatched a treacherous and secret plan to murder Fr. Britto. He said that he would deport the saint from his country but he gave a secret decree to UdayaThevar of Oriyur, one of his petti kings, to carry out the murder at Oriyur. Fr. Britto with chained hands and legs started walking towards Oriyur in the parade led by the soldiers.

On 29th January 1693 the trusted Minister Murugappapillai carried with him the secret decree of Sethupathi and took Fr. Britto in procession guarded by soldiers to Oriyur. *(to be continued)*

- Fr. Jodir.

