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Archdiocese of Madurai

News Letter

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

December 2021

(For Private Circulation Only)

No. 702



Merry  
Christmas



## GOLDEN JUBILEE

Dear Fr. Vedamanickam,  
together with our Archbishop,  
Most Rev. Antony Pappusamy,  
we, the Presbyterium, the Religious  
and the Laity offer to you  
our cordial felicitations on your  
Golden Jubilee Celebrations and offer  
our fervent prayers for your  
good Health and further ministries.

**Ad Multos Annos!**

## Greetings on Birthday



*Fr. Edward Raj T. (02)*



*Fr. Yesu Karunanidhi (06)*



*Fr. Amalraj R. (15)*



*Fr. Martin Jose M.F. (17)*



*Fr. Jeyaraj S. (22)*



*Fr. John Selva Manohar M. (28)*



*Fr. John Selvaraj M. (29)*



Deepavali Celebration

Directory Release



Blessing of the Priests' Cemetery  
at the Archbishop's House



Mass for Venerable Elisa Martinez



Blessing of the Priests Cemetery at Cathedral







## THE VOICE OF THE PASTOR

### The Light Shines in the Darkness

The Angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; I am bringing you the good news of great joy for all the people” (Lk 2:10).

Christmas is the season during which the whole church celebrates the theme that is most central to our Christian theology and faith: **God’s incarnation- God is present in us and in the world, working for our healing and growth, our reconciliation and our redemption.** This is the fundamental Christmas message to us in this age as it was in the preceding ages. It has been a time of **greetings and blessings for 2000 years.** Christmas is the feast of love incarnate which gives meaning to human existence. Therefore, this season calls forth to be a blessing for others and to spread positive vibration.

The historical events in the salvific plan of God such as Annunciation, Visitation, Birth of Jesus, and Shepherds’ and Wise men’s visit to Jesus evinced it. It is carried out till today in the form of singing carols, visiting orphanages and old age homes, distributing sweets and dresses, sending greeting cards, making cribs and hanging stars.

There are so many events that disturb the daily walks of life of the people especially the poor. The deadliest pandemic, hydrocarbon extraction, unemployment, modernization, GST and demonetization, Sterlite closure, Farm crisis, Drought and water supply, sexual assault and recent flood brings endless struggles for the people. At this juncture what could be the meaningful celebration of Christmas? Here are a few reflections to ponder over.

**Time to look to the future with Hope and Joy:** It is obvious that we face many threats and challenges in



our day-to-day life. The birth of Jesus gives a ray of hope in the midst of darkness, defeating our queries about God’s answer to our plea and our doubt about the power of God. The Christmas message collapses all those anxieties and fears, transforming them into optimistic and hope-filled expressions of a better tomorrow. Let us resolve to look beyond the horizon and be confident in the power of God to change the world.

**Time to look out for the least privileged:** Jesus who was born as poor is for the poor. In this season we too become more aware of less fortunate than ourselves and people of the periphery. It is a time we are urged to do our best to reach out to others with fraternal love, with care, with concern and with compassion. We consider specially those who suffer economically, the vulnerable, terminally ill, elderly, orphans, stranger on the road, abandoned, homeless, refugees, and victims of war. In Fratelli Tutti, the Holy Father expresses deep regret that migrants are not treated well, not given dignity and are considered less worthy, less important and less human. This season calls us to open our doors and include everyone in our circle.

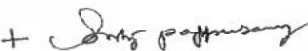
**Time of renewal and transformation both in the Church and society:** Jesus the revolutionary was born to reform the society. We live in a society where deformation of concepts prevails, such as democracy, freedom, justice, and the loss of the meaning of the social community. Selfishness and indifference toward the common good are the “Dark Clouds over a Closed World”.

Let us be conscious of how far we are proactive in our service to others, promoting peace, forgiveness, justice etc. Let this Christmas be a time to serve the less privileged, a time to **look to the future with Hope and Joy**, a time to renew and transform not only the church and society but to get internally transformed to serve mankind.

May this Christmas bring joyful moments offering Peace, health, happiness. With all the blessings and graces, may you all have a joyful and fulfilling New Year 2022.

May God bless you!

Your loving Archbishop,

+ 

+ **Most Rev. Dr. Antony Pappusamy**  
Archbishop of Madurai

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

## Archbishop's Engagements

01	Wed	M	Golden Jubilee - Jayaraj Annapackiam College, Periyakulam
03	Fri	E	Closing the year of St. Joseph, Samayanallur (Madurai North Vicariate)
04	Sat	E	United Carols
05	Sun	M	Mashot Christmas Celebration M BC/MBC Carrier Guidance Programme
07	Tue	E	Feast Mass, Kovilpatti
08	Wed	M	Feast Mass at CIC Generalate M Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee, Dindigul E Closing the year of St. Joseph, Gnanaolivupuram (Madurai South Vicariate)
09	Thu	M	Nuptial Blessing, K. Pudur
10	Fri	E	Church Blessing and 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion, Perumalmalai
11	Sat	M	Golden Jubilee Mass, Gnanaolivupuram
12	Sun	M	Confirmation, Holy Rosary Church
13	Mon	E	Paying Homage to MLA – Late Nanmaran
14	Tue	M	Recollection (Christmas)
17	Fri	E	Confirmation, Perumalmalai
18	Sat	M	Silver Jubilee, Teresa Training Institute
19	Sun	M	CRI – Christmas Celebration, LTI, Gnanaolivupuram
20	Mon	M	Christmas Celebration - Madurai Central Jail
21	Tue	M	Christmas Celebrations with Religious
24	Fri		Christmas Vigil Mass, St. Mary's Cathedral,
27	Mon	M	Blessing of Claudine College of Nursing, Batlagundu
28	Tue	M	Blessing of Additional Classrooms, Mother Theresa Academy, Dindigul
29	Wed	M	Confirmation - Gnanaolivupuram
31	Fri		New Year Vigil Mass, St. Lourdes' Church, K. Pudur

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

\* Appointments are subject to change as per Government's Regulations.

## Pope's General Prayer Intention

*Intention for evangelization* - Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## பேராயரின் இம்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து

**நம்புதல் :** நிலை வாழ்வை நம்புகிறேன்.

**வேண்டுகோள்:** முதியோர்கள் மற்றும் தேவையில் இருப்போருக்காக . . .

**வாழ்த்தல் :** உறவுகள் மேம்பட உறவு ஒற்றவர்களைத் தேடுவோம். நம்பிக்கை வாழ்வின் விதைகளை விதைப்போம்.

## HAPPY FEAST

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

Congregation of Immaculate Conception (CIC)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Marians of Immaculate Conception	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (MMI)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Society of African Missions (SMA)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Camelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Salesian Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (SMI)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (OMI)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Catechist Sisters of Mary Immaculate (SMI)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Daughters of Mary of Leuca (DML)	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Suore Missionarie dell' Incarnazione (SMI)	- 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Brothers of the Holy Family (FSF)	- 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Holy Family of Bordeaux (HFB)	- 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
Sisters of the Holy Family of Spoleto (HSF)	- 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec.

## இம்மாதம் விழா கொண்டாடும் பங்குகள்

- |                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. சவேரியார் ஆலயம், நத்தம்பட்டி       | – டிசம்பர் 3 |
| 2. சவேரியார் ஆலயம், செண்பகனூர்        | – டிசம்பர் 3 |
| 3. சவேரியார் ஆலயம், பாண்டியன்நகர்     | – டிசம்பர் 3 |
| 4. சவேரியார் ஆலயம், மேலக்கோவில்பட்டி  | – டிசம்பர் 3 |
| 4. புனித அமல அன்னை ஆலயம், வரியகுளம்   | – டிசம்பர் 8 |
| 5. அமலோற்பவ மாதா ஆலயம், ஐயம்பாளையம்   | – டிசம்பர் 8 |
| 6. புனித அமல அன்னை ஆலயம், திருமங்கலம் | – டிசம்பர் 8 |
| 7. அமல அன்னை ஆலயம், காரியாபட்டி       | – டிசம்பர் 8 |

இப்பங்குகளில் பணி புரியும் பங்குத்தந்தையர்களுக்கும், துறவறத்தாருக்கும்  
இறைமக்களுக்கும் எனது வாழ்த்துகளும், ஜெபங்களும்.

+ பேராயர் அந்தோனி பாப்டொம்



## Please Note

- 1. Christmas and New Year Greetings of the Archbishop:** I greet all the Reverend Fathers, Sisters and Brothers who are ministering in our Archdiocese, a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year 2022. May the new born Baby Jesus renew all of you and fill you with his choicest blessings during Christmas and the New Year 2022. May I also invite you to prepare your people during this Advent so as to celebrate joyously and meaningfully these two great liturgical celebrations with your flock at Parishes and Institutions!



- 2. Christmas Monthly Recollection:** The Christmas monthly Recollection will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> inst., Tuesday as usual at Archbishop's House with the Coffee at 10.00 am. It is a time of joy and fellowship and let us come together and celebrate Christmas as a *Presbyterium* and thus be recharged to share our blessings of Christmas

and New Year with our people who are entrusted to our pastoral care.

### 3. Archdiocesan Annual Christmas Get-Together

will be celebrated at 10.00 am., on 21st inst. (Tuesday). His Grace invites all the Diocesan priests and the Religious Priests, Sisters and Brothers ministering at our Archdiocese to participate at this joyous event. Venue will be communicated later.



- DNL greets and congratulates **Fr. Vedamanickam** on his *Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee Day* that falls on **13-12-2021**. The Archbishop and the Presbyterium, together with his family members, thank God for the precious gift of Fr. Vedamanickam to our Archdiocese and for



the 50 long years of fruitful priestly life and ministries. An Assistant P.P. of Holy Rosary Church, A Secretary to the Archbishop, A Parish Priest of Silukkuvarpatti and Sivakasi, A Manager of Little Flower Estate, Periyur, again A Parish Priest of Munjikal, A Procurator of the Archdiocese, again a Parish Priest of Rayappanpatti, Usilampatti and a Vicar Forane and P.P. of Theni, again a Parish Priest of Bastian Nagar and a Correspondent of St. Britto Hr. Sec. School, again a Parish Priest of Samayanallur, Palanganatham and Nagamalai Pudukottai is Fr. Vedamanickam. And these are the multifaceted ministries he exercised in the Archdiocese. *Ad multos annos!* We wish you, dear Father Vedamanickam, Diamond, Sapphire, Platinum Jubilees etc., to follow on your ways!

- 4. Bible Diary 2022 & Directory 2021:** The Bible Diary- 2022, an innovative effort of the Archdiocesan Fathers and the comprehensive Directory of the Archdiocese were released by His Grace on 9<sup>th</sup> November at the Monthly Recollection. Congratulations to Fr. Benedict Barnabas and Fr. John Diraviam. All the Religious working in our Archdiocese, both men and women, are reminded to get a Directory which contains all the information





and history about the ecclesiastical persons- priests and religious, parishes, juridical persons and the institutions.

5. **Congratulations** to all the Fathers and all the Religious Fathers and Sisters who provided the necessary data about their parishes and institutions in order to compile the comprehensive Directory of the Archdiocese. I thank all of you for your cooperation and involvement in the making of the Directory. – Fr. Chancellor



6. **Synod 2021 – 2023:** All the Parish Priests are requested to collect and send immediately the Synod Questionnaires to the Chancellor. – Fr. Vicar General.



7. **Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral Church of Madurai** falls on 12<sup>th</sup> inst., Sunday which Solemnity is to be celebrated throughout the Archdiocese of Madurai on 12<sup>th</sup>.

8. **Collection of Opus Securitatis** is to be taken at the second Sunday of Advent. **Mission Sunday** collection is to be remitted at once at Procurator's Office.

9. **Annual Statistics** Questions are sent to your Parishes. Kindly fill them and send back to Chancery Office before 24<sup>th</sup> of December. Vatican needs to know the exact Catholic population of the Archdiocese. Kindly cooperate. – Fr. Chancellor.



### A HUMBLE REQUEST FROM PRISON MINISTRY INDIA – MADURAI ARCHDIOCESE UNIT.

DEAR FATHERS/ SISTERS/ SIR,  
Loving greetings from us . We are grateful to God for the opportunity He has blessed us with to enter the portals of Central prison Madurai for men and women, Dt. Jails in Virudhunagar and Theni, Sub – jails in Srivilliputtur, Thirumangalam, Periyakulam,

Uthamapalayam, Nilakottai for women, Thirumangalm, Usilai and Melur.

Bearing witness to the boundless Mercy of Jesus who identified Himself as an incarcerated, “I was in prison, you visited me” he urges us to be a consolation to the prisoners, and help them to experience Jesus’ unconditional forgiveness, facilitate total transformation, release and rehabilitation. Legal Advocacy is extended. Convicts’ and released persons’ 35 children are followed in schools, colleges and Nursing school. Medical awareness/ camps are conducted. Sessions are conducted for convicts and prison staff to cope with Stress. Spiritual animation, indirect Evangelization, Sacrement of Reconciliation, Christmas Mass, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday Mass celebration energize Catholic prisoners and Gospel Values are shared with Hindus. Talents are taped on Prisoners’ .....<sup>nd</sup>) and International Women’s day and showcased. Free coaching given to prepare the prisoners for Govt. Exams. Pre-matured( General pardon) released persons if rejected by their families we take custody and send them to KOLBE HOME (short stay) in Thiruthani.



FRIENDS, PRISON MINISTRY IS MADE POSSIBLE JUST BECAUSE YOU ENCOURAGE US WITH YOUR PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT. KINDLY CONTINUE THE SAME TO HELP THE INCARCERATED. CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 2021 IS ON 20-12-2021 IN MADURAI CENTRAL PRISON. CORDIALLY WE INVITE YOU. WE THANK ALL OF YOU AND PRAY FOR YOUR ENDEAVOUR.

SR. FATIMA ANTONY SJL,  
DIOCESAN CO-ORDINATOR- PRISON MINISTRY

### குடும்ப நலவாழ்வு பணிக்குழு நடத்தும் திருமண முன்தயாரிப்பு நடைபெறும் நாட்கள்



04.05.12.2021	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
11.12.2021	நிலக்கோட்டை	சனி, ஞாயிறு
18.19.12.2021	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
அருட்பணி. எஸ். ஜேம்ஸ்பால்ராஜ், செயலர்		

## கீப ஒளி விழா



தீப ஒளி திருவிழா 12.11.2021 வெள்ளிக்கிழமை மாலை 6.30 மணியளவில் பிரிட்டோ மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி வளாகத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. இவ்விழா மேதகு பேராயர் முனைவர் அந்தோனி பாப்புசாமி அவர்கள் தலைமையிலும், தவத்திரு. சாந்தி குமார சுவாமிகள், திரு. கார்த்திகேயன் மணிமொழியன் காலேஜ் ஹவுஸ், டாக்டர் ஆ. அமானுல்லா ஆகியோர் முன்னிலையில் நடைபெற்றது. இவ்விழாவில் திரு. விஜயராகவன் (முன்னர் திருமலை கல்லூரி செயலர், திருவருட்பேரவை பொருளாளர்) திரு. ஏ. வியாகத் அலி (மதுரை முஸ்லீம் ஐக்கிய ஜமாத் தலைவர்) சகோதரி அமிர்தா, பிரம்மகுமாரிகள் ஆகியோர் வாழ்த்துரை வழங்கினார்கள்.

சிறப்பு அழைப்பாளர்களாக அருட்பணி. பால்பிரிட்டோ (செயலர், வாழ்வுரிமை இயக்கம், ஆசிரியர் கத்தோலிக்க சேவை) திரு. கருப்பையா (தலைவர் உலகத் திருக்குறள் பேரவை) அருட்பணி. பன்னீராஜா (செயலர் இளையோர் பணிக்குழு) அருட்பணி. S. செபாஸ்டியன் (பங்குத்தந்தை, ஞானஒளிவுபுரம்) அருட்பணி. சேவியர் ராஜ், (தாளாளர், தூய பிரிட்டோ மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி) அருட்பணி. D. மரிய அருள்செல்வம் (உதவி தலைமை ஆசிரியர் - பிரிட்டோ மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி) திரு. ஜான்சன் (பொருளர், தமிழ்நாடு சிறுபான்மை மக்கள் நலக்குழு) திரு. அலாவுதீன் (மாவட்ட செயலர், தமிழ்நாடு சிறுபான்மையினர் மக்கள் நலக்குழு) திரு. மோகன் (யோகா சேவை மகேந்திரா) திரு. இரவிச்சந்திரன் (காந்தி மியூசியம் நூலகர்) ஆகியோர் சிறப்பு விருந்தினராக கலந்துகொண்டார்கள். பணிக்குழு சார்பில் 120 பேர் விழாவில் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

இவ்விழாவில் தலைமையுரையாற்றிய மேதகு பேராயர் அவர்கள் பேசுகையில் இவ்விழாக்கள் அரங்கத்திற்கு மட்டுமல்ல அனுபவமாக மாற வேண்டும். அந்த அனுபவம் நம்மில் தாக்கத்தை ஏற்படுத்தும் என்றும்

- தனி மனித வாழ்வில் ஒளி அனுபவமாக மாற வேண்டும்
- ஒளி நமக்குள் வைத்துக் கொள்வது அல்ல, ஒளி பகிரப்படக் கூடியது; குறைவு படாது.
- விவிலியத்தில் ஒளியை ஏற்றி மரக்காலின் கீழ் வைப்பது இல்லை! மாறாக விளக்குத்தண்டின் மீது வைக்க வேண்டும் என்று கூறப்படுகின்றது.
- ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் பகிரும்போது தான் நாம் வாழ முடியும். நம்மோடு உள்ளதை பகிர்ந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும். எல்லோரும் ஒருங்கிணைந்து வாழ வேண்டும்.
- மற்றவர்களுக்கும் பகிர்ந்து கொள்ள கூடியவர்களாக நாம் பயன்பட

வேண்டும். ஒளி தன்னை சுற்றியுள்ளவர்களை ஒளிர்விக்கும்.

- பெண் அடிமைத்தனம், வறியவரை ஓரம் கட்டும் தன்மை, வன்மம், பொறாமை போன்றவை நீக்கப்பட வேண்டும்.
- திருவருட்பேரவை, சமய நல்லிணக்கம் பரவலாக்கப்பட வேண்டும். மனித மனம் விரிவடைய வேண்டும்.
- நாம் மற்றவர்களை பற்றி அக்கறை காட்ட வேண்டும். அவர்களின் வறுமை போக்க நாம் இணைந்து செயல்பட வேண்டும். இவை நிகழ்வாக அல்ல அனுபவமாக மாற வேண்டும். இவ்விழா மதுரை மட்டுமல்ல எல்லா இடங்களிலும் ஒளியை எல்லா உள்ளங்களிலும் கொண்டு சேர்க்க வேண்டும். அதற்கு இவ்விழாக்கள் மக்கள் வாழும் தெருக்களில் நடைபெற வேண்டும். எல்லா மக்களையும் ஒன்று சேர்க்க வேண்டுமென பேசினார்கள்.

இவ்விழாவிற்கு சிறப்பு சேர்க்கும் வண்ணம் சமயநல்லூர் புனித சூசையப்பர் பள்ளி மாணவியர்கள், ஞானஒளிவுபுரம் புனித ஜோசப் பள்ளி மாணவர் நடனம் ஆடினார்கள். பல்சமய உரையாடல் பணிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களால் “மனித இரத்தம்” என்ற குறு நாடகம் நடத்தப்பட்டது.

இவ்விழாவை பல்சமய உரையாடல் பணிக்குழு செயலர் அருட்பணி. ஜே. பெனடிக்ட் பர்னபாஸ் அவர்கள் ஒருங்கிணைத்தார்கள்.

## The Preparatory Document – Synod 2021-2023 IV. Synodality in Action: Pathways for Consulting the People of God

### The Fundamental Question

The fundamental question that guides this consultation of the People of God, as mentioned at the beginning, is the following: *A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together:” How is this “journeying together” happening today in your particular Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?* In order to respond, you are invited to: a) ask yourselves what experiences in your particular Church the fundamental question calls to mind;

b) reread these experiences in greater depth: What joys did they provoke? What difficulties and obstacles have they encountered? What wounds have they brought to light? What insights have they elicited?

c) gather the fruits to share: Where, in these experiences, does the voice of the Spirit resound? What is he asking of us? What are the points to be confirmed, the prospects for change, the steps to be taken?

Where do we register a consensus? What paths are opening up for our particular Church?

### **Ten Thematic Nuclei to be Explored**

**30.** In order to help highlight the experiences and contribute in a richer way to the consultation, we indicate below ten thematic nuclei that articulate different facets of “lived synodality.” They should be adapted to the different local contexts and, from time to time, integrated, explained, simplified, and deepened, with particular attention paid to those who have more difficulty in participating and responding: the *Handbook* that accompanies this Preparatory Document offers tools, itineraries, and suggestions so that the different groups of questions can concretely inspire moments of prayer, formation, reflection, and exchange.

### **I. THE JOURNEYING COMPANIONS:**

*In the Church and in society, we are side by side on the same road.* In your local Church, who are the ones “journeying together”? When we say: “our Church,” who is part of it? Who is asking us to journey together? Who are the road companions, including those outside the ecclesial perimeter? What persons or groups are left on the margins, expressly or in fact?

### **II. LISTENING :**

*Listening is the first step, but it requires having an open mind and heart, without prejudices.* To whom does our particular Church “need to listen to”? How are the Laity, especially young people and women, listened to? How do we integrate the contribution of Consecrated Men and Women? What space is there for the voice of minorities, the discarded, and the excluded? Do we identify prejudices and stereotypes that hinder our listening? How do we listen to the social and cultural context in which we live?

### **III. SPEAKING OUT**

*All are invited to speak with courage and parrhesia, that is, integrating freedom, truth, and charity.* How do we promote a free and authentic style of communication within the community and its organizations, without duplicity and opportunism? And in relation to the society of which we are a part? When and how do we manage to say what is important to us? How does the relationship with the media system (not only Catholic media) work? Who speaks on behalf of the Christian community, and how are they chosen?

### **IV. CELEBRATING**

*“Journeying together” is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist.* How do

prayer and liturgical celebration inspire and direct our “journeying together”? How do they inspire the most important decisions? How do we promote the active participation of all the Faithful in the liturgy and the exercise of the sanctifying function? What space is given to the exercise of the ministries of the reader and acolyte?

### **V. CO-RESPONSIBLE IN THE MISSION**

*Synodality is at the service of the Church’s mission, in which all her members are called to participate.* Since we are all missionary disciples, how is each Baptized person called to be a protagonist in the mission? How does the community support its members committed to service in society (social and political commitment, in scientific research and teaching, in the promotion of social justice, in the protection of human rights, and in caring for the Common home, etc.)? How do you help them to live out these commitments in a logic of mission? How is discernment about mission-related choices made, and who participates in it? How are the different traditions that constitute the patrimony of many Churches, especially the Oriental ones, integrated and adapted, with respect to the synodal style, in view of an effective Christian witness? How does collaboration work in territories where different *suius* Churches are present?

### **VI. DIALOGUE IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY**

*Dialogue is a path of perseverance that also includes silences and sufferings, but which is capable of gathering the experience of persons and peoples.* What are the places and modes of dialogue within our particular Church? How are divergences of vision, the conflicts, the difficulties addressed? How do we promote collaboration with neighboring Dioceses, with and among religious communities in the area, with and among lay associations and movements, etc.? What experiences of dialogue and shared commitment do we have with believers of other religions and with non-believers? How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the world of politics, economics, culture, civil society, the poor...?

### **VII. WITH THE OTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS**

*The dialogue between Christians of different confessions, united by one Baptism, has a special place in the synodal journey.* What relations do we have with the brothers and sisters of other Christian denominations? What areas do they concern? What fruits have we drawn from this “journeying together”? What are the difficulties?

### **VIII. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION**

*A synodal Church is a participatory and co-responsible Church.*



How do we identify the goals to be pursued, the way to achieve them, and the steps to be taken? How is authority exercised within our particular Church? What are the practices of teamwork and co-responsibility? How are lay ministries and the assumption of responsibility by the Faithful promoted? How do synodal bodies function at the level of the particular Church? Are they a fruitful experience?

## IX. DISCERNING AND DECIDING

*In a synodal style, decisions are made through discernment, based on a consensus that flows from the common obedience to the Spirit.* By what procedures and methods do we discern together and make decisions? How can they be improved? How do we promote participation in decision-making within hierarchically structured communities? How do we articulate the consultative phase with the deliberative one, the process of *decision-making* with the moment of *decision-taking*? How and with what tools do we promote transparency and accountability?

## X. FORMING OURSELVES IN SYNODALITY

*The spirituality of journeying together is called to become an educational principle for the formation of the human person and of the Christian, of the families, and of the communities.* How do we form people, especially those who hold roles of responsibility within the Christian community, to make them more capable of “journeying together,” listening to one another and engaging in dialogue? What formation do we offer for discernment and the exercise of authority? What tools help us to read the dynamics of the culture in which we are immersed and their impact on our style of Church?

### To Contribute to the Consultation

31. The purpose of the first phase of the synodal journey is to foster a broad consultation process in order to gather the wealth of the experiences of lived synodality, in its different articulations and facets, involving the Pastors and the Faithful of the particular Churches at all the different levels, through the most appropriate means according to the specific local realities: the consultation, coordinated by the Bishop, is addressed “to the Priests, Deacons and lay Faithful of their Churches, both individually and in associations, without overlooking the valuable contribution that consecrated men and women can offer” (EC, no. 7). The contribution of the participatory bodies of the particular Churches is specifically requested, especially that of the Presbyteral Council and the Pastoral Council, from which “a synodal Church [can truly] begin to take shape”.<sup>[22]</sup> Equally valuable will be the contribution of other ecclesial

entities to which the Preparatory Document will be sent, as well as that of those who wish to send their own contribution directly. Finally, it will be of fundamental importance that the voice of the poor and excluded also find a place, not only that of those who have some role or responsibility within the particular Churches.

32. The synthesis that each particular Church will elaborate at the end of this work of listening and discernment will constitute its contribution to the journey of the universal Church. To make the subsequent phases of the journey easier and more sustainable, it is important to condense the fruits of prayer and reflection into a maximum of ten pages. If necessary to contextualize and explain them better, other texts can be attached to support or integrate them. We recall that the purpose of the Synod, and therefore of this consultation, is not to produce documents, but “to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands.”<sup>[23]</sup>



## Adoration Sunday

December		January	
05	Kariapatti	02	Rajapalayam
12	Ellis Nagar	09	Kalladipatti
19	Railway Colony	16	Thirunagar
26	Sattur	23	Meenatchiapuram
		30	St. Mary's Cathedral



## Necrology

<b>Archbishop Peter Leonard</b>	<b>05.12.1985</b>
<b>Archbishop Peter Fernando</b>	<b>31.12.2016</b>
Fr. Vedamuthu S.	01.12.1984
Fr. Arulsamy R.	01.12.2001
Fr. Benedict Pinto	06.12.1975
Fr. Savarimuthu V.M.	06.12.1997
Fr. Vimi Charlie	14.12.2017
Fr. Maria Diraviam	26.12.1989
Fr. Arulrayan	31.12.2004



## *Felicitations On Ordination Anniversary Day*

Fr. Augustine Prabhu A.	on	08.12.2013
Fr. Rajan A.	on	08.12.2013
Fr. Francis Xavier	on	09.12.2012
Fr. Joseph Amalan	on	09.12.2012
Fr. Panneer Raja	on	09.12.2012
Fr. Thomas Edison	on	09.12.2012
Fr. Thomas Venish	on	09.12.2012
Fr. Vincent Raja X.	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Pothakar Michael Raj	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Arputha Samy	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Sebastian Jerome	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Maria Prabhu R.	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Murali Anand R.	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Paulraj B.	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Santhana Sahayam S.	on	11.12.2011
Fr. Joseph V.	on	12.12.2002
Fr. Vedamanickam A.	on	13.12.1971
Fr. Appolin Claret Raj M.	on	30.12.2000
Fr. Parivalan S. A.	on	30.12.2000

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 25.11.2021

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 07/02/21	Holy See 14/03/21	Hunger Disease 01/04/21	Good Friday 02/04/21	Vocation Sunday 25/04/21
1	A. Nathampatti					
2	Alankulam	700				
3	Ammapatty			4000	4600	
4	Anjal Nagar	2000	1500	76222	49165	
5	Anna Nagar	13000	7950	87600	34300	
6	Aruppukottai	1500	1000	15000	5000	
7	Ayravathanallur	5340	3400	24840	8111	1070
8	Bastin Nagar	15000	10000	106050	45200	10000
9	Batlagundu	7220	3440	42000	10700	4100
10	Bibikulam	15000	3800	51640	16480	3800
11	Bodinayakanur	500	500	10000	3500	500
12	Chinnamanur	500	500	500	500	500
13	Cumbum	500	500	6230	4220	
14	Devadanam	4000	2000	32000	5270	1500
15	Ellis Nagar	10170	6526	120192	24797	
16	Gnanaolivupuram	5412	4998	79549	35818	
17	Hanumanthanpatty					
18	Holy Rosary Church	3500	3000	30000	15000	
19	Iyyampalayam	400	400	6000	3000	
20	K. Pudur	21290	2000	101820	80050	
21	Kadachanendal	2300	2300	32000	20000	2400
22	Kadamalaikundu			4200	5000	
23	Kalladipatti	2000	1000	2300	2000	1000
24	Kariapatty	1200	1200	8450	5550	1200
25	Karumathur	1500	500	2000	3000	500
26	Kavirayapuram			12630	11200	
27	Kottur	1500	800	10000	2000	900
28	Lourdupuram	500	500	3500	2000	400
29	Megamalai					
30	Mangalamkombu	500	500	4500	3000	500
31	M. Meenatchiapuram	1000	1000	8000	2500	500
32	Mathankovilpatti	1000		5000	2000	
33	Marianus Nagar	2500	2000	15000	5000	2000
34	Meenampatti	2100	1600	13300	4600	2100
35	Melur	3000	1000	33333	16666	



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 25.11.2021							
St. Peter's Pence 04/07/21	Communi- cation Day 11/07/21	Prision Ministry 15/08/21	Bible Sunday 26/09/21	Mission Sunday 17/10/21	African Mission 01/11/21	Peter the Apostle 21/11/21	Opus 08/12/21
1							
2							
3	500	500	500	7500			
4		1500	1500	21160	1500	2000	
5			3050	70000	7940	8030	
6							
7							
8			5400	230000			
9	3000	3320	3280	3740	50030		
10	4000	2000	2000				
11	500	500	500	9500	500		
12	500	500	500		500		
13							
14				11000			
15	2000	8420	2000	7280			
16							
17				49250			
18							
19	400	400	400				
20							
21							
22							
23	400	400	400	1500	9000	800	
24							
25	500	500	500	500			
26							
27	900	1000					
28	350	400					
29							
30	500	500	500				
31	500	500	500				
32							
33	2000	2000	1000	2000	30000	1000	1000
34							
35							

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 25.11.2021						
S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 07/02/21	Holy See 14/03/21	Hunger Disease 01/04/21	Good Friday 02/04/21	Vocation Sunday 25/04/21
36	Melakovilpatti	2000	500	3000	1000	500
37	Michaelpalayam					
38	Munjikkal	2000	2000			
39	Murugathuranpatti	1121		32000	4727	
40	Nagamalai	10000	3000	105000	20000	
41	Nakkaneri	1000	1000	14000	4250	
42	Nilakottai	1500		13000	5000	
43	Niravazhvu Nagar (VNR)	1000				
44	Othaiyal	700	500	5000	1500	500
45	Packiapuram	11111	4060	60120	20655	3340
46	Packianathapuram	1900	1500	10000	3500	
47	Palanganatham	12500	11200	130000	30000	10000
48	Pandian Nagar	3100	1200	6100	4050	1000
49	Periyakulam	500	500	15000	5000	500
50	Perumalmalai	1000	1000	15000	10000	1000
51	R.R. Nagar	1500	600	6000	1500	600
52	Railway Colony	1500	1400	8000	4000	1000
53	Rajapalayam	1300	1200	12600	3400	1000
54	Rayappanpatti	8500	4000	35000	30000	3500
55	Rayapuram			4040	2810	
56	Samayanallur	8000		68140	16915	
57	Sattur					
58	Shenbaganur	2000	1100			
59	Sengole Nagar					
60	Sempatti Mission			1100	700	
61	Silukkuvarpatty	1000	1000	5000	5000	
62	Sivakasi	7429	8292	50264	32451	4861
63	Srivilliputhur			20000	50000	
64	St. Mary's Cathedral	10000	4000	45000	40000	4000
65	Sundaranatchiapuram					
66	T. Sindalacherry	4100		11000	17000	2000
67	T. Vadipatti Shrine	1000	1000	10000	15500	1000
68	Theni	4000				
69	Thirumangalam	6240	1500	2500	7040	1000
70	Thirunagar	4340	4090	27080	22410	3630

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 25.11.2021							
St. Peter's Pence 04/07/21	Communi- cation Day 11/07/21	Prision Ministry 15/08/21	Bible Sunday 26/09/21	Mission Sunday 17/10/21	African Mission 01/11/21	Peter the Apostle 21/11/21	Opus 08/12/21
36	400	450	400	500	2300	450	
37							
38							
39							
40							
41	500	500	500	500	13000		
42					15000		
43							
44	500	500	700	500			
45	2000	2000	1000	2000			
46							
47	11500	10500	10300	10800		10800	
48	800	750	750	1450	5400		
49	500	500	500	500	20000		
50	1000	1000	1000	1000			
51	600	1500	600	3300			
52	1000						
53							
54	3500				160100	3500	
55					6080		
56					40600		
57							
58							
59							
60							
61	1270	1074	1134	1277	21859		
62		5361		2726	485000	3726	
63							
64	5000	4000	3000	5000			
65			1000	1000	35000	1000	
66	1500	2000	1500	4000	72200	1500	
67							
68							
69	1500	1000	1200	1500	17380		
70	1100	3470	1320	2280	35430	2100	

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 25.11.2021						
S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 07/02/21	Holy See 14/03/21	Hunger Disease 01/04/21	Good Friday 02/04/21	Vocation Sunday 25/04/21
71	Thiruthangal	2600	2500	21000	10500	
72	Thummuchinampatty			1000	2500	
73	Ugarthe Nagar	1500	1500	15000	10000	
74	Usilampatti	8850	1000	42584	7390	1500
75	Uthamapalayam					
76	Virudhunagar	7500	8600	165000	71260	
77	Vadapatti Mission	250	200	350	1100	
78	W. Pudupatti	1000	1000	2200	2500	
79	Y. Othakadai	4000	1400	8000	12000	1000
	J.A. College Periyakulam					
	Fr. Xavier Arul Rayan					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>268773</b>	<b>130956</b>	<b>1916934</b>	<b>905885</b>	<b>71101</b>

**From the Procurator's Desk**

Dear Rev. Fathers,

NEW ADDRESS BOOK is available in the Diocesan Office & Nobili Book Centre. It cost Rs. 120/- only.

NEW ORDO is available in the Diocesan Office & Nobili Book Centre. It costs Rs. 70/- only.

*- Fr. S. Peter Roy*

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**Mass Received From Parishes**

Sengole Nagar ( 319 Masses)	31,900.00
Palanganatham (300 Masses)	30,000.00
T. Sindalacherry ( 250 Masses)	25,000.00
Srivilliputhur ( 150 Masses)	15,000.00
Anna Nagar ( 100 Masses)	10,000.00
Ellis Nagar ( 100 Masses)	10,000.00
<b>Collection as on 25.11.2021</b>	<b><u>1,21,900.00</u></b>



### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 25.11.2021

	St. Peter's Pence 04/07/21	Communi- cation Day 11/07/21	Prision Ministry 15/08/21	Bible Sunday 26/09/21	Mission Sunday 17/10/21	African Mission 01/11/21	Peter the Apostle 21/11/21	Opus 08/12/21
71	2000							
72		1500		1000	11000			
73	1500	1500						
74	1100	1050						
75								
76								
77								
78								
79	1000	1000	1000	1000	10000	1500		
					50000			
					2000			
	54320	62095	37484	69303	1489789	36816	11030	

**நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்**

**புதிய கட்டிடம் மலர்வதற்காக தாராள மனதுடன்**

**இதுவரை 2 தனிப் 2 ள்ளங்கள்**

**Collection as on 25.11.2021**

**39,27,855.58**

### **KANI (Seminarians Fund)**

**Opening Balance as on 25.10.2021**

**32,66,321.77**

Mr. T. Gokulam Thangaraj, Virudhunagar	25,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Lourdhpuram	20,000.00
I.C.M. District House, Trichy	15,000.00
Rev.Fr. Selvaraj, Dindigul	10,000.00
Sisters of St. Joseph, St. Joseph Province, Madurai	10,000.00
Mr. M. Bilavendran & Mrs. Rathinam, Kariapatti	10,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Sengole Nagar	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Usilampatti	5,000.00
H.M. & Teachers, R.C. Middle School, P. Chettiapatti	5,000.00
Mr. Wilson & Family, Lourdhpuram	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Nilakottai	5,000.00
Cong.of the Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca, Moondrumavadi	5,000.00

Mrs. Kanagavayola, Bibikulam	3,000.00
Most. Rev. Archbishop, Madurai	2,500.00
Rev. Sr. Maria Alphonsal, Anbagam, Madurai	2,000.00
Rev. Sr. Monica, Lourdhpuram	2,000.00
Mannin Mainthergal, Lourdhpuram	2,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Anna Nagar ( Bination Mass)	1,500.00
Mr. Amalraj & G. Usha Bernedett	1,000.00
Holy Family Society. Lourdhpuram	1,000.00
Sacred Heart Sisters, Lourdhpuram	1,000.00
S. Regina Mary, Lourdhpuram	1,000.00
A. Sudhan Joshi & M. Silvester Family, Lourdhpuram	1,000.00
S. Sudhana Joys & M. Silvester Family, Lourdhpuram	1,000.00
St. Mary's Primary School, Attuvampatti	500.00
Mr. S. Paul & Lilly Teacher, Lourdhpuram	500.00
Sisters of St. Joseph Vaz, Pallangi Kombai, Kodaikanal	500.00
A.S. Jeganathan, Lourdhpuram	500.00
Anthonyammal, Pallangi Kombai, Kodaikanal	500.00
Unkown person, Lourdhpuram	200.00

**34,08,021.77**

Less: Bank SMS Charges - 1.20

1.20

**Closing Balance as on 25.11.2021**

**34,08,020.57**

Cash in Hand - Nil

Cash at Bank - 34,08,020.57

**34,08,020.57**

## **Historical Notes – *Madura Mission***

L. At the Footsteps of our Elder  
Brothers ...

**Fr. Maria Arul Thamburaj:** Fr. Thamburaj, a genius and a versatile writer was born on 31-05-1925 at Holy Redeemer Parish, Trichy for the parents of T.M. Sundaram, a railway employee and Pappammal. As his father got transferred near Kumbakonam he joined Sacred Heart petit seminary, Kumbakonam. Later he entered St. Peter's Seminary, Madurai in 1942 along with Fr. Jesudasan. He was ordained on 25-3-1950. He was appointed as Assistant at Singamparai under Fr. Manala. Throughout

his ministries Fr. Thambu gave his best to any ministry or work given to him, and he accomplished with maximum hard work and perfection. Fr. Arul Rayan states that he sought perfection and nothing else in his works.

During the period of his early seminary life itself Bro. Thamburaj had been a well known writer in magazines such as 'Nallayan', 'Sarva Viyabi' and 'Sathia Pothanai'. As a Seminarian the series he wrote on 'Catholic Faith in Japan' became popular.

He was working in Nobili Press from 1951 to 1961. He was helping Fr. Sama S.J., Fr. Muthumalai and Fr. Si. Ma. Visuvasam in editing and shaping 'Catholikk Sevai'. He gave a facelift to Sevai by installing new machines and by publishing Christian literature such as Thembavani to ordinary people. From 1961 he served in many parishes and yet he wrote continuous articles in Sevai. In 1974 once again he became the Editor of Sevai.

Later he was appointed as the Parish Priest of Thiruvarangam during which period he instrumented the bifurcation of Paramakudi as a new parish and became the first Parish Priest of Paramakudi. Then he was transferred to the parishes of Chidambarapuram and Veeravanallur.

When the TNBC decided to float a State wide magazine they identified Fr. Thamburaj and they appointed him as the Editor of "Nam Vazhvu". Sevai which had been the voice of 'Seva Sangam' sacrificed itself for the sake of Nam Vazhvu. However, since the archdiocese was in need of a family magazine, once again Sevai was revived as the archdiocesan magazine and Fr. Thambu, after a successful completion of his work in shaping and nurturing 'Nam Vazhvu', was appointed again as the Editor of Sevai in 1981. As an editor and a multitasking genius Fr. Thambu encouraged almost 150 Catholic lay writers to write in ecclesiastical magazines. Now most of them are renowned names of Catholic literary world.

Fr. Thambu's great contribution to the Tamilnadu Church is the composition of the present Tamil High (sung) Mass. The composition ..... நல்லாயன் திருப்பலி" which was introduced at the Consecration of Archbishop Justin Diraviam. He also wrote many articles in magazines and composed many songs to be sung at the Mass. Earlier Songs to be sung at the Holy Mass went under strict scrutiny and only after imprimatur from the Local Ordinary it could be used for liturgical purposes. The Songs that sprung from the mind and heart of Fr. Thamburaj

were theologically sound and deep enough to elevate the soul to the Master. They strengthened thousands of ordinary people who came to church in tears and weary of heart. His songs elevated the souls in praising God and enabled them to be contrite of heart as well. He insisted congregational singing in the Church which made everyone involved in the liturgical celebrations. And the local sheep did not go to another pasture!

Fr. Arul Rayan at his eulogy said: 'here is the man who used his five talents to its maximum and returned to the Lord as ten'. He said that Fr. Thambu used his talents with zest and zeal in the service of the Lord. A great composer of songs! A great writer and a versatile orator! All these he used for the greater glory of God. Therefore the title "Arul Kalaignar" sums up his total priestly life. He was a unique journalist of great repute who was honoured to represent all the journalists of Tamilnadu in Germany.



Fr. Thamburaj was also a Professor in St. Peter's seminary where he taught Latin and English. He was a Teacher par excellence who meticulously corrected all the notes of the brothers every day.

He was instrumental in establishing and founding the Schoenstaad Society at our Archdiocese. For some years after his retirement the Archdiocese rendered him to the Society to help the new Society in Tamilnadu. He also served as the Promoter of 'Thirupayana Madha' devotion in Tamilnadu. His devotion to our Blessed Mother is well known to all. Twice, he testified, that the Blessed Mother saved him from his very serious conditions of heart ailments. During his last days his sister Baby took care of him and warded off him from delicious food and saved him from his weakness for food. Due to which he lived a little longer singing here the praise of God. Finally the good Lord took him to himself on 8-7-2001 in order to give him a position in the great angelic choir in heaven. He is singing now continuously the praise of God together with the angelic choir. May the glorious name of Fr. Thamburaj and his devotion to our Blessed Mother be ever remembered by the Presbyterium of the Archdiocese.

*(to be continued)*

– Fr. Jodir.