



# ARCHDIOCESE OF PONDICHERRY & CUDDALORE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

VOL. 37 NO. 3

**"HE WENT OUT AND WEPT BITTERLY"**

**LUKE 22:62**



**REPENT  
AND  
REVIVE**

(For private circulation only)

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### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March 2020

**Prayer Intention for Evangelization:** Catholics in China. We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.



### ARCHBISHOP'S MESSAGE



## “He went out and wept bitterly”

### 1. “He went out and wept bitterly”

Lent is a time of God’s special grace. Lent is a time during which, we priests and religious, are invited to weep bitterly over our sins and sinful tendencies, over our neglect of prayer and mortifications, over our selfishness and laziness, over our lukewarmness and lack of dedication, over our infidelities in our priestly commitments and religious life, over our lack of loving concern for others, especially the poor.

St. John the Baptist invited the people to repent (Mt. 3:8). Our Lord’s first preaching was on repentance. “The kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel (Mk 1:15). Our Lord sent the apostles to the world to preach the gospel, to preach repentance and remission sins (Lk. 24:47). St. Peter’s first sermon to the Jews and his first sermon to the gentiles were on repentance (Acts 2:38;11:28). St. Paul exhorted the Jews and the gentiles to repent (Acts 20:21).

The Evangelists narrate the denial of our Lord by Peter and the betrayal of the Lord by Judas. Both of them were called to be **Apostles and priests** of Jesus Christ. Our Lord called them both “**devils**” (cf. Mt. 16:23; Jn. 6:71). Both were

**warned** that they would fail. They did not take the warning of our Lord seriously. They relied on their strength. They did not watch and pray. They fell miserably.

Our Lord continued to love them and took positive efforts to save them from their weakness. “**The Lord turned around and looked at Peter**” (Lk. 22:61). He addressed Judas as ‘**friend**’ (Lk. 22:48). No angry words of condemnation came from the Lord. The wounded heart of Christ started bleeding through his eyes and lips. The Lord simply **looked at Peter**, but he **spoke to Judas** – a single look of wounded love and a sincere word of wounded love. There is nothing that Jesus will not do to save his chosen ones.

Both Peter and Judas became aware of the gravity of their sins. Both repented but **not in the same way. The way they opened themselves to the loving mercy** of God made Peter, Saint Peter, the first in the list of the Apostles, the Head of the Apostolic College, the Vicar of Christ, the Rock of the Church of Christ, the Chief Shepherd of the flock of Christ and Judas, the last in the list of the Apostles.

Peter thought of the Lord, Judas thought of himself; Peter turned to the Lord, Judas turned to himself. Peter repented; he **repented unto the Lord**. Judas repented; he **repented unto himself**. Peter was **humble and contrite**. His heart was filled with sorrow for the sin itself. He opened himself to the grace of metanoia – a new way of seeing, a new way of being and a new way of doing; a change of mind, a change of heart and a change of behaviour.

Judas was **proud and full of himself**. His heart was filled with fear and remorse. He was worried not over the sin but over the consequences of his sin. He made confession to wrong persons, proclaiming the innocence of Christ and throwing away the money, the price for the blood of Christ.

Peter dissociated himself from the wrong company, went out and wept bitterly for his sin against the Lord. He prostrated himself at the feet of Christ, acknowledging his weakness, confessing his sin and imploring mercy and pardon, peace and joy and new life. Judas dissociated himself from the wrong company, went out but did not associate himself with the right person. He did not prostrate himself at the feet of Christ with a humble and contrite heart. His heart was filled with pride and guilt; pride and guilt without trust in Christ, without hope in Christ's mercy and pardon, is despair which leads to destruction. He went and destroyed himself.

It is said that everything increase its movement as it gets near its proper place. Saints grow rapidly in sanctity; the wicked rot quickly. The wax gets softened and the mud gets hardened at the heat of the sun. Peter, with a heart filled with humility, contrition and hope, opened himself to God's love and mercy, Judas, with a heart filled with pride, fear and despair, did not and could not open himself to God's love and mercy. **Quidquid recipitur, ad modum recipientis, recipitur.** Whatever is received, is received according to the capacity, disposition, quality, attitude of the receiver.

We, priests and religious, have been loved by the Lord in a special way. We have been called, trained and consecrated. The Lord has trusted us and entrusted to us his mission. We have received graces upon graces, blessings upon blessing so that we could be holy priests of Jesus Christ, dedicated shepherds of the flock of Christ and living images of the loving Christ. What have we done with these graces? For what, for whom have we used all these graces? At times, we have even misused and abused these graces? There are so many infidelities in our life. We have not been fully faithful to the person of Christ.

We have not devoted our whole mind and heart, our energy and resources to the mission of Christ. Instead of feeding the flock of Christ, we have fed ourselves with a lazy life, with an

easy-going life, with a comfort – pleasure seeking life. We have neglected our prayer life. We have forgotten that we are called to be **priests and victims, religious and victims** and we have given up mortifications in our life.

'The Lord turned around and looked at Peter' (Lk. 22:61). In the light that comes from the face of Christ, Peter became aware of his weakness and the gravity of his sin, and prostrated himself at the feet of Christ with a humble and contrite heart. The Lord often looks at us priests and religious with merciful love and invites us to repent. In the light that comes from the face of Christ on the cross let us make a sincere examination of ourselves; let us become deeply aware of our weakness and sinfulness; let us prostrate ourselves at the feet of the Lord with humble and contrite hearts; May Mary, the mother of priests and religious, assist us by her powerful presence and prayers so that we could renew our love for Christ and rededicate ourselves to our pastoral ministry and religious commitments.

## 2. New English Lectionary

The New English Lectionary, prepared by the CCBI Commission of Liturgy and approved by the Holy See, was released on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020, during the 32<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Assembly of the CCBI held at St. John's, Bangalore. It comes into effect from **Palm Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

## 3. Seventh Anniversary

13-03-2020 marks the Seventh Anniversary of the election of His Holiness Pope Francis. He is the Vicar of Christ on earth, the 265<sup>th</sup> Successor of St. Peter, the Head of the Episcopal College and the Supreme Shepherd of the Universal Church. On this day let us all pray in a special way for our Holy Father.

## 4. New Prefect of Propaganda Fide

His Holiness Pope Francis appointed Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Archbishop of Manila, Philippines as the new Prefect of

the Congregation for Evangelization of peoples. He is the second Asian to head the important Vatican Dicastery, after the late Indian Cardinal Ivan Dias who served from 2006 to 2011. This appointment is highly significant for Asia which is home to two-third of the world's population. We offer our prayerful wishes to His Eminence and wish him success in his new office.

### 5. Lenten Preaching

Parish Priests are earnestly requested, with the help of the Pastoral Centre and that of the neighbouring Parish Priests, to arrange for Lenten Preaching and for confessional facilities for the faithful. Let us become deeply aware that during the sacred season of Lent, God's loving mercy touches the hearts of the faithful in a special way.

### 6. Women's Day

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020 we are observing the International Day of Women. On this day, let us pray that all women in the world that they may enjoy human dignity, equality and equal opportunities in life, and that the women become messengers of peace at home and in the society.

### 7. Summer Ministry – 2020

The formation of our future priests takes place not only in the seminary but also in the concrete situations of our Archdiocese. The Regency and Summer Ministry are integral part of the formation of the priests. Hence, Parish Priests are to guide our seminarians during the time of regency and summer ministry. Let us always keep in mind that the prayerful presence, exemplary life and dedicated ministry of our priests influence and instruct our seminarians very much and encourage them on their way to the altar of Christ. Parish Priests are kindly requested to see to it that the seminarians get about **3 to 4 weeks holidays** during the summer. The seminarians must spend these 3 to 4 weeks of holidays in their homes with their parents.

### ARCHBISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR MARCH - 2020

- |    |     |            |  |
|----|-----|------------|--|
| 12 | THU | 05.30 p.m. | Feast Mass, Uppalam.   |
| 17 | TUE | 06.30 a.m. | Feast Mass, St. Patrick's HSS, Pondicherry.                    |
| 19 | THU | 07.00 a.m. | Feast Mass, St. Joseph's HSS, Cuddalore-1                      |
|    |     | 11.00 a.m. | Mass & Blessing of St. Joseph's Cluny CBSE School, Odiampattu. |
|    |     | 06.00 p.m. | Feast Mass, Petit Seminaire HSS, Pondicherry.                  |
| 21 | SAT | 10.30 a.m. | Seminar for Assistant Priests, Archbishop's House.             |
| 23 | MON | 10.30 a.m. | Mass, Lumen Institute, Tindivanam                              |
| 27 | FRI | 09.30 a.m. | Canonical Election, Carmel Convent, Muthialpet.                |
| 28 | SAT | 10.30 a.m. | Election for Senate Members.                                   |

[sd] + **Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar**  
Archbishop of Pondicherry and Cuddalore

### List of Seminarians for Summer Ministry

Name	Seminary	Ministry Place
<b><u>3rd Year Theology</u></b>		
Bro. M. Bart Augustine	St. Peter's	Viriyur
Bro. V. Johnson	St. Peter's	Vadalar
Bro. A. Aron	GSS	Mel-Nariappanur
Bro. M. Prem Kumar	GSS	Alagappasamuthiram

**2nd Year Theology**

Bro. P.M.S. Jeeva St. Peter's Kommedu

**3rd Year Philosophy**

Bro. N. Alpha Venis St. Peter's Fathimapalayam  
 Bro. V. John Britto St. Peter's Veeraredikuppam  
 Bro. A. Thomas Berna St. Peter's Thirukoilur

**2nd Year Philosophy**

Bro. S. Vincent GSS Sathyamangalam

**Propaedeutic Course**

Bro. R. Albert Raj GSS Seepakkam  
 Bro. A. Antony Prabakaran GSS Vikravandi  
 Bro. I. Antony Richardson GSS Eraiyur  
 Bro. A. Donald Robin GSS Melvizhi  
 Bro. I. Paul Ruso GSS Mel-Nariappanur

**Please note:**

i. Deacons will be relieved from their Diaconate Ministry by **13th April 2020** and they will stay in their respective parishes helping the parish priests.

ii. Regents will be relieved from their ministry by **30th April 2020** and they will stay in their respective parishes helping the parish priests.

iii. Hence, Deacons and Regents are strictly warned not to go to any other place for ministry.

iv. College seminarians and Minor Seminarians are to stay at home helping their parish priests and parents.

**ARCHBISHOP'S EDUCATION FUND**

S.No.	Date	Particulars	Amount
1	05.02.20	Amalorpavam Lorudes Academy, Kombakkam	30000
2	"	Msgr.A.Arulanandam	4000

3	"	St.John's High School, Vadalur	7000
4	"	Teachers, St.John's High School, Vadalur	1000
5	"	R.C.Primay School, Vadalur	1000
6	22.02.20	St.Marys Hr.Sec.School, Karaikal	20000
7	"	People of Meloduthurai, Karaikal	15000
8	"	Immaculate Institute of Health Sciences, Thirunallar	2000
9	"	L.Anthony, Karaikal	500
10	"	J.Salamon, Erukancherry	100
11	"	A.Felsiya, Karaikal	100
12	"	Well wishers, Melaoduthurai	300
13	"	Kottucherry Parish	5000
14	"	M.Felix Sagayaradje, Ariyankuppam	3000
15	"	Assisi Hospital, Eraiyur	25000
16	"	People of Pilrampet, Eraiyur	5000
17	"	Kariyasthergal, Eraiyur	1000
18	"	Dhanakannu, Pilrampet	500
19	"	S.Pitchai, Pilrampet	500
20	24.02.20	Immaculate Generalate, Pondicherry	10000
21	"	CSST Sisters, Villupuram	10000

**Total as on 31.01.2019 141000**

**Received up to 29.02.2020 39017218**

**Grand Total 39158218**

**[sd] + Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar**

Archbishop of Pondicherry and Cuddalore

**NECROLOGY**

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of Rev. Frs.:**

05-03-1966	Noel F., MEP
06-03-1979	Paul Puthenangady
08-03-2019	Daniel. K. A.
09-03-2015	Sampath Kumar. P. A.

13-03-1989	Thomas. C. E.
16-03-2000	Showry. E
21-03-1861	Mgr. BONNAND Clement
21-03-1954	Maylin E., MEP
23-03-2004	Anthayya. S. S.
23-03-2012	Alexis Joseph. E
25-03-1909	Mgr. GANDY Joseph Adolphe
27-03-1953	Dani el F., MEP
31-03-1981	Mirande A., MEP

**FROM THE DESK OF FR. PROCURATOR**  
**Mass Intentions received in February - 2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the Parish</b>	<b>No. of Masses</b>
01.02.2020	Nellithope Parish	150 mass intentions
03.02.2020	Fr.Melchizedech	16 mass intentions
05.02.2020	Cuddalor OT Parish	143 mass intentions
11.02.2020	Fr.S.Antonisamy	59 mass intentions
13.02.2020	Villupuram Christ the King Parish	48 mass intentions
18.02.2020	Nellithope Parish	80 mass intentions

**Binated / Trinated Mass Intentions received**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the Priest</b>	<b>No. of Masses</b>
29.11.2019	Fr.Melchizedech	5 mass intentions
05.02.2020	Fr.M.Robert	6 mass intentions

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

**BLESSINGS**

**1. Blessing of the New class rooms, at Pidaripattu, Anilady Parish.**

The **Newly built class rooms at Pidaripattu, Anilady Parish** was blessed and opened by **His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar**, our Archbishop, on **3rd January 2020**. We sincerely thank **Ensemble Pour Les Enfants, France** for their generous contribution and We thank **Rev. Fr. I. Antonysamy** the Parish Priest and faithful for thier cooperation.

**2. Blessing of the Newly built Church at Meloduthurai, Karaikal Parish.**

The **Newly built Church at Meloduthurai, Karaikal Parish** was blessed and opened by **His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar**, our Archbishop, on **18th February 2020**. We sincerely thank **Rev. Fr. D.S. Antony Raj**, parish priest for his cooperation and we thank the faithful and donors for their generous contribution.

**3. Blessing of the Newly built Church at Pilrampattu, Eraiyur Parish.**

The **Newly built Church at Pilrampattu, Eraiyur Parish** was blessed and opened by **His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. A. Anandarayar**, our Archbishop, on **20th February 2020**. We sincerely thank **Rev. Fr. S. Albert**, parish priest for his cooperation and we thank the faithful and donors for their generous contribution.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**

From this month onwards **Rev. Fr. S. Charles Edison** will be residing in Pastoral Centre Address:

**Rev. Fr. S. Charles Edison**  
 St. Xavier's Pastoral Centre  
 Netaji Nagar – I, Uppalam  
 Pondicherry - 605 001

### **FROM THE DESK OF VICARS**

If it is God's will and plan, may it find its place in us in the Local Church in the present. We are all spread over in Pondicherry, Karaikal, Cuddalore, Villupuram, Kallakurichy and other areas with four lacks of Christian faithful with three hundred priests, thousand sisters, handful of brothers living and building the local church. To bind us together our beloved Archbishop through the News Letter awakening and inviting us to continue our journey of witnessing and serving. Our News Letter is a source of information, formation and transformation. The key-persons in-charge have the pleasant task and duty to share with all the views, news, policies, suggestions, proposals for all, otherwise instead of being vibrant it becomes dormant and all do not know what is happening.

- a. Commissions for Social Service (PMSSS, SAMSSS etc.)
- b. Commission for Education (DOS, Higher)
- c. Commission for Health
- d. Other Commission for various needs

will it not be a good service to all when people-in-charge share with others. Diversity without unity and unity without diversity is not healthy. Therefore if it is God's will we have to obey with all sincerity and simplicity. For tenderly the pastoral co-ordinates the SC/ST Secretary. The Judicial Vicar share regularly in the News Letter. If all share how it will be good to build the local church.

To aim higher always structures still holding on to caste as SC/ST, OBC, dalit we have to transcend and how just two major commission such as

- a. human welfare commission
- b. Christian welfare commission

with full time Secretary with needed funds to keep vibrant the Archdiocese. Too many commissions will take us the principle of divide and rule and very few commissions will lead us towards monopoly. Let us be guided by the spirit of the Risen Lord as the Canon Law guides us. Ecclesial sense is more important than individual

sense. The commissions need to be monitored regularly, periodically evaluated and impressed in the course of time. "Sentirs cum Ecclesia" to feel with the church given to all of us to build people, the Basci Christian Community, the parish, the vicariate and the diocese. All those who are responsible with the blessings of our loving Archbishop take up the cross and follow the Master, the Risen Lord.

As a fruitful conclusion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Synod Our Archdiocese will have definitely a Pastoral Council and Finance Committee in all the parishes and institutions approved by the people, the Priests and the Local Ordinary and come into force from April 2020 onwards without any excuse or exception. The Vicar General, the Procurator, the Pastoral Coordinator and the Episcopal Vicar will monitor it.

**Msgr. A. Arulanandam**  
Vicar General

**Msgr. A. Louis**  
Episcopal Vicar

### **VOICE FROM METROPOLITAN MATRIMONIAL TRIBUNAL - 113**

#### **Family is First**

**It is a good thing when a man and woman choose to live together as husband and wife. It is a joy to their friends, a warning to their enemies, but only they know the true meaning of it.**

*-Homer, The Odyssey*

The recent directive of the Punjab and Haryana High Court to Family Courts across Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh for insisting an affidavit of assets, income and expenditure to be followed in all matrimonial cases involving payment of maintenance to the spouse is expected to benefit many a woman who is otherwise in a disadvantaged position to gather information about her estranged husband's assets and income before seeking maintenance. The information to be provided in the affidavit includes: (i) the number and kind of vehicles being used by the husband, whether self-owned or by family or company; (ii) the kind of phones being maintained by him; (iii) the credit cards/debit cards and

their statements; (iv) details of foreign visits or holiday excursions within India; (v) kind of electrical/electronic gadgetry being used in the household; (vi) details of EMIs/loan installments being paid; and (vii) details of investments. That concealment of information would invite penal action or adverse inference against the concerned is aimed at ensuring appropriate alimony.

Yes. Marriage is a sacred institution. One cannot foretell who will marry whom as marriages are said to be made in heaven. The husband and wife are expected to respect the eternal bond of matrimony and seldom take the internal matters outside their homes. For the husband, his spiritual duty – which is to maintain his wife, under the Hindu law – continues from the date of marriage, until its dissolution, through a decree of divorce.

In India, reportedly more than 10 million marriages take place every year but a number of such marriages seem to be in trouble due to a number of reasons. Although the total number of matrimonial disputes with estranged relationships pending in courts is unavailable, its adverse impact on affected women, in particular, is a cause for concern. Particularly, when there is a failure of the marriage, life is quite tough for many a separated or abandoned woman, if they fail to get any support or maintenance from their husbands.

A married woman is entitled to interim maintenance during the pendency of court proceedings if her personal income is insufficient to maintain the standard of living she was accustomed to while living with her husband. Such maintenance amounts vary from case to case and are left to the discretion of the Court.

While a Family Court in Mumbai refused to grant interim maintenance to a woman on the ground that she was educationally qualified, the Punjab and Haryana High Court held that even though the wife was drawing more than her husband, she was entitled to interim

maintenance. It observed that as per the settled position in law, the wife is entitled to enjoy the same amenities of life as she would have been had she been staying in the matrimonial home. Taking into consideration prices of daily necessities of life, expenses on education of the children who have to meet the challenges of the society and face peer pressure, the husband's contention that maintenance amount fixed by the Family Court was on the higher side was dismissed by the Court.

More recently, a Supreme Court bench, while disposing of a petition for divorce filed under the Hindu Marriage Act, in respect of a couple who resided for barely two and a half months together after their marriage was solemnized on 23 April 2000 made use of its unique power conferred under Article 142 of the Constitution. Under these special provisions, the Apex Court can extend itself to put a quietus to a dispute in a manner which would befit the facts of the case, to do complete justice between the parties, that is, where at times, law or statute may not provide a remedy. Thus exercising its jurisdiction, it granted a decree of divorce to dissolve the marriage forthwith. Although the spouse was a qualified lawyer, the Court directed the husband to continue paying the monthly maintenance of Rs 7500/- which is to be reconciled between the parties once a decree of divorce is granted.

Even though matrimonial cases get heard in specially designated Family Courts, for a plethora of reasons, some cases drag on for years. Discouraging matrimonial litigation, the Supreme Court, in G.V.Rao vs L.H.V. Prasad & others decided on 6 March 2000 rightly observed that “there has been an outburst of matrimonial disputes in recent times. The marriage is a sacred ceremony, the main purpose of which is to enable the young couple to settle down in life and live peacefully. But little matrimonial skirmishes suddenly erupt which often assume serious proportions resulting in the commission of heinous crimes in which elders of the family are also involved with the result that those who could have

counseled and brought about rapprochement are rendered helpless on their being arrayed as accused in the criminal case. There are many other reasons which need not be mentioned here for not encouraging matrimonial litigation so that the parties may ponder over their defaults and terminate their disputes amicably by mutual agreement instead of fighting it out in a court of law where it takes years and years to conclude and in that process, the parties lose their “young” days in chasing their “cases” in different courts.

Marriages break down because of several factors including feelings of resentment, frustration, anger, betrayal, infidelity, apathy, despair, loneliness etc. It can be saved with a little more of adjustment, mutual respect and understanding but there are no quick fixes. As someone said, great memories are the glue that can hold a relationship together. (cf. *Aarti, Family, Indian Currents, Vol. XXXII, No. 03, 13-19 January 2020, pp 38-39*).

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

### **COMMISSIONS AND REPORTS**

#### **CDPI – Conference of the Diocesan Priests of India**

The details of the Diocesan Priests’ National Congress held at Vailankanny from 27<sup>th</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> January were given in the last month’s News Letter. As you know that the central theme of the Congress was “The Joy of Priesthood”. I thank all the Fathers from our diocese (30 Priests) who participated in the Congress. Also I thank the Fathers and the institutions who gave voluntary contributions towards the expenses of the Congress. The National team was really happy and grateful to our Archdiocese for this. I am giving the statement of the Congress year below:

## **DIOCESAN PRIESTS’ NATIONAL CONGRESS - 2020**

### **FINAL STATEMENT**

**January 28-31, 2020 at Vailankanni, Tamil Nadu**

Diocesan Priests’ National Congress convened by the Conference of Diocesan Priests of India (CDPI) was held at the sacred premises of the Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health, at Vailankanni, Tamil Nadu, from 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020. Around 750 diocesan priests from 91 dioceses (Latin) in India participated in the congress as delegates. The inaugural Mass was presided over by Oswald Cardinal Gracias, the President of CBCI, and the Archbishop of Bombay. In his homily, Archbishop Anil Couto exhorted the priests to look for ways and means of celebrating joy in priesthood.

The theme chosen for the National Congress was THE JOY OF PRIESTHOOD as inspired by the spirit of Pope Francis, who opened his very papal ministry with the *Joy of the Gospel*. His positive approach to his ministry as well as the challenges faced by the Church in today’s context has spread an atmosphere of joy all over.

In his Keynote address, Most Rev. Oswald Cardinal Gracias, insisted upon the need of priests being joyful.

Diocesan priest plays a pivotal role in building up the Church universal. Being entrusted to take pastoral care of the souls, following closely the Good Shepherd in his pastoral charity diocesan priest is called to become all things to all!

In profound solidarity with the people of God, he shares the joys and sorrows, hopes and anxiety of the people entrusted to his care. The diocesan priest so identifies himself with the problems and issues of the people that he becomes another Christ for them.

In our being together here at the very lap of Our Lady of Health and Mother of Priests, we experienced great joy of the priesthood of Christ as many delegates prayerfully shared their own profoundly joyful moments of priesthood as they struggled in very many unfriendly, inconvenient and even dangerous situations. In all of these lonely and challenging moments of our priestly existence, we,

the diocesan priests continue to experience the providence of God, proving every Biblical promise made by the Lord come literally true. Along with our Mother, we sing: our souls magnify the Lord, who makes use of us, his servants in so many manifold and wonderful ways to build up His Church. Like St Paul, one of his versatile Apostles, we feel proud in the Lord that He utilizes us as collaborators of our Bishops to build up the Church with our ministry of the Word of God and ministry of the Sacraments in the most silent and simple way.

We, as pastors after the mind and heart of the Good Shepherd, experience immense joy in celebrating Christ, his passion and death in the Sacraments. When we celebrate baptism, the great mystery of the Eucharist, the sacrament of reconciliation, the sacrament of anointing of the sick, and the sacrament of matrimony, we experience great joy in the exercise of ministerial priesthood, as these celebrations of the sacraments are building up the Church.

Against all odds, we feel enthused and motivated to proclaim Jesus Christ in season and out of season. Listening to the life stories of many of our brother priests, we feel one with St. Paul, who even though experiences lots of hardships, yet is not broken or knocked down (cf. 2 Cor 4:7-10).

We consider ministering to the youth of our time is of grave importance. We need to be better prepared during our formation itself for our pastoral ministry by diocesan priests who had reasonable pastoral and missionary experience. We are aware that in the present day world we need to acquire better communication skills so that we can the Church to grow in communion.

In the face of the explosion of the digital communication media, it has become a greater challenge to all of us and especially to our younger clergy to utilize their time and resources more creatively to proclaim Jesus and to build the Reign of God. This digitalized situation challenges all of us to find quality time to be with the Lord and Master so that we find real joy within and to spread the same joy to all who are heavily burdened and tired (cf. Mt 11:28), because it is only the Lord who can refresh us as well as our people.

In our prayerful reflections during these days, we realize that our responsibility as shepherds cannot be confined only to our Catholic community alone, but it goes beyond all boundaries of caste, religion, language and culture to embrace all, especially the poor, the down-trodden and the voiceless as Christ had an all-embracing approach in his life and mission. In doing so, even though we might encounter difficulties and challenges, we are assured of great joy in being shepherds to all in the manifold exigencies of their lives.

Having experienced great joy in the priesthood of Christ and having listened to the sharing of so many faithful stories of priests, as well as having listened to the expectations of lay men and women, youth, religious, educationists and politicians, we realize that we are called to be messengers of joy to the world that is so much in need of it.

At the conclusion of the second national congress of the Diocesan Priests, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we resolve and commit ourselves the following:

1. To give quality time to intimacy with Jesus our eternal high priest, for true joy is derived uniquely in the stillness of the heart in prayer.
2. To be like the poor, of the poor, and for the poor and live in solidarity with them in our life style.
3. To take time for ourselves and to update ourselves so as to give better and quality ministry.
4. To find time for cultivating healthy priestly friendships and fraternity.
5. To be creatively involved in different forms of ministry including non-conventional ones so as to serve the integral good of the entire human person.
6. To make ourselves available fully and totally for the service to all sections of people, especially to the people on the peripheries.
7. To have special focus given to the children and youth in our ministry

8.To give due importance to the ministry to the family and to have regular family visits.

9.To acquire communication skills for better communion with all people so as to lead them into communities.

10.To stand with the people always and especially in times of persecutions and trials of all and in particular with the tribals, dalits, fish workers, farmers, and landless labourers.

11.To establish and strengthen the diocesan and regional level CDPI units by having regular meetings.

12.To have more communication among the members of the CDPI through our e-magazine and other means of communication.

13.Overflowing with the joy of priesthood, we resolve to uphold and protect the democratic, sovereign, socialist and secular fabric of our beloved country, India and stand by the values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity.

### Conclusion:

At the conclusion of the national congress of our CDPI, like Mother Mary we hasten in joy to serve all our fellow human beings.

Dear Fathers, kindly go through the statement and give more attention to the Resolutions of the Congress and let us try to implement them in our life and ministry. We are called to dedicate ourselves totally for the formation and growth of the Kingdom of God and work with patriotism as well. Resolution five indicates and invites us to discover new and alternative ministries for the integral good of the entire human person. With this in mind you can also propose any new ministries that you would like to propose for yourselves and for our brother priests. And we will discuss in the due forums and decide the best.

In our diocese and in our Region, we have good infrastructure of the CDPI. Only thing is that we are unable to conduct the CDPI General Body Meeting in the diocesan level, because we do not have the occasion for that, because the diocesan Priests alone do not come together in the Diocesan level gatherings. May be this year, as approved by the Senate and permitted by the Archbishop, we can celebrate the feast of St. John Maria Vianney as the diocesan CDPI day.

### Madha T. V.

On 8<sup>th</sup> January we had the meeting of the diocesan Commission's Secretaries for Media and Communication to plan out the Lenten special programmes. There are special adorations, way of the crosses and the recitations of the Rosary during the lent and special programmes for the Holy Week as well. Kindly watch and enjoy and invite the people also to watch them.

### Synod

I have completed the total compilation of the whole Synodal activities right from the introduction of the concept of conducting the IIIrd Synod of Pondicherry in 2016 till the conclusion of the Synod on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Then I had some difficulties in getting the talks of the input sessions and somehow, I have succeeded to get them all by the end of January. And with great help of Mr. S. Angalo Pinto, the Office Secretary of the Archbishop's House, we were able to type and compile everything. Now the Core Committee is going through it and the Archbishop may discuss about the aftermath of the Synod in the forthcoming Senate Meetings to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> of this month and make his declarations regarding the Pastoral directives for our diocese.

### Commission for Anbiyam

I thank all the Parish Priests who have actively celebrated and sent the reports of the celebration. We had the Diocesan Executive Committee Meeting of the Commission for Anbiyam on 15<sup>th</sup> February and evaluated our Anbiyam activities and noted that though, we are doing so many things in Anbiyams, we are not documenting them by writing reports, in the parish, vicariate and diocesan levels. And we have decided to rectify this drawback in future.

Now, on 29<sup>th</sup> February, we have the General Body Meeting of the TNBC Commission for Anbiyam in the Pastoral Centre of Chinglepet Diocese. The Chairman Most Rev. Dr. A. Amalraj, D.D., STD, Bishop of Ooty presides over, and Most Rev. Dr. Neethinathan, Bishop of Chinglepet will felicitate the gathering. In this meeting the Anbiyam Commissions Secretary along with the diocesan executive members of the Commission for Anbiyam should participate. I am unable to attend because of our Senate Meeting which is on the same day. But 5 members from our diocese are attending this meeting.

### Commission for Evangelization

This month, the third Saturday meeting will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> March. Last month, Rev. Fr. George Vincent, ALCP conducted the meeting very nicely. People really enjoyed his prayer and had a lot of deliverances from the evil spirits. This month, the Prayer Meeting will be conducted by Rev. Fr. L. Paul Velankanni, th Correspondent, Carmel Hr. Sec. School, Elayankanni, Vellore Diocese. Kindly announce about this meeting in your parishes, so

that, during this lent, people may come and participate in the healing prayer and make good confession and grow in their spiritual life.

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

### குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழுவினருந்து.....

நம் பணிக்குழு கடந்த 28 ஆண்டுகளாக திருமண தயாரிப்புப் பயிற்சியை நடத்தி வருகிறது. அனுபவம் மிக்க கருத்தாளர்களாலும், நமது மறை மாநில நீதி மன்ற நடுவர் அவர்களின் துணையோடும் இப்பயிற்சி எல்லா மறைவட்டங்களிலும் நடத்தப்பட்டு வந்துள்ளது.

புதுவை நெல்லித்போப்பு புனித விண்ணேற்பு அன்னை ஆலயம் பங்கில் 03.11.2019 முதல் 26.01.2020 வரை ஞாயிறுதோறும் 12 வாரங்களில் திருமண தயாரிப்புப் பயிற்சி நடத்தப்பட்டது. இதில் 21 பேர் பங்கேற்று சான்றிதழ் பெற்றனர்.

நம் மறைமாவட்ட திருக்கோவிலூர் நல்ல ஆயன் பங்கில் அம்மறைவட்ட இளைஞர் இளம் பெண்கள் 112 பேருக்கு ஜனவரி மாதம் 18 மற்றும் 19 தேதிகளில் திருமண தயாரிப்புப் பயிற்சியினை இரண்டு நாள் குறுகிய கால பயிற்சியாக நடத்தப்பட்டது.

இவ்வாண்டு ஜனவரி மாதம் 14, 15 மற்றும் 16 தேதிகளில் (பொங்கல் விடுமுறையின் பொழுது) திருமண தயாரிப்புப் பயிற்சியினை தூய இதய ஆண்டவர் பசிலிக்காவில் குறுகிய கால பயிற்சியாக நடத்தப்பட்டது. மூன்று நாட்களும் தினமும் காலை 9.30 மணிக்குத் தொடங்கி மாலை 4.30 மணி வரை நடைபெற்ற இப்பயிற்சியில் முழுமையாக பங்கேற்ற 125 பேருக்கு பேராயின் கையொழுப்பமிடப்பட்ட சான்றிதழ் வழங்கப்பட்டது.

மேலும் ஜனவரி 11 - ம் நாளன்று குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களான பயிற்சியின் கருத்தாளர்கள் கூட்டம் செயலர் தந்தையின் இல்லத்தில் நடைபெற்றது இதில் 12 உறுப்பினர்கள் பங்கேற்று தங்கள் கருத்துகளை பகிர்ந்து கொண்டனர். இக்கூட்டத்தில்

அனைத்து மறைவட்டங்களிலும் தனித்தனியே ஒரு கருத்தாளர் குழுவை உருவாக்கி அவர்களுக்கு நம் கருத்தாளர்கள் பயிற்சி வழங்குவது என தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டது.

27.01.2020 அன்று மாலை செயலர் தந்தையின் இல்லத்தில் ஒரு சிறப்புக் கூட்டமும் நடைபெற்றது. இக்கூட்டம் பிரான்சிலிருந்து வந்திருந்த “கானா” குழுவின் ஆன்ம குரு அருட்பணி கிறிஸ்டோபர் தம் புதுவை குழுவினருடன் பங்கேற்று தம் குழுவை பற்றி அறிமுகப்படுத்தினார். உடன் வந்த உறுப்பினர்களும் தங்கள் “கானா” அனுபவத்தை பகிர்ந்து கொண்டு குழுவை பற்றிப் தெளிவை அளித்தனர்.

### மாநில கருத்தரங்கு

ஜனவரி 6, 7, 8, ஆகிய தேதிகளில் கோயம்பத்தூர் ஜீவ ஜோதி ஆசிரமத்தில் கோயம்பத்தூர் ஆயர் தாமஸ் ஆக்குவினாஸ் அவர்கள் தலைமையில் குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களுக்கு மூன்று நாள் பயிற்சி வகுப்புகள் நடைபெற்றன. முதல் நாள் அமர்வில் டாக்டர் ஜான் மைக்கேல் ராஜ் அவர்கள் குழு குடும்ப வாழ்க்கை முறை, மனித இனம் பயணித்த பாதை, தன்னைப் பற்றிய சுயஉணர்வு (Self esteem) போன்ற தலைப்புகளில் கருத்துரை வழங்கினார். மேலும் ஒவ்வொரு குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழு செயலரும் ஆறு மாத கால அறிக்கையை ஆயர் தாமஸ் ஆக்குவினாஸ் அவர்களின் முன்னிலையில் வாசித்தார்கள்.

இரண்டாம் நாள் அமர்வில் அருட்தந்தை நெப்போலியன் (PhD., Psychology) அவர்கள் உளநல உதவி அமைப்பு, ஆற்றுப்படுத்தலுக்குத் தேவையான நிபந்தனைகள், ஆற்றுப்படுத்தலின் இன்றியமையா பண்புகள், ஆற்றுப்படுத்துதல் நடைபெறும் விதம் போன்றவைகளைப் பற்றி விளக்கம் அளித்தார்.

மூன்றாம் நாள் அமர்வில் அருட்தந்தை டாக்டர் பிரான்சிஸ் சேவியர் நெல்சன் அவர்கள் குடி என்பது ஒரு மன நோய், குடிப்பதனால் ஏற்படும் விளைவுகள், குடியைப்பற்றி அறிவுரை போன்ற தலைப்புகளில் வீடியோ மூலமாக விளக்கினார். இறுதியாக இதில்

பங்கேற்ற அனைத்து குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களுக்கு சான்றிதழ் வழங்கப்பட்டது. நமது மறை மாவட்டத்திலிருந்து குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழு செயலர் அருட்தந்தை S. குழந்தைசாமி, அருட்சகோதரி ஜீலியட் மற்றும் செல்வி சகாயமேரி அவர்கள் பங்கேற்றனர்.

**குடும்ப நலப்பணிக்குழு செயலர்  
அருட்தந்தை S. குழந்தைசாமி**

### **News from Archdiocesan Board of Education Policy for deployment/deputation of teachers in our archdiocesan high/higher secondary schools in Tamilnadu**

#### **A. General Principles**

1. All the high/higher secondary/matriculation and nursery schools that are attached to them come under the purview of the Archdiocesan Board of Education which constitutes a corporate management. In this corporate management each school is a separate unit.
2. The teachers who are working in these schools come under two categories: 1) Teachers in government aided posts and 2) Teachers in consolidated posts.
3. The management has the right and power to appoint eligible teachers in these schools following the archdiocesan policy.
4. As per need, the management has the right and power to transfer, deploy and depute any teacher from any school to any other school following government rules.

5. The management has the right and power to take disciplinary action on any teacher who does not comply with the order of the management or who err in his/her duty.

### **B. Government Regulations**

1. G.O. 165 directs that all the surplus posts in government aided private schools must be deployed. Till then new appointments cannot be made. But this G.O. is suspended by Madurai High Court and the case is still pending.
2. G.O. 217 stipulates staff fixation and deployment norms for various categories of teachers in government schools. It says that in the case of deployment “station junior” has to be deployed.
3. G.O. 217 gives exemption from this rule of deployment to the totally blind people and 40 % physically challenged people as per norms of 1995 law.
4. G.O. 217 suggests preference could be given in counselling to the following category of teachers: widows, unmarried women even after 40 years of age, wives of army personal, persons who underwent by-pass heart surgery or kidney transplantation, cancer patients and parents of physically challenged children.

### **C. Archdiocesan norms for deployment/deputation**

1. If deployment in B.T. arises in a school the possibility of deploying those posts with person to other schools in the corporate management shall be first ascertained. If the possibilities are there then the deployment process can start.

2. The willingness of the teachers in B.T. deployment shall be first obtained. If any teacher expresses willingness to be deployed he or she shall be deployed.
3. If nobody is willing then the station junior shall be deployed/deputed.
4. In case, if the station junior is an affected person due to his/her previous transfer which was done for the sake of the convenience of management then his/her service from the previous transfer will be counted along with station service and station junior shall be decided accordingly.
5. If a teacher was already deployed from one school to another due to no fault of the management and if the same teacher comes under deployment in the present school then the management has no other choice except to deploy the station junior.
6. In the deployment of SGT to SGT the deployment norms of B.T. shall be followed.
7. In the case of SGT converted to B.T. and that B.T. is in deployment only the B.T. service will be counted for station seniority.
8. When we come to a saturated point where we cannot deploy any teacher to any of our schools then the deployment posts shall be surrendered to the government. In this situation if a teacher expresses willingness to be deployed to another management school then our management can give permission to go there. The responsibility of finding another management is left to the particular teacher.

**D. Exemption from deployment/deputation**

1. Those teachers, who are on the verge of retirement, at least two years before retirement, shall not be deployed/deputed unless they are willing.
2. Those teachers who are totally blind and 40 % physically challenged as per norms of 1995 law shall not be deployed/deputed provided they produce the relevant certificates and documents.
3. Widows, unmarried women even after 40 years of age, and some for some serious valid reason could be considered for exemption by the Archbishop without prejudice to the norms stated above provided they produce a letter to that effect from the Priest HM or Correspondent.

**Note:**

1. After discussing in detail with the Priest HMs and Correspondents the above policy was finalized and it has been approved by our Archbishop on 17.12.2019.
2. The above policy is applicable to those teachers who are working in our High Schools and Hr. Sec. Schools in Tamil Nadu which are either fully aided or partly aided.
3. I request all the Priest HMs and Correspondents of our High Schools and Hr. Sec. Schools to notify this policy to our teachers.

(Sd/-) **Fr. R. Joseph Raj**

Secretary, Archdiocesan Board of Education

**YOUTH COMMISSION REPORT****Activities:****1. Regional Level Inauguration of Year of Youth:**

Tamilnadu Level Year of Youth official Inauguration was held on 22nd January 2020 in St. Mary's Higher Secondary school campus, Colachel, Kottar. The grand procession started at 2 pm from the sea shore and ended in school campus followed by the Holy Mass and Inauguration ceremony. All the bishops of Tamilnadu along with the diocesan youth directors and priests celebrated the Holy Mass. Nearly 5000 youth and lay faithful witnessed the historical event. There were 50 youth delegates including 2 priests and 6 sisters represented our Archdiocese of Pondicherry. Our Archdiocesan youth cultural team presented the traditional folk dances and mime.

**2. Parish Level Year of Youth Inauguration and youth motivation:**

We had parish level year of youth Inauguration and youth motivation program in the following parishes on following date. I thank and appreciate the parish priests for their initiative and real involvement in empowerment of youth.

01. 01. 2020 - Vikravandi, Murugampakkam, Villianur, Marakanam,  
 05. 01. 2020 - Azagappasamuthiram, Velanhangal, Therkunam, Tagur nagar  
 14. 01. 2020 - Idaya Engineering College, Chinnasalam  
 15. 01. 2020 - Kanakankuppam, St. Xavier's church-Villupuram, Pennadam  
 19. 01. 2020 - Vinoba nagar, Christ the King Church-Villupuram  
 22. 01. 2020 - Konankuppam  
 26. 01. 2020 - Krishnankuppam, Thnengudi, Irudayampattu  
 31. 01. 2020 - Neyveli 24<sup>th</sup> Block  
 02. 02. 2020 - Melpazangur, Mugaiyur, Nelithope, Uluthur  
 09. 02. 2020 - Tindivanam  
 09. 02. 2020 - Melvazi  
 10. 02. 2020 - Mel sithamur  
 16. 02. 2020 - Memalur

### 3. Planning meeting for Regional Synod on Youth:

In view of Year of Youth, the TNBC Youth commission has the plan to organize Regional Synod on Youth. We had a one day planning meeting with youth directors on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Poondi Matha Basilica.

### Upcoming Events for the month of March:

1. **Monthly Youth Mass** on the theme "Gender Equality" will be held on 01<sup>st</sup> March 2020 in all the parishes of our Archdiocese.
2. **100 Youth scheme:** Training on Leadership will be held in St. Joseph's college, Cuddalore on 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

3. The special **Youth Way of the Cross** will be held in Pondicherry beach on 22<sup>rd</sup> March 2020
4. Viriyur vicariate level **Youth motivation and leadership training** will be held in Adaikala Annai Hr. Sec. School, Viriyur.
5. "Walk with Jesus" – Villupuram vicariate level **Faith Walk** and way of the cross for youth from Mampazapattu to Kalpet shrine will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 at 2 pm.
6. "One Day With Jesus" -Archdiocesan level special **Lenten Youth Retreat** will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> April

### Informations:

1. The YCS/ YSM India third national convention is going to be held in Umran, Shilong from 17-22 May 2020. Last date to register is 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020. If any YCS students are interested to participate kindly inform us.
2. Please follow or like the following TNBC Youth commission's official social media communications

**Youtube channel:** TNBC Youth Commission

**Instagram:** tnbcyouthcommission

**Facebook Page:** TNBC Youth Commission

**Twitter:** TNBC Youth Commission

**Website:** www.tcytmtnbc.org

**Fr. A. Arputharaj, Secretary**

## **DOCTOR'S MESSAGE – HEALTH TIPS**

### **Doctor's advice about coronavirus:**

1. It is pretty large in size (cell is about 400-500nm diameter), so any normal mask (not just the N95 feature) should be able to filter it out. However, when someone who's infected sneezes in front of you, it will take a great 3 meters (about 10 feet) before it drops to the ground and is no longer airborne.
2. When the virus drops on metal surface, it will live for at least 12 hours. So remember if you come in contact with any metal surface, wash your hands with soap thoroughly.
3. The virus can remain active on fabric for 6-12 hours. Normal laundry detergent should kill the virus. For winter clothing that does not require daily washing, you can put it out under the sun to kill the virus.

About the symptoms of the pneumonia caused by Coronavirus:

1. It will first infect the throat, so the throat will have the dry sore throat feeling which will last for 3 to 4 days
2. Then the virus will blend into the nasal fluid and drips into the trachea and enter the lungs, causing pneumonia. This process will take 5 to 6 days.
3. With pneumonia, comes high fever and difficulty in breathing. The nasal congestion is not like the normal kind. You will feel like you are drowning in water. It's important to go seek immediate medical attention if you feel like this.

### **About prevention:**

1. The most common way of getting infected is by touching things in public,  
so you must wash your hands frequently.

The virus can only live on your hands for 5-10 mins, but a lot can happen in those 5-10 mins (you can rub your eyes or pick your nose unwittingly).

2. Aside from washing your hands frequently, you can gargle with Betadine Sore Throat Gargle to eliminate or minimize the germs while they are still in your throat (before dripping down to your lungs).

Take extra care and drink plenty of water.

**Dr J Irudayaraj**  
**Medical Consultant**

**BLESSINGS OF NEW CHURCHES**  
**AT PILBAMPATTU, ERAIYUR PARISH**      **AT MELODUTHURAI, KARAIKAL PARISH**



**BLESSING OF ASSISI HOSPITAL, ERAIYUR**



**FINAL VOWS, FIHM SISTERS**



**JUBILEE MASS**



**CSST SISTERS**



**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS, CATHEDRAL**

**தவக்காலம் 2020**  
**நாளும் ஓர் ஒறுத்தல்**

ஞாயிறு	திங்கள்	செவ்வாய்	புதன்	வியாழன்	வெள்ளி	சனி
<b>நாளும் ஓர் ஒறுத்தல் முயற்சி செய்வதன் வழியாக தீர்த்த தவக்காலத்தை நமது ஆன்ம மேன்மைக்கு உதவிடும் அருளின் காலமாக அமைத்திட முயற்சி செய்கிறோமாம்.</b>						
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12

**இயேசு:** **பிறர் உங்களுக்குச் செய்ய வேண்டும் என விரும்புகிறவற்றை எல்லாம் நீங்களும் அவர்களுக்குச் செய்யுங்கள். மத்தேயு 7:12**

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