

# News and Views

Newsletter of the Divine Providence Province



## It is time to “Go, Move On”...

*‘No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks’- St. Ambrose*

Dear friends,

I remember the six years of my mandate with gratitude and thank our provident Father for the opportunity and innumerable blessings, especially the life of grace He has given me. It is not because I was so good, but because He has been so good to me. It is not because I was faithful, but because He has been faithful to me. It is not because I was successful because He picked me up whenever I fell and gave me chance after chance.

Paul, the apostle, says in his 2nd letter to Timothy (4:5b) *“fulfill your ministry”*- the one that flows out of a sincere spirit of humility and submission, relying heavily on God’s promise and fulfilling His calling. By God’s grace, I was surrounded by beloved confreres who were willing to continue the adventure with me while I learned and fleshed out the real-life laboratory of a Province.

In my first circular letter dated 1 November 2012, I shared with you three things: 1. I am here to appreciate and affirm the goodness; 2. No head table mentality- but a towel and wash basin mentality; 3. With cords of compassion and bands of love. Not from any of our merit, but because

of the great benevolence of God, we recognize that we have grown in a visible manner. We have had more brothers to share our life, charism, and mission. We appreciate a closer fraternal union of our brothers coming together in sharing the burdens and blessings of one another. We have given a consolidated structure for all in most all of the mission centers for our needy brethren.

*“The best way to show my gratitude to God is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy”* (St. Theresa of Calcutta). In my darkest moments of painful cynicism, damaging calumny, non-collaboration, I always remembered the redemptive calling of Jesus, who was mocked, beaten and spit upon. The apostle Paul had a troublesome condition in his life that he referred to as a “thorn.” He prayed to God to remove it, but apparently it never went away. To his question, “How to handle a thorn”, God’s words to Paul were *“My grace is sufficient for you”* (2 Cor 12:9). I thank the Lord for these experiences that have made me share the sufferings of our Holy Founder St. Louis Guanella. We cannot count his grieving worries, his keen humiliations, and the discomforts of traveling, adversaries, distrust, lack of co-operation and mistrust even among his brother priests. But in spite of all these troublesome situations, he was consecrating his whole self to his call in a constant difficult and thorny immolation. Nevertheless, he never complained of anything.

*“Thank those who find fault with you because it is they who put a chisel in your hands to carve yourself into a better person.”*

I reserved in my heart some of the

## August 2018

Volume 11 Number 8



*“My grace is sufficient for you.”*

2 Cor 12,9

excruciating situations that took place and the defamatory letters that were circulated; but, with patience, compassion and forgiveness, I leave everything in the wounded hands of our Lord. Dear Confreres, we need to critically and creatively look at the growth of our DPP. Let us leave our futile cynicism and crippling mediocrity that paralyzes the life of our province.

Now it is time to “go on.” God does not say, “Stay”. And it is time to move on or move out since there is a place in the Generalate for my precious service with wider horizons! I trust that you will not deny me now your pardon and understanding if I have offended you in any way!

I would sincerely like to thank our former Superior General and his Council for their wisdom-filled guidance and trust. Of course,

### INSIDE:

Provincial	2-3
India	3-6
United States	7
Calendar	8

my bounteous gratitude goes to the newly elected Superior General and his Council for their prophetic role in carrying out the mission of our Congregation in the different cultural realities. I place on the record my admiration to all my collaborators for all their co-operation, support, and, above all, the hard work towards the DPP reaching a new height. Hereby I willingly, gracefully, and gratefully hand over the office to my successor and his Council.

May St. Louis Guanella, apostle of an admirable creative charity, the Samaritan priest who bent down to pick up the wounded, guide our DPP and may Blessed Mary, Mother of Divine Providence, intercede for us with her maternal love and proximity!

Your most humble and obedient servant!

*Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC*

## August Calendar of Fr. Provincial

- 5 **Cuddalore:** Perpetual Vows - St. Joseph Seminary
- 6 **Cuddalore:** Diaconal/Sacred Ordinations - St. Joseph Seminary
- 7 **Vardarajanpettai:** First Thanksgiving Mass - Fr. Arokia Doss, SdC
- 8 **B. Pallipatti:** First Thanksgiving Mass - Fr. Abraham, SdC
- 15-31 **Vicar General Fr. Nico Rutigliano Visits Indian Communities**

## Love Beyond Stigma By Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC

On the occasion of the Sixth World Autism Awareness Day in April 2013, the Church expressed its solicitude for autistic people and their families, inviting Christian communities and people of good will to express authentic solidarity towards them.

The disciples on the way to Emmaus were marked by loss, and even more by amazement. The faces and the hearts of parents who have a son or a daughter with autism are marked similarly.

Autism is a word that still generates fear today even though in very many cultures the 'diversely-able' have begun to be accepted socially, and many of the prejudices that have surrounded people with disabilities and even their parents have begun to be dismantled.

Ever since her birth, as a guiding theme, the Church has always expressed her care for this aspect of medicine through practical testimonies at a universal level. Above all else, this is witness to Love beyond stigma, that social stigma that isolates a sick person and makes him or her feel like an extraneous body.

Faced with the problems and the difficulties that these children and their parents encounter, the Church with humility proposes the way of service to the suffering brother, accompanying him with compassion and tenderness on his tortuous human and relational journey, and taking advantage of the help of parishes, of associations, of Church movements and of men and women of good will. There the global care for the 'frail' person should never fail, as it so often happens

to persons with autism. This takes concrete form with that sense of closeness which every worker must know how to transmit to the sick person and his or her family, not making that person feel like a number but making the situation of a shared journey real that is made up of deeds, of attitudes and of words. In practice, this is a matter of welcoming autistic children in the various sectors of social, educational, catechistic and liturgical activity in a way that corresponds to their capacity for relationships. Such solidarity, for those who have received the gift of Faith, becomes a loving presence and compassionate nearness for those who suffer, following the example and in imitation of Jesus Christ, the Good Samaritan who by His passion, death and resurrection redeemed humanity.



'The world of rights cannot only be the prerogative of the healthy. People with disabilities must also be enabled to participate in social life as much as they can, and helped to fulfill all their physical, psychological

and spiritual potential. Only by recognizing the rights of its weakest members can a society claim to be founded on law and justice.' (*John Paul II, Message on the Occasion of the International Symposium on the Dignity and Rights of the Mentally Disabled Person, 7-9 January 2004, n. 3*)

May what Pope Francis observed by expressing his nearness to the sick and the suffering be constant light, 'We must keep the thirst for the absolute alive in the world, not





allowing a one-dimensional vision of the human person to prevail, according to which man is reduced to what he produces and to what he consumes: this

of the Cross, taught us to pause beside all the crosses of contemporary man.

To people with autism, to their families and to all those who are involved in their service, may the upcoming feasts of the Blessed Mother, her Assumption, Queenship and Health of the Sick be occasions for you to draw closer to her Son and to find consolation in her Immaculate Heart.



is one of the most dangerous snares of our time!

While I hope for the cooperation of everyone in a choral and compassionate answer to the numerous needs that come to us from our brothers and sisters with autism and their families, I entrust the sufferings, the joys and the hopes of these people to the mediation of Mary, Mother of Christ and 'Health of the Sick' who, at the foot

## India

### Feast of Our Lady of Periyannayagi

**KUMBAKONAM** - It was indeed a great joy for our Parish to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Periyannayagi at the Perumpandi substation. The feast began on July 7th with a flag hoisting and solemn Mass by Fr. J. Regis, Parish Priest Sembodai. Each day during the nine-day of novena the Rosary was prayed followed by Novena Mass, celebrated by different priests. During the homily, the priests shared their reflections on Mother Mary and the virtues that we must learn from her. After the Holy Mass, the village people shared sweets and snacks. The culmination of the celebration was the evening of July 14th, Fr. G. Michael Ambiams, Secretary, presided over the solemn Mass and blessed the procession which followed. The car carrying the statue of Our Lady of Periyannayagi was taken through the streets of all the substations. On the following day Fr. Selvaraj, SdC, celebrated Holy Mass and lowered the flag bringing the celebration to an end. Many Hindus and Muslims participated piously by offering candles



and generous contributions to the success of the Feast. Every day Fr. Vincent, Bro. Philominraja, Sr. Lourth and Sr. Juli were helped the people to animate the liturgy well. The guidance of Fr. A. John Bosco, SdC, the parish priest and tireless work of the village made this celebration a successful and fruitful one, bringing us the intercession of Our Lady of Periyannayagi and the grace of her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Inauguration of Evening School

**DINDIGUL** - Don Guanella Evening School at Kallathupatti was inaugurated on July 11th with 45 students. Mr. Santiago, the chief guest for the day, encouraged all the students to have clear cut goals at the forefront in order to achieve and arrive at their destination. The function was in the presence of the parish priests Fr. Lawrence and Fr. A. Perianayagasamy. Students



exhibited their talents by their creative dances. In order to share our joy sweets were distributed at the end of the program.

## “HOPE” Resumes

**CHENNAI** - The inaugural ceremony of Don Guanella Evening School was on July 18th at CMS Primary School, Karayanchavadi. The honorable president Fr. A. Soosai Rathinam, General Councilor of SdC, was welcomed with a garland along with Fr. John Kennedy SdC, missionary guest priest from Israel. The president and guest encouraged the children to feel the preciousness of time and make proper use of it in order to make history while perceiving the gift of the present day as they are venturing into the new academic year. The day was filled with colorful events by the children through their speeches, poetry recitation, songs and dances. Ms. Thasleema the outgoing 12th student who scored 1012 out of 1200 was honored by the president with a gift and she encouraged the students to study well and make history. The events were well animated by the staff of DGES along with the help of brothers from DGMS. The children departed for home with cool drinks and snacks.



## Residential Special School Inaugurated

**SIVAGANGAI** - The long-awaited dream of community is the inauguration of a new residential school with modern facilities for special children from the area which came true with gracious blessings of our Lord and with the help of Divine Providence on July. 22nd. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC, Provincial Superior, and his council blessed the new entrance and Sacred Heart statue followed by thanksgiving Mass presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Soosaimanikam Bishop of Sivagangai



Diocese. More than 45 priests and religious sisters of different congregations including ours joined in this holy sacrifice with special children, their parents, lay people from nearby parishes, donors, caretakers and teachers of our special school. After Mass there was agape in which all the gathering participated with eminence joy. Fr. Kulandaisamy, Community Superior, honored the dignitaries for their gracious presence. Fr. Paul Francis, Director of Anbagam Special School, honored the chief guest with a memento. Fr. Stalin extended his heartfelt gratitude to all those who worked for the success of this historical event including the Guanellian Lay Movement, thanking all the guests of honor.

## Refurbished Playground

**CUDDALORE** - It is paradoxical that many educators and parents still differentiate between a time for learning



and a time for play without seeing the vital connection between them. Don Guanella Boys Home renovated the playground through the working of divine providence. It is useful for the boys, children from the parish attending

catechism class, and evening school children. “Play keeps us vital and alive. It gives us enthusiasm. At the same time it also attracts the neighborhood people to relax in the evening. We don’t stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing.

## Entrance to Postulancy

**SIVAGANGAI** - July 24th was a grace filled joyful day for the Yesuvanam community to welcome six brothers



into the Postulancy in the presence of the Almighty and with our holy founder’s blessing. Postulancy is the stage of formation to learn the charism and mission of the congregation

in order to discern and make a good decision about becoming a worthy and humble servant of Christ Jesus through religious life. The Blessed Sacrament



was exposed by the superior to foster strong faith and strength for their journey in religious life. The brothers were each given a Cross to symbolize our founder's motto, "Pray and Suffer." They received the cross as a sign of their commitment to live religious life in faith, hope and charity.

### In Memory of Don Mimi

**CHENNAI** - Every Guanellian remembers and cherishes the loving memory of Fr. Domenico Saginario, who was a great missionary and visionary of the Guanellian history. Don Guanella Major Seminary initiated the Theological forum in his name. Every year there are three groups comprised of brothers from different years of theology, they present the academy based on the person of Don Mimi, Church documents and other burning social issues of society. This year on July 26th, the official inauguration of the theological forum was opened by diaconal candidates on the theme 'Don Guanella and Don Mimi as Good Pastors.' It was mentioned during one of the talks that Our Founder and Don Mimi during their lifetimes lived for the needy. We were privileged to have Fr. Maria Arockia Doss as the chief guest. He motivated and enlightened all to be good pastors in the vineyard of the Lord by keeping the Founder and Don Mimi as our role models. Thanks to Fr. Maria Arockia Doss and the candidates for their sharing with the other brothers.

### Part to Set Apart

**CHENNAI** - Don Guanella Major Seminary organized a farewell function to honor and thank the eight seminarians who would be ordained as deacons in the following days. On July 26th brothers bade farewell to the outgoing deacons. It was an awesome experience for all the brothers to take a moment to honor the diaconal candidates for their support and prayers for DGMS over the past



four years. In remembrance of the program a cultural evening was organized to add color to the day. Diaconal candidates were invited to share their learning and experience in the seminary, and thanked the formation team and the whole community. Fr. Samson wished all God's blessings and presented each of them a gift to honor them. The program ended in the spirit of joy with a fellowship meal.

### Academic Year Begins

**CUDDALORE** - St. Joseph's Evening School was solemnly inaugurated on July 29th for the 2018-2019 academic year by Fr. John Paul, Director of Don Guanella Boys Home, in the eminent presence of the community fathers. This education assistance program is mainly to enhance the moral and academic formation of the poor slum children in our area. In his presidential address, Fr. John Paul spoke about the great opportunity to improve their knowledge and morals. He also encouraged the teachers and Fr. S. Arockia Raj to lead the group well. That same day Don Guanella Oratory was also inaugurated by Fr. John Paul. "To be cheerful Children and principled persons" is the plan of the year for the oratory. It is a great blessing for




the children to develop their morality as well as improve their extracurricular activities. With the colorful cultural programs and refreshments the program came to an end with the vote of thanks proposed by Fr. Arockia Raj.





*"Love Hardships than Comforts"*  
(St. Guanella)



**Dear.....**

*With joy and profound gratitude, We the Servants of Charity, (Guanellians) invite you to join us in the Eucharistic Celebration on the occasion of Perpetual Profession of our beloved Brothers*


*Presided by*  
**Rev. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC**  
Provincial Superior, Divine Providence Province



Date: 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2018  
Time: 6.00 PM  
Place: St. Joseph's Seminary, Cuddalore.



**Rev. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC**  
Provincial Superior,  
Divine Providence Province

**Your esteemed presence is highly expected**






Br. C. Paul Br. V. Rambabu  
Br. S. Kumar Br. G. Suresh  
Br. C. Jesudoss Br. X. ThambuSamy  
Br. R. Arun Br. V. Johnson

*"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."*  
(Jn.13:15)



**Dear.....**

*With joy and profound gratitude to God we, the Servants of Charity, (Guanellians) invite you to join us in the joyfull occasion of the Holy Orders.*

***Diaconal Ordination***  
Br. R. Arun, Br. C.Jesu Doss, Br. S. Kumar,  
Br. V. Rambabu, Br.C. Paul Dhinakaran,  
Br. V. Johnson, Br. G. Suresh &  
Br. X:ThambuSamy

***Priestly Ordination***  
**Dn. Abraham, SdC**  
**Dn. Arockia Doss, SdC**

**BY**

**Most Rev. Dr. Antony Anandarayar. D.D., DCL.**  
Archbishop of Pondy-Cuddalore

Time: 10.00 am  
Date: 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2018  
Place: St. Joseph's Seminary, Cuddalore.

**Rev. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC**  
Provincial Superior,  
Divine Providence Province




Dn. Abraham  
Dn. A. Doss



## Out at the Ball Game

**CHELSEA** - Thanks to the Detroit Tigers Foundation several of the SLC residents were able to head out to Comerica Park to watch the Tigers play a game live on July 6th. Direct Care Staff helped the residents find their seats and later select their favorite foods from the concession stands. They all enjoyed the chance to visit this world class baseball stadium.



## Honoring Deceased Cooperators

**GRASS LAKE** - The Guanellian Cooperators dedicated a bench to the memory of the deceased members on July 12th. The bench will sit amongst all the other benches at the Calvary outdoor worship space at the Pious Union/Shrine of St. Joseph. Tom Herron, Larry Kranick, Doug Nadeau and Lana Senart are the first four members to be memorialized. Cooperators, Servants of Charity priests and friends and family of the deceased enjoyed a picnic meal and some time of fellowship following the dedication.



## Golfing for Good

**CHELSEA** - The generosity of the many Italian-American groups is astounding. The Italian American Delegates hosted a golf outing July 16th to benefit many worthy causes in the greater Detroit area. Fr. Enzo Addari took a couple of SLC residents to Twin Lakes Golf Club to receive a contribution from the proceeds of the outing. The guests were all pleased to see how happy the residents were to take part in the event.



## Making Powerful Connections

**CHELSEA** - Staff members from the office of US Senator Debbie Stabenow. They were invited to visit St. Louis Guanella Village and the new Children's Homes to see first hand the quality care afforded by St. Louis Center programs. Fr. Enzo Addari and PR Director Joe Yekulis presented their concerns about the Home and Community Based Services Bill that is going into affect. Their hope is to gain the Senator's support for the programs offered at St. Louis Center.



## Superhero Sighting

**CHELSEA** - As part of Fitness for Life Summer Camp at St. Louis Center, the entire campus participated in a Superhero Fun Run on July 19th. Each resident created their own superhero profile, chose a mask to dress as their favorite superhero and walked or ran laps around the Special Needs Playground. After everyone completed at least eight laps, watermelon was served to help cool down from the exercise. They were all truly superheros that night.



## In Memoriam

**CHELSEA** - On July 21st 26 teams of golfers joined the family of Douglas Nadeau for a round at Pierce Lake Golf Course. Many generous sponsors and the Nadeau family helped provide the many golfers with a great afternoon of food, fellowship and fun. It was the best turnout in the history of the event.



## August Calendar of Events

- 1 Chelsea: Dad & Lad Outing to Benefit - SLC
- 5 Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
- 6 Transfiguration of the Lord
- 10 Chelsea: SLC Residents attend Lugnuts Baseball Game
- 12 Grass Lake: Mother of Divine Providence Day- PUSJ
- 15 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 19 Grass Lake: St. Joseph Day- PUSJ
- 21 St. Pius X, Pope
- 22 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary →
- 24 St. Bartholomew, Apostle
- 29 The Passion of St. John the Baptist
- 29-31 Kumbakonam: Feast of Our Lady of Good Health - Chinnamalkalari

## Best Wishes and Prayers to:

- 1 Fr. Charles Promiyo S.: birthday; Fr. Alphonse Maria Ligory C.: feast day
- 5 Fr. Bakthiswalagan: birthday; Fr. Nevis: feast day
- 6 Bro. Periyannayagam M.: birthday; Fr. Amalorpavanathan R., Fr. Anandhan T., Fr. Antony Samy A., Fr. Arputharaj J., Fr. Bakthiswalagan A., Fr. Jegan Patrick Daniel, Fr. Franklin Arockia Doss M., Fr. Leo Joseph X., Fr. Paul Francis A., Fr. Paulraj P., Fr. Perianayagasamy A., Fr. Sagaya Raj S., Fr. Samson Rajasegaren J., Fr. Shantham R., Fr. Vincent S.: ordination day
- 8 Fr. Dominic Sebastian Baskar: feast day
- 10 Fr. Lawrence Thampusamy R., Fr. Enzo Addari: feast day
- 11 Bro. Kumar S.: birthday; Fr. Prakash Philemen Raj: feast day
- 12 Fr. Shantham R., Bro. Rambabu V.: birthday
- 13 Dn. Arockia Doss J.: birthday
- 15 Fr. David J., Bro. Deva P.: birthday; Fr. Arputharaj J.: feast day
- 16 Fr. Franklin Arockia Doss M.: birthday
- 18 Fr. Adaikalam, Fr. Paul Arockiaraj, Fr. David Anburaj T., Fr. Bernandes, Fr. Charles Promiyo: ordination day
- 20 Fr. Bernandes, Fr. Maria Julian Bernard L.: feast day
- 22 Bro. Suresh, Bro. Yesu Babu Kota: birthday; Fr. Achariyam, Fr. Amal Raj, Fr. Anil Francis Kumar K., Fr. Arockia Vanathaiyan A., Fr. Badugu Christu Raju, Fr. Maria Julian Bernard L., Fr. Charles A., Fr. Dominic Sebastian Baskar, Fr. Edal Vinoth Joe, Fr. Gabriel G., Fr. John Kennedy A., Fr. John Peter A., Fr. Joseph Fernandez S., Fr. Anthony Kalai Selvan, Fr. Kanikkai Raj A., Fr. Loyola Diraviam M., Fr. Michael Durai Samy A., Fr. Periyannayagam M., Fr. Prakesh Philemen Raj, Fr. Rishar Raffie Jegan S., Fr. Selvakani, Fr. Stalin S., Fr. Francis Sunil Kumar D., Fr. Wellington, Fr. Vincent M., Fr. Vissampalli Maria Balayesu, Fr. Antony Xavier R.: ordination day



- 24 Bro. Giu-Se Khiet: birthday
- 25 Fr. Louis Baskar A.: feast day
- 26 Fr. Samson Rajasekaran J.: birthday
- 29 Fr. Gnanaraj: birthday
- 31 Fr. Loyola Diraviam: birthday

## Reflections

MIDWEEK  
FROM PIOUS UNION OF ST. JOSEPH

In February, the Pious Union of St. Joseph will begin sharing an email offering a Midweek Reflection. Reflections will be quotes from the Bible or by Saints offering you a moment of reflection in the midst of your week.

Interested in receiving the weekly reflection to your inbox? Please share your email address with Kelly Flaherty at [kellyf@stlouiscenter.org](mailto:kellyf@stlouiscenter.org).

Have questions or comments about this newsletter? Email the Communications and Community Relations Office at: [kellyf@stlouiscenter.org](mailto:kellyf@stlouiscenter.org)