



# Diocesan News Letter Madurai

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September 2015

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## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF AROCKIAANNAI



**08.09.2015**

Pope's Prayer Intention for September: That opportunities for education and employment may increase for all young people.

Pope's Mission Intention for September: That catechists may give witness by living in a way consistent with the faith they proclaim.

### Please Note

1. Our Archbishop has called for a Senate Meeting primarily **to elect the New Secretary to the Senate**. All the ex-officio, elected and nominated members are invited to participate in the meeting on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, at 10.30 a.m. at the Conference Hall.
2. There will be **no monthly recollection** in this month, as we have our Annual Retreat.
3. **The Annual Retreat** for our clergy will be at Pillar from 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, evening to 25<sup>th</sup> Friday, 2015, afternoon. This is announced so early, so that all the fathers may keep these days free from accepting any programme. Our Archbishop wants all our priests to attend this retreat without fail. For valid reasons, if anyone is impeded to take part in it, he should write to the Archbishop and get the prior permission, stating the alternative arrangement too. Kindly bring your Cassocks, Bible, Rosaries etc.
4. The **Diocesan Annual Pilgrimage** to Oriyur falls on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015. The adoration to Bl. Sacrament will start at 10.00 a.m. and it will be followed by the solemn Eucharistic concelebration at 11.00 a.m. by Most Rev. Antony Pappusamy, our Archbishop. The parish priests are requested to do their best in encouraging our faithful to participate in the pilgrimage in good number and make the event really devotional and fruitful.
5. Collection for the **Bible Sunday** falls on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2015. Please announce this collection on 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 2015 inst. and exhort the people to contribute generously.

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## Archbishop's Engagements September - 2015

- 06 - Sangam-4 Inauguration at Pillar
- 07 Mor - Senate Meeting at Madurai  
Eve - Confirmation & Parish Silver Jubilee Mass at Bodinayakanur
- 08 Mor - Blessing at Packiapuram, Kodaikanal  
Eve - Feast Mass at Anna Nagar
- 09 - St. Aloysius School Golden Jubilee Celebrations at Royappanpatty
- 10-12 - Pastoral Theology Classes at St. Pauls, Trichy
- 12 Eve - Parish Jubilee Mass at Ottanchathiram
- 13 Mor - CRI Meeting at Karumathur  
Eve - Mass at Servite Convent, Paravai
- 14-18 - Pastoral Theology Classes at St. Pauls, Trichy
- 19 - St. Anne's Maria Province Gathering - Mass
- 20 - Mashot Meeting at NPC, Madurai
- 20-25 - Diocesan Retreat at Pillar
- 26 - Laity Commission Celebrations at Chennai
- 27 - Church Blessing at Karimedu, Gnanaolivupuram
- 30 - MMI Ordination at Chennai



6. Eight new classrooms were blessed and opened by Most Rev. Antony Pappusamy, Archbishop of Madurai in the presence of Mr. Angelo Irudhaya Samy, the CEO at R.C. Middle School, Kathakinaru on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, worth of Rupees 55 Lakhs including Rupees 10 Lakhs subsidy from Holy Childhood. **Congratulations to Rev. Fr. Antony Packiam**, for his relentless effort in actualizing this project.
7. Rev. Fr. Sebastine, **the Secretary of SC/ST Commission**, expresses his sincere gratitude for the great co-operation and solidarity of all the parish priests, which made the 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 programme a grand success.
8. **The Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (DPC)** meeting will be held on 17.10.2015, Saturday at Nobili Pastoral Centre from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. All the Vicars Forane and the elected priest representatives from the vicariates together with the Parish Council representatives from all the parishes as well as representatives from the religious congregations and sodalities will attend the meeting. Rev. Dr. Karambai Sebastian and Mr. G. Peter will be the speakers on the theme of the participatory structures in the church and in the Diocesan Pastoral Council. During the meeting, office bearers for the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council will be elected.

- Rev. Fr. L. Anandam, Co-ordinator

### குடும்ப நல்வாழ்வு பணிக்குழு நடத்தும் திருமண முன்தயாரிப்பு நடைபெறும் நாட்கள்

4,5.09.2015	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	வெள்ளி, சனி
12,13.09.2015	கொடைக்கானல்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
18,19.09.2015	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	வெள்ளி, சனி
26,27.09.2015	விருதுநகர்	சனி, ஞாயிறு



அருட்தந்தை. ஜோசப், செயலர்

## **MEETING OF POPE FRANCIS WITH THE GERMAN ALTAR SERVERS**

*Saint Peter's Square  
Tuesday, 4 August 2015*

*Dear Altar Servers, Good evening!*

1. I thank you all for coming in such great numbers, defying the heat of the Roman sun in August. I thank Bishop Nemet, your President, for his words of introduction and greeting. You have come from a variety of countries on a pilgrimage to Rome, the city where the Apostles Peter and Paul were martyred. It is important to realize that being close to Jesus and knowing him in the Eucharist through your service at the altar, enables you to open yourselves to others, to journey together, to set demanding goals and to find the strength to achieve them. It is a source of real joy to recognize that we are small and weak, all the while knowing that, with Jesus' help, we can be strengthened and take up the challenge of life's great journey in his company.

The prophet Isaiah also discovered this truth, which is to say that God purified his intentions, forgave his sins, healed his heart and made him ready to take up the important task of bringing God's word to his people. In so doing, he became an instrument of the presence of divine mercy. Isaiah found that, by entrusting himself to the hands of the Lord, his whole existence was transformed.

2. The biblical verse we have just heard speaks to us precisely of this. Isaiah has a vision through which he perceives the glory of the Lord, but at the same time, it shows that, although the Lord reveals himself, he still remains far off. Isaiah is astonished to discover that it is God who makes the first move — do not forget this: it is always God who makes the first move in our life — to discover, that it is God who approaches him first. Isaiah notices that divine action was not hindered by his imperfections; it was God's goodness alone that enabled him to take up the mission, transforming him into a totally new person and therefore one able to respond to the call of the Lord, saying, "Here am I! Send me" (Is 6:8).

3. You are more fortunate today than the prophet Isaiah. In the Eucharist and in the other sacraments, you experience the intimate

closeness of Jesus, the sweetness and power of his presence. You do not meet Jesus sitting on an inaccessibly high throne, but in the Bread and Wine of the Eucharist. His word does not shake the doorposts, but rather caresses the strings of the heart. Like Isaiah, each of you sees that God, although making himself close to us in Jesus and bending lovingly down to you, always remains immeasurably greater, beyond our ability to understand him in his deepest being. Like Isaiah, you too have experienced that it is always God who takes the initiative, because it is he who created you and willed you into being. It is he who, in your baptism, has made you into a new creation; he is always patiently waiting for your response to his initiative, offering forgiveness to whoever asks him with humility.

4. If we do not resist him, Jesus will touch our lips with the flame of his merciful love, as he did the prophet Isaiah. This will make us worthy to receive him and to take him to our brothers and sisters. Like Isaiah, we too are invited not to stay closed within ourselves, protecting our faith in a cellar to which we withdraw in difficult moments. Rather, we are called to share the joy of knowing we are chosen and saved by God's mercy, the joy of being witnesses to the fact that faith gives new direction to our steps, that it makes us free and strong so as to be ready and prepared for the mission.

5. How beautiful it is to discover that faith brings us out of ourselves, out of our isolation. Precisely because we are filled with the joy of being friends with Jesus Christ, faith draws us towards others, making us natural missionaries! Missionary altar servers: this is how Jesus wants you to be!

Dear altar boys and altar girls, the closer you are to the altar, the more you will remember to speak with Jesus in daily prayer; the more you will be nourished by the Word and the Body of the Lord, the better able you will be to go out to others, bringing them the gift that you have received, giving in your turn, with enthusiasm, the joy you have received.

Thank you for serving at the Lord's altar and for making of this service a real school of faith and charity toward your neighbour. Thank you also for having begun to respond to the Lord, like the prophet Isaiah, "Here am I! Send me" (Is 6:8).

## CREATIVE PASTORS FOR 'MEDIA-VICTIM' YOUTH

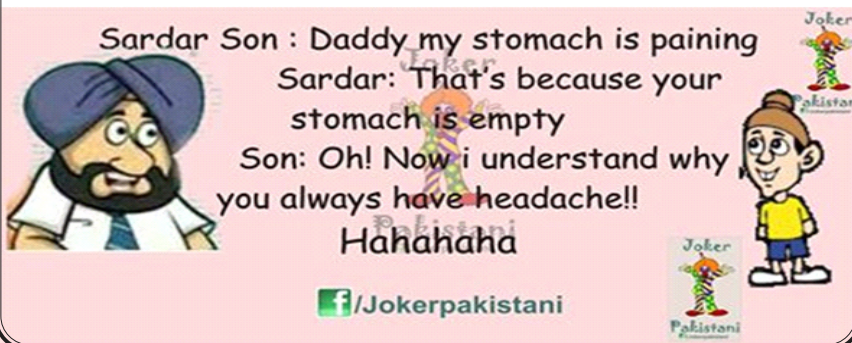
### ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF MEDIA ON YOUTH TODAY

WORKSHOP FOR THE PRIESTS OF ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF MADURAI  
ST. PAUL'S SEMINARY, TIRUCHY – OCTOBER 1-3, 2015

According to a research finding published in *Hindu*, "By 2020, India is set to become the world's youngest country with 64 per cent of its population in the working age group." The same report says, "Every third person in an Indian city today is a youth. In about seven years, the median individual in India will be 29 years, very likely a city-dweller, making it the youngest country in the world." This means that the Catholic Church in India also will have more youth in its fold in the coming years. In other words, it has a big constituency of human resources. The Church can usher in changes within the Church and outside the Church too with the power of the youth.

#### Three pertinent questions we need to ask ourselves today:

1. Are our youth with us today? Do they have a sense of belongingness to the Church?
2. Has the Church empathetically understood their problems and issues, particularly in the context of modern media?
3. Are we condemnatory and judgmental about the youth? Or, are we fraternal and dialogical in our approach to the youth?



The impact of Media and its Challenges are felt more strongly today because of the lack of clarity on the use of social media like, Cinema, Television, Internet, Mobile phones, Social networking tools like Twitter, Whatsapp, Facebook, etc... Young people have become unreflective consumers and 'victims of media abuse'. Priests of today need to become protagonists of change and catalysts of transformation. Hence the need to understand the challenges at hand and be equipped with appropriate responses.

Therefore, the Active Pastors of the Ecclesiastical Province of Madurai are invited for this special, hands-on and experiential workshop on the Impact of Media on youth today. In particular, this seminar will be of great help for the young priests in their ministry to the youth.

#### This workshop will:

- ✓ Extensively analyse the problems of today's youth with special reference to the problems and issues emerging in the context of modern media.
- ✓ Attempt to unravel the internal and external blocks that prevent the pastors to be care-givers to the youth.
- ✓ Review and evaluate the traditional responses of the Church to the issues of the youth. Explore the new and creative responses of the Church to the issues of youth.

This workshop has been designed and will be carried out by *Niraivagam* – Don Bosco Institute of Psychological Services, Chennai with assistance of Diocesan priests and youth in Tiruchy.

#### RESOURCE PERSONS: TEAM OF NIRAIVAGAM – DBIPS

**Fr. Joseph Jeyaraj, SDB** – Director of *Niraivagam*,

**Fr. Paulraj Amalraj, SDB** – Deputy Director

**Mr. Thaddeus Alfonso** – Associate Director

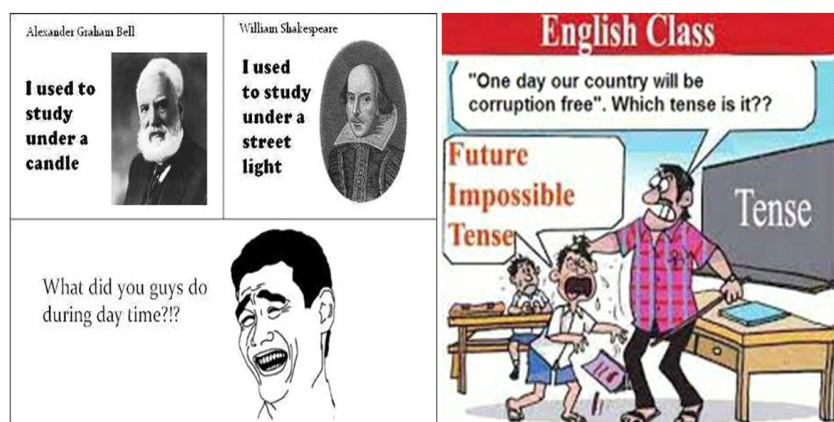




The workshop will begin at 9.30 am on 1<sup>st</sup> October and end at 4.00 pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Those who are interested kindly register your name before 15<sup>th</sup> September with either Fr. Simon Sebastian (Mob: 94437 57361; [rectorsps@gmail.com](mailto:rectorsps@gmail.com); [stpaulseminary@rediffmail.com](mailto:stpaulseminary@rediffmail.com)) or with Fr.N.A. Panneerselvam, the procurator (9443 483047).

**Fr. S. Sebastian**

Rector, St. Paul's Seminary, Tiruchy.



### Holy See Collection - 2015

<b>Collection as on 27/07/2015</b>	<b>60,088.00</b>
Usilampatti	700.00
Karumathur	500.00

<b>Collection as on 25/08/2015</b>	<b>61,288.00</b>
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### Hunger & Disease Collection - 2015

<b>Collection as on 27/07/2015</b>	<b>8,59,850.00</b>
Usilampatti	7,000.00
Karumathur	600.00

<b>Collection as on 25/08/2015</b>	<b>8,67,450.00</b>
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### Good Friday Collection - 2015

<b>Collection as on 27/07/2015</b>	<b>5,50,552.00</b>
Usilampatti	3,000.00
Karumathur	1,000.00

<b>Collection as on 25/08/2015</b>	<b>5,54,552.00</b>
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### Vocation Sunday Collection - 2015

<b>Collection as on 27/07/2015</b>	<b>53,872.00</b>
Sivakasi	6,000.00
St. Mary's Church	5,000.00
Usilampatti	750.00
Karumathur	300.00

<b>Collection as on 25/08/2015</b>	<b>65,922.00</b>
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### Peter's Pence - 2015

<b>Collection as on 27/07/2015</b>	<b>24,072.00</b>
St. Mary's Church	5,000.00
Batlagundu	2,500.00
Samayanallur	2,000.00
Rajapalayam	1,000.00
Ammampatti	850.00
R.R. Nagar	800.00
Melur	500.00
Karumathur	300.00
Kottur	300.00
Matha Kovilpatti	300.00

<b>Collection as on 25/08/2015</b>	<b>37,622.00</b>
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### Prison Ministry

Fr. Parish Priest, St. Mary's Church	5,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Batlagundu	3,270.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Packiapuram	3,210.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Samayanallur	2,900.00
Fr. Parish Priest, R.R. Nagar	2,700.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Hanumanthanpatti	2,300.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Thirumangalam	2,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Railway Colony	2,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Rajapalayam	1,000.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Ammapatti	758.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Nilakottai	500.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Karumathur	300.00
Fr. Parish Priest, Mathakovilpatti	200.00

Collection as on 25/08/2015 26,138.00

### KANI (Seminarians Fund )

Fr. Parish Priest, Gnanaolivupuram	24,000.00
Rev. Bro. Superior, Holy Family Brothers	5,000.00
Samayanallur (Bination)	550.00
Mrs. Mary Grace, Silukkuvarpatti	200.00

Collection as on 25/08/2015 29,750.00

### *From the Procurator's Desk*



Priests who have been transferred, and not submitted their accounts, are requested to submit the same to their successors in the presence of the Procurator and Vicar General **before the 15<sup>th</sup> of September, 2015.**

### *Greetings on Birthday*

Fr. Lucas Maria Gnanam	on	03.09.1949
Fr. Lourduraj G.	on	06.09.1932
Fr. Appolin Claret Raj M.	on	09.09.1965
Fr. Louis A.	on	11.09.1958
Fr. Maria Michael M.	on	19.09.1977
Fr. Maria Louis A.	on	25.09.1969
Fr. Vimi Charlie	on	29.09.1958
Fr. Joseph V.	on	29.09.1974
Fr. Sahayaraj K.	on	30.09.1980



### *Happy Ordination Anniversary*

Fr. Pappuraj	on	26.09.2010
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### *Adoration Sunday*

September	October
06 Annanagar	04 A. Nathampatty
13 Batlagundu	11 Y. Othakkadai
20 Bodinayakanur	18 Karumathur
27 Sundaranachiapuram	25 Theni

### *Necrology*

Fr. Joseph Lazer	-	09.09.1979
Fr. Sandanam Manuel	-	28.09.1981
Fr. Peter R.S.	-	09.09.1985
Fr. Joachim M.P.	-	25.09.1985
Fr. Pudumai	-	06.09.1992
Fr. Aruldoss	-	16.06.1997
Fr. Kulandaisamy A.S.	-	12.09.1999

