



Blessing of Adoration chapel at Hanumanthapatti



Cumbum Presbytery Blessing



Blessing of School building at Meenampatti



Church blessing at Turnerpurom, Munjikkal



Blessing of way of the cross stations at Perumpallam



Feast mass at Pullyampatti



மாற்று குரவியல் விழிப்புணர்வு - வாழ்வுரிமை சிபக்கம்

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செயம் - உண்ணாநோன்பு - ஏழைகளுக்கு உதவி



Greetings on Birthday



Fr. Arputhasamy (02)



Fr. George Stephen R.P (02)



Fr. Antony Samy A. (04)



Fr. James Paul Raj S. (06)



Fr. Paul Ignatius I. (09)



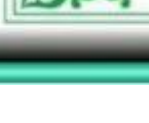
Fr. Gabriel G. (13)



Msgr. Jeyaraj J. (20)



Fr. Sebastian Jerome (20)



Fr. Joseph Amalan (20)

Fr. Britto Jerald Dhinakaran (22)

Fr. John Diraviam M. (24)

Fr. Susai P. Visuvasam (26)

Fr. Benadict Barnabas J. (27)

Fr. Jayeseelan Y. (28)

Fr. Vincent Raja X. (28)

Fr. A. Rajan (30)

Fr. VaranVardhan P. (31)



The Voice of the Pastor (March 2019)

The same Jesus who was present active 2000 years back is present active through us, because we are the body of Christ. We are his hands, legs, mouths, eyes and ears. So through us He does things and we make Christ present active in the world today.

When we rightly stress the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, we should not neglect his true presence in others and in the community which gathers in his name. Our lack of faith and indifference may paralyse us in such a way that Jesus cannot do through us what he wants to. The members of his body everywhere in the world because of their coldness of faith, worldliness and sin do immense harm to the Church.

It should be a possibility for us who are the members of his body to make Jesus dynamic in our world. By our participation in the Eucharistic celebration and eating his body and drinking his blood we should be transformed in to his body and live by his strength. Let our faith be alive and allow the Holy Spirit work in us so that Jesus will act through us wherever we are. Only by our life in him we will be able to bear much fruit (Cfr. Jn 15/5).

Having renewed our faith and allowing the Holy Spirit to work in us we will be able to involve ourselves in the problems of the world. What the world needs today is to bring goods to the poor, to proclaim liberty and to free those bound by sin, to liberate the people who are oppressed and to proclaim that God still loves the world.



Let us be ready to accept the call to be dynamic members in the body of Jesus and allow him to do greater things through us.

May God bless you all,
Your loving Archbishop,

+ *Antony Pappusamy*

+ Most Rev. Dr. Antony Pappusamy
Archbishop of Madurai

Pope's General Intention for March 2019

Evangelization: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

HAPPY FEAST

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

Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyons (SJL)	- 19 th March
St. Joseph of Apparition Sisters (SJA)	- 19 th March
St. Joseph of Tarbes (SJT)	- 19 th March
Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny	- 19 th March
Suore Ancelle Dell'amore Miseri Cordioso	- 19 th March
Suore Missionarie dell' Incarnazione (SMI)	- 25 th March
Society of Catholic Medical Mission Sisters (MMS)	- 25 th March
Institutas Voluntas Dei	- 25 th March

பேராயரின் சும்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து

வந்தைக்க : மரக்கன்றுகள் வைத்து பசுமை உருவாக்க

வளர்க்க : சமய நல்லிணக்கத்தையும், சமய சுதந்திரத்தையும், நாம் வாழும் சமூகத்தில் வளர்த்திட

வாழ்வாக்க : நீ எதைச் செய்தாலும் ஆண்டவரை மனதில் வைத்துச் செய்; அப்பொழுது அவர் உன் பாதையைச் செம்மையாக்குவார்

Archbishop's Engagements

- | | | | |
|-------|-----|---|---|
| 1 | Fri | E | Mass, Rayappanpatti |
| 2 | Sat | M | Book Release, SOCO Trust |
| | | E | Blessing of the Church, Indra Nagar |
| 4 | Mon | M | Senate Meeting, Bishop's House |
| 05 | Tue | M | Education council, NPC |
| | | E | Blessing of laying of foundation stone, R.R. Nagar |
| 06 | Wed | M | Ash Wednesday, St. Mary's Cathedral, Madurai |
| 07 | Thu | | Monthly Recollection, Palayamkottai |
| | | E | Blessing of Laying of Foundation Stone, Soolakarai |
| 09 | Sat | M | Blessing of Sahayamatha Complex - Gnanaolivupuram |
| 12 | Tue | M | Monthly Recollection, Bishop's House |
| 13-14 | | | Palayamkottai |
| 16 | Sat | M | Women's Day, NPC |
| 16-17 | | | Pastoral Visit, Madhankovilpatti |
| 19 | Tue | E | Feast Mass, St. Joseph's Convent, Nirmala School |
| 21 | Thu | M | Feast Mass, Vaikalipatti |
| 23 | Sat | M | Tamilnadu Legal Cell, NPC |
| 24 | Sun | M | Laity Commission Training Program, NPC |
| | | E | North Vicariate Lenten Pilgrimage Mass, Anjal Nagar |
| 25 | Mon | M | Mass and Blessing of Hall, Chokkanathanpudur |
| 30 | Sat | M | Major Superiors Meet, Bishop's House |
| 31 | Sun | M | Inauguration of ACHAANI, Gnanaolivupuram |
| | | M | Blessing of shopping complex, Kadachanendal |
| | | E | Theni Vicariate Lenten Pilgrimage, Kanavai |

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

Please Note

1. The Lenten Season starts on 6th inst. It is a season of grace and conversion. DNL wishes a meaningful Lenten preparation towards Easter to all its readers. Arrangement of Renewal Retreat, meaningful pilgrimages, pious practices such as Way of the Cross, fasting prayers etc. will facilitate a conversion of heart. May the Spirit of God, who sustained our Lord in fasting and discernment for forty days, also guide all of us in our Lenten journey.
2. This Monthly Recollection will be held on 12th inst., Tuesday at Archbishop's House Conference Hall as usual.
3. **Congratulations** to the following Fathers for their contribution towards the Archdiocesan construction works:
 - i) **Fr. S. Gnanapragasam** – Construction of Adoration Chapel, Hanumanthanpatti.
 - ii) **Fr. Adaikala Raja** – Construction of Way of the Cross Stations, Packiapuram
 - iii) **Fr. Paul Raj I.** – Construction of Rectory, Silukkuvarpatti.
 - iv) **Fr. David, MMI** – Construction of Grotto, Nakkanerri.
 - v) **Fr. Edwin Sahaya Raja** – Construction of St. Sebastian's Church, Munjikal.
 - vi) **Fr. Edward Francis Xavier** – Construction of St. Antony's Church, Oormachikualm.
 - vii) **Fr. Alex Gnana Raj** – Construction of Rectory, Cumbum.
 - viii) **Fr. Francis Xavier** – Construction of School Building, Meenampatti.
4. **Congratulations** to Fr. Anandam for editing and bringing out a new Book, "*Dialogue, Conversation and Beyond*", Festschrift

in Honour of Prof. Dr. Xavier Irudayaraj SJ. For copy contact Fr. Anandam.

5. **Liturgical Regulations in Parishes:** 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 the religious houses and Institutions to inform the Parish Priest about the liturgical celebrations of the houses in time.
6. **Marriage Registration:** Recently the *Registrars of Marriages* at their Registration Offices demand License Number from the Parish Priests. At least to two Registration Offices, the Chancellor visited and informed them about our right to be the Registrars of Marriages that are solemnized by us as per 1872 INDIAN CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE ACT. However, as TN. Registration Department has decided to register all the marriages online by the concerned Parish Priest himself, those who had not received the *i.d.*, and *password* from the concerned Registration Office are advised to do so immediately. For help contact Fr. Chancellor.
7. In this regard all the Parish Priests are reminded to send the copies of the Marriage particulars to the concerned Registration Offices regularly, failure of which will only harm the parishioners.
8. The Archbishop welcomes wholeheartedly all the Major Superiors and Superior Generals related to the Archdiocese for a Meeting of Ministerial Fellowship to be held on 30th inst. Religious are asked to inform and update their lives and their various ministries to their respective Provincials.



MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019

***"For the creation waits with eager longing
for the revealing of the children of God" (Rm 8: 19)***

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Each year, through Mother Church, God "gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ" (*Preface of Lent I*). We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfillment of the salvation we have already received as a result of Christ's paschal mystery – "for in hope we were saved" (*Rom 8:24*). This mystery of salvation, already at work in us during our earthly lives, is a dynamic process that also embraces history and all of creation. As Saint Paul says, "the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God" (*Rom 8:19*). In this perspective, I would like to offer a few reflections to accompany our journey of conversion this coming Lent.

1. *The redemption of creation*

The celebration of the Paschal *Triduum* of Christ's passion, death and resurrection, the culmination of the liturgical year, calls us yearly to undertake a journey of preparation, in the knowledge that our being conformed to Christ (cf. *Rom 8:29*) is a priceless gift of God's mercy.

When we live as children of God, redeemed, led by the Holy Spirit (cf. *Rom 8:14*) and capable of acknowledging and obeying God's law, beginning with the law written on our hearts and in nature, *we also benefit creation* by cooperating in its redemption. That is why Saint Paul says that creation eagerly longs for the revelation of the children of God; in other words, that all those who enjoy the grace of Jesus' paschal mystery may experience its fulfillment in the redemption of the human

body itself. When the love of Christ transfigures the lives of the saints in spirit, body and soul, they give praise to God. Through prayer, contemplation and art, they also include other creatures in that praise, as we see admirably expressed in the “Canticle of the Creatures” by Saint Francis of Assisi. Yet in this world, the harmony generated by redemption is constantly threatened by the negative power of sin and death.

2. *The destructive power of sin*

Indeed, when we fail to live as children of God, we often behave in a destructive way towards our neighbours and other creatures – and ourselves as well – since we begin to think more or less consciously that we can use them as we will. Intemperance then takes the upper hand: we start to live a life that exceeds those limits imposed by our human condition and nature itself. We yield to those untrammelled desires that the Book of Wisdom sees as typical of the ungodly, those who act without thought for God or hope for the future (cf. 2:1-11). Unless we tend constantly towards Easter, towards the horizon of the Resurrection, the mentality expressed in the slogans “*I want it all and I want it now!*” and “*Too much is never enough*”, gains the upper hand.

The root of all evil, as we know, is sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself, to which we are linked in a particular way by our body. This rupture of communion with God likewise undermines our harmonious relationship with the environment in which we are called to live, so that the garden has become a wilderness (cf. *Gen 3:17-18*). Sin leads man to consider himself the god of creation, to see himself as its absolute master and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for his own interests, to the detriment of other creatures.

Once God’s law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes over. The sin that lurks in the human heart (cf. *Mk 7:20-23*) takes the shape of greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. It leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment, due to that insatiable covetousness which sees every desire as a right and sooner or later destroys all those in its grip.

3. *The healing power of repentance and forgiveness*

Creation urgently needs the revelation of the children of God, who have been made “a new creation”. For “if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold, the new has come” (2 *Cor 5:17*). Indeed, by virtue of their being revealed, *creation itself can celebrate a Pasch*, opening itself to a new heaven and a new earth (cf. *Rev 21:1*). The path to Easter demands that we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness, so as to live fully the abundant grace of the paschal mystery.

This “eager longing”, this expectation of all creation, will be fulfilled in the revelation of the children of God, that is, when Christians and all people enter decisively into the “travail” that conversion entails. All creation is called, with us, to go forth “from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (*Rom 8:21*). Lent is a sacramental sign of this conversion. It invites Christians to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely in their personal, family and social lives, above all by fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to “devour” everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. *Prayer*, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy. *Almsgiving*,

whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Dear brothers and sisters, the "lenten" period of forty days spent by the Son of God in the *desert* of creation had the goal of making it once more that *garden* of communion with God that it was before original sin (cf. *Mk* 1:12-13; *Is*51:3). May our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be "set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God" (*Rom* 8:21). Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus' Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

From the Vatican, 4 October 2018
Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

Francis.

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



02,03.03.2019	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
09,10.03.2019	விருதுநகர்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
16,17.03.2019	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
23,24.03.2019	நிலக்கோட்டை	சனி, ஞாயிறு

அருட்தந்தை. ஜோசப், செயலர்

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 25.02.2019

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	Lourdupuram	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 25.02.2019

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
300	300	300	300	3000	300	300	300
600	600	600	700	8000	1000	700	700
800	800	800	1000	8500	1500	750	750
4500	5000	5250	4436	33903	4355	3500	5020
8780	8410	10000	8730	153405	9070	9500	9310
1000	1000	1500	1500	10000	1500	1000	2000
1000	1000	1000	1000	40000	1000	1000	
9000	15502	23000	13092	104450	8000	8000	8000
2500	2500	2500	2500	37050	3000	2000	3500
2732	3468	2340	3510	64880	3350		
300	400	500	1000	20500	500	500	500
500	500	500	500	7200	500	500	500
1480	1850	1450	2350	15550	2050	1700	1550
1200	1200	1200	1200	12000	1200	1500	1500
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	60000	5000	5000	5000
149	873	392	476	6740	260	292	386
7000	10000	2000	2700	70000	9000	1000	1000
1500	1500	2000	1500	50000	1500	1500	1500
200	200	200	200	3500			
450	555	505	490				
1000	1000	1000	1000	20346	1000		
500	500	725	875	4500	900	500	620
		700	1050	6320	650	750	850
1000	1000	1000	1000	20000	1000	1000	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	1460	2100	1800
600	420	480	500	6020	650	600	600
		1000	2000	30000	1000	1000	1000
1890	2200	2050	2084	36666	1880	2107	2200
1090	1185	1000	1000	15600	1000	1000	1000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 25.02.2019

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 25.02.2019

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	1000	1000	500
600	1000	1000	1500	20100	1000	600	600
1000	1000	500	1000	10000	1000	1000	1000
250	200	300	250	2000	300	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	1000	1000
2500	1300	2050	2600	17440	1560	1100	2100
1200	1500	1500	1800	30000	1500	1300	1200
3500	3500	3500	4000	120000	3500	3500	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	5000	1000	1000	1000
13250	14500	12100	12000	400000	10500	11500	10500
				310521			
5000	3000	4000	6000	70000	4000	3000	
3300	3300	3500	3500	180000	3500	3500	
1000	1000	1000	1000	101000	1000	1000	1000
2000	2000	1000	4000	17250	2000	2000	2000
4000	3200	3100	4500	303001	4000	3300	2400
1000	1000	1200					
1500	1500	1500	1500	24500	2000	1500	1000
4200	3000	4000	4100	90370	2600		
500	500	610	910	2670	580	500	600
2000	2000	2000	2500	25000	2000	2000	2000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 25.02.2019

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	20000				
	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					
	Christ Hall Seminary					
	St. Aloysius Inst. Rayappanpatti	10000				
Total		241192	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.

- Fr. Procurator

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2018 to 25.02.2019

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
1000	1000	6221	1536	13018	1500	1100	1200
9000	9000	9000	9000	200000	9000	9000	9000
1000	1000	1500	1000	47000	1000	1000	1000
				13190			
				20000			
				10500			
				6000			
				15000			
				50300			
154592	167277	183345	175077	4486796	144602	122384	106756

Mass Received From Parishes

St. Mary's Church (500 Masses)	50,000.00
Nagamalai (100 Masses)	10,000.00
Usilampatti (60 Masses)	6,000.00
Total	<u>66,000.00</u>

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
Amaladass Nithya, Annanagar	10,000
Fr. Arul, Secretary, Dialogue Commission	50,000
Total	<u>2,66,000</u>

Ordination Anniversary

Rev. Fr. Lourdhuraj G.	-	24.03.1962
Rev. Fr. GnanaSandanam	-	24.03.1965
Rev. Fr. Paul Ignatius	-	27.03.2003

Adoration Sunday

March		April	
03	Alangulam	07	Kalladipatti
10	Anjal Nagar	14	A. Nathampatti
17	Ammappatti	21	Hanumanthampatty
24	Anna Nagar	28	Munjikkal
31	Aruppukottai		

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood	Holy See	Hunger Disease	Good Friday	Vocation Sunday
1	A. Nathampatti					
2	Alankulam					
3	Ammapatty					
4	Anjal Nagar					
5	Anna Nagar					
6	Aruppukottai					
7	Ayravathanallur					
8	Bastin Nagar					
9	Batlagundu	2600				
10	Bibikulam					
11	Bodinayakanur	500				
12	Chinnamanur					
13	Cumbum					
14	Devadanam					
15	Ellis Nagar					
16	Gnanaolivupuram					
17	Hanumanthanpatty					
18	Holy Rosary Church					
19	Iyyampalayam					
20	K. Pudur					
21	Kadachanendal					
22	Kadamalaikundu					
23	Kalladipatti					
24	Kariapatty					
25	Karumathur					
26	Kavirayapuram					
27	Kottur					
28	Lourdupuram					
29	Megamalai					
30	Mangalamkombu					
31	M. Meenachiapuram					
32	Mathankovilpatti					
33	Meenampatti					
34	Melur					
35	Michaelpalayam					

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood	Holy See	Hunger Disease	Good Friday	Vocation Sunday
36	Munjikkal					
37	Nagamalai					
38	Nakkaneri					
39	Nilakottai					
40	Niraivazhvu Nagar (VNR)					
41	Othaial					
42	Packiapuram					
43	Palanganatham					
44	Pandian Nagar					
45	Periyakulam					
46	Perumalmai					
47	R.R. Nagar					
48	Railway Colony	2600				
49	Rajapalayam					
50	Rayappanpatti					
51	Rayapuram					
52	Samayanallur	3000				
53	Sattur					
54	Shenbaganur					
55	Sengole Nagar					
56	Silukkuvarpatty					
57	Sivakasi					
58	Srivilliputhur					
59	St. Mary's Cathedral					
60	Sundaranatchiapuram					
61	T. Sindalacherry					
62	T. Vadipatti Shrine					
63	Theni					
64	Thirumangalam					
65	Thirunagar					
66	Thiruthangal					
67	Thummuchinampatty	750				
68	Ugarthe Nagar	2000				
69	Usilampatti					
70	Uthamapalayam					

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2019

S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood	Holy See	Hunger Disease	Good Friday	Vocation Sunday
71	Virudhunagar					
72	W. Pudupatti					
73	Y. Othakadai					
	St. Agnes Home for Children, Rayappanpatti					
	Holycross Convent, VNR					
	Total	11450				

Fast



Give



Prepare



Pray



KANI (Seminarians Fund)

Opening Balance 25.01.2019	25,68,462.77
Parish Priest & Parishioners, Hanumanthanpatty	27,100.00
Parish Priest, St. Antony's Church, Ayravathanallur	20,000.00
Infant Jesus College of Arts, Mulagumoodu, Kanniyakumari	20,000.00
Parish Priest, Gnanaolivupuram	16,000.00
Seva Mission Convent, Karumathur	15,000.00
Mr. Philip, Head Master, Munjikkal	15,000.00
Provincial & Team, Nagamalai, Madurai	10,000.00
Mr. M. Joseph Sahayaraj, Michaelpalayam	10,000.00
Parish Priest, K. Pudur	10,000.00
Mr. Peter, Sundampatti, Krishnagiri	10,000.00
Fr. Miguel Temero, Superior&Master, Pulluthu, Nagamalai	10,000.00
Parish Priest, Sacred Heart Church, Munjikkal	10,000.00
C.I.C. Provincialate, Maghizhur, Virahanur	10,000.00
Parish Priest, Samayanallur	5,200.00
Parish Priest, St. Ignatius Church, Nakkanery	5,000.00
Parish Priest, Meenampatti	5,000.00
Superior General, Old Kosavapalayam	5,000.00
Parish Priest, St. John De Britto Church, Othakkadai	5,000.00
Fr. Martin, St. Sebastin's Church, Dindigul Dt.	5,000.00
Fr. Adaikalaraj, Parish Priest, Packiapuram	3,000.00
Parishioners, Meenampatti	2,846.00
Parish Priest, Holy Rosary Church	2,500.00
Parish Council, Ayravathanallur	2,000.00
Society of St. Vincent the Paul, Othakkadai	1,000.00
Sr. Agnes, Superior, Ponnagar	1,000.00
Usha Bernadett	1,000.00
Sacred Heart Anbiam, Ayravathanallur	500.00
Society of Vincent the Paul, Ayravathanallur	500.00
Mariyayin Senai, Ayravathanallur	500.00
Susaiappar Anbiam, R.C. Church, Cumbum	500.00
St. Theresa's H.S. Pambarpuram, Kodaikanal	140.00
Less : Payment for Sacred Heart Seminary - 6736	27,97,248.77
Payment for Christ Hall Seminary - 5459	<u>12195</u>
	12,195.00
Closing Balance 25.02.2019	<u>27,85,053.77</u>
Cash in Hand : Nil	
Cash at Bank : 27,85,053.77	
	<u>27,85,053.77</u>

MADURA MISSION - HISTORICAL NOTES

XXII. Martyrdom Journey of Fr. Britto

In order to put an end to the new religion, Kumarappa pillai sent a messenger from Paganeri to Sethupathi and requested the king to grant order to behead the Saint and the five collaborators. King Sethupathy too responded positively, namely that all of their hands and legs had to be cut off and they should be beheaded at a *Kazhumaram*. Hence the next day the general ordered the group to be brought before him. Again and again he coaxed, pleaded, ordered and threatened to denounce the new faith. He could not succeed. In rage he beat our Saint on his right cheek; our Saint showed his left cheek; all the followers also did the same. Hence he decided to use a cruel method of torturing the Saint. He ordered to unrobe the Saint and ordered to throw him and roll him on the hot rock at mid noon hot sun. Our Saint's European body became scorched by the hot rock and it was bleeding. The rocks drank the blood of the Martyr.

Kumarappa pillai could not succeed; however, he tortured and persecuted the Saint. What irked him most was that the local Hindus who were recently converted also were so stubborn and accepted all the sufferings and pains cheerfully. So he stroke with his staff at the eye of the local convert called Siluvai Nayakkar. The eye ball came out and was hanging and blood was gushing from his socket. Seeing this cruelty, our Saint was heartbroken; he ran to Siluvai Nayakkar and took the damaged eye ball blessed it with a cross and placed it at the socket. What a miracle! Siluvai Nayakkar was able to see again. Kumarappa Pillai was wonderstruck. Instead of being penitent for his cruelty, he wanted to test whether Siluvai Nayakkar could really see. He showed different papers to him to read and Siluvai Nayakkar read all the documents even with the one damaged eye. He concluded that Fr. Britto was using magic and occult practices.

The next day there came a message from Sethupathi which urgently called Kumarappa pillai to rush to Ramanathapuram in order to solve a coup hatched at the palace against him. So he rushed to Ramnad. Fr. Britto, who was earnestly waiting for the crown of martyrdom felt very sad when it was postponed. From 30th July up to 16th August the holy group was kept in custody without food. The ordeal was terrible and unbearable for all of them. Meanwhile there came another order from Sethupathi that only Fr. Britto had to be beheaded and all the others' legs, ears and noses had to be cut off and set free. This news gave much joy to Fr. Britto for his heart knew that much awaited crowning of martyrdom was fast approaching. Hearing this good news he knelt down and praised God. And he communicated this good news at once in a letter to his Superior that the crown of martyrdom is fast approaching and requested the prayers of all the friars.

Upon hearing the news of our Saint's impending martyrdom all the Marava Christians came to see him. A Mother with her son also came to see him. The soldiers arrested them and put them also in jail. In the jail the small boy told Fr. Britto that the Saint would attain martyrdom only after going to his home country again. The foretelling became true. For Sethupathy sent an order to fetch Fr. Britto and his men to his palace. So the Saint and the Marava Christians were chained and were taken by foot to Ramnad via Panangudi, Satharasanpatti, Kalayarkoil and Moorthi Nayanar Koil as the Tradition says.

When they were taken chained on the road many people saw Fr. Britto and received his blessings. Through the streets of Mangalam, Kalayarkoil, Paganeri and Ramanathapuram they were dragged as culprits. After a journey of five days the group reached the palace on 21st August 1686 and they were kept in custody at a horse Stable. Sethupathi wanted to know what made these foreign sanyasi so happy amidst all the tortures. Hence he sent his son to inquire and know about the cause and culpability which Kumarappa pillai had so much

accused. After talking with the Saint the heir of Sethupathi did not find any reason for a capital punishment. Then Sethupathi himself wanted to know about this new religion; so he asked Fr. Britto to come to his palace and making him seated near his throne he listened to the new Teaching. Fr. Britto also made use of this opportunity to preach about Christ. “Who is Christ?” asked the king. Beginning from the Old Testament promises of Messiah, our Saint explained about the Son of God and the law of love he gave. He wanted to embrace this meaningful religion and therefore he was enquiring about his caste and clan. He came to know that Fr. Britto belonged to a group of zealous priests called the Jesuits who go throughout the world to announce Christ. Meanwhile Kumarappa pillai accused before the king that Fr. Britto and his group spoke ill of and degraded the local gods and goddesses and therefore he had to be punished with death sentence. But silencing him with a gesture king Sethupathy ordered all of them to be released with a strict warning that he should not again preach about the new God in his Marava Kingdom. Later Sethupathi told our Saint “I would like to know more in another session about your God Jesus.” Fr. Britto’s joy found no bound. For he rejoiced that the Spirit of God had melted the heart of Sethupathi to know more about Christ. He was waiting eagerly for every opportunity to meet Sethupathi again and to talk to him about the Saviour. But Kumarappapillai perceiving the danger in the possible Meeting between the two, kept Fr. Britto in the custody longer days so that he could not meet the king.

Meanwhile an urgent letter came to Fr. Britto from the Superior of Malabar Province to proceed at once to Thennanthoppu. He was longing to meet Sethupathi but he had to obey the order from his superior. So he travelled to Thennanthoppu with a sad heart of double loss, loss of dying for Christ and the second, loss of meeting (converting) Sethupathi. Thus the crown of martyrdom evaded from our Saint’s hand this time as well.

As soon as he reached the provincial center all his companions were overjoyed to see the saint alive. They kissed the scars on his body and hands and received his blessings. The reason that the superior invited him was to give him good rest for a month. He did take good rest. Thus after a month of rest when Fr. Britto was set to travel to Marava Nadu there came an urgent letter to the Provincial from the General Curia stating that Fr. Francis, a representative of the Province, who was sent to Rome died on the way, and therefore the letter requested to send another experienced priest in his place to go to Rome and Lisbon. The provincial superior felt that no one was as experienced as Fr. Britto was and therefore ordered our Saint to get ready for sail. Our Saint pleaded that he needed to go to his flock at once in Marava Nadu who would be otherwise sheep without a shepherd. But the superior thought that only Fr. Britto could better explain about the pioneering ministry in South India to the King of Portugal and the Superiors in Rome and thus could bring more priests and monetary help for the province. Finally considering this twist as the will of God Fr. Britto obeyed and set sail on 15th December 1686. (to be continued)

- Jodir.

Necrology

Archbishop Arockiasamy

		22.03.2007
Fr. Asirvatham		01.03.2013
Fr. Saldana		03.03.1973
Fr. Antony Nair		03.03.1982
Fr. Savariraj		15.03.1977
Fr. Alexis S.A.		16.03.1998
Fr. Lawrence Xavier P.		19.03.2006
Fr. Francis Britto		31.03.2010