

News and Views

Divine Providence Province



SYNODALITY - A Journey Together



My dear Confreres!

The synodality of Pope Francis comes with lots of excitement, misgivings, and misconceptions. Some have asked whether it is a product of coercion or freedom. Some have wondered whether it is a true renewal or a disguised trap. Some have questioned the intention of this synod. It is factual that every synod is shrouded in mystery and the Holy Spirit is the principle of communion and mission in the Church, the principle of synodality. The fears, anxiety, tensions, joys, and excitement this synod has generated seem unprecedented in the recent history of the Church.

The invitation of Pope Francis on synodality for the universal Church is to gather together and discuss how we are to stay together today in the world in the light of the Gospel. This is not just the meeting of the collegial government or episcopal collegiality but the ecclesial communion, the entire people of God. It is the gathering of the people of God who constitute the Church of Christ: the clerics and laity. The greatest aim of the synod is to listen and discern what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church, how we can live together today. It is to listen and discern the image of the Church envisaged by Christ. The way of synod is a way of collective discernment, collaboration, sharing, participation, and communion. The idea of synodality has increased mixed feelings of fears, suspicions, hopes, excitement and more in the universal Church.

However, no matter what one thinks about the synod and the outcome of the Synodal process, the potential dangers and abuses, the enormous promises of the synod cannot be ignored.

Therefore, Catholics, both great and small, rich and poor, saints and sinners are encouraged to give in their best of bests and engage actively, passionately, prayerfully, wisely, and honestly on the synod and the Synodal process. This will bring about a purified, balanced and enriched outcome for the Church. What is important is to religiously follow the virtues of the Church in a journey together and overcome the tendencies to slack towards the vices.

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The virtues of the Church in a journey together make the journey the symbol and characteristic of a pilgrim Church. The Vademecum for the synod on synodality views it as the principles and attitudes of synodality. They are such as innovative outlook, inclusivity, open-mindedness, accompaniment, co-responsibility, listening and dialogue.

The vices of a journey together in the Church can be seen as various stumbling blocks to our achieving the goodly desires of the synod on synodality. The Vademecum for the Synod on Synodality captures these vices as temptations or pitfalls that we must do well not to fall into during the process of this synod.

By and large, if this journeying together in synodality is going to be a lasting work of the Holy Spirit, we must try to discern and practice together the virtues of the Church in a journey and prevent the vices of a journey in the Church. In any case, our faith and assurance is that divine providence will not allow the fruits of our Synodal aircraft to be hijacked by unscrupulous elements within and outside the Church to a scandalous demonically arranged airport. After all, the Holy Spirit is in each of us and this Spirit is the principle of communion and mission. This is the faith of the Church. This we must confess with confidence and great expectation.

Every Synod in the Catholic Church is a time of grace. It is primarily a golden opportunity offered to the members of the universal Church to encounter, listen and reflect the Gospel of Christ more intently. It is time to listen to the Spirit which speaks to us in prayer and adoration. It is “time to listen to our brothers and sisters” of their hopes and expectations from the Church. His Holiness, Pope Francis clearly defines the Synod as a “process of becoming, a process that involves the local Churches” in order to “forge a style of communion and participation directed to mission”. Let us try to make use of this grace-filled time at our disposal to seriously review and renew our commitment to the mission of Christ.

To conclude, may I request you to spare sometime to read and understand the meaning and the purpose of the Synod. I wish that we could come together for a Recollection at the Community level. Let us educate ourselves in order to educate the faithful who are under our care. I do pray that this Synod would help us to “look within” and discern rightly God's message for the Church today and for the years to come! I wish you all a good preparation to celebrate the feast of Mother of Divine Providence. May she continue to intercede for us that our province and communities may be abundantly blessed with the providence of her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

- ❖ It is a gentle reminder for all the superiors and administrators to partake actively in the superiors and administrators meet without fail to be held on November 16 & 17, 2023.
- ❖ It is a gentle reminder for all the vocation coordinators of the respective communities to partake actively in the Vocation Coordinators meet without fail to be held on November 17, 2023 (6-8pm).
- ❖ It is a gentle reminder for all the superiors to encourage and send the Guanellian youth movement members of the respective communities to partake actively in the Guanellian youth movement meet without fail to be held on November 19, 2023.
- ❖ It is a gentle reminder for all the formators to partake actively in the Formators meet without fail to be held on November 28 & 29, 2023.

FR. RONALD. J SDC
Provincial Superior





Holarchical (circular) approach instead of Hierarchical (Pyramidal) approach Synodal approach in our religious communities

Have you ever found yourself in a “Fila Indiana”? (Indian line). This Italian expression, even though it refers directly to our country, may actually originate, in fact, from Native American practices. In many countries, people spend a lot of time waiting in this way. When we go to the cinema, theatre counters, banks, and ration queues, we stand in Indian lines to facilitate the waiting process and bring order. When I studied in Poonamallee, I used to see nuns walking in an Indian line to the parish for the Mass in the early morning. Sometimes, their Superior might either lead the line or bring up the rear, and the nuns would proceed single file. Since, in the Indian line, people walk singly behind each other, they cannot dialogue freely because they do not face each other. But there is usually a priority lane in the queues, for elderly people, people with disabilities, and pregnant women.

Sr. Nathalie Becquart, a Xavière Sister in France, and General Secretariat of the Synod, said, “The Church, which has more than 1,500 years of history, was imagined to be hierarchical; it means we, more or less, walked in 'fila Indiana' where someone walked ahead, and others followed them”. Here, hierarchy means a pyramid structure. We need to understand this from the perspective of the 'ecclesiology of communion and collegiality'. According to this vision of the Church, Jesus appointed the twelve apostles (Collegium), over which he placed Peter, chosen from among them. The Bishop of Rome is the successor of Peter. The apostolic succession comes about through the consecration of Bishops, which confers on them the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders and incorporates them into collegial and hierarchical communion with the head.

Recently, we observed the picture of Pope Francis at the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. Unlike past meetings, the Pope was seated at a round table, dialoguing with the synodal members. This was juxtaposed to the usual style of speaker-audience setup where the speaker orates from the podium or dais, and the audience listens from the body of the auditorium. Sr. Becquart proposes a holarchical model for today's religious life. Rather than hierarchical, she endorses a holarchical model, circular rather than pyramidal, inclusive rather than exclusive, and egalitarian rather than preferential. In this paradigm, co-equality and mutuality among all members truly exist. This new approach could help remind us of the inner life of the church as the mystery of 'Communion,' challenging us to live truly and radically, and serve one another as 'friends' (see Jn 15:15; 13:14-15), 'not as superiors and subjects.'



Some Tips to Renew a Religious Community Through the Synodal Approach

Synodal journey: The objective of the current Synod is to unite all of us as the entire 'People of God,' convinced of our vocation. The synodal documents often describe this voyage in these few words: 'walking together' or 'journeying together.' We are encouraged to develop a sense of belongingness with respect to the community and our ongoing formation. People have an inherent desire to belong to something greater than themselves. This journeying together can satisfy this need and make the process satisfying for all involved. We can accomplish this goal through daily readings, attentive listening to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit, listening to one another, especially to those at the margins, and discerning the signs of the times. This everyday exegesis will become a lived experience in discernment.

We feel the presence of God in our journey because God has always been walking with His people in the story of salvation. Jesus, when walking with the disciples on the way to Emmaus, listened to them and helped them recognize Him in breaking the bread (cf. Luke 24:13, 35). The challenge remains among the religious to walk together as co-equal disciples, not leaving anyone behind, and cognisant of their stories, capabilities, and dreams.

Synodal listening: The Synod document (called the *Instrumentum Laboris*) uses the word 'listen' or 'listening' more than 60 times. It means the religious community should be attentive to this specific aspect of the approach. Usually, we are fond of debating, arguing, and justifying our own reasons when speaking. Our communication style could benefit from a new approach based on listening during the decision-making and discerning the signs of times. That is why Pope Francis would describe listening as a kind of prayer, and he emphasizes listening and prayer over speaking. He calls it "conversation in the Spirit."

As Servants of Charity, we implement the bond of charity in our relationships and houses; as Fr. Guanella would insist, "Charity is a bond that binds hearts." A synodal church is proposing our communities to be expansive and intercultural, with its doors widely open to welcome the whole world. Its desire is for everyone to come in as one is, with her/his dreams, aspirations, cultural values, talents, and skills, as well as her/his frustrations, sufferings, limitations, and weaknesses. Our communities need to endeavour to become communities of co-travellers, accompanying, serving, encouraging, and challenging one another, in faith, hope, and charity.





Synodal Mission: This new kind of mission suggested by the synod is not going to be a narrow mission of an individualistic experience (or that of one house alone), but it will span all the members of all the communities. The disciples can let themselves be transformed by their encounter with Jesus and become the Church in “missionary outreach,” which necessarily leads to pastoral conversion inside and outside the religious community.

Religious Life is intrinsically prophetic (Pope John Paul II insisted in *Vita Consecrata*), “There is a prophetic dimension that belongs to the consecrated life as such, resulting from the radical nature of the following of Christ and of the subsequent dedication to the mission characteristic of the consecrated life.”

In his first meeting with the Union of Superiors General in November of 2013, Pope Francis said, “What should be Religious Life's priority? He replied: “Prophecy of the Kingdom, which is a non-negotiable...” “Religious men and women should leave their identity when they do not proclaim how the kingdom of God will be in its perfection. A religious must never give up prophecy.” By tradition, we possess the richness of a system that assures everyone the ability to cultivate through our educational service the ability to prevent evil from taking root in the life of a neighbour. Preventing is, therefore, the capacity for anticipating needs and intense discernment, with trust in people and the power of God's grace.

Thanks to:

Fr. Samuel Canilang, A Holarchical community of co-equal disciples; In mission synodal church, viewed from the charismatic dimension, Institute for Consecrated Life in Asia (ICLA), the Philippines.

Synodality as a lifestyle, online material, Institute of the daughters of Mary Help of Christians, Founded by St. John Bosco, and St. Mary Domenica Mazzarello.

An open letter published by the synod on Synodality, October 25, Vatican Rome.

Fr. Rajesh SdC





ST. GUANELLA FEAST IN OUR PARISH



Cuddalore: We celebrated the Feast of St. Guanella for three days in our parish. On the first day, St. Joseph's Seminary Fathers and brothers animated the Holy Mass, and followingly, Fr. Adaikalam hoisted the flag of St. Louis Guanella and started the Novena. Fr. James celebrated Holy Mass on the second day and preached the homily. The Vincent de Paul and Franciscan pious groups animated the Mass. The Boys Home Community organized the Holy Mass for the Feast Day. Fr. Francis celebrated the Mass, and Fr. Vanathaiyan preached the homily. GLM and GC animated the Mass. Then, the GLM and GC provided tea and cakes to all our parishioners. The parish priest thanked everyone for their presence and asked Father Louis Guanella to continue to intercede for us.

TAMIL ACADEMY BOYS' HOME

Cuddalore: On the 14th of October, in our Boys' Home, we conducted a Tamil academy for our boys. The academy paved the way for the boys to exhibit their talents through speech, singing, dance, and skits. The chief guest was Mr. Antony Raj, St. Joseph's School Tamil teacher.





He reviewed the boys' performances. He expressed his appreciation for the presentations and offered some ideas for improvement. Then, Fr. Director honored him with gifts and thanked him.

PILGRIMAGE TO ELAKURICHI



Cuddalore: On the 28th of October, one of the pious groups of our parish, Legion of Mary, went on a pilgrimage to Elakurichi and Poondi Madha Basilica. We prayed the rosary and attended Holy Mass at Our Lady of Adikalamadha Shrine, Elakurichi. Next, we went to Poondi Madha Basilica, and prayed the Way of the Cross and some personal prayers. Finally, we went to Kalanai sightseeing. Everyone enjoyed the pilgrimage trip and felt confident of the blessings received from Mother Mary.

THE WHOLE WORLD IS OUR HOMELAND

Sri Lanka: Believing in the words of St. Guanellawe have landed in Sri Lanka at the invitation of Rev. Dr. Justin Gnanaparakgasam the bishop of Jaffna. He has given us the possibility to stay with OMI Fathers to study the situation in his diocese to start our Guanellian missions with the permission of the Provincial and his Council and the approval of the General and His council.



We are happy to introduce our Founder Saint Louis Guanella and his mission in Sri Lanka. So, we have celebrated his feast in a simple way with the Jaffna diocesan seminarians. If it is the will of God, we hope for the best to do our Guanellian mission in the land of Sri Lanka.

ARRIVAL OF OUR FOUNDER

KUMBAKONAM: Our Lady of Divine Providence Church was elated to





celebrate the Feast of St. Louis Guanella on October 22nd. In view of the solemn feast, Fr. Anthuvan hoisted the flag on October 15th, and the Novena began. Each day was organized with different themes in different substations. To enhance the devotion to our Founder, the special stole of St. Guanella and relics were brought to all substations, and individual prayer programs were organized. Under the direction of the community Fathers, different groups animated each of the eight days, including the Guanellian Lay Movement, Guanellian Youth Movement, Guanella Illam, Don Guanella Evening School, and Guanellian Sisters. On the final day, a solemn celebration included the religious from neighboring communities, GLM, GYM, Beneficiaries, and other well-wishers of our mission. This aspect of the celebration concluded with a procession that included the flag, and a St. Guanella car procession. Hearts were aflame. The Vicar General lowered the flag and blessed everyone with a Relic of St. Guanella. Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Amiratha Samy, VG Kumbakonam Diocese. On the occasion of the Feast, we organized Kolam completion, drawing, storytelling, fancy dress, Founders' Life, volleyball match, and bible quiz. After Mass, a festive meal and colorful program were organized, with prizes distributed to the winners of the exhibitions.

RENEWAL OF PROMISES KUMBAKONAM





KUMBAKONAM: During the Feast Mass, the Guanellian Lay Movement members renewed their promises in the presence of Fr. A. Bernandas, Superior and the parish priest. Fr. J. David had guided the members in a day of spiritual preparation and recollection on the 15th of October with Adoration and confession before the renewals. Our Founder, in his lifetime, trusted the Laity by joining hands with them and making them part of this crucial mission. He understood that we can go the extra mile with the laity, thereby spreading charity among many whom the religious cannot reach. The Founder's dream continues with 14 members making their promises. They have been instrumental in many ways in helping the parish and the Congregation.

ANNUAL TOUR TO KODAIKANAL



Chennai: The seminarians from Don Guanella Major Seminary, along with Fr. Benson and Fr. Stalin, went on their annual tour to Kodaikanal for three days. We departed from Don Guanella Major Seminary at 7 o'clock in the evening on October 23, 2023. We arrived at Kodaikanal and visited the famous

Kodaikanal Lake for boating and relaxation. We also visited the Kurinji Andavar Temple, which is dedicated to Lord Murugan. We trekked to the beautiful Dolphin's Nose viewpoint and visited the famous Pillar Rocks, known for their breathtaking views and rock formations. We also enjoyed sightseeing at the Silver Cascade Falls and found some time to shop for souvenirs at the local markets in Kodaikanal. In the evening, we departed from Kodaikanal and arrived back at Don Guanella Major Seminary the next morning at 6:00 a.m.

ST. LOUIS GUANELLA'S FEAST DAY





Chennai: We had a multifaceted celebration on the occasion of St. Louis Guanella's Feast Day. On this day, we remembered our Founder and had the privilege of witnessing the Initiation Ceremony for Bros. Chandra Sekhar, Charles Xavier, Edward Francis, and Maria Paul. Another aspect of this celebration was that Bros. Arockia Samy, Arokiya Jayaseelan, Padiyan, and John Peter were installed as acolytes. The highlight of the day was Holy Mass, presided over by Rev. Fr. Ronald. The Mass, honoring the life and legacy of St. Louis Guanella, was solemn and sacred. Overall, it was a day of great joy as we honored our founder, and participated in the spiritual nourishment provided by the Holy Mass.

AYUDHA POOJA CELEBRATION

Chennai: During the Ayudha Pooja Celebration, the DGMS community, along with the DGSS staff and students, gathered in front of the school. The vehicles, including cars, bikes, buses, and other vehicles, were beautifully decorated with flowers. After the prayer ceremony, Rev. Fr. Johnson proceeded to bless each vehicle individually. He used a vessel filled with holy water and sprinkled it on the vehicles while saying prayers. This act is believed to cleanse and make the vehicles holy, ensuring the safety of the drivers and passengers. The celebration of Ayudha Pooja at DGMS not only brought the community together but also instilled a sense of respect and gratitude towards the tools and vehicles that are important in our daily lives.

FEAST OF OUR FOUNDER

Cuddalore: It is our great joy to celebrate the feast of our Founder every year in our houses with lots of creativity and newness. In St. Joseph's Seminary, our Mother House, we renovated the statue at the entrance just before the feast. It is very meaningful to see our Founder welcoming everyone at the entrance and giving his message to every visitor: "In Omnibus Caritas", give bread and the Lord, pray and suffer. Those who enter come to know our motto, the testament of the Founder, and his maxim.



We thank God for His providence. In a special way, our thanks to Fr. Francis Assisi, the former Rector of this historical seminary, for sponsorship of the renovation work.

FOLK DANCE OF SEMINARIANS FOR BOOK FAIR

Cuddalore: On the 5th of October, Cuddalore District Collector, Dr. A. Arun Thamburaj I.A.S, inaugurated ten days of cultural events at Cuddalore Silver Beach





for the public. During the evenings, there were grand cultural events at the shore in a mega tent. These events were attended by thousands of people. Many institutes were invited to perform folk arts to entertain and educate the people. On behalf of St. Joseph's School, our minor seminarians participated in the cultural event. They were trained for Kolattam, a Tamil folk art by Master Stephen. Ten of them danced in front of thousands of people on the stage with a folk song that focused on the importance of brotherhood among different religions, languages, and cultures in India.

MAKING CANDLES TO BRING LIGHTS

Cuddalore: A daycare program for differently-abled persons is operational at Cuddalore St. Joseph's Seminary Community. There are fifteen persons who attend the program daily from three neighboring villages. Transportation to and from is provided by an Omni car. The attendees are little angels who were called 'good children' by our Founder. They are individuals who are retarded, handicapped, and destitute. As a vocational activity, they were taught to make candles. They enjoy this art form. Three of them have collaborated to make beautiful candles. The group is headed by Mrs. Deivamany, who suffers



from polio, has limited movement, and is wheelchair-bound. This activity is a precious production by these weak hands who were marginalized as a burden by their family members.

They are delighted when they see these lights in front of God, dispelling the darkness.





VIVA SAINT LOUIS GUANELLA



Thalavadi: On the 24th of October, the Nazareth Illam Community celebrated the Feast Day of our Father St. Louis Guanella. To prepare for the feast, we organized a triduum, meditating on different themes. On the 23rd of October, we organized half a day of recollection for the Confreres of Nazareth Illam. Finally, on the Feast Day, the solemn Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by Rev. Fr. Devaraj Nicolas, the parish priest of Thalavadi Parish. The Vicariate Fathers, local religious communities, and some of the GLM members were delighted to join in the celebration. Finally, after the Mass, we shared the grand festive meal with all the guests.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Thalavadi: World Mental Health Day is celebrated on the 10th of October every year. In order to promote awareness of issues surrounding Mental Health, we, the Nazareth Illam Community, joined this celebration of World Mental Health Day. Good mental health is a state of mental well-being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, makes them realize their abilities,





and helps them contribute to their community. We organized party games for the residents of Nazareth Illam, Home for the Mentally Ill. They were so happy to participate in the games, which helped them, for a time to forget all the stresses and worries of their lives. The members from Rotary Club of Thalavadi Hills also joined us and distributed some gifts to all those who participated in the games. They extended wishes to the residents for their continued good mental health and shared joy.

PRAYER TO THE MIRACULOUS INFANT JESUS



Thalavadi: In the last week of September, the Miraculous Infant Jesus Statue was brought from Spain by the FMM Sisters to Soosaipuram. This is a miraculous statue and goes around all of their religious communities. When the statue was brought to Soosaipuram, all the faithful were invited to worship and pray. On the 29th of September, there was a car procession around the village, and afterward, the statue was housed for worship in the FMM Sisters' convent. On the 30th of the same month, the Nazareth Illam Community, together with our residents, walked to that convent to worship and to pray to Infant Jesus. The residents were so happy and prayerful. It helped the residents grow in spirituality and peacefulness.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS PROGRAM

Thalavadi: Health awareness programs educate about risks and symptoms that may lead to serious health conditions. Moreover, health awareness programs not only prompt people to take their symptoms seriously but also help direct them to relevant health professionals and resources that are available. On the 25th of September, there was a Mental Health awareness program held in Nazareth Illam Community. Sixty students from Annai JKK Sampoorani Ammal College of Nursing came to Nazareth Illam under





the guidance and help of Dr. Anandakumar. The day began with an orientation class regarding the specifics of our facility delivered by Fr. Lourduraj. Next, the students entertained the residents of Nazareth Illam with activities. The students enacted a drama and puppet show to raise awareness regarding mental health care. Mental Health Awareness Programs help people recognize the ways that mental illness impacts their lives and then endeavours to educate them about available relevant services.

FEAST IN OUR PARISH.



Anthonyarpuram: On the 25th of October, we celebrated the Feast of St. Louis Guanella in our Parish. We also brought the Relic of St. Thomas to bless the faithful. St. Thomas is the patron of the Archdiocese of Madras Mylapore. The celebration began with a Holy Hour. We thank the Lord for His continuous guidance.

IT IS GOD WHO DOES



Warrangal: On the 22nd of October 2023, our vision of starting a new Mission Station commenced, even if just in a small way. We followed in the footsteps of our Founder, who initiated every mission in a small way. Similarly, we started our



Mission in a small way by bringing six special children to our Residence as Sunday Ministry (Open House). We planned to have the ministry to operate between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Since this was the first day, we began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. This was followed by a short program, including some introductions about our founder. Fr. Jose entertained the special people with some jokes, as he engaged them in conversation. Lunch was served, and then we sent them home. We felt like we were doing the work of our founder, who initiated our mission.

PARENTS ARE THE FIRST TEACHER

VATLURU – “Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students, and enthusiastic parents with high expectations” – Bop Beauprez. Guanella Karunalaya community organized Parents meeting on 15th October 2023. The main purpose was to create a platform, where the priests, parents, and staff come together to enrich student's



educational experiences and discuss a variety of issues regarding the overall development of the students. Rev.Fr. Christuraju welcomed the parents and boys and the boys gave a fantastic cultural fest for their parents. Mrs. Devarapalli Ramesh, Babu Priyadarshini, Community Health Officer from Pinakadami HWC was the Chief Guest of the day. She spoke on love, preventive methods, hygiene, and parental relationships toward children's growth. Then Rev. Fr. Rajarathinam addressed the gathering; encouraging parents to keep in close contact with the School and enquire about their performance, study, and behavioral patterns. At last Fr.Assisi thanked the gathering.

FOUNDER FEAST CELEBRATION



VATLURU: We have solemnly celebrated the feast of our Holy Founder, St. Luigi



Guanella, in Guanella Karunalaya and Sacred Heart Church vatluru on 24th October 2023, Rev. Fr. A. Francis Assisi, SdC, superior of the community celebrated festal Holy Mass in Sacred Heart Church. DSMP sisters, Gk boys, GLM group members and parish people participated in this august celebration. After the Holy Eucharist, people were served with delicious Agape by local GLM members.

GREAT ACTS ARE MADE UP OF SMALL DEEDS.

Bangalore: It was a wonderful day for our GPN community along with Food Bank Bangalore in collaboration with Griffith. They visited our home on 20th October. They came over to visit the elderly home with some interactive and fun activities organized for the elderly men. They started with interactions and also asked the elders about their favourite foods that each individual liked to have. They had a dance session too; later on, the Griffith Company also distributed food packages to all the elders of the home. The program came to an end with the vote of thanks given by Fr. Sachin. It was a great opportunity to have them among us.



GLORIOUS CELEBRATION

Bangalore: It was a glorious day for our GPN community to celebrate the feast of our beloved founder St. Louis Guanella with a grateful heart on 24th October. In view of celebrating our Founder's Feast, we joyfully started nine days of novena by





hoisting the flag on the 15th. Our founder's reliquary was taken in procession praying and singing songs. Then the Blessed Sacrament was exposed. Every day different groups of people organized the liturgy and prayers and also gave the reflection on the life history of our founder in order to make people to know about the life of our founder and his contributions to the society. Fathers took turn to celebrate Holy mass and gave reflections during the homily. On the festive day the GPN community was filled with joy and gratefulness to celebrate the feast Mass with many religious sisters, fathers and laity. On the auspicious day the chief celebrant Msgr.Rev.Fr. Jayanathan gave the beautiful homily in three language first in English, kannada and Tamil saying 'St. Louis Guanella is the promoter of Love and Charity. He reflectively abbreviated the word 'Promoter' and referred to our founder. We all offered our prayers and thanks to our founder in the presence of the Almighty and lowered the flag after the mass. Everyone took part in the fellowship meal.

“THANKSGIVING IS A TIME OF TOGETHERNESS

Bangalore: We the GPN community celebrated the Ayudha Pooja a thanksgiving festival on 23rd October for all non-living things especially for the gift of vehicles and all the instruments and tools of the garden which help us to lead our lives every day. Fr. Mathias the superior of the community, staff, and all the elders, gathered together and offered prayers and sang songs.



Fr.kulandaiswamy administrator gave the gift as a token of love to all the staff. We were all blessed and filled with the presence of the God Almighty. Finally, all together enjoyed the celebration with a sweet.





LIFE'S GREATEST VALUE



Bangalore: We were honored to have Dr. Priya and the team from SJS College in the midst of us at our elderly home on 23rd October. They visited our elders and interacted to build rapport. They also conducted fun activities such as identifying the singer of songs, and dance. Later on, the team made an effort to check and track the blood pressure [BP] and weight of all men at the organization. GPN has been grateful to Dr. Priya and the team.

MAKING A SPLASH WITH CHILI

It all started when Monster Motors presented St. Louis Center with a Meijer gift card to purchase ingredients for the chili at the cook-off on Thursday, September 21st at the Center. St. Louis Center staffers Michelle Mikolajczyk, Kassandra Lewis, Tifani Barnett, and Kaitlyn LaRocque, helped residents Linda and Jerome make a splash at the Jackson Chili Cook-off September 30th preparing and serving their own version of the American dish. Over the course of the day, more than 1,200 one-ounce samples of St. Louis Center's "Backwoods Chili" were served to the eager taste testers.



BLESSING OF THE STATIONS

On October 1st, Fr. Leo, Fr. Franklin, and Fr. Amal celebrated outdoor Mass, accompanied by Fr. Timothy MacDonald, Vicar General of the Diocese of Lansing. Then all four priests blessed and rededicated the outdoor Stations of the Cross. Each Station has an electrical audio box, allowing people to pray along at each station.





MEET THE ASHLINE FOUNDATION

The 1st annual Sean Brian Ashline Memorial Golf Outing was held on August 25th, at Chemung Hills in Howell MI. The outing was plagued by inclement weather, but attendees were not deterred from supporting the event. On Monday, October 1st, Fred Ashline, Jim Cleary, and Tony Hopkins arrived at the St. Louis Center to learn more about its mission. They spent time learning more about what impact the Sean Brian Ashline Foundation could have on the Center and the projects that may need funding in the future. The men presented Fr. Enzo with a check for a portion of the proceeds from their first golf outing.

THE FEAST OF ST. GERARD

Grass Lake - A special Mass for children lost in the womb was celebrated on October 16th. Fr. Amal blessed everyone with the relic of St. Gerard Majella, patron of the unborn.

HONORING THE FOUNDER

Chelsea - On October 23, 2023, in honor of the feast day of St. Louis Guanella, 18 people professed their promises as Guanellian Cooperators. Mass was celebrated by Most Rev. Bishop Earl Boyea, Diocese of Lansing, at St. Louis Center. Also in attendance were the 53 residents of the Center, staff, benefactors, friends, 5 Servants of Charity priests, and 6 diocesan priests. During his brief homily, Bishop Boyea





looked around the room and said, "I see Jesus." He encouraged all those present also to look for Jesus. He finished by saying, "We are to be His hands reaching out to others, His voice speaking to others. It will be as if Jesus is meeting Himself again and again." Following the homily, the Cooperators stood before the altar to make their Promises. A meal was served for everyone after Mass. Many people attended Mass at the Pious Union of St. Joseph in Grass Lake on St. Louis Guanella's feast on October 24th. Everyone was reminded of his words: "The whole world is your homeland."

SPOOKY SUCCESS



Chelsea - The residents of St. Louis Center look forward to a spooky night every October. Staff and families work for weeks to put together a Trunk or Treat for the residents and Chelsea community. This year the festivities were on Thursday, October 26th. The Center is a welcoming and safe place

for people of any age or ability to spend the evening. Over 25 vehicles lined the parking lot for the Trunk or Treat. Dinner was served in the gym. The Center staff hosted a haunted house in the main building to spook those brave enough to enter. Over 400 people attended the event that was sponsored by T-Mobile.

FALL AUCTION

Chelsea - Saturday, October 28th was the 36th Annual Fall Dinner Auction to benefit the residents of St. Louis Center. Pat and Al Zangara were recognized for the 40 years they have been supporting the Center. The event was held at St. Mary Church with about 180 people in attendance. They had the opportunity to bid on many beautiful items that were donated by area businesses and St. Louis Center supporters. Many new faces were visible in the crowd, which means that the Center has some new friends to help spread the word about our mission.



WELCOMING BISHOP

Sacred Heart church welcomed Most Rev. Bishop Henning, Rev. Fr. Umberto Brugnoli (Superior General, Italy), and Brother Franco Lain (General Councillor, Italy) for Mass in honor of St. Louis Guanella. We were very blessed to have them visit our parish and school.





FEAST DAYS

- 4 - Fr. Charles Promiyo
Bro. Carlos Nayak. N
- 10 - Fr. Leo Joseph. X
- 21. Fr. Arulraj
Fr. Badugu Christuraj

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

- 11. Fr. ArunDavid /
Fr. Arokia Nathan /
Fr. Bosco Yesuraj /
Fr. Francis xavier /
Fr. Kulandai. P / Fr. Praveen.L
Fr. Rajesh Kumar
Fr. Solomon Raja /
Fr. Irudhayaraj
- 22 - Fr. Dennis M. Weber



NOVEMBER

Birthdays

- 1 - Fr. Praveen Jeba Kumar
- 4 - Fr. Charles Promiyo
- 6 - Fr. Peter Joseph. P
- 12. Bro. Charles Xavier
- 17. Fr. Addari Enzo
- 19. Fr. Praveenraj. L
- 21 - Fr. Solomon Raja
- 23 - Fr. Joseph Fernandez. S
- 26 - Fr. Sachinson M.
- 27 - Fr. John Peter A.
- 29 - Fr. Achariyam
- 30 - Fr. Adaikalam

Provincial Calendar for November

- 5 - Visit to Anthoniyar Puram
- 16 & 17 - Superiors & Treasurers Meet
Vocation Promoters Meet
- 19 - Guanellian Youth Meeting
- 28 & 29 - Formators Meet