



**Anna Nagar**

**La Saleth**



## Doors of Mercy



**Srivilliputhur**



**Gnanaolivupuram**

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## Diocesan News Letter

Archdiocese of Madurai

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February 2016

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No. 634



RETURN  
to the  
LORD  
YOUR  
GOD

THE FORTY DAYS of LENT





**Priests Reunion  
Jan. 27&28, 2016**



**கிறிஸ்து பிறப்பு விபந்விழா  
தூய ஈயன்னைப் பேராலயம்**



**தினனூர் பணிக்குழு  
வெங்கல் விழா**



**பிரக்கத்தின் கதவுகள்  
திருவிஸ்ஸிபுத்தூர்**

**Greetings  
to the new President  
of TNBC**



**Fr. Valentine Joseph G. (09)**



**Fr. Paul Britto S. (11)**

**Greetings  
on  
Birthday**



**Fr. David Sahayaraj S. (12)**



**Fr. Sebastine S. (12)**



**Fr. Xavier Raj S. (12)**

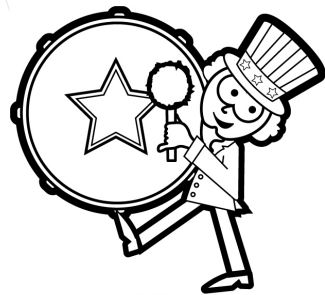


**Fr. Antony John Kennedy I. (20)**



**Fr. Maria Arul Selvam M. I. (25)**

**Congratulations  
to our beloved  
Archbishop on  
the Anniversary  
of his Episcopal  
Consecration.**



## *The Voice of the Pastor*

*My Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,*

The Gospel passage of John 10 speaks of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. He is the Good Shepherd, because, he sacrificed his life for the sheep (Jn 10:11). This means that Christ died in our place which becomes clear from the words of St. Paul, "Christ gave himself up for us" (Eph 5:2).



Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd, because, he knows his sheep and they know him. There is an intimate knowledge between Jesus and his sheep. Jesus knows the sheep by name individually and personally in all their joy and blessings<sup>d</sup> in all their trials and sorrows and in all their need and lack. He cares for them through intercession and by companionship.

The sheep know him by trusting in his love and care, in his companionship and leadership, in his experience and knowledge and in his destiny and pasture. The fact that the sheep know him so well is the clear proof that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Jesus knows the Father perfectly just as God knows everything about him. There is a perfect, intimate knowledge and relationship between them. That is why Jesus says, "I and the Father are one" (Jn 10:30). Jesus claims to be the Good Shepherd the one sent by God to be Good Shepherd of the sheep. The proof is that he knows the Father

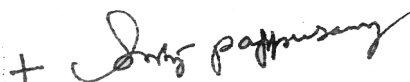


even as the Father knows him. As the Good Shepherd, he would not run away, when faced with the enemy of the sheep, but he would fight the enemy as the Good Shepherd. He did not say that he would fight and protect the sheep, but rather he said he would die for the sheep. He knew for certain that death awaited him and his purpose was to die for them. That is the reason, why he says, "the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the Sheep" (Jn 10:11).

Following the footsteps of Christ, the Good Shepherd, we must continue his work on earth. To accept him as our Good Shepherd means that we must live like him and allow ourselves to be transformed by his spirit.

We are called to know our sheep as Christ knows his sheep and this becomes possible only by our visiting the houses and institution in our parishes and listening to the joys and woes of our parishioners and showing solidarity with them in their trials and difficulties. We should also be ready to have a sacrificing attitude in case of need and lack on the part of their parishioners. Thus we prove ourselves to be Good Shepherds to our people which will strengthen their faith and enhance our companionship with them.

Yours loving Archbishop,



Archbishop of Madurai

### Archbishop's Engagements

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 03    | Blessing of the Parish Church @ Madhankoilpatty  |
| 04    | Archbishop's Consecration Day  |
| 05    | First Holy Communion Mass @ Lourdhipuram   |
| 06-07 | Madha TV Anniversary Celebrations @ Gnanaolivupuram  |
| 08    | Archbishop's House Community, Monthly Recollection   |
| 09    | Feast day Mass @ Puliyampatty  |
| 10    | Ash Wednesday Mass @ St. Mary's  |
| 11-12 | Provincial Bishop's Annual Meet @ St. Paul's, Trichy   |
| 13    | Provincial Bishop's Annual Meet @ Christ Hall Seminary, Karumathur                           |
| 14    | Pastoral visit & Parish Church 125 <sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebrations @ Sundaranachiyarpuram |
| 15    | Archdiocesan Education Council Meeting @ NPC   |
| 20    | M Closing of the Year of Consecrated Life - Archdiocesan Celebrations @ NPC                  |
| 21    | Catholic Professors Meet @ NPC   |
| 27    | Cultural Evening @ St. Mary's, Dindigul  |
| 28    | Pastoral Visit, Munjikkal  |
| 29    | Blessing of the old Age home & Mass @ Vadipatty  |

### **Pope's General Prayer Intention for February 2016:**

That we may take good care of creation-a gift freely given-cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

### **Pope's Mission Intention for February 2016:**

That opportunities may increase for dialogue and encounter between the Christian faith and the peoples of Asia.

### **பேராயரின் இம்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து**

அர்ப்பண ஆண்டு நிறைவிலே உயர்மறைமாவட்டத்தில் பணிபுரியும் அனைத்து துறவிகளின் உடல், உள்ள, ஆன்ம நலன்களுக்காக.

### **Please Note**

1. **Transfers & Appointments 2016:** The Priests have to take charge of the new offices on or before 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016. The concerned priests are kindly keep this in mind and prepare accordingly. Those who are completing the term of five years, and others who are expecting a transfer, are expected to complete the pending projects on time, and they are not supposed to start new projects anymore.
2. **The Feast Day of St. John De Britto,** the patron saint of our Archdiocese (and Sivagangai) is to be celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> February, in all our parish churches meaningfully. May the blood of the martyr shed for Christ take deeper roots in the soil of the Archdiocese.
3. **மாதா தொலைக் காட்சியின் இரண்டாவது ஆண்டு நிறைவுவிழாவானது** தூய வளனார் ஆலயம், ஞானஒளிவரம், மதுரையில் பிப்ரவரி 6ஆம் தேதி சனிக்கிழமை, தமிழக ஆயர் பேரவையின் சமூக தொடர்பு பணிக்குழுவின் தலைவர் மேதகு ஆயர் சிங்கராயர் அவர்களின் தலைமையில் மாலை 5.30 மணிக்கு ஆரம்பமாகி, பிப்ரவரி 7ஆம் தேதி ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை, மாலை 3.00 மணி அளவில், நமது பேராயர் மேதகு அந்தோனி பாப்பசாமி அவர்களின் நன்றித்திருப்பலியுடன் நிறைவுபெறும். மேலும் விபரங்கள் இத்துடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. பங்குத்தந்தையர்கள் அனைவரும் இறைமக்களுடன் கலந்து கொண்டு சிறப்பு செய்யவும்.

4. **Holy Childhood Sunday** falls this year on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2016. Kindly announce in the church on 7<sup>th</sup> inst. about the special collection to be made on the following Sunday. All the parish priests and the heads of institutions are kindly asked by our Archbishop to take special efforts to enhance the Holy Childhood Day collection, since we get the financial assistance for our orphanages.
5. The **priests' monthly recollection** for this month will be held on Vicariate level.
6. **Liturgical Regulations in the Parish:** All the religious and diocesan institutions in a parish are subject to the supervision of the parish priest in matters of liturgical celebrations (c.519). It is the duty of the superiors of such institutions to inform the parish priest about the liturgical activities on time.
7. For the celebration of the **24<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Sick**, to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 at Holy Land, the Holy Father published a special Message titled 'Entrusting Oneself to the Merciful Jesus like Mary: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5)'. The text is given in this Newsletter.
8. As **Lent starts on 10<sup>th</sup> February**, inst., it is good that we recall to our people the days of Penance (Rf. Ordo page 14). In view of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the parish priests are requested to initiate special programs during the lent, stressing the importance of Mercy.
9. **Our heartfelt condolence to Rev. Fr. Rosario** and his relatives, upon the demise of his younger brother Mr. Arul Santhanaraj, who expired on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2016. For the Funeral Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Gnanaolivupuram, our Archbishop, number of priests, religious and people from different parishes were present. Let us pray for the repose of his soul.
10. **துறவியர் ஆண்டு நிறைவு விழாவானது**, பிப்ரவரி 20ஆம் தேதியன்று நொபிலி மறைப்பணி நிலையத்தில் நடைபெறும். காலை 09.30 மணிக்கு நமது பேராயர் தலைமையில் திருப்பலியும், தொடர்ந்து கலைநிகழ்ச்சிகளும், மதிய விருந்தும் நடைபெறும். மேலும் விபரங்கள் அழைப்பிதழுடன் அனுப்பப்படும். அனைத்து மறைமாவட்ட குருக்களும், துறவியரும் தவறாது கலந்து கொள்ளவும்.

11. **Offering for the mass** is fixed as Rs.100/- for ordinary mass and Rs. 125/- for high mass. This change will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016.
12. **Rev. Fr. Britto Amalanathan has been excardinated** from the Archdiocese as per his request. The Archdiocese remembers him gratefully for all his pastoral ministry rendered during his stay with us. We earnestly pray that the lord may grant him good health and fulfilling ministry in the new Diocese in France.
13. It is regreted that in the previous edition of newsletter there was a mistake in the names of 'Doors of Mercy' (**Sirumalai instead of Srivilliputhur**). Kindly note that this edition gives the correct list.

### Commission of Evangelization & Anbiam

a. During lent season, evangelization commission gives more attention to village ministry. Those who go for village ministry are given training on 13-14<sup>th</sup> February 2016. After the training, they will be sent to the parishes three to seven days as per the need of the parish. They will guide the families to have family prayer, explain basic prayers, prepare for meaningful participation in the confession and Eucharist. Those parish priests, who want to make use of the team members for such ministries, are requested to contact the secretary.

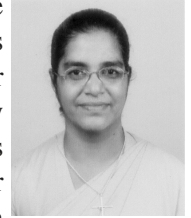
b. Month of January is meant for meaningful celebration of ANBIAM. If you have organized any special events in your parish kindly write a short report about it and send it to the secretary.

c. On 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016, St. Thomas Church, Perumalmalai, had a meaningful celebration of Anbiam. Rev. Fr. Arul explained the background and the content of 'Laudato Si' during sermon and invited all the Anbiam members to love and foster Nature, a gift from God. After the mass, the leaders of various members, around 30, gathered for a special meeting. The leaders shared their experiences, and the secretary explained how to conduct an Anbiam meeting. Our appreciation to Rev. Fr. B. Louis, the parish priest of Perumalmalai.

Holy Childhood Sunday is celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2016. Kinly organize special meeting for kanmanigal. You may encourage them through competitons and cultural items. Motivate the people as well as children to give the offering and share with the less privileged. Make special collection on that day and remit the collection earlier to the procurator. – Fr. Arul, Sec., Commission of Evan. & Anbiam.

### Women Commission

His Grace, our Archbishop has appointed Rev. Sr. Sahayarani of Kottiyam Holy Cross, as the new secretary of the Women Commission. She has served in the past as novice mistress, Asst. Provincial and community superior in her congregation. Her main task now, as secretary of Women Commission will be to build the women groups in all the parishes of our Archdiocese. Kindly lend your co-operation to the new secretary of our Archdiocesan Women Commission.



### சிறைப்பணிக்குழு

இரக்கத்தின் பூபிலி ஆண்டில், திருத்தந்தை அவர்களால் பரிந்துரைக்கப்பட்ட இரக்கச் செயல்களில் ஒன்று, சிறையிலிருப்போரை சந்திப்பது. அதன் அடிப்படையில், பத்து சிறைகளில் உள்ள சிறைக்கைதிகளை சந்தித்து தேற்றுவதோடு, அவர்தம் குடும்பத்தினருக்கும் உதவி செய்து வருகிறோம். கிறிஸ்து பிறப்பு பெருவிழாவை முன்னிட்டு, டிசம்பர் 16 அன்று திருமங்கலத்திலும் (அருட்தந்தை அமல உதயம், அருட்சகோதரிகள் ஜார்ஜ், தெரஸ், ஞானமணி) டிசம்பர் 19 அன்று விருதுநகரிலும், (அருட்தந்தையர்கள் பெனடிக்ட் ப்ரன்பாஸ், ஆரோக்கிய செல்வம், msfs, அருட்சகோதரி தயா) நிலக்கோட்டையிலும் (அருட்தந்தை அருண் அருளப்பன், அருட்சகோதரிகள் எலிசபெத், மிக்கேலம்மாள்), மேலூரிலும் (அருட்தந்தை போர்ஜியா, அருட்சகோதரிகள் பாத்திமா அந்தோனி, டென்னிஸ், செசிலி, கிரகோரி), டிசம்பர் 21 அன்று உசிலம்பட்டியிலும் (அருட்தந்தை ஜான் திரவியம், அருட்சகோதரி ஞானமணி), 22 அன்று மதுரை மத்தியச்சிறையிலும் (பேராயர் அவர்கள் தலைமையில் திருப்பலி), 28 அன்று ஸ்ரீவில்லிபுத்தூரிலும் (அருட்சகோதரிகள் பாத்திமா அந்தோனி, செசிலி) இறைமக்கள் உதவியுடன் சிறைக்கைதிகளுக்கு மதிய உணவு மற்றும் பரிசுகள் வழங்கப்பட்டன. உதவி செய்த நல் உள்ளங்களுக்கு நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறோம். – அருட்சகோதரி பாத்திமா அந்தோனி.

### இளைஞர் பணிக்குழு

சனவரி 10 அன்று பங்குகளில் இளைஞர் இயக்கத்தினை வழிநடத்தும் வழிகாட்டிகளுக்கான சிறப்பு கலந்துரையாடல் கூட்டமானது நொபலி அருட்பணி மையத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. 21 வழிகாட்டிகள் பங்கேற்று, தங்களது அனுபவங்களைப் பகிர்ந்து கொண்டனர். பங்குத்தந்தையின் ஒத்துழைப்பு அதிகம் உள்ள பங்குகளில் இளைஞர் இயக்கமானது மிகச் சிறப்பாகச் செயல்படுவதெனைப் பதிவு செய்தனர். பங்குத்தந்தையின் ஒத்துழைப்பு குறைவாக உள்ள பங்குகளில் இளைஞர்களை ஒருங்கிணைப்பது கடினமாக உள்ளது என்பதையும் வெளிப்படுத்தினார்கள். இளைஞர்களுக்குப் பங்கின் செயல்பாடுகளில் பங்கேற்க வாய்ப்பு வழங்கப்பட வேண்டும், பல்வேறு பயிற்சிகள் பங்கு அளவில் வழங்கப்பட வேண்டும், பங்குத்தந்தையர்கள் இளைஞர்களை ஒருங்கிணைப்பதில் அக்கறையை வெளிப்படுத்த வேண்டும், பெற்றோர் – இளைஞர் சந்திப்பினை பங்குகளில் ஏற்படுத்தி, சரியான புரிதல் ஏற்படுவதற்கான சூழலை பங்குத்தந்தையர்கள் உருவாக்க வேண்டும் ஆகிய கருத்துகள் பகிர்ந்து கொள்ளப்பட்டன.

சனவரி 16 அன்று மறைமாவட்ட அளவில் தமிழர் திருநாளாம் பொங்கல் விழாவானது பொதுக்குழுவுடன் இணைந்து கொண்டாடப்பட்டது. காலை 9.45க்கு அருள்பணி. முனைவர். மதுரை ஆனந்த் அவர்கள் தமிழர் திருநாளின் சிறப்பினை எடுத்துரைத்து, இளைஞர்கள் தமிழ் மொழியினையும் பண்பாட்டினையும் வளர்த்தெடுப்பதற்கு முன்னுரிமை வழங்க வேண்டும் என்று கூறி பொங்கலை மந்திரித்தார்கள். பலூனை ஊதி உடைத்தல், பானை உடைத்தல் ஆகிய விளையாட்டுகளை இளைஞர் நடத்தினர். பகல் 11.15க்கு



பேராயர் தலைமையில் பொங்கல் சிறப்பு திருப்பலியானது நடைபெற்றது. இளைஞர்கள் அவர்கள் தங்கள் வாழ்வில் பிடிபட்டன் வாழ வேண்டும். பழையனவற்றைக் களைந்து புத்துலகு படைப்பதற்கான வழிமுறைக் கண்டுணர்ந்து வாழ வேண்டும் என பேராயர் அவர்கள் இளைஞர்களுக்கு அறிவுரை

வழங்கினார். திருப்பலியைத் தொடர்ந்து, உத்தமபாளையம், ஞானஒளிவுபுரம்,

வ.புதுப்பட்டி ஆகிய பங்குகளைச் சேர்ந்த இளைஞர் இயக்க உறுப்பினர்கள் மண்ணின் மனம் கமழும் தமிழர் கலைகளைப் பாங்குற நிகழ்த்தினர். பகல் உணவிற்குப் பின்னர் பொதுக்குழு அமர்வானது நடைபெற்றது. 2016-ஆம் ஆண்டிற்கான ஆண்டுத் திட்டமானது உருவாக்கப்பட்டது. இயக்கப் பாடலுடன் பொதுக்குழு அமர்வானது நிறைவடைந்தது. இயக்கப் பொறுப்பாளர்களும் உறுப்பினர்களும் என 120 நபர்கள் பங்கேற்றுச் சிறப்பித்தனர்.

– அருட்தந்தை மார்ட்டின் ஜோசப்

### இறையழைத்தல் பணிக்குழு

சனவரி 2 அன்று 'வந்து பாருங்கள் – இறையழைத்தல் முகாம் – 4' –



ஆனது நொபலி அருட்பணி மையத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. பல பங்குகளிலிருந்து 9 முதல் 12 முடிய பயிலுவோர் 28 மாணவர்கள் பங்கேற்றனர். சகோ. சேவியர் அருளராயன், சகோ. மத்தியாஸ் ஆகியோர் முகாமினை வழிநடத்தினர். திருத்தொண்டர். இளங்கோ அற்புதராஜ் அவர்கள் இறையழைத்தலில்

நிலைத்திருப்பதற்கான வழிமுறைகளை விளக்கினார். மாலை தேநீருடன் முகாமானது நிறைவடைந்தது.

– அருட்தந்தை மார்ட்டின் ஜோசப்



### SANTA in Computer Exam

**Examiner:** What is Microsoft Excel?

**Santa :** It is a new brand of Surf Excel to Wash Computer?



**POPE FRANCIS**  
**MESSAGE FOR THE JUBILEE OF MERCY**  
**FOR YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS**  
*“Merciful Like the Father”*

*Dear Young Friends,*

The Church is celebrating the Holy Year of Mercy, a time of grace, peace, conversion and joy. It is meant for everyone: people of every age, from far and near. There are no walls or distances which can prevent the Father’s mercy from reaching and embracing us. The Holy Door is now open in Rome and in all the dioceses of the world.

This grace-filled moment also concerns you, dear young people. I encourage you to take an active part in this celebration and to realize that each of you is a child of God (cf. *1 Jn 3:1*). I would like to invite you, one by one, calling you by name, as Jesus does each day. For you know that your names are written in heaven (*Lk 10:20*), in the heart of the Father, that which is the source and kindness.

The Jubilee celebration, in this moment becomes a time when we can discover that brothers and sisters perhaps the most beautiful party we can imagine, the endless party that Jesus has taught us to celebrate by his Spirit. The Jubilee is the party to which Jesus invites us all, without excluding anyone. That is why I also wanted to have some days of prayer and celebration with you. I am looking forward to seeing many of you in April.

“Merciful like the Father”. This is the theme of the Jubilee, but it is also the prayer we make for all of you as we welcome you in the name of Jesus. To be merciful means to grow in a love which is courageous, generous and real. It means to grow physically and spiritually. You are preparing to be Christians capable of making courageous choices and decisions, in order to build daily, even through little things, a world of peace.



Merciful Heart  
of all reconciliation

is a year-long  
which every  
chance for us to  
is a time when we  
life together as  
is like a great party,  
beautiful party we

Yours is a time of life which is full of amazing changes. Everything seems possible and impossible all at once. I repeat what I said to some of your friends: “Remain steadfast in the journey of faith, with firm hope in the Lord. This is the secret of our journey! He gives us the courage to swim against the tide. Pay attention, my young friends: to go against the current; this is good for the heart, but we need courage to swim against the tide. Jesus gives us this courage! ... With him we can do great things; he will give us the joy of being his disciples, his witnesses. Commit yourselves to great ideals, to the most important things. We Christians were not chosen by the Lord for little things; push onwards toward the highest principles. Stake your lives on noble ideals” (*Homily at the Conferral of the Sacrament of Confirmation*, 2013).

Here I cannot forget those of you who are living in situations of war, extreme poverty, daily troubles and loneliness. Don’t ever lose hope! The Lord has a great dream which, with your help, he wants to come true! Your friends, young people your age living in less trying conditions than your own, have not forgotten you; they are working for peace and justice for everyone everywhere. Don’t be taken in by the messages of hatred or terror all around us. Instead, make new friends. Give of your time and always show concern for those who ask your help. Be brave and go against the tide; be friends of Jesus, who is the Prince of Peace (cf. *Is 9:6*). “Everything in him speaks of mercy. Nothing in him is devoid of compassion” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 8).

I realize that not all of you can come to Rome, but the Jubilee is truly for everyone and it is also being celebrated in your local Churches. You are all invited to this moment of joy. Don’t just prepare your rucksacks and your banners, but your hearts and your minds as well. Think carefully about the hope and desires you will hand over to Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and in the Eucharist which we will celebrate together. As you walk through the Holy Door, remember that you are committing yourselves to grow in holiness and to draw nourishment from the Gospel and the Eucharist, the Word and the Bread of life, in order to help build a more just and fraternal world.

May the Lord bless your journey towards the Holy Door. I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide your steps and enlighten you. For you and your families, and for all who help you to grow in goodness and in grace, may the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of us all, be true Door of Mercy. *From the Vatican, 6 January 2016, Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.*

**FRANCIS**



**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR THE 24th WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2016**

***Entrusting Oneself to the Merciful Jesus like Mary:  
“Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2:5)***

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

The twenty-fourth World Day of the Sick offers me an opportunity to draw particularly close to you, dear friends who are ill, and to those who care for you.

This year, since the Day of the Sick will be solemnly celebrated in the Holy Land, I wish to propose a meditation on the Gospel account of the wedding feast of Cana (Jn2: 1-11), where Jesus performed his first miracle through the intervention of his Mother. The theme chosen -

*Entrusting the Merciful Mary: “Do tells you” (Jn fitting in light of Extraordinary Mercy. The main celebration of the place on 11*



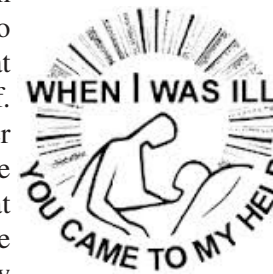
*Oneself to Jesus like whatever he 2:5) is quite t h e Jubilee of Eucharistic Day will take February*

2016, the liturgical memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, in Nazareth itself, where “the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” (Jn1:14). In Nazareth, Jesus began his salvific mission, applying to himself the words of the Prophet Isaiah, as we are told by the Evangelist Luke: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord” (Lk 4:18-19).

Illness, above all grave illness, always places human existence in crisis and brings with it questions that dig deep. Our first response may at times be one of rebellion: Why has this happened to me? We can feel desperate, thinking that all is lost, that things no longer have meaning... In these situations, faith in God is on the one hand tested, yet at the same time can reveal all of its positive resources. Not because faith makes

illness, pain, or the questions which they raise, disappear, but because it offers a key by which we can discover the deepest meaning of what we are experiencing; a key that helps us to see how illness can be the way to draw nearer to Jesus who walks at our side, weighed down by the Cross. And this key is given to us by Mary, our Mother, who has known this way at first hand.

At the wedding feast of Cana, Mary is the thoughtful woman who sees a serious problem for the spouses: the wine, the symbol of the joy of the feast, has run out. Mary recognizes the difficulty, in some way makes it her own, and acts swiftly and discreetly. She does not simply look on, much less spend time in finding fault, but rather, she turns to Jesus and presents him problem: “They have no when Jesus tells her that him to reveal himself (cf. servants: “Do whatever Jesus then performs the into wine, a wine that be the best of the whole teaching can we draw the wedding feast of Cana for the World Day of the Sick?



with the concrete wine” (Jn 2:3). And it is not yet the time for v. 4), she says to the he tells you” (v.5). miracle, turning water immediately appears to celebration. What from this mystery of

The wedding feast of Cana is an image of the Church: at the centre there is Jesus who in his mercy performs a sign; around him are the disciples, the first fruit of the new community; and beside Jesus and the disciples is Mary, the provident and prayerful Mother. Mary partakes of the joy of ordinary people and helps it to increase; she intercedes with her Son on behalf of the spouses and all the invited guests. Nor does Jesus refuse the request of his Mother. How much hope there is in that event for all of us! We have a Mother with benevolent and watchful eyes, like her Son; a heart that is maternal and full of mercy, like him; hands that want to help, like the hands of Jesus who broke bread for those who were hungry, touched the sick and healed them. All this fills us with trust and opens our hearts to the grace and mercy of Christ. Mary’s intercession makes us experience the consolation for which the apostle Paul blesses God: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all encouragement, who encourages us in our affliction, so that we may be able to encourage

those who are in any affliction with the encouragement with which we ourselves are encouraged by God. For as Christ's sufferings overflow to us, so through Christ does our encouragement also overflow" (2 Cor 1:3-5). Mary is the "comforted" Mother who comforts her children.

At Cana the distinctive features of Jesus and his mission are clearly seen: he comes to the help of those in difficulty and need. Indeed, in the course of his messianic ministry he would heal many people of illnesses, infirmities and evil spirits, give sight to the blind, make the lame walk, restore health and dignity to lepers, raise the dead, and proclaim the good news to the poor (cf. Lk 7:21-22). Mary's request at the wedding feast, suggested by the Holy Spirit to her maternal heart, clearly shows not only Jesus' messianic power but also his mercy.

In Mary's concern we see reflected the tenderness of God. This same tenderness is present in the lives of all those persons who attend the sick and understand their needs, even the most imperceptible ones, because they look upon them with eyes full of love. How many times has a mother at the bedside of her sick child, or a child caring for an elderly parent, or a grandchild concerned for a grandparent, placed his or her prayer in the hands of Our Lady! For our loved ones who suffer because of illness we ask first for their health. Jesus himself showed the presence of the Kingdom of God specifically through his healings: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them" (Mt 11:4-5). But love animated by faith makes us ask for them something greater than physical health: we ask for peace, a serenity in life that comes from the heart and is God's gift, the fruit of the Holy Spirit, a gift which the Father never denies to those who ask him for it with trust.

In the scene of Cana, in addition to Jesus and his Mother, there are the "servants", whom she tells: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5). Naturally, the miracle takes place as the work of Christ; however, he wants to employ human assistance in performing this miracle. He could have made the wine appear directly in the jars. But he wants to rely upon human cooperation, and so he asks the servants to fill them with water. How wonderful and pleasing to God it is to be servants of others! This more than anything else makes us like Jesus, who "did not come to be served but to serve" (Mk 10:45). These unnamed people in the Gospel

teach us a great deal. Not only do they obey, but they obey generously: they fill the jars to the brim (cf. Jn 2:7). They trust the Mother and carry out immediately and well what they are asked to do, without complaining, without second thoughts.

On this World Day of the Sick let us ask Jesus in his mercy, through the intercession of Mary, his Mother and ours, to grant to all of us this same readiness to be serve those in need, and, in particular, our infirm brothers and sisters. At times this service can be tiring and burdensome, yet we are certain that the Lord will surely turn our human efforts into something divine. We too can be hands, arms and hearts which help God to perform his miracles, so often hidden. We too, whether healthy or sick, can offer up our toil and sufferings like the water which filled the jars at the wedding feast of Cana and was turned into the finest wine. By quietly helping those who suffer, as in illness itself, we take our daily cross upon our shoulders and follow the Master (cf. Lk 9:23). Even though the experience of suffering will always remain a mystery, Jesus helps us to reveal its meaning.

If we can learn to obey the words of Mary, who says: "Do whatever he tells you", Jesus will always change the water of our lives into precious wine. Thus this World Day of the Sick, solemnly celebrated in the Holy Land, will help fulfil the hope which I expressed in the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy: 'I trust that this Jubilee year celebrating the mercy of God will foster an encounter with [Judaism and Islam] and with other noble religious traditions; may it open us to even more fervent dialogue so that we might know and understand one another better; may it eliminate every form of closed-mindedness and disrespect, and drive out every form of violence and discrimination' (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 23). Every hospital and nursing home can be a visible sign and setting in which to promote the culture of encounter and peace, where the experience of illness and suffering, along with professional and fraternal assistance, helps to overcome every limitation and division.

For this we are set an example by the two Religious Sisters who were canonized last May: Saint Marie-Alphonsine Danil Ghattas and Saint Mary of Jesus Crucified Baouardy, both daughters of the Holy Land. The first was a witness to meekness and unity, who bore clear witness to the importance of being responsible for one another other, living in

service to one another. The second, a humble and illiterate woman, was docile to the Holy Spirit and became an instrument of encounter with the Muslim world.

To all those who assist the sick and the suffering I express my confident hope that they will draw inspiration from Mary, the Mother of Mercy. “May the sweetness of her countenance watch over us in this Holy Year, so that all of us may rediscover the joy of God’s tenderness” (*ibid.*, 24), allow it to dwell in our hearts and express it in our actions! Let us entrust to the Virgin Mary our trials and tribulations, together with our joys and consolations. Let us beg her to turn her eyes of mercy towards us, especially in times of pain, and make us worthy of beholding, today and always, the merciful face of her Son Jesus! With this prayer for all of you, I send my Apostolic Blessing.

*From the Vatican, 15 September 2015  
Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows*



5.6.02.2016	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	வெள்ளி, சனி
13,14.02.2016	கொடைக்கானல்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
19,20.02.2016	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	வெள்ளி, சனி
27,28.02.2016	உத்தம்பானையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு

அருட்தந்தை. ஜோசப், செயலர்



### **New Way Of Writing Exams**

*New way of writing answers in exams.*

*If you don't know the answer,  
then put lines like this :*

|||||||

*and write below :*

*“Scratch here for the ANSWER”*

### **Holy Childhood**

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>1,70,494.00</b>
St. Josep’s Home, P. Chettiapatti	10,000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>1,80,494.00</b>
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### **St. Peter’s Pence - 2015**

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>84,222.00</b>
K. Pudur	3,000.00
Silukkuvarpatti	2,000.00
Munjikkal	1,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1,000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>91,222.00</b>
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### **Prison Ministry**

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>89,028.00</b>
Silukkuvarpatti	2,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1000.00
Munjikkal	1000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>93,028.00</b>
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### **Bible Sunday**

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>1,01,190.00</b>
Silukkuvarpatti	2,000.00
K. Pudur	2,000.00
Munjikkal	1,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1,000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>1,07,190.00</b>
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### Mission Sunday

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>22,78,320.00</b>
Sengole Nagar	60,000.00
Christ Hall Seminary	50,000.00
W. Pudupatti	30,000.00
St. Britto Hr. Sec. School	5,000.00
Bodinayakanur	2,100.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>24,25,420.00</b>
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### African Mission

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>55,217.00</b>
Munjikkal	6,000.00
K. Pudur	3,000.00
Ayravathanallur	1,000.00
Silukkuvarpatti	1,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1,000.00
Karumathur	300.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>67,517.00</b>
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### Communication Day

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>57,195.00</b>
K. Pudur	2,000.00
Silukkuvarpatti	2,000.00
Munjikkal	1,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1,000.00
Mangudi Meenatchiapuram	1,000.00
Ayravathanallur	500.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>64,695.00</b>
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### Peter the Apostle

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>47,541.00</b>
Munjikkal	6,500.00
Samayanallur	2,600.00
K. Pudur	2,000.00
Silukkuvarpatti	2,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1,000.00
Mangudi Meenatchiapuram	1,000.00
Ayravathanallur	1,000.00
Karumathur	300.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>63,941.00</b>
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### KANI (Seminarians Fund)

Parishner, Thirunagar	30,390.00
Gnanaolivupuram	30,000.00
Salesian Province, Trichy	15,000.00
Nagamalai Pudukottai	10,100.00
CIC Provincialate, Viraganur	10,000.00
Sacred Heart Church, Munjikkal	10,000.00
CIC, Generalate, Madurai	10,000.00
K. Pudur	10,000.00
Anna Nagar	10,000.00
Mr. Germanus	10,000.00
MMSSS	10,000.00
Mr. V.F. Amalraj & Family, Kochadai	10,000.00
St. Mary's Hr. Sec. School, Rajakambiram, Sivagangai	10,000.00
Mr. Michael & Selvamary Family, T. Sindalacherry	10,000.00
Ayan Kollan Kondan Parishner, Sundaranachiapuram	8,993.00
Karumathur	6,000.00
St. John's Schoenstatt Fathers, Matha Nagar	5,000.00
Rosary Church	5,000.00
Fr. Antony Rubandass, OFM, Ramayanpatty	5,000.00
Mr. Siluvai & Family Ex Councilor	5,000.00

Engineer. Dominic Lawrence Annanagar	5,000.00
Monfrt Brothers, Sattur	5,000.00
Infant Jesus Province FIHM, Othakadai	5,000.00
St. Antony's Church, Marampadi	5,000.00
Capuchin Provincialate, Madurai	5,000.00
Mrs. Maeve Reardon, Australia	5,000.00
Hanumanthanpatti	5,000.00
St. Mary's Cathedral	5,000.00
Don Bosco Hr. Sec. School, Surya Nagar	5,000.00
Thirunagar	5,000.00
Fatima Matha Anbiyam, Bibikulam	1,500.00
Holy Cross Convent, Sulakkarai	1,500.00
Sister of St. Anne, Hanumanthanpatti	1,000.00
Social Service Centre, Gnanaolivupuram	1,000.00
Christ Hall Seminary, Karumathur	1,000.00
Mr. Antony Jude, Bastin Nagar	1,000.00
Mariyayin Senai, Madurai	500.00
Kavirayapuram	500.00
Mr. Santhose Rajapandi , Chokkanathanputhur	500.00

<b>Collection as on 25/01/2016</b>	<b>2,78,983.00</b>
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### **Chennai Rain Relief Mission**

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>12,66,093.00</b>
CIC President - CRI Madurai	1,50,000.00
Sengole Nagar	1,02,000.00
Samayanallur	1,00,000.00
Sundaranachiarapuram	70,820.00
Leuca Mat. Hr. Sec.School, Bastin Nagar	65,615.00
Christ the King Matriculation School, Sengole Nagar	50,000.00
CRI Unit, Kodaikanal	30,000.00
W. Pudupatti	27,500.00
J.A. College for Women, Periyakulam	20,000.00
Nagamalai	18,000.00
Srivilliputhur	10,300.00
K. Pudur	15,000.00
EBG School, Moondrumavadi	8,745.00
Mangudi Meentachiarapuram	4,500.00

Fr. Alex Gnanaraj, Madurai	3,500.00
Bodinayakkanur	2,000.00

<b>Collection as on 25/01/2016</b>	<b>19,44,073.00</b>
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### **Opus**

<b>Collection as on 16/12/2015</b>	<b>42,625.00</b>
Munjikkal	5,730.00
K. Pudur	3,000.00
Samayanallur	2,750.00
Theni	2,100.00
Silukkuvarpatti	1,000.00
Ayravathanallur	1,000.00
Mangudi Meenachiarapuram	1,000.00
W. Pudupatti	1,000.00
Karumathur	300.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>60,505.00</b>
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### **Mass Received From Parishes**

Silukkuvarpatti (300 Nos)	15,000.00
Railway Colony (100 Nos)	5,000.00

<b>Collection as on 22/01/2016</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>
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### **Omission in January 2016 Issue** **Mission Sunday 2014**

Samayanallur	27,520.00
Nilakottai	1,000.00