

**APPOINTMENTS BY FR GENERAL**

Fr Thomas Layden, Provincial of Ireland  
Fr Jeyaraj Rasiyah, Provincial of Sri Lanka  
Fr Erinjery Thomas, Rector, St Xavier's College,  
Trivandrum

**APPOINTMENTS BY POSA**

Fr Charles Lasrado (KAR) Member, Finance  
Commission, JCSA  
Fr Jose Thayil (PAT) Acting Rector, Papal  
Seminary, Pune

**NEW SUPERIORS FOR THE PROVINCE**

Fr General has approved the appointment of the  
following Superiors:

Fr Jacob Kumminiyl Superior, S.M. Farm,  
Pariyaram  
Fr Sony Thazhathel Superior, Sarvodaya,  
Eachome  
Fr Mathew Pampackal Superior, Sameeksha,  
Kalady  
Fr Jose Choorapoikayil Superior, Pius X,  
Edathua  
Fr Kuriakose Puthanapra Superior, AKJM,  
Kanjirapally

**APPOINTMENTS BY FR PROVINCIAL**

Fr Kachirayil Salvin Teacher, Sarvodaya  
School, Eachome  
Fr Kunnathoor Joe Mathew Principal, Nirmala  
ITC, Pariyaram  
Fr Kuzhickattumyalil Mathew Principal, St  
Xavier's College, Jaipur  
Fr Madukakuzhy Jacob Loyola, Aluva  
Fr Mekunnel Augustine Manager, AKJM  
School & Director Junior School, Kanjirapally  
Fr Nampiarambil Mathew Treasurer, Loyola  
Jesuit Residence, Bursar, College & LES,  
Trivandrum

**PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME**

May

17	Back from Rome
19	Consult, Christ Hall

20

Meeting with the  
Scholastics, Christ Hall

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

Fr Provincial left for Rome via Frankfurt on  
26 April. He reached Frankfurt as planned  
and stayed with his brother in Frankfurt  
and visited some Jesuit centres. He  
proceeded to Rome on 2 May. The  
Colloquium of the new Provincials began  
on 3 May. Kindly pray for the success of  
the Colloquium.

**PROVINCE GOLDEN JUBILEE**

As informed earlier, the Province Golden  
Jubilee celebrations begin at Christ Hall on 21  
May 2010. An invitation card for the Inaugural  
Function of the Jubilee celebration is sent to  
all our Communities. Those of you who are yet  
to inform of your arrival and departure for the  
functions, please inform the Socius at the  
earliest.

**HEALTH BULLETIN**

Br Philip Panjikanan is undergoing dialysis in  
Nirmala Hospital, Calicut. He is showing  
remarkable improvement. Fr Joseph  
Chittooparambil underwent surgery for the  
removal of cataract at Vasan Eye Care  
Centre, Calicut. Fr C.M. Cherian finds it very  
difficult to walk and so the Community misses  
his presence in the refectory. Kindly pray for  
the good health of all of them.

**FORTHCOMING MEETING**

Kindly mark the dates of the next joint meeting  
of Consultors, Superiors and Directors of  
Works slated for 10 –11 July 2010 (Saturday  
& Sunday), Christ Hall, Calicut.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Fr Binoy Pichalakatt is invited to Rome by the  
Director of Vatican Observatory for a month-  
long Summer School in the villa of Castel  
Gondolfo at Vatican. He will be presenting

two papers on "Science-Theology Interface with Specific Reference to Astronomical Mysteries." Binoy will be leaving for Rome on 18 May and will be back on 1 July 2010.

## CHANGE IN MOBILE NUMBER

Fr Wilson Mulackal 9447856755

## ALUMNI MATTERS

On Sunday 18 April, officials and representatives of the Alumni Associations of Kerala Province met at the Loyola Hall of the LES to plan for the future alumni activities. This meeting discussed the formation of the Jesuit Alumni Association of Kerala (JAK) and suggested ways and means of rejuvenating the activities of the alumni associations of our institutions. More than 25 representatives attended this maiden function organized by Fr Jose Mathew, the new Coordinator of the Alumni Activities of the Province.

## NEWS FROM ROME

### Fr General's Visit to Spain

Fr General visited Spain from 16 to 19 April. On 18 April he participated in the beatification of Father Bernado de Hoyos, apostle of the Sacred Heart. He met the Jesuits who came for the beatification on 19 April at the *Comillas* Pontifical University. Fr Nicolas attended the International Congress on "Structures and Dimensions of Priestly Life." Later that same day he left Madrid for Central America. From 19 April to 1 May, Fr General visited the Province of Mexico, Central America, and the Antilles. Fr Nicolas participated in a meeting of Jesuit Universities from across the globe held in Mexico City, 22-24 April, under the theme: *Networking Jesuit Higher Education for a globalizing world*. Before the meeting Fr Nicolas visited some of the works of the Province of Mexico, participated in a Province meeting and met Jesuits, friends and benefactors. On 24

April he traveled to the Province of Central America. In El Salvador he met with members of the "Ignatian family" and visited some of the major works of the Society of Jesus there; in Nicaragua he visited the *Colegio Centroamericano, Fe y alegria* primary school, and the *Centro Pedro Arrupe* at the University of Central America (UCA). On 27 April he went to Panama where he visited the Novitiate and inaugurated a new building at the *Colegio Xavier*. On 28 April he went to the Dominican Republic and Haiti, both part of the Province of the Antilles. While in Haiti, Fr Nicolas offered support and encouragement to the Jesuits engaged in service to the homeless, the injured, and in reconstruction after the devastating earthquake of 12 January 2010.

### The Society in Numbers

The Statistics of the Society of Jesus worldwide have been just published. The various tables present its composition as of the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. The total number of Jesuits is: 18,266; 12,887 priests (last year: 13,088), 1,589 brothers (last year: 1,674) 2,818 scholastics, that is the Jesuits information (last year: 2,925) and 972 novices (last year: 816). A decrease of 237 members was experienced from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. These figures show a small decline in relation to the previous year, when the loss was of 304 members. There was a small decline in the average age; in 2008 it was 57.44 and in 2009 it was 57.29.

### Jesuit Mission and Ecology

The Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat has informed Father General about the formation of a task force to help implement Decree 3 of General Congregation 35 that encourages all Jesuits, "to appreciate more deeply our covenant with creation" (D 3, 36). The task force will take into account how the environment "touches the core of our faith in

and love for God" (D 3, 32) and follow the lead of Pope Benedict XVI who devoted chapter 4 of *Caritas in Veritate* to this theme. The pope stressed the importance of protecting and respecting the environment in his First of January 2010 Peace message entitled "If you want to cultivate peace protect creation." This is an appropriate time to have an "aggiornamento" with our Jesuit tradition. Ten years ago saw the publication of "We live in a broken world: reflections on ecology" (1999), prepared by this Secretariat in response to Decree 20 of General Congregation 34. The Secretariat is attentive to reading the "signs of the times" noting the urgency of dealing with several environmental issues including climate change and the lack of good governance to deal with the exploitation of natural and mineral resources. This calls for a response from the Society, and it needs to discern its specific contribution. This Task Force would consist of a small group of 6 to 7 Jesuits and lay people and will be entrusted with the task of quickly preparing a report with practical recommendations. There will be two levels within the report: proposed concrete ways to make the concern for ecology a "dimension" of all our ministries, and suggested concrete project/s (action plans) that have an interdisciplinary dimension, all the while stressing the global and international aspect focusing on issues and methodologies where the Society can use its distinctive strengths. Father General has encouraged the Secretariat to pursue this direction.

## FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS

### CHRIST HALL

Br. Thekkekara, the eldest member of the house, presided over the Community celebration of the Paschal remembrance. Br Noel Oliver, the National Coordinator of the

Jesuit Brothers, paid us a quick visit. Fr Wilson Mulackal joined Christ Hall on 6 April and on the same day the staff of Christuraja L.P. School was invited for dinner with the community. The Community bade farewell to our young and enthusiastic scholastics Tinu and Shibin.

Fr Mathew Pullattu was away in Shembaganur along with Fr Philip Thayil for a gathering of their Novitiate batch. Sch Rajesh joined the Community for getting healing support for his damaged knee ligaments.

Rajesh

### SAMEEKSHA, KALADY

The new class room constructed according to the specifications of the Kerala *Vastu* was blessed by the Superior, Fr. Thomas Panikulam on 19 March, and inaugurated on 6 April with a camp for school children. The scholastics are out with their summer programmes. The staff members are involved in various ministries. Thomas Panikulam conducted a retreat for a group of Brothers of St Joseph of Murialdo at Aluva. Two summer camps for school children conducted by the scholastics kept Sameeksha youthful for three weeks. Stephen Chundanthadathil is at Sameeksha during the summer months. Samuel Rayan is busy sorting out his notes and books which came from Delhi.

### LUMEN INSTITUTE, KOCHI

Newman Association had a relevant and meaningful discussion on "Development of Kochi: Problems and Prospects" in which Mr T.K. Jose IAS was the main speaker. His words made headlines in dailies and *Sathyadeepam* made it a cover article. In its latest monthly meeting, the Association had a discussion on property rights and management of the Catholic Church where Adv. Joseph Therattil presented a paper to

which Bishop Mar Thomas Chakiath responded. Fr Jose Mathew is back from Patna after successful completion of his mission of setting up a tissue culture lab for Tarumitra. Fr Pallivathukal is assisting and guiding the organization of the forthcoming Silver Jubilee celebrations of Jesus Youth.

Snehasena organized a five day workshop for children on art and sculpture using materials from nature. In connection with the Earth Day (April 22) the members of the workshop went to Subhash Park, Ernakulam where they made paintings and art works celebrating the Mother Earth using nature's free gifts. Fr. Roy Thottathil and Fr. Vincent took lead in association with various other artists. The workshop ended with an exhibition of art and sculpture.

Vincent

### **LOYOLA, TRIVANDRUM**

Loyola School became a hub of activities during the summer holidays. Dent Fest 2010, the annual cultural extravaganza, meant for the students of Dental Colleges of Kerala was held in our Indoor Stadium on 24 and 25 April. The campus was brimming with the vibrant presence of more than thousand five hundred students who actively participated in the All Kerala Festival organized by the Trivandrum unit of the Indian Dental Association.

The School in association with the Scholastics' Forum also organized a series of three SALT Camps on its premises and took initiative for a fourth one organized at Prasanthi, Pachilakad. All together 178 students participated in these camps. Thanks to the scholastics who spent their valuable time and energy with our children and all those children from other schools who signed up for the programme. With the summer coaching camp for foot ball, cricket and basket

ball in progress, almost every day the grounds were engaged with sporting activities. Loyola school also became the venue for Computer Beginners' Course and the Computer Hardware Course for our young men. Twenty five scholastics and two young priests benefited from this programme. Vacation classes for class XII started in the second week of April. The school also was the venue for competitive examinations and interviews conducted by HCL Technologies, CTCRI and The Indian Air Force.

Loyola College organized a five day intensive training in written and spoken English for its students. The programme was headed by our scholastics Sooraj and Sharath actively supported by Sch. Kensy of the British Province. The annual NSS ten day camp was organized at Marianad with Fr Sabu playing the key role.

Toby

### **VIDYA JYOTI, DELHI**

The activities of the academic year came to an end on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Binoy completed his M.Th with a successful defence. Sch. Augustine, our historian, is busy with his final exams. Fr Keerankeri has already reached the Province for his retreat and holidays.

### **FROM AFGHANISTAN**

My two years of regency in Afghan mission will come to an end by the middle of May 2010. During this month Frs Tony Kuruman and Klaus visited us. Sch. Leo (MDU) has already returned to his Province. I thank my Jesuit companions for their support and encouragement.

Linto

### **FROM TAIWAN**

We have just had the well conducted *International Seminar on East-West Dialogue* to commemorate the 4th Death

Centenary of MATTEO RICCI (*LI Madou*). Born in 1552, the year St Francis Xavier died, Ricci entered the Society of Jesus in 1571 against his father's wishes. In 1578 he set sail with thirteen companions from Lisbon and arrived in Goa after six months. Having contracted malaria there during his study of theology, he was sent to Cochin to convalesce and there he was ordained (1580).

Fr Alessandro Valignano summoned him and he arrived in Macau in August, 1582. He began his intensive and most successful study of Mandarin Chinese. It was only in 1601 that he could start staying in Beijing. Very soon he was admired as a holy man, a Confucian scholar, a scientist, an astronomer, a wise man from the West. (As for his countryman, ROBERTO de NOBILI (*Tattuva Podagar*), he was born in 1577, entered the Society in 1597, arrived in Goa in 1605 and left Cochin for Madurai in 1606. There he mastered Tamil, Sanskrit and Telugu and rendered distinguished service till his death in Mylapore in 1656.) Both Jesuits were path blazers, opening new frontiers!

Here follows a summary of Matteo Ricci's last days for our edification:

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 1610, LI Madou returned to the community after visiting his friends in Beijing and immediately took to his bed. His companions thought it was his usual migraine, but he told one: "Not at all. I am exhausted due to much work. This is my last sickness." To another he said: "I hesitate between two desires: whether to go now to Heaven, or to keep on working hard in this Mission." Six expert physicians came to attend on him. Many converts came day and night to visit him and to pray for him. The patient smiled and was at peace. On 8<sup>th</sup> May, he made a general confession. On the following day, he received the Holy Eucharist after getting up from his

bed, kneeling and weeping. That same afternoon he became delirious, mentioning the Catholic Church, his converts, the conversion of the Chinese and also the Ming Emperor, WAN Li. As soon as he recovered his senses, Ricci asked for the Anointing of the Sick and calmly said the prayers. He blessed his four companions and to one he said: "I leave you with a door opened to great merits, but not without labours and dangers." To another he said: "Be very kind with the confreres who will come from Europe..." So, in his last two days, Ricci was peaceful and talked with his companions and converts. Finally, on 11<sup>th</sup> May, around 7 p.m., he turned to one side, closed his eyes and peacefully surrendered himself to his Creator.

John Manipadam

#### FROM LONDON

The sprightly dance of golden daffodils adds to the joy and hope of Easter Season in London. The day long Easter celebration was a memorable event of the month. Fr Andrew Cameron-Mowat prepared a delicious Easter dinner for the community. I participated in the week long Jesuit living theology course organized by the Province at Ushaw College in Durham. It was a transformative experience to do my annual retreat at St Beuno's in Northern Wales. Gerald Manley Hopkins, the great Jesuit poet was deeply influenced by the spectacular view of Welsh landscape during his theology studies at St Beunos. Sch. Antony Vikram participated in the thirty five miles London marathon to raise funds for the Jesuit Missions in Guyana and Africa. Fr James Hanvey SJ, the theological adviser to the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, led us into a significant theological discussion on the forthcoming election to the British Parliament.

Xavier Tharamel

## FROM ORIENTALE

### **Cardinal Tomás Spidlík, S.J. (1919-2010):**

The Pontifical Oriental Institute lost its most eminent and illustrious son on 16 April with the death of Cardinal Thomas Spidlik, S.J., professor emeritus of Eastern spirituality. He had succeeded to the chair of the pioneer Fr. Irenée Hausherr, S.J., at the PIO. Prolific writer, he authored over 140 books and over 900 articles. Born in the Czech Republic on 17- 12- 1919 in a poor family, he joined the Society in 1940 and was sent to Rome soon after his ordination to be the spiritual father at Collegio Napomuceno. He spoke regularly on the Vatican Radio, thus taking the gospel across the grim iron curtain. After the fall of Communism, he was surprised to be presented with three printed volumes of his radio talks translated into Russian. Many of his books have been translated into several languages, especially of Eastern Europe, and are appreciated also by the Orthodox. English is rather poorly served except for his Prayer: The Spirituality of the Christian East (2 vols., Cistercian Publications, Kamazoo, Michigan, 2005). Holder of several doctorates honoris causa, he was made honorary member of the Society of Byzantine Studies, Petersburg. Most remarkably, he wore lightly his scholarship always enlivened with an unfailing sense of humour. In 1995 Father Spidlik was invited to preach the annual retreat to the Vatican Curia. With his jokes he kept the pope and the cardinals laughing for a week. At the end of the retreat Pope John Paul II thanked him particularly for his humour qualified as a healthy component of spirituality. After two years he was made cardinal. "You told the pope so many jokes," I told him, "now he is playing a joke on you." He laughed heartily.

On 20 April after the funeral Mass celebrated in St. Peter's Basilica, Pope Benedict blessed the body of Cardinal Tomás Spidlík, which was then taken to the Czech Republic for burial in his native Moravia. As Cardinal deacon he had chosen for his motto Ex corde; with a generous and loving heart he loved and was loved by many.

George Nedungatt

## FROM U S A

Greetings from Washington! My stay has been extended to three more months till August, but my accommodation from May will be in the Gonzaga Jesuit community closer to US Capitol. My research work is going on well with the materials from George Town University library and the Centre of Concern.

I landed here in the midst of a historic snowfall which was a record in hundred years and due to which the capital city was paralyzed for more than a week. Now it is spring for which Washington is known for its cherry blossoms. The cherry trees with full of flowers only planned around a big lake is a spectacular sight for which tourists from all over U S A and outside throng. I visited US Capitol where the Senate and Congress function with the library of Congress, the Whitehouse which is only five kms away from our residence and the famous Lincoln Memorial. After Easter I went to New York four hours bus journey from Washington, where I visited UN headquarters, New York Stock Exchange in Wall Street and the site of the World Trade Centre where a new Centre is being built.

Aerthayil

## COURSES AND SEMINARS

**ATMADARSHAN, Patna, announces the following programmes:**

### **RETREAT WITH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN AND THE BHAGAVAD GITA**

Fr Pius Thekemury, S.J. and Sr. Jane, S.C.N.  
Dates: 5.00 p.m. June 07 to 5.00 p.m. June 15

### **HOLISTIC AWARENESS RETREAT**

Frs. J. Kunnumpuram, S.J., J. Kootinal, S.J.,  
R. Schmidt, S.J., and Sr. Josita, S.C.N.  
Dates: 5.00 p.m. July 10 to 5.00 p.m. July 22

### **HOLISTIC HEALTH TRAINING & RETREAT**

Frs. J. Kunnumpuram, S.J., J. Kootinal, S.J.,  
R. Schmidt, S.J. and Sr. Josita, S.C.N.  
Dates: 5.00 p.m. August as to 5.00 p.m. August  
17

### **JOURNEY TOWARD WHOLENESS – TEN DAYS RETREAT**

Frs. A. Puthumana, S.J., R. Schmidt, S.J., and  
Sr. Suja, S.N.D.  
Dates: 5.00 p.m. August 20 to 5.00 p.m. August  
30

### **HOLISTIC INTEGRATION RETREAT**

Frs. J. Kunnumpuram, S.J., J. Kootinal, S.J.,  
and  
Srs. Alphy, R.A. and Suchita, O.S.U.  
Dates: 5.00 p.m. September 02 to 5.00 p.m.  
September 12

### **RETREAT DISCOVERING YOUR INNER TEACHER**

Fr T. Mattapally, S.J.  
Dates: 5.00 p.m. September 15 to 5.00 p.m.  
September 25

**For further details on the programs, please contact:**

#### **ATMADARSHAN**

Digha Ghat P.O.  
Patna 800 011, Bihar  
Phone (0612) 2560537;2560196  
Mobile 9430032436  
E-mail: [adarshan@sancharnet.in](mailto:adarshan@sancharnet.in)

### **GONE FOR THEIR REWARD**

Br Selvaraj Uthiriam (MDU 81/55) on 7  
April at Dindigul.  
Br Marydasan (CCU) on 13 April in Kolkata

Fr Ambrose D' Mello (KOH 88/66) on 18 April in  
Guwahati  
Mrs Thresiamma Mathew (93), mother of Fr  
T.M. Joseph on 16 April in Poonjar

### **IN CHRIST WITH GLORY MAY**

03 (2001) Lawrence Puthenpurackal  
04 (2005) Dominic Puthenpurackal  
09 (1990) John Kurichiaparambil  
14 (1974) Kuncheria Ettuparayil  
16 (1987) George Perumpra  
19 (1981) Abraham Manayanikal  
21 (1988) Joseph Taffarel  
22 (1982) Luke Uralil  
26 (1966) Peter Caironi  
28 (2009) Joseph Kizhakedom  
29 (1992) Joseph Elanjipuram

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY**

14 Syriac Panjickaran  
16 Joseph Thayil  
17 Sunny Kokkaravalayil  
19 Rubil Martin Mampuzhackal  
20 Binu Kaduthalakunnel  
22 Sebastian Thengumpallil  
23 Paul Valiakandathil  
25 Reji Kunnathethe  
26 Jacob Karthanam  
27 Sajit Olickal  
29 Michael Thannivelil  
Rachans Lukose  
30 Devasia Kuzhuppil  
31 Binu Joseph Varalikkara

### **JUNE**

03 Sabu Palathanadil

- 06 Mathew Nampiaparambil  
 07 Thomas Kappiarumalayil  
 09 Binoy Jacob Pichalakatt

## **TOWARDS THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF KERALA PROVINCE**

**Kerala Jesuit Province (History at a Glance)** The Kerala Jesuit Province came into existence on 15 August 1960. Obviously this does not mean that Jesuit presence in Kerala is a recent phenomenon. It is commonly known that India and particularly Kerala was a centre of Jesuit activity right from the era of St Francis Xavier. 15 August 1960 marks the separation of the Malabar region into an independent Vice-Province granting it all the rights and privileges. It should be noted that till 1601, the Society of Jesus had only one Province in India and that was Goa, which was the center from where missionaries started for Malabar, the fishery coast, Malacca, Moluccas, Bengal etc. And it was in 1601 that the Vice-Province of Malabar was constituted. Fr Manuel da Veiga was the first head of the Vice-Province. Malabar Vice-Province included the missions of the Thomas Christians, Travancore and the fishery coast, Bisnagar, Madura, Bengal, Ceylon, Malacca and Moluccas. In 1605, Malabar became a full-fledged Province and Fr Albert Laerzio became the First Provincial. The missionary works of the Jesuits in the beginning of the Province were among the lowly and the poor. They worked among the scattered Christians. According to the statistics given by D Ferrol, there were 97 Jesuits scattered far and wide in the Vice-Province in 1601. The Malabar Province was blessed by the footprints of Robert De Nobili, the founder of Madura mission, and the first European Sanskrit scholar, towering personalities such as Alexander Valingano and Matteo Ricci's, the apostle of China. After the restoration of the Society in 1814, missionary activities all over

India grew in leaps and bounds. Malabar was no exception to this.

In 1897 the Fathers of the Mangalore Mission, entrusted to the Venice-Milan Province, Italy, started apostolic activities in Calicut, Tellicherry and Cannanore and successfully developed the Chirackal Mission. Many Italian missionaries laboured and Fr L.M. Zucol, though 95, is still very active and their great legacy is continued even today. Goa Mission had started a Minor seminary in 1908 and a High School (Leo XIII) in Alleppey in 1910. These were entrusted to the Madurai Vice Province in 1951. When Calicut-Mangalore Mission was bifurcated on May 29, 1955 making Karnataka a vice-Province, the Malabar part was detached and added to the Madurai Province. A few months after that, the Madurai Province established a residence, Esobhavan, in Ernakulam. In the following year, all the institutions in the newly formed state of Kerala were combined to form the Malabar Region on October 10, 1956, with a separate Regional Superior, Fr. J.B.de Roton, dependent on Madurai Province.

The new Vice-Province of Kerala was inaugurated on September 27, 1960, the Anniversary of the Confirmation of the Society. The Regional Superior, Fr. de Roton (10.10.1956) was also the Interim Vice-Provincial from 21.9.1960 to 21.12.1960. The mantle of leading the new Vice-Province fell on Fr Joseph Edamaram. A professor of Theology at Kandy and later on in Poona, he laid the foundations of the institutions in the Province extending it to the whole State including the capital Trivandrum. It was made a Province in 1983.



