

ARCHDIOCESE OF PONDICHERRY & CUDDALORE

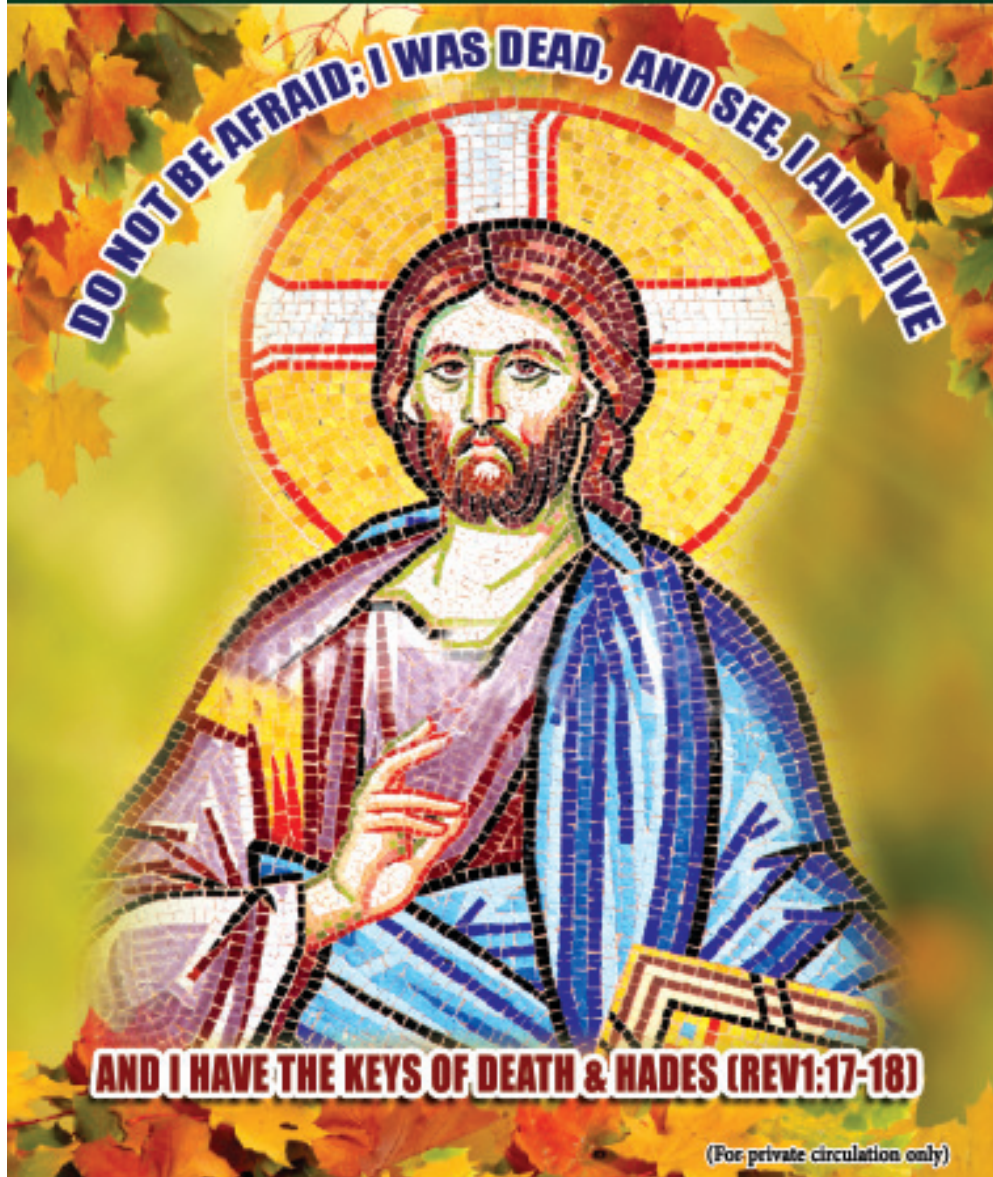


NEWSLETTER



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APRIL 2021



Confirmation at Vinoba Nagar Parish on 19th March 2021



Blessing the foundation of New Church at Ayandur Parish on 21st March 2021

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for April 2021

**Universal Intention – Fundamental Rights:** We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



### MESSAGE



Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and Lay faithful,

### Joy of Pain!

Richard H. Smith, an American professor, authored a psychological book in 2013, *The Joy of Pain: Schadenfreude and the Dark Side of Human Nature*. He narrates how people easily admit to taking pleasure in the misfortunes of others. But at the same time they enjoy it when an arrogant but untalented contestant is humiliated. The truth is that joy in someone else's pain, recognized by the German word *schadenfreude*, permeates our society. But, there is also an opposite side, in that we take pride in our own suffering: severe pain and torture of mind and body, even agony of death. This is the situation seen in Paul when he says: "I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake" (Col 1:24). What prompted this transformation from *schadenfreude* and self-pity to rejoicing over pain and suffering? The answer is seen in Jesus' encouraging words to us: "In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!"

(Jn 16:33). This is the transformation brought by Jesus who conquering the cross of death brought the victory of Resurrection.

### Resurrection: A Drastic Transformation!

The Persians and later the Romans used the wooden cross to execute the death punishment and thus erase a person from this world. However, this could not become a reality in the case of Jesus of Nazareth. Although there is a myth in the ancient Greek religion that Asclepius, after being killed by Zeus, resurrected, achieving an immortal existence, the historical reality of conquering death and attaining eternal life is seen only in Jesus Christ. Indeed, the historicity of the resurrection of Jesus could very well be established by the Gospel accounts of the empty tomb and the apparition narratives. Nevertheless, there appeared the hypotheses that Jesus did not die on the cross, that the empty tomb was the result of Jesus' body having been stolen, or that Jesus was never entombed. But there is a unanimous consensus among biblical scholars that the Gospel accounts are not a result of myth but are a kind of ancient biography (E. P. Sanders, "Jesus Christ," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2007).



This reality of Jesus' transforming death to life, a drastic break-through from a cross of torture to a Cross of New Life, is unequivocally attested by the solid belief of early Christianity, spelt out by Paul: "For I handed on to you as of **first importance** what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins...and that he was raised on the third day in

accordance with the scriptures” (1 Cor 15:3-4); again, he confirmed that the last enemy destroyed by Jesus was death (1 Cor 15:26; cf. Heb 2:4). Peter also encouraged the Christians: “Jesus was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit” (1 Pet 3:18).

### **Fear of Death Abolished!**

It is to be asserted that Jesus not only destroyed death but also eradicated the fear of death. Indeed he had already said: “when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself” (Jn 12:32). On account of their belief in Jesus the early Christians were tortured, put behind bars and even put to death. The Risen Lord told them: “Do not be afraid; I was dead, and see, I am alive... and I have the keys of Death and of Hades” (Rev 1:17-18). Jesus taught us that death is not an end, but only a change of life (*First Preface of the Mass for the dead*). This belief pervaded the veins of Peter and John who proclaimed, ignoring any threat to life, “we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20). ‘If the dead are not raised,’ Paul asks, ‘why should I have stood every day at the door of death and fought with *wild animals* (adversaries) at Ephesus? What have I gained?’ (1 Cor 15:31-32). This belief was strong even among the pious Jews, so much so that the fourth sibling of the mother of the seven children told his persecutors: “One cannot but choose to die at the hands of mortals and to cherish the hope God gives of being raised again by him” (2 Macc 7:14). This is the strength of Jesus’ Resurrection and the secret of martyrdom witnessed even today.

### **Resurrection Continues!**

Jesus’ Resurrection is not only a historical fact of one unique happening but a continuous event in our life, an everyday event. Jesus did not rise from the dead for his own sake but for us all, showing his power over death and evil, his love for the whole creation (Rom 8:21) and his merciful sharing of the same new life which we can experience and manifest in every moment of our life. On account of the Easter experience Paul was able to bless when reviled, endure when persecuted, and speak kindly when slandered (1 Cor 4:12-13). Easter gives us joy of pain; changes scourging, thorns and nails to a hope-filled life of solace, peace and happiness. Easter reveals the face of God who rejoices in sacrificing his own Son for those who are sinners and the heart of Jesus who “gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Eph 5:2). Through our courageous witness to this Risen Lord, we shall transform the tortures of Good Friday into the joys of Easter Sunday!

**Wish you all a Joyful Easter! May the Risen Lord fill your heart with his grace of newness!**

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### **New Apostolic Nuncio to India**

His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed **Most Rev. Leopoldo Girelli** (68), until now Apostolic Nuncio to Israel and to Cyprus, and Apostolic Delegate to Jerusalem and Palestine, as the new



Apostolic Nuncio to India. This provision was made public on Saturday, 13 March 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli was born on 13 March 1953 in Predore, Bergamo in Lombardy region of northern Italy. He was ordained priest on 17 June 1978 for the diocese of Bergamo. He holds a doctorate in theology and master's degree in canon law. He entered the diplomatic service of the Holy See on 13 July 1987 and worked in the Papal Diplomatic missions in Cameroon, New Zealand and at the Section for General Affairs of the Secretariat of State, and finally in the Apostolic Nunciature to the United States where he held the rank of Counsellor.

Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Apostolic Nuncio to Indonesia on 13 April 2006 and Titular Archbishop of Capreae. He was ordained Bishop on 17 June 2006 by Cardinal Angelo Sodano. He was appointed Apostolic Nuncio to East Timor on 10 October 2006 in addition to his duties as Apostolic Nuncio to Indonesia. On 13 January 2011 he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio to Singapore, Apostolic Delegate to Malaysia and to Brunei, and non-residential Pontifical Representative for Vietnam. He was also appointed Apostolic Nuncio to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on 18 June 2011.

On 13 September 2017, he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio to Israel and Apostolic Delegate to Jerusalem and Palestine and on 15 September 2017 he was appointed Apostolic Nuncio to Cyprus. Aside from Italian, his mother language, he also speaks English and French.

We are pleased to welcome our Nuncio, Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, to India and wish him every grace of the Almighty that his mission will be successful and enhance the Indian Church with her living witness to Christ!

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### Gentle Reminders!

#### 1. Holy Week Services

Taking into consideration the unusual situation of COVID-19 in our Archdiocese Priests are reminded to main COVID protocol in conducting the services of the Holy week. In particular, take special care in Washing the Feet on Holy Thursday and allowing people to kiss the Holy Cross on Good Friday.

#### 2. Accounts

Keeping accurate and update account is a serious duty and responsibility of the Parish Priests and Heads of the Educational Institutions (cf. Can. 1284). All the parish priests and the Heads of the Institutions are reminded of this serious responsibility and asked to submit the accounts of the financial year 2020-2021 to the procurator on or **before 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021**. Accounts are to be submitted to the procurator and all the accounts will be audited only by our Archdiocesan auditors.

## Information

### 1. Summer Ministry to the Seminarians

Taking into consideration the extraordinary situation of COVID-19, and having regular classes in the seminary **till 30 April 2021**, this year **there is no summer ministry to the seminarians**. They can remain in their respective parishes, help the parish priest and stay with the parents. At the end of their one month vacation, parish priest of the respective seminarian is requested to send a report to the diocese which will be sent to the seminary.

### 2. Status of Some Priests

The present status of the priests of the following Dioceses and congregation is provided hereby:

**1.Mr. C. Jayakumar** - a former priest of Diocese of Ootacamund.

He was ordained for the diocese on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013, has been laicized with immediate effect by the Apostolic See. He has been reduced to the state of laity.

**2.Fr. S. F. Victor** - a former priest of Diocese of Ootacamund

He was ordained for the diocese on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1993, incurred a *lataesententiae* suspension for having attempted marriage (canon 1394 no.1). his priestly faculties are removed with immediate effect. He has been admonished to apply to the Holy Father to seek dispensation from priestly obligations including the obligation of celibacy.

**3.Fr. D. Maria Selvam** - a priest of Diocese of Vellore

He was ordained for the diocese on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016, incurred a *lataesententiae* suspension for having attempted marriage (canon 1394 no.1). He has been admonished to apply to the Holy Father to seek dispensation from priestly obligations including the obligation of celibacy.

**4.Fr. Savariraj Arputharaj MMI**

The society of Missionaries of Mary Immaculate suspended him from exercising priestly ministry on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020 according to canonical prescriptions.

He was actively promoting a particular party from celebrating Holy Mass in different places against the canonical rules. He is a priest under suspension.

Hereby I direct you all not to invite Fr. S.F. Victor, Fr. D. Maria Selvam and Fr. Savariraj Arputharaj MMI for any priestly ministry in your parish, institutions and in religious houses. The Christian faithful are hereby advised not to approach them for the exercise of their priestly ministries.



**+ Antonysamy Peter Abir**

*Apostolic Administrator*

Archdiocese of Pondicherry - Cuddalore

### Appointment of Apostolic Administrator

Date	time	Programme	Place
<b>April</b> 20-21			<b>Pondicherry</b>
22	6.30 am	Final Vows: Gongaza Sisters (FSAG)	<b>Cathedral</b>
23	5.30 pm	Blessing of the New School & Confirmation,	<b>Arulampady</b>
24	6.30 am	Final Vows: FIHM Sisters,	<b>Cathedral</b>
	11.00 am	Governing Body Meeting: St. Joseph's College,	<b>Cuddalore</b>
	5.30 pm	Inauguration of Beatification Cause FSAG	<b>Cathedral</b>
25	5.00 pm	Blessing of the New Chapel (Salemedu)	<b>Villupuram</b>
30	7.30 am	Feast Mass & Confirmation ,	<b>Viriyur</b>
<b>01 May</b>	8.00 am	Confirmation Mass	<b>Kommedu</b>
	5.30 pm	Confirmation & Hoisting of Flag Mass,	<b>Melvizhi</b>
02	7.00 am	Confirmation Mass	<b>Reddiarpalayam</b>
	10.30 am	Final Vows ME Sisters,	<b>Attupatty</b>

+   
**+ Antonysamy Peter Abir**  
 Apostolic Administrator

Archdiocese of Pondicherry - Cuddalore

### News Items

#### 1. Construction of a New Church at Sankarapuram

The Newly built St. Antony's Church at Sankarapuram, a substation of Viriyur Parish was blessed and opened by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Sebastianappan Singaroyan, Bishop-Emeritus of Salem, on 14 February 2021 in the presence of Rev. Msgr. Arulanandam, Delegate of our Apostolic Administrator. The primary relics of St. Antony was blessed and installed in the church for the veneration of the faithful and devotees. We appreciate Rev. Fr. C. Sagaya Selvaraj, parish priest, for his strenuous efforts in building this new church. We also thank the donors and the parishioners for their generous contributions.

#### 2. Birthday of our Apostolic Administrator

His Excellency celebrates his **birthday on 7 April 2021**. Let us pray for his Excellency in a special way on that day. We wish his Excellency Ad Multos Annos!

**Rev. Fr. John Paul**  
 Office Secretary

### Procurator's Desk

#### Surplus Mass Intentions received for March 2021

Date	Name of the Parish	No. of Masses
26.02.2021	Nellithope Parish	80 mass intentions
07.02.2021	Fr.S.Appoline	70 mass intentions
02.03.2021	Fr.Melchizedech	5 mass intentions
09.03.2021	Konankuppam Parish	3334 mass intentions
24.03.2021	Nellithope Parish	60 mass intentions
24.03.2021	Uppalam Parish	407 mass intentions

**Rev. Fr. J.M.Gregory Louis Joseph**  
 Procurator

## Voice from Metropolitan Matrimonial Tribunal – 124 Who is a Good Leader?

A Leader is a person who directs guides and influences the work of others in attaining specified goals. A good leader includes Integrity, Accountability, empathy humility, resistance vision, influence and positivity, good ideas, quick thinking and decision making is the best qualities of a leader.

A successful leader gains more credibility in the eyes of people, they often tend to ignore other deficiencies in him/her. They resolve to adhere to him/her and allow themselves to be further exposed to his/her influence.

Leaders who relate their power with responsibility in a consistent manner are more successful in their influence than the others. In short, effective leaders direct the activities of an organization towards the attainment of the specified organizational goals. The main source of motivation of a leader is the motivating power to group efforts. In order to motivate the subordinates for higher productivity, effective leadership is needed. Leadership creates confidence in the subordinates by giving proper guidance and advice. The leader derives his power from the group members.

Discipline refers to the performance and good examples of a role model leader. A leader of national or international standing commands widespread influence over a large number of people while the influence of the leader of a small work group in an organization is very limited. Both are leaders in their own right. The leader is in a position to shape, regulate, control and change the attitudes, behavior

and performance of his group members. There exists a particular relationship between the leader and his group members which is characterized by interpersonal and social interaction. The leader has a few bases of power by virtue of which he is in a position to influence the behaviors of group members. It includes knowledge, information, experience, identity and understanding of people. (Courtesy: Dr. A. Peter Raj, Principal, Bishop Ambrose College, Coimbatore, Ambrosia 2020, p.61).

### For you kind information:

Dear beloved Parish priests,

Due to Covid 19, the second waves, we are still reluctant to function the tribunal office. Kindly cooperate and do not send any petitioner till everything takes normalcy. May I wish you Fruitful Holy Week and Happy Easter to All.

### Points to Ponder:

- **“Feel the depth of the sentence-** “God does not like the hardness of
- **Tongue & Heart** that’s why he made them boneless.”
- Whenever you do not understand what’s happening in your life, just close your eyes, take a deep breath and say “God, I know it’s your plan, just help me through it.”
- **Stronger than Knowledge:** I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge. That myth is more potent than history. That dreams are more powerful than facts. That hope always triumphs over experience. That laughter is the only cure for grief. And I believe that love is stronger than death. -Robert Fulghum

- Do everything with a good heart and expect nothing in return, and you will never be disappointed.
- **What is the hardest thing to Break?** Surprisingly the answer is : **HABIT!** If you break the **H**, you still have '**A BIT**'. If you break the '**A**', you still have **BIT**. If you break the '**B**', you still have '**IT**'. Even after you break the '**T**' in **IT**, There is still the '**I**'. And that (**I**) is the root cause for all problems...!
- Do whatever you feel right to your heart because people will criticize any way.
- Expect more from yourself than from others. Because expectations from others hurt a lot, while expectations from yourself inspire a lot. That's life.

**Rev. Fr. S. Pascal Raj**  
Judicial Vicar

## YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

### St. Joseph Pray for our Archdiocese



## St. Xavier's Pastoral Centre

### Commission for Evangelization

We had a long discussion with the St. Xavier Pastoral Centre Prayer Preparatory Group to restart our monthly Third Saturday Charismatic Healing prayer meeting. And since there is a new form of Corona Virus in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> waves of its spreading, and once again they are closing down the schools and as we are slowly heading towards the possible lockdowns, we don't want to take the risk of restarting the Prayer Meeting. And we do not have enough space to maintain individual / social distance in our prayer hall where we can only accommodate not more than 100 persons according to the directives of the government. So until our next announcement there will be no Third Saturday Prayer Meeting in our Centre.

### Commission for Media and Communication – Madha T.V.

After our Diocesan Secretaries' Meeting, all the dioceses were involved in the production of the special programmes of Lent and Holy Week. We are shooting a Rosary Programme for Maundy Thursday. Mr. Arulraj of Thirupapuliur, Our Madha T.V. Subscription agent of Cuddalore is shooting it with the help of Mercy T.V. technicians at Nangathur in the Periyannayagi Madha Church along with the parish community. I thank the Parish Priest Rev. Fr. A. Satheesh Kumar, the community of Nangathur



Parish and the team that is involved in the shooting of this program for their generosity and co-operation.

### **Christhuvar Vazhurimai Iyakkam**

A diocesan team comprising of the office bearers of various commissions and the diocesan administrative bodies attended a one day high level meeting of Christhuvar Vazhurimai Iyakkam and Legal Cell of the TNBC, on 20<sup>th</sup> Saturday at Trichy. And we have decided to send a circular to all our Parishes and Congregations to have a clear vision of the situation and our stand in the present day political scenario of the Central and State governments. We have really and objectively analyzed the situation with the help of Professor Devasagayam and Rev. Fr. Xavier Arul Raj, the Senior Counsel in Madras High Court by their enlightenment sessions.

We clearly came to a conclusion that at present the Central Government's fundamental option is to demolish the basic structures of our democracy foreseen and protected by the sacred constitution of our Nation i.e. the pluralism in India, the federal structure of the Indian Nation and the secularism of our country.

So this election for the legislative assemblies of the four states and one union territory is of a great value to the ruling central government. They are in a draconic majority in the Lok Saba and Raj Saba where they can pass any law with the power of the majority dictatorship. So today in the centre we have a democratic autocracy.

So they want that by all means that they are in power in the state assemblies as well in the union territory, either by becoming the ruling party or be a part of the ruling coalition by which they can dominate and impose any law which are anti-democratic, anti-constitutional anti-poor because of their absolute majority and power in both the houses.

So in the states and union territories, we should elect a party who can uphold the constitution of India, that respects and protects the state government's quasi autonomy, the secular character of the country and who can challenge the religious fundamentalism and take strict measures against those who are perpetrating bloody clashes on the basis of religion, and also who works for the protection of ethnic and cultural histories of the states. The elected ruling party of the states and the union territory should work for more autonomy of the states in the fields of education, culture, agriculture, transport, medicine, health care and taxation of the people and they should respect also the historical traditions of the states and their contributions towards the building up of the nation.

The elected party should be able to fight against the centre for more independence to develop the people of the states and up hold their culture and tradition by shifting more matters from the list of the centre either to the list of the state or the concurrent list so that certain amount of freedom is enjoyed by the states and union territories. So we have no other option except to support the alliance which is contradicting the central government and that which can win

the elections and form the government. So accordingly, the Parish Priests are encouraged to study the local situations under these above mentioned parameters and prudently enlighten our people to understand the political situations and freely exercise their democratic responsibility without being carried away by caste, political parties or individuals.

### Conference of the Diocesan Priests of India (CDPI)

Last month we had the National Council Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> of February of which I have already given the details, we had a Virtual meeting over Google meet facility. Around 75 Priests from all over India were on the screen floor. We were having two input sessions based on “Fractelli Tutti” and we have concluded the meeting with a resolution of creating brotherhood among our Christian people and also among the people of the world.

Now on 25<sup>th</sup> March, we will have a virtual National Executive Meeting and evaluate our activities and plan out our next National Meeting in February 2022 and share our regional activities of the CDPI.

### Commission for Anbiyam

To know about the National and Regional activities of Anbiyam, kindly go to the Website – “[anbiyamtn.in](http://anbiyamtn.in)” and follow it and you will get so many useful materials for Anbiyam animation and wider information regarding the Anbiyam activities in our Region.

**Rev. Fr. A. J. Philomindoss**  
Director

### புதுவை கடலூர் உயர்மறைமாநில குடும்ப நலப் பணிக்குழு அறிக்கை

2021 மார்ச் மாதம் 10 மற்றும் 11 தேதிகளில் திருச்சி அரியமங்கலத்தில் உள்ள குளுனி தலைமையகத்தில் தமிழக ஆயர் பேரவையின் குடும்ப நலப் பணிக்குழு நடத்திய ‘கருத்தாளர்களுக்கான பயிற்சி’ மற்றும் ‘மறைமாவட்ட குடும்ப நலப் பணிக் குழுக்களின் செயல்களுக்கான பொதுக்குழு கூட்டம்’ நடைபெற்றது. பாண்டி கடலூர் மறைமாவட்ட குடும்பநலப் பணிக்குழுவின் செயலரும், கருத்தாளராக திரு.சார்லஸ் கோலன் Retd.PWD Engineer அவர்களும் இதில் பங்கேற்றனர்.

10.03.2021 புதன் காலை 7 மணிக்குத் திருப்பலியுடன் தொடங்கிய இப்பயிற்சியை தமிழக ஆயர் பேரவையின் குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழுவின் தலைவர் பாளை மறைமாவட்ட ஆயர் மேதகு. S. அந்தோனிசாமி அவர்கள் காலை 9 மணிக்கு தொடக்கவுரை நிகழ்த்தி ஆரம்பித்து வைத்தார். “திருமண தயாரிப்புப் பயிற்சியினை தொடர்ந்து, திருமணமான ஓராண்டுக்குப்பின் மற்றும் முதல் 5 ஆண்டு திருமண வாழ்க்கை நிறைவு செய்த இணையர்களுக்கு தொடர் பயிற்சி அளிப்பதும், திருமண அருளடையாளத்தின் மாட்சி மற்றும் மேன்மையை தம்பதியருக்கு உணர்த்தவும், புதிய புதிய யுக்திகளை இணையர்களுக்கு வழங்கவும், கருத்தாளர்களுக்கான இந்த இரண்டு நாள் பயிற்சி நடத்தப்பெறுகிறது. இப்பயிற்சியில் திருத்தந்தை பிரான்சிஸ் அவர்கள் எழுதிய ‘அன்பின் மகிழ்ச்சி’ (AMORIS LACTITIA) என்ற நூலில் உள்ள கருத்துக்களான குடும்பம் மற்றும் குடும்பஆன்மீகம் பற்றியும் கருத்துக்கள் பகிரப்படும் என்றும் குடும்பம் நன்றாயிருந்தால்தான் திருஅவையும் சமூகமும் நன்றாய் இருக்க இயலும் என்றும் ஆயர் அவர்கள் தம் தொடக்கவுரையில் தெரிவித்தார்.” இந்த

கருத்துக்களடங்கிய, கருத்தாளர்களுக்கான ஒரு நூலையும் ஆயர் வெளியிட்டார்.

தொடர்ந்து காலை 10 மணிக்குத் தொடங்கிய முதல் அமர்வை அருட்தந்தை சுவாக்கிம் அவர்கள் குடும்ப வளப்படுத்த பயிற்சி (Family Enrichment Programme) என்ற தலைப்பில், குடும்ப வாழ்வு என்பது ஒரு மனரீதியான உறவு என்றும் இதில் 3 நிலைகளைப் பார்க்க முடியும் - அதாவது 1. திருமணத்திற்கு முன் 2. திருமணத்தின்போதும் முதல் ஓராண்டும் 3. திருமணமாகி இரண்டாவது ஆண்டிலிருந்து என இந்த 3 நிலைகளில் முதல் நிலையில் அனைத்தும் சாதாரணம் மற்றும் மகிழ்ச்சி இருக்கும், இரண்டாவது நிலையில் காதலும், பிரிய மனமின்மையும் இருக்கும் மூன்றாவது நிலையிலோ வெறுப்பும் விலகலும் இருக்கும் என்று விளக்கினார். மேலும் குடும்பத்தில் பிரச்சனைகள் என்பது கண்டிப்பாக இருக்கும். அதுபற்றி கவலைப்பட தேவையில்லை. நாம் கணவன்-மனைவியாக, பெற்றோராக இருக்க எந்த பள்ளியிலும் சென்று கல்வி பயிலவில்லை, குடும்பம்தான் நம் வாழ்வின் வீரர், அதிலிருந்துதான் நாம் உருவாகிறோம், அதிலே தான் வாழவேண்டும் அதிலேதான் சாகவேண்டும், அதிலேதான் நாம் நம்மைப்பற்றியும் நம் உறவுகள் பற்றியும் கற்கவேண்டும் என்று தெளிவித்தார்.

அவரது உரைக்கு உரமேற்றும் வகையில் அருட்தந்தை பென்சிகர் லூஷன் அவர்கள் ஒரு சிலரை மேடைக்கு அழைத்து ஒரு சிறு நிகழ்வு வழியாக ஒரு குடும்பத்தில் திருமணமாகி புதிய வரவு ஒன்று வரும்போது ஏற்படும் மாற்றங்களை உணர்ந்து கொள்ளச் செய்தார்.

அதனைத் தொடர்ந்த அருட்தந்தை சுவாக்கிம் அவர்கள் ஒருவருக்குத் திருமணம் ஆகியவுடன் ஒரு புதிய நடைமுறைக்கு உள்ளாகிறார். உடல் ரீதியான மற்றும் மனரீதியான மரபு

அணுக்கள் தானாக வளர்ச்சி அடைகின்றன. இதில் ஒருவருடைய முதல் 5 வயதுக்குள் உள்வாங்கியதே, பதிவானதே அவரது உடல் ரீதியான மற்றும் மனரீதியான மரபு அணுக்கள் வளர்ச்சியில் வெளிப்படும் என்று விளக்கினார்.

முற்பகல் 11.30 மணிக்கு தொடங்கிய இரண்டாம் அமர்வை திருமதி. தனசீலி திவ்வியநாதன் அவர்கள் தம் வாழ்வில் தம் கணவருக்கு ஏற்பட்ட உடல் நோயில் அவர் கோமா நிலைக்குச் சென்ற நிலையிலும் தனது அன்பால், தனது செபத்தால் அவர் இன்று நலமுடன் இருப்பதை 'குடும்ப சவால் களும் அணுகுமுறையும்' என்ற தலைப்பில் கருத்துரையாற்றினார்திருத்தந்தையின் "அன்பின் மகிழ்ச்சி" என்ற நூலின் ஒளியில் குடும்ப பணி பற்றியும், குடும்ப செயல்பாடுகள் பற்றியும், குடும்ப நலம் மற்றும் தனியுரிமை, குடும்ப பிரச்சனைகள் (தனி மனித பிரச்சனைகள், வெளியிலிருந்து வரும் பிரச்சனைகள் அதில் சாதாரண மற்றும் வலுவான பிரச்சனைகள்) பற்றியும் தெளிவுபடுத்தினார். மேலும் செயலிற்றி இருக்கும் குடும்பங்களை கண்டுணரவும், அதற்கான நமது பணி பற்றியும், அதில் நமது அணுகுமுறை எப்படி இருக்கவேண்டும், இத்தகைய குடும்பங்களுக்கு நாம் உதவக்கூடிய அனைத்து முயற்சிகளையும் சுட்டிக்காட்டினார்.

பிற்பகல் 3 மணிக்கு குருகுல பேராசிரியர் அருட்பணி ச.தே. செல்வராசு அவர்கள் "மாறி வரும் இன்றைய சூழலில் குடும்பங்கள் என்ற தலைப்பில் 1. அறிவியல் தொழில்நுட்ப புரட்சி, 2. தகவல் தொடர்பு புரட்சி, 3. நவநாகரீக புரட்சி மற்றும் 4. சமூக பண்பாட்டு புரட்சி பற்றிய கருத்துக்களை பகிர்ந்துவிட்டு, மலரும் மன உணர்வு (Marriage Encounter) பற்றி திருத்தந்தையின் கருத்துக்களையும் பகிர்ந்துகொண்டார். இதில் திருத்தந்தை குறிப்பிட்டுள்ள ஊடகங்கள், குடும்ப

மறைக்கல்வி, அடிப்படை குடும்ப பிரச்சனைகள் மற்றும் குடும்ப செபத்தின் வலிமை பற்றியும் குறிப்பிட்டார்.”

அன்று மாலை 6 மணிக்கு நடைபெற்ற நான்காம் அமர்வை அருட்பணி. ஜீவராஜ் அவர்கள் (Right understanding of Families and Sexuality) சரியான பார்வையில் பாலியல் புரிதல்களும், இணையர்களின் வாழ்வும் என்ற தலைப்பில் உரை நிகழ்த்தினார். பாலினம், பாலியல், மற்றும் இணையர்கள் அதை ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளும் நிலை குறித்து சொல்லி, பாலியல் என் பது கடவுளின் கொடை, அனைத்தையும் அணைத்துக்கொள்ளுவது என்றும், அது ஒரு சவால் மற்றும் சாதனை எனவும், அது குறை நிரப்பும் ஒன்று எனவும், சமூக பயிலகம் மற்றும் ஒருங்கிணைக்கும் ஒன்று என்றும் விளக்கினார்.

அடுத்த நாள் 11.03.2021 வியாழன் அன்று காலை 6.30 மணிக்கு காலை செபம், ஆயர் தலைமையில் திருப்பலி மற்றும் சிலுவைப்பாதையுடன் தொடங்கிய பயிலரங்கத்தில் காலை 9 மணிக்கு அருட்தந்தை சந்தியாகு ராஜா அவர்கள் குடும்பமும் விவிலியமும் என்ற தலைப்பில் விவிலியத்தில் உள்ள குடும்பங்களின் சிக்கல் மற்றும் அன்பு பற்றியும் திருஅவையின் படிப்பினையில் குடும்பங்கள் பற்றியும் திருமண அன்பில் பாலுறவு, கற்பு நெறி, மக்கட்பேறு பற்றியும் விளக்கினார்.

அன்று காலை 11 மணிக்கு, முதல் நாளின் மனரீதியான மரபணு பற்றிய தொடர்ச்சியை அருட்தந்தை சுவாக்கிம் அவர்கள் தொடர்ந்தார். மனரீதியான மரபணு உள்வாங்கி காரணம் காட்டி, பதிலளித்து செயலாக்கும் என்றும், அவை எல்லாம் குழந்தை பருவத்தில் பதிவானவை என்றும் கூறி, பங்கேற்ற ஒவ்வொருவரையும் தனி ஆய்வுக்கு உட்படுத்தினார். மேலும் எழுதப்படாத குடும்ப சட்டங்கள், பிறப்புவரிசையால் நிகழும் நிகழ்வுகள், குடும்பத்தில் ஒவ்வொருவருடைய பணிகள், குடும்ப வயதுவரம்பின் நிலைகள், குடும்பத்தில் பிரச்சனைகள்

உருவாகும் தளங்கள், குழந்தை உருவாக்கம் போன்றவைகள் பற்றிய கருத்துக்களை வழங்கினார். மனரீதியான நெருக்கம் பற்றியும் விளக்கினார். இறுதியாக அருட்தந்தை பென்சிகர் லூஷன் அவர்கள் அன்பின் மொழிகள், எவை எவை என விளக்கினார்.

அன்று பிற்பகல் 2.30 மணிக்கு ஆயர் தலைமையில் தமிழக குடும்பநலப் பணிக்குழுவின் அனைத்து மறைமாவட்ட குடும்ப நலப் பணிக்ழுக்களின் செயலர்கள் பொதுக்குழு கூட்டம் நடைபெற்றது. அதில் பங்கேற்ற அனைத்து செயலர்களும் தங்கள் மறைமாவட்டத்தின் ஜூன் 2020 முதல் டிசம்பர் 2020 வரையிலான செயல் அறிக்கையை சமர்ப்பித்தனர். அத்துடன் ஆயரின் ஆசிருடன் இருநாள் அமர்வுகள் நிறைவுபெற்றன.

**Rev. Fr. S. குழந்தைசாமி**

செயலர், குடும்பநலப் பணிக்குழு

## **பொதுநிலையினர் பணிக்குழு புதுவை-கடலூர் உயர்மறைமாவட்டம்**

### **கிறிஸ்துவ வாழ்வுரிமை இயக்கம் மற்றும் பொதுநிலையினர் பேரவை கூட்டம் - திருச்சி**

கடந்த மாதம் 06-02-2021 (சனிக்கிழமை) அன்று திருச்சியில் உள்ள பொதுநிலையினர் உருவாக்க யைமத்தில் தமிழ்நாடு ஆயர் பேரவை தலைவர் மேதகு அந்தோணி பாப்பசாமி அவர்களது தலைமையில், செங்கல்பட்டு மேதகு ஆயர் நீதிநாதன் அவர்கள் முன்னிலையில் தமிழக அளவில் உள்ள கிறித்தவர் வாழ்வுரிமை இயக்க நிர்வாகிகளும், பொதுநிலையினர் பேரவை நிர்வாகிகளும் இணைந்து ஒரு கலந்துரையாடல் கூட்டம் காலை 10.00 மணி

முதல் மதியம் 01.00 மணி வரை நடைபெற்றது. இக்கூட்டத்தில் மேற்கண்ட இரண்டு அமைப்புகளும் தங்கள் தனித்தன்மையை பாதுகாத்துக்கொண்டு அரசியல் தளங்களில் இணைந்து செயல்பட வேண்டும் என்று தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டது. ஓய்வூதிய ஆயர்கள் மேதகு பீட்டர் ரெமிஜியஸ் மற்றும் யுவான் அம்புரோஸ் அவர்களும் கலந்துகொண்டு சிறப்பித்தனர். துயிழக அளவில் சுமார் 80 பேர் கலந்து கொண்டனர். நமது மறைமாவட்டத்திலிருந்து ஐந்து நபர்கள் மறைமாவட்ட கிறிஸ்துவ வாழ்வுரிமை இயக்கம் மற்றும் பொதுநிலையினர் சார்பாக கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

### கிறித்துவ சமூகத்தின் கலந்துரையாடல் - அருங்கொடை இல்லம், திருச்சி

கடந்த 20-03-2021 (சனிக்கிழமை) அன்று காலை 09.30 மணி முதல் மாலை 04.00 மணி வரை அரசியல் கலந்துரையாடலானது மதுரை பேராயர் அந்தோணி பாப்புசாமி அவர்களது தலைமையிலும், தமிழ்நாடு கிறித்தவர் வாழ்வுரிமை இயக்க நெறியாளர் மேதகு நீதிநாதன் அவர்களது முன்னிலையில் நடைபெற்றது. பேராசியர் முனைவர் தேவசகாயம் அவர்களும், முனைவர் அருட்பணி அ. சேவியர் அவர்களும் சிறப்புரையாற்றினர். அருட்பணியாளர்கள், துறவியர் மற்றும் பொதுநிலையினர் 800 பேர் பங்கேற்றனர். மொத்தம் 9 குழுக்களாக எதிர்வரும் சட்டமன்றத் தேர்தலில் நமது இலக்கு என்னவாக இருக்க வேண்டும். நமது நிலைப்பாடு எப்படி அமைய வேண்டும், அதற்கான செயல்திட்டம் என்ன என்பதை விவாதித்து அறிக்கைகளை சமர்ப்பித்தனர். மதவாத, பாசிச சகதிகளுக்கு நமது எதிர்ப்பை தெளிவுபடுத்த வேண்டும். மேலும் காலச் சூழலை கருத்தில் கொண்டு மதச்சார்பற்ற கூட்டணிக்கு ஆதரவு தெரிவித்து நமது நிலைப்பாடு இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று பலரும் கருத்து தெரிவித்தனர். புதுவை-கடலூர் உயர்மறைமாவட்டத்திலிருந்து மேயப்புப்பணி இயக்குநர்

அருட்பணி A. J. பிலோமின்தாஸ், பொதுநிலையிர் பணிக்குழு இணைச் செயலர் திரு. S. லூர்துசாமி மற்றும் பொதுநிலையினர் பேரவை செயலர் திரு. திவ்யநாதன், துணைத் தலைவர் திரு. S. இராஜேந்திரன் உறுப்பினர் திரு. V. ஆரோக்கியராஜ் ஆசிரியர் பங்கேற்றனர். கூட்டத்திற்கான ஏற்பாடுகளை தமிழ்நாடு கிறித்தவர் வாழ்வுரிமை இயக்க மாநில ஒருங்கிணைப்பாளர் அருட்பணி. ஜான் சுரேஷ் அவர்கள் சிறப்பாக செய்திருந்தார்.

செயலர்

அருட்பணி. D. ஆரோக்கியதாஸ்

### BIRTHDAY WISHES TO OUR CLERGY - APRIL

Fr. L.Peter Paulraj	02-04-69
Fr. A.J.Philomindoss	05-04-60
Fr. J. A. Arul Pushpa Raja	10-04-90
Fr. S.Alphonse	11-04-43
Fr. A.Andrews Majella	19-04-81
Fr. C.Sagaya Raja	20-04-66
Fr. S.Paulraj	21-04-63
Fr. V.S.Lourdusamy	25-04-27
Fr. A.S.Antonymsamy	25-04-43
Fr. S.Joseph Sagayaraj	25-04-70
Fr. P. Antonymsamy	29-04-40
Fr. A.Pushparaj	29-04-65

## Necrology

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of:**

03-04-1971	Alexander Olsail
04-04-1950	Bareille. E., MEP
05-04-2007	John James. A
06-04-1967	Perianayagam. D
11-04-2008	John Bosco. S
16-04-1962	Trideau . J, MEP
18-04-1981	Marianadhulu. T
25-04-1996	Savarimuthu. D
26-04-1978	Arokiasamy. D

**RIP**

**Rev. Fr. M. Lourdusamy**



Parents	: Mr. A. Mathalaimuthupillai & Mrs .G. Susaimanickam
Date and Place of Birth	: 07-05-1938 (06-05-1938), Michaelpatty
Date and Place of Baptism:	11-05-1938, Michaelpatty

Parish	:	Michaelpatty
Diocese of Origin	:	Kumbakonam
Places and Years of Studies	:	1943 – 1948 Primary Studies at Michaelpatty 1948 – 1951 Middle School, Tirukattupally 1952 - 1957 St. Joseph's, Cuddalore
Years and Places of Seminary Formation	:	1957 - 1959 St. Agnes' Seminary, Cuddalore 1959 - 1966 St. Peter's Seminary, Bangalore
Date of Ordination	:	7 <sup>th</sup> April 1966
Place of Ordination	:	Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Pondicherry
Minister of Ordination	:	Most Rev. Dr. R. Ambrose.

### Ministry Places:

- 11-05-1966 – Nov. 1967 Asst. Parish Priest at Karaikal
- Nov. 1967 – Apr. 1970 Asst. Cath. Centre,  
Tindivanam

- Apr. 1970 – Jun. 1971 Asst. St. Agnes' Seminary, Cuddalore
- Jun. 1971 – Jun. 1978 Asst. St. Joseph's Thiruppapuliur
- Jun. 1978 – Jun. 1979 Asst. at Petit Seminaire, Pondicherry
- Sep. 1979 – Jun. 1980 Asst. St. Joseph's, Cuddalore
- Jun. 1980 – Dec. 1982 Asst. Fathima Hr. Sec. School, Muthialpet
- Dec. 1982 – Jun. 1983 Parish Priest of Kurusukuppam
- Jun. 1983 – 05-07-1993 Pp of Mel-Nariappanur & HM of Mel-Nariappanur High School
- 06-07-1993 – 10-06-1996 HM, R.C. Teacher Training School, Tindivanam
- 11-06-1996 – Principal, St. Mary's Hr. Sec. School, Karaikal
- 06-02-1997 – 29-08-1997 appointed as the priest in charge of St. Xavier's parish, Villupuram
- 30-08-1997 – appointed as Parish Priest of St. Xavier's parish, Villupuram
- 06-07-2006 – 06-06-2007 Parish Priest of Anaiyeri
- 10-06-2007 – 15-05-2009 Emmaus Rest House, Pondicherry
- 16-05-2009 – June 2011 Socius, O.L. of Rosary Church, Eraiyur

- June 2011 – 23-06-2014 Spiritual Father, St. Joseph's Boarding, Manjakuppam, Cudalore
- 24-06-2014 - Emmaus Rest House, Pondicherry

### **Death and Funeral of Fr. M. Lourdusamy**

Fr. M. Lourdusamy was suffering from Dementia i.e. Loss of memory and judgement for the past 2 years. He also had acute diabetes and heavy cholesterol. He was treated for all these. On 01-03-2021 around 06.00 a.m. Fr. P. Jegaraj saw him sitting on the chair in his room. At 07.00 a.m., when Sr. Selvi, the Superior went to the room, she found him dead on his bed. At 02.00 p.m. the Fathers of the Emmaus Retired Priests' Home, Colas Nagar offered the mass for his eternal rest.

At 03.15 p.m. on 01-03-2021, the body of Fr. M. Lourdusamy was brought to the Bishop's House. Then, Most Rev. Dr. Anandarayar, Archbishop Emeritus blessed the body and then the fathers here and the relatives of Fr. M. Lourdusamy recited a rosary and offered it for his eternal rest. Then the religious Sisters of different Congregations came and prayed. Throughout the night his relatives kept vigil around his body and sang and prayed. On Tuesday his former Teachers from St. Antony's, Mel-Nariappanur, R.C. Teacher Training School, Tindivanam, St. Mary's, Karaikal and his former parishioners from Mel-Nariappanur, St. Francis Xavier's, Villupuram, Anaiyeri came and paid their respect and prayed for his eternal rest. Fr. A. J. Philomindoss the Director of the Pastoral Centre, co-ordinated all this.

At 10.50 a.m. Most Rev. Dr. Peter Abir, the Apostolic Administrator blessed the body and the body was taken through the corridor to the Cathedral. At 11.00 a.m. the Apostolic Administrator offered the funeral mass. Most Rev. Dr. Anandarayar and 49 priests concelebrated. Very Rev. Fr. A. Arulanandam in his introduction said that Fr. M. Lourdusamy out of his 83 years, 55 years lived as a Teacher and Parish Priest. He introduced Jesus to others. He dedicated himself for this. Most Rev. Dr. Peter Abir in his homily said, “we thank God for Fr. M. Lourdusamy and pray for his eternal life. Out of his 83 years of his history, 1/3 of his life, he spent as Christ’s servant.

I had regular contact with him from Tindivanam. I had met him in his Ministry places. He had challenges. அவரில் பொறுமை, நிதானம் என்ற நல்லதொரு கிறிஸ்துவ, குருத்துவ பண்பினைப் பார்க்கின்றோம்” Sirach says that in our lives, all our actions are in front of God. God sees everything. He doesnot leave out anything. He will pour out their reward on their head. St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians says: ‘I believe that I will live with Him. Since I have that hope, we are hopeful that I will live, inspite of all dangers. That is the reality of life. St. Ignatius of Antioch said: “Men are born; they die. God’s saints are born and they are continuing to be born”. The Book Revelation says: “We are born, we die. This is nature. When we live by God’s power, we will not attain the second death i.e. Hell. This is what St. Paul said: “போற்றுவோர், போற்றுதலும், தூற்றுவோர் தூற்றுதலும் எனக்கு ஒரு பொருட்டல்ல. வாழ்வும், சாவும் என்னை பாதிப்பதில்லை. ஏனெனில் நான் கிறிஸ்துவின் பணியாளன்”, God’s life, we

already live. This is what St. Ignatius of Antioch meant when he said: we are born but, we don’t die”. All the challenges cannot drown us. This is what David said: Even if I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear. The Lord will not abandon me”. He will give eternal life. He will pour the reward of eternal life on us.

Let us pray that Fr. M. Lourdusamy may enjoy that life. With that hope, let us say “Good Bye” to him. At the end of the mass Fr. John Peter, the nephew of Fr. M. Lourdusamy, the present Parish Priest of Subramanyapuram, Trichy, thanked the Bishops, the Procurator and the Sisters for having taken the best care of his uncle. He also praised his uncle for having been his role model to become a Priest. After the Mass Most Rev. Dr. Anandarayar, Archbishop Emeritus did the commendation prayers and blessed the body at the Cathedral. The teachers, the old students of Fr. M. Lourdusamy carried the body to the adjacent graveyard and Most Rev. Dr. Peter Abir, the Apostolic Administrator did the final blessing. And then the body of Fr. M. Lourdusamy was laid to rest.

**May His Soul Rest in Peace.**

**Rev. Fr. A. Melchizedech  
Chancellor**



### SAYING GOOD BYE TO FR J. PAUL

Fr. J. Paul's body was laid for visitation at the Fred H. McGrath & Son, Funeral Home, Bronxville between the hours of 2 to 6pm Sunday February 28, 2021. Most of the New York Archdiocesan & Indian Priests and FIHM sisters (Pondicherry) participated in the prayer service with hymns, spontaneous prayers and Eulogy. Around 400 people from his previous three parishes- St. Gregory Harrison, St. Barnabas Bronx & St. Joseph Bronxville visited and paid their last respect and some offered the Mass Cards. Even his friend-priests, some former students of Petit Seminare and relatives travelled a long distance came and shared their memories of Fr. Paul.



As it was broadcasted nationally and internationally in social media, many viewed it virtually. His nephew, Joe Balthazar's family was physically present at those hours. The parishioners with tears met Joe and shared Fr. Paul's good qualities, spirituality, talents, commitment and availability. Our diocesan priests, Fr. Bernard & Fr. Edison and FIHM sisters assisted the people to observe the Covid-19 norms. The visitation ended with the hymn Salve Regina.

Funeral was at 10am Monday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, St. Joseph's Church Bronxville New York. The closed casket was brought from the funeral home to the church. Most Rev. Edmund J. Whalen, one of the five bishops of New York

Archdiocese was the main celebrant. Homily was given by Fr. Dawson Ambosta (native of Mumbai, New York Archdiocesan priest and friend-priest of Fr. Paul). In it he mentioned that Fr. Paul was a 'bridge in troubled waters', meaning Fr. Paul was a bridge to many people who had a troubled life.

At the end of the mass Fr. Peter McGeory, the pastor said as follows. 'Time was tough for us here at St Joseph's. We had to say goodbye to our dear Fr Paul. What an impact he made on our parish in less than 18 months! We were uplifted, however, by the prayers of over 50 priests who joined us at Mass and over 2000 who prayed with us virtually.

I shared this story at today's funeral. Last Sunday after the 10:45 Mass, a young family with 4 children asked if I could chat with them about the death of Fr Paul. Some of the young ones were really feeling his loss. As we sat together, I asked them what they loved about Fr Paul. One of them said, "he was kind." Another said, "he was smart." Yet another commented, "he was holy." The fourth youngster said, "he was happy." We talked a little more and together we offered a prayer for Fr Paul. As they were leaving, I gave them a picture of Fr Paul to take with them to remember him. FIHM sisters (Pondy) sang a Tamil funeral hymn at the end of the Mass.

Without knowing it, these 4 youngsters gave the perfect tribute to Fr Paul. A priest of God, who selflessly served people for over 40 years in both India and the United States. Yes, he was kind, smart, holy, and happy. This is how we will

remember him. May Fr Paul rest in peace and continue to watch over us from his new heavenly home’.

After the mass and final service, the body was carried over to a private cremation center.

**(Report by Fr. L. John Edison, New York, USA)**

On 21-03-2021 Sunday at 05.00 p.m. the Urn with the Ashes of Fr. J. Paul was brought to the Archbishop’s House by his siblings Mr. Rheeman, Mr. Peter and his sisters. Most Rev. Dr. A. Peter Abir, the Apostolic Administrator blessed the Urn. Many of his relatives and the old students of Petit Seminaire and Pope John Paul II College came and paid their respect and prayed for his eternal rest. Throughout 22-03-2021 Monday and on 23-03-2021 forenoon, the Urn with the Ashes of Fr. J. Paul was displayed in front of the Parlour of Archbishop’s House on a decorated altar. The Principal, staff and students of Petit Seminaire (where he had worked for 17 years) and Pope John Paul II College of Education (where he has worked for 10 years), and the old students came and kept flower garlands and wreaths and prayed for his eternal rest. Fr. A. J. Philomindoss, the Director of the Pastoral Centre was animating and organising all these. On 23-03-2021 at 10.45 a.m. Rt. Rev. S. Singaroyan, Bishop Emeritus of Salem blessed the Urn and then it was carried through the corridor to the Cathedral. Then Most Rev. Dr. Peter Abir, the Apostolic Administrator, offered the funeral Mass at the Cathedral. Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar, Archbishop Emeritus, Most Rev. S. Singaroyan and 50 Priests concelebrated. The Cathedral was full of the staff and students

of the Petit Seminaire Hr. Sec. School and the Pope John Paul II College of Education, the religious of different Congregations, his relatives and the faithful.

In his introduction Very Rev. Fr. A. Arulanandam said: In 3 days Fr. J. Paul would have celebrated his 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday. He is a priest for 43 years. He had realized in his life that God’s love is great. God’s love is so wonderful. All praise to Fr. J. Paul is a glory to God. He had realized God’s love. With hope he spoke from the hospital. He knew each one personally. He knew that the growth of the society depends on the students. So he showed full attention in their lives. We thank God for his Educational Ministry and Social Work.

In his homily Most Rev. Peter Abir said: “The Indian Philosopher J. Krishna Moorthy says: ‘Life is a mystery. Death is still more a greater mystery’. It is true. Fr. J. Paul was an enthusiastic Priest and friendly to all. He has died due to the cruel Corona. On the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2021 he was put on ventilator. In the 5<sup>th</sup> he sent me a message:

**“I hope that I will come out well: Still, please pray for me”**

The sudden sad news was difficult to accept. The wisdom of Solomon says: “Death was not created by God”, St. Paul would say: “Death is the wages of sin”. The just man even though he may have untimely death, he will share eternal life. Jesus says: “He who believes me, will never die. He will live for ever . . . I have overcome the death. I am the First fruit”. Jesus gives new life. If we die united with Him, we will rise united with HIM. There is the power of new life for us.

Fr. J. Paul faced many challenges bravely. St. Paul said: “Even if I die, every day I live. Cardinal Martini Commenting on this, says: ‘to die in this world is to share in the Resurrection and New Life of Christ already’ Let us pray that Fr. J. Paul may share this never ending life.

**At the end of the Mass Fr. R. Pascalraj, Principal of Petit Seminaire said:** Fr. J. Paul had been the Principal of Petit Seminaire for 17 years.

1. The daily test for 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> students that he started, we continue even today. It is very beneficial to them.
2. He started the Archdiocesan Coaching Centre for Engineering and Medical students. Due to his initiative, there are many Doctors and Engineers.
3. It was Fr. J. Paul who started the First Computer Centre in Pondicherry. Due to this, many could complete P.G.D.C.A.
4. He started the Private Schools’ Association to get Govt. Benefits for the staff and students.
5. He was a great Administrator. He would insist on **‘Hard Work’**. He would plan meticulously and execute.

Many of his old students came and told me: “It is a great loss”. We offer our deep felt condolence to the siblings and relatives.

**Then Fr. M. Swaminathan, Secretary of Pope John Paul II College said:**

“Fr. J. Paul was a great gift of God to the church and to his family. We have to only pray like Job: “you gave, you have taken away: May you be praised” He is a priest for 43

years. 40 years of priesthood is celebrated in a grand manner in the U.S.A. He invited me to the U.S.A. and we celebrated it together. Out of his 43 years as priest, he spent 17 years at the Petit Seminaire and 10 years at the Pope John Paul II College. He was a great Educationist and an able Administrator. The standard of the Education and how the students have improved and benefited is the criterion. Though young, he was one of the priests who was instrumental to begin the Pope John Paul II College. He was the First Secretary. We cannot separate Petit Seminaire and Pope John Paul II College from Fr. J. Paul. He instilled in the students self confidence. He gave the students தரமான கல்வி, தரமான ஒழுக்கம், தரமான எதிர்காலம். He built the MCA Block with Hall, chapel, MCA Class and Lab. He bought the Wesley School with his influence and used it as Model School. And later, he started the Blessed Mother Theresa School at Nainarmandabam. He started the hostel. Somehow he mobilized the money for all these. The Presence, Impact, Identity of Fr. J. Paul at John Paul College is great. His death is a shock. He sent me a message before his death. With eyes of faith we have to accept this. Prayerful Condolence to his siblings and relatives. He body was burnt. His life has joined the Eternal light”.

**Then Rt. Rev. S. Singaroyan, Bishop of Emeritus, a class mate of Fr. J. Paul said:**

“In 1978, our class mates 36 of us were ordained. 7 have already died. Fr. J. Paul is the 8<sup>th</sup>. 4 years I studied with him. Although he was 4 years senior to me, because of his Degree studies, he would not show any difference. He was lively and

a good friend. Although he was in responsible positions, he would not miss our 2 days annual class mates' gathering. We pray for him. He will pray for us.

**Then Most Rev. Peter Abir, Apostolic Administrator said:**

"In the Minor Seminary I was in the 1<sup>st</sup> year. Fr. J. Paul was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. From then on, we knew we each other. He was my close friend, not only here but also at Sultanpet. From U.S.A. he helped our diocese at Sultanpet. He would come, all the way to Sultanpet and help me whenever he comes from the USA. His was a witnessing life. My heartfelt condolence to his siblings, relatives, our priests and the old students.

**At the end, Mr. Rheeman, the younger brother of Fr. J. Paul and Sherine the d/o. Rheeman said:**

"Fr. J. Paul was a special person. To have a priest in the family is a great blessing. He was the most pious in our family. When he was 12 years old, he expressed his desire to become a priest. Our Mother would advise us to be prayerful like him. He was soft, loving, caring and always smiling. He was a great entertainer and a great host. He would call priests: "அடிகளே!". We accept his departure to Heaven. I thank the Bishops, Priests, Mother Generals, Provincials, Sisters, relatives, well wishers, parishioners, choir, Lourdes T.V., Mercy T.V. for worldwide coverage. He is a role model. Everything that happens is always for the best".

After the mass, Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar, Archbishop Emeritus blessed the Urn after the singing of Liberamé. Then the relatives carried the Urn with the Ashes of Fr. J. Paul and Most Rev. Dr. Peter Abir, the Apostolic Administrator made the ultimate Prayer of commendation and then at 01.00 p.m. the Urn with the Ashes of Fr. J. Paul was placed in the grave dug in the wall.

**May the Soul of Fr. J. Paul, Rest in Peace.**

**Rev. Fr. A. Melchizedeh  
Chancellor**

