

### Fratelli Vicini







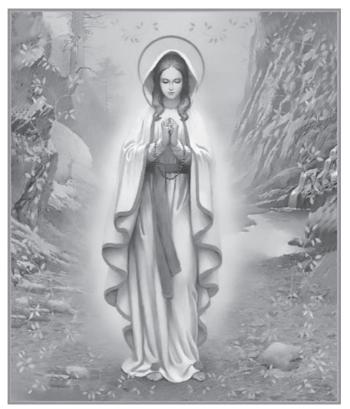


Initiatives from Assisi Hand at SH Hospital

# INTERNOS

### ST. JOSEPH PROVINCE, KERALA & NIRMALA CUSTODY, ASSAM-MEGHALAYA INDIA

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Special thanks	: Br. George Antony Assaricheril OFM Cap.
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"You, therefore, must be on your guard," Jesus warns his disciples in Mark 13:23. The literal meaning of *being on your* guard is to see or to watch. As we know, Jesus gave the warning in the context of teaching about the second coming of Christ. All the same His warning speaks to our living situation as well. Thus it becomes an invitation to all of us to consider seriously what is going on all around us and determine what our response should be, to be vigilant against misinformation being hurled around, and still be steadfast in our work of spreading the gospel and living that gospel by entrusting ourselves to God. At times this task becomes very heroic, at times it could be lived out very gently, and still at other times it could even be quite silent. All these are related to our grasp of the Lord and how much we dare to live him in our own existential contexts.

As Franciscans, "being on our guard" would entail going into oneself and reflecting the way we live and respond, by placing the teachings of Christ and the life of St Francis in focus. A life born out of painstaking reflection will necessarily be heroic, gentle and positively effective. There is absolutely no easy path to live our spirituality meaningfully and relevantly. The more we remain vigilant to the promptings of the Gospel and diligent to the ideals of Francis of Assisi the more our lives will start reflecting Christ, the hope for the world. It is to state the obvious that such a life will be humane, considerate to all species and thus genuinely Franciscan.

Let us be *on ourguard*, by *seeing* Jesus in the gospel and Francis in his writings, and *be watchful* reading the writings on the walls of the time, so that we become the gospel wherever we go and whomever we meet. I wish all of you a very Happy Feast of our Holy Father Francis.

Br. Amal Keeprath OFM Cap. (Provincial Secretary)

### Provincial's Message



Dear Brothers,

We face a changed world. The restrictions put on us 'inconveniences': the masks, social distances, lack of freedom to travel, quarantine, economic problems and many more. For us the lack of ministry and

contact with people affect us a lot. How to face these situations of 'inconvenience' is a valid question and what should be our attitude to these 'inconveniences'. The news changed: there are still regular news stories, but at the forefront of every single news cast is the numbers, how many people have died and how many people are infected. In common conversations with one another we hear/speak more negative news than in the past: some arise from the particular situation and some others are made up ones. St. Francis the saint for all times and places will give us the guidance also for this particular situation of ours.

Here I am reminded of two incidents that took place in the life of St. Francis. Francis' remaining before the Bishop of Assisi and all the by standers stark naked. There he embraced boldly a world of inconvenience where even a small piece of cloth would become a convenience or even a luxury. It was the moment in which his graph of inconvenience reached at zero level. Then on he began to be away from comfortable life and embraced embarrassing situations. The second incident in the life of Francis expresses the fruition of this attitude. His conversation about perfect joy with Br. Leo. The conclusion of the conversation is that to endure all the experiences of life even the mistreatment without disquieting ourselves and without murmuring, and seeing them with a spiritual eye would bring to life a perfect joy. This is the Franciscan way to real happiness.

The situations of today are such that we can very well be dragged to hopelessness, sorrow and depression. But the Franciscan way helps us to see realities very differently. St. Francis teaches us how to listen positively the message that comes through the signs of the time. The words of G.K. Chesterton in his inspired biography, St. Francis of Assisi, says: Saint Francis is a medicine because he is an antidote... He will generally be found restoring the world to sanity by exaggerating whatever the world neglects, which is by no means always the same element in every age. Yet each generation seeks its saint by instinct; and he is not what the people want, but rather what the people need. Saint Francis is the saint we need in our time, because in this moment of crisis when so many turn inward, to our own convenience and inconvenience, he inspires us to look outward: caring for our neighbour, breaking down barriers, celebrating the shared humanity which unites us as one in Christ. It is this Franciscan joy that drew thousands to the order, the joy that changed his age and continues to influence our own, is a simple joy in trusting and being united with God. He lived so much in the love of Christ and knew in the depths of his being that "all things work for the good of those who love God" (Romans 8:28). St. Francis celebrated life because the inconveniences were conveniences to celebrate life: means to perfect joy. During these days of pandemic what I wish is that let the deep roots of spirituality and brotherhood sustain us through droughts, steady us through trials, and nourish us to thrive and produce fruits. I wish all of you a very Happy Feast of our Holy Father Francis.

### Br. George Antony Assaricheril OFM Cap. Minister Provincial

### Secretarial Informations

#### Later Appointments in the Province:

Br Simon Neelanirappel Rector at Vidyabhavan Thellakom. Br Sarish Thondamkuzhiyil Vice Rector at Vidyabhavan Thellakom.

Br Tom Mundanthanam Procurator at Vidyabhavan Thellakom.

Br Joseph Simon Spiritual Father, Vidyabhavan Thellakom.

Br Jinu Manthiyil Staff at Vidyabhavan Thellakom.

Br George Nedumparambil Provincialate.

Br Shaji Dominic Provincialate.

Br Thomas Palelil Procurator, Portiuncula Ashram, Kattappana.

Br Sibichan Puthiyidom St Thomas Ashram, Kavalam.

Br Jins Perikilamtharappel Mission Saudi Arabia.

Br Xavier Kochurumpil Shola Woods, Kulamavu.

Br Sunny Parackal Shola Woods, Kulamavu. Br Abin Pothanamuzhi Vocation Promotor, Provincialate.

Br Prince Vallompurayidathil Loreto Ashram, Muvattupuzha.

Br Amal Nattuvazhiprambil Procurator, St Thomas Ashram, Kavalam.

Br Jorline Kumbilimoottil Procurator, Ranigiri Ashram, Mannanthala.

Br Antony John Thekkummuriyil Ranigiri Ashram, Mannanthala.

Br Jose Edayal Infirmary, Bharananganam.

Br Kuriakose Kannamkara St Francis Ashram, Uzhavoor.

Br Jomon Pushpamangalam Vicar & Rector at Amala Ashram, Thopramkudy.

Br Abilash Elamthuruthil Vice Rector, Amala Ashram, Thopramkudy.

Br Joseph Zacharias Minor Seminary, Diocese of Idukki, Spiritual Director & the professor of English.

Br Jose T Vettickat Brother in charge at Vagamon Ashram.

Br Jomes Thekkemuriyil Vagamon Ashram.

Br Sebatian Thottunkal Vicar, Portiuncula Ashram, Kattappana.

Br Bastin Karackatt Nirmala Matha Custody (Assam – Meghalaya).

Br Anish Pulickal Guardian, Loretto Ashram, Muvattupuzha. Br Shaiju Mannumattathil St Basil Capuchin Ashram, Pathanamthitta. Br Thomas Padipurackal Diocese of Parassala -Syro Malankara Br Antony John Thekkummuriyil Ranigiri Ashram, Mannanthala. Brs Jacob Chamakalayil & George Nedumparambil Germany. Br Xavier Karivelikonam Papupa New Guinea Mission. Br Rentu Manoor Formation Course at Puna. **Regents:** Brs Geo Olickal, Bejoy Kunnumpurathu, Varghese Charukunnel, Jeswin Vattukattil Vagamon Asshram. Br Henson Thelliyankal Jagadalpur Mission. Br Jis Kuzhivellil Shola Woods, Kulamavu. Br James Kaithakulathu Puthenpuravil Adilabad Mission.  $\geq$ Our initial stage of Formation (Pre-Novitiate) is shifted to Amala Ashram, Thopramkudy from Portiuncula Ashram, Kattappana. Alphonsa Capuchin Ashram at Rajakumary is now functioning also as a formation house for the fourth year brothers of Idukki Diocese.

### News from our Fraternities

### 1. Capuchin Provincial House, Kottayam

Greetings from St Joseph Capuchin Provincilate, Kottayam.

We are at the fulfillment of comforting many of our friars by creating an atmosphere for peaceful and stable quarantines. The provincilate community was very active and vibrant with the presence of many of our friars for a long duration of time. We celebrated the Easter mass at 9.30 pm. After the mass, we had a small gathering. Third-year philosophy students were with us for the Easter celebration.

### Fratelli Vicini

The fraternal gatherings of our friars were held at Provincialate. The friars gathered in seven groups on their assigned days. Except the group of senior friars, all other groups gathered here. It was a celebration of brotherhood when the brothers came together and shared their experiences, we the



Birthday of our Provincial



Birthday of our Stephen

provincialate community was blessed to witness it. The day was spent with input sessions, sharing, praying and meals together. It was joyful to see the brothers who are away from the Province for ministry or studies attending it virtually.

### Sister Sickness

Even though our provincialate witnessed innumerable home quarantines, nobody ended up Covid 19 -positive or experiencing serious physical troubles. Br Benedict Vattoth underwent an angiogram at Marsleeva Hospital, Cherupunkal and after sufficient rest; he is back to the daily affairs of the Provicialate. Br Hadrian was not very stable with his health that he had to be admitted in the hospital on and off.



Brothers to Pre-novitiate @ Provincialate

### Enriched with their presence

Our philosophy students and newly professed brothers from Assam and last year regency students spent few days at the provincialate. Our present year regency brothers were here, for their final Semester BA and postgraduate exams, for a month. We were also blessed with the presence of Bros Antony John, Sebin, Aby, Nithin, Jinesh, Justine and Jins V. The presence of all these brothers made the atmosphere of provinvialate more fraternal. We prayed together, shouldered our domestic responsibilities and ministries together, cooked food for ourselves, caught fish from the pond, cleansed the surroundings, when the elder friars were sick all these brothers were a great help for us.

### New members

When Br sunny Parackal went for the permanent stay at our farm, Shola woods at Kulamavu and Br Simon Neelanirappel took up the responsibility of Vidyabhavan as the rector we were blessed with the presence of Br George



Festal Celebration



Food kit distribution

Nedumparambil and Br K Shaji. Br Jose Edayal was shifted to Assisi Ashram, Bharananganam for his treatment.

### Celebrations

We celebrated the birthday of Br Provincial on April 15; due to the pandemic and the restrictions, the celebrations were limited. Many friars wished him via. virtual media. Br Joseph Puthenpurackal (former Provincial) and the councilors were present for the celebration. We had a special prayer service on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the evening. We also celebrated the feast days and birthdays of our Brothers Stephen Vammiyalil, Antony John and Roy Karackatt.

### **Our Guests**

We thankfully remember all the friars from different friaries and from missions who visited us and shared the spirit of brotherhood. Specially, we remember Br Stephen Jairaj, Br PaulyMadasserry and the friars from the other provinces for your fraternal visit and enriching presence.

### Send-Off

With grateful heart and with the pain of departure we could send our brothers for their ministries and the studies. Br Anoop Kuzhiyampala to Namibia, Br Bastine Karackatt to Assam, Br Jins V to Apostolic Vicariate of Southern Arabia and Br Nishad to Italy for Studies.

### **Provincial's Schedule**

Our Provincial, Br George Antony Assaricheril, is busy with the administrative matters in the province as well as with his Philosophy Classes for the Seminarians and the laity. Amidst the councill meeting, other meetings with the other provincials and the staff, from the General Curia, CCMSI, the election chapters of Nirmala Matha Custody, Assam and so on were at his past schedule. Amidst his busy schedule he prioritized time to meet our Brothers, both in group and in private. Even though he visited all our Ashrams and friars informally for couple of times after taking charge, now he has initiated the Canonical Visit.

Once again wish you all the Festal greetings of our Father St Francis......



Onam celebration

### 2. St. Thomas Ashram, Kavalam

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away (Rev. 21.4).

We are very glad and happy to share with you brothers our good tidings.

### Welcome, Dear Brothers.....

We are extremely happy to welcome our new members Brs: Amal Nattuvazhiparambil and Siby Puthiyidom to our community. The arrival of these two brothers doubled our joy.

### **Grateful Moments**

Br. Kuriakose Kannankara was transferred to St. Francis Ashram Uzhavoor and Br. Xavier Karuvelikonam has moved to Provincial house for the Papua New Guinea mission. With a grateful heart, we remember both of you dear brothers for all the works, service and support that you rendered to our community. Wish you everything best and God's blessing for your future ministries. We also thank Br. Vinu for his two months of service to the community.

### Lent and Easter

The preparation for Lent was solemnly begun with the Vibhoothithirunnal. During the Lent and Holy Week, we had a packed church for the liturgical services. During the holy week, the celebrations were colourful and grace-filled. The fraternity was fully engaged in both internal and external ministries. On Maundy Thursday the Vincent de Paul members were chosen for washing of the feet. On Good Friday we served Nearcha Kanji at noon for the people, Vincent de Paul members and SFO Members made the arrangements. All the faithful who are closely related to our Ashram actively participated in the services. We specially thank Brs. Jins and Nishad helped for confessions.

### **Badminton Tournament**

Our Ashrams new badminton club (ABC – ashram badminton Club) conducted its first badminton tournament. The tournament was a great success. 48 teams participated in it. 1st prize – Rs 3000 with winner's trophy, 2nd prize – Rs 1500 with runners up trophy, 3rd- Rs1000, and the best player was given Rs 500 with a trophy. The club members erected a convex lens in our road and gave Rs 5000 for our ashram, out of the profit from this tournament.

### SFO Meeting

Br. Michael Parussery the Spiritual Assistant of SFO for the province and the Chaganassery Arch-Diocese animated a class for the SFO members of our ashram on March 6th. In spite of the pandemic restrictions, almost 30 members participated in it. In his class, he exhorted the members to live more closely to Christ following the footsteps of St. Francis.

### Sa ri ga ma pa....

We have begun the keyboard classes after lockdown for our catechism students. Br. Amal Nattuvazhiparambil is animating the lessons. More than 30 students are participating in the classes. Some of the students are coming to attend the class even from the neighbouring parishes.

### Happy Birthday

On 12<sup>th</sup> March we celebrated the birthday of Br. Kuriakose Kannankara. In the morning, the fraternity all together celebrated the Holy Eucharist and sweets were given to the people who participated in the mass. Sisters of our SH convent were also invited for the breakfast. Evening we had a solemn supper and Brs. Provincial, Sandeep, Stephen Vammiyalil, and Jose Edayal were present for the celebration. Br. Guardian thanked Br. Kuriakose for the service that he had been rendering to our Ashram and the people around.

### Miss you dear ones

This year's catechism and Vishvasolsavam was concluded on March 21 Sunday. Due to the pandemic, this year Vishvasolsavam was arranged only on Sundays. On 21 March Br. Anish celebrated a thanksgiving Mass and thanked all the teachers and students especially the 12<sup>th</sup> standard students who are passing out from our catechism centre. After the mass, there was a small send off function where in we distributed the prizes for these students.

### A hand to the needy

As we are all in the clutches of this devastating pandemic, we have arranged a food kit supply for the poor people around our ashram. By God's grace and providence, we could give almost 150 kits to the needy.

### Cast your net

Our master had given the command to "cast the net" to his disciples; so we did! We had good fishing in our pond. We could get almost 400 fish and we sold the fish outside too. We remember and thank Fr.Xavier Karuvelikonam for your hard work.

### Onam vanne.....

As we got a group of energetic youngsters around us the Onam celebrations were really colourful. Our SMYM members actively participated in various onakalikal, oonjalattam etc. Our athapookalam was highly appreciated.

### Salute the flag

August 15<sup>th</sup> is a significant day for us, both as a Christian and as an Indian. We had a solemn community mass in our church. Br. Siby Puthiyidom gave a wonderful thoughtprovoking message on Mother Mary. After the mass our SMYM members made a march past after which we had the flag hosting. Two of our youth spoke about the importance of the day.

### Franternal Visits

Brs. Mathew Thandiyakuzhy, Rony, Jins, Michael Parussery, Nishad, George Antony, Sandeep, Stephen Vamyalil, Jose Edayal, Br.Cherian Scaria and Br.Toji Naluchira, enriched us with their fraternal visits. Thank you brothers for your visits and we welcome all of you dear ones to our fraternity.

### 3. Gethsemany Ashram, Vazhappally

Dear brothers, we the members of Gethsemany Ashram Vazhappally wish you all a very Happy Feast of our Father St. Francis of Assisi. May our Father St. Francis bless you all. We would like to share with you some of our joyful moments.

### Feast Celebration of Fr. Sebastian Chundakattil.

We celebrated the feast of our Vicar Fr. Sebastian Chundakatil with great joy on 20<sup>th</sup> January. We had special prayers and dinner in honour of him.

### Reception of the Statue of St. Sebastian

As a part of the celebration of the feast of St. Sebastian, his venerable statue was solemnly taken from the cathedral church to different parts of our parish accompanied by parish priest Fr. Jose Kochuparambil, the assistant priests and many people in different vehicles. They reached our church on 23-1-2021 Saturday at 6-30 P.M. Many people from our 17 family units had assembled here and they gave a warm welcome to the Statue of St. Sebastian.

### Blessing Of the Golden Jubilee Memorial Houses

The Golden Jubilee of our Ashram church was celebrated here on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at that time it was decided to build few houses for the homeless people of our Family units. We selected a few homeless families and found some land at Paral -a place 5 K.M from Vazhappally Panchayath. The foundation stones for two houses were laid on 7-1-2020. The blessing of those two houses was conducted on 31-1-2021 Sunday at 5 PM by our Provincial Very Rev.Fr.George Antony Assaricheril in the presence of Fr. Joshy Parackal- Vicar of St.Antony's Church Paral, our Guardian Fr. Thomas Thalakulam, Fr. Sebastian Chundakattil, Fr.D.James Kulathumkal, and members of St. Vincent de Paul Society and Leaders of 17 Family Units. The keys of the newly constructed houses were handed over to Mrs Molly (Annamma) Puthuparambil and to Mrs Viji Matin Koippally by our Provincial. The cost of 12 cents of land and expenses of construction work was near Rs.38, 16,440.

### The Feast of St. Joseph

We started Novena prayers of St. Joseph from 10<sup>th</sup> March to 19<sup>th</sup> March. Our Provincial, Fr. George Antony, celebrated the Holy Mass on March 19<sup>th</sup> morning.

### Lent Programmes

This year Lent started on 14-2-2021." Vibhuthy"(Ash Monday) was on 14<sup>th</sup> February. Every day after the second Mass

we had way of the Cross conducted by our people. We had a solemn way of the Cross on all Fridays at 5-30 pm, conducted by our friars. Many people attended it.

### **Retreat for People**

We had a retreat arranged for our people belonging to 17 Family Units for three days starting from 24<sup>th</sup> March Wednesday to 26th Friday. There was the celebration of Holy Mass at 5 pm and followed by the retreat from 6 pm to 9 pm. The retreat preacher was Fr. Mathew Churavady - parish priest of St.Alphonsa church Pongammood, Trivandrum.

### Celebration of The Holy Week

On Palm Sunday, we had Holy Mass at 6 am, 10 am and 5 am Holy Thursday was on1<sup>st</sup>April. The ceremonies of Maundy Thursday were started at 5 pm. There was a concelebrated Mass and Fr. Guardian was the main celebrant. On Good Friday the liturgical ceremonies were started at 4 pm. Fr.Thomas Thalakulam was the main celebrant. He also gave a very beautiful homily on the death of Jesus Christ. The Way of the cross was conducted in the church itself. Easter Sunday liturgical ceremonies were started at 2.45 am. There were Masses 6 am, 8 am and 10am.

### Our Programme during Lockdown Period

The pandemic Covid 19 was speedily spreading in Kerala. The government of Kerala decided to stop its spread by vaccination of people aged above 45 years. The Municipality of Changanacherry selected our Social Centre as one of the centres for vaccine distribution. The date for vaccination was fixed for 16<sup>th</sup> April. The time was from 9 am to 4pm. Many people came and got vaccinated.

### Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration

Daily we had morning payer at 6 am followed by Concelebrated Holy Mass. After Mass, we had common adoration till 7.30 am which will be continued till 10.00 am. All friars were allotted 30 minutes of time for adoration. Turn by turn all actively and joyfully took part in it. We prayed for the world and an end to this pandemic.

# Distribution of Food Item Kits To Poor People (Francis Hand No.1) (20-5-3021).

Seeing the suffering of our people due to Lockdown, our Fr. Guardian conducted an informal dialogue with friars in our refectory after our supper at 8 pm on 11th May and asked the opinion of our friars concerning helping our people in their dire needs. Afterwards, there was a core committee meeting of the leaders of our Family units on 18-5-2021 at 6 pm in our Ashram terrace hall. In that meeting the opinion of the Leaders was that we give kits containing food materials like Onion, Rava, Beans, coconut oil, biscuits, sugar, jaggery, beaten rice etc to their homes, instead of giving money in their hands. Their opinion was accepted and conveyed to our friars. All agreed with it. The money for this was to be collected from our Ashram Poor Fund and from the fund of St.Vincent de Paul Society. Within 2 days 120 kits were ready for distribution among our poor Catholics and poor Hindu families. On 20th May Presidents of Family Units distributed these kits at their doorsteps. This programme was named Francis Hand No.1

A few merchants and a few Catholic farmers from our Family Units met Fr. Guardian on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and told him that they were willing to give their farm products like Tapioca, Bananas, Jackfruits, Mangoes Coconuts, Tomatoes, Onion, Cabbages, etc for free distribution to poor Christians and poor non-Christians. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Holy Mass, Fr Guardian made an appeal to people of Vazhappally through Whats App and other social media to contribute their financial help, and farm products for this noble cause. Many responded very positively Fr. Sebastian Chundakattil and members of Yuvadeepthy collected these items from their houses and shops on the following day Under the supervision of Fr. Sebastian with the help of Leaders of Family units many food item kits were made, and they were kept in the courtyard of the Ashram for the free taking by the needy people of our area. On 25<sup>th</sup> May within a short time, all kits were taken by needy people including Christians and non-Christians. It was named St. Francis Hand No2.

Seeing the poor financial situation of many people in Vazhappally area, a lot of food kits containing several useful food items mainly, vegetables, were made and kept in the Courtyard of the Ashram on 26-5-2021. And they were taken by poor people of our area irrespective of religion and cast within a short time. This was the third distribution of food item kits (St. Francis Hand No.3)

Again, we distributed Food item kits to poor people on 27-5-2021 with the help of a few Family Unit leaders.100 food item kits were made. They contained rice wheat flour, sugar, biscuits and vegetables etc. A Board was kept near our gate. It was written in that, Poor and needy persons can come and take those kits from the yard of Gethsemany Ashram. Many Jack fruits, Papaya fruits, mangoes etc were also kept there. They also were taken away by needy people including Christians and Hindus within a short time. The fifth distribution of the Food item kit was distributed on  $5^{\text{th}}$  June Saturday evening.

Fr. Sebastian and members of Yuvadeepthy visited many houses of our people staying at Vazhappally and collected Coconuts, Tapioca, Plantain fruits, Jackfruits vegetables etc from their farms and houses. A few merchants offered rice wheat flour, onions etc. The rest of the things needed for good Food item kits, we bought from shops paying money. (St. Francis Hand No.5)

### The World Environment Day {5-6-2021}

June 5<sup>th</sup> was declared as World environment day by the World Council of Countries. On that occasion, our Fr. Guardian requested the Forest department to supply saplings of fruit trees and other trees for planting in the farms and other places in and around Vazhappally. We got a few hundred saplings of Gooseberry, Lemon, and other fruit trees for planting. This news was sent to people through social media and people came and took all plants to their homes. We also planted a few saplings in our compound.

# The Feast Celebration of The Sacred Heart Of Jesus (11-6-2021)

We celebrated the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on 11<sup>th</sup> June friday. As usual, we had Holy Mass at 6-15 am and Fr. Guardian was the celebrant. In the evening we had our Evening prayer and night prayer at 6.45 pm in our choir. After that, we all assembled before the decorated holy picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus near our First Guest room in the ground floor. Fr.Guardian conducted the prayer service and Fr. Anish Pulikal gave a very short homily on devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After the prayers, we blessed all rooms of friars and our workers here.

## Feast of St. Thomas and the Feast of Fr. Guardian Thomas Thalakulam

The Feast of St Thomas- Apostle of India was celebrated on 3rd July in a simple way. Guardian – Fr. Thomas Thalakulam bears the name of the Apostle. So we celebrated the feast together. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July evening we had a prayer service in our Oratory at 7 pm in honour of him. Following day morning at 6am we had a holy Mass, and our Guardian was the celebrant. We also had invited Fr Jose Kochuparambil –Parish priest of St. Mary's Cathedral and all assistant Parish priests for supper at 8 pm. They all had come for supper. We had a sumptuous meal in his honour.

### Gusts of The Months

The important guests of these months were Fr. Binoy Augustine Nedumparambil from USA, Fr Francis Ponnumpurayidam, From San Damiano Ashram Vazhoor; Fr. James Vazhacharikal from St. Jude Ashram Mukhathala; Fr. Jomon Pushpamagalam from Portiuncula Ashram Kattappana; Fr. James Purayidahil from St. Alphonsa Ashram, Edamattom; Fr. Joban from Kristjyothy Province U.P; Fr. Provincial George Antony Assaricheril from Provincial House Kottayam; Fr. Sone Kumbikal from St.Jude Ashram Mukhathala; Fr. Mathew Mulangacheril from Assisi Ashram Bharananganam; Fr.Aby Kizhakekut from USA; Fr.Cherian Scaria from Vianny College A.P and Fr. George Nedumparambil from Capuchin Vidya Bhavan, Thellakom. Dear Brothers, please do visit us again. We are very happy to have you.

### 4. St. Jude Ashram Mukhathala

Dear brothers, we the community members of St. Jude Mukhathala, would like to share with you some of our joyful and memorable events. We wish you all the festal greetings of our Father St Francis.

### Achievements

Sixteen students of St. Jude HSS, Mukhathala have passed the Scouts and Guide '*Rajya Puraskar*' exam and are eligible for grace marks. We do congratulate them wholeheartedly and wish them the best in the future. We gratefully remember the teachers who were guiding them to come out in flying colours.

### St.Jude 'Thirunal Mahamaham'

The feast of St. Jude as well as of St. George the parish patron was celebrated from  $1^{st}$  to  $10^{th}$  January with devotion and piety. The feast began with the solemn Holy Mass on  $1^{st}$ January at 6.15 am by Br. James Vazhacharickal the Guardian, followed by '*Kodiyettu*'. As is the custom, Novena-Prayers were held in preparation for the feast. On the  $9^{th}$  evening, there was the procession from the church to the nearby St. George *Kurisadi*. Due to the present restrictions, few selected representatives were allowed to participate in the procession. On the final day of the feast at 8 am, there was a solemn high mass and homily by Fr. Joseph Kottakkakathu. The parishioners served meals for all the participants. Special thanks and congratulations to Br.George Puthenpurackal for his active animation in the parish.

### Parish Feast Pallimon

The heavenly Patron of Pallimon Parish is St. Antony where Br.Jisho Chempananickal is the Vicar. This year the feast

was celebrated from31<sup>st</sup> January to February 7<sup>th</sup>. The festal Mass was celebrated by Fr. Dennis, the Vicar of the Malankara parish, Kundara. All the participants were served meals. We the St. Jude community was specially invited on the final day of the feast and to the celebrations as well as to the festal meal served by the parishioners. Thanks and congratulations to Br. Jisho for animating the parish so beautifully well.

### A Day of Choicest Blessing

The death anniversary of Br. Cuthbert OFM Cap, the founder of St. Jude Ashram and Institutions, fall on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. This day was very special for all of us. We remembered him with a grateful heart and offered the Holy Mass for him. Sisters from the nearby convents, the relatives of Br. Cuthbert and the parishioners joined for the function. Fr. James Thadathil OIC, the grand-nephew of Br. Cuthbert was the main celebrant. After the Evening Mass '*Nercha*' was served for all the participants.

### Celebrations

Celebrations leave a mark of immense joy and unity of the brotherhood. We celebrated the feast day of Br. Sebastian Purayidathil on 20<sup>th</sup> January. The Birthday of Br. Mathew Puthoor was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> March, the Birthday of Br. Sone Kumbickal on 7<sup>th</sup> March, the Birthday of Br. Varghese Vadakkechiraon 19<sup>th</sup> March and the Birthday of Br. George Puthenpurackal on 7<sup>th</sup> April. We had special prayer services for all these brothers on each of those occasions and all the community members prayed for them and thanked them from the bottom of their hearts. Br. Guardian led the prayer services and thanked them for their valuable services. Delicious meals were arranged and enjoyed by the community on all four occasions.

### Zonal Monthly Recollection

We had the second Zonal monthly recollection at St. Jude, Mukhathala on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Brothers from Ranigiri Ashram Mannanthala and St. Basil Ashram Pathanamthitta too joined for the recollection. Fr. Joe Kallupurackal SDB gave a beautiful talk on prayer life, followed by Eucharistic Adoration. After the prayer session, we had a small gathering and discussion. A special thanks to all the brothers who were present. It was a time of sharing, boosting up the fraternal bond among us.

### A Youth Training Session

A Training Session for the Youth of Kollam *Vaidiajilla* a unit of Mavelikkara Diocese was held in our St. Jude church on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Around 120 youths and 12 Priests participated in it. It was a training program for the youth from many parishes for conducting a Survey among the Syro-Malankara Catholic families, regarding obtaining communal benefits from the Government. It also aimed at orientating and conscientizing the youth on self-empowerment by appearing for PSC exams and obtaining the Government Services moreover this meeting was a great success in all aspects. Thanks, to Br. Guardian for facilitating the Programme.

### **Flying Colours**

Keeping up the golden tradition, our St. Jude High School as well as St. Jude School (CBSE) secured 100% success in the public examinations in the Academic year 2020 - 2021, held last April and May. St. Jude High School had a total of 162 students to appear for the SSLC examinations, among whom 111 students obtained full A+, 27 students got 9 A+ and the rest of the students too came out in flying colours. In St. Jude School (CBSE), the total number of students who appeared for the 10<sup>th</sup> Class examinations was 104, out of whom 24 secured full A1; there are altogether 95 Distinctions and 9 First Classes secured by the CBSE students.

Even amidst the pandemic, the hard work put up by the teachers, parents and students is really praiseworthy. Hearty Congratulations for the efficient leadership and tireless efforts of our dear Br. George Puthenpurackal, Principal of St. Jude H.S.S, and to our dear Br. JishoChempananickal, Principal of St. Jude CBSE School!

- Br. Sone Kumbickal OFM Cap

### 5. Loreto Ashram, Muvattupuzha

Fraternal Greetings of peace and joy from Loreto.

### The Arrival of New Brothers

The new batch of brothers arrived at Loreto Ashram on 29<sup>th</sup> April after their formation at the pre-novitiate, in Kattappana. They were accompanied by Frs. Jomon (Rector, pre-novitiate), Abhilash (Vice-Rector), Tom Mundanthanam, Paul Kottaram and also parents of some brothers.

### **Preparatory Retreat**

Fr. Jim OCD from Lisieux (Carmelite) Monastry, Muvattupuzha, animated the preparatory retreat for the first profession of senior novices and for the Vestition of the new batch of brothers. Fr. Jim is really a Franciscan within the Carmelite habit as he describes himself. His preaching really touched our hearts and we could really prepare ourselves for making the commitment to the Lord, and also to enter into the novitiate with fervent hearts.

### Simple Profession of the Novices

As the novices were making the retreat, we heard about imminent lockdown because of increased Covid threat. Fr. Thomas Kanjirakonam, our Master made immediate arrangements for the profession. The Provincials were informed. On 7<sup>th</sup> May, all the brothers from the three provinces and Nirmala Custody made their first profession here at Loreto. Fr. George Antony, Provincial of St. Joseph Province and Fr. Pauly Madassery, Provincial of St. Thomas Province received the profession. The ceremonies of the profession were streamed live by Tau Vision under the leadership of Fr. Benny Peter Vettikkanakudy. Immediately after the profession, the brothers left for Calvary Ashram to start their philosophical studies.

### The Vestition

On 14<sup>th</sup> of May, 24 young brothers formally entered the novitiate vesting themselves with 'kurta.' The main celebrant for the ceremony was Fr. Joseph Simon, our Guardian. Fr. Cherian Palukkunnel gave an inspiring and memorable homily.

### The Birthday Celebration

The birthday of our Guardian, Fr. Joseph Simon, falls on the 13th of May. But we anticipated the celebration on 22nd April. We had our bada khana at noon. There was the evening prayer session the same day to pray for Fr. Joseph Simon.

### A New Gift from God

Our father St. Francis used to say, "Brothers are gifts from God". We received a new gift in the person of Fr. Prince who returned from Aruvithura parish after his parish ministry. He is a young and vigorous friar full of energy. We wish him everything best, and a fruitful ministry of the Lord, for the people.

### Lockdown at Loreto and Covid Ministry

As per the directions of the Government of Kerala, we closed down our Loreto chapel from the 7<sup>th</sup> of May onwards. Under the leadership of our Guardian, Fr. Joseph Simon, we extended our helping and generous hands to the poor and the needy people around us. The novices have enthusiastically participated in this ministry by packing food kits. We are assisting a number of people who are in real need. The kind of help we have given so far is the following. Food supplies (food kits) were given to more than 500 families. Educational aid for students: to buy mobile phones for attending online classes; economic support to students to pay semester fees, etc. Another form of help is monthly support to at least 10-12 families. The number of people helped: about 700. The amount of money spent so far for help: about Rs. 30, 00, 00/-

### Consecration to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

As a mark of our devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, a special prayer session was conducted, accompanied by the candle-lit procession and solemn blessing of the Ashram on 11<sup>th</sup> June. On the occasion, an inspiring message was given by Br. Anderson Wankhar.

### Farewells

We had to bid farewell to two important members of our community. Frs. Rentu and Joseph Simon. Fr. Rentu proceeded to Pune for his studies on formation. As the vicemaster, he was fully dedicated to the formation of novices. He was very much interested in the cultivation of paddy and vegetables. He was always available for ministry. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, we gave Fr. Rentu a warm send-off, and the very next day, he left for Pune.

Fr. Joseph Simon who was our guardian for the past one year left Loreto to join Capuchin Vidyabhavan, Thellakom, as Professor and the Spiritual Father of the brothers. Within a short period of one year, he has endeared himself to the members of the community and also to the religious communities and people around. Fr. Joseph Simon was very sympathetic to the sufferings of the people and helped them in many ways in the Covid season. On 30<sup>th</sup> of June we had a grand supper in honour of him; and Fr. Thomas Kanjirakonam, the Vicar thanked him for his selfless service to the community and to the people around.

### Welcome back

Fr. Xavier Karuvelikonam who was the Vice-Novice Master for 3 years came back to Loreto. He was getting ready to go to Papua New Guinea missions, but because of the Covid spread, there are travel restrictions. But it is a blessing for the Loreto community. He helps the community in different capacities. He helps Fr. Master in the formation of novices, and he is ever ready to do other services.

### Celebrations

Fr. Paul Chirapurath, the silent melody of Loreto, celebrated his feast on 29<sup>th</sup> of June. A special prayer service was held in his honour. We had also the customary bada khana.

The feast of St. Thomas the Apostle on 3<sup>rd</sup> July was an eventful day for Loreto as it was also the feast day of Fr. Thomas Kanjirakonam, our Novice Master and Vicar. We had the customary prayer session to pray for him, and also a grand lunch. The novices had a basketball match in his honour.

The feast of Fr. Dominic Cheradil, the acting Guardian of Loreto, was celebrated on 8th of August, his patron's day. A special prayer service was conducted to pray for him, and all of us enjoyed a grand meal on the occasion.

### **Covishield vaccination**

For a day our SFO Hall was converted into an arena of Covishield vaccination. In order to defend ourselves against the deadly coronavirus, the whole community got vaccinated.

### Fraternal Visits

During the past few months, we were fortunate to welcome a number of distinguished guests. All the provincials of Syro-Malabar provinces, Frs. George Antony, Stephen Jayraj and Pauly Madassery were kind enough to visit us. Frs. Roy Karakkat, Thomas Kalappura (Pavanatma Province), Sam Zacharias (Nirmala Custody), and Lawrence, Felix and Albert (St. Francis Province), Mathew Mullangassery, Jomes Thekkemuriyil, Amal Keeprath and Benedict also visited us during this period. Thank you brothers for coming to visit us. Do come again.

### Welcome to the new Guardian

Ever since the departure of Fr. Joseph Simon, our former Guardian, we were waiting for a friar to animate our community. Finally, the Provincial Council chose Fr. Anish Pulickal as the Guardian of Loreto. He arrived here on 12th August and was given a warm welcome by the community. He was accompanied by Frs. Thomas Thalakkulam, D. James, Sebastian Chundakkattil, and two friends of Gethsemany Ashram. We wish Fr. Anish everything best and God's blessings in his ministry at Loreto.

The Loreto community wishes you all a very happy feast of Our Father St Francis....

### 6. Capuchin Vidyabhavan, Thellakom

### Fraternal Greetings to all.....

### Ratio Formationis

On 12<sup>th</sup> December, we had a webinar on 'Ratio Formationis' by Fr. Joseph Dolphy Pais from Karnataka Province. Even though we could not complete it because there wasn't enough time, it was well appreciated by both the senior and junior friars. It helped us to understand the formation guidelines of the Order.

### Christmastide

We had special prayers conducted by each batch in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. The first-year brothers have prepared a wonderful crib and a variety of Christmas star made of wooden pieces. Brothers left home for holidays, after a long time.

### Festal Vibes

Our parish, Pushpagiri, was in a moment of joy with the celebration of the feast of its patron. Due to the pandemic, the celebrations were limited, but they did not in any way take away the importance of the feast. On 17<sup>th</sup> January we had our Christmas celebration and together with it, we celebrated the feast of Fr. John Mylackal, the senior-most member of our house. It doubled the happiness with which we exchanged our gifts with our Christmas friends. The celebrations ended with a sumptuous dinner. We celebrated the birthday of Fr. Vargheese Manimala and the feast of Fr. K Shaji and together with that we bid adieu to Fr. Thomas Kambiyil, vicar of our parish who is being transferred to Kainakary. We expressed our love and gratitude to our dear father who was a brother to all.

### Together with the Farmers

We, Capuchin Vidyabhavan, had a special prayer session on behalf of our solidarity with the farmers who have staged protests in New Delhi. We placed a couple of placards in our compound to express our solidarity with the farmers.

### The goodness of Manual Labor

When brothers join together there begins the celebration. We had the traditional '*Kachi*' work and '*kappavattu*' as in a festive mood of Franciscan brotherhood. The whole community joined for the *Kappavattu* under the leadership of Fr. Xavier Kochurumpil. '*Kachi*' work was a remarkable moment because of the renovated cowshed. We inaugurated the '*Kachi*' loading to the new store in the cowshed which will remain in the history of Capuchin Vidyabhavan.

### Corona Strikes....

It was one of the least expected surprises from the part of sister sickness as some of our brothers were affected by Covid 19. We were forced to fall back into a special timetable as part of strict quarantine. We had no classes for almost two weeks. And as a result, we could come back full of enthusiasm by the grace and providence of God.

### **Charming Presence**

We had a couple of warm presence of many during these days. It was quite pleasant to have the presence of some of our new priests. Fr. George Antony, the Provincial along with Fr. Simon and Fr. Stephen visited us and shared the appreciation over the viral video of the Christmas song. Fr. George Antony, Fr Stephan Jayaraj and Fr PaulyMadassaery, our provincials made their canonical visit to our community. Inter-Provincial formation council members Frs. Jaison Kalan, JaisonVadakkan and Justin Nellikkunnel had an official visit to the seminary. They had a serious dialogue and survey over the formation program and methods. Brothers offered their valuable suggestions for the betterment of formation.

Capuchin Vidyabhavan is once again in full swing with the brothers. After the summer holidays, the brothers are very eager to continue their theological studies with full vigour and enthusiasm. The total strength of the brothers is 81: Fourth years (20), Third years (24), Second years (19) and First years (18). There are 77 Capuchins and three CST brothers.

### An invitation to the 'Deus lux'

The official inauguration of the academic year 2021-2022 began with the Holy Qurbana celebrated by Fr. George Antony, the Provincial, on 3 July 2021. Along with him were Fr. Stephen Jayraj, the Provincial of Pavanatma Province, and our dear Rector as well. During the homily, Fr. Stephen inspired us by exhorting us about the radical nature of Christ's discipleship. In addition to that, Fr. George Antony challenged us by thrusting that our presence in Capuchin Vidyabhavan should lead to a spiritual revival of everyone in and around the friary.

### The New Team to Groom and Prune

Vidyabhavan is very much happy to receive the new community. Capuchin Fr. Simon Neelanirppel, the Vicar Provincial of the St. Joseph Province, has taken the charge as the Rector of Vidyabhavan. Fr. Sarish is appointed as the Vice-Rector, Fr. Tom as the Procurator, Fr. Joseph Simon as the Spiritual Director and Fr. Jinu as the Staff. It is a great fortune for us to have such blessed elderly brothers to groom and prune us according to the mind and spirit of Christ.

#### Feasts and Birthdays

We celebrated the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul, who are the pillars of the Church. Here we have a 'Simon', our Rector, who is strong like K*eppa*. We had a joyful moment during his feast day celebrations. Along with that, we had Eucharistic adoration in which we prayed for him to receive strength from the Lord.

Birthday is a memorable and cherishing celebration in the life of everyone. On July 24<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Jinu celebrated his birthday. During the prayer, Fr. Jinu expressed his gratitude towards the Lord and to the brothers.

# **Psycho-Spiritual Introspection**

We had an introspection course as a preparation to step ahead in the theological formation. The double-edged sword, psychology and spirituality were used to go deep into us and purify and strengthen us. Br. Dev Akkara, Br. Georgy and Br. Joseph Charuplackal helped us to have fruitful psychological introspection, and Fr. Thomas Kanjarakonamhelped each one of us to have a spiritual awakening. The two monthly recollections vested us with additional spiritual empowerment as we spent quiet, silent hours together with confession and spiritual homilies.

# The Warmth of the Lord

Two of our brothers, Br. Sarish and Br. Robin who had knee operations are doing well. Amid their pain and suffering, they could realize the warmth of the Lord.

# Vaccination 'Covishield'

The covid-19is extending its clutches day by day. To have better resistance, we are vaccinated with the covishield vaccine. We hope that covid-19 will subside soon. Let us raise our hands in the name of the Lord and pray for those who have been affected by this pandemic.

# **Onam Celebrations**

We are very happy to have a great celebration of Onam. As part of the celebration, we are organizing events like games and internal competitions. We hope to create more vibrant and lively participation in our daily life. To have a fraternal competition, we formed four groups and the competitions are taking place between these groups.

### Free Land Photographer

Vidhyabhavan is proud to congratulate Br. Amal Joy achieved a rare feat in the Photography contest organized by the Delhi School of Photography. Out of 30,000 participants, Amal Joy (Pavanatma Province) was placed in the 12th position. We congratulate you Amal for your great achievement, and we wish that you may rise to higher heights.

# 7. Portiuncula Ashram, Kattappana

# Fraternal greetings of peace and joy from Portiuncula Capuchin community Kattappana.

# Franciscan Retreat

Br. E.K Joseph led a Franciscan retreat for our brothers. It was wonderful and inspiring. It helped our brothers to know about Franciscan values and ideas. More than the topics covered, his life was inspiring to us. His simple and humble nature took our hearts to him.

# **Extension Lecture**

Br. Mathew Mulangassery took a week of extension lecture on Psychology. He dealt with 'Sigmund Freud's theory of psychoanalysis. He also met each brother personally and gave us more clarity on our vocation.

# Happy Birthday

We celebrated the birthday of our dear Br. Tom Mundanthanam on March 1st. Brothers had put up few programs and we had a sumptuous meal in honour of him. He was really happy and shared his memories and we had a good time. Br. Guardian thanked him for his remarkable services to our community.

### Rector's day

We had the celebration of rector's day on March 2021. Brothers gave him a surprise at midnight and had the cultural programs. On this occasion, his mother and his sister were also invited. We had the festal mass in the evening, followed by a grand dinner. Brothers prepared and presented a video on behalf of the Rector. Brothers had their exams from 8th to 13th of March.

# Annual Retreat 2021

Brothers had their annual retreat from the 22nd to the 25th of March. The retreat was animated by Fr. Jimmy Poochakkattil. Brothers had a fruitful experience.

# Bye..bye Portiuncula!!

Brother of 2020-21 batch bid farewell to Portiuncula on the 28th of March. They had a session to watch their documentary and they shared the experience and joy which they received from the pre novitiate. Brothers had their thanksgiving mass on March 29. The Rector and the vice-rector celebrated the Holy Eucharist and they thanked all the brothers for their contribution to the seminary and to the ashram. After breakfast, the brothers of St. Thomas and Pavanatma Province went back to their respective Provinces. The brothers of St. Joseph province went home on the 5th of April after breakfast. Few brothers stayed back for their vacation duty.

#### Holy Week

We moderately celebrated the holy week following all the covid protocols. We didn't have any processions outside the church. It was a time for reflection and prayer. We also had the provincial visit from Monday to Thursday. He met the brothers. We had our Easter Vigil mass at 10:00 pm.

### A new beginning...

We, the community of Porticuncula Ashram come to you with a renewed spirit and energy with remarkable changes that had taken place in Portiuncula Ashram from the month of June. The pre-novitiate course has been shifted to Amala Ashram Thopramkudy for a better atmosphere due to some inconvenience caused by the old buildings. Together with the Pre-novice, Brs. Jomon, the Rector and Abhilash, the Vice-Rector too were moved to their new Ashram in the month of June 2021. We wish them all, a fruitful completion of their course in the new scenario.

#### Transfers and changes

We also had some transfers and changes. Br. Liju joined our community as a new member after long years of service in various parishes as Asst. Vicar. In the month of June, the regents of the St. Joseph Province were here in view of preparing for examinations. university their On July  $2^{nd}$ Br.TomMundanthanam was transferred to Capuchin Vidybhavan, Thellakm. On the 3rd of July, Br. Thomas Palelil joind our community, as a new member. On July 4, 2021, Br. Provincial made a casual visit on the way to Thopramkudy and allotted the regents in various Ashrams for their continuation of the regency programmes.

We also had some spectacular repairing and renovation works in our Ashram. On August 4, 2021, we have completed the renovation works of the alter of the Ashram and made it more conducive for prayer and celebration of the liturgy. Our Community under the Leadership of Br. Mathew Vattakunnel, organizing varied traditional, spiritual and alternative ministries as well, in and around the Ashram. Br. Thomas Palelil took charge as the procurator of the house. Br. Liju Sauriamkuzhiyil is with a Franciscan touch and spirit takes care of the birds and animals and the kitchen department. The hard work rendered by Br. Thomas Vettikalayil in our cardamom garden is really praiseworthy he also loos after the dairy farm which is really appreciatable.

### **Festal Celebrations**

The Portiuncula community was extremely happy to celebrate the feast of Brs. Thomas Palelil and Thomas Vettikalayil, we had the Eucharistic concelebration in the evening in our Oratory, during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist Br. Mathew Vattakkunnelthe Guardian of the house thanked them for all the services that they are rendering to our community and wished them everything best.

# 8. Shantiniketan, Nadukani

# Dear brothers, Greetings from Shantiniketan, Nadukani.

As we celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary for freedom as a nation we have to redefine our understanding of freedom in the context of covid-19. We are bound to our rooms, undergoing a sort of house arrest. Our mobility is restricted, mouths are closed. We are surrounded by fear and trauma because we fear that death is at our doorsteps more than ever.

As we all know and are aware that our possibilities and opportunities to come together and share each other is limited due to covid-19. It has turned the world upside down, and brought about seismic changes in almost every aspect of our life. Masks have become part of our attire, traditional greetings like handshake and hugging have given way to maintaining physical distance. Covid-19 has also made a tremendous impact on our religious life. There is a new realisation that God is the source of our life and is in control of everything. Our sense of pride and self-sufficiency is shattered and an attitude of surrender to God has become our most common religious disposition. It has also rendered an opportunity to deepen relationship in community for an effective witnessing in our mission. We now have quality time to strengthen the bonding between community members greater openness to one another.

Faced with financial hardships, we feel renewed urgency for responsible and judicious financial planning. Henceforth, we will be modest in our celebrations, simple in the infrastructure we raise and be restrained in our requirements.

The close of the churches during covid-19 outbreak and lockdown has forced us to do Church differently and to reimagine the future of the Church. Today we, the pastors and religious leaders, have learned to do things formerly thought to be impossible or sinful. A radial shift is underway. The church buildings may be closed, but the people of God is still alive and active. As in the time of the First Christianity each house is now being turned into a little church.

#### Celebration of the Brothers

23<sup>rd</sup> of February is celebrated as the birthday of Brother John Chollany, our Procurator and man-in-charge of Gramashram. He is a brother with full of energy and readiness to help others with a smile on his face. He keeps himself fit and healthy with his daily exercises and is always engaged in one or other work. Thank you, brother, for your joyful presence.

On the  $3^{\ensuremath{\text{rd}}}$  of July we celebrated the feast of our elder

brother Fr.Thomas Jacob, the senior most of our community .We thanked God and prayed for him for his inspiring presence .We do learn from him what it means to be graceful ageing. He is never tired of reading and learning, which keeps him young in mind and heart .His orderly and disciplined life keeps him healthy and pleasant and approachable. Even in the darkest night he is able to see a silver line, and transmits his positivity to all who come to him.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August we celebrated the birthday of our Guardian Br. Jijo Kurian. He is a man who always goes an extra mile. As a professor of theology he always gets lion's share of the work at Capuchin Vidyabhavan, and therefore has been burning the midnight oil to do justice to the work even in the midst of heavy schedule of organising the construction of Cabin Houses.

# Construction of the Cabin Houses

Demand for the Cabin houses is on the increase and the coordination is not an easy task .

Even during the time of lockdown construction of cabin houses was not affected. They have completed around 160 houses from Trivandrum to Kannur. Although the construction personnel were always on the move, thank be to God, no one was affected by COVID, and the project went on full steam.

# Our Guests

Shanti Nikethan Nadukani is a sought after destination for many. In the past months ,we had a lot guests .we are indeed glad that we could accommodate them with our Limited facilities and space. Br.George Antony our Provicial, Br.Stephen Jayaraj provincial of Pavanatma province, Br.Robin Daniel, Br.Simon Neelanirapel , Br.Steph Vammiyalil, BrSanseep, Br.Kurian Chirapurath are just a few in the long list of our brothers who paid their visits.

Dear brothers, thank you for your visit and do come again to Nadukani.

### Cyclone Taukte

In the month of May cyclone Taukte struck badly in and around Nadukani. It wreaked severe havoc in and around us. A few of our trees were fallen and part of our buildings was also affected. A beautiful shady tree Kattukariveppu that provided shelter in the scorching summer is no more .All those who visited Nadukani at least once will have taken notice of the ever green tree.

Our beloved tree was the prey for Taukte and we still mourn its loss. We have built a shelter in its place within two weeks, but we know it is no substitute for our tree.

# 9. St. Alphonsa Capuchin Ashram, Rajakumari

Warm greetings Peace and Joy to all of you, from Alphonsa Ashram, Rajakumary. Wish you all the festal Greetings of Our Father St Francis. In our Ashram church unlike Christmas, a good number of people participated the Holy Week services especially on Easter Sunday after the Covid-19 pandemic. Though Covid-19 still troubles us, we are slowly regaining the lost rhythm of daily life. The pandemic restricts our life still and we move with low profile events in our Ashram. Two of us here help out in the neighbouring parishes and taking care of our farm and garde. Our cardamom plants survive well in spite of the summer heat of these months. Now our Ashram is a formation house! Considering the request of the diocese of Idukki and as a result of the meeting held here on 20th February 2021 with Bishop John Nellikunnel and Bro George Antony, our provincial, with the consultation of his Councilors agreed to provide the space of the Ashram for the formation of Brothers who have completed the studies of the minor seminary of Diocese of Idukki. Now the brothers are here for the formation by the month of June.

Guests: The Ashram was fortunate enough to relish the presence of Bros. George Antony our Provincial Minister and councilors, Sojan Peekunnel, Alex Kizhakkekadavil, Jijo Kurian, Jose Velachery, Anoop Mylettu and many other priests and religious brothers and sisters from this area.

# 10. St. Francis Ashram Uzhavoor

Prayerful Greetings from Uzhavoor Capuchin Ashram. Here we are fully engaged in pastoral ministries. There is a lot of invitation from the local parishes and the convents for spiritual help. Br Stephen Poyyanil is busy with the confession ministry. Many come here for spiritual consolation and it is mainly done by Br Stephen. Br John Thottukulappail was appointed as the Vicar of Edakkaly Parish for a short time. He is busy with the parish activities and the construction of an arch and St Antony's grotto in front of our Ashram. Br Thomas Pullatuthadathl is fully involved in vegetable cultivation. Nutmeg trees, pepper plants, coffee plants and cardamom plants are well taken care of by him. Br Joseph Puthenpurackal is busy with zoom talks and parish retreats.

#### Farewell and Welcome

After one year of service in our Ashram Bro Shaiju Mannumattathil is transferred St Basil Ashram, Pathanamthitta. We sincerely thank him for the valuable service rendered to our Ashram. Bro Kuriakose Kannamkara joined our community as a new member. At present, he is undergoing treatment and within a short time, he will come back and join.

During last few months, many friars visited us. Bros Provincial, George Antony, Simon Neelanirappel, Sandeep, Amal Keeprath, John Vazhappanady, Stephen Vammiyalil paid their visit and enjoyed the fraternal life. Remembering the presence in our prayers we thank each one of you.

### 11. Padre Pio Ashram, Mundakayam

Due to the pandemic, we had very limited activities in our friary. But the community outings and gatherings were really helpful in releasing the stress. On 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021, a zonal meeting including the Bharananganam Ashram and the Vagamon Ashram was held here. It was a pleasant gathering and we were able to see and chat with our brothers from those houses. This gathering proved that it is wonderful to be among brothers. We had common sharing and dinner together.

On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021, we had the local chapter. Discussions on the functioning of the School of Happiness was the main topic of the chapter. Each of us came up with different ideas on this regard and took some decisions for the better functioning of the institution. Various activities of the ashram were also discussed in the local chapter

# Celebrations

**Celebration of Easter:** With lots of enthusiasm and vigor, the community celebrated the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. Every Friday after the Holy Mass we celebrated the way of the cross. During the Holy Week, we had services in our community.

The feast of St. Thomas was celebrated on July 3<sup>rd</sup> in an auspicious way. Br. Guardian, Shaji Panamparambil, delivered a beautiful message. We had a wonderful celebration of the feast of St. Alphonsa. The feast was celebrated on July 28<sup>th</sup> after nine days of the novena. The celebrations were led by Br. Guardian and Br. Bastin delivered a good message during the holy mass. The festal celebrations came to an end with a delightful dinner.

The feasts of Br. Shaji Panapparambil and Br. Felician Vayalil were also celebrated during this period. Their contribution to the community is praiseworthy. Their presence in the community gives positive energy and support for all the activities and ministries of the ashram. Br. Shaji is in charge of the farm and he works from dawn to dusk which aids us with sufficient fruits, vegetables, egg, meat... etc. Br. Felician even at this age actively participates in the ministries of the ashram and always spreads love and care in the community.

# The School of Happiness

The most memorable event during this period was the official inauguration of The School of Happiness and a certificate distribution ceremony held along with it at the Provincialate. It was an auspicious function and had ample participation. The School of Happiness was officially inaugurated by **Br. George Antony** (Minister Provincial) in

the presence of **Br. Simon Neelanirappel** (Vicar Provincial), **Br. George Nedumparambil** (Provincial Councilor) and many other brothers from different friaries. The event was blissful with the messages by Br. **George Antony, Br. Shaji Panapparambil** (Administrator, the School of Happiness) **Br. Mathew Karippal** (Director, the School of Happiness), **Mr Abhijith S** (Asst. Director, The School of Happiness), **Br. Roy Karackatt Capuchin** and **Sr. Arpitha** (Director, St. Jude Home Science Institute, Angamaly). Certificate distribution of an online course conducted by theSchool of Happiness was also held along with this function. We thankfully remember all the members of the Provincialate, especially **Br. Amal Keeprath** (Provincial Secretary) and **Br. Antony John** for helping us in arranging such an auspicious function.

The ashram is always active now due to the various courses organized by The School of Happiness. Many online and offline courses including resident courses have been conducted here. One of our participants, Fr. Jijo Paulson, a Claritian Priest stayed here for 100 days as part of a therapy course. He became a member of the community and was involved in many of the ministries of the community. He left last week after the completion of the course.

The activities of the School of Happiness are going on, in a progressive manner. The construction process of the hitech classroom is in its final stage. The biggest achievement of the institute during this time is the affiliation from The State Resource Centre, Government of Kerala. Through this, the institute became capable of providing certificate and diploma courses with Government certificates. The process for the affiliation from MG University is in progress. Various shortterm courses are being conducted during this time. Responses from the participants and other good wishers boost us to work harder for the institute. Fr. Bastin Karakkatt has taken 10 days NLP workshop which was simply superb.

### One Day – One Family : Programme

PadrePio Ashram has started a wonderful programme to help the families in this troublesome period by offering holy mass, family counselling, an orientation class and one-hour adoration. It is the initiative of Br.ShajiPanamparambil. One day is allotted for one family. Each family is welcomed and treated uniquely; get an opportunity to experience Franciscan brotherhood and spiritual wealth. Along with that the psychological help also is provided. The community found this ministry very rewarding and fruitful.

### Visitation of Br Provincial & brothers

Rev. Br. George Antony, our provincial, visited the community for fraternal animation. He met the friars individually and in common. It was a fruitful time of sharing and planning various aspects of our fraternal life and ministry.

Our friars from various communities visited us and supported us with their presence and prayers. Dear brothers, we value your presence, please do visit us again.

# 12. St. Michael's Ashram, Pallickamury

Hello dear brothers, love and greetings from the Pallickamury community. Well, it is a bit long since we met through the Internos. In spite of the Covid and its consequences, by the grace of God, we are doing rather well.

### Our concerns

Br. Guardian is very busy with the household works, vegetable garden maintenance, and ministry outside etc. In the midst of the Covid Br. Suresh has been invited to conduct a few parish retreats near and he was busy with writing a book for couples, which will be released soon with the name 'Kudubham Sakrari'. Br. Jibu is busy with online classes for college students. Br. Varghese Kottukappallil is also occupied with online teachings. Though Br. Stanislaus was admitted to the hospital a couple of times, now he is better.

### Celebrations

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, we celebrated the birthday of Br. Jibu. And on August 15<sup>th</sup> we had the festal day koinonia for Br. Stanly. We also celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in a moderate way.

# Visits

We are very much blessed by the presence of Br. Jose Vettickatt spent nearly two months with us. His stay with us was very meaningful in many ways. And we solemnized his birthday on 30<sup>th</sup> July. We also cherished the visits of Br. Stephan Vammiyalil, John Vazhappanadiyil, Sone, Jins, Thomaskutty Vettickal, Abhilash and the Regency students. It's a pleasure beyond measure to cherish the occasional visits of our Provincial Minister. To express the sense of belongingness to the diocese, as directed by the Bishop, we the community spent a Holy Hour led by our Br. Guardian. Glad to tell you that around thirty or even more people come to our chapel for daily Eucharist.

Well, this much for the time being..... Bye till we meet again

# 13. Amala Ashram, Thopramkudy

### Greetings from Amala ashram Thopramkudi.

As the pandemic is still continuing its hunt, there are no retreats in the retreat centre. Br. Thomaskutty (Guardian), Br Augustine Nattunilam and Br Patric Savio are leading a peaceful life by ministering to the spiritual needs of the people.

The final profession course for Franciscans all over India was held here from March 31 to April 30. There were 57 brothers from all over India took part in the course. The chief animators for the course were Br Simon Nilanirappel (SJP), Br Justin (SFP) and Br Lawrence (TNP). Many resource persons from different provinces came here for taking classes for the brothers. Br Shaji Karimplani took retreat for the brothers and



Pre-novices @ the celebraion of Holy Eucharist

enlightened them. The final profession of the brothers was on April 30. Br George Antony, the Provincial of St Joseph province officiated the inaugural ceremony. The presence of our Definitor General Br John Baptist and provincials of different provinces made the programme more colourful.

Br Jomon Pushpamangalam and Br Abhilash Elamthuruthil came here as the new members as the pre novitiate house is shifted from Kattappana to Thopramkudi. Under the leadership of Br Guardian, they started to make necessary arrangements. 13 brothers from St Joseph province reached here on June 18. 11brothers from Pavanatma and 6 brothers from St Thomas reached on June 19. All brothers remained in quarantine as they all came from different parts of Kerala. 7 brothers from the Northeast reached here on June 24 after completing their quarantine at Kottayam provincialate. We had our inaugural retreat led by Br Jose Velachery from



Pre-novices - on a break during the worktime



Pre-novices - on a prayer session

June 26 to 29. On the second day of the retreat Mar Ephraim Narikulam, Bishop of Chandha diocese came here to meet Br Augustine and celebrated the Holy Eucharist with the pre novices. Brs. Mathew Vattakunnel, Tom Mundanthanam and Jorly helped us in the confessional.

#### Guardian's Day

We celebrated the feast day of St Thomas, the apostle and our guardian's day in a worthy manner. We had our festal lunch on July 3 at noon. In the evening we celebrated a solemn Eucharist. Br Thomaskutty was the main celebrant and Br Jomon and Br Abhilash were the co - celebrants. From 9 pm onwards the pre - novices staged some cultural programmes. Two families which are having a close relationship with the ashram were invited to the programme. Special thanks to all our dear brothers who worked hard to make the programmes beautiful.

#### The reopening

The re-opening day of the pre-novitiate was on July 4. Br provincials from all the three provinces together with Br guardian and Br rector celebrated the Eucharist. During the Holy Mass, the pre-novices made their Act of dedication. A small meeting was organized in the classroom followed by lunch.

### **Festal Celebrations**

We celebrated the feast day of St Alphonsa in a worthy manner. We started the 10-day novena on July 19. On July 28 we had a solemn Eucharistic celebration at our ashram chapel celebrated by Br Jomon, Br Augustine and Br Patric. The monthly recollection for the month of August was on August 5 and 6 by Br Aby Kizhakkekuttu.

We celebrated the feast day of St Clare on August 4. Solemn Eucharist was celebrated by Br Jomon in the seminary chapel.

# Our Guests

Br Jijo Kurian, Br Jins, Br Lijo, Br Xavier Christy, Br Saji, Br Antony Kalathil, Br Jinu Manthiyil, Br Arun Elavumkal, Br Mefin, Br Joshy, Br Thomas V.T, Br Mathew Vattakunnel, Br Thomas Palelil, Br Tom Mundathanam, Br Jorly, Br Sandeep Neendisseri, Br Babychan Earthayil, Br Abin Pothanamuzhi, Br Stephen Vammiyanil, and Br Micheal came here for their fraternal visit.

# 14. St. Basil Capuchin Ashram, Pathanamthitta

### Fraternal greetings from St. Basil Capuchin Ashram, Pathanamthitta. Happy to meet you all through the pages of Internos.

We are all safe and sound here by the grace of God amidst this pandemic. But we try to do our best in this situation. Br. Mathew Thandiyamkudy is very busy with his online retreat talks and his ministry of counselling. Br. Thomas Padipurackalis was always on the move to render his pastoral help to the parishes and families. Br. Rony Kizhakkedathu is busy with parish activities, works of Assisi Magazine and household duties. During this pandemic, we extended our help to the poor physically and spiritually. Many people joined us to do it in a better way.

### Welcome dear brother

We are gifted with a new member to our community in the person of Br. ShaijuMannumattam. He is busy now studying Malankara liturgical services. He also began his creative works in gardening. We wish you a very pleasant stay.

### All the best dear Br Thomas

We are a bit saddened as Br. Thomas Padipurackal who was a member here ever since his ordination in December 2010 is now moving to render his pastoral assistance to Parasala Diocese of Malankara Catholic Church. He was very well appreciated for his pastoral ministries and availability among the priests and faithful here in the Pathanamthitta diocese. Thus it creates a vacuum in the field of pastoral ministries. At the same time, we are happy that he can extend his horizons of pastoral activities and friendships into a new place.

We are happy to have many brothers with us during previous months. Brs. Provincial, George Puthenpurackal, Mathew Puthoor, Stephen Vammayalil, Simon Neelanirapel, Jins Perikilalamtharappel, Anish Elampurayidathil, Vinu Pulinchuvallil, Amal Keeprath, Moncy Aikkara and Roy Karackattu. It was really a moment of joy and happiness as the batch mates of Br. Rony Kizhakkedathu had their batch gathering here in our Ashram. Thanks to you all dear brothers. Please do visit us again we love and value your presence.

### Each brother is a gift to our fraternity.

On 15<sup>th</sup> of July, we had the birthday celebration of Br. Rony Kizhakkedathu. Br. Guardian thanked him for all his ministries and the help that he renders to our brotherhood. We all prayed for him on this special day.

### Something new

Br. Provincial and the council bought for us a car. Thus it is really a great help for the community. We wholeheartedly thank Br. Provincial and the council. We made a Badminton court in our courtyard in the beginning of this year. Youth and Parish Priests come here to join us for the game. We have the cultivation of coconuts, plantains, tapioca and other vegetables in our land. It grows well. Hope and pray that we will have a good crop this year.

Now our Ashram is a well sought after place for confession, counselling and other spiritual assistance. People and priests do come and stay with us often. We also welcome you, dear brothers, to come and have a taste of the silence and the serenity of our Ashram.

We thank the Almighty God for his protection and providence for our sustenance and life. We thank the Provincial and Council and all the brothers for your love and concern towards us. We also thank the local Communities and Priests who are working with us.

..... Thanks to you all.....

# 15. San Damiano Ashram, Chengal, Vazhoor

Ever since the blessing of the Ashram we were trying our best to get involved in the Diocese life with our ministry. But as you know, due to the covid Pandemic we had to be very careful since all around there was covid threat especially from the nearby colonies. Yet all through the fifty days of Lent we were fully involved and committed to our Parish for various ministries especially for the Sacrament of Confession and Sunday mass. According to our Parish priest comment, this is the only Parish in the Diocese where all the parishners had the Sacrament of confession amidst covid.

Fr. Jose's ministry - Fr Jose was busy with the classes for novices of S.H congregation for two months. At times he goes to Thoprakudy also for the contribution of his ministry there. **Covid attack on Fr Jose' parents:** At the middle, Fr .Jose parents and sister in law were affected by covid. His father who was admitted in the hospital was bit serious and critical, yet, he came back to normal health. Thanks for your prayers. Now all of them are alright and healthy

### Our Land: A Farm Garden

Knowing full well, the need of the time, the call of mother earths and our Franciscan Charism, we are developing it into a eco-friendly, organic and 'ecopathic ' center- a model Farm where one could Cherish and Nourish it . The new corona virus challenges us to return to the ' house church ' and ' house land'. As the people return to their land, so also we lead our own witnessing model. We have planted different varieties of fruit trees besides traditional cultivations. Vazhoor Agri - department (krishi Bhavan) is in touch with us

#### Our Guests and well wishers

Fr. Provincial and Stephen visited in thrice and once Fr Mathew Mulangasserryil also joined them. Fr. Vinu and Jins also made a friendly visit. From Kottayam Vidya Bhavan Frs Simon Neelanirappel along with Fr. Joseph Simon, Fr. Anil Manjattu and Fr. Thomas Karingada also visited as very recently. Fr. Felecian had a short visit. Thank you dear fathers come again, we are waiting for new arrivals Fr. P.A Joseph Ponnumpurayidam from Kristujyothi Province, who is taking rest after his treatment in Sahyadri Peerumedu.

# **Regency Brothers**

At the beginning of this academic year, we were given a conducive place and atmosphere to study and prepare for the examination for a month at Portiuncula Ashram, Kattappana. It awakened our nostalgic memory of pre - novitiate almost four years back. We had our renewal of Profession and the monthly recollection during this time. We are grateful to the guardian of the house Fr Mathew Vattakunnel and the other friars in the community for providing and arranging all conducive atmospheres for our studies. On 4th of July Rev. Br Provincial visited us and announced our new appointments. He also informed us that due to the widespread of Covid - 19we couldn't have a normal procedure of our regency and therefore we would have the community experience. Accordingly, Br Henson was sent to Jagadalpur Mission and Br James to Adilabad Mission. Followingly Br Geo to Portiuncula Ashram Kattappana, Br Jis to Shola woods Farm at Kulamavu, Br Bejoy to Provincial House and Brs Varghese and Jeswin to Assisi Ashram Bharananganam were sent. On the following day, we all shifted to our destined places. We had very good and enriching experiences in all the communities. We thankfully remember each Guardians and our elder brothers for contributing to our life and the formation in the Order.

#### Exam days

Our long-awaited Ignou examinations were held in the month of August and September. It was with the suggestion of Br Provincial we selected the examination centre at CMS College at Kottayam. We thankfully remember Br Provincial and the Provincial community for setting all facilities and arrangements for both the hours of preparation and the exams. During this time we could have two monthly recollections and the confessions. We sincerely thank our Brs K Shaji and Sarish for sharing the reflection on those occasions. During this time we could also help in our vocation camp organized at Bharananganam and Nadukani.

### Celebration of Onam

We had our celebration of Onam with the Provincialate community. We had the beautiful experience of the celebration of Onam by setting a Pookalam and preparing grant onasadhya at Provincialate. We celebrated the birthday of Br Varghese at the Provincialate. We thankfully remember Br Provincial and the provincialate community for the fraternal warmth and care. By the second week of September, after the examinations, we dispersed to the second stage of the regency program. Bros Henson and James returned to the mission centre and Br Jiss to Shola woods Farm at Kulamavu. Bros Geo, Bejoy, Varghese and Jeswin set their journey to Wagamon Ashram along with Fr Jomes.

# NIRMALA MATHA CUSTODY

# Assam - Meghalaya

### 1. Assisi Ashram, Matia-Majerburi

Greetings from St. Francis of Assisi Community, Matia Majerburi.

#### Gratitude to God for a new religious

The Parish community was very grateful to God for Sr. Hasila Marak, who made her first profession in UMI Congregation. A Mass was celebrated in her own village, Bengkanda, on 15th June 2021 to pray for her and to give thanks to God. It was a joy for the Parish community to get a new sister who wished to serve in the vineyard of the Lord. We pray for more vocations both boys and girls who wish to serve God and His people.

#### Renewal of profession

Br. Bahiamlang Dkhar, who joined the community as a regent on 16th May 2021, renewed the vows during the morning Mass on 13th June 2021. The community prayed for him and congratulated him with best wishes to live according to what he renewed. FMA Sisters, CMC Sisters and some children witnessed the renewal and joined together to pray for him.

#### Visitation

During the strict movement due to COVID-19, our community was being visited by a few guests who came with some purposes. Fr. Renny and Fr. Ricky visited our community on 19th June 2021. They came here to get vaccinated at Agia Government School. Sr. Jaicy SCV, Sr. Pushpa SCV and Sr. Anna Paul SVC came to visit us on 3rd July 2021. They came here as they were on the way to visit Nirmala Hospital, Bhalukdubi. Fr. Babu Joseph from Gauripur came to visit us on 15th July 2021. Fr. Lui AGN, Sr. Elsy and Sr. Blessy visited us on the same day and they had lunch in our community. On 5th August Sr. Anice and Sr. Jaicy SCV from Thunkubari visited our community. On the same day Fr. Paul Rabha SDB visited our community and spent a little time with us. On 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021 Fr. Mathew Kottaram along with CMC sisters from Bongaigaon paid a visit to our community. On 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021 FCC Sisters, Sr. Shinny and her community visited us and spent a little time with us. Fr. Milton, the nephew of Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara, who was just ordained in Kerela, came to stay for a night here on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021. We thank God for all these guests who had visited and may God bless them all with good health of mind and body.

#### A Gratitude to the Regent

The Community was very thankful to Br. Bahiamlang Dkhar, the regent for the services he had done in the community. He left our community on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 to go and prepare himself for the last exam in Andhra Pradesh. The community wished him all the best and prayed for his success.

#### A Devotion to St. Joseph

On the occasion of the year of St. Joseph, the Archdiocese of Guwahati arranged a devotion to St. Joseph by circulating the statue of the sleeping Joseph from parish to parish. Our Parish got the turn to receive the statue on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Prayers were arranged in the Parish Church. The Statue was then taken to FMA Convent and then to CMC Convent for a day respectively. The Statue was also taken to Bengkanda Village, Matia Village and Kochpara Village. Prayers and Masses were arranged on these days and the people were led to pray and ask the intercession of St. Joseph. On 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Fr. Robert Basumatary SDB along with some youths came to take the Statue to their Parish, Gojapara.

### Farewell programmes for Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara

The Community of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Matia Majerburi wished a sweet farewell to Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara, who got a transfer to Lamabari Community which falls under Tezpur Diocese. The Farewell programmes was arranged on different days in order to avoid large gathering of people. On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021, a prayer service and lunch were arranged for all neighbouring fathers and sisters. Many fathers and sisters from Gojapara, Panishali, Tilapara, Matia, Bhalukdubi, Nirmala Hospital, SCJM Mariamnagar, FMA Solmari and CMC Sisters joined the gathering. It was a memorable day for them all to thank Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara for the services he had done in the region of Goalpara for quite many years. All fathers and sisters were grateful to him and they expressed that they missed him a lot.

### Farewell program with neighbouring fathers and sisters

On 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 a farewell program was arranged in the school where class VIII to Class X students were asked to come and participate in the program. The school community was very grateful to Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara, the manager of the School, for developing the school to such an extent that it has become a popular institution in Goalpara Area. The School community expressed its gratitude to Fr. Kuriakose by presenting some programs and gifts to him. The teachers and the students expressed their sadness and feelings of missing him from the school community.

### Farewell program in the school

On 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021, the village catechists were invited to come for lunch wherein they expressed their gratitude to Fr. Kuriakose. The Parish Community arranged a farewell programme for Fr. Kuriakose on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021. It was a Sunday so the Holy Mass was arranged to thank God for him. On this day the new Parish Priest, Fr. Vincent Moshahary, who replaced Fr. Kuriakose was present. The occasion was also graced by the presence of the Custos, Fr. Renny Velayapillil. The faithful welcomed the Custos, Fr Renny, Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara and the new Parish Priest before the beginning of the Mass. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Kuriakose and was concelebrated by Fr. Renny, Fr. Vincent and Fr. Lamphrang. After the Holy Mass, a farewell programme was arranged in the school hall. The faithful expressed their gratitude to Fr. Kuriakose in their felicitations and presentation of gifts. The faithful also expressed their joy in welcoming the new Parish Priest, Fr. Vincent Moshahary.

After the Mass and the program there was a cake cutting in the refectory in honour of Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara and Fr. Vincent Moshahary, the New Parish Priest and Guardian of the community in the presence of Fr. Renny, the Custos. After that, there was a lunch together with the CMC sisters.

# SYRO-MALABAR MISSION

# Adhilabad, Chanda & Jagdalpur

# 1. Assisi Bhavan, Chennur

Warm greetings from Assisi Bhavan Chennur. We hope that all are safe in this time of the pandemic. At present we, too, are fine here. And the situation in Telangana is becoming unpredictable. Though the government records speak low TPR rate, the cases are in increase in our surroundings.

### Community and ministry

We the Brs. Alphonse, Anish and Tony are happy here. Br. Alphonse is slowly recovering from his ill health. Br. Tony Pullattukalayil is very busy with his ministries. At present he is the official keyboardist of the diocese so he is offering his service with the official retreat team of the diocese. He had gone with the bishop and team to Warangal, Hyderabad and some nearby places for the retreat. In spite of the online classes, he is also giving some free online music classes for the children. Br. Anish is in the process of becoming the spiritual father of the place. He undertakes retreats for CMI brothers, CMC sisters and he is the official confessor of nearby convents. After the lockdown, the village ministry is back in action. People are getting adjusted to the new normal and began to come back to the church. It seems Covid can in any way shake their faith.

### School Ministry

We have not yet started the regular classes and classes may begin from next month as per the present news from the department. From the month of July onwards, we began our online classes. We can proudly say that online classes are properly on a roll only in Assisi School in our town. So there is more demand for our school. We are happy that more than half of our students are attending the online classes. 25% of students are not able to attend the classes because of their poor living conditions. If things are going without many problems we have got some plans to help them too.

On the day of Independence, we organized a Zoom meeting and so the teachers and students could participate in the program.

#### Sister Corona

As the whole world was affected by the pandemic it did not give any exemption to us too. Br. Tony got the first chance to bring Corona to our community and then it affected Br. Anish but without many problems it left them. It was not the case with Br. Alphonse. Though it affected late but had its whole power. He was admitted in Christ Hospital, Chandrapur. Corona caused infection in his lungs and was in the ICU for 9 days and then in the room for 8 more days. Doctors informed that it may take three months to a full recovery. We know that it is only because of your prayers he could recover from this situation. We take this occasion to acknowledge our heartfelt gratitude for it.

#### Guests

As we Franciscans are known for our hospitality, guests are always welcomed happily. Priests and sisters from nearby parishes used to make their visit. Br. Mathew Paikada and Br. Dinny also paid visited us on their way to the railway station. Priests and sisters from the Jagadalpur diocese also use our house as a halt as it is on the way to the railway station.

#### Regents

This year also we are happy to have two of our regents Brs. Henson and James to spend some days with us. Br. James will stay with us and Henson will go to Jagadalpur.

### Celebrations

This year we could celebrate Easter in a normal way. We had Holy Mass at night and the next day whole church community shared a common meal. We had a common celebration of the birthdays of our brothers on 28<sup>th</sup> of April. After a long time, we conducted the zonal get together of the nearby communities on 25<sup>th</sup> July. We gave sent off to the outgoing parish priest Fr. Manu and welcomed new members to the *Koinonia*.

Together with the prayers for your safety, we wish all the festal greetings of Our Father St Francis.

# 2. Seva Sadan, Tekkumatla, Adilabad

It is my immense joy to share our life of activities with all of you through the Internos. The time from May to July was a difficult time of anxiety and tension due to Covid 19. Many of our neighbours were affected and a few left for their eternal abode. We felt very sad about such a situation that we could not visit the sick and bereaved families due to Covid 19 protocol.

It was also a period that, all of us brothers at Chennur and Tekumatla were confined to our rooms due to the embrace of Covid 19. That was a time we really experienced the brotherly concern attention for each other. Very many thanks to all of you brothers for praying for our healing and fast recovery. The neighbouring priests and religious also were very much concerned about our condition and were really praying for us.

# Liturgical celebrations

The New Year was celebrated with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the evening of the New Year day. The feast of Epiphany also was celebrated the evening with Holy Eucharist. The feast of Annunciation the Lord also was celebrated in the evening. The season of lent commenced with Holy Eucharist celebrated and anointing the faithful with blessed ashes on Ash Monday.

Every First Friday few families gather together for the monthly Adoration of Holy Eucharist. During the time of lent, we prayed the Stations of Cross with the people.

**Celebration of the Holy Week:** The few Christian families attended the Holy Week in the parish Church at Mancheriyal. Easter was celebrated here with the people followed by a community meal. The people contributed according to their ability. After the mass, all of them joined together and prepared the food. While the food was under the preparation we screened the picture "Karunamaydy" in Telugu for the sake of youngsters.

### **Community Recollections**

We had two zonal community recollections, the first being at Chennur and the second at Bheemaram. The recollection was guided by Rev.Fr. Joseph Manickathanl CMI the V.G. and parish priest of Mancheriyal. The recollection was concluded with the Agape. Many of the neighbouring zonal communities started thinking about conducting such zonal recollections in their own respective zones.

# **Community Outing**

On 23rd January the members of the community of Chennur and Tekumatla joined together at Chennur. After our lunch, we visited the nearby crocodile park and the Kalleswaram project at the river Godavari.

# Child Helpline

Fr. Jijo The diocesan director of social work took the initiative to have the first meeting of the Child helpline-

together with the Panchayat President, the School Principal, the teachers, the parents, Asha workers, Anganwadi teachers etc in front of the primary school at Tekumatla. The director of the Women and Child Welfare department from Mancherial gave a talk about the importance of children's education, health etc. He interacted with the group for some time and gathered their opinions. Finally, we formed a committee to look into the matter of child helpline.

### International Women's Day Celebration

8<sup>th</sup> march being Monday we celebrated International Women's Day on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March First, we conducted different competitions for the women who gathered in front of our house. After the competition Fr. Prashant gave a short message on the role of a woman in the family. After the talk, we gave away the prizes to the winners of different competitions. Before sending them away we distributed snacks to all those who were present. Very many thanks to the women who participated, add the onlookers and GoodSamaritan sisters and volunteers who helped to organize the competitions.

# A New Fencing

We are very grateful to Br. Provincial and councilors for supporting us financially to install mesh fencing around our land. Before that our cultivations were damaged by cattle, goats, pigs, and wild rabbits. We hope that with the new fencing our garden will be safe from animals from outside. Once again we sincerely thank Br. Provincial and councilors.

# Support to the Corona affected families

Once we regained our health, we could reach out to 200 families here at Tekumatla and six neighbouring villages with food kits. Of course, the food kits were provided by the Karunya programme of the diocese of Adilabad. Our role was only to identify the seriously affected families in the villages, to collect food kits from the Bishop's house and to supply them to the poor families. Our two Christian families and a few young men helped us in distributing the food kits. Very heartfelt thanks to the diocesan authorities and to those who have helped us in distribution.

#### Medical Camp

As a follow up of the distribution of food kits the " Karunyanidhi" of the diocese came forward to help the persons in our village of Tekumatla by conducting a medical camp here. With the mediation of Fr. Jijo the Director of diocesan social work, we could get the assistance of a Catholic lady Doctor from Bellampally to conduct the medical camp at Tekumatla. With the support of some personal friends, we could procure some drugs for the patients who came for the camp. About 70 patients were tested and given medicines. The medical Camp of the "Karunyanidhi" was started with the sick people of our village. A medical team consisting of five priests, a sister doctor and two sisters conducted the medical camp. Brothers Anish and Tony from Chennur also came to help to assist the camp. The medical services started at 10 A.M in the morning and went up to 4 O'clock in the evening. Sixty patients had undergone tests and checkups, and medicines were given to each one. Along with the people of this village let me thank the medical team and Karunyanidhiprogramme for the health care services.

#### Our guests

Though it was an unpredictable time as Covid in the background a few religious and priests visited Seva Sadan. Frs. Saphin, Jijo, Jomy, came on the previous day of the medical camp to look into the arrangements of medical camp such as place of registration, tests, check-up, treatment room and pharmacy. There was a surprise visit by Asst. Commissioner of Police of Ramagundam Mr Balaraju. He was in our minor seminary at Warangal along with Fr. Iniah Policeti. I too was teaching at that time in our minor seminary at Warangal. But he left the seminary after one year. He along with a team of his assistance spent some time here with us Thank you very much, sir, for your kind visit and not forgetting the good time you had with the capuchins. Many of our diocesan Priests and sisters and our friars visited us on and off, thanks to all for your brotherly visits.

### Celebration

Though we do not have a parish here, nor a large community the small tiny group gathered on  $3^{rd}$  July to celebrate the feast of St Thomas the Apostle.

Once again wish you a very happy feast of our Father St Francis...

- Br. Prashant

# 3. St. Mary's Church Bhairamgarh, Jagadalpur

### Peace and Joy

It's quite a long time since I shared any news about my stay at St. Thomas Parish Bijapur. During my ministry there for nearly a year, I received a new appointment as the Parochial Administrator of St. Mary's Church Bhairamgarh, which is 112 km from Jagdalpur, the diocesan headquarters. However, it is closer to Jagdalpur than Bijapur which is the last Parish of the South zone of Jagdalpur Diocese. Along with this new office I was also appointed as the Director of the Youth Commission of the Diocese.

On 5<sup>th</sup> of July, I landed here in Bhairamgarh and immediately on the next Sunday, July 12th I took up my new office. Meanwhile, the former Parish Priest Fr. Augustine Vadkkedom was assigned to help me in the Parish, and we were together for a couple of months. Covid and the torrential rains forced us to stay indoors during these two months. Meanwhile, I started a new YouTube channel for Daily reflections in Hindi and English, in fact, I had planned it out for my Youth here, sadly for several reasons I brought it to a halt by mid-December.

#### Start of a new community:

In the middle of September, Fr. Augustine had a transfer from Bhairamgarh meanwhile we were immensely happy to have Br. Robin Madathil to spend here his Regency period. He arrived here on 15<sup>th</sup> and gradually two of us got in sync to form a community feeling which reached its fruition on 16<sup>th</sup> of October when Br. Mathew Paikada reached here along with Brs. Anish Varickanikkal, Antony Alphonse and Tony Puladan to take charge as the Guardian of our new community, herein Bhairamgarh. Fr. Jose Panthalany, one of the Pioneering CMI missionaries of the diocese who runs a farmhouse close to the Parish was also here to welcome Br. Paikada. We were all delighted to come together, after a long time, though only for a short time as they had to return before it got dark.

Soon after Br. Paikada's arrival our Bp. Joseph Kollamparambil himself had come to welcome him and later Proto-Syncellus Fr. Thomas Munpathinchira and Syncellus Fr. Shinod Choorapadath had also come here to extend their welcome.

#### Residence in Bhairamgarh:

In consultation with the bishop, we have named this house at Bhairamgarh as Maria Bhavan, after the name of the Parish St. Mary's Church. This is a newly constructed and wellfurnished house by the diocese which is offered to us for residence and there are a few plots of land under this station which may altogether come around 15 acres entrusted to us. Along with Maria Bhavan, a new house was built for Sisters on the other side of the road to serve the Parish as well as in view of starting a new school for the Diocese in this locality. The Parish Church is nearly 3 km far from Maria Bhavan.

### Build my Church:

We have nearly 40 families in this Parish. If all our Parishioners come together we cannot have a ceremony inside the church and moreover it is a dilapidated Church (shed). So, the Diocese decided to build a new Church and has at present entrusted the construction work to us. Till date, the construction work has reached till tie-beam. The fund is also an issue, after our arrival we had taken several steps to raise funds like introducing Raffel, Cake business etc. Hope to get more support from God willing to build this small Church.

### Ministries we cater to:

Br. Paikada had animated several retreats and the last one was for this diocese, and I too had a few opportunities during the Christmas and Lenten season in some of which Br. Robin was great support even to the extent of taking some class for the Youth. Br. Paikada is regularly requested to animate monthly recollections and hear confessions in the neighbouring communities. Apart from this, we have the Parish ministry and Youth ministry at the diocesan level frequently. Though for a trial run we cultivated our fenced land, nearing 2 acres, with food crops.

### Welcome to the new Community:

16<sup>th</sup> of February was another historical day for the diocese of Jagdalpur and for St. Mary's Parish Bhairamgarh as three Sisters from the Preshitharam Congregation arrived here. On 17<sup>th</sup> the house was blessed as Convent by the Bishop, Mar Joseph Kollamparambil CMI, and warmly welcomed by the Parish community. Apart from them, CMI Provincial Fr.

Thomas Vadakkumkara, Fr. Jose Panthalany and Bishop's Secretary Fr. Jomet were also present to mark the occasion.

# **Celebrations:**

Our Parishioners are from Uraon tribe, and they celebrate the feast of harvest *(katni thyohaar)* in the month of October. This time it was on 31<sup>st</sup>, despite the tensions of Covid, we had solemn mass, followed by lunch and tribal dance for long hours. It was indeed awesome!!

Although we had Carols, vigil mass and some programs Christmas and New Year were not celebrated in full splendour due to Covid and our Church construction.

CMI's and Jagdalpur Youth Movement had together organised a volleyball tournament in our Zone in which our Parish took the Runner-up trophy which was solely because of the outstanding performance of our Br. Robin.

The presence of Sisters added colour to the celebration of Holy Week and Easter as they animated the adoration, *Pesaha appam* was made even for the Parishioners by them, and Br. Robin gave a big hand in making a beautiful Easter tomb with the support of the Youth.

The recent Onam celebration was indeed a festive occasion, although in principle we were not so jubilant to celebrate our home festival, in an entirely different culture, presupposing an offence for the people of the land; we enjoyed the entire event in our own style. We started our day with a Syro-Malabar Malayalam mass. We had welcomed a few fathers from our neighbourhood for Sadhya and Sisters from our neighbouring community took an upper hand in preparing it. Br. Paikada took initiative to present a beautiful Pookalam in our sit-out. The entire day turned to be auspicious and delightful.

#### Farewell and welcome:

Now it was time for Br. Robin to leave the mission after the Regency. We were in fact sad to bid him farewell; he was great support for us in all our undertakings. Br. Robin was dedicated to give his service in the parish ministry as well as in carrying out a few programs for the youth in the diocese, he was interested in visiting mission stations and studying the culture of the land; moreover, he was committed to do the daily chores of Maria Bhavan happily. He left us on 28<sup>th</sup> of April to Kerala. We were happy to have him with us and we look forward for his return to the mission. We did extend a cordial welcome to Br. Henson, on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, to Maria Bhavan for the Regency. He was getting acclimatized with the surroundings, in the middle of which he had to return to Kerala for the MA exams. Hope to have him soon with us.

Fraternal Greetings from Maria Bhavan!! Hope to meet you soon, till then bye

- Br. Binny Kuruppassery

# 1. Holy Family Catholic Mission Katima Mulilo

Greetings from holy family mission Namibia. We are extremely glad to meet you on these pages to share with you the news about our mission life.

### Welcome Br. Anoop

Namibian mission is indeed happy to welcome our new member for the mission. Br. Anoop joined reached Windhoek (capital of Namibia) on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Br. Jinesh and Br. Nithin welcomed him at the airport. He will be working in the holy family mission as the assistant parish priest of the mission.

### Farewell to Br. Toji

After completing one year at Holy family mission as the assistant parish priest Br. Toji moved to his new working place. He moved to St. Michael's mission, Outjo. People of the Holy family mission miss him a lot especially the youth.

## Covid - 19

Brother Covid made a very good visit in the mission taking so many valuable souls to eternal life. During the winter season, the visit of brother covid was very intense which made our life practically still. The one and only catholic religious nun, Sr. Mary Francis, from the Zambezi region was taken back to the lap of the heavenly father by covid. That was a great loss for our mission. Together with her, hands full of faithful catholic too were affected by Covid and went for their eternal reward. The lack of medication and proper treatment together with the cold climate made our lives really difficult. As the climate change to the hot, the situation got better in the country and in the mission too.

## Building and renovations

We are at the final stage of the reconstruction of one of our old mission buildings. It will be used as a guest house for people who seek accommodation. We hope this project will help the mission a lot in its financial stability.

We had a water tank that was providing water for the entire mission. Recently we found that the tank started to slant to one side. It was a real hard work to make the tank and the stand straight.

## St. Francis Mission Bukalo.

Amid the covid situation which is surrounding us, we are still trying our level best to give our people the pastoral care need. We completed the construction of new two churches in the mission. St. Anne's church at Isimwe and sacred heart church at libiu. The church at Isimwe was blessed by the apostolic administrator of Rundu vicariate Fr. Linus. The sacred heart church was blessed by Fr. Varghese.

Br. Chacko the parish priest of St. Francis mission Bukalo is always with people to administer sacraments and to meet their pastoral needs. The zealous which he shows to meet the need of the people is remarkable.

## St. Luke Mission Sibinda.

It was very difficult for the people at Sibinda to pound their maze after harvesting it. They had to travel 60 km to find a place to pound their maze before it can be cooked. Seeing the situation of the people Fr. Varghese took the initiative to install a maze pounding centre at the mission. After a lot of enquiries with the help of the province, we were able to buy one machine and start the project. Now people around the mission are very much happy as they find their food problem easy to handle.

Together with this hundreds of people are coming to the mission every day to fetch water as the town council water is not available for them due to breakage in the main pipeline. Fr. Varghese is tirelessly helping the people who come to him seeking help. Some of his pictures take from the maze pounding project reveals to us how hard his works are.

By the grace of God, the mission life is moving with its full vibrancy and spirit. We request all of your unceasing prayer support. Until we meet again on these pages we say by to all.

# St. Michaels Roman Catholic Mission, Outjo, Namibia

Warmest Greetings from St Michael Mission Outjo Caps.....

We are very happy to reach you with our streams of events from St Michael Mission Outjo.

### The arrival of Bro.Toji

Fr. Toji joined as the new community member on 12<sup>th</sup> of June after his holidays. The Guardian rendered him a cordial and warm welcome.

## Parish Events

The situation of covid is getting better and people are going back to their normal life. We have started our parish ministries with the allowed number and covid protocol. The usual Sunday mass, visiting the sick and other ministries are slowly getting into its track.

### Workshop

The Kamenjab church members have organized a oneday liturgical seminar for the entire members of the church. The motive of the seminar was to increase their knowledge of liturgical activities.

## Baptism and First Holy Communion

We celebrated baptism and First Holy Communion in Anchr church after long years which are 150km far from our mission. Our learners in the schools are preparing for their first holy communion for this mount.

## Feast of St Benedict

We celebrated the feast of St Benedict the patron saint of our OSB Sisters. The solemn festal mass was celebrated and in the evening we had a solemn supper and cultural dances by our sisters.

# Schools and Hostel

The pandemic forced us to close the school from 18<sup>th</sup> of June until 30 of July. Now we are back again to the school. We opened the school with Eucharistic celebration seeking blessings from the Lord amidst these struggling times. We celebrated the feast of St Augustine as our boy's hostel is named after 'St Augustine'. All the school and hostel activities are going on well. We also help with the holy mass, classes, confession and other spiritual activities in the nearby primary school.

# Our Gratitude

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who visited our mission. We gratefully remember Fr. Anoop for his one week stay with us. We remember Fr Varghese, Fr Jinesh and Fr Nithin and SH Sisters.

Until we meet in the next stream of events, we pray for you and wishing you all a very happy feast of St Francis.

### Nirmala Matha Custody, Assam-Meghalaya The Third Election Chapter

The followings are some of the main events of the Chapter.

#### Introduction

The Third Election Chapter of NirmalaMatha Custody, Assam-Meghalaya was held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at Capuchin House Guwahati. The Chapter was held with prior notification and preparations for three months as per the Statutes of the Custody. (*Procedures to conduct the Chapter of the Custody, no.8*) It was a long awaited event as it was postponed for at least two times due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

### The Day of Arrival

The Chapter began with the day of arrival of the friars from 14 centres of the Custody on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021. The friars were welcomed by the Custos, Br. Mathew Kallidical OFM Cap and each one was assigned with a room. The Provincial, Br. George Anthony Assarecheril OFM Cap, arrived at Capuchin House on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The Chapter began with the presence of all the solemn professed friars, except Br. Nicholas Marak, who was having exam in OriensTheological College, Shillong.



### The Opening Day of the Chapter

The official opening of the Chapter was on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021. The day began with the Morning Prayer which was animated by Br. Kmenlang Nongrum and Br. Genstar Nongkhlaw. The inaugural session began at 9.00 am at the Conference Hall. The Custos, Br. Mathew Kallidical, then delivered a welcome address which was followed by lighting of the lamp by Br. George Antony, the Provincial, Br. Mathew



Kallidical, the Custos, Br. John Prakash, senior most friar of the Custos, Br. Simon Ekka, the junior most friar of the Custosand Br. Lamphrang Marbaniang, the Chapter Secretary. The Provincial, Br. George Antony then delivered the inaugural address.

#### Release of the Silver Jubilee Souvenir

It was at the end of the evening session on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 that Br. Lamphrang Marbaniang, the Chapter Secretary, introduced the Silver Jubilee Souvenir to the friars and he requested Br. George Antony, the Provincial to release it. The Chapter Secretary then thanked Fr. Kuriakose Kattoopara and all the Fathers who had helped him to collect the data and in completing the work.



### The Election Day of the Chapter

The third day of the Chapter was the day of election of the Custos and the councillors. The day began with the adoration in the morning in preparation for the election. After the breakfast the election session began in the hall. The first election was for the Custos. In the election Fr. RennyVelayapilli was elected as the Custos, Fr. Biju Adackapara as the Vicar and second councillor, Fr. Anil Joseph as the third Councillor, Fr. TomyPulickeel as the third councillor and Fr. Genstar Nongkhlaw as the fourth councillor.



## Archbishop's visit during the Chapter

On4<sup>th</sup> August, the final day of the chapter, His Grace Archbishop John Moolachira, the Archbishop of Guwahati visited the friars. The Lunch break on this day was special due to his presence. The friars were very happy to meet him and they wished him a happy feast day being the feast day of St. John Mary Vianney. The Archbishop was very glad to dine together with the friars and he wished the new team of the Custody a great success.

### Conclusion

Towards the close of the Chapter the Provincial exhorted the friars to keep in mind the goal and the means to reach the goal. He appreciated the friars for participating so fraternally in the chapter. He mentioned that the friars kept up the atmosphere of the Chapter. He was grateful for all the cooperations that the friars have rendered during the Chapter. He also wished the new Custos and the councillors bright days ahead. Lastly, he insisted on the need to take care of the younger friars who just joined the region so that they may grow. And he extended a warm welcome to anyone who is coming to the Provincialate for holidays.

Br. Lamphrang Marbaniang, the Chapter Secretary, then thanked Br. Provincial, the Moderator, the recording secretary and the drafting committee. The new Custos then gave a vote of thanks to all after which Br. Kuriakose Kattoopara made а concluding prayer and Br. John Prakash gave the blessing for all. When everything was done Br. George Antony, the



Provincial, declared the Chapter closed. The day was concluded with the Holy Mass which was celebrated by the Provincial and con-celebrated by Br. Anil Joseph and Br. GregoriousSyntem. After the Holy Mass there was a birthday wishing for Br. Anil Joseph coupled with cake cutting. After the dinner many friars returned to their own respective places and some went back to their communities. The followings are the new appointments of the friars after the Chapter.

1. **Capuchin House** Juripar Path, Khanapara P.O. - 781022, Six Mile, Guwahati, Assam. E-mail: capuchinhouse@yahoo.co.in Fr. RennyVelayapillil(Custos) Fr. Jose Pandianparambil (Regional Economo) St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mariampur 2. Athiabari P.O. - 783130, Goalpara Dt., Assam. Fr. Brilliant A. Sangma (Parish Priest, Guardian & Manager) Fr. JoroBasumatary (Asst. Parish Priest, Principal & Economo) St. Francis of Assisi Church, Matia-Majerburi 3. Matia - Majerburi, Bordamal P.O. - 783120, Goalpara Dt., Assam. Fr. Vincent Mochahary (Guardian, Parish Priest & Manager) Fr. LamphrangMarbaniang (Asst. Parish Priest, Economo& Principal) 4. St. Francis School, Kothakuthi Dhupdhara P.O. - 783123, Goalpara Dt., Assam. > Fr. TomyPulickeel (Guardian & Manager of the School) Fr. Tony Isaac Narakathadathil (Economo& Principal of the school) St. PadrePio Seminary (Capuchin Study House) 5. Umktieh, Umroi BPO. -793103, Ri-Bhoi Dt., Meghalaya.

Tel. 0364- 2908628 / Mob. - 09615211315

- Br. Biju Adackapara (Guardian & Rector)
   Br. Ricky Mukhim (Vice Rector & Economo)
   Br. John Prakash (Spiritual Father & Staff)
- 6. St. Francis of Assisi Church, Byrnihat Byrnihat P.O. - 793101, Ri - Bhoi Dt., Meghalaya. Tel. 03638- 263444
- St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mronggre Assisi Mount, Mronggre, Chibinang P.O. - 794104, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya. Mob. - 09435024533
  - Br. BastinKarackatt (Guardian, Parish Priest & Manager)
     Br. GregoriousSyntem (Asst. Parish Priest, Principal &Economo)
- St. Francis of Assisi Church, Thunkubari Kasikotra P.O. - 7833 373, Chirang Dt., B.T.A.D., Assam. Mob. - 09435024516 / 08011951983
  - Br. George Kochuparambil (Guardian & PP)
     Br. VineshVallonathil (Asst. Parish Priest, Principal &Economo)
- 9. St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mawlangdep Mawlangdep, Nongstoiñ P.O. -793119, West Khasi Hills Dt., Meghalaya. Tel. 03654-292851

Br. GwmsharDaimary (Guardian & Parish Priest)
 Br. Sam Sachrias

 (Asst. Parish Priest, Principal &Economo)

### St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Sahsniang Sahsniang, West Jaiñtia Hills District Meghalaya- 793150

 Br. GenstarNongkhlaw (Guardian, Parish Priest & Manager)
 Br. Geo Thannickapara (Principal, Asst. PP & Economo)

### Capuchin Study House, Shillong UmthumThum, Block C, MawlaiKyntonmassar NEHU P.O., East Khasi Hills District Meghalaya-793022

Br. Mathew Kallidical (Rector)

- 12. St Francis of Assisi Parish, Lamabari Mazbat, Udalguri District Assam-784507
  - Br. KuriakoseKattoopara (Guardian, Parish Priest& Manager)
     Br. JithinKoodakkattu (Asst. PP, Economo& Principal)
- 13. St Francis of Assisi Ashram, Mowjem Dispur Diocese, Assam
  - Br. Paul Koolipurackal(Guardian)
- 14. St. Francis of Asssi Ashram, Khermia Dibrugarh Diocese, Assam
  - Br. Francis Valiyakunnel (Guardian)
     Br. Simon Ekka (Economo)





Pre - Novices



Regents



B'day Celebration of Br Provincial



Second Formation Meeting @ Provincialate



Initiatives from Assisi Hand @ SH Hospital



Custos & Councillors, Nirmala Matha Custody



Friars of Nirmala Matha Custody

### Final Profession of our Brothers

