

Brother Sharing

The Newsletter of Capuchin Province of Krist Jyoti



Br. Suresh Mathew



Br. Freddie



Br. Dominic Thirunilath



Br. Jose Stephen



Br. Justin Kattamala

Remembrance of the
fraternal love we shared...

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith. (2 Timothy 4/7)*

A loving tribute to our beloved



BR. WILFRED

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace”



Published by : Br. Benoy Joseph
THE CAPUCHIN PROVINCE OF KRIST JYOTI, INDIA
D-2 Kaushambi, Ghaziabad Dt., U.P. 201010
Ph: 01204113091, kristjyotiacaps@gmail.com

(For Private Circulation Only)

Printed at :
Jyoti Printers, C-12, Sector 8, Noida, Ph: 9790630835

IT IS THE FAVOURABLE TIME.....



Dear Brothers,

Last time when we met during the Lent, I had made a call to change the pattern of Lent in our lives. Thoughts were shared and invited you all to add a spiritual discipline into our lives. This time I would like to highlight on the spiritual wellness of our religious life.

Our constitution reminds us to take a great care of our religious profession by means of an intense sacramental life centred above all on the Eucharist and fervent Prayer (Cf. Cost.33:6). If we look at the present world we see people burdened with fear and anxiety. These two emotions could either spring one into prayer or paralyse the ability to communicate with God. It is a time for all of us to look into ourselves whether we are in an empty void within, which prevents the experience of God's healing presence. If we choose prayer, it is therapeutic for the one who experiences anguish, anxiety and pain. Thus I would like to draw your attention on our **personal prayer**.

A consistent prayer life facilitates and enhances personality integration. For us religious, prayer is the most effective means to deal with the stresses in our life and ministry. It gives a sense of security. It is sure that prayer can transcend human conflicts and tragedies. Personal prayer offers an opportunity for us to share our stresses and tension with God. When we are busy and involved in many activities it is essential for us to have some moments to be alone with God in quietness and peace. If we do not have recourse to personal prayer, do not evaluate our life before God, and find serenity in our hearts, it will be hard to find fulfilment in our ministry and life. In our personal prayer we surrender our whole being and ministry to God, letting the one to take over the rudder of religious life.

We are men of God, dedicating long moments to prayer, asking the Lord continuously for the gift of the wisdom that can discern every occasion

according to God, and to be able in this way, to guarantee our fraternities the time and quality of prayer and also of discernment. It is our responsibility especially of Guardians and others who are entrusted with the care of the spiritual life, to do their best to ensure that all the brothers make progress in the knowledge and practice of mental prayer (const. 54:5)

Today the religious life in our perspective is under siege from many directions. The people whom we serve expect us to allot time each day to personal prayer. No one needs a religious who "says his prayers", but everyone needs a religious who is a replica of prayer itself.

Very often we make a compromise with our prayer life and activities. We see in the fraternities, that the friars are burned with the zeal for the people or for the institutions. We need to maintain a balance between the prayer life and countless activities. Let us pledge that we never leave our official prayers of the church and together with it let us strive to develop a habit of personal prayer. I stress on this aspect because during the canonical visitation I have experienced the lack of prayer

in our fraternities. It brings disunity among us. Let us not promote individualism. We need fraternal help, listen others and dialogue with the other one. This is the only way we can be united in full fraternity and participates in the apostolic and ministerial service.

Dear Brothers, I invite you to put your trust in the Lord, who guides the journey of the friars, and to put trust also in the friars who are entrusted to you themselves. Let us take the personal prayer as the food for the path realizing that all other things will be a failure without prayer. So this is the acceptable and favourable time.

May Mary our mother intercede for all of us. She is an example for us who could find answer for every anxiety and fear she had. St. Francis, our father conversed with the Lord before doing anything and that is what the Lord has shown him. But at the end the Lord said "thy will be done". We too are here to repeat the same 'Lord thy will be done according to you'.

May God bless you all.

Br. Benoy Joseph
Provincial Minister

Secretary's Table

- Br. Biju K Baby has gone to Sharjah to replace Br. Joji who is in Kerala for holidays.
- Br. Provincial has laid the foundation stone for the Rest house at Jyotinetan, Dasna Masuri on 1st May 2018.
- Work in progress at St. Paul's Academy Shahbad for a multi purpose hall on the third floor of the school building.
- St. Joseph's School Bhrariwal is permitted to construct six class rooms and a hall on the existing building.
- Infant Jesus School, Hiranagar is permitted to construct two class rooms.
- Construction of the class rooms at Holy Angels' School, Shalimar Garden is progressing.
- Kristjyoti Provincialate renovation is successfully completed.
- Indian Currents Office renovation is completed.
- St. Joseph School Rattenpura roof work has done.
- Friary Construction at Bilaspur is in its full swing and hoping to complete by the end of August.
- Br. Paul Bhuria and Albin have attended a Franciscan Course from 1st of May to 15th of May at Kottagiri, TN
- Br. K.T James is undergoing the Homeo Treatment and at present he is in the Provincialate. He is healthy.
- Seven brothers are promoted to the Pre-novitiate, Muduballe, Uduppi, Karnataka.
- Bros. Dibas Minz, Dilash Minz, Rejoice Jose, Tapon Pani, David Tirkey and Siljo are promoted to the Novitiate.
- Bros. Edwin Dhanwar, Tomson Tomy, Akash, John (Lakshman) and Akshay Kumar (Sunil) have made their first profession at Monte Mariano, Farangipet on 16th May 2018.
- A plot of land measuring 1 ¼ acres was bought at Mastkot, adjacent to St. Thomas School on 23rd May 2018.
- Land measuring 261 Gaj bought for the parking facility at St. Joseph's School Amritsar, in the month of March.
- Br. Provincial attended the National CRI from 27th May to 30th May at Chennai.
- Bros. Sijo Paulose and Sanjay Tirkey are promoted for theological studies.
- Br. Ramesh Majhi a regent and Br. Jiss Abraham a third year philosophy student have left the Order for good.
- Br. Ashok William will continue his Regency at Kristraja Ashram Dasna, Masuri.

- Br. Mobin Boss has completed his philosophical studies and will be doing his regency at Jyotinetan Minor Seminary, Masuri.
- Bros. Ruben Kujur, Kantu Katara, Nobile John, Jespin Chacko and Lenin Davis are promoted for Solemn Profession and it will be held on 21st July 2018 at Kartarpur.

Canonical visitation of the Provincial (Final Phase)

- Alverna Ashram Delhousie - 27th evening to 29th June morning
- St. Francis Ashram Batala - 4th July afternoon to 5th afternoon
- St. Thomas Ashram Kalanur - 5th July evening to 6th afternoon
- St. Fidelis Ashram Mastkot - 6th July evening to 7th afternoon
- Shantibhavan Dayalgarh - 7th July evening to 8th evening
- Rattenpura & Tamesra, Rajastan - 10th July evening to 15th July

Transfers and Appointments

Br. Anoop Puthamparayil appointed member at St. Francis Ashram Batala.

Br. Jose M.J is transferred to Shantiniketan, Sahibabad and appointed Co- Parish Priest.

Br. Thomas Kakuzhy is transferred to Jyotinetan Minor Seminary and appointed Staff member.

Br. Philmon Minj is transferred to St. Fidelis Friary Mastkot.

Br. Albin Antony is transferred to St. Thomas Ashram, Kalanur.

Br. Justin Katamala will be replacing Br. Joji Plamparambil who will be back to the Province by the end of August 2018.

- Jyotinetan, Minor seminary, Dasna Masuri will be reopened on 3rd July 2018.
- All our schools have scored hundred percentage results in all the boards. Congratulations to all the friars who are engaged in school ministry.
- Provincial, Br. Benoy Joseph will be leaving to Italy for the General Chapter on 20th August 2018 and will proceed to meet Bros. Biju Choorapadath and Binoy Augustine at Detroit, USA and will be back on 28th September 2018. Let us pray for the success of the General Chapter.
- CCMSI meeting will be held from 8th October 2018 to 11th October 2018 at St. Fidelis friary, Lucknow.
- Date for the Extra-ordinary Chapter will be on 5th to 8th November 2018. Kindly note the dates and make your travel arrangements in time and let us pray for the success of the Chapter. Further details will be given later.

CONTINENTAL MEETING ON RATIO FORMATIONIS

(BANGKOK, THAILAND, 26 FEB – 02 MARCH 2018)

■ By Br. Jacob Kani

The Asian continental meeting of Capuchin Formation Secretaries / Formators from all the Asian Capuchin Conferences took place in the Camilian Pastoral Centre, Bangkok, Thailand from 26 February to 02 March 2018. 33 friars, belonging to the Conferences of ASMEN, CCMSI, PACC, and that of the Formation Secretariat, participated in this meeting, organised by the General Council on Formation of Capuchin General Curia. I represented our Province.

This was the last in the se-

ries of continental meetings organized to gather responses and suggestions of friars from all over the world, in order to formulate the final draft on *Ratio Formationis*, which is to be submitted to the General Council before the coming General Chapter.

The meeting started on 26 February at 9.30 am with the Holy Mass presided over by Br. Michael Fernandes, the General Councillor for CCMSI, and the inaugural address by him thereafter. The objectives and the methodology were ex-



plained to the participants by Bros. Charles Alphonse and Jaime Rey, the General Secretary and Vice- General Secretary of Formation respectively.

In the afternoon session, Bros. Francis Christi, Clarence Hayat and Tony Tantiono presented the Conference updates and realities of CCMSI, ASMEN and PACC respectively. Br. Joel de Jesus of PACC secretariat moderated the day's proceedings.

introduced the all important aspect of culture in the formation, life and ministry of Capuchins all over. The participants were given three questions on the aspects of culture in relation to Capuchin life, and they discussed them in their respective Conference groups, under the guidance of an animator from the Formation Secretariat. Then the Secretaries of each group presented the responses and pro-



On 27 February, the session started at 8.45 am with the reading of the Word of God, prayer, and silent reflection. Br. Francis Christi of CCMSI moderated the day's proceedings, and the theme for the day was 'Culture and Capuchin Formation'. It started with a video talk by General Minister Br. Mauro Johri, who

posals of the concerned group to the assembly. In the afternoon session, these assembly presentations were further reviewed in the groups, and the final evaluation was again presented to the assembly.

On 28 February, Br. Clarence Hayat of ASMEN moderated the proceedings. Br. Charles

Alphonse presented the day's theme, 'Psycho-Sexual Affectivity', in relation to the Capuchin formation and life. Thereafter, the related questions were discussed in the groups and the responses presented to the assembly, and also the second group discussion and the final evaluation again in the assembly. After the dinner, there was a gathering of the formators of respective Conferences to discuss matters pertaining to formation in their Conference.

On 1 March, Br. Toni Tantonio of PACC moderated the day's proceedings. Br. Jaime Rey presented the theme, *Ratio Studiorum*. As in the preceding days, the participants discussed the related questions in the groups and presented the responses to the assembly, after which more questions and clarifications were made on the subject. Based on these, further questions were made and the same discussed in the groups and the responses again presented to the assembly.

On 2 March, the final day of the meeting, Br. John Peter from CCMSI presented the final synthesis of the whole

presentations and discussions. He made a very objective and critical evaluation of the themes, discussions and presentations from an Asian-Pacific cultural context. While he appreciated the whole planning and meetings, he also pointed out the shortcomings in the presentations. More emphasis is needed on developing Capuchin culture and charism rooted in the Asian-Pacific cultural and inter-religious context, he argued.

Thereafter the participants made their observations, comments and suggestions regarding the meeting. Everyone thanked General Minister Br. Mauro and the General Council for this initiative, Br. Michael Fernandes, and the Formation Secretariat, especially Bros. Charles Alphonse, Jaime Rey, and Francis Christi for organizing the meeting very effectively. They thanked other members of the team and Bros. Walter Morgante (Custos, Thailand), Antonio Sompop (from Thailand), and Joel de Jesus (from Philippines) for the arrangements they made for the success of this meeting. Many of them also expressed that they ex-

pected the three chapters of *Ratio Formationis* to have discussed during the meeting. At the end of the session Br. Charles thanked each and everyone for their active participation and shared his appreciation for the contributions of various teams and local organizers. With that the curtain came down for the Asian Continental meeting on *Ratio Formationis*.

It is to be mentioned that the meeting was well planned and organized to the satisfaction of all concerned. Under the guidance of Br. Joel and the host Br. Walter Morgante, everything possible was made to receive all the participants, and in providing them with comfortable stay and accommodation. They did immense services, looking after every minute aspect of the meeting, earning appreciation and praise from everyone.

The friars from each Conference took up the responsibility of organizing the liturgy and Mass for each day.

The members of the Formation Secretariat did a wonderful work in organising and animating the whole proceed-

ings to meet its objectives. The participants showed due seriousness and fraternal spirit to make the meeting a success with their active and whole hearted participation. The participatory methodology helped in pooling together valuable information, sharing, suggestions and proposals that would contribute towards finalizing the draft of *Ratio Formationis* which would adequately reflect the Asia-Pacific perspectives.

Bros. Walter and Antonio were very generous to take the participants out on 2 March afternoon for a marvellous cultural show and dinner, on 3rd for an outing to the city, and on 4th to the Capuchin friary in Bangkok. Everyone enjoyed their stay in Bangkok, thanks to the goodness and generosity of these brothers.

Thanks to the Good Lord and to the good friars for this successful meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. We wait to see the result in the final official document of *RATIO FORMATIONIS* approved by the forthcoming General Chapter and released by the new Minister General.

Krist Jyoti, Kaushambi

Greetings of peace and joy from Krist Jyoti, Kaushambi,

Guardians' Meeting

20th and 21st Feb. were special days for the Guardians of our province. All 24 Guardians attended the meeting. Br. Mathew Paikada from St. Joseph Province, Kerala was the resource person. Even though his health was not that well, still he came to animate the meeting. His classes and talks were inspiring and motivating to be a Franciscan Guardian. Thank you brother for spending your valuable time with us.

Bp. Francis Kalist's Visit

As part of his canonical visit to our parish at Suryanagar, on 25th Feb. Bp. Francis Kalist visited and spent some time with us. It was really enriching to hear his early life in the mission as a priest. Br. K.T. James too refreshed some of his memories along with Bp. Kalist.

Loss of a Great Missionary

It was very sad to hear the demise of Br. Wilfred Mubark on 7th of March 2018,

who was with us in our mission for long time and led us as Superior Regular for three terms. He was sick and was in Assisi Ashram at Bharananganam. Burial was on 10th March 2018. May Br. Wilfred, the great missionary and man of creativity, Rest in Peace.

Canonical Visitation

On 15th and 16th March, the Vicar Provincial made his canonical visitation in our community. Br. Dominic was here to talk to us and encourage us. It was a good time to realize that each one is loved and cared. Br. Dominic met each one of us personally and then towards the end there was a community meeting.

Celebration of Easter

With lots of enthusiasm and vigor, the Provincialate community celebrated the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. Every Friday after the Holy Mass we celebrated the way of the cross. During the Holy Week we had the services in our community. Each one took his turn to lead the service each day.

Jubilee Celebration 50 & 25

5th of April 2018 was a great day for the Krist Jyoti province. It was a day to thank and praise God with Br. Dominic Thirunilath and Bros. Suresh Mathew, Jose Stephen, Justin Joseph and Freddie for 50 & 25 years of religious profession respectively. We celebrated the Golden and Silver Jubilee of their religious profession at St. Paul's Academy, Ghaziabad. The Jubilarians celebrated the Holy Eucharist. Br. Joseph Panthiruvellil delivered the sermon about their life as religious. Br. Suresh Mathew gave the vote of thanks. Brothers of Prem Jyoti Custody led the choir. Several priests and sisters from the nearby communities and friars from far and wide joined us for the celebration. Thanks to St. Paul's community and other friars who worked hard for the day.

Principals & Managers Meet

There was a meeting of Principals and Managers of Ghaziabad zone at Kaushambi to discuss about the challenging problems faced by the minority community, especially on their education institutions.

Visit of US Provincial and Councillor

Bros. Michael Sullivan, the provincial and David Preuss, one of the councillors of St. Joseph Province USA were here from 29th April 2018 to 5th of May for a visit. They had a short visit to our communities at Rampur, Bilaspur, Shahbad, Dasna, Ghaziabad and Sahibabad. They also had visited Agra and Delhi. They managed the heat and food of this place. Thanks a lot for your fraternal visit.

Evaluation of Brothers

14th March 2018 was a day for the evaluation of our brothers in formation. Provincial and Councillors spent one day at Krist Jyoti, Kaushambi for the evaluation.

Regents' Meeting

3 Regents and their in-charge Br. Alex were here on 24th April 2018 for a meeting. Br. Alex took them for an outing and refreshment. These brothers have completed their regency in different communities and went home for vacation. After the holidays they attended one month Counseling course at Barlowganj. By

the end of June they will be in St. Francis Ashram, Kartarpur for Theology studies.

New Face for Provincial House

We are happy to inform you that when you visit the Provincial house, you will find a modified and renewed refectory, chapel and rooms which are more spacious and comfortable. Thanks to Bros. Benoy Joseph and Binu Mathew for the same.

Thank you for your visit

We were happy to have num-

ber of guests to our community. Br. Sojan of St. Joseph province, Kottayam was with us almost one month for writing his exams. Bishop Francis Kalist, Bros. Johan Paul, Cyriac, Benny C J, Albin, Alex, Biju K Baby, Bibin of Prem Jyoti, Fr. John Paul from J & K Diocese, Fr. Agin FMJ, Fr. Bijo CST, relatives of Br. Benoy Joseph, Michael and Binu, and many friars from the nearby communities visited the Provincialate. Thank you, and do come again.

St. Antony's Bhavan, Suryanagar

Pastoral Visit by Bishop Francis Kalist

Bishop Francis Kalist visited Holy Redeemer's Parish on 23rd February, 2018. He confirmed 15 children, of which 3 were our brothers from Jyotinetan, Masuri. Incidentally, Br. Suresh celebrated his birthday on the same day. All wished the Parish Priest a very happy birthday and many more returns of the day. Everyone was given lunch after Eucharist.

Guardian's Birthday

Though Br. Suresh's birthday was during the Lenten season, everyone gathered at the Ashram on 24th February evening and had a sumptuous dinner. Without the traditional Litany of Virtues, Br. Provincial wished him all the success in life and congratulated him on ICPA award for Indian Currents.

Guardian's Jubilee

Silver Jubilee of our guardian was celebrated along with others on a grand scale in St. Paul's Academy, Raj Nagar,

Ghaziabad on 5th April. Later on 22 April, the parishioners wished him all the best and the youth conducted a brief felicitation programme. The parish council arranged refreshments for all. Br. Binu Mathew concelebrated representing the Kaushambi Community. Thank you Br. Binu for joining us for the Jubilee celebrations.

Retreats are to be followed up

Brs. Suresh and Cletus attended a retreat at USM, Indore during the Holy Week preached by Fr. Varghese Alengaden. It was very inspirational and very different from traditional retreats. The many resolutions made and tasks given during the week, if followed up, will result in flowering of personalities in the religious life.

Friar for all Ashrams

Br. Jose M J is a much sought after friar this season. Br. Johnny Lonis invited him to Kuwait to help him out during the Lenten season in February and March. He returned with lots of experiences. Then



he went home to visit his ailing mother and brother. After he returned, he was asked to serve at Krist Raja Hostel, Masuri for two weeks as all three friars there were on leave. He returned from Masuri and soon went to Shantiniketan, Sahibabad as Br. Simon was alone there. The saying, "Man for all seasons" is very true in the life of humble friar Jose M J and we may call him "Friar for all Ashrams".

Brs. Jose and Cletus celebrate Feast

On 29th April, everyone wished Brs. Jose M J and Cletus on their Patron's day. In the morning, the parishioners wished them a happy feast. The parish council arranged

refreshments for all. At noon sisters from Sahibabad and Suryanagar were given grand lunch. Our friars gathered for dinner and everyone enjoyed the hospitality.

Br. Thomas Kakkuzhy is back

Br. Thomas returned after his long holidays and is busy in the community. He is an excellent cook and a great community person. When he is around, joy bubbles and we feel that a true senior and happy friar is around. We really enjoy his presence and missed him very much in the last months when he was away. The youth of the parish and many people cherish his company.

**NEXT ISSUE OF
BROTHER SHARING :
SEPTEMBER 2018**

*Kindly send your news, articles,
photos of the celebrations to
The Editor, before 15th of September, 2018
Email : brothersharing16@gmail.com*

*Congratulations to
Br. Anoop Abraham our new priest*





*Congratulations to
Dn. Sinto Paulose & Dn. Alphons Nayak*

St. Paul's Academy, Shahabad

X Class Board Exam

About 75 students of Xth class had appeared for their CBSE board exam, between 6th - 28th March. With prayers good wishes, we are waiting for their results. Thanks to the Principal, staff and management who prepared them for the exams.

Coaching Class on Spoken English and Games

During holidays after exams, other students are given chance to improve their spoken English and games like foot ball, volley ball and hockey. Those students have benefited a lot from the coaching classes.

Seminar and Motivation Classes

On 1st April, there was a motivational class for workers and drivers, conducted by some of our teachers themselves. The inputs and messages given by the teachers are well appreciated. On 2nd April, the Principal had arranged a seminar for teachers before the beginning of academic year 2018-19. The resource person was Br. Baiju Chalakkal, who cleared many doubts of the teachers. They have appreci-

ated the sessions of Br. Baiju.

Re-opening

On 4th April, we have officially begun the new academic year with a small prayer service. The Manager, principal and students lighted the lamp to invoke the blessings of God. Students had the investiture ceremony thereafter.

Visitation of Provincial

Br. Benoy Joseph reached Shahabad on 18th April and remained with us till 19th evening. We extended a warm welcome to him with bouquet during the assembly. His visit enhanced us with his spiritual, moral and brotherly support to do the will of God according to the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. Thanks Br. Benoy for your fraternal visit and support.

Guests

We give special thanks to the friars who paid visit to Shahabad ashram, namely Bros. Binu, Baiju, Benoy Joseph, Jojo, George William, Celsus Paramban, Jay Prakash, Cyriac, Cletus, Jose E., Anoop, Suresh, Jose V., Freddie and Justin K. Come and visit us again.

Holy Angels' Sr. Sec. School, Sahibabad

Holy Angels' Sr. Sec. School, Sahibabad is once again present to the readers of Brother's Sharing in this issue. The academic year went very smoothly and came to an end with the Board Exam. The retired members of the staff were given a befitting send-off on 7th April 18. The school remembers with gratitude the wonderful service they have rendered to the school.

ASISC Zonal Basketball Competition

ASISC Zonal Basketball competitions for girls under 16 and 17 were held in the Holy Angels' Sr. Sec. School, Sahibabad on 26th and on 27th, and then the competitions for girls under 18 and 19. All the final matches were held on 28th April 2018. During the opening ceremony, the Holy Angelians performed a colorful dance and welcomed all the participants, teachers and other guests. We extended a warm and hearty welcome to the Chief Guest of the day - Fr. Benoy Joseph, the Chairman of St. Paul's Educational & Charitable Society. The Chief Guest cheered the teams, and inaugurated the Basketball matches of the season in our zone. Fourteen

teams from eleven schools participated in it

On 28th, Fr. Shinoj, the ASISC Zonal Co-ordinator, was invited for the closing ceremony. He praised the management, staff and students of our school for making all the arrangements for the smooth conducting of the competitions and the hospitality rendered to each participating school. He distributed the medals and trophies to the winners. Fr. Simon Kottoor, Fr. Jojo, Fr. Rijo, and Fr. Cletus were present to witness the competitions and encourage the students. Rev. Fr. Byju P., the Principal of Holy Angels' Sr. Sec. School, congratulated all the participants for their spirit and good sportsmanship. He thanked all the officials and dignitaries for their availability.

The School Results

The ICSE and ISC school results were declared on 14th May and the school has secured 100% pass results in both the groups, and a good many students came out in flying colors. Hearty congratulations to the school principal, staff and students in keeping high the school's name and honor.

Jyotiniketan, Masuri

Greetings! Glad to share the news from our seminary and community.

Retreat

Br. Thomas Menappattu preached the retreat for the seminarians from 17 - 20 January 2018 in Jyoti Niketan. They were spiritually renewed and refreshed after the spirit-filled sessions of Br. Menappattu. Bros. Thomas Kakkuzhi, Jose M.J. and Paul Bhuria joined him for confession. Thanks to all of them.

Picnic



The staff and students of Jyoti Niketan were out on a picnic on February 12, before the Lenten season set in. They enjoyed the whole day in Pratagarh Farm in Haryana, away from the bells and calls of seminary, and with lot of fun, food and games.

Bangkok Meeting on Ratio Formationis

On February 25, Br. Jacob Kani left for Bangkok, Thailand for the Asian continental meeting on the *Ratio Formationis*, representing Krist Jyoti Province. (See the report given separately)

Classes on Psycho-Sexuality

Br. Prasannan came down to Jyoti Niketan and took classes on Psycho-Sexuality for the students from Feb 26 - 28. It definitely helped the students in understanding the basics of these issues and clarifying many of their doubts and concerns. Thanks to Br. Prasannan.

Feast of JP

The Feast of Br. Joseph Jaiprakash was celebrated on March 19, for which our Provincial and friars from the neighbouring communities were present.



Visitation

The Provincial Visitation took place on March 20 – 21. He met the friars individually and in common, and also had meeting with the students. It was a fruitful time of sharing and planning various aspects of our fraternal life and ministry.

Exam and Vacation

The annual exams of the students were held from March 19 to 24, just before the Holy Week. The first year students went home for their vacation on March 26, before the Easter, and the second and third years later after their public exams. A small group of students was always there to attend to the needs of Br. Raymond and taking care of the house.

Thank You Br. Sijo

Br. Sijo Paulose, the Regent



in Jyoti Niketan, left for Kerala for holidays after the completion of his regency. He was a gift and blessing for the community here. The Rector thanked him for his lively presence, valuable services, both for the students and for the senior friars, especially in their medical needs, and above all, for his dedication, commitment and exemplary life. We thank him for everything, pray for more blessings, and wish him the Best in his next stage of formation.

Rector's Birthday

The Birthday of Br. Jacob Kani was celebrated on April 23, with an evening prayer session followed by dinner. Our Provincial, friars and Holy Cross Sisters came together to wish him and pray for him.



Rest House / Infirmary

On May 1, the foundation stone was laid for the rest house (Infirmary) for the sick friars by Br. Benoy Joseph, our Provincial, in the presence of Bros. Michael Sullivan, the Provincial, and David Preuss, Councillor, of St. Joseph Province, USA, friars and sisters from the Holy Cross communities. The construction work has just begun.

Vocation Camp

Br. Thomas Menappattu took the initiative in organising a vocation camp in Jyotiniketan in May for the students from Meerut diocese. Similarly, Provincial and Br. Jacob Kani went to Batala friary to meet the students who came there for vocation camp organised by Br. Johan Paul.

Gone to Pre-novitiate

This year 8 students have been promoted to the Pre-novitiate from here. Since one of them failed in his Plus Two exam, 7 will be proceeding to the Pre-novitiate in Udupi, Karnataka.

Thanks to all who visited Jyoti Niketan. Do come again.

St. Crispin's Friary, Detroit, USA

Greetings and love from Detroit.

At last the long awaited spring has arrived. The temperature wanders around 20 degree celsius. Rain and sun do play hide and seek. Our yards are fully green on the ground. Different types of trees and bushes, with different colors of flowers, are brimming with life and indeed awesome to sight.

Our community has grown to eight as one more friar (Jim Hast) is added to the community. The joy of Jim being in the community is doubled as he brought along with him Molly, his pet rabbit. Another reason for the exceptional happiness in the community was the visit of General Councillor Br. Mark Schenk.

Our Retreat Centre has become the center of attraction as we are having so many programs beside our usual re-

treats. A fund raiser program called "golf outing" was organized on May 11. Unfortunately it rained that day and the excitement of golf outing was not on the top. As we are in the 50th year of our Retreat Centre, activities are on full swing, to celebrate it on July 15.

The month of May 2108 was welcomed in a different mood. Early morning broke the news that Ms. Martha Kessel (92), mother of our Guardian Br. Jerry Kessel, left for her eternal reward. On 4th we had the wake (visit to mortal remains & prayers) and the next day was the funeral.

Brs. Michael and David, who stayed in our province for a week, do highly appreciate our friars. They expressed their experience of hospitality as something exceptional. Hats off, to you our brothers, for making them feel at home.

Newly Ordained:

Br. Anoop Abraham Poothampara

"Every brother is a gift from God," said our seraphic father St. Francis. Here we have Bro. Anoop Abraham, who is a true gift from God, and let's thank the Lord for the same.



Bro. Anoop Abraham was born on 17 July 1986 as the first born of Mr. P.J. Abraham and Mrs. Thressiamma Abraham at Malakkallu, in Kasaragod district of Kerala. He is blessed with a younger brother and sister. After his elementary education, being inspired by the life of St. Francis of Assisi, he joined the Capuchins at Jyoti Niketan Minor Seminary, Masuri in 2004. Bro. Anoop made his First Profession on 15th May 2009 and Final Profession on 6th August 2016. He was ordained on 16th May 2018 by His Excellency Mar Joseph Pandarasseril at Lourdes Church, Malakkallu.

Bro. Anoop is a very simple and loving brother to all. His vibrant presence makes the community alive and active and it makes each one refreshed. Even if we spent only a little time with him it will be a time with lots of fun and laughter and that really enriches our minds. He is very jovial and others are touched by his natural and spontaneous behaviour. We pray that he will be able to gain many hearts for Jesus.

We wish him all good and blessings for his priestly ministry.

Br. Albin Antony

THUS SPEAK OUR JUBILARIANS...

The Golden Jubilee of the religious profession of Br. Dominic Thirunilath and the Silver Jubilee of Bros. Suresh Mathew, Jose Stephen, Freddie, and Justin Kattamala were celebrated on 5 April 2018 at St. Paul's, Ghaziabad.

The following are the sharing of these brothers about their vocation, life and ministry as told in a short interview:



Br. Dominic Thirunilath

Q: How did your family foster your vocation?

A: There are many priests and religious in my family. I am second of the four boys. I lost my mother in class VI. My grandparents took care of us. My grandfather, and later my uncle, were the headmasters of the village school. My parents took leadership roles in the parish. My maternal grandfather was Dominic and I got this name.

Q: A short report on your Capuchin formation?

A: In Bharananganam, Br. Symphorian was Rector and my uncle, Br. Gilbert, was superior. I had novitiate in Monte Mariano and made my profession in 1968. At Cal-

vary Ashram, Brs. Raymond and Claude were the Rectors. I did my regency in Nazareth Ashram, Aluva. For theological studies, I was sent to Pune where I stayed with Holy Cross fathers. In 1976, I was ordained a priest in my home parish at Kumbalam.

Q: About your option for the North Indian Missions and your service in the Missions?

A: Visiting missionaries inspired me to join the missions. The Mill Hill fathers wanted Capuchins from Kerala to take over from them in Kashmir. I was asked to do B.Ed and went over to Kashmir. I was military chaplain in Ud-hampur, and later served at school at Baramullah. When

Bp. Hyppolytus was appointed Prefect, I was asked to be his secretary in Srinagar. I took over Burnhall School from Br. Hugh. Later I went to Jammu and from there to St. Joseph's Centre, Rampur, U. P. I was in-charge of the brothers came for a year from Jyotini- ketan to Rampur. Then I was elected as Mission Superior and moved to Yamuna Vihar. Later, I served as Vice-Provincial and Principal of St. Francis' School, Batala. The new headquarters of the Krist Jyoti was shifted to Kaushambi and the Mission became a full-fledged province. Later I served at Barlowganj and am serving till date as Rector and Guardian at Kartarpur.



Br. Suresh Mathew

Q: Would you tell us about how you received your Capuchin vocation?

A: I was an altar boy and wished to become a priest. At high school, several vocation promoters started writing to me. It was then that I met Br. Thomas Thoppil Ofm Cap from my parish. He introduced me to the Capuchin

Q: Your message for the Province?

A: I am completing 50 years as a Capuchin. At this juncture, I remember all those who supported me and prayed for me during these years. We must appreciate the gratuitous gift of vocation to Capuchin way of life and constantly seek to live worthy of the gift. Cherish the gift and make use of all available means to grow into the life of holiness. "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much fruit" (John 12:24). *(As told to Br. Jose Kurian)*

Thank you brother and wish you everything best for the life ahead.

way of life. I went for a vocation camp in Calvary Ashram, Poothole and fell in love with the friars' way of life. I was especially touched by the life of St. Francis of Assisi. Thus I decided to be a Capuchin.

Q: Would you share about your path breaking pastoral initiatives in Indirapuram as a young parish priest?

A: In 2001, people of Vaishali, Vasundhara and Indirapuram had to travel to Suryanagar for Sunday Eucharist and Catechism for children. Suryanagar Church was not easily accessible by public transport then as it is now. People would prefer going to Noida or Trilokpuri to attend Sunday Mass. Brs. Alex and Xavier encouraged me to find an alternative arrangement. I contacted the Orthodox priest and he allowed us to offer Sunday Eucharist in the basement hall of St. Thomas' School, Indirapuram. From August 2001, we started offering Eucharist in Indirapuram. This arrangement was very convenient and the parish community grew from strength to strength and it gives me immense pleasure to see that Indirapuram is one of the biggest parishes of Meerut Diocese today.

Q: ICPA chose to honour Indian Currents for the work in journalism. Would you explain about your contribution to Indian Currents and the Indian Church?

A: Initially, I filled in the gap left by Br. Jacob Kani when he left for studies. I agreed to try my hand at being the editor

of Indian Currents. I pursued post graduation in Journalism from DU and later I completed my Ph D in Rome. For four years I have been publishing Indian Currents without a break now. All the articles in IC are original writings from secular minded journalists and interviews with political luminaries are published. Every copy is a prism into the socio-political atmosphere of India today. IC has its professed stand against fundamentalism in any colour without any shade of support for any one political party.

Q: Your message for the friars?

A: Confining ourselves to institutions is a disaster. Let us relate to each other in the true spirit of fraternity and brotherhood. We are brothers with a common goal and let us re-establish fraternities in our friaries. *(As told to Br. Cletus)*

Thank you very much Brother Suresh. I wish you all the blessings as you celebrate the Silver Jubilee of religious profession. May you continue to contribute to the Indian Church and society at large as a good pastor and a journalist.



Br. Freddie

Q: What inspired you to join the Krist Jyoti Mission of the Capuchins?

A: I desired to be a priest from my high school days. Fr. Chacko Mannicheril Ofm Cap came to my parish and spoke about the Capuchin way of life. I went to the vocation camp at Calvary Ashram, Thrissur and went to Bharananganam. The very next day, Br. Chacko Mannicheril asked me if I liked to go to the Missions. I agreed after speaking to my parents. The next day I went to Aluva to prepare to go to Krist Jyoti Missions.

Q: How did a bike accident change your life?

A: The accident was a blessing in disguise. The brain injury took about three years to



Br. Jose Stephen

Q: What was your inspiration to join the Capuchins?

A: I saw several Capuchins who preached Mission Retreat

heal. It had affected my memory, speech and vision. The whole experience brought me closer to God. He showed me abundant mercy. I am healthy now.

Q: Your thoughts on Capuchin life?

A: I am happy to be a Capuchin with my brothers in whichever communities I am posted. I am always happy and contented.

Q: Any thoughts for the new generation of Capuchins?

A: Joyful living is the trademark of Capuchin way of life. Live cheerfully our Capuchin way of Life. May God bless us all. *(As told to Br. Anoop Abraham)*

Thank you brother and wish you everything best for the life ahead.

in my parish when I was giving my Class X exams. There are several Capuchin friars from my parish. A booklet

given by the Capuchins contained the address of Vocation promoter. I wrote to him and he invited me to vocation camp. I was inspired by the photos of Capuchin Saints and I decided to join them. Fr. Gerson came from Rajasthan and spoke about the Missions in the North India. Thus I opted for North Indian Capuchin Missions.

Q: Your works and responsibilities?

A: I started my work as Assistant Parish Priest and Hostel Warden in Kalanaur. After six months, I was made parish priest. After a year, I was made Guardian of the friary. After five years, I went to Amritsar as Principal and Parish priest. Bharariwal parish was bifurcated then. Thereafter I moved to Joseph Nagar, Bilaspur as Guardian and Parish Priest. I returned to Kalanaur as the Parish Priest of Mastkot and Director of St. Thomas School, Mastkot. Staying in Kalanaur, the Friary cum

Church was constructed at Mastkot. Presently I am serving as Parish Priest at Rampur.

Q: Your expectations of Capuchin way of life and Missions? Are you satisfied with today's life in the Missions?

A: Our perception from the outside is vastly different from experience from within. There are many friars who inspired me with their good example. I was not discouraged at seeing bad examples. I consider the Order as my family. Everyone is not perfect in the family, and I accept the imperfections joyfully.

Q: Message for friars?

A: Love for the Capuchin Order is the most important thing in one's life. I request everyone to grow in this love for the Order. *(As told to Br. Sebastian Ullathottam)*

Thank you, and wish you everything best for the life ahead.



Br. Justin Kattamala

Q: What inspired you to join the Krist Jyoti Missions of the Capuchins?

A: I got an opportunity to attend a mission retreat preached by the capuchin fathers in my

parish. Later on Fr. Alphonse of happy memory visited my house and I made up my mind to join the capuchin order. Initially I was selected for St. Joseph's Province Kerala but later on I was asked to join the North Indian Missions.

Q: Your works and responsibilities after ordination?

A: I was ordained on 1st February 2001. My first appointment was at Hiranagar in the Diocese of Jammu and Kashmir. I was the assistant Parish Priest of Infant Jesus' Church and I had the opportunity to teach in the school. After the Chapter in December 2002, I was appointed as the Principal of Infant Jesus' school and Superior of Infant Jesus' Ashram. On 15th April 2004, I moved to Shantiniketan Ashram, Sahibabad as the Parish Priest of Holy Angels' Church and Manager of Holy Angels' School. I was also a full time teacher in the school. On 10th January 2006, I reached Batala and took over from Fr. Dominic as the Principal of St. Francis' School. I was transferred to St. Joseph's Ashram Bharariwal, Amritsar and took over from Fr. Cletus on 14 July 2014 as the Principal of St. Joseph's School. From June 2017 onwards, I am working as the Parish Priest of St. Joseph's Church and Manager of the school.

Q: Your expectations of Capu-

chin way of life and Missions? Are you satisfied with today's life in the Missions?

A: I am happy being a Capuchin. I am happy for what I am today. I have no much expectations because if expectations are not fulfilled it can give worries.

Q: You have been an educator and administrator for the past 18 years. What are your views on education in today's context?

A: Education in today's context is very challenging. It has become very difficult to run schools these days due to the interference from the government departments and new laws they are framing for schools. The expectations and demands of the parents are very high these days. Though teaching is considered as a noble profession, the teachers are not getting the due respect that they used to get in the past.

Q: You love to travel. Which is the most interesting place you visited?

A: Paris is the most beautiful place I travelled. The most memorable journey is from Geneva to Paris by double-decker train.

Q: Any message for the friars?

A: "Be compassionate as your Heavenly Father is compassionate".

Pearls of Wisdom

“

A Mistake which Makes Us Humble is Much Better Than an Achievement That Makes Us Arrogant.

You Never Know
Which Step of Life Will Bring...
A Big Change in LIFE

Just Keep Moving

Remember
HAPPINESS Normally Comes...
When it is Most Unexpected

Being **CHALLENGED** in LIFE is
INEVITABLE.
Being **DEFEATED** is
OPTIONAL”



Visitation of

*Bros. Michael the Provincial and David
The councilor of St. Joseph Province USA*

