



Feast Mass - Louca Convent



Feast Celebration - CIC Provincialate



Arul Malar Matric. Hc Sec. School - K.K. Nagar



Ecumenical Carol Service - Bastian Nagar



Madurai CRI Meeting



Christmas Celebration - MMSSS

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DNL Archdiocese of Madurai News Letter

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HAPPY NEW 2019 YEAR



**Prayerful Felicitations
to His Grace
ON THE FEAST DAY OF
ST. ANTONY, THE HERMIT,
THE 17TH INST.**

**May the good Lord bless
our Archbishop with deeper experiences
and divine wisdom to animate,
lead and shepherd the flock of the
Faithful in the Archdiocese
and in Palayamkottai.**

*- The Presbyterium, the Religious and the Laity,
Archdiocese of Madurai.*



Diamond Jubilee Mass - Usilampatti



Christmas Celebration - Evangelical Commission



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Paul Raj I. (04)

Fr. Anbu Selvam A. (06)

Fr. Benedict Ambrose Raj (10)

Fr. Antony Packiam A. (14)

Fr. Vincent Madhan Babu (22)

Fr. Jeganathan S. (23)

Fr. Gnana Sandanam M. (25)

Fr. Xavier Raj A. (25)

Fr. Pappuraj (28)

Fr. Arulanandam B. (29)

The Voice of the Pastor (January 2019)

My dear Fathers, brothers and sisters,

Jesus in his farewell discourse to his disciples at the Last Supper gives his final testament of love and the passage from St. John 15/ 1-8 reveals this precious treasure. He wants us to bear fruit and fruit in abundance that will last.



Left to ourselves however we may try we may not be able to do anything. But the only successful way for our life is what Jesus tells us: "Abide in me as I abide in you" (Jn. 15:5). He wants us by all means that we live in Him and this relationship is very intimate. As disciples of Christ our way of life does not consist merely in following certain rituals, set of prayers, dress code and diet, but a life with him in close and warm intimacy. By our living with Him we share our life together, our joys and sorrows, tragedies and triumphs which indicate that in everything we are together and one. This is the desire of Jesus Christ. Even though we do not see him with our physical eyes he wants us to be one in love with each of us by our faith.

We know that we are living in Christ by keeping his commandments. Hence Jesus says "whoever keeps my commandments lives in God and God lives in him" (Jn. 15: 10). Thus we experience his presence in us. By keeping his commandments we love him and He also will love us (cfr. Jn. 14:21).

We should have an intimate and personal relationship with Jesus in Faith. We should never be satisfied merely with reciting

certain prayers and observing certain rituals to a God who is beyond our reach while we live our own life here below. To meet Jesus let us abide in Him and put aside time everyday to read and pray the Word of God and listen to Jesus speaking to us and respond by speaking to Him.

May God bless you abundantly not only on the First day of the year 2019 but throughout your life.

May God bless you all,
Your loving Archbishop,

+ Most Rev. Dr. Antony Pappusamy

Archbishop of Madurai

Pope's General Intention for December 2018

Evangelization: That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

பேராயரின் சீம்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து

வந்தைக்க : ஆண்டவரிடம் கொள்ளும் அச்சம் ஞானத்தின் தொடக்கம் (நீ.வொ. 1:19)

வளர்க்க : வாழ்வுக்கு ஆதாரமான இயற்கையை போற்றிக் காப்பதும், வளர்ப்பதும் நம் கடமை என உணர.

வாழ்வாக்க : நம் வாழ்வில் புறத்தாய்மைக்குக் கொடுக்கும் சிறப்பினை அகத்தாய்மைக்குத் தந்து முழு நிறைவு பெற்ற மனிதராக வாழ

Archbishop's Engagements

- 03 Thu M Blessing of Basketball Court, St. Britto Hr. Sec.School
 04 Fri E Priestly Ordination, Srivillipudur
 05 Sat M Inauguration of Arputha Yordan Prayer Centre,
 Palayamkottai
 06-15 CCBI Meeting, Chennai
 16 Wed E Flag Hoisting, Marambady
 17 Thu E Silver Jubilee Mass, Surandai
 18 Fri E Centenary Year Celebration, Kuzhithurai
 19 Sat E Jubilee Mass, Vellore
 20 Sun M Confirmation, Virudunagar
 21-23 TNBC Half Yearly Meeting
 24 Thu M Platinum Jubilee, V.K. Puram
 25 Fri E Jubilee Mass, Andipatti
 26 Sat M Blessing, FSBM, Palayamkottai
 Mass, Puliampatti
 E Church Consecration, Chithampanagar
 27 Sun M Confirmation, Ayavathanallure
 28 Mon E Blessing of Convent and Home, SMSM, Karumathur
 29-30 Priests Reunion, NPC

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

இம்மாதம் விழா கொண்டாடும் பங்குகள்

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| 1. மூன்று ஞானியர் ஆலயம், வ. புதுப்பட்டி | - | ஜனவரி 6 |
| 2. குழந்தை இயேசு ஆலயம், உகார்த்தே நகர் | - | ஜனவரி 15 |
| 3. புனித செபஸ்தியார் ஆலயம், எல்லீஸ்நகர் | - | ஜனவரி 20 |
| 4. வின்சென்ட் பல்லோட்டி ஆலயம், திருநகர் | - | ஜனவரி 22 |
| 5. குழந்தை இயேசு ஆலயம், ஒத்தையால் | - | ஜனவரி 30 |
| 6. தொன்போஸ்கோ ஆலயம், ஆலங்குளம் | - | ஜனவரி 31 |

இப்பங்குகளில் பணி புரியும் பங்குத்தந்தையர்களுக்கும், துறவறத்தாருக்கும்
 இறைமக்களுக்கும் எனது வாழ்த்துகளும் ஜெபங்களும்.

+ பேராயர் அந்தோனி பாப்புசாமி

HAPPY FEAST

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

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Order of Mother of God (OMD) | - | 1 st January |
| Society of the Divine Word (SDV) | - | 15 th January |
| Society of the Catholic Apostolate (SAC) | - | 22 nd January |
| Pallottine Missionary Sisters (SAC) | - | 22 nd January |
| Congregation of St. Francis de Sales (MSFS) | - | 24 th January |
| Congregation of Samaritan Sisters (CSS) | - | 25 th January |
| Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB) | - | 31 st January |
| Montfort Fathers (SM) | - | 31 st January |

Please Note

1. **A Blessed New Year 2019:** His Grace greets all the Readers of DNL a **blessed New Year 2019** and imparts his New Year Blessings to everyone. His Grace wishes that the New Year may bring forth renewed **Peace, Joy, Fellowship and Prosperity** among all the Christian faithful in the Archdiocese of Madurai. Let the good works flourish in the Archdiocese. *Floreas et crescas!*



As the Holy Father exhorts in his New Year Message on 1st January, 2019 that “*politics must serve peace*”, the Archbishop exhorts all the priests and religious in the Archdiocese to give proper motivation to the faithful on **Politics, coming General Election, Citizen’s Responsibility to exercise the franchise** etc., this year specially.



2. **Priestly Ordination:** Our Archbishop will confer Priestly Ordination to **Rev. Dn. M. Santhiyagappan** at 5:30 pm., on 4th inst., Friday at Sacred Heart Church, Srivilliputhur. The Mother, the Archdiocese, rejoices at her new son, who has come with full vigour and joy to serve the Lord and His people.

Congratulations to the **Ordinandi**.

Name : **M. Santhiyagappan**
 Date of Birth : 15-5-1979
 Parish : Srivilliputhur
 Father : Mr. K. Michael Rayappan (Late)
 Mother : Mrs. Jeayaseeli
 Siblings : 3 Brothers and 2 Sisters
 Motto : “*To Abide in Jesus’ Love*” (Jn. 15:9)



3. **Silver Jubilee Celebrations:** During the Reunion on 29-30 inst., the *Presbyterium* of Madurai will celebrate the **SACERDOTAL SILVER JUBILEE** of **Rev. Fr. J. Charles Heston, Rev. Fr. A. David Arockiam, Rev. Fr. T. Edward Francis Xavier and Rev. Fr. R.P. George Stephen** and thank them for their committed and fruitful priestly ministries for the past 25 years in the Archdiocese of Madurai and abroad. DNL greets the Jubilarians *Ad multos annos.*



MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE
FRANCIS

FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE
52nd WORLD DAY OF PEACE

1 JANUARY 2019

Good politics is at the service of peace

1. "Peace be to this house!"

In sending his disciples forth on mission, Jesus told them: "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you" (Lk 10:5-6).

Bringing peace is central to the mission of Christ's disciples. That peace is offered to all those men and women who long for peace amid the tragedies and violence that mark human history. The "house" of which Jesus speaks is every family, community, country and continent, in all their diversity and history. It is first and foremost each individual person, without distinction or discrimination. But it is also our "common home": the world in which God has placed us and which we are called to care for and cultivate.

So let this be my greeting at the beginning of the New Year: "Peace be to this house!"

2. *The challenge of good politics*

Peace is like the hope which the poet Charles Péguy celebrated. It is like a delicate flower struggling to blossom on the stony ground of violence. We know that the thirst for power at any price leads to abuses and injustice. Politics is an essential means of building human community and institutions, but when political life is not seen as a form of service to society as a whole, it can become a means of oppression, marginalization and even destruction.

Jesus tells us that, "if anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all" (Mk 9:35). In the words of the author, "to take politics seriously at its different levels – local, regional, national and worldwide – is to affirm the duty of each individual to acknowledge the reality and

value of the freedom offered him to work at one and the same time for the good of the city, the nation and all mankind". Political office and political responsibility thus constantly challenge those called to the service of their country to make every effort to protect those who live there and to create the conditions for a worthy and just future. If exercised with basic respect for the life, freedom and dignity of persons, political life can indeed become an outstanding form of charity.

3. *Charity and human virtues: the basis of politics at the service of human rights and peace*

Pope Benedict XVI noted that "every Christian is called to practise charity in a manner corresponding to his vocation and according to the degree of influence he wields in the *pólis*... When animated by charity, commitment to the common good has greater worth than a merely secular and political stand would have... Man's earthly activity, when inspired and sustained by charity, contributes to the building of the universal city of God, which is the goal of the history of the human family". This is a programme on which all politicians, whatever their culture or religion, can agree, if they wish to work together for the good of the human family and to practise those human virtues that sustain all sound political activity: justice, equality, mutual respect, sincerity, honesty, fidelity.

In this regard, it may be helpful to recall the "Beatitudes of the Politician", proposed by Vietnamese Cardinal François-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, a faithful witness to the Gospel who died in 2002:

Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role.

Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility.
Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest.

Blessed be the politician who remains consistent.

Blessed be the politician who works for unity.

Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change.

Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening.

Blessed be the politician who is without fear.

Every election and re-election, and every stage of public life, is an opportunity to return to the original points of reference that inspire justice and law. One thing is certain: good politics is at the service of peace. It

respects and promotes fundamental human rights, which are at the same time mutual obligations, enabling a bond of trust and gratitude to be forged between present and future generations.

4. Political vices

Sadly, together with its virtues, politics also has its share of vices, whether due to personal incompetence or to flaws in the system and its institutions. Clearly, these vices detract from the credibility of political life overall, as well as the authority, decisions and actions of those engaged in it. These vices, which undermine the ideal of an authentic democracy, bring disgrace to public life and threaten social harmony. We think of corruption in its varied forms: the misappropriation of public resources, the exploitation of individuals, the denial of rights, the flouting of community rules, dishonest gain, the justification of power by force or the arbitrary appeal to *raison d'état* and the refusal to relinquish power. To which we can add xenophobia, racism, lack of concern for the natural environment, the plundering of natural resources for the sake of quick profit and contempt for those forced into exile.

5. Good politics promotes the participation of the young and trust in others

When the exercise of political power aims only at protecting the interests of a few privileged individuals, the future is compromised and young people can be tempted to lose confidence, since they are relegated to the margins of society without the possibility of helping to build the future. But when politics concretely fosters the talents of young people and their aspirations, peace grows in their outlook and on their faces. It becomes a confident assurance that says, "I trust you and with you I believe" that we can all work together for the common good. Politics is at the service of peace if it finds expression in the recognition of the gifts and abilities of each individual. "What could be more beautiful than an outstretched hand? It was meant by God to offer and to receive. God did not want it to kill (cf. *Gen 4:1ff*) or to inflict suffering, but to offer care and help in life. Together with our heart and our intelligence, our hands too can become a means of dialogue".

Everyone can contribute his or her stone to help build the common home. Authentic political life, grounded in law and in frank and fair relations between individuals, experiences renewal whenever we are convinced that every woman, man and generation brings the promise of

new relational, intellectual, cultural and spiritual energies. That kind of trust is never easy to achieve, because human relations are complex, especially in our own times, marked by a climate of mistrust rooted in the fear of others or of strangers, or anxiety about one's personal security. Sadly, it is also seen at the political level, in attitudes of rejection or forms of



nationalism that call into question the fraternity of which our globalized world has such great need. Today more than ever, our societies need "artisans of peace" who can be messengers and authentic witnesses of God the Father, who wills the good and the happiness of the human family.

6. No to war and to the strategy of fear

A hundred years after the end of the First World War, as we remember the young people killed in those battles and the civilian populations torn apart, we are more conscious than ever of the terrible lesson taught by fratricidal wars: peace can never be reduced solely to a balance between power and fear. To threaten others is to lower them to the status of objects and to deny their dignity. This is why we state once more that an escalation of intimidation, and the uncontrolled proliferation of arms, is contrary to morality and the search for true peace. Terror exerted over those who are most vulnerable contributes to the exile of entire populations who seek a place of peace. Political addresses that tend to blame every evil on migrants and to deprive the poor of hope are unacceptable. Rather, there is a need to reaffirm that peace is based on respect for each person, whatever his or her background, on respect for the law and the common good, on respect for the environment entrusted to our care and for the richness of the moral tradition inherited from past generations.

Our thoughts turn in a particular way to all those children currently living in areas of conflict, and to all those who work to protect their lives and defend their rights. One out of every six children in our world is affected by the violence of war or its effects, even when they are not enrolled as child soldiers or held hostage by armed groups. The witness given by those who work to defend them and their dignity is most precious for the future of humanity.

7. A great project of peace

In these days, we celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in the wake of the Second World War. In this context, let us also remember the observation of Pope : “Man’s awareness of his rights must inevitably lead him to the recognition of his duties. The possession of rights involves the duty of implementing those rights, for they are the expression of a man’s personal dignity. And the possession of rights also involves their recognition and respect by others”.

Peace, in effect, is the fruit of a great political project grounded in the mutual responsibility and interdependence of human beings. But it is also a challenge that demands to be taken up ever anew. It entails a conversion of heart and soul; it is both interior and communal; and it has three inseparable aspects:

- **peace with oneself**, rejecting inflexibility, anger and impatience; in the words of Saint Francis de Sales, showing “a bit of sweetness towards oneself” in order to offer “a bit of sweetness to others”;

- **peace with others**: family members, friends, strangers, the poor and the suffering, being unafraid to encounter them and listen to what they have to say;

- **peace with all creation**, rediscovering the grandeur of God’s gift and our individual and shared responsibility as inhabitants of this world, citizens and builders of the future.

The politics of peace, conscious of and deeply concerned for every situation of human vulnerability, can always draw inspiration from the *Magnificat*, the hymn that Mary, the Mother of Christ the Saviour and Queen of Peace, sang in the name of all mankind: “He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly; ...for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever” (Lk 1:50-55).

From the Vatican, 8 December 2018

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 15.12.2018

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 11/2/18	Holy See 11/3/18	Hunger Disease 29/3/18	Good Friday 30/3/18	Vocation Sunday 22/4/18
1	A. Nathampatti	300	300	1500	1000	400
2	Alankulam	600	600	2250	2250	600
3	Ammapatty	1180	1280	8150	4130	800
4	Anjal Nagar	6125	5200	65257	43351	6300
5	Anna Nagar	12530	10360	150000	38726	8850
6	Aruppukottai	1500	1000	15000	5000	1000
7	Ayravathanallur	2000	2000	10000	8000	1000
8	Bastin Nagar	15000	9000	124000	29000	11000
9	Batlagundu	2600	2400	40000	10000	2500
10	Bibikulam	4500	2750	43017	10183	3440
11	Bodinayakanur	500	500	10000	3000	300
12	Chinnamanur	460	270	1050	2030	417
13	Cumbum	1600	1270	17200	4400	1520
14	Devadanam	3930	1600	23270	3880	1800
15	Ellis Nagar	11917	7560	110981	23220	9947
16	Gnanaolivupuram	7000	7000	116110	43500	6390
17	Hanumanthanpatty	1200	1300	14000	7340	1150
18	Holy Rosary Church	5000	5000	50000	10000	3000
19	Iyyampalayam	200	200	1300	1200	200
20	K. Pudur	2000	2000	40000	30000	2000
21	Kadachanendal	1500	1500	25500	17000	1500
22	Kadamalaikundu	200	200	3500	2700	200
23	Kalladipatti	1000	1000	5000	2100	1000
24	Kariapatty	1000	1000	6230	6070	1000
25	Karumathur	630	510	1500	3650	500
26	Kavirayapuram	350	350	2810	4860	320
27	Kottur	1000	1000	15000	16700	1000
28	Lourdipuram	500	500	2000	2000	500
29	Megamalai	200	200	200	300	200
30	Mangalamkombu	400	470	3000	1955	400
31	M. Meenachiapuram	1020	1210	4520	3700	1280
32	Mathankovilpatti	600	500	5000	1500	500
33	Marianus Nagar					
34	Meenampatti	3860	2120	31333	4035	2077
35	Melur		1910	12762	6260	1200

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 15.12.2018

St. Peter's Pence 01/07/18	Communication Day 07/07/18	Prision Ministry 12/08/18	Bible Sunday 30/09/18	Mission Sunday 21/10/18	African Mission 04/11/18	Peter the Apostle 25/11/18	Opus 02/12/18
600	600	600	700	8000	1000	700	700
800	800	800	1000	8500	1500	750	750
4500	5000	5250		33903	4355	3500	
8780	8410	10000	8730	153405	9070	9500	9310
1000	1000						
1000	1000	1000	1000	40000	1000	1000	
9000	15502	23000	13092				
2500	2500	2500	2500	37050	3000	2000	
2732	3468	2340	3510	64880	3350		
300	400	500	1000	20500	500	500	
500	500	500	500	7200	500	500	500
1480	1850	1450	2350	15550	2050	1700	1550
1200	1200	1200	1200	12000	1200		
11140	11301	10287	11600	235142	10457	10175	
7000	8000	10000	10000	484184	5000	5000	5000
1250	1300	1800	1230	47000	1000	1100	1150
3000	4500	3000	5000				
149	873	392	476	6740	260	292	
7000	10000	2000	2700	70000	9000		
1500	1500	2000					
200	200	200	200	3500			
450	555	505	490				
1000	1000	1000	1000	20346	1000		
500	500	725	875	4500	900	500	620
				6320			
1000	1000	1000	1000	20000	1000		
500	500	500	500	6270			
300	200	200	300	4000	200	200	200
400	400	400	400	6140	480	400	400
1460	1520	2180	1860	16900			
600	420	480	500	6020	650		
		1000	2000	30000	1000		
1890	2200	2050		36666			
1090	1185	1000	1000	15600	1000	1000	1000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 15.12.2018

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 11/2/18	Holy See 11/3/18	Hunger Disease 29/3/18	Good Friday 30/3/18	Vocation Sunday 22/4/18
36	Melakovilpatti					
37	Michaelpalayam	2100	2200	15000	10000	2100
38	Munjikkal	11000	6000	60000	30000	7500
39	Nagamalai					
40	Nakkaneri	1000	1000	12000	2000	1000
41	Nilakottai	1100	600	5700	4200	600
42	Niraivazhvu Nagar (VNR)	500	500	6930	3110	500
43	Othaiyal	250	250	800	700	200
44	Packiapuram	3020	2350	23020	6020	3160
45	Palanganatham	6000		110000	21000	4000
46	Pandian Nagar	1020	530	6020	7080	2256
47	Periyakulam	800	600	*26000	4200	1800
48	Perumalmalai	1470	1530	29047	6000	1650
49	R.R. Nagar	3000	3000	22000	5500	1000
50	Railway Colony	2100	1000	4500	4500	1200
51	Rajapalayam	1500	1000	22500	3500	1500
52	Rayappanpatti	6000	3000	35000	30000	3500
53	Rayapuram					
54	Samayanallur	3000	3100	47000	10000	3600
55	Sattur	500	500	500	500	500
56	Shenbaganur	750	750	10000	3000	1330
57	Sengole Nagar	2750	2200	60000	30000	2000
58	Silukkuvarpatty	1000	1000	10000	5000	1000
59	Sivakasi	15500	12900	103400	45500	15500
60	Srivilliputhur					
61	St. Mary's Cathedral	10000	5000	60000	50000	5000
62	Sundaranatchiapuram	3300	3300	70000	16000	3300
63	T. Sindalacherry	2000	1000	54600	21400	1000
64	T. Vadipatti Shrine	4000	3000	10200	15500	1300
65	Theni	4100	3400	39377	16767	3000
66	Thirumangalam	1500	1000	3500	5010	1300
67	Thirunagar	2000	3000	9000	20000	1500
68	Thiruthangal					
69	Thummuchinampatty	630	370	520	530	500
70	Ugarthe Nagar	2000	2000	20000	10000	2000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 15.12.2018

St. Peter's Pence 01/07/18	Communi- cation Day 07/07/18	Prision Ministry 12/08/18	Bible Sunday 30/09/18	Mission Sunday 21/10/18	African Mission 04/11/18	Peter the Apostle 25/11/18	Opus 02/12/18
				8000			
				50000			
1000	1000	2000	4000	85000	2000	2000	2000
1000	500	1000	1000	12500			
600	1000	1000	1500	20100	1000		
1000	1000	500	1000	10000	1000	1000	1000
250	200	300	250				
2020	2050	2461	2300	32100	2700	2510	2520
3000	5000	7000	5780	180000			
3034	3030	3613	2355				
1870	1630	1350					
1000	1000	5000	3000	20000	2500		
2500	1300	2050	2600	17440	1560	1100	2100
1200	1500	1500	1800	30000			
3500	3500	3500	4000	120000	3500		
				9000			
3000	3100	3500	3100	124000	3100	3000	3050
1347	1283	1431	1263	54570			
1300	1500	750	1000	25000			
2100	2000	2300		135000			
1000	1000	1000	1000				
13250	14500	12100	12000	400000	10500	11500	10500
				310521			
5000	3000	4000	6000	70000			
3300	3300	3500	3500	180000	3500	3500	
1000	1000	1000	1000				
2000	2000	1000		17250			
4000	3200	3100	4500	303001	4000	3300	
1000	1000	1200					
1500	1500	1500	1500	24500			
4200	3000	4000					
500	500	610	910	2670	580	500	600
2000	2000	2000	2500	25000	2000	2000	2000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 15.12.2018

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 11/2/18	Holy See 11/3/18	Hunger Disease 29/3/18	Good Friday 30/3/18	Vocation Sunday 22/4/18
71	Usilampatti	1100	1000	21000	6317	1000
72	Uthamapalayam	1000	1000	4100	8300	
73	Virudhunagar	6000	8000	85000	75000	8000
74	Vadapatti Mission					
75	W. Pudupatti	1000	1000	35000	5000	1000
76	Y. Othakadai			15962	20725	2650
	St. Agnes Home for Children, Rayappanpatti	10000				
	Holy cross Convent, VNR				5000	
	Melavadakkur			557	556	
	Fr. Lourduraj, Arockia Illam			900	1100	
	St. Anne's Provincialate Ansarinagar			4000		
	J.A. College, Periyakulam	15800			10200	
	Holy Cross Convent, Bat.					
	Holy Cross Convent, Vadipatty					
	St. Britto Hr.Se.Sch.Mdu					
	Total	221192	151140	2004573	872255	161737

NB: * Periyakulam Parish Rs. 26,000/- for Hunger & Disease collection paid directly to MMSSS.

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.

ORDO is available in the Diocesan Office. It Costs Rs. 60/- only.

- Fr. Procurator

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 15.12.2018

St. Peter's Pence 01/07/18	Communication Day 07/07/18	Prision Ministry 12/08/18	Bible Sunday 30/09/18	Mission Sunday 21/10/18	African Mission 04/11/18	Peter the Apostle 25/11/18	Opus 02/12/18
1000	1000	6221	1536		1500	1100	
9000	9000	9000	9000	200000			9000
				13190			
1000	1000	1500		47000			
				20000			
				10500			
				6000			
				15000			
154292	166977	180845	155107	3997658	98912	70327	53950

நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்

புதிய கட்டிடம் மலர்வதற்காக தாராள மனதுடன் உதவும் உள்ளங்கள்

Fr. G. Lourdu Raj, Arockia Illam	55,000
Fr. Dhivyanandam, Ayravathanallur	50,000
Fr. A. Antony Samy, Secretary, C.C.L	25,000
Fr. Vincent Mathan Babu	20,000
Fr. M. John Diraviam, Chancellor	15,000
Fr. A. Vedamanickam, Palanganatham	10,000
Fr. I. Maria Arul Selvam	10,000
Mr. Arulanandam, Rtd., H.M, Annanagar	10,000
The Teachers, R.C. Mid.Sch. P. Chettiapatti, Usilampatti	5,000
Fr. Gnanasandanam, Arockia Illam	5,000
Nazrane Isabella Family, Usilampatti	1,000

Total 2,06,000

KANI (Seminarians Fund)

Opening Balance as on 25.11.2018 22,35,938.77

Fr. Director & Co ordinator, NPC, K. Pudur	20,000.00
Fr. Christuraj, Founder, Society of the Holy Spirit	20,000.00
Arul Malar Matriculation Hr. Sec. Sch. K.K. Nagar	10,000.00
CIC Provincialate, Mahizhur, Virahanur, Madurai	10,000.00
Parishioners, Thirumangalam	10,000.00
Sr. Mother General, CIC Generalate, Old Kuyavarpalayam	10,000.00
Sr. Lucia, SJL, Superior, Usilampatti	10,000.00
The Superior General, CIC, Old Kuyavarpalayam	10,000.00
Fr. Parish Preist, Gnanaolivupuram	10,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Anna Nagar (Bination Mass)	9,100.00
St. Paul's Boys Home, Krishnaperi, T. Managhacherry	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Pandian Nagar	5,000.00
Mr. Valan Lenus & Infanta Mary Family, Marambody	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Sengole Nagar	5,000.00
The Secretary, Mashot Trust, NPC	5,000.00
Fr. Ignaci Arputharaj, Secretary, Comm. for Evangelisation	5,000.00
The Superior, Leuca Convent, Madurai	3,000.00
Mrs. Jeni & Vincent, Trichy	1,000.00
G. Usha Bernadett	1,000.00
Sivagnanapuram	1,000.00

23,91,038.77

Less: Payment for Sacred Heart Seminary (Chennai): 29,294.00

Closing Balance 15.12.2018 23,61,744.77

Cash in Hand : Nil

Cash at Bank : 23,61,744.77

23,61,744.77

Mass Received From Parishes

Gnanaolivupuram(500 Masses)	50,000.00
Virudhunagar (300 Masses)	30,000.00
Sivakasi (250 Masses)	25,000.00
Melakovilpatti (102 Masses)	10,200.00
Total	1,15,200.00

**குடும்ப நல்வாழ்வு பணிக்குழு நடத்தும்
தீருமண முன்தயாரிப்பு நடைபெறும் நாட்கள்**

05,06.01.2019	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
12,12.01.2019	திருவில்லிபுத்தூர்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
19,20.01.2019	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
26,27.01.2019	நிலக்கோட்டை	சனி, ஞாயிறு

அருட்தந்தை. ஜோசப், செயலர்



Adoration Sunday

January		February	
06	Rajapalayam	03	Mangalamkombu
13	Kalladipatti	10	Michaelpalayam
20	Thirunagar	17	Palanganatham
27	Meenatchiapuram	24	A. Nathampatti

Necrology

Archbishop Justin Diraviam

Fr. Alexis Diamond Raj

Fr. Savarimuthu V.A.

Fr. Ignatius I.

Fr. Balthasar A.

Fr. Peter Roy



25.01.1991

01.01.1997

08.01.1982

08.01.1986

16.01.1986

29.01.1964

MADURA MISSION - HISTORICAL NOTES

XVIII. Tireless Apostolate amidst Persecution

Fr. Britto adorned himself with a *Kavianghi* (cassock) held by a cord and wrapped around him with a shawl. He wore a turban and had his ear-rings. He carried a staff and a small bag of spare clothing and a water pot. This was the outfit of the *pandaraswamigalin* Madura mission who worked for the downtrodden. Like his predecessors Fr. Britto made himself all things to all men in order to win the souls for Christ.

Ecclesial history of Madura mission places it in record a period of continuous persecution during the period of different kings in Tanjore, Gingi, Mysore and Ramanad. The persecution also came from the Protestants and the *Padroados*. Fr. Britto is not an exception to this period of persecution like his many of the predecessors. Yet, his apostolic zeal propelled him to go continuously after his flock, whom he begot in Christ and nourished and protected from falling away from the faith. The ordeals he underwent before his actual *Martyrdom* is breath-taking. He walked into the thick forested ghats full of wild animals in searching of his flock. Sometimes he escaped via kattamaram to flee from Tanjore to Gingi due to the persecution of Ekoji, the Sultan emperor. All he ate was a handful of rice and milk during these tedious journeys. He had to pass through mud paths sometimes by foot sometimes on horse back. He often slept outside in amidst strong current of wind and rain. What was provided to him by the poor Neophytes are was a low and poor thatched hut surrounded by snakes and scorpions. His bed was the traditional bed of a Sanyasi, that is the deer or tiger skin laid on the floor. Such accounts of apostolate are vividly explained in the annual letters of Fr. Britto and the missionaries.

Wherever Fr. Britto went he erected chapels and small churches for the Catechumens. He faced tough opposition from the local Brahmins against building mutt and chapels even in the thick forest. These Brahmins influenced the kings and royal families to take stringent action against

Christians. The rulers at times set fire or destroyed the chapels and mutts. In such situations as the Master has said, Fr. Britto, if they persecuted in one village he with his Catechists and Christians ran to another place. During the persecution the faithful used to flee to the forest where Fr. Britto also would go in disguise to meet them and encourage them.



As Fr. Britto explains in his annual letter to the Superiors he also indicates the social, cultural, economic life of the poor people. The missionaries were the haven for the poor people and the low caste people who would otherwise were treated like slaves. The slave-like peasants who used to work in the paddy fields and cultivations of rich Zamindars and landlords, found self-supportive work and dignity with the company of the missionaries. This caused a great distress among the rich and the high caste people who targeted the missionaries and the Neophytes. Since the foreign missionaries are linked with either British or Portugal Empire they were afraid of attacking them directly; instead they attacked the poor and low caste people and intimidated them not to be converted.

Some of the local leaders were so cruel and they ill-treated the neophytes. Hence he had continuously to be on the move, going from village to village and fleeing from kingdom to kingdom either on foot or by kattamaram. Once in Sirukadambanur Ekoji wanted to arrest him. He escaped. Another time the Governor of Eastern Tanjore ordered arrest of Fr. Britto in 1681. But he was miraculously saved because of the order to the Superior to return to Trivancore. Between 1682 – 1683 the persecution of the Christians reached its height under the rule of Samboji. Fr. Britto writes that Siluvai Nayakkar, a Catechist and Suran Gounder, local leader together with five were persecuted so severely to apostatise. Loaded with chains they were kept under guard the whole night. In the morning they were beaten and spat on, kept exposed to the scorching sun till noon and were subjected to the water torture in the evenings.

After Fr. Britto becoming the Superior of Madura Mission in 1685, the Brahmins of Nayak palace plotted to kill him twice because he converted many Hindus. In 1686 the king Rangunatha Devan threatened to kill Fr. Britto. After three times throwing warning to him finally he warned Fr. Britto that he will pull his heart out if he dared to preach in his kingdom. In spite of the warnings and dire consequences Fr. Britto visited the marava people and celebrated Mass and baptized the neophytes among the Maravas.

Not heeding to the severe warning of the king, Fr. Britto dared to baptize one of the Princes of the royal court, ThadiyaThevan, the nephew of the late Marava and the heir to the Throne of Sethupathy of Ramnad. This neared the crowning of martyrdom of Fr. Britto. (to be continued)

- Jodir.

