

DNL

Archdiocese of Madurai
News Letter

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மரியோ வாழ்க!



தூய ஆரோக்கிய அன்மையே

தொற்றுநோய் இருந்தி எம்மைப் பாதுகாத்தருளும்.



Salem Bishop Consecration Most Rev. Dr. Arulselvam Rayappan



Trichy Bishop Consecration Most Rev. Dr. Arockiaraj



Published by : Rev. Dr. John Diraviam, Chancellor, Bishop's House,
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Tamilnadu Catechetical Meeting in Poondi



Release of Songs on St. Joseph in Ghanaolivupuram



Church blessing at Mathankovilpatt



THE VOICE OF THE PASTOR

Celebrate the Gift of Girl Children

September 8th marks twofold celebrations: the **Birth Day of Mary - Our Beloved Mother** and **Girl Child Day** respectively. This Feast of celebrating the birthday of Mary, Our Mother, provides us an occasion for praise and thanksgiving in honor of the personal sanctity and vocation of the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Mother of the Lord Jesus and us.



Before we are born, our mothers are our entire world; they enfold, nourish, and protect us. When we are born, they continue to care for us, by comforting, nursing, and teaching us as we grow. Mothers do not stop being mothers just because we are grown. Our Mother will always be our mother. So, it is also with our Blessed Mother. She stands ready, arms open to embrace, nourish, protect, comfort, and teach us as we grow. Daily Rosary that greets and thanks her for her love and care, and the intercessory prayers that ask for her aid, ensure her place as **OUR MOTHER** in our families, our homes, and our hearts.

On this auspicious day, the Church invites us to celebrate Girl Child Day.

- அப்பாக்களுக்கு தெரிந்த ஒற்றைவரிக் கவிதை : மகள்
- அப்பாவின் இரண்டாவது தாய் - மகள்.
- ஆண் பிள்ளை பிறப்பது தாய் தந்தை கேட்ட வரம்; பெண் பிள்ளை பிறப்பது இறைவனாக பார்த்து கொடுத்த வரம்.

These are a few quotes which are very much viral in usage and liked by one and all. God sends every child into this world as a part of His loving plan. A baby girl is a miracle that never ceases to be miraculous. The objective of celebrating the day is to highlight the inequalities faced by girls in the country, to promote awareness about the rights of a girl child and to generate awareness on the importance of girl education, health and nutrition.

Alarming is the reality of the Girl children in the society. They are normally treated as less privileged even in these modern times. Girl children are subjected to injustice and cruelty by their own parents and siblings. A Girl child, if the gender is disclosed, is aborted in the womb itself; if the child is born then the cruelty of infanticide takes place; if at all the child escapes, it faces a lot of abuses, injustice, violence and so on.

What is the message that is given to us this day? Jesus honored His Mother, respected Jewish Women, forgave 'sinful women', loved Martha and Mary, consoled widows and gave life to many girl children. We are called to imbibe the attitude of Jesus. The loving attitude which gave life to the Jairus' daughter (Mk 5:42); which cleared the unclean spirit from the daughter of a gentile woman (Mk 7: 25 – 30) and which made Jesus to take them up in his arms, lay His hands on and bless them (Mk 10:16).

- What is our attitude towards the Girl children? How far we respect and give preference to them?
- Do we recognize the abilities and the talents in them, encourage them and help them to bring them out?
- When we encounter the social evil against the Girl children, are we able to stand for justice? And what is our response to it?
- What about our interest in holistic well-being of the Girl children entrusted to us?
- What about our knowledge on POCSO Act(Protection of Children from Sexual Offences), which was passed by the Indian Parliament in 2012?

How far are we interested to know that, our Holy father Pope Francis promulgated a *Motu Proprio* on 09th may 2019 titled "**Vos Estis Lux Mundi**" (**You are the light of the world**), that establishes new procedural norms to fight against sexual abuse and safeguard the dignity of the female children and vulnerable adults?

Are we aware of the child protection policy and procedures of CBCI? **St. John Paul II declares** "There is no place in the priesthood and religious life for those who would harm the young girls". Children are like wet cement, whatever falls on them makes an impression"

As our gift to Mother Mary on her birth day, let us resolve to ensure the safety of Girl children and fullness of life. Let us ask **Mary, The Greatest Girl Child who became THE MOTHER**, to help us to understand the value and beauty of every girl we come across in our lives, institutions, parishes and above all in our hearts.

May God bless you!

Your loving Archbishop,

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

Archbishop's Engagements

05	Sun	M	Feast Mass, Mother Teresa Convent, Vilangudi
07	Tue		Feast Mass, St. Mary's Basilica, Kuzhithurai
08	Wed	E	Feast Mass, Annanagar
09	Thu		Nuptial Blessing, St. Mary's Cathedral
10	Fri	M	Varusanadu Social Service Society: General Body Meeting
12	Sun	M	Nuptial Blessing, Virudhunagar
		E	Annual Retreat Begins
13-17			Diocesan Annual Retreat, Pillar, Nagamalai Pudukottai
19	Sun	M	Confirmation, St. Mary's Cathedral
20-21			CCBI Meeting
22-24			Inauguration of Houses for IRULAS, Bon Secours, Kanchipuram
26	Sun	M	Madurai South Vicariate- Anbia Meeting
27	Mon		Fr. Adrian Causanal Opening Ceremony – Palayamkottai
28	Tue	M	General Body Meeting, Sathangai Academy
		E	Blessing of New Flag Post and Rest Rooms, First Communion Mass, at Marianus Nagar, Sivakasi
29	Wed	E	Confirmation & New Flag Post Blessing, T. Sindalachery
30	Thu	M	General Body Meeting, MMSSS
		E	Meeting, Madha TV

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

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

Pope's General Prayer Intention

Universal intention - An environmentally sustainable lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

பேராயரின் இம்மாத ஜெபக்கருத்து

நம்புதல் : புனித கத்தோலிக்கத் திரு அவையையும் புனிதர்களுடைய சமூக உறவையும் நம்புகிறேன்.

வேண்டுகல்: நம் மண்ணில் சமய நல்லிணக்கம் மலர, கிறிஸ்தவ ஒன்றிப்பு வளர

வாழ்த்தல் : புனிதர்களின் வாழ்வில் நெறிகளை நமது வாழ்வாக்க முனைவோம்.

இம்மாதம் ஸ்திர கொண்டாருப் பங்குகள்

1.	மீனப்படி, அன்கை தெருசா ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 5
2.	அண்ணாநகர், அன்கை சுவாமிநாதர் ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
3.	வாழ்ப்படி, ஆரோக்கிய அன்கை ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
4.	பொடி, புனித ஆரோக்கிய அன்கை ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
5.	பாக்கியபுரம், புனித ஆரோக்கிய அன்கை ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
6.	கம்பம், தூய ஆரோக்கிய அன்கை ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
7.	சின்னமனார், புனித அன்கை சுவாமிநாதர் ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
8.	சிலக்குவார்ப்படி, புனித ஆரோக்கிய அன்கை ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
9.	கடமகைக்குண்டு, அன்கை சுவாமிநாதர் ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
10.	ஆர். ஆர். நகர், தூய சுவாமிநாதர் ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
11.	மரியாஜாஸ் நகர், சிவகாசி	-	செப்டம்பர் 8
12.	தும்முச்சின்படி, புனித வியாகுமாதா ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 15
13.	மதுரை, மரியன்னைப் பேராலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 15
14.	கோட்டூர், புனித வியாகுமாதா ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 15
15.	மீக்கேல்பாளையம், மீக்கேல் அத்தூதர் ஆலயம்	-	செப்டம்பர் 29

இப்பங்குகளில் பணி புரியும் பங்குத்தந்தையர்களுக்கும், துறவறத்தாருக்கும்

இறைமக்களுக்கும் எனது வாழ்த்துகளும் ஜெபங்களும்.

+ பேராயர் அத்தோலி மரியாஜாசி

HAPPY FEAST

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

Missionaries of Charity (MC)	5 th September
Sisters of Charity of St. Mary (DSS)	5 th September
Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross (SCSC)	14 th September
Sisters of the Holy Cross (HCM)	14 th September
Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod (SCC)	14 th September
Congregation of Mother of Sorrows	
Servants of Mary (The Servites) OSM	15 th September
Vincentians (VC)	27 th September
The Monfort Brothers of St. Gabriel	29 th September

Please Note

1. **Annual Retreat- 2021** will be held at Pillar from 12th (Sunday) to 17th (Friday) September 2021. It begins with the supper on 12th and ends with the lunch on 17th. All the Fathers are to participate at this Annual Spiritual Obligation (C. 276, §2, 4°). His Grace exhorts that every priest of the Archdiocese participates in the Retreat in order to grow in priestly life and ministries. Kindly bring with you the Cassock, the Bible and the writing materials. Ask your parishioners and community members to pray for the success of this Annual Spiritual exercises. The Preacher of this year Retreat is Rev. Fr. Lawrence Cap., the Provincial.
2. **Feast Day Greetings of Nativity of our Blessed Mother**, DNL offers to all its members on 8^{th inst.} May our Blessed Mother intercede to her Son to eradicate this pandemic from the earth.
3. **Oriyur Pilgrimage:** Considering the State's SOP for preventive measures of the Pandemic, this year too we are not sure whether we will have the Archdiocesan Annual Pilgrimage to Oriyur on 2nd Oct. Any other information will be communicated later.

4. **Congratulations** to the following Fathers for their construction works: i) DNL congratulates **Fr. K. Sahayaraj** for the renovation of the ancient Church, Our Lady of Ransom at Madhankovilpatti, which was blessed by His Grace on 1st of August 2021.
ii) DNL congratulates **Fr. Francis Xavier** for the construction of a new Church dedicated to St. Michael at Kalangarai of Meenampatti parish which was blessed by Fr. David Dharmaraj and Fr. Arul Rayan on 8th August 2021.
5. **Condolences:** DNL expresses its deep condolences to Fr. Deva who lost his beloved Mother, Mrs. Saleth Mary, aged 85 at Lourdupuram parish on 13th August 2021. Due to the lockdown restriction, the Funeral Mass was celebrated by Fr. Deva at his house with some Fathers and the Funeral Service was officiated by His Grace at 12.00 am., at Lourdes' Church on 14th August 2021 with a large participation of the *Presbyterium*. May the soul of Mrs. Saleth Mary, the beloved mother of Fr. Devadoss rest in peace.

விவிலிய வாரம்

அன்பு அருள்பணியாளர்களே!

செப்டம்பர் மாதம் விவிலிய மாதமாக நமது மறைமாவட்டத்தில் ஆண்டுதோறும் சிறப்பிப்பது வழக்கம். இந்த ஆண்டிற்கான விவிலிய வாரம் செப்டம்பர் மாதம் 20-26 வரை கொண்டாடவும், செப்டம்பர் 26 ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை விலிய ஞாயிறாக கொண்டாட தமிழக விவிலியப் பணிக்குழு கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறது. இருப்பினும் தங்களது பங்கின் சூழலுக்கு ஏற்ப தேதிகளை மாற்றி கொண்டாடலாம். ஒருவேளை ஞாயிறு திருப்பலி நிறைவேற்ற இயலாத சூழல் ஏற்பட்டால் வார நாட்களில் விவிலிய வார வழிபாட்டை கொண்டாடி இறைமக்கள், விவிலியம் வாசித்தல், அதனை வாழ்வாக்குவதன் அவசியத்தை விளங்க வைக்க கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

“இறைவார்த்தை – சமூக சகோதரத்திற்கு ஓர் அழைப்பு” என்ற தலைப்பில் இந்த ஆண்டு விவிலிய வாரம் கொண்டாடப்படும். இதற்கான திருவழிபாட்டுக் குறிப்புகள், வால்போஸ்டர் மற்றும் நமது மறைமாவட்ட அளவில் நடைபெறும் விவிலிய வினா – விடை போட்டிக்கான கேள்வித்தாள் ஆகியவை செப்டம்பர் முதல் வாரத்தில் அனுப்பி வைக்கப்படும். இதனை பயன்படுத்தி பொருள் உள்ள விதத்தில் விவிலிய வாரத்தை கொண்டாடவும். விவிலிய ஞாயிறு சிறப்புக் காணிக்கையை மக்களிடம் பெற்று, நமது மறைமாவட்ட கிறிஸ்தவ வாழ்வு பணிக்குழு மற்றும் தமிழக விவிலிய பணிக்குழுவின் வளர்ச்சிக்காக, நமது உயர்மறைமாவட்ட அலுவலகத்தில் செலுத்த கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

இவண்

பணி. ஆ. அந்தோனிசாமி, செயலர், கிறிஸ்தவ வாழ்வுப் பணிக்குழு.

Pope's Quotes on Bible Reading

1. **“Consult the Bible as often as your Cell phone”**
2. **“Carry a Pocket Size Bible”**
3. **“Bible is extremely a dangerous Book”**
4. **“Have personal Bible as my own worn-out Bible.”**
5. **“Don’t keep your Bible on the Shelf”**
6. **“Dangerous Book”**
7. **“Bible is not a simple Literature; a Dynamite to change all civilization”**
8. **“I read a little and contemplate”**
9. **“First Fake News is found in the Bible”**
10. **“Spend two minutes everyday reading Bible”**
11. **“Be nourished and enlightened by the Word of God”**
12. **“We can’t apply the *Theory of Inspiration* in a mechanical way”**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 24.08.2021

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

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 24.08.2021							
St. Peter's Pence 04/07/21	Communi- cation Day 11/07/21	Prision Ministry 15/08/21	Bible Sunday 26/09/21	Mission Sunday 17/10/21	African Mission 01/11/21	Peter the Apostle 21/11/21	Opus 08/12/21
3000	3320	3280					
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500	500	500					
400	400	400					
900	1000						
350	400						
500	500	500					
500	500	500					
2000							

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 24.08.2021						
S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 07/02/21	Holy See 14/03/21	Hunger Disease 01/04/21	Good Friday 02/04/21	Vocation Sunday 25/04/21
36	Melakovilpatti	2000	500			
37	Michaelpalayam					
38	Munjikkal					
39	Murugathuranpatti	1121		32000	4727	
40	Nagamalai	10000	3000	105000	20000	
41	Nakkaneri	1000	1000	14000	4250	
42	Nilakottai	1500		13000	5000	
43	Niravazhvu Nagar (VNR)	1000				
44	Othaiyal					
45	Packiapuram	11111	4060	60120	20655	3340
46	Packianathapuram	1900	1500	10000	3500	
47	Palanganatham	12500	11200	130000	30000	10000
48	Pandian Nagar	3100				
49	Periyakulam	500	500	15000	5000	500
50	Perumalmalai	1000	1000	15000	10000	1000
51	R.R. Nagar	1500	600	6000	1500	
52	Railway Colony					
53	Rajapalayam	1300	1200			
54	Rayappanpatti	8500	4000	35000	30000	3500
55	Rayapuram			4040	2810	
56	Samayanallur	8000		68140	16915	
57	Sattur					
58	Shenbaganur	2000	1100			
59	Sengole Nagar					
60	Sempatti Mission			1100	700	
61	Silukkuvarpatty	1000	1000	5000	5000	
62	Sivakasi	7429	8292	50264	32451	4861
63	Srivilliputhur					
64	St. Mary's Cathedral					
65	Sundaranatchiapuram					
66	T. Sindalacherry	4100		11000	17000	2000
67	T. Vadipatti Shrine	1000	1000	10000	15500	1000
68	Theni	4000				
69	Thirumangalam	6240	1500	2500	7040	1000
70	Thirunagar	4340	4090	27080	22410	3630

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 24.08.2021							
St. Peter's Pence 04/07/21	Communi- cation Day 11/07/21	Prision Ministry 15/08/21	Bible Sunday 26/09/21	Mission Sunday 17/10/21	African Mission 01/11/21	Peter the Apostle 21/11/21	Opus 08/12/21
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69							
70							

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - 01.02.2021 - 24.08.2021						
S. No.	Parish Name	Holy Childhood 07/02/21	Holy See 14/03/21	Hunger Disease 01/04/21	Good Friday 02/04/21	Vocation Sunday 25/04/21
71	Thiruthangal					
72	Thummuchinampatty			1000	2500	
73	Ugarthe Nagar	1500	1500	15000	10000	
74	.....	8850		42584	7390	
75	.....				
76	.....	7500	8600	165000	71260	
77	.....	250	200	350	1100	
78	.....	1000	1000	2200	2500	
79	.....	4000	1400	8000	12000	
	Total	248473	116356	1774534	777935	59001

நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்
புதிய கட்டிடம் மலர்வதற்காக தாராள மனதுடன்
இதுவரை 2 தனிய 2 ள்ளங்கள்

Collection as on 25.09.2020

39,27,855.58

Happy Ordination Anniversary

Rev. Fr. Britto Jerald Dhinakaran

Rev. Fr. John Richard M.

Fr. Pappuraj V.

on 21.09.2014

on 21.09.2014

on 26.09.2010

குடும்ப நல்வாழ்வு பணிக்குழு நடத்தும்
திருமண முன்தயாரிப்பு நடைபெறும் நாட்கள்

04,05.09.2021	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
11,12.09.2021	விருதுநகர்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
18,19.09.2021	நொபிலி அருள்பணி மையம்	சனி, ஞாயிறு
25,26.09.2021	கொடைக்கானல்	சனி, ஞாயிறு

அருள்பணி. எஸ். ஜேம்ஸ்பால்ராஜ், செயலர்

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72
73
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[illegible]

September

05	Karumathur
12	Theni
19	Sengole Nagar
26	Melur



October

03 Alangulam
10 Kavirayapuram
17 Gnanaolivupuram
24 T. Vadipatti
31

Necrology

Fr. Joseph Lazer
Fr. Sandanam Manuel
Fr. Peter R.S.
Fr. Joachim M.P.
Fr. Pudumai
Fr. Aruldoss
Fr. Kulandaisamy A.S.



XLVII On the Footsteps of our Elder Brothers

Fr. S. M. Arulsamy: Fr. S.M. Arulsamy was born on 13-04-1909 at Mariammalkulam. Mr. SavarimuthuReddiar gave cheerfully his only son, Fr. Arulsamy and the only daughter, Sr. Soosaiammal to serve in the vineyard of the Lord. After his completion of his studies when young Arulsamy was roaming at the streets of Madurai he was spotted by Fr. Lacombe S.J., who told him that one day he would be a priest. He joined the seminary and on March 25th 1939 he was ordained for Madurai. He served the following parishes as the parish priest: Sundaranachiapuram, Sattur, Sarugani, Kazhugumalai, Rajakembeeram, SeranMadhevi, Periakulam etc.

It is he who constructed a church at sankarapuram of Sattur and at Vanniankulam of Seranmadhevi parish. At Seythur of Sundaranachiapuram a church and a School, and shops at Periakulam were his contributions. He worked one year as the Manager of De Nobili Depot.

He was also a versatile reader and writer. As a devotee of our Blessed Mother he never went to bed without reciting the Rosary. He wrote the following five books: 1. திவ்விய பலி பூசை 2. நாமே உண்மையும் சீவியமும் வழியும் 3. திருச்சபை 4. கிறிஸ்து நாதர் 5. விசுவாசம்.

When he was serving at Periakulam from 1955 to 1968 he was suffering from many diseases and was taking rest at Ayyampalayam. He was serving the Lord for 48 long years in his priestly ministries albeit bearing various sicknesses for almost thirty years. When he became aware that his end was nearing he distributed all his possessions to the poor; in particular many rare books to priest friends, he also in eighties gave a donation of 40,000 to Annai Theresa Convent, Madurai. As he was taking rest in Halcyon Home for 8 months finally

on 19th April 1984 as he was preparing to celebrate the Maundy Thursday Liturgy at St. Joseph's hospital, Dindigul he completed his life as the last Pascha due to the sudden heart attack. Here is a priest who ministered tirelessly not minding his sicknesses and inconveniences. Let the name of this committed priest live long in the Annals of Madurai.

Fr. I. Ignatius: (Kuttailganci) Fr. Ignatius, the only son of the parents was accepted by the Diocese after the willingness the parents. He was ordained on 16th April 1973 at Holy Rosary Church, Madurai. He served Ramnathapuram and Thiruvaramangam parishes as the Assistant Parish Priest. In 1978 he was appointed as the Parish Priest of Theni where he fanned into flame the ebbing out the faith of the parishioners. He introduced daily mass and due to which the number of the faithful increased. Then he became the parish priest of Nanakudi for four and half years where the people were very happy. Wherever he had been he took efforts to make his parishioners to feel as one family. He was known for his continuous efforts to protect the church properties. Later he was working as the parish priest in Sooranam for a year and at Rayappanpatti for seven months where he was suffering from kidneys' disfunction disease. When he was hospitalized he was speaking with every one with a cheerful heart and finally when his condition deteriorated Fr. Ignatius was taken to CMC Vellore, and on the way he reached the other shore on 8-1-1986. May the name of this cheerful and hospitable pastor be glorified be an edification for the future priests of Madurai.

Fr. A. Balthasar: Fr. Balthasar was born in Puthur of Thiruvaramangam parish. Right from his childhood he had been a boy without guile and a cheerful youth. He was ordained in 1967. He was working as the Assistant Parish Priest at Soosaiapparpattanam and Gnanaolivupuram. Then as the parish priest he was ministering at Sindalachery, Pulial, Devakottai, Thangachi Madam and Sattur. At that time Thangachimadam was a very big parish which had 18,000 Catholics. Fr. Balthasar organised Bible schools, prayer meetings and other liturgical celebrations which nourished the lives of the fisherfolk.

Meanwhile he was not aware of his health condition which was eroding his flesh. When he was transferred to Sattur he came to know the disease of cancer which made him sick. He was taken to Chennai Adayar hospital and later he was hospitalized in Madurai for ten monthsth January 1916 the good Lord took himself to himself to grant eternal reward. Like his Master this cheerful servant also accepted the cross for himself and till the last breath lived a cheerful life. May the cheerful name of this committed pastor be remembered by the sons and daughters of Madurai Archdiocese.

Fr. J. Victor: Fr. Victor was born in Malaysia in 1919. After having completed Senior Cambridge Course he completed studies and requested Msgr. Leonard to accept him in Trichinopoly since the seminary was closed due to World War II. He was admitted at St. Paul's Seminary in 1948 and on 4-4-1948 he was ordained a priest at St. Mary's Cathedral, Madurai.

Fr. Victor was serving as parish priest in Singamparai, Palayamkottai, Railway Colony, Sundaranachiarapuram, Michaelpalayam, Silukkuvarpatti, Saveriarpattanam, Rajapalayam and Ayyampalayam. He was known for the beatitude of endurance; he faced all kinds of the sufferings for the sake of establishing justice in his ministry places. He was always vigilant and alert in protecting the property of the church.

Due to some reasons he went back to Malaysia in 1969 and was working at many parishes; in 1979 he came back again to Madurai and was ministering at few parishes. Fr. Vedamanickam testifies that the whole life of Fr. J. Victor can be summarised as 'Eternal Life', for in all his sermons he never forgot to teach the faithful on eternal life. Finally amidst many sicknesses he prepared himself for this eternal life and on 18-4-1986 he began his journey to that eternal life in Christ.

(to be continued)

– Fr. Jodir.