

Editorial

To remove the nervousness of heart which he felt as soon as the commanding voice echoed in the ears, demanding the editorial and to stop the quest for an alluring leitmotif, his eyes got stuck on the story given in a small magazine, that fell down from the shelf as the author searched for a theme to pen for this long awaited edition. Not letting enter a second thought into it, the mind got fully captured by the story. If at all these few letters with other substantial articles, poems and the news, succeed in penetrating your occupied minds and disturb it at least for some time for a better change this 'Easter Edition' will raise its head telling you that it stands for its name, "Pushpatarang".

So the story goes like this many years ago, a brilliant, well-known scientist was on an expedition in one of the vast wilderness areas of the Middle East. One of his most trusted servants was a young Arab guide – an earnest-hearted Christian. The scientist, who claimed to believe that God does not exist, would often challenge the young man's personal faith in God.

One day after the guide had finished praying, the scientist, who had overheard his prayer, once again challenged him.

"Did you ever see God?"

"No," said the guide.

"Did you ever hear God?"

Again he replied, "No."

"Did you ever put out your hand and touch God and feel Him?"

Once again the quiet reply, "No."

"Then," said the scientist arrogantly, "you are a great fool to believe in a God you have never seen, a God you have never heard, and a God you have never put out your hand and touched."

The young Christian said nothing, and they retired to their tents for the night. Arising early the next morning, just before the sunrise, the scientist met the guide outside his tent and said to him, "There was a camel around your tent last night."

Looking intently at the great scientist, the guide quietly asked him, "Did you see the camel?"

"No!" came the reply.

"Did you hear the camel?"

Again the reply! "No."

"Did your hand touch and feel the camel?"

And once more the reply, "No."

"Well," continued the guide, "you are a very strange man of science to believe in a camel you never saw, never heard and never touched!"

"Oh," countered the self-assured scientist, "but the camel's footsteps are all around the tent!"

At that moment the sun was just beginning to rise in the eastern sky in its entire early morning splendor. The guide, with a graceful wave of his hand at that beautiful scene, said, "Behold, sir, the footprints of the Creator, and know that there is God!"

We read in the Bible, “Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance...”(John 20:1). Jesus Christ’s resurrection from a rock sepulcher galvanized the faith of the early Christians. The empty tomb and the post-resurrection appearances of the risen Lord were the crowning proof that the Master they loved was not just another moral teacher. He was as he claimed to be God in flesh.

In this most modern scientific epoch this faith experience is not at all a motivating force; that people still as in at the time of Jesus are skeptical about the existence of the Creator of this universe and His begotten Son Jesus Christ. Even, the so called followers of Christ crave for a miraculous sign to deepen the faith. Though the scientific advancement couldn’t make it clear the whereabouts of the ‘Missing plane’ it seeks for substantial scientific proves for the existence of the Divine!

Twice in the Psalms we read, “the fool hath said in his heart, there is no God” (Ps.14:1; 53:1). We also read in the Bible, “Without faith it is impossible to please Him (God)” (Heb.11:6). Faith does not try to reason about God, nor does it seek for proof that He exists. Do we need to experience the empty tomb to believe what we stand for as Christians and missionaries? In fact, we need to know and experience the emptiness of our hearts. It may not be possible when it is filled with the worldly desires and underhand motives - a pine and pout for power and polished positions! This Easter invites us to empty the heart to experience the one who not only emptied the tomb but himself.

Yes! The Pushpatarang wish you all a happy Easter; a time to empty oneself and to diligently seek him not in the tomb but among the living to experience that the Lord is Risen.

Rev. Fr. Sebastian Chokkattu
Chief Editor

Provincial Speaks

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

Wish you all a Happy Easter and the blessings of the Risen Lord!

*“O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,
This gained for us so great a Redeemer!
Most blessed of all nights, chosen by God to see Christ rising
from the dead!
The night will be as clear as day;
It will become my light, my joy.”*

This is the beautiful prayer we sing in the Easter Vigil Liturgy.

In the salvation history, the fall of Adam and Eve was not only a “step backward,” but it was also “a leap forward”. Through their fall and the atonement of Jesus Christ, the gift of eternal life has been bestowed on us. Thus, the Fall of Adam and Eve is, in a way, a sacred event in the exodus of humankind.

The story of Easter is a story of suffering and death. It is the story of the triumph of truth over falsehood, justice over injustice and goodness over evil. It reminds us of the Good News that Jesus, who is the truth, justice and goodness, is immortal. In our world where the truth, justice and goodness are suppressed, criticized, tortured, killed and buried, Easter reminds us that they will rise again.

The death and resurrection of Jesus has to be a significant event in our personal and religious lives. Following the footsteps of our Master, let us try to be the personifications of truth, justice and goodness. May the Risen Lord bless you all abundantly!

Fr. Lona Kallely
The Provincial Superior

Official Information

- Rev. Fr. Mathew Paramban CST is appointed Parish Priest of St Augustine's church Karipassery in the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly. The Little Flower Province gratefully acknowledges all the service he has rendered and wishes him every success in his new mission.
- His present Address:
Rev. Fr. Mathew Paramban CST
Vicar, St Augustine's church
Karipassery, Vattapparambu
Ernakulam (Dt) Kerala
683579
- Rev. Fr. Joseph Kottupilly CST came back after his treatment in Kerala. We pray to God that He may give him the strength to overcome his sickness soon.
- Rev. Fr. Mathew Aruthottiyil CST had Angioplasty in Lisie Hospital and he has undergone an operation for Hernia. We hope that he will come back in full swing and wishes for his speedy recovery and good health.
- On March 29 at 2 pm the Brother of Fr. Binoy Mannarthottathil CST (Bro. Joseph Mannarthottathil MMB) was called for his Eternal Reward. May the Risen Christ hold him and give him Eternal peace. May he always be remembered for his good deeds! Let us keep him and the members of his Family in our prayers.
- Rev. Fr. Mathew Puthenpura CST has finished his Sabbatical course from the Institute of St. Anslem. Let us wish him all the best for his coming endeavours.

Vibrations from the Banks of Rapti

Shepherd's Visit

Mar. Sebastian Adayanthrath, the Auxilary Bishop of Ernakulum-Angamaly Archdiocese, visited the Provincial House on 20th July, 2013. He interacted with the Fathers in our Province and had dinner with us. His presence was a blessing for us. He appreciated the Fathers for their hard work and committedness for the betterment of the poor in the Diocese of Gorakhpur and shared his own vision and expectations about the missionary activities.

The Blessing of 'Maria Bhavan'

The newly built home for the children at Jungle Sikri, named 'Maria Bhavan', was blessed by Fr. Provincial on 10th August, 2013. Around ten destitute children are residing there at present and the LST Sisters are taking care of them. Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Thomas Thalachira for his efforts in procuring the funds for building this new home. Let us also thank Fr. John Olickal, Fr. Roy Vattakara and Fr. Sabu Kandemkettiyil who worked relentlessly for the completion of Maria Bhavan.

The Blessing of the FSJ Convent

Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph (FSJ) have extended their missionary services to Mithaura. Their new convent was blessed by Mar Dominic Kokkat CST and Mar Thomas Thurithimattam CST on 4th September 2013. The FSJ sisters are rendering their wonderful service to Nirmal Hindi Medium School at Mithaura.

Junior Clergy Meeting at Punjab

Fathers Roby Kizakumkara, Gijo Panthackal and Biju Anchekaril went to participate in the Junior Clergy meeting held at Hanumangarh from 7th to 9th October, 2013. Fr. Aloysius Parathazham was the resource person for the meeting.

The Visit of the Fathers

Rev. Fr. Mathew Kumpuckal, the Superior General, Rev. Fr. Augustine Tharappath, the Vicar General, Rev. Fr. John Kapyarumalayil, the Provincial Superior of Khrist Jyothi Province, Fr. Jose Paul Thottumarickal, Fr. Jose Ezhanikkattu, Fr. Jose Prakash, Fr. Augustine Varakil and other Fathers visited us and stayed with us for a few days. They visited many of our Mission stations also. Thank you dear Fathers for your visit!

The Annual Retreat

The annual retreat for the Fathers of the Province was held from 3rd to 8th November, 2013. Seventeen of our Fathers participated in the retreat which was guided by Fr. Maxim OFM cap from Varanasi.

Science and Craft Exhibition

The students of Little Flower School Chargawan conducted a mega Science and Craft exhibition, *'Infotainment - Information through Entertainment'*, on 16th and 17th of November. It was a creative initiative from the part of the staff and the students. Special appreciation to Fr. Jojo Vadakkal and Fr. Biju Ancherkaril for organising this innovative programme.

A Step Ahead to the Altar of the Lord

Bro. Jinto Madathikunnel received his Diaconate on 28th October, 2013 from Mar. George Rajendrankutti Nadar SDB at St. Francis Theological College Thellakam and Bro. Tomcy Thattamparambil received Diaconate on 20th December, 2013 from Mar. Jose Puthenveetil the Auxiliary Bishop of Ernakulum- Angamaly. Congratulations dear Deacons and offer you in our prayers and support for the preparation for the Ordination to Priesthood.

New Mission in Shravasti

With the vision of extending our missionary activities to the Diocese of Lucknow, we have purchased a plot of land at Ikauna in Shravasti district. Now we have extended our Missions to Allahabad, Lucknow and Bettiah.

Christmas Celebration

We celebrated Christmas at the Provincial House with Solemn Liturgical Celebration in which a good number of the faithful took part. Fr. Provincial was the main celebrant and Fr. Jojo Vadakkal gave the inspiring Christmas message.

Jubilee Celebration and New Priests' Day

On 2nd March, 2014, we celebrated the Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely, the Provincial Superior and the First Mass of our newly ordained priests Fr. Manu Kaithaparambil and Fr. Robin Chempakasseril. Mar Thomas Thuruthimattam the Bishop of Gorakhpur, many Fathers, Sisters and the faithful took part in the Eucharistic Celebration which was followed by an Agape.

The Lord is Risen

The Angels of God sang with joy

Praising the Lord who was risen

Jesus our Lord was raised from the dead

Giving the hope to mankind

Let us rejoice and sing with joy

For Jesus has saved us from the bondage of death.

Jesus came to this world

For the redemption of humanity

And he passed through the passion and the death

At last rose on the third day

Becoming the Saviour of the world.

The word become flesh and the world saw a light

Jesus came to the world

Taking the form of a human being.

It is the time of joy and it is the time of blessings

The Risen Lord is with us showering His blessings upon us.

Bro. Albin Benny,

Jyoti Gurukul

News from Jungle Sikri

Literacy Day

In connection with the Literacy Day in September the animators of our Social Work Team under the guidance of Fr. Roy Vattakara organized various programs for the villagers in collaboration with PGSS.

Rosary Devotion in October

The various institutions and catholic families in Khorabar area taking their turn had common Rosary for ten days in the month of October.

Charity to the poor

On 28 December 2013 Woollen Blankets were distributed to the poor in the Villages near Jungle Sikri.

Republic Day

We had Republic Day celebrations in the villages where we do Social Work.

Blessing of the New Rooms

The new rooms constructed on the first floor of our Ashram at Jungle Sikri were blessed by Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely CST, Provincial in a simple ceremony on 3 March 2014.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday was observed devoutly. We had the sacred service along with Holy Mass at 6.30 pm on that day.

International Women's Day

On 8 March our Social Work Team joined international women's day celebration conducted by PGSS near Padribazar. Fr. Roy Vattakara along with our Social Work animators made arrangements to take around 200 women for the celebration.

Sports Competitions in the Little Flower Polytechnic

On 13 March 2014 at 9.30 am Sports Competitions were opened by Fr. Benoy Palakuzhy CST. Fr. Sabu Kandamkettiyil CST together with the Principal, staff and students of our Polytechnic organized the event marvellously well. The closing ceremony on the following day was presided over by Fr. John Olickal CST.

NIOS

All the 38 Students who appeared for the different NIOS courses have passed. Congratulations to the students for this cent percent success. The next batch will appear for the examinations in this May.

Polytechnic

We got the extension of approval of the courses in the Polytechnic from AICTE, New Delhi for the year 2014-2015.

Examinations have started in the Polytechnic from 4 April 2014. Theory and Practical Examinations will take about 8 weeks.

Prateeksha

The children in Prateeksha are faring well. The Sisters take keen interest for the all round development of the children.

We have already moved the papers to get recognition for Prateeksha according to J.J. Act 2000. We hope, we will get it soon.

Correspondent
Pushpatarng
Jungle Sikri

First Professions, Renewal of Vows & Minor orders

Brothers who are going to make their First Profession

1. Antony (Prince) Vadakkudan
2. Mathew (Alwin) Thayankery
3. Thomas (Noble) Pallathukuzhiyil

Brothers who are going to Renew their Vows

1. Johny Puthuppallil
2. Zachariah (Shijo) Kochupurackal
3. Jacob (Bibin) Thekkanal
4. Joseph (Binu) Kottamurickal
5. John (Nikhil) Koonammackal
6. Mathew (Bijo) Vengooran
7. Joseph (Akhil) Akkapadickal
8. Joseph (Rijo) Areekkal
9. Thomas (Aneesh) Theeyathettu
10. Mathew (Anoop) Thekkemuriyil

Brother who is going to receive Cassock

1. Johny Puthuppallil

Brothers who are going to make the Final Profession

1. Kuriakose (Robin) Plathottam
2. Mathew (Arun) Madathiparambil
3. Mathew (Bibin) Puthiyidath

Brothers who are going to receive the Minor Orders

Karoaya

1. Kuriakose (Robin) Plathottam
2. Mathew (Bibin) Puthiyidath

Heupadiyakona

1. Mathew (Bibin) Mattathil
2. Dominic (Shibin) Mattathil
3. Antony (Rintu) Pallipurath
4. Joseph (Libin) Kozhikkottu

Benjamin Varthalab

- Our seminary was blessed to have brothers from Shillong along with Dn. Tomcy Thattaparambil. They spent their holidays with us and took classes for us. The sharing of their experiences really enriched and motivated us.
- Fathers from our seminary participated in the Ordination to Diaconate of Bro. Tomcy Thattaparambil. He was ordained deacon by His Lordship Bishop Jose Puthenveetil at Renewal Centre, Kaloor. Congratulation to you dear Dn. Tomcy.
- We celebrated the first Christmas in our Seminary life on 21st December. We made a beautiful crib and arranged a short Christmas get-together. Fr. Rector cut the Christmas cake and wished the peace of Christmas in advance. Fr. Shibu's presence added extra flavor to the event. On the following day, we left for our Christmas holidays.
- Fr. Rector and other Fathers in the Seminary participated in the Ordination and the First Holy Mass of Fr. Robin Chempakasseril and Fr. Manu Kaithaparambil. Best wishes and congratulations to you dear Fathers. We pray that the good Lord bless you in all your endeavors in your priestly life.
- Fr. John Olickal came to our seminary after his surgery. We offered him to the Lord in our prayers for the quick recovery of his ailments.
- We celebrated the New Priests' Day on 16th January in our seminary. Fr. Jojesh Ottaplakal CST was the main celebrant and seven other New Priests concelebrated the Eucharist. Bro. Jojin wished them a fruitful Priestly Ministry.
- On 19th January we went to attend a retreat at Kulathuvayal. It was really a fruitful time for us to grow in our vocation and to be closer to our Divine Master. We came back on 24th of the same month.
- We participated in a quiz competition at Khrist Jyoti Minor Seminary, Mudickal on 13th February. Brothers from Little Flower Seminary, Kothamangalam also participated in it along with the host Seminarians. We won the 2nd prize after a thrilling fight. We also won in the friendly basketball match against the Mudickal Minor Seminary. Later, we visited our Superior General in the Generalate. While coming back we visited the Little Flower Major Seminary, Aluva and had our lunch there.
- We were so delighted to have the presence of our parents on 20th February to celebrate the Parents' Day in our Seminary. The celebration began with a special prayer service and adoration in which we prayed for the well-being of our parents. The next morning, we had an ice breaking session followed by a talk by Rev Fr.

Varghese Puthur instilling joy and enthusiasm in everyone. The celebration came to an end with the basketball match between the Fathers and the Brothers.

- On 24th February we had a thrilling ‘One Day Picnic’ to Wonder La. The presence of the Fathers added colour and vigour to the day.
- Our senior brothers from Aluva came to our seminary on 1st March for their vacation. Their help and support enriched us to grow in our spiritual and academic pursuits.
- We welcomed the Lenten Season on 3rd March. We had Holy Mass and special prayers in the morning. We conducted ‘The Way of the Cross’ every Friday to commemorate and participate in the Passion of Christ.
- On 23rd March we celebrated the feast of Fr. Rector, the Feast of St. Joseph. We also celebrated the feast of Bros. Binu, Rijo, Akhil, Bony and Benchristo. We prayed for Fr. Rector and the Brothers during the Holy Mass and Bro. Vimal wished them the greetings of the day.
- We had conducted two vocation camps for those students who were interested to join our Congregation. Almost Forty students had participated in the camp. Rev Fr. Ajay inspired the students through his meaningful talks. Special thanks to our Major Seminarians for arranging the camps.
- We, along with our senior Brothers from Aluva, participated in the funeral ceremony of the MMB Brother of Fr. Binoy Mannarthottathil at Mariyapuram.

Little Flower Seminary
Vettikkattiri

Life is an Open Book

Today I made a momentary gaze at my life-book
My eyes made a visit to the pages of life
They made a glimpse at the completed pages.
There I found the corrections unerased.
Again, I turned myself towards those pages
I found the pages of happiness among them
Scattered here and there.

I looked again and found the pages unwritten
I might have forgotten it
I turned the pages again
There I found the pages wet with my tears
Again, I turned its pages
There I found new pages smiling at me.
Many more pages are remaining
I continued my writing
With an expectation of completing it
In course of time.

I asked the Almighty Father
To read this little book of mine
And to correct its mistakes.
So that it can be read by others
O! Lord, fulfil my dream.

Bro. Joyal Thekkinedath

Jyoti Gurukul

Gurukul Tidings

Basketball Match

A basketball match was conducted between the Fathers in our Province and with the brothers in Jyoti Gurukul, in which the latter won. The Jerseys for the match was sponsored by Little Flower School, Chargawan and the expenses for the delicious dinner was given from the Provincial House.

Onam Celebration

On 1st September 2013, we celebrated *Onam* in our Seminary. We had Solemn Syro-Malabar Mass in the morning. Brothers prepared the *Onam Sadhya* with the help of a few teachers. Fathers from Basil Bhavan and St. Basil's School joined with us for the *Onam Sadhya*.

Feast of Our Heavenly Patroness

We began the preparation for the Feast of St. Therese on 22nd September 2013 with Solemn Novena. Brothers were divided into groups to prepare the introduction and the intercessory prayers. Fathers from different Ashrams led the Novena and gave reflections on different themes. On 30th September, the heavenly birthday of St. Therese, we celebrated the Feast. Rev Fr. Sebastian Thundathil, the Vicar Provincial, was the main celebrant for the Eucharistic Celebration. All the Fathers and Sisters in the Basti deanery and the teachers who teach us joined us for the festive dinner.

Essay Competition

As part of the commemoration of 'The Year of Faith', an Essay Competition was conducted for different groups in the Agra Region. We also participated in the essay competitions for the Youth Group and Bro. Jerin James Njarakattu won the Third Prize. Congratulations dear Bro. Jerin James Njarakattu.

Gurukul Samajam

Gurukul Samajam, The Annual Sports, Games and Literary Competition, was held on 13th and 14th November. We were divided into three different groups. The event was concluded with the Annual Day Function on 16th at 6.30 pm. Mr. U.B Tripathi, the Principal of Little Flower Poly- Technic Jungle Sikri, was the Chief Guest for the function. It was a well prepared cultural evening and our Fathers from Gorakhpur and Sisters from Basti Zone were present for the function.

Spiritual Preparation

From 17th to 20th November, we had our retreat guided by MSMI sisters from Delhi.

Christmas celebration

For the Christmas, we prepared very beautiful Cribs in the Seminary and in the Parish Church. We actively participated in the Carol singing and in the Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Provincial's visit

Very Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely, Our Provincial Superior, made his Canonical visit in the Seminary from 3rd to 5th February. He met all the Seminarians and Fathers personally and gave necessary instructions.

Light Roofing

We completed the light roofing work and the construction of six more toilets for the comfort of our Seminarians with the budget approved by our Provincial Council.

Jubilee and First Mass Celebration

On 2nd March 2014 we participated in the Solemn Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Very Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely, our Provincial Superior, and the First Mass of our New Priests, Fr. Robin Chempakasseril and Fr. Manu Kaithaparmbil.

Board Exams

The Seminarians doing their Plus Two appeared for their Board Exams which were held from 21st February to 21st March. All are waiting for the result and preparing to enter the Novitiate in the Month of May.

Cenacle Intercession School

"I desire then, that in every place the men should pray lifting up the Holy Hands."

(1 Timothy 2:8)

'The Cenacle Intercession School', the first of its kind, was organized by National Service team in collaboration with CCR and YUHC of Hyderabad from the 1st to the 7th March of 2014. The venue was Satyodyam Retreat Centre Tarnaka, *Secunderabad*, and A.P.

The purpose of the school was for rearing up an army of committed Intercessors, praying for the church and the world. Seventy participants from different parts of the country participated in it. It was a perfect blend of Lay Faithful, Priests and Religious. In many ways, it was an experience of going back to the school; a disciplined atmosphere where the session began at 6.30 am and ended by 10 pm. Curriculum was well knitted and based on theoretical inputs, practical workshops and group activities. Every single method suggested for the interaction was immediately put into application for the participants to witness the efficiency. Every single participant experienced the wonders of the Lord and the Mighty Presence of the Holy Spirit. An atmosphere of retreat prevailed even though we had a well-balanced schedule and time table every day.

The deep rootedness in prayer and communion with the Lord was clearly seen in the resource person. The participants were blessed with the humble and enthusiastic person of Rt. Rev. Francis Kalist, the Bishop of Meerut and Episcopal Adviser to CCR. The Cenacle School of Intercession is the brainchild of the school of coordinator Bro. Cipil John (JccRS), International Co-ordinator for intercession supported by Fr. Jose Anchanikal (Chairman IVST) and Bro. Benjamin Gonzaga, Sr. Nirmal Jyoti MSMI and Sr. Deena MSMI and others who came from NRC Kulathuvayal.

Most Rev. Thumma Bala, the Archbishop of Hyderabad, inaugurated the event with the Eucharistic Celebration. The keynote address to the event was delivered by Bishop Francis Kalist. The training programme was well organized with every day praise and worship by the appointed person's talks, adoration, outreach and the Holy Eucharist. Can you imagine the world strategy in a spiritual school, a word community used with corporate world? Yes, we have groomed to discern God's strategy and devise a plan of action in accordance with His strategy in intercession - a departure formalist conventional style of intercession. The shrewdness and plans of Satan can be torn apart with spiritual strategy.

Throughout the Seven days, there was no room for boredom and the participants missing classes. Instead the schedule kept in a way everyone wanting more and more. Many participants received Charisms and also healing of the mind, body and the Spirit. The session on prophetic intervention, intercession outreach and Jericho March were opportunities to exercise charisms and also to put into practice the lessons learnt. The intercession outreach programme to twelve different destinations on 5th and 6th March particularly in the twin city of Hyderabad and *Secunderabad* were the most touching. It gave great experiences to all. The group was divided into two. While one group sat in front of the Blessed Sacrament, the other group went to the destination to pray at site for the intentions identified in prayer. One day one group went to pray in the legislative assembly. The other day, the other group went to the High Court. I joined the High Court team. The focal point remained around the oneness of mind and heart and total surrendering of oneself. The Lord did not delay in revealing his mind to us.

There was a Jericho March held for free and fair general election in April-May 2014 and formation of a stable, secular and honest Government. We prayed that the Lord may take control of the whole nation and would give the discernment to the people to choose right representatives to Parliament and State Assemblies. Bishop Francis Kalist commissioned the intercessors during the concluding Eucharist on 7th March and distributed certificates of participation. It was a unique experience to me to live with so many anointed lay persons and to learn from them.

Rev. Fr. John Vadakkel
JyotiGurukul

Tidings from the Power House

Hail Mary, Full of Grace

The month of October, is specially dedicated for the devotion to Mother Mary. We had special Rosary Devotion which was started on 1st October. We recited 1000 Rosaries all together as a bouquet to Mother Mary and offered it for the Salvation of Souls. It was a different experience for all of us. We concluded the Rosary Devotion with Solemn Holy Mass.

Shining Harvest Days

The month of November was the month of the festival of Harvest and we were fortunate to harvest our paddy field. Rev. Fr. John Kapiyarumalyil, the Provincial Superior of Khrist Jyoti Province, inaugurated the harvest by cutting a handful of paddy. It took three days to finish the paddy harvest. Indeed, the works in our Novitiate life has a superlative meaning as we offer them for the love of Jesus.

Days of Dad and Mom

December 6 and 5 were auspicious days for us. On these days, we celebrated the birthdays of Rev. Fr. Master and Rev. Fr. Asst. Master respectively. We had Solemn Holy Mass in the morning and special Holy Hour for them on both the days. Fathers from other Ashrams joined us for the celebration.

With Paternal Blessings

On 14th December, Rev. Fr. John Kapiyarumalayail, the Provincial Superior of Khrist Jyoti Province, was with us for the Canonical Visit. Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely, our Provincial Superior, also visited us. He told us, "Responsibility, flexibility and dependability are some of the ornaments which enhance the beauty of man and in the religious life these qualities have a vital role to play."

Blazing Cribs for the Birth Jesus

To commemorate the birth of Jesus, we made two cribs: one in our Novitiate House and the other in our Parish Church. It was amazing because of our incessant efforts. Many people came to see the cribs and they were very much taken up by their beauty and variety. On Christmas day, we celebrated Solemn Holy Mass in Malayalam and exchanged our small Christmas Gifts as tokens of our spiritual promises to our Christmas Friend.

The Festival of *Lohri*

We celebrated the festival of *Lohri*, the festival of Fire. It is one of the oldest festivals of the people of Punjab. In the evening, we came together with Rev. Fr. John Kapiyarumalayil and other Fathers for the celebration. We danced around the circle of the *Lohri* with *Ghazak*.

We Offer You O, Lord Divine.....

We, the nine seedlings of Little Flower Novitiate House, offered our lives to God as we are preparing for our First Profession. On the feast of the Epiphany of our Lord, we presented small flowers to the Eucharistic Lord as a gesture of our self-surrender to the will of the Lord. Rev. Fr. John Kapiyarumalyil was with us on that occasion.

Presence of the Shepherd

Archbishop Mar Kuriakose Bharanikulangara, the Bishop of Faridabad, paid a short visit to our community. His Grace spent some time with us explaining to us about the pastoral activities under taken by the Diocese of Faridabad. He also shared with us the message of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, "Have preferential option for the poor living in the peripheries of urban life."

Sannidhanam

Under the initiative and the guidance of Fr. Shinto Varakil, we made a documentary on our Novitiate life. The documentary screens the important events of our day-to-day spiritual and other activities conducted in this year.

Sannidhanam2013-2014

A cultural night, '*Sannidhanam 2013-2014*' presented on 15th March was marked as one of the greatest events in the annals of our Novitiate days. This cultural programme was based on our Constitution according to the instruction of Rev Fr. Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST who took classes on our Constitution. We were blessed with the esteemed presence of many Fathers and Sisters.

Easter Symbols and Traditions

Ancient Spring Goddess

According to the Venerable Bede, Easter derives its name from *Eostre*, an Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring. A month corresponding to April had been named *Eostremonat* or *Eostre's* month, leading to 'Easter'. Prior to that, the holiday had been called Pasch (Passover), which remains its name, in most non-English languages.

Easter Eggs

Eggs first became associated with Easter in Medieval Europe. The Church forbade people to consume eggs during Lent and as such, the eggs laid during the 40 days would be preserved and stored. With an abundance of eggs, they would be consumed on Easter. Eggs were thus a mainstay of Easter meals, and a prized Easter gift for children and servants. Orthodox Christians in Greece and the Middle East dye their eggs red to represent the blood of Christ shed at his crucifixion.

Germans gave green eggs as gifts on Holy Thursday, and hung hollow eggs on trees. Austrians placed tiny plants around the egg and then boiled them. When the plants were removed, white patterns were created.

Germany first made chocolate eggs for Easter in the 19th century. The Easter egg is symbolic of rebirth, but using eggs to celebrate is a tradition that dates back to the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, Romans and the Zoroastrians in Persia who dyed eggs to celebrate the start of spring. The Chinese also dye eggs when a newborn enters the world.

Easter Egg Roll

Every year, the White House hosts an Easter Egg Roll on the front lawn. This is a tradition that was created in 1878 by President Rutherford B. Hayes and First Lady Lucy Hayes after Congress passed a law in 1877 banning an Easter Egg Roll at the Capitol.

The Easter Bunny

Hares and rabbits have long been symbols of fertility. The inclusion of the hare into Easter customs appears to have originated in Germany, where tales were told of an "Easter hare" who laid eggs for children to find. German immigrants to America - particularly Pennsylvania - brought the tradition with them and spread it to a wider public. They also baked cakes for Easter in the shape of hares, and may have pioneered the practice of making chocolate bunnies and eggs.

Easter Carpet

In Guatemala, people make carpets of sawdust and flowers that measure up to a mile in length. The carpet is incredible details and takes weeks to make. People walk over the carpet on their way to church.

Hot Cross Buns

In the earlier days, Easter treats were hot cross buns made by the monks. During the month of Lent, buns were given out to the poor.

Easter Cards

Easter cards arrived in Victorian England, when a stationer added a greeting to a drawing of a rabbit. According to American Greetings, Easter is now the fourth most popular holiday for sending cards, behind Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Mother's Day.

Consuming Candy

Easter is one of the biggest holidays for consuming candy. In fact, if we exclude Halloween, Easter is the biggest candy-consuming holiday with 120 million pounds of candy bought each year. For the holiday, 90 million chocolate bunnies, 91.4 billion eggs, and 700 million peeps are produced each year.

Periyar Express

Hurrah! We have Harnessed the Sun

The highly taxing electricity has bent its knees before the solar power. Yes, the long awaited solar power has been harnessed in our Seminary too. Now we too claim to be one of the propagators of the solar energy in Kerala. Taking it to be a special gift from St. Therese, our heavenly patroness the solar project was inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr. Mathew Kumpuckal, the Superior General, on 6th October, the day on which we celebrated the feast of St. Therese in our Seminary. It has been installed by 'Grow Green International Group'.

Pews for the New Chapel

Our Seminary Chapel has been decorated with sixteen new beautiful pews. The brothers are happy to see new pews, waiting for them in the chapel, to kneel on them before the Eucharistic Lord. We are very much thankful to Fr. Thomas Thalachira who proposed the idea as well as provided the funding. He is also the single most contributor to the construction of the new Chapel and auditorium.

To the Altar behind the Lord

We participated in the Ordination and the First Holy Mass of our elder brothers held in December and January. We went for the home vacation on 25th December after the Christmas celebrations in the Seminary. All of us participated in two or three ordinations. This was indeed a golden opportunity for us to get inspiration and to grow in our priestly motivation. By 5th January we came back to the Seminary with new vision and vigour and the classes were resumed on the very next day.

International Symposium on Genetics and Neuroscience

An International Symposium on 'Genetics and Neuroscience: Frontiers of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics' was held on 8th, 9th and 10th February at Little Flower Seminary on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the journal 'Omega', published by the Institute of Science and Religion (ISR) in the Seminary. Many International and National personalities presented the papers and took part in the discussions. Bro. Bibin Thekkanal and Bro. Charles Thopil from our Seminary presented the papers in the parallel session. We could attend some of the sessions that helped us to get some insightful ideas. Indeed, all of us worked hard for the success of this great event.

Go and Do Likewise

Little Flower Seminary was spiritually awakened by the commemoration of the birthday of the Founder of our Congregation, Rev. Fr. Basilius Panat. We conducted a meaningful prayer service upholding the need for imbibing the spirit of the Founder.

Farewell to Our Senior Brothers

Third year philosophers have successfully completed their Philosophy course. On 22nd February they appeared for their comprehensive examination and passed out with good marks. Three of them scored above 80%. Soon after their exam, they had a picnic to Bangalore and Mysore along with their Father in-charge. A heartfelt farewell was given to them on 27th February.

Holidays

Brothers in our Seminary have gone for their holidays to their respective Provinces. We came to Vettikkattiri on 1st March. We had very good days in our Minor Seminary.

Exposure Program

Some of the brothers in our province had a meaningful and memorable exposure programme at Karimbu in Wayanad. Bros. Shijo, Bibin, Binu, Anoop and Akhil were guiding the youth in the Parish. We conducted the family visits and joined for the evening prayer services in the family units.

Bro. Shijo Kochupura

Aluva

POPE FRANCIS: A SWEET REMINDER OF FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The Catholic Church and the whole world were taken aback when the news about the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI was aired. It followed a stream of falsely fabricated gossips and controversies to which neither Pope nor the Holy See responded. Many condemned this noble gesture of Pope as the sign of the doom of the Universal Catholic Church and the victory of secularism in the world. However, now, as a phoenix that is reborn from the ashes, the Catholic Church, borne on the wings of the new Pope, Pope Francis, is soaring high, who is portrayed as the perfect example of Christ, the servant of the poor.

Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, while assuming the most important position of the Catholic Church, addressed himself as the servant of the servants of God; a real testimony sprang forth from his very being. He named himself “Francis”, a name that spurs up the nostalgic memories of the romantic saint of the Catholic Church, Francis of Assisi, the prince of poverty. Ever since his enthronement, each action of Pope Francis becomes a sweet reminder of St. Francis of Assisi. Whenever I come across the figure of Pope Francis, the first picture flashes into the mind is the picture of Francis of Assisi inviting the ferocious wolf with the salutation ‘Brother Wolf’ in the most charming manner. He could conquer the heart of the wolf when he realised the presence of God in the wolf. Pope Francis also finds himself engaged in this noble pursuit of distinguishing the sin from the sinner by throwing light on the divine elements in every human being. He never condemns anyone but their deeds. It is this Christ- like attitude of the Pope that prompted him to say, “Who am I to judge them if God wants them in that way?” when talking about homosexuals. By washing the feet of AIDS patients, prisoners and women, he reminded the world the words of Jesus, “the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the Kingdom of God ahead of you” (Mt. 21:31). Jesus forgave sinners and those who tasted the elixir of forgiveness and eternal life from him never consumed the venom of sin and transgression. Heavens assure that the prisoners whose feet are washed by Pope Francis would never turn to their old way of life again.

Assuming the name of Francis, the present Pope wanted to convey his Franciscan spirituality of poverty to the present Catholic Church, which has far strayed from the paths of poverty. When Pope Francis won the columns of daily news papers by cutting down the salaries and allowances of Cardinals and Bishops, he seemed to be the reincarnation of Francis of Assisi who even broke the only bowl he owned for begging, when it became a

botheration during his prayer hours. He does not only recommend the poverty to the Church but also practices it in his daily activities. His travels in city buses, accommodation in the ordinary house, denial of personal privileges as the head of the state of Vatican and every other action points to the virtue of poverty he exercises in his life.

During this period of highly sensitive theological disputes on anything and everything, he neither bothers to be going through head spinning theories of the Church Fathers nor writing the encyclicals that carry hair-splitting theological discourses. Rather, he manifests in him 'Alter Christus' to the world. He invites the church to pave new paths and to come out in search of those who do not turn up for the daily Mass, who condemns the teachings of the church and who keep the elements of indifference to the church's ideologies and to bring them back to the bosom of the church. He is very well aware that the Catholic Church never lacks anything on the basis of theory but, it lacks examples and role models. He is full-fledged in his mission of setting the example to the world.

This is the attitude that is visible in all his actions too. He has become the Pope of the people; most influential man in this era. The papacy was stifled and suffocated by too much of secrecy and superfluously created sacredness that never made the Catholic Church accessible and available to the people. Pope Francis abandoned these superfluous practices of the Church and made the functioning of the Church accessible and available to the people of God. Opening up of the traditionally closed window, in his initial days, has already been noted as the symbolic expression of Pope's concept of the Church: 'Church of the people, for the people and by the people'. Ever since his enthronement as the Bishop of Rome, church enjoys so much freedom, transparency and accessibility.

Following the path of John Paul II, he too breaks the shackles of traditions, violates protocols, overthrows the barriers of gender, language, nation and everything that blocks the establishment of the Kingdom of God. "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region of shadow and death a light has dawned" (Mt. 4:16). Pope Francis has set an example for us, a living example of forgiveness, poverty and humaneness. He is the light given to the world that stumbles in the darkness. Let everyone walk in the path he paves for us. Let us be on his wings and he would take us to the heights of heaven.

**Bro. Bibin Sajan,
Vidyajyoti, Delhi**

Typhoon Tidings

Have you ever had the experience of being at the centre of a typhoon? No! We do not want you to yell, 'what the hell you mean'. With dumb ears to 'what the hell' let us introduce to you the further wild image; imagine a man at the centre of typhoon busy sending mails to the loved ones (Shh...no further exegesis on 'loved ones' it simply means what it says). Crazy as all these would sound, yeah, being in the capital would simply mean, forgive our exaggeration, in the middle of the typhoon- helm of affairs-state, national, international. Are we really affected by it? Frowning, you would say. 'Yes' and at the same time 'No'. Yes! The contextual theology pushes us very much to be in touch with the third world context of world in general and India in particular. The bruises of lathi charge, the tattered and torn pants, and broken leather shoes are silent witnesses of it. No! We are not carried away by the hiccups of politics but rather we analyse everything from the theological point of view.

We the CST Brothers from Vidyajyoti College of theology (staying in Prateeksha-Delhi Diocesan Major Seminary) are happy to introduce ourselves by taking the avatar of black and white letters. We are happy that the gates of history are glad to embrace us with full warmth by our debut, epoch making entry, into the illustrated pages of the widely read province magazine Pushpatarang. We are at a loss as to how to introduce ourselves to you. We are like a particle which the physicist is wondering how to explain the origin of Universe. The complexities involved are many. The big bang entry of CST's to Delhi was in the year 2012 and the evolution continued and it is in the third phase. The varieties of incidents and events still evolve around our hearts. To remain silent about it would bring the fate of Dead Sea. If shared it does the good of a banquet. Below given is only the nimby of our experiences which we still churn.

Saga of Victories

What do winners do? 'They don't do different things but do things differently'. We the CST Delhites could add flesh to the above very often repeated 'flatter phrase'. With the altruistic support of Very Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely the Provincial, we scheduled a basketball match with St. Joseph's Seminary, Allahabad. The Rector of Allahabad Seminary was really an amazing host putting even Martha to the second place when it comes to hospitality. The match was like hundred against six. Roaring hundreds of Josephite supporters could not downplay the basketball tactics of the CSTs. The thumping victory over the Josephites was just the beginning of the array of thumps up yet to follow. '*Picture abi bakhi hai bhaiyya*' really made sense. Injuries and bruises were only green signals to grab victories after victories because 'the beauty of a soldier lies on his scars'. The victories against the different Seminaries, the Diocesan Minor Seminary, Gida and Jyoti Gurukul, Basti made sure that our thumbs were always up.

Varanasi Visit

We were privileged to visit the important monuments, historical places, museums and art galleries in Varanasi and Allahabad. This gave us an exposure towards the religious pluralism in India which we would always cherish in our hearts. Thanks to Rector of St. Joseph Seminary and our Fr. Provincial.

Death of Bro. Stalin

"Cancer! you are a gangster, you do not have any respect for people, no respect for age". Only long gasp and bitter tears rolling down from our eyes could express the grievances of our hearts when we heard the news that Bro. Stalin left for his eternal abode, who was undergoing treatment in AIIMS for the stomach cancer which was in its advanced stage. The days we spent with him in the hospital are still vivid in our hearts. He hid the unbearable pain caused by this monstrous disease in a smile. He parted his lips in the most painful moments of his treatment only to say 'How are you brother?' We never thought that God had booked *tatkal* for him to heaven. We know for sure that some weightier matters of heaven are in stock for our dear brother Stalin. The heart touching obituaries, thousands of people gathered in the cathedral to pay last respects to our brother invariably proclaim the depth of love he permeated during his earthly stay. We are sure, brother you are interceding for us from heaven. 'Knowing not the plan of God, our simple prayer would be 'Thy will be done'.

WhatsApp

The visits of CST Fathers to Pratiksha really enriched our minds. The psalmist is true in saying 'how sweet are the moments when brothers are staying together' (Ps 133:1). We are taking it for granted that it would not be heretical if we add one more sentence to it, 'more beautiful are those moments when these brothers are visited by the fathers, sharing the cup of joy and happiness'. The love they showed by alighting here in Pratiksha or meeting us outside smoothed our hearts. We really felt that in this vast world where Mobile Phones and Computer Applications play dominant role, the visits of our dear Rev. Fr. Lona Kallely the Provincial, Fr. Joby Mamalassery, Fr. Roy Vattakkara, Fr. Jiby Njaralakkatukunnel, Fr. Biju Anchekaril, Fr. Sebastian and Fr. Sabu Kandamkettiyl were par excellent when compared to all these applications.

Being Hosts

Pratikshites are ever happy to welcome anybody on earth and when it comes to our own brothers the happiness multiplies. Deacon Robin Chempakasseril along with his friends from Mary Matha Major Seminary and Bro. Tomcy Thattaparambil along with his friends from Shillong Seminary made their visit to Prateeksha. This really strengthened the brotherly bonds and CST family spirit. Thank you! Come again and the invitation is open to all.

Bro. Bibin Mattathil
Vidyajyoti, Delhi

Memories of Nepal Journey

We, the brothers of Jyoti Gurukul started our Nepal trip on 24th March, at 6:30 in the morning with Rev. Fr. John Vadakkkel, the Rector and with Fr. Gijo Panthakal. We had our breakfast from the Provincial House and then we went to the border of Nepal by the school bus arranged by the Little Flower School Chargawan. We had to walk a short distance to enter the Nepal border because this land is known as No man's land. From there Rev. Fr. Sebastian Thundathil took us to Bhairhawa Mission, named as Maldon Bhavan. We had our lunch from this Mission station. We met Fr. John here who belongs to the Diocese of Nepal. Soon after Lunch we went to Narayangarah and reached there by 4:30 pm. Fr. Cherian Elavakunnel and Fr Roby Kizakumkara cordially welcomed all of us to the Nepal mission. After tea we played football in the school ground. At 7: 15 pm we recited Rosary, and then had our dinner. After the personal prayer we went to bed.

On 25th March we went to Manakamna. The Manakamna temple situated in the Gorkha district of Nepal is the sacred place of the Hindu Goddess Bhagwati, an incarnation of Goddess Parvati. The name Manakamna originates from two words, “Mana” meaning mind and “Kamana” meaning wish. The way to Manakamna surrounded by huge mountains on both sides of the Thrissuri River. Cable car journey is one of the most important attractions of Manakamna temple. Cable car runs from the cable station to three kilometres far across the huge mountains and river to the temple where goat sacrifice is believed to give children to those couples who do not have children. The temple is four storied built in pagoda style. Its roof lies on a square pedestal. That day we enjoyed delicious lunch from a Nepali hotel.

Chepang mission was our next venture. The Chapang students were very active and joyful to receive us. Rev.Fr. Michael Chirayath explained to us their life style in the jungle and the inspiration behind to establish the mission for the people of the jungle. We had tea from the convent of the Sisters of Charity (SCCGC) and continued our journey to the elephant breeding centre. Brothers spent some time to play with the young elephants.

On 26th morning we went to see the hanging bridge in Devghat. We found so many ashrams where Hindu Children are trained to become sages. This place is so important for Hindu mythology because Devghat is sanctified by various temples and caves of Hindu Gods. Therefore this place has the power to give the blessing of completion of wishes of all kinds. Some of us collected beautiful stones from the river bank. The same day we went to see our Birganj Mission where Rev. Fr. Sani Vadayattukunnel is the Superior of the Ashram. SABS sisters prepared appetizing food for us. By nine we returned to Narayangarah.

The next day after the Holy Mass and breakfast we visited SABS convent. By 8 pm we bade adieu to Narayangarah. On the way back we visited Nauthanwa mission, Christ the King

school and the prayer centre of Gorakhpur Diocese, Santhivan. We reached Provincial House by 4:30 and took a cup of tea. We reached our Seminary by 7:30 pm.

What lingers in our mind is the sweet memories we cherished from Nepal and the beauty captured by our eyes, which still remains fresh. We thank Fathers John Vadakkal, Gijo Panthackal and Jubish Azhiyath for arranging this unforgettable journey and all the Fathers who welcomed us and took pain to do everything for us.... Thanks a lot dear fathers.

Correspondent

Jyoti Gurukul

Pearls from the Banks of Triveni Sangam

Welcome to New Bishop and Apostolic Nuncio

Indeed, it was a great day in the history of Allahabad diocese as Most Rev. Dr. Raphy Manjaly was installed as the 11th Bishop of the Diocese of Allahabad by Most Rev. Dr. Salvatore Pennacchio, the Apostolic Nuncio, Most Rev. Dr. Albert D'Souza, the Archbishop, Most Rev. Dr. Ignatius Menezes in the presence of many Bishops, Religious Superiors, Clergy, and a large number of Catholics on 3rd December, 2013. It was a red letter day in the history of the Seminary as well, as the Apostolic Nuncio visited the Seminary and addressed the Brothers.

Moments with Our Fathers

It was, indeed, memorable moments for the CSTs, for we were lucky to have the visits of many of our Fathers at various occasions. Fr. Lona Kallely, the Provincial Superior of Little Flower Province, Fr. John Kapiyarumalayil, the Provincial Superior of Khrist Jyoti Province, Fr. John Kulathinkal, Fr. John Kadaliyil, Fr. Benny Paul Thekkumkattil, Fr. Jose Panikulangara, Fr. Sunny Pulichamakathottiyil, Fr. Saji Paul Kochuputhenpurackal, Fr. Benoy Palakuzhy, Fr. Roy Vattakkara, and Fr. Jojo Vadakkal visited our Seminary. Thank you dear Fathers for your esteemed presence and encouraging words of appreciation! A warm welcome to all the CSTs to the Holy Religious City!

Christmas Milan

Just after our examinations and just before our departure to our respective Dioceses and Congregations for pastoral month, we had our Community Christmas gathering which was held on 7th December with lots of fun and laughter. The event was skilfully organized with meaningful skits, games, carol singing, etc.

Rector's Day: Birthday of Rev. Fr. Francis D'Souza

The great day of jubilation began with the Lauds and Solemn High Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Francis D'Souza, joined by members of the staff on 29th January 2014. In the afternoon a friendly cricket match was arranged between the Fathers and the Brothers of the Seminary in which the Fathers stole the victory. In the evening, a family get-together was organized by the third year students. Rev. Fr. Rector, in his message said, "To be holy and perfect is to grow constantly in the grace of God." Many Fathers joined the celebration to wish Fr. Rector a very happy birthday and the Agape there after.

Community Picnic

A community picnic to Lucknow, the city of Nawabs, was organized on 15th February. We were happy with the hospitality of the Lucknow Diocesan family. We joyfully returned to the seminary with cherishing memories.

Feast of St. Joseph Our Patron

The celebration of the feast of St. Joseph, our patron, was held on 19th March with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Santhosh Sebastian. Prior to this great day, we had a prayerful Novena to our dear patron, St. Joseph.

Exams Exams...

It was the time for us to burn the night lamp for the best results of the exams of PG and B.Th. The environment seems to be too scorching while Summer noon reminded of our chilly winter.

Dear Friends! Wish You All a "Happy Easter"

Bro Rintu Pallipurath CST
Allahabad

I have a Friend

I have a friend
Whose love is immense;
Whose love is marvellous;
Yet, I often fail to know him.

I have a friend
Who is with me all the time;
Who is with me in all my difficulties;
Yet, I often fail to recognize him.

I have a friend
Who loves me as I am;
Who makes my life a happy one;
Yet, I often fail to understand him.

I have a friend
Who loves and cares me as I am;
Though I am not knowing and loving him;
Yet, I have a friend
And it is none other than
Jesus my Saviour

Bro. Albin Thomas Varakukalayil
JyotiGurukul

Pune Mirror

Visit of Our Fathers

It was certainly a pleasant surprise for all of us that our dear Fathers Jose Manjiyil, Sinoj Amballathottiyil, Roby Kizakumkara, Biju Kollakombil and Augustine Pamplany visited our Seminary. Their visit was certainly a compliment for us. We thank you dear Fathers for your love and concern that made us feel we are always sealed by brotherly love.

A Long Stay of Fr. Shibu Kuliraniyil with us

Fr. Shibu Kuliraniyil was with us for almost six months as he was doing his German language studies. His loving and joyful nature really inspired us. He was part of our company and shared our joy. We thank him for the endless love that he has shown towards us.

Congrats

The CST community congratulates Bro. Libin Kozhikottu for winning the first prize in the Zeitler Memorial Annual Essay Competition conducted by Ishvani Kendra Pune, on the theme "Missio Inter Gents: Challenges and Opportunities". We congratulate him also for the second prize in the all India essay competition conducted by ASSR (Association of Science, Society and Religion) on the theme "Spirituality sustained by Science".

JDV Day: an Ever memorable Day

JDV day was one of the unforgettable days in the annals of JDV Students. This cultural fiesta was indeed well appreciated by everybody for its freshness and novelty. It was marked by the presence of many dignitaries in and around Pune.

Bro. Shubin Mattathil
Pune

London Experience

A Message from St. Anslem

I came to the Institute of St. Anslem on October 1, 2013. The Institute is situated on the banks of the English Channel, North London, close to Canterbury. This course is a six months certificate course on 'Human Development, Formation and Community Building'. I completed the course and was awarded a certificate accordingly. We were 36 participants from 26 countries. It was a rich experience of living together, knowing and learning each others culture and background. The course was intensive. It dealt with the Psycho-Spiritual development of the human being. We had various lectures on 'Man, made in the Image and Likeness of God', 'Transactional Analysis', 'Developing and Learning to Love the Inner Child', 'Group Dynamics', 'Spiritual Direction and Formation', 'Growth Facilitation Skills', 'The Enneagram Journalling', 'Loss and Bereavement', and many other. We also had growth facilitation practice, where we were either the client or the growth facilitator, to hone our skills given in the lectures. We had growth group, where we could freely talk about different issues that may have come up during lectures, to talk about our childhood and mainly to process and analyze our emotions. The growth group takes place twice a week. There were 'One-to-One Sessions' where we could talk in depth about our life experiences and feelings associated with those.

Weekends were free but usually we were given much to reflect on. This was the time for house work too. We had Emotional Quotient (EQ) Body Work once a week. It was a unique therapy designed to help us to process and deal with the emotions in a calm and peaceful environment. It was a mysterious therapy which could aid the safe dissipation of emotions in a safe place.

All-in-all, the course was well grounded and intensive yet with times allotted for prayer and reflection and the social aspect of the group. We all belonged to a community group throughout the year with whom we could pray, interact and socialize. It was really a solid grounding in Psycho-Spiritual Development. Albeit, this six month course was not a personal Growth Seminar, it was a wonderful way of getting to know the stories of each one.

I am very grateful to the Provincial Team for giving me this opportunity for refreshing and relaxing myself.

Fr. Mathew Puthenpura CST

From the Abode of Clouds

Come with Joy and Went with Sorrow

The new priests, Fr. Manu and Fr. Robin, came to our Seminary on 10th March and were with us for three days. Fr. Manu celebrated the First Mass on 11th March with Fr. Rector and other staff members of Sacred Heart Theological College (SHTC). Fr. Robin was hospitalized for 2 days due to fever. They bade farewell to Shillong on 13th March 2014.

Diaconate Ministry

In the SHTC we are 5 Deacons during this semester. They are serving the community in different ways like conducting the adoration, assisting at the Holy Mass, preaching homilies and blessing the houses in the villages where we go for ministry. We are grateful to God for His grace.

Holidays Ended with a Picnic

Two Sri Lankan brothers also came with Bro. Tomcy Thattaparambil for the holidays. They helped in our Province for few days. By the end of the holidays five other Salesian brothers also visited our Province and some historical places in U.P. They are taken up by the hospitality and the brotherly care of CST Fathers.

Bro. Tomcy Tattaparambil
Shillong

Birthdays

Apr 1	Fr. Roby Kizhakkumkara
Apr 5	Fr. Sinoj Thuruthipally
Apr 12	Fr. Cyril Mangarayil
April 14	Fr. Sani Vadayattukunnel
Apr 16	Br. Tomcy Thattaparambil
Apr 20	Fr. Jose Panikulangara
Apr 21	Fr. Michael Chirayath
Apr 28	Fr. Saji Paul
May 3	Br. Bibin Thekkanal
May 7	Fr. Savio Valiyakulathil
May 14	Fr. Mathew Thayankary
May 10	Fr. Baiju John Kattikaran
May 10	Br. Aneesh Theeyathettu
May 16	Fr. Jijo Panthackal
May 21	Fr. Francis Kilivallickal
May 22	Fr. Manjush Srakath
Jun 4	Fr. Augustine Tharappath
Jun 11	Br. Binu Kottamurickal
Jun 12	Fr. Joseph Kottuppilly
Jun 16	Br. Bibin Sajan Puthiyidath

Feast Days

- April 23 Fr. George Aranchery
Fr. George Villanthanam
Fr. Sabu Kandemkettiyil
Fr. Benny Konooran
Fr. Syril Mangarayil
Fr. Wilson Panchickalkarot
Fr. Jordin Kochumuttu
Fr. Gijo Panthackal
- May 3 Fr. Cherian Puthussery
Fr. Cherian Elavakunnel
- May 6 Fr. Savio Valiyakulathil
- June 13 Fr. Antony Kolenchery
Br. Rintu Pallipurath
- June 24 Fr. Lona Kallely
- June 29 Fr. Saji Paul

Notes.....