



# The Petals

Vol.29 | No.3 | Jul - Oct 2023

# Theresian Research Paper Competition



1<sup>st</sup> 15,000₹  
2<sup>nd</sup> 10,000₹  
3<sup>rd</sup> 5,000₹

**Subject:** *The Legion of Little Ones: A Study of Catholic Saints directly or indirectly inspired by the Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux.*

St. Therese of Lisieux popularly known as St Little Flower is undoubtedly one of the most influential Catholic Saints of modern times. She is one of those trailblazers of Christian Spirituality who set new paradigms for saintliness. There are several twentieth century and Millennial Catholic saints who directly or indirectly got inspired by her famous 'Little Way or Spiritual Childhood'. This research competition aims at first conducting a census of those known, unknown, canonized and yet to be canonized holy men and women and secondly, analyzing how their journey to holiness was directly or indirectly shaped by the life of the greatest saint of modern times.

One can approach the research in two ways. First in a general way, briefly schimming through the lives of as many saints as one can gather, whose lives were directly or indirectly inspired by the Saint. Second, in a more concrete way dwelling upon the life of a particular saint with special focus on how his/her spiritual journey is related to St. Therese.

## Criteria:

- Anyone can participate.
- The work must be original and free of plagiarism.
- Minimum of Ten Pages and Maximum of Fifteen Pages.
- Page Format: Times New Roman, Font Size – 12, Line Spacing 1.15
- References are obligatory.
- Citation Style: APA/Chicago (Turabian) – Please follow anyone consistently.

---

Submit the Entries to [research@jdrajasthan.com](mailto:research@jdrajasthan.com) by Nov. 30, 2023

For more details contact [+91 9079777471](tel:+919079777471)

**JYOTI DARSHAN**

Centre of Mission, Peace & Communication  
Hanumangarh Jn., 335512, Rajasthan, India





## Patroness

St. Therese of Lisieux

## Patron

Rev. Fr Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST  
Provincial Superior

## Editorial

Fr Mobin Thazhathedath CST  
Fr Siril Pothan CST  
Fr Juslin Padinjarematom CST

©Khrist Jyoti Province  
CST Fathers  
Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh Jn.  
335512, Rajasthan  
cstkhrstjyoti@yahoo.co.in  
www.kjcst.com

*Public Circulation Only*

## Printed at

Xavier Printing Press  
Sri Muktsar Sahib



*It was after one private Mass!  
Time was 11.30 pm (thanks to the  
Gregorian streak!)...  
Rearrangements in two minutes!  
Eyes are feeling heavy and ready  
to drop!  
Why couldn't I make thanks giving  
on the bed?  
Sometimes Reason finds better  
excuses than best solutions!  
Took the AC remote.  
Sign off for today!  
pressed hard on the standby  
button pointing at the  
tabernacle....!*

\*\*\*\*\*

*So far no retreats had ever given  
him such a goosebumping bodhi  
moment!  
Let St Therese in whose life there  
had not been hardly 3 minutes  
without thinking about, God  
inspire us to spend our missionary  
life in the Presence of the Lord  
always,  
like a tree standing by the river  
side.....  
Happy Feast to all*



On the 150th birth anniversary of St. Therese of Lisieux, the UNESCO honored her as a world heritage person for “the year 2022/2023 biennial” among the 60 shortlisted personalities from 47 countries. UNESCO stated that the celebration of this anniversary will contribute to giving greater visibility and justice to the women who have promoted through their actions, the values of peace. Her recognition by UNESCO is very significant because she is not only of interest to Christians but also beyond the frontiers of the Church. She touches the very essence of the human heart. This recognition “opens new prospects for the dissemination of her message of life, sanctity, peace and love to “the most remote islands” as St. Therese of Lisieux herself put it and to “the out skirts” according to the expression of Pope Francis.”

A young French Woman who died at the age of 24, known throughout the world through her posthumous publications, contributes to the promotion of universal values and the promotion of inclusion. She looked at society and our humanity from a woman’s, perspective in the heavenly light of universal love and peace. Her “science of love” addressed to all humanity transcends all times and all places and is found in all cultures. And it unites all men and women of this world because it corresponds to the search for the meaning of our world. As a lover of nature, she was aware of the depth of human person and encouraged humanity to take care of our Earth, “our common home”, respecting the traditions and cultures of those who inhabit it. Her missionary desire motivated her to go out and meet the world to share with as many people as possible what makes her life and desire to continue to “do good on earth”.

The Feast Celebration of St. Therese in the post golden jubilee scenario of the CST Mission in Punjab- Rajasthan invites us to intensify our devotions towards the Little Flower and to reinforce us in Promoting and nurturing the dialogue between faith and culture in the present milieu. Nonetheless, as members of the Little Flower Congregation, we have no better choice than our founder Very Rev. Fr. Basilius CST himself whose 47th death anniversary we commemorate on 4th October, to be that best example of assimilating the Little Way of St. Therese. He experienced the missionary zeal and the littleness of St. Therese and bequeathed to us a patrimony of life of prayer, absolute surrender to God the loving Father and selfless service to the poor (Con. No. 3).

May the examples of St. Therese and our founder inspire us to commit ourselves to the promotion of humanism, kingdom values and universal love and peace! Happy Feast to all!

Fr Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST  
*Provincial Superior*

# Contents

---

## **News & Events**

Official Bulletin	04
Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh	11
Little Flower Seminary, Malout	13
Little Flower Formation House, Abohar	15
Little Flower Major Seminary, Aluva	17
L F Ashram, Kot Shamir	19
L F Ashram, Gidderbaha	20
KJMB, Mudickal, Kerala	21
L F Ashram, Sadiq	23
St. Joseph's Ashram, Moga	24
L F Ashram, Sikhwala	25
LF Ashram, Guruharsahai	26
St. Mary's Ashram, Sikar	28
LF Station, Churu	30
SH Bhavan, Sri Ganganagar	31
LF Station, Nokha	32
DWS & JD, Pune	32
St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur	33
KJC, Bangalore	34
SH Theological College, Shillong	35
Capuchin Vidyabhavan, Thellakam	37

## **Literary Corner**

Cover Story - LFCS, Hanumangarh	38
Cover Story - St. Thomas' Catholic Church Ferozepur City	40
Silence	43
Oh Therese! Oh Therese!	45
A Blossoming Faith	46
One + One = One	49
Song of a Rose	51
Jyoti Catechetical Fest	52
The unending mystery of Love	55
The Message of Therese	56
Canvas	58
Book Review	63
Votive Candle Wrap	66





N E W S

## OFFICIAL BULLETIN

### APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS

#### Punjab

**Fr. Jobins Puthiyamangalath CST**

*Member, SH Ashram, Malout  
Parish Priest, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Panniwala,  
Manager, St. Mary's School, Dippanwali, Panniwala*

**Fr. Shibin Kocheelath CST**

*Member & Procurator, LF Ashram, Kot Shamir  
Asst. Parish Priest, LF Church, Kot Shamir  
Asst. Manager LF Convent School, Kot Shamir*

**Fr. Saju Thottamattam CST**

*Member, Holy Cross Ashram, Danewala  
Director, Basil Dairy Farm, Danewala  
In charge of the agriculture land, Danewala*

**Fr. Shyju Chathanattu CST**

*Superior, LF Ashram, Kot Shamir  
Manager, LF Convent School, Kot Shamir  
Parish Priest, LF Catholic Church, Kot Shamir*

**Fr. George Alukka CST**

*Land In charge, Hoshiarpur*

#### Rajasthan

**Fr. Anoop Moolan CST**

*Station in charge, Little Flower Mission Station, Sujangarh*

**Fr. Stephan Swaranjeet CST**

*Member & Procurator, LF Ashram, Bikaner  
Vice Principal, BBS  
Asst. Parish Priest, St. Francis Xavier's Church, Bikaner*

**Fr. Melbin Thekkemalil CST**

*Superior, LF Ashram, Ajmer  
Manager, IGMENZ, Ajmer,  
Parish Priest, Our Lady of Holy Rosary Church, Madar, Ajmer*

**Fr. Juslin Padinjarematom CST**

*Director, Jyoti Darshan Centre for Missiology & Peace,  
Hanumangarh*

## OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Fr Shibu Menachery CST

*Manager, Little Flower Convent School, Gidderbaha*

### Other

Fr. Brijeesh Urumbil CST

*B. Ed Studies, Christ College Bangalore,*

*Stay at Vidyabhavan, Bangalore*

*Member Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan, Mudickal*

Fr. Sajan Narangathottil CST

*Vocation Promoter, Khrist Jyoti Province*

Fr. Robin Areeparambil CST

*Higher Studies in Social Work, St. Thomas' University, US*

Fr Mathews Moozhayil CST

*MSW, Amity University, Mumbai*

### October 28, 2023

Dioconate Ordination of

Bro. Arun Baby Chemmanampadath CST &

Bro. Joice George Muthanattu CST

at Capuchin Vidyabhavan, Thellakam

to be conferred by Mar George Madathikandathil

Bishop of the Eparchy of Kothamangalam

### November 05, 2023

Episcopal Ordination of Rev. Dr. Msgr. Saji Nellikunnel CST

*Bishop Elect, Eparchy of Gorakhpur*

### November 12-18, 2023

Annual Retreat at Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh

*Retreat Preacher: Fr Maradas OIC*

### November 29, 2023

Reception to Mar Mathew Nellikunnel & Silver Jubilee

Celebrations of Frs. Vincent C, Benny P, Sunny C, Silvinose

& Sabeenose at Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh

### November 30, 2023

Death Anniversay Celebration of

Rev. Fr Felix Nellikunnath CST



N E W S

INFORMATION

Ref. No. 08/955/KJ/577

27.08.2023

***"If one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. (1 Cor 12:26)."***

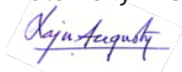
**Most** Rev Dr Saji Nellikunnel and the members of the Khrist Jyoti Province, Our hearts are filled with joy, and we feel edified and honored on one among us, Rev. Dr Saji Nellikunnel CST being chosen as the new bishop of the Eparchy of Gorakhpur. Hearty congratulations dear Fr Saji on this marvelous feat in your religious-priestly life! May the Good Lord shower grace upon grace over you to be His trustworthy steward in the Vinyard of Gorakhpur!

We the Khrist Jyoti Province of the Little Flower Congregation bow our heads in gratitude before the Almighty Lord for this supreme blessing showered upon us no sooner than the milestone event of our Golden Jubilee year reaching its climax. We also take this opportunity to thank the honorable Synod of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church who after prolonged deliberations and prayerful discernment elected Rev Dr Saji Nellikunnel as the new shepherd of the Eparchy of Gorakhpur. Special thanks to Mar Thomas Thuruthimattam CST the predecessor to Rev Dr Saji for gracefully shepherding the Eparchy for the past years.

Dear Rev Dr Saji, on this jubilant occasion we the Khrist Jyoti Province wish you all the very best for the years ahead. We will be always at your side in all the moments of the episcopal journey you are soon to begin. Big thanks for all that you have been to us so far. Your services to the province in the capacities of provincial superior, rector to the minor and major seminary, professor of philosophy, pastor and manager of schools were indeed unparallel and irreplaceable.

Once again thanking you for the selfless services you are rendering to the congregation and wishing you a blissful Episcopal journey ahead,

Faternally in Christ,



Fr. Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST  
Provincial Superior





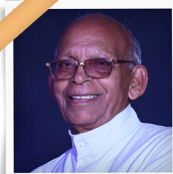
# CONGRATULATIONS

**Most Rev. Dr. Msgr. Saji Nellikunnel CST**  
*Bishop Elect, Eparchy of Gorakhpur*



# Birthdays

JULY



Fr John K  
(06)



Fr Mobin T  
(07)



Fr Bijo K  
(10)



Fr John M  
(18)



Fr Roji N  
(20)



Fr Nikhil V  
(21)



Fr Jijo P  
(29)



Fr Sabeenose A  
(02)



Fr Silvinose A  
(02)



Fr Tibin M  
(04)



Fr Tiyo K  
(29)



Fr Saju K  
(07)



Fr Sebastian K  
(10)



Fr Suneesh E  
(14)



Fr Sinoj A  
(17)



Fr Thomas N  
(18)



Fr Noble V  
(19)



Fr Antony K  
(26)



Fr Tigi T  
(28)

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

# Feasts



Fr Thomas A



Fr Ajay N



Fr Shan A



Fr Salj P



Fr Suneesh E



Fr Vince K

JULY 03



Fr Roji N



Fr Tom P



Fr Sandeep T



Fr Thomas N



Fr Juslin P



Fr Silvinose A

JULY 10



Fr Cyriac K



Fr Kurian M



Fr Jaimon V

JULY 15



Fr Jacob V

JULY 25



Fr Alwin E

AUGUST 08



Fr Sunny C



Fr Augustine V



Fr Augustine P

AUGUST 28

SEPTEMBER 21



Fr Mathew K



Mar Saji N



Fr Shibu M



Fr Mathew N



Fr Shijo P



Fr Bijo K



Fr Sam V



Fr Jobins P



Fr Mathews M

SEPTEMBER 21



Fr Vincent C



---

## Memorials

---

JULY 14



Fr Pious E

SEP 09



Bro Jestin P

SEP 16



Fr Abraham K

---

## Feast Day Greetings to all Thereses of CST Mission in Punjab - Rajasthan

---



Sr Rani Maria FCC  
Danewala



Sr Teslin CSC  
Sikhswala



Sr Liseenia CSC  
Sikhswala



Sr Salvin DM  
Malout



Sr Pushpa DM  
Malout



Sr Sunitha FCC  
Hanumangarh



Sr Dhanya MSMM  
Panniwala



Sr Tissia SABS  
Churu



Sr Ranit SABS  
Sikar



Sr Rani LST  
Mudki



Sr Therese LST  
Mudki

## Mission Exposure

To know the mission and experience the mission life two brothers from St. Thomas province, Bro. Nikhil Thuruvelikunnel CST and Bro. Anugrah Valiyavital CST came to Punjab – Rajasthan. They came to the mission on 19th June and visited many of our mission stations and ashrams. They moved to different stations like Surathgarh, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar, Malout, Danewala, Sikhwal, Fazilka, Bikaner etc., and on 4th July they went back to Delhi for their further theological studies.

## Happy Feast Dear Fathers

We solemnly celebrated the feast of St. Thomas and were blessed to have our two dear fathers with us Fr. Juslin and Fr. Shan who are bearing the name of St. Thomas. Fr. Juslin offered the Holy Eucharist concelebrated by Fr. Shan and Fr. Provincial. Fr. Shan preached the sermon of the day. We offered prayerful greetings to both. The day was made colourful by the presence of dear fathers, sisters, and aspirants from the Hanumangarh ashram. Prayerful greetings to dear fathers.

## A New Step Forward

This year four of our brothers started their regency at different places i.e., Bro. Arun Parackal CST at Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan Mudickal, Bro. Arun Pereppadan CST at Little Flower Formation House Abohar, Bro. Alby Kuttikizhakethil CST at Little Flower Minor Seminary Malout, and Bro. Joseph Ayathupadathu CST at Jyoti Niwas Hanumangarh. On 17th June Bro. Joseph Ayathupadathu CST started his regency at Jyoti Niwas. All the best dear brothers.

## The Canonical Visitation

We had the canonical visit of Rev. Fr. Jojo Varakukalayil CST, the Superior General of the Little Flower Congregation from July 11 to 13. He arrived at the provincial house on the 10th morning and started the canonical visit officially on the 11th along with the Holy Mass and addressing. All the members of the ashram were present there. He met everyone personally and concluded the visitation on the 13th evening and on the next day he moved to Jaipur. Thank you, dear father, for your love and concern.



N E W S

JYOTI NIWAS, HANUMANGARH



## NEWS

### Monthly Recollection

We had our monthly recollection and priest gathering on July 12 and 13, at the Provincial House, Hanumangarh. The recollection was led by Fr. Jojo Varakukalayil CST, Superior General of Little Flower Congregation. Fathers from Punjab and Rajasthan were present there for both recollection and gathering.

### Bon Voyage

A farewell party was organised for Fr. Shyju Chathanattu CST on 12th April 2023. It was a moment of great joy and sadness. Fr. Provincial expressed sincere thanks to Fr. Shyju for his selfless services and contributions towards this Hanumangarh community. The presence of fathers, sisters, aspirants, and other staff members made the day colourful, and we wished all the best for his future endeavours.

### स्वतंत्रता दिवस

"Now the Lord is the spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." (2 Cor. 3:17) We commemorated the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the 77th Independence of our Mother Land. Fr. Shan Alackaparambil CST offered the Holy Eucharist, concelebrated by Fr. Joby and Fr. Juslin. Fr. Joby Palankara CST hoisted the flag and Bro. Joseph Ayathupadathu CST gave the message of the day.

### Junior Clergy Meet 2023

Junior Clergy Meet of 2023 for members completed six years of priesthood was held on August 16 – 18 at Jyoti Niwas, Khrist Jyoti Provincial House, Hanumangarh. Having inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr Jojo Varakukalayil CST on August 16 evening at Sacred Heart Ashram, Malout, the major schedules of the meet took place at the Provincial House. Rev. Fr Rogi Narithookkil CST was the resource person whose central theme of presentation was "Enlarge the Space of your Tent" (Isiah 54:2): Knowing Myself and My priesthood to Enlarge the Space of my Tent."





## **Solemn Nativity Celebrations of Blessed Virgin Mary**

Little Flower Minor Seminary, Malout was very delighted to conduct a Rosary as part of the nativity celebration of Blessed Virgin Mary. On the fine evening of 7th September, a very solemn rosary was put in place by brothers along with fathers of the ashram. Rosary was conducted as a procession around seminary premises beginning and ending at the grotto of Mother Mary. This grace-filled moment was blessed with the presence of Sr. Jessy S.H and Fr. Joby Palankara. All the more, it was a juncture for all of us to share the joy of the birth of Mother Mary and to intercede through her for our various needs.

## **Assumption Of Blessed Virgin And Independence Day Celebrations**

On 15th of August 2023 LFS community had a splendid celebration of the assumption of the Blessed Virgin and the 77th Independence of our country. After a solemn Holy Eucharist in the parish church, we had the hoisting of the flag in the seminary. Fr. Mobin Thazhathedathu CST the parish priest of Malout hoisted the flag. Fr. Shibu, Fr. Tinto, sisters, teachers, and parishioners were present for the ceremony. Bro. Joseph delivered a significant felicitation denoting the value of independence and the struggles of our forefathers. Brothers harmonized the function with a melodious patriotic song.

## **Onam - 2023**

We had a resplendent Onam celebration on 26th of August 2023. Brothers prepared Athapookalam in the seminary. Sadhya was prepared in collaboration with the Malayali families here. There were cultural programs performed by hostlers and brothers. We had sumptuous Onasadya with varieties of dishes. Along with the sacred heart Malayali community, fathers and sisters from neighboring stations have also joined with us to share the joy of our tradition. Onakalikal were conducted in the evening at Sacred heart convent school ground. Fathers, Sisters, Teachers, and Malayali families actively participated in all the activities along with brothers. All were divided into two groups which



N E W S

LITTLEFLOWERSEMINARY, MALOUT



## N E W S

boosted the spirit of the celebrations and competed. Affairs of the day came to an end with the sweet Payasam prepared from the church.

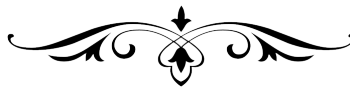
### **Monthly Recollection**

Fr. Juslin Padinjarematom CST, Secretary of Fr. provincial had come over here to give the monthly recollection of the month of July. The recollection started with the night prayers on 20th of July 2023 and continued till the next day at noon. The brothers had the opportunity to confess as well as to think more deeply about their vocation story. The days were filled with the showering of the blessings of God from above and it was a fruitful recollection for brothers.

Regent brothers had their monthly recollection conducted in the seminary on 27th of July 2023. Bro. Arun, Bro. Joseph and Bro. Alby took part in the monthly recollection. Fr. Shibu Varghese led the recollection for them.

### **Psychology Session**

Brothers had an opportunity to have three days of psychological training By Sr. Jessy SH. The sessions were conducted from 7th of August 2023 to 9th of August. Brothers were inspired to have a positive approach towards their life. Counseling sessions enabled brothers to open themselves and to make changes accordingly in their life. Thanks to Sr. Jessy for spending her time with us for the betterment of our life.





N E W S

LITTLEFLOWER FORMATIONHOUSE, ABOHAR

## New Benjamins

In the Holy Gospel, Jesus invites us to follow him and become “fishers of men”. Inspired by this call, 19 new candidates have joined the Little Flower Formation House in Abohar for the 2023-24 year of formation. We warmly welcomed these candidates from Punjab, Odisha, and Jammu & Kashmir, who arrived in July and August. The official inauguration of the formation year took place on August 16th.

## Visit of Rev. Fr. Superior General

On 14th of July Very Rev. Fr. Jojo Varakukayil CST paid a short visit to our formation house and Bro. Joseph Ayathupadathu CST accompanied him. He met Fr. Rector and addressed the brothers in the classroom. He departed after having tea.

## The House of the Lord

Little Flower Catholic Church and the members there were indeed happy to have a new church built for the people of faith to pray and worship. The consecration of the church was on 15th of August and we were also invited to be part of it. Along with Fr. Rector, Bro. Regent and all other brothers were participated in the program. There was solemn high Holy Eucharist, Rev. Bp. Agnelo Rufino Graces as the main celebrant. The breaking of the word was done by Msgr. Michael Anj, there were many fathers and sisters from different parishes and from other dioceses. The church was built under the able guidance of Rev. Fr. Salj Puravalppil CST, Fr. Augustine Varakil CST, and Fr. Nikhil Valeputhenpurayil CST. Thank you, fathers, for your strenuous efforts that had been put forward for the people of faith. We reached back here around 11:00 pm.

## Inauguration of the Literary and Cultural Academy

The Little Flower Formation House had a joyous occasion on August 16th, as officially inaugurating the Literary and Cultural Academy 2023-24. The event commenced at 5:30 pm in the presence of esteemed guests, including Very Rev. Dr. Jojo Varakukalayil CST, the Superior General, Little Flower Congregation, Rev. Dr. Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST, the Provincial Superior, Khrist Jyoti Province, Rev. Dr. Roji Narithookil CST, Rev. Fr. Titus, Fr. Rector, and Fr. Vice Rector.



## N E W S

The evening was filled with literary and cultural programs that were showcased on stage. The guests of honor, Rev. Fr. General and Rev. Fr. Provincial, inspired the brothers with their words of wisdom. Fr. Rector also acknowledged the brothers' strenuous efforts that ensured the success of the event. He announced the winners of the Chess competition, with Bro. Deepak taking home the first prize and Bro. Stipan winning the second prize, which was awarded by Rev. Fr. Provincial. The program concluded with a beautiful song dedicated to their heavenly patroness, St. Therese of Child Jesus.

### **Towards the Lord**

Every month we had a special day for being with God for reflections and confessions. As this academic year starts, we had the presence of Rev. Fr. George Alukka CST for the preparation of brothers for the monthly recollection in the month of July. In the month of August, we had Rev. Fr. Sunny Kurisummootill CST for the monthly recollection. Brothers had good time to retrospect on themselves, thank you fathers for your valuable time to be with us and for your love.

### **Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary**

We had the Celebration of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Little Flower Formation House from the 1st of September till the 8th. Every day, we had Marian devotion in the grotto of Mother Mary. We celebrated on the 7th evening with sumptuous agape. On the 8th, we went to parish church for the Marian devotion and there was a procession to our house. We had arranged cool drinks for them.

### **Psychological Session**

On September 9th, Sr. Jessy SH from Gorakhpur visited the formation house to provide some psychological and counseling guidance to the brothers. The focus was on helping them grow in the mental and psychological realm, and the experience was truly valuable. Sr. Jessy SH went back on the 11th. During her visit, the brothers had the opportunity to reflect on their own lives and make important strides towards personal growth. Overall, it was a very positive and productive experience.



N E W S

LITTLE FLOWER MAJOR SEMINARY, ALUVA

## Vianney Day Celebration

Our community celebrated the feast of St. John Maria Vianney on 4th August. Rev. Fr. Tomy Alumkalkarot CST, the President of LIPAR, offered the Holy Mass and Rev. Fr. George Kuzhikatt CST delivered an enriching homily regarding the value of Priesthood. First Years conducted several competitions and we had a friendly basketball match with fathers in the evening.

## Visit of the Apostolic Delegate

On 6 August His Excellency Archbishop Cyril Vasil, the Apostolic Delegate from Rome, visited our seminary. We had a solemn Ramba followed by an address and final blessing by His Excellency.

## Independence Day

We celebrated the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our nation's 76th Independence Day on 15th August, 2023. Rev. Fr. Saji Nellikunnel, the Rector, offered the Holy Mass and gave a heart touching homily. We then had the flag hosting ceremony followed by Independence Day message by Bro Jifin Kollasheri. Brothers got a half day outing. We had a solemn Rosary at the Grotto in the evening. On the eve of the Independence Day, we had a skit. Second years, Third years, and First years bagged the First, Second and Third prize respectively.

## Our New Bishop Elect...

Lord God blessed us with the new Bishop Elect for Gorakhpur Diocese Mar Mathew Nellikunnel CST, the Rector of LFS Aluva. In the absence of Fr. Saji Nellikunnel CST, Fr. Tomy Alumkalkarot CST is elected as the new Rector of the community.

## Louigi Memorial Basket Ball Match

Little Flower Seminary are the runners up in Louigi Memorial Basket Ball Match conducted by Rogetionist seminary. We had a great victory against Mangalapuzha in the semi-final. It was really a moment of joy and happy.

## Onam 2K23

Every onam reminds us to be more generous and it always creates an altruistic mentality which paves the path to

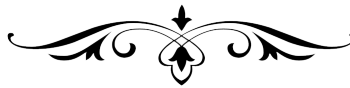


## N E W S

prosperity. We the LFS community celebrated the Onam on 29-09-2023. The entire community was divided into three groups for the 'Onakalikal'. Each batche had their own responsible duties. The 1st year batch arranged the 'Pookkalam', the second year batch co-ordinated the 'Onakalikal' and third year batch prepared the delicious 'Onasadhya'. There were different competitions related to 'Onam' and the tug of war made the day more delightful.

### **Teachers' Day Celebration**

To honour our guiding lights, acknowledging the dedicated service and support of our teachers LIPAR celebrated teachers' day on the fifth of September. The whole community gathered in the auditorium to express our respect for our venerable teachers. Most of the resident and non-resident teaching and non-teaching staff were present for the function. The programme commenced with a prayer song. Bro. Jobish Kavunnukattil SMP welcomed all to the dais. Bro. Albin Plackal addressed the stage and reminded the significance of a teacher in the lives of students. The second year philosophers staged a mash up song. We greeted our teachers by cutting the cake. Mrs Remya enriched the students with her views on a mentor.





## Change of Offices

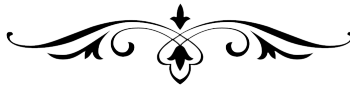
An exciting welcome echoed through the walls of Kot Shamir Ashram on 14th July 2023 as Frs. Shyju Chathanattu and Fr. Shubin Kocheelath reached here to take charge of the Ashram, School, and the Parish Church. On the same day, Frs. Robin Areeparambil and Stephen Swaranjeet bid farewell to the station amidst applause of gratitude and love.

## Teachers' Day Celebration

Little Flower Convent School, Kot Shamir, witnessed its first Teachers' Day Celebration on the 5th of September. This special occasion was colorful with a few cultural events staged by the new buds of LFCS. Teachers were honored with heartfelt notes and gifts by the kids and the management.

## Onam Celebration

Onam, the vibrant and cherished festival of Kerala, holds a special place in the hearts of all Keralites. It becomes a wonderful occasion to enjoy the cultural heritage of Kerala and to experience the communion with the people of our native land. In Bathinda zonal level, Onam was celebrated on the 3rd September. The parish community of Bathinda Green City, Kot Shamir, and Rama Mandi together gathered at Kot Shamir and celebrated Onam with Eucharistic Celebration, Onam Games, Onam Meals, and Onam Cultural Events.



N E W S

LF ASHRAM, KOT SHAMIR



N E W S

LF ASHRAM, GIDDERBAHA

### **Canonical Visits**

Rev. Sr. Philomina CSC, the Provincial Superior of CSC Santhom Province, Ghaziabad visited the Ashram on 05th June 2023.

Rev.Fr. Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST, the Provincial Superior made the canonical visit to the station on 31st July 2023.

### **Appointments.**

Rev. Fr. Shibu CST was appointed as the new manager of the school on 26th August 2023.

### **Farewell.**

Rev. Fr. Mathews left for Mumbai on 27th August 2023 for the studies in MSW.

### **Celebrations**

Van Mahotsav Day, Independence Day and Teachers day were celebrated in the School on 07th July, 14th August and 5th September 2023.





N E W S

KJMB, MUDICKAL, KERALA

## Birthday Greetings

With utmost joy we celebrated the birthdays of Fr. John Mundackal, Fr. Rogi Narithookil and Fr. John Kudilil. The had been a solemn holy mass followed by a grand birthday celebration. Rev. Fr. Provincial, Fathers, Sisters from nearby Ashrams and the family members of Fr. John Mundackal also were present for the function.

## Visit of Bishops

It was a proud moment for our Ashram that Mar Jose Puthenveetill, Mar Thomas Thurithimattam, Mar Thomas Padiyath and Msgr. Mathew Nellikkunnel the bishop elect of the Eparchy of Gorakhpur have made a visit to Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan, Mudickal. Their visits brought blessings as well as immense joy and gladness to the members of the Ashram.

## Priest's Day Celebrations

Feast of John Maria Viany, the patron of all priests was celebrated vividly in the company of the senior priests. We began the celebrations with a solemn Holy Eucharist followed by cake cutting. Everyone wished each other, nevertheless we honoured our senior priests taking rest here. It was a moment for all of us to enlarge our community spirit and to widen our love towards each other.

## Feast Day Celebrations

On 15th July 2023 we were delighted to celebrate the feast of Fr. Kurian Moonjely. And also, we celebrated the feast of Mgr. Mathew Nellikunnel CST and Fr. Mathew Kumpuckal on 20th September 2023. We had a pleasant celebration of the feast with the presence of Fr. Provincial Superior, General Counsellors from Thrikkakara and fathers and sisters from nearby stations. We wished them and invoked blessings from God.

## Adieu Dear Father

After two years of committed service, Fr. Shibin Kocheelath returned to the mission for his new pastoral explorations. It was an emotional moment for the members of Khrist Jyoti Mission Bhavan when we had to say adieu to him. A farewell party was organized in which we greeted him with all the success in his new titles. Fathers from nearby ashrams were

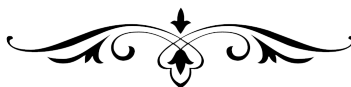


## NEWS

also present for the function.

### To Abroad

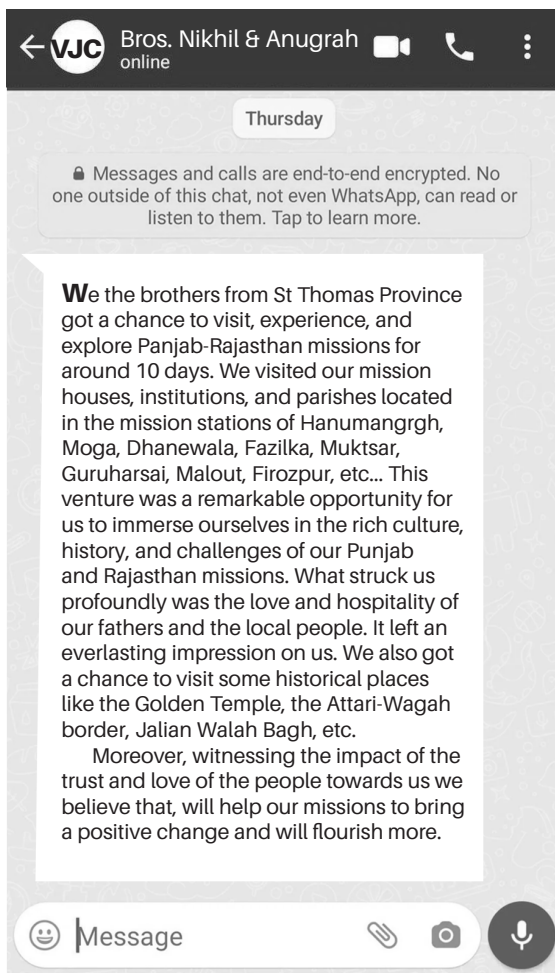
Fr. Rijo Menachery left for Germany on 21st of August 2023 and Fr. Robin Areeparambil flew to the USA on 12th of September 2023. We wish both the fathers all the very best in their future ministries and studies.



**Bro. Anugrah  
Valiyavettil  
CST**



**Bro. Nikhil  
Thuruvelikunnel  
CST**



## **Blessing of MSMI San Jos Convent, Sadiq Sunday 3rd July 2023**

The newly constructed MSMI San Jos Convent was blessed and inaugurated by Archbishop Kuriakose Bharanikulangara, the Bishop of Faridabad-Delhi on Sunday 3rd July 2023 in the presence Rev. Fr Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil, the Provincial Superior and Rev. Sr Ancy Mathew MSMI, the Provincial Superior of San Jos Province, Thalassery, distinguished dignitaries and guests. Holy Qurbana in Malayalam was celebrated by the archbishop along with 40 Fathers, 58 Religious Sisters and our brothers from Malout. Rev. Fr Provincial welcomed one and all and Rev. Sr Ancy Mathew MSMI thanked one and all.

Rev. Sisters namely Sr Jyothy Tom MSMI the Superior, Sr Anjana MSMI and Sr Justeena MSMI are the members of the community at present and will collaborate with the CST Fathers in the establishment of this prayer center.

### **Address:**

*MSMI San Jos Convent,  
C/O Little Flower Ashram,  
Maniwala Village Chowk, Faridkot Road,  
Sadiq, Faridkot (Dt),  
Punjab, 151 212*

Contact number: 87290-79664 (Sr Jyothy MSMI, Superior)

## **Bible Convention, 3-5 October 2023**

A Bible Convention led by Rev. Fr Basil Mookkanthottathil will be conducted from 3-5 October 2023 in Little Flower Ashram, Sadiq.

## **Programs conducted by the Prayer Center**

**17-22 July 2023**

Retreat & Counseling for FCC Novices, Kartarpur

**28 July 2023**

Orientation Class for CMI Fathers, Bijnor

**14-16 Sept.2023**

Bible Convention & Counseling at Holy Cross Church,  
Danewala

**24-30 Sept.2023**

Retreat for SH Sisters, Lidran



N E W S

LF ASHRAM, SADIQ





N E W S

ST. JOSEPH'S ASHRAM, MOGA

14 Oct.2023

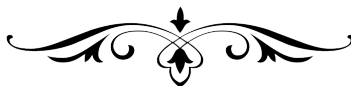
Orientation Class for Religious of the Eparchy of Faridabad

21 Oct. 2023

Orientation Class for the Students, Sikhwala

12-17 Nov. 2023

Retreat for Major Seminarians, Satna



### **Bible convention**

We had a Bible convention led by Rev Fr Daniel Poovannathil at the Syro Malankara Church, Moga on May 14. Fr Daniel preached and Fr George Alukka translated it to the people. People from many places came to learn bible and listen to Fr Daniel.

### **Community outing**

We had a community outing to Jalandhar on May 17. We visited the Jang-e-Azadi memorial and the DM convent at Kartharpur. It was a thrilling experience as we could know more about the wars and struggles in Punjab and about the sacrifices of the Punjabi communities and Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

### **Festal greetings to Fr George**

We celebrated the George's day with solemn holy mass and celebrations. Fr George celebrated the Holy Mass, and, in the evening, we had the festal celebration with fathers and sisters from different stations.

### **Jyoti Catechetical Fest at Moga**

On September 3 Sunday we had the inauguration of the cultural items of the Jyoti Catechetical Fest. Participants from different parishes came here and performed with vigour and joy. We had the competitions of speech, fancy dress, single dance and single song. Moga also achieved two prizes in fancy dress and speech senior.

### **Monthly Recollection**

We had the zonal monthly recollection on September 13. Fr Silvinose from Ferozpur and Fr Bibn Narippara from Zira came here for the recollection. We had one hour adoration

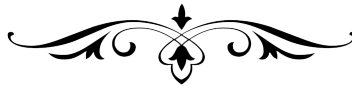
followed by supper.

### Guests

Fr Joju and Fr Sijo Kurumuttam from St Joseph province, who came to Punjab for their B.Ed. exams visited us on May 20. They also visited Dholewala church, Mudki and Zira mission stations.

Bp Jose Puthenvittil visited on the way to Mallanwala for the blessing of the new convent visited the ashram on May 22.

Two of our brothers from St Thomas province Bro Nikhil and Bro Anugrah, who are studying in Vidyajyoti College of Theology, Delhi visited the Ashram on May 29. On the next day we took them to Faridkot ashram, Mudik mission station, Sri Harimandir sahib, Amritsar, and Atari Wagah border.



### Feast of St. Alphonsa

Feast celebration of St. Alphonsa was held on 30th July. A good number of faithful participated for getting the blessings throughout novena days and on the day of feast day. Fr. Antony Jerome offered holy mass and preached the sermon. The feast day celebration came to an end by having langar together.

### Canonical Visit

Canonical visit of Rev. Fr. Provincial was held on July 7 & 8. During the visit Fr. Provincial met inmates of the stations as well the school teachers and students and he was ever willing to listen to them.

### Jyoti Catechetical Feast

Blooming buds of Sikhwala took part in various competitions both cultural and sports events. Though we couldn't win in sports events we could the best performance in all the events. We got four first prizes in individual events. Literary events of Jyoti feast was held at Sikhwala on 13th August. Fr. Saju Tottamattam was the main celebrant. Father Vincent, Thomas Anjilivelil, Bibin Narippara, Mobin and many sisters from different stations came over here on the event day.



N E W S

LF ASHRAM, SIKHWALA



## NEWS

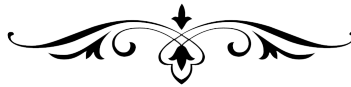
Altogether 120 participants came here for the drawing, painting and essay writing competitions.

### **Independence Day**

We had a good number of faithful for the feast celebration of Mother Mary after the celebration Fr. Bijo hoisted the flag in front of the church. After the celebration at church we had Independence Day celebration at school. Children performed March past as well as different varieties of dances. Fr. Bijo hoisted flag and Mr. Avatar sir gave Independence Day message

### **Onam and Teachers Day**

Children made teacher's day a colorful one with their various talents. They arranged the programme very well with their performance and gifts they showed their love towards teachers. Fr. Bijo gave teacher's day message and wished each teachers giving flower. After the programme we had lunch together. It was a special onam sadya with different varieties.



### **Chosen 2K23**

Little Flower Catholic Church conducted a three-day summer camp for the catechism children. The three days of the Camp were led by three of our theology brothers and together with additional resources, including fathers, sisters, and Babujies. To make these three days interesting, thought-provoking, and unique, we started each day with Holy Mass, during which the main celebrant of the mass explained his vocation and mission journey to enlighten the hearts of many young minds. We also added classes, enjoyable activities, cultural events, and sports.

### **Dad & Me**

It was indeed a blessing moment for the Little Flower Catholic Church as the children brought their superheroes to the church on the Fathers' Day. The day was brightened as moms and children showed their love and respect towards their anchorman through outstanding programs and gifts.

## **Walking miracles**

We wholeheartedly agreed and accepted Mother as a home's heartbeat, and a walking miracle. So, this time, we solemnly celebrated Mother's Day. The entire parishioners were present for the Holy Mass and the program. The fathers and the children made their walking miracles proud and happy with beautiful cultural events and gifts.

## **Dream comes true**

Solemn consecration and dedication of the little flower catholic church Guruharsahi held on 15th August by Most Rev. Dr. Angelo Rufino Gracias the Apostolic administrator of the diocese of Jalandhar. In the esteemed presence of the Very Rev. Fr. Jojo Varakukalayil CST (superior general of Little Flower Congregation), Rev. Fr. Saju Koothoodiputhenpurayil the provincial superior. The day became blessed due to the loving support and presence of many fathers, sisters, brothers, and faithful.

## **Happy birthday Mamma**

This time, we made plans to celebrate our heavenly Mother's birthday. Eight days of Holy Mass were held in the evening, and many of our parishioners and their families attended each day. The feast day is observed with a rosary procession and Solemn Mass.

## **Happy Feast, Dear Babaji**

We celebrated the feat of dear Fr. Augustine along with parishioners. It was a lovely celebration; the parishioners expressed their sincere love and respect for the father ji through prayers and presence. The fathers and sisters from our zonal were present for the entire program.



N E W S



N E W S

ST. MARY'S ASHRAM, SIKAR

## Independence Day Celebration

India's 77th Independence Day was celebrated in St. Mary's Sr. Sec. School, Sikar with great fervour and patriotic zeal. The Chief Guest Rev. Fr. Sebastian Kalapura CST hoisted the Indian tricolour with great reverence and all in unison saluted the flag and sang the National Anthem. Then the Chief guest was led to the parade ground to inspect the parade escorted by Manager Rev. Fr. Jijo, Principal Sr. Ranit, the Head boy and Head girl. 33 Students from each houses participated zealously in the parade and exhibited their love and devotion for the country. A short cultural program followed with a spectrum of heart-touching patriotic songs, dances and speeches presented by students from the pre-primary, primary and secondary section. The Chief Guest Rev. Fr. Sebastian addressed the gathering and congratulated the participants. His message highlighted the need for each one of us to be responsible citizens, so as to enjoy the democracy and freedom our brave warriors of the past fought and won. Some of the prizes of the cultural competitions were given away by the Chief Guest. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks. Sweet were distributed in the classroom. Board decoration competitions, speech competitions, and solo song competitions were also conducted as part of this celebration.

## Onam Celebration

Onam more than a celebration is a memory. It is the fondest memory of the benevolent King *Mahabali* and his Magnanimous rule. It is one of the most awaited festivals celebrated in Kerala. It is now not only celebrated in Kerala but now it becomes a celebration everywhere, wherever Malayalees are. So we too at St. Mary's Parish, Sikar, celebrated the Onam Fest on 30th August, 2023 with all its pomp and show and with all its thrill and energy.

It was a pleasant get together for all. Some typical Onam games like Tug-of-War, *Kalamthallipottikal* etc. were conducted. Ladies in beautiful Kerala Saree and gents in *Kerala Mund* and shirt created a mini-Kerala atmosphere in this desert state. The Onam celebration ended with a sumptuous *Onam Sadhya* and *Payasam*.



## Feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary

The Annual Feast of Nativity of our Heavenly Patroness was celebrated on 10th September, 2023 at St. Mary's Church, Sikar with deep sense devotion and exhilaration. Nine days preparation for the festal celebration was started on 1st September 2023 at 5:30 p.m. with Rosary followed by Holy Mass and Novena of the Mother of Perpetual Help. This gave us an opportunity to revive our spirits and strengthen our devotion to Christ through Mother Mary.

The Annual Feast was celebrated on 10th September, 2023. The Festal Mass started at 5.00 p.m. His excellency Rt. Rev. Bishop Emeritus Dr Oswald J Lewis was the main celebrant. Along with Rev. Fr. Jijo Parokkaran CST, the Parish Priest, 8 other fathers joined as co-celebrants.

Master Levin Augustine Tom received his first Holy Communion on the Festal Day. The Holy Mass was followed by a devotional candle lit procession, chanting Rosary, and singing hymns of Mother Mary. Colourful illumination around the campus and ceremonial umbrellas added a traditional charm and festivity to the Rosary procession.

Nine days long festal celebration came to its culmination by a small cultural event. During the cultural Event His excellency cut the cake and we celebrated His Episcopal Silver Jubilee. As a token of our love and gratitude and to honour His Excellency on his Episcopal Silver Jubilee Rev. Fr. Jijo, the parish priest presented him a shawl. The celebration ended with a delicious 'Snehavirunnu' - 'Agape'.



N E W S



## N E W S

### LF STATION, CHURU

#### **Onam**

On 29 August 2023, the vibrant spirit of Kerala's Onam festival came alive in the heart of Rajasthan at Little Flower School, Churu. The campus was adorned with colorful decorations and flower rangolis, transforming it into a mini-Kerala. The Presence of Rev.Fr Sebastian, Fr Jijo Mrs. Rehana and family added more colours to the day. The Onam celebration was a delightful blend of culture, tradition, and unity.

#### **Green Campus**

A green wave swept over Little Flower School, Churu as students took the initiative to plant trees in our school campus. The event was organized by the school's environmental club with the aim of promoting sustainability and environmental consciousness among the student body. This could foster a sense of responsibility and love for nature among the students.

#### **Investiture Ceremony**

The investiture ceremony at Little Flower School, Churu, was a momentous event that symbolized the beginning of a new academic year and showcased the school's commitment to nurturing leadership qualities among its students.

#### **Teachers' Day Celebration**

Little Flower School, Churu reverberated with joy and appreciation as the school community came together to celebrate Teachers' Day, a special occasion dedicated to honoring our dedicated educators. The Teachers' Day celebration was a heartwarming and meaningful event that underscored the vital role of teachers in our lives.

#### **Proud Moment**

We extend our heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to the exceptional young athletes of Little Flower School, Churu, who have achieved remarkable success in the District Level Basketball Tournament. Their outstanding performance and dedication have earned them the title of champions in not just one, but two categories: Boys and Girls Under 17, as well as Boys Under 14. They have not only made our school proud but have also showcased their talent and sportsmanship on a broader stage.

## Happy Teachers' Day

Sacred Heart Convent School, Sri Ganganagar celebrated Teachers' Day greatly as a token of our deep appreciation and respect for the invaluable contribution of our teachers to our society. The day commenced with a prayer dance followed by a solemn prayer ceremony led by Rev. Sr. Principal. The highlight of the celebration was the performance by the students of kindergarten. The senior students showed their talents and creativity through various cultural items, each dedicated to honouring the teachers. The teachers were overwhelmed with the love and respect showered upon them by the students. The celebration was concluded with heartfelt words of thanks by the staff secretary.

## Nation First, Always First

In a fervent display of patriotism and unity the students and faculty of Sacred Heart Convent School, Sri Ganganagar commemorated the nation's 77th Independence Day with a grand celebration. The celebration officially commenced with the hoisting of the National Flag. The prominent personalities who graced the occasion were the chief guest Major Ruchi Verma, Lalgah, Sri Ganganagar and the guest of honour Dr Sankalp Sethi, alumni of our school. Programmes like group songs, skits, eloquent speeches, and group dances gave more colour and beauty to the celebration.

## With Grace and Gratitude

A special assembly was organized to celebrate the Principal's Day on 28th July, which was celebrated as the feast day of Rev. Sr. Princy SABS. The feast day was remarked as a commemoration of her patron saint St. Alphonsa. The celebration continued with the mesmerizing display of talent, as students from various grades showcased their skills in dance, speech, and musical performances, the highlight of the day was the grand cake-cutting ceremony, which symbolized the sweetness that Sr. Princy brought into the lives of people around. The grand celebration came to an end with the refreshments given by the management.



N E W S

SH BHAVAN, SRIGANGANAGAR



N E W S

LF STATION, NOKHA

### **St. Thomas' Feast**

St. Thomas Feast was celebrated in the parish on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. There was Solemn eucharistic celebration in the morning and in the evening there were different cultural programmes by the parishioners and dinner was served to all.

### **Onam Celebration**

Onam was celebrated at Nokha station on 3rd of August. Each family was given different items to be prepared and all came together for the lunch. After the lunch there were different competitions for children, women and men and the most enthusiastic was rope pulling.

### **Teachers Day Celebration**

Teachers' day was celebrated in Little Flower Convent School, Nokha. All the teachers were honoured first, followed by cultural programme by the students. At noon all the staff were taken to a nearby resort and had lunch there, thereafter everybody enjoyed swimming in the pool.



The Benjamin's have reached here in Divine Word seminary on the fourth of June. His Excellency Most Rev. John Rodrigues, Bishop of Pune inaugurated the academic session for the year 2022-23 on the sixth of June. The inaugural ceremony started with the Eucharistic celebration followed by the common gathering. The academic year's theme was "Journeying Together towards Fullness of Life."

The Superior General Fr. Jojo Varakulayil CST visited the CST community here in DWS seminary, Pune on 16th of July. He celebrated mass with the members of the campus. He devoted his time to understand the situations and the life of the brothers in the campus. Fr. Provincial also found time to converse with the formatters and enquire about the well-being of the brothers. The Farewell party for the deacons respectively was held on the 23rd of August. It was an occasion that brought tears to the eyes of all.

DWS&JD,PUNE

## Carolians' Sharing

St. Charles Seminary was certainly happy to commence the academic year of 2023-24. The resident students of the seminary arrived on 16th June 2023. There was a five-day annual retreat preached by Rev. Fr. Jenson Chenthappinny M.S., the provincial superior of Missionaries of our Lady of La Salette congregation, which helped the brothers to begin the academic year on a truly spiritual note. On 24th June 2022, the seminary had its inaugural mass and ceremony of the academic year 2023-24. The Eucharist was presided over by Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, the Archbishop of Nagpur.

On 2nd of July 2023, the seminary organized a peaceful rally at Seminary Hills, Nagpur. The rally was organized keeping in mind the sufferings faced by the Christians at Manipur. All the fathers, brothers and sisters belonging to St. Charles Seminary also participated in the rally.

The newcomers' day for the years 2023-24 was conducted on 15th July 2023, at St Charles Centenary Auditorium at 5:30 pm. Students of both first-year theology and philosophy were the entire cast of the program. The program was titled "BOOTING. 23: Configuring to Christ."

Indeed, St. Charles Seminary was very much delighted to welcome the relic of Pope St. John Paul II on Monday, 24th July 2023. The purpose of the veneration was to seek the intercession and guidance of Pope St. John Paul II in preparation for the mega retreat, JaGo India at the national level organised by Jesus Youth which is going to take place in October 2023 in Bangalore.

The cassock day was conducted on 5th August 2023 as a part of the festal celebration of St. John Mary Vianney. There was an immediate spiritual preparation for all the candidates those were going to receive the cassock on the previous day. There were eight candidates to receive the cassock. Most. Rev. Mar Elias Gonsalves presided over the solemn Eucharistic celebration. After the solemn celebration of the holy Eucharist there was a group photo together with bishop and all the candidates those who received their cassock. After the recessional hymn we moved on to the



N E W S

ST. CHARLES SEMINARY, NAGPUR

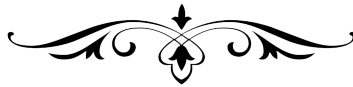




## NEWS

Vianney garden and felicitated our brothers by cutting cake and wishing them by singing song

We hosted Vandemataram 2023 on the 14th August 2023 pertaining to the Independence Day. It was a Pre-Independence Day Cultural Celebration held at St. Charles Centenary Auditorium where all our brothers, both resident and non-resident, brought out their culture and traditions by means of dances, songs, skits, drama, etc. The chief guest for the programme was Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, the Archbishop of Nagpur, and the Guest of Honour was Rev. Fr. Prasad George, OP, the Prior Provincial of India. Since this programme contained all the more cultural and traditional entries of different states, there were eleven samaj groups representing different states of India. The samaj groups were Hindi samaj, Sona Santhal samaj, Bengali samaj, Northeast samaj, Odiya samaj, Chota Nagpur samaj, Telugu samaj, Marati samaj, Konkani samaj, Malayali samaj and Tamil samaj. Each samaj group did a brilliant and outstanding performance on the stage.



Kristu Jyoti College, Bangalore inaugurated its academic year on June 7, 2023. The primary trimester and assessments concluded, followed by using a spiritual retreat for all except the deacons, whilst complete examinations for Deacons are presently underway.





N E W S

SH THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, SHILLONG

## Leit bad pynbna ĩa ka Gospel

Leit bad pynbna ĩa ka Gospel: Go and proclaim the Good news. On all Sundays, Sacred Heart Theological College permits all brothers to travel out to the villages for missionary activities, allowing each brother to interact with the people. It allows each individual to engage with others and boost their mission passion and excitement. This also strengthens our mission vision and passion for missionary activity. As a result, when we go to the Sunday ministry, all of the brothers are delighted because they will have the opportunity to increase their missionary fervor and passion. People out there are devoted to their beliefs and have a high regard for both Fathers and Brothers. This motivates us to participate in missionary activities every Sunday. We also have the option to run several animation programs for youngsters.

*Bro. Jobin Arattukulam CST*

## Sacred Heart Theological College, Shillong

Sacred Heart Theological College was originally known as 'Our Lady's House'. In 1981 the college was affiliated to the Salesian Pontifical University of Rome. Our college has been offering a one-year Integrated Training for Laity and Religious (I.T.L.R). It is in response to a felt need of the church in this area. Through this, the course aims to impart a deeper knowledge of Christian faith and doctrine so that it may be lived more personally and shared more competently with the people at large, especially the youth. From 2006 SHTC offered a second specialization, namely a Master's Degree in Spirituality (M.Th. in Spirituality). A total of 155 students with laity and religious studies in the different departments of the college. We have also got a digital library with numerous books. Students can read digital books on screen and have the possibility of printing them out if necessary.

*Bro. Paul Vettiymkal CST*

## KHUBLEI

In the Khasi hills, a greeting commonly used is "KHUBLEI". When we attend Sunday ministry, we hear this greeting commonly. The faithful have strong faith and conviction. The people of Khasi Hills always prioritize God as their Savior and King. The majority of these people are loving and kind but it's



N E W S

a fact that the people of Meghalaya and all the northeastern regions have different faces cut together. They over time have built up a low self-esteem about themselves as many outsiders come here in their native place to work and as a result, they are deprived of their jobs and opportunities. As a result, Khasi people tend to despise strangers. This we learned on September 7th, when three of us brothers went for an outing, and while we were returning to our campus, four or five Khasi teenagers who were on drugs halted us on our way, one of them landed a strong blow on my face and I was down. Somehow managed to get out of the situation and hurried back to the college. We informed the Rector and President of the occurrence, and they said it was usual in these areas and instructed us not to take that route in the evenings. Fathers on their part did what they could and raised the issue with the higher authorities. However, this experience taught me that as missionaries, we ought to go wherever our superiors send us. There is no guarantee that we will always be secure; we may be ridiculed, attacked, or even killed. But I constantly remind myself that I am not there for my own sake but for someone who needs my presence. I am here because of the God who called me. We might be able to live an adequate missionary life if we have this conviction and face whatever comes our way.

*Bro. Febin Kurisummoottil CST*





N E W S

CAPUCHIN VIDYABHAVAN, THELLAKAM

## New appointments

We are blessed with the new appointments. Fr. Sarish Thondamkuzhiyil took the baton as Guardian and Rector. Fr Shaji Kariplanil assumed responsibility as Vice-rector. Fr. Jinu Manthiyil will be the Prefect of Studies and Director of the Institute. Fr. Joseph Pushpamangalam and Fr. Aby Kizhakkekut will be the treasurer and the discreet respectively. Fr James Vazhacharickal holds the responsibility of the library. Fr Nishad will be joining as resident staff. Fr. Anish will be residing here as a member of Capuchin Vidyabhavan for a few months.

## Farewell

The community expressed sincere gratitude and thanks for the services rendered by Fr Simon Neelanirapel as guardian and rector, Fr Joseph Simon as spiritual father and staff, and Fr. Varghese Manimala as staff and discreet. Fr George Antony, the provincial of St., Joseph province, and our new guardian Fr. Sarish, and all the councilors of St. Joseph province honored them with a memento as a token of love.

## Our Feast Days

Our community solemnly celebrated the feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Later we blessed the entire house and its surroundings. Also, we had celebrations on the feasts of St. Thomas, and St. Alphonsa. Many got the chance to visit St Alphonsa shrine Bharananganam. Assumption of our lady was solemnly celebrated together with Independence Day.

## Deacon went to a psychology course in

### Dindigul

Our deacons were privileged to have psychology courses at Anugraha Institute Dindigul, Tamilnadu. The courses were fruitful since, they contained various input sessions, practical sessions, and training on different psychological methods.

## Onam Vibe: Irro 2K23

The Onam celebrations this year were signed in with the title "Irro 2K23". We conducted games by dividing brothers into three different groups namely *Pappans*, *Nattu*, and *Kotha*. The team *Kotha* won the game under the leadership of Br. Justin Kurian.

**D**ates back, It was on 7th April, 1999 that the Little Flower Convent School had its humble beginning in a rented building. A new plot of land for the School was brought at Bypass road and the foundation stone for the school building was laid by Very Rev. Fr. Robert Kalaran, the then Superior General of Little Flower Congregation on 27th October, 1999 and in 2002 Little Flower Convent school was shifted from the rented building to the newly constructed building. Initially the school faced many obstacles but the CST fathers accepted the challenges and under the efficient leadership of fathers and the FCC Sisters, this school grew and developed as one of the most renowned schools. It is indeed a privilege for the local folk to have an esteemed convent school in this area.

Marking its 25th anniversary, Little Flower Convent School in Hanumangarh is set to celebrate it through a series of spirited inter-school competitions. The jubilee festivities encompass tournaments like Basketball and Cricket thought-stimulating inter-school debate competition etc. Schools hailing from distant corners of Punjab and Rajasthan gather, enhancing the event's charm with diverse participation and promoting friendly rivalry. These Jubilee celebrations not only underscore the school's dedication to holistic education but also its committed approach to enable students to showcase their aptitude, sportsman spirit, and companionship. The convergence of schools from various regions emphasizes the unifying essence of education, encapsulating the spirit of the occasion. The Silver Jubilee epitomizes the school's journey of nurturing minds and fostering values, bridging the past and the promise of a bright future.



## Silver Jubilee Memorial Inter-School Basketball tournament

To mark the Silver Jubilee of the Little Flower Convent School, Hanumangarh Silver Jubilee Memorial Inter-School Basketball tournament was organized. Six Schools of repute participated in the tournament. Rev. Fr. Mathew Neerianckal, Principal of Sacred Heart Convent School, Malout (Punjab) inaugurated the tournament. OASIS Sainik School, Kalibanga lifted the trophy whereas Sacred Heart Convent School, Malout (Punjab) were the runner-up. Very Rev. Fr. Saju Augustine gave away the prizes to the players as a Chief Guest on this auspicious occasion. Very Rev. Sr. Alphonsa FCC Provincial Superior of Maria Rani Province, Jodhpur graced the occasion as a guest of Honour.

## Silver Jubilee Memorial Inter-School Debate Competition

Healthy Debate was a perfect event to assess the resourcefulness, knowledge, acquaintance amongst the students. 12 Schools from Punjab and Rajasthan took part in Debate Splash. Rev. Fr. Juslin James, Secretary to Provincial Superior was present in the event as the Moderator. He was apprised by everyone for his impartial intervention. Rev. Fr. Jidhin Kurisinkal from Pre-Seminary-Abohar, Mr. Sarabjeet Singh (Faculty from National Public School, Hanumangarh), Ms. Bhawna Gautam (Faculty from Guru Har Krishan Sr. Sec. Public School, Hanumangarh) and Mr. Sanjeev John, Programme Strategist and Coordinator, Education Department of Khrist Jyoti Province were amongst the judging Panel. Little Flower Convent Sr. Sec. School, Sri Muktsar Sahib grabbed the winner trophy. Little Flower Convent School, Hanumangarh were the runner-up of the event. Ms. Snehdeep Kaur of LFCS, Hmh was declared the best speaker of the competition.

## Cricket Fever in Hanumangarh

Silver Jubilee Memorial Inter-School Cricket Tournament was organized on August 31, 2023 as a part of series of competition. A total of 7 teams from various schools participated in the Cricket League. Little Flower Convent School, Hanumangarh smashed OASIS Sainik School, Kalibanga to lift championship trophy. In a nail biting bash OASIS Sainik School, Kalibanga were forced to satisfy as a Runner -Up. Master Yuvraj Beniwal of LFCS, Hmh and Master Guranshvir Singh of the winner team were awarded as the Man of the Match and Player of the Tournament respectively. Chief Guest Rev. Fr. Joby Polouse Palankara, Education Secretary of Khrist Jyoti Province of Little Flower Congregation gave away the prizes to the players.



Fr Benny Pulimkalayil CST



# Glorious Journey

***Silver Jubilee Of  
St. Thomas Catholic  
Church,  
Firozpur City***



**Fr Cyriac  
Kochalumkal CST**

**S**t. Thomas Catholic Church, Firozpur City, built as a memorial Church of the Silver Jubilee of the arrival of CST the Fathers in Punjab, is celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Consecration of the present church on 29th October 2023. Blessed and Consecrated on 26th October 1998, by His Excellency Symphorian Keeprath of sweet memory, in the presence of Rt. Rev. Ignatius Menezes, Mar Dominic Kokkat CST and many dignitaries including late Rev. Fr. Felix Nellikunnath CST the then Superior General of the CST Congregation, late Rev. Fr. Paul Karumathy CST the then Provincial Superior of St. Joseph's Province, Rev. Fr. John Kudilil CST the Regional Superior and many distinguished personalities, St. Thomas' church has become a beacon of pastoral initiatives and fabulous growth in the pastoral and social arena.

St. Thomas Catholic Church, Ferozepur City was part of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Ferozepur Cantt until its establishment in 1976. After considering the fast growth of the Catholic community, the then Bishop of Jalandhar Rt Rev. Symphorian Keeprath bifurcated St. Joseph's Church to establish this parish.





From its inception, the parish had no church, and the Holy Mass was celebrated in the chapel of St. Joseph's Convent, Prem Nagar. The CMC community wholeheartedly supported and participated in the parish activities and made facilities available for the parish works. All the same, St. Mary's Church at Tenkanwala Basti in the city closer to the railway station, built in 1972 by Fr. Kurian Muttathupadam, was also used as a Mass center.

In the year 1984 CST Fathers took charge of the parish from the diocesan clergy as part of the new agreement signed between the diocese of Jalandhar and the Little Flower Congregation (CST Fathers).

The parish priest of the St. Joseph's church continued to be the priest in charge of the St. Thomas Church. The Assistant parish priest normally discharged the responsibilities of the parish and had independent charge. Growing number of the Catholics in the parish necessitated that a new parish church is established at the earliest and for this purpose half an acre of land was purchased in the present locality in the year 1989 when Fr. George Kulampilly was the Parish Priest and Fr. Jose Kattoor was the Assistant parish priest.

Fr. Jose Kattoor started staying in a rented house in the city to take care of the parish. After a year, Fr. Kattoor was transferred, and Fr. Felix Nellikunnath took charge as the Assistant. Financial constraints had forced postponing the

**Mrs. Cambell, one of the chief benefactors of the mission then, was no less than these visionaries and she was the one who gave life to the project with her munificent contributions in terms of money and constant support.**

construction of the church but after the arrival of Fr. Felix, it gained steady momentum and the foundation stone for the new church was laid on 8th Dec. 1995. The beautiful church was designed and engineered by Fr. Varghese Chittinappilly.

Fr. Cyriac Kochalumkal CST took charge of the parish after Fr. Felix had been elected Superior General of the Congregation. He looked after the construction with the support of the then administration and Fr. Varghese Chittinappilly. The new church was consecrated on 26th October 1998 as a memorial church of the Silver Jubilee of the arrival of the CST Fathers in Punjab. The visionaries who set the tune for this project were Fr. Felix Nellikunnath, Fr. George Kulampilly and Fr. Varghese

Chittinappilly. Mrs. Cambell, one of the chief benefactors of the mission then, was no less than these visionaries and she was the one who gave life to the project with her munificent contributions in terms of money and constant support.

Little Sisters of St. Therese (LST) established their first convent here on

**In the year 1984 CST Fathers took charge of the parish from the diocesan clergy as part of the new agreement signed between the diocese of Jalandhar and the Little Flower Congregation (CST Fathers).**

16th June 2000 to collaborate with the CST Fathers in the pastoral and social ministries.

The parish was handed over to the Diocese of Jalandhar as per the new contract signed in the year 2020 but CST Fathers continue to serve in the station. The parish is blessed with many vocations to priesthood and religious life. Graciously remembered are the pioneer missionaries who toiled hard to look after this parish and CST Fathers contributed enormously for this mission. Our hearts go out to the overflowing contributions of Fr. Felix Nellikunnath, Fr. George Kulampilly and Mrs. Campbell who enjoy eternal bliss in heaven.

The concluding celebrations of the Silver Jubilee of the Consecration of the St. Thomas' Church will be held on Saturday, 28th October 2023. Rt. Rev. Agnelo Ruffino Gracias, the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Jalandhar, will officiate the liturgical celebrations of the day. Fr. Silvinose Alilakuzhiyil, the present Parish Priest, who has been serving the parish for the last 6 years, is sweetly remembered for his people-oriented pastoral works and initiatives and for overseeing the silver jubilee celebrations. ■





In our daily lives, silence is more of a virtue than anything else is. Silent refers to a period of time when we are alone and unaffected by outside or internal factors. We are all preoccupied with our daily tasks, making it very difficult for us to be silent for even a short period without any commotion. Even in our free time, we may be restless or busy with other tasks. A few people are busy reading, listening to music, napping, and so on. The issue is that we constantly pursue fulfilment through new activities even if they are all necessary. We used to grumble because we are unhappy with whatever we have. Our restless lives are bad for us and might even lead to mental illness. The significance of quiet is now apparent.



Bro. Abhishek Joseph  
Edakkunneel CST

In religious life, silence is essential. God talks to us in quiet, particularly via thoughts and reflections on God's message. Our meditations are the foundation of our lives. Through these meditations, we are able to absorb the grace and strength. The moment of relationship with God is in the silence. There are 24 hours in a day, as we all know. How many of us express our gratitude to God, our lord, understanding that this is the wonderful gift of his abundant love for us? If God does not extend His grace, we are unable to breathe again. We are a part of the cycle of life. We are not yet prepared to leave our current comfort zone. How long do we spend praying in quiet to our God? Do we spend at least 30 minutes each day? Instead of being a better preacher, singer, athlete, administrator, manager, or teacher, a religious person is asked to be holy. How can we be a preacher, administrator, manager, or teacher in accordance with

the will of God, who entrusted you with those duties, if we do not stay in Christ? As a result, we become disloyal to our master who called us and are unworthy.

We are supposed to be shepherds who are familiar with the smell of sheep, according to Pope Francis. The flock that has been entrusted to us may not recognize us as their shepherd without the help and grace of God. Most of the time, we assume that the sheep herd is the issue. Actually, we are unaware that our lack of grace in both words and acts is the cause. We should constantly have this verse in our minds. Without God's

***It is through our words and actions that we can demonstrate the transformative power of God's righteousness and grace in our lives.***

righteousness and grace, our sheep may not know who their shepherd is. As the specifically selected ones, it is our responsibility to live holy lives and serve as role models for the flock. Our Lord Jesus is the epitome of holiness. He encouraged us to live in accordance with the desires and wishes of our heavenly Father. By following His example, we can guide the sheep towards a deeper understanding of their shepherd's love and guidance. It is through our words and actions that we can demonstrate the transformative power of God's righteousness and grace in our lives. Let us strive to be living testimonies of His holiness so that our sheep may truly know and recognize their shepherd amidst the chaos of this world. As Disciples of Christ, we are called to be shepherds to those around us, guiding them towards the truth and light of God's love. Just as Jesus tirelessly sought out the lost sheep, we too must be diligent in our efforts to reach out to those who are lost and wandering. We must not only speak the words of truth but also live them out in our daily lives, showing compassion, forgiveness, and selflessness to those in need. In doing so, we become vessels of God's love; drawing others closer to their shepherd and helping them find peace and rest in His presence.

***In silence, we can reconnect with our innermost thoughts and emotions.***

Silence is a virtue that allows for introspection and deep reflection. It creates a space for inner peace and clarity, allowing one to truly listen and understand others without judgment or interruption. In a world filled with noise and constant distractions, embracing silence can lead to profound personal growth and meaningful connections with oneself and others. By immersing ourselves in silence, we can reconnect with our innermost thoughts and emotions, fostering self-awareness and self-discovery. It is within these moments of quiet contemplation that we can find answers to lingering questions and gain a deeper understanding of our own values and aspirations. Furthermore, when we approach interactions with others from a place of stillness, we are better able to empathize with their experiences and perspectives, fostering a sense of genuine connection and mutual understanding. ■

## P O E M

# Oh St. Therese, Oh St. Therese!



Dr. Sr. Anitta Chacko CHF

**O**h St. Therese, Oh St. Therese  
Your vocation is Love  
We Love You, Little Flower-2  
\*A Great friend of, Child Jesus  
Who draws us to, Child Jesus  
We love you, Little Flower-2  
\*A great Patroness, of missionaries  
Who draw us to do the, missions  
We love you, Little Flower-2  
\*A great model of humbleness  
Who teach us to do the humble ways  
We love you, Little Flower -2

\*A great lover of, Purity  
Who draw us to live a, life of purity?  
We love you, Little Flower-2  
\*A great lover of Simplicity  
Who draw us to suffer, like you  
We love you, Little flower-2  
\*A great lover of Visionary  
Who help us to unfold, our visions  
We love you, Little flower  
Oh St. Therese, Oh St. Therese, Your  
vocation is Love!  
We Love You, Little Flower-2 ■



## INTRODUCTION

The life of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, affectionately known as “The Little Flower,” serves as a testament to faith, devotion, and the pursuit of holiness. Born on January 2, 1873, in Alençon, France, Thérèse Martin’s spiritual journey has left an indelible mark on the world. Beyond her time, her life holds profound relevance, particularly in the context of priestly vocation. This article explores St. Thérèse’s life, her spiritual insights, and their resonance with those considering or embracing the path of priesthood, drawing wisdom from the Bible.

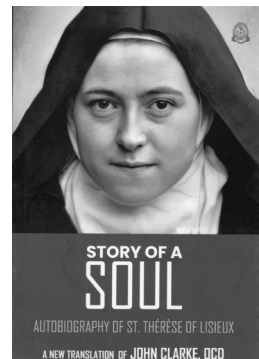
### A BLOSSOMING FAITH: THE LIFE OF ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX AND ITS RELEVANCE TO PRIESTLY VOCATION



Mr. Sanjeev John ‘Abhigyan’

## I. EARLY LIFE AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Thérèse Martin’s upbringing laid the foundation for her deep spirituality. Raised in a devout Catholic family, her parents, Louis and Zélie Martin, were paragons of faith and love. Four of her siblings entered religious life, underscoring the influence of faith within her family. Thérèse experienced a poignant loss at the age of four when her mother succumbed to breast cancer, profoundly affecting her. Thérèse’s early spiritual awakening is chronicled in her autobiography, “The Story of a Soul.” She describes a transformative encounter at 14 during a pilgrimage to Rome, where she approached Pope Leo XIII, requesting permission to enter the Carmelite convent at a younger age than customary. Her request granted, she joined the Carmel at Lisieux at 15, commencing an extraordinary journey toward sanctity.



## II. THE “LITTLE WAY” AND HUMILITY

St. Thérèse is celebrated for her “Little Way,” a profound spiritual concept emphasizing simplicity, humility, and childlike trust in God. This teaching is particularly relevant to those discerning a priestly vocation, and it finds resonance in the Bible.

In her writings, Thérèse emphasizes that holiness is attainable for all, irrespective of their social status. She espoused the belief that even the simplest, most mundane actions, when performed with profound love for God, could lead to sanctity. This message aligns with the biblical notion of humility and selflessness. In Philippians 2:3-4, we read, “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.” Priests are called to serve humbly, mirroring Christ’s selfless love.



## III. THE POWER OF PRAYER

St. Thérèse had unwavering faith in the power of prayer, declaring, “For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven.” Her deep prayer life and devotion to the Eucharist were central to her spiritual journey. For those discerning a priestly vocation, prayer forms the bedrock of their journey. Like St. Thérèse, they must cultivate a profound, personal relationship with God through prayer. In James 5:16, we are reminded, “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” Prayer becomes a powerful conduit for guidance, strength in moments of doubt, and the discernment of one’s true calling.

Moreover, St. Thérèse’s devotion to the Eucharist serves as a potent example for those on the path to priesthood. The Eucharist, often deemed the source and summit of the Christian faith, holds a special place in the lives of priests. Thérèse’s reverence for the Eucharist reinforces the significance of the Mass in the life of a priest, entrusted with the sacred duty of consecrating and distributing the Body and Blood of Christ.

## IV. SUFFERING AND REDEMPTIVE LOVE

Thérèse’s life was marked by trials and suffering, with tuberculosis ultimately claiming her life at 24. Despite her pain, she embraced her illness as a means of redemptive love, offering it for the salvation of souls.

This facet of Thérèse’s life holds deep relevance for those discerning a priestly vocation. Priests are called to share in Christ’s suffering and offer their hardships for the spiritual benefit of others. Thérèse’s example teaches that suffering, when united with Christ’s suffering on the cross, can be a source of grace. Romans 8:18 reminds us, “I consider that our present sufferings are not



worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” This redemptive aspect of suffering is a vital lesson for anyone considering a life of service as a priest.

## **V. A LIFE OF TOTAL SURRENDER**

St. Thérèse’s profound surrender to the will of God is another critical aspect of her spirituality. She described herself as “a little grain of sand” in God’s hands, fully yielding to His divine plan. Her complete trust in God’s providence is a valuable lesson for those discerning a priestly vocation.

Priests are called to offer their lives in service to God and His people, requiring a total surrender of one’s will to God’s. Thérèse’s example of surrender serves as a model for those on the path to priesthood, reminding them that true fulfillment and happiness are found in complete obedience to God’s plan. Proverbs 3:5-6 exhorts, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

## **VI. THE UNIVERSAL CALL TO HOLINESS**

St. Thérèse’s teachings and example underscore the universal call to holiness. Canonized as a saint in 1925 and later declared a Doctor of the Church, her writings contain profound wisdom. Her life and spirituality demonstrate that holiness is attainable for all who sincerely seek to love and serve God.

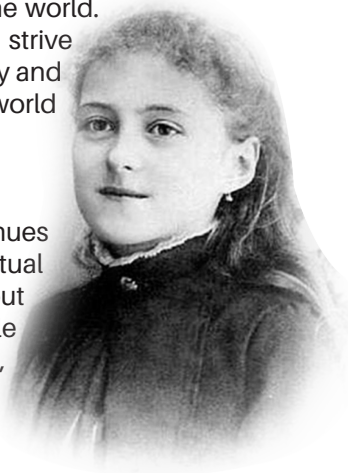
In the context of priestly vocation, St. Thérèse’s message is clear: priests are called to be holy. They must lead by example, inspire others through their faith and devotion, and convey God’s love to the world.

Thérèse’s life challenges priests to continually strive for holiness, embrace their vocation with humility and love, and serve as beacons of Christ’s light in a world yearning for hope.

## **CONCLUSION**

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, “The Little Flower,” continues to inspire and guide individuals on their spiritual journeys, especially those discerning or living out a priestly vocation. Her teachings on the “Little Way,” humility, the power of prayer, suffering, surrender, and the universal call to holiness offer invaluable insights and encouragement.

Her example reminds us that holiness is attainable for all and that, by living a life of humble service and total surrender to God, we can bear witness to Christ’s love in the world. Through her intercession and guidance, may all who discern this sacred vocation find strength, purpose, and joy in following the path of holiness and love. ■



# One + One = One; Theresian Arithmetic of Eucharistic Devotion



Fr Antony Kalapurackal CST

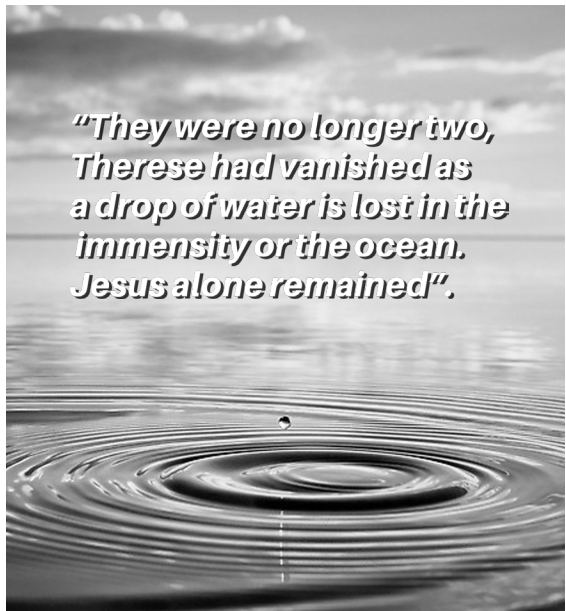


**A**ll the heights and glory what St Theresa of Lisieux had achieved was because of her deep and personal relationship with God specially with Jesus. Her God experience was so intimate and personal that she could not remain without thinking Him not more than three minutes. It means her body, mind and soul were fully engulfed and captured by the love and power of God. All these are resulted from her attachment to Jesus very specially to the Eucharistic Jesus. Although the participation and reception of the Holy Eucharist was not common and regular on those days, she had nurtured a deep affection towards the Holy Eucharist even from her early childhood. It might have been caused due to her pious family background, holy parents or her own sublime and divine character.

Her love towards the holy Eucharist had started even before she was four years of old. She narrates an incident in her autobiography showing her love and respect to it in the following way; "On Sunday, as I was too little to go to the services, Mamma stayed with me; I was very good, walking around on tiptoe during the Mass; but as soon as I saw the door open, there was an explosion of Joy, I would throw myself in front of my pretty little sister, adorned like a chapel, and say, Oh! Little Celine hurry, give me the blessed bread. Sometimes she did not have it because she arrived too late. What to do? I wasn't able to be without it as this was my mass. A way was soon found. You haven't any blessed bread, then make some. Celine got a chair, opened the cupboard, took the bread, cut off a slice and then very gravely recited a Hail Mary over it, and then she gave to me. After making a Sign of the Cross, I would eat it with great devotion, finding it tasted the same as the blessed bread.

In the autobiography, one of the best and most beautiful expression of her feelings is found in her description about the moments of the first Holy communion. She says "Ah! How sweet was that first kiss of Jesus! It was a kiss of love; I felt that I was loved, and I said; I love you and give myself to You forever. There were no demands made, no struggles no sacrifices; for a long time now Jesus and poor little Therese looked at and understood each other. That day, it was no longer simply a look, but it was a fusion; they were no longer two, Therese had vanished as a drop of water is lost in the immensity or the ocean. Jesus alone remained". Once Jesus entered in the life of Theresa her whole attitude and nature got changed. She says "after the reception of Jesus the beautiful dress Maria had brought me, all the gifts I had received did not satisfy my heart, only Jesus could satisfy and I longed for that moment again".

"It's not to remain in a golden ciborium that He comes to us each day from heaven; it's to find another heaven, infinitely dearer to Him than the First: the heaven of our soul, made to His image the living temple of the adorable Trinity." When we sit in front of Jesus, we are busy in pouring our worries and difficulties to Him and seek for full consolation and comfort from Jesus. But Therese' approach to the Eucharistic Jesus was quite different, she never went to Jesus seeking for any consolation but instead always sat in front of Him to give consolation and love to Him.



*"They were no longer two,  
Therese had vanished as  
a drop of water is lost in the  
immensity or the ocean.  
Jesus alone remained".*

In fact, for Therese every holy communion and time in front of Jesus were of moments of intimate union with Jesus. She felt Jesus is giving Himself to her every time, and as the time passed this confidence and faith have turned as a reality. She departed the same peace and joy to her sisters which she received from the Eucharistic Lord.

Therefore, like the character, nature and the whole life St. Therese had been permeated by the influence of this relationship with Jesus, let's also imitate and experience the Eucharistic Lord more closely in our lives. May attending Holy Mass and praying before the Holy Eucharistic become the source and summit of our daily lives. ■

# Song of a Rose . . . .

**T**he ocean of love flows  
From the depths of my heart  
Which in your love dissolves  
Me, roosted you in my inner heart.

Occurring realization that you are  
mine

Placed you in my heart, the temple.  
Mantle roof became shadow of mine  
That I found you in my life  
When life takes storm face  
When life witness waves rise  
Embraced me to move firm.  
You, comforted and firmed.

When I was in distress  
You made me happy.

When I was in sadness  
You called me back to joyous.

Oh, my lover!  
Give me your rose,  
Oh, my redeemer,  
Help me to be closer.



Bro. Sharon  
3rd year Minor  
Seminarian



# Jyoti Catechetical Fest 2023

## Department of Evangelization



Fr Sirl Pothan CST



**E**vangeliZation means bringing the Good News of Jesus into every human situation and seeking to transform individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself. And if it is straight into the young blood of the Church, it becomes more effective and the Church becomes more powerful. Khrist Jyoti Province and its Evangelization Department is always innovative and ever active to bring about new means to proclaim the Good News. One of those such initiative is the Jyoti Catechetical Fest which began in the year 2021 focusing on the youth and children of our Parishes. The fest is not less than a Youth Festival where our Youth put up performances in Sports, Literary and Cultural events both group and individual, which bring them together under the banner of Parishes. These competitions last for minimum three months in which our youth and children are more attracted to Church and which further leads to firmness of faith in their life. More over our youth spend their evening hours in the Church or School campuses for the practices and preparations. And this year too we have had the Jyoti Catechetical Fest 2023 which is into its last lap, only remaining two items.

### Inauguration

Inauguration of Jyoti Catechetical Fest 2023 took place on 6th August 2023 at Sacred Heart Church, Malout with the Basketball and Badminton competition for the Girls. The day began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr Vincent Chittinappilly CST, the Secretary, Department of Evangelization and homily preached by Fr. Jidhin Kurisinkal CST and few fathers concelebrated who came with the youth. The inauguration was held in LF Sports Academy Malout by Rev. Fr. Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil CST, Provincial Superior who encouraged youth

with his words in the presence of Fr. Shibu Menachery, the Ashram Superior and other fathers, Sisters, Teachers, youth and parishioners. 10 teams participated in Basketball competition in which the host team Malout became the champions and Bikaner first Runners up and Muktsar second runners up respectively.

## **Literary Events**

Literary events which aim at the writing and drawing skills of our youth and children were held at Sihwala on 13th August 2023 under the guidance of Fr. Vincent and Fr. Bijo Kalayakattil, the Parish Priest. Holy mass was celebrated Fr. Vincent Chittinappilly and thereafter began the Essay Writing and Pencil Drawing competition which was followed by the Painting Competition. Almost 100 students took part in the literary events which was concluded by 4.30 in the evening.

## **Basketball & Badminton**

The next one on the line was the Basketball and Badminton competition for the boys which was held at Sri Muktsar Sahib on 20th Sep 2023. The boys and youth reached and after having registration and breakfast, they were guided to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Adoration by Fathers George Alukka and Vincent Chittinappilly. Adoration was followed by Holy Eucharist Fr. George Alukka being the main celebrant and preached the Homily. Inauguration of the basketball and badminton tournament took place by 11 o'clock with the presence of hundreds of players from different parishes and parishioners who came to support the teams. The competition was a must watch as the teams fought hard for the victory. Jalalabad emerged victorious in basketball wherein Fazilka and Ferozepur City emerged first runners up and second runners up respectively. First prize in badminton was bagged by Sikar team and Faridkot & Muktsar won second and third positions.

## **Football**

The Punjab youth and children had one of the best opportunities for them to travel to Bikaner to witness our Mission in Rajasthan as the Football competition for boys was held at Bikaner on 27th August 2023 under the guidance of Frs. Thomas Njanackal, Sandeep Thekkel and Stephen Swaranjeet together with the Jyoti Catechetical Fest Committee. All the teams from Punjab reached on the eve of the Tournament and other teams from Rajasthan reached on time for the Adoration



and Holy Mass which was celebrated by Fr. Vincent and homily preached by Fr. Antony Moonjely CST. Inauguration of the Tournament was done by 11 o'clock and matches began in two grounds simultaneously which took care of the time schedule. Sikar became the champions defeating the reigning champions Jhnujhunu and third position was bagged by Fazilka.

### **Cultural Single Items**

Now it was time to move up to the cultural events which was began in style with the single items at Moga on 3rd September 2023 under the guidance of Fr. George Alukka, Fr. Sam Vayalil and the Parish Community. Fr. Chacko the Director of Youth from Jullundhar Diocese was the Main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist which was followed by Holy Adoration led by Fr. George Alukka. Immediately after the Holy Eucharist the Inauguration was held at the Main stage by Fr. Chacko by hoisting the flag and motivating our youth and children to do well in different items. Single Dance, Speech, Solo Song and Fancy-Dress competition for different categories were held in two stages simultaneously and systematically. The events came to an end by 6 o'clock in the evening and all the teams departed to their parishes. The judges had high appreciation about the talented youth and children we have at our disposal. And fathers and sisters praised the efforts of students who put up a great performance in Speech competition which ignited many hearts with worth remarks and strong determinations.

### **Cultural Group Items**

The team spirit and the hard work was really in the air when the parishes turned up to Jalalabad on 7th Sep 2023 for the Cultural Group Items. Teams reached at Jalalabad before the Rosary and followed by Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Henry the Education Secretary of Shimla-Chandigarh Diocese. After the Holy Eucharist the prime event of the Jyoti Catechetical Fest was inaugurated by Fr. Henry with the presence of many fathers all around Punjab. The gathering witnessed really great harmonious performance by our youth in the forms of Group Dance, Giddha, Bhangra, Group Song and at last Bible Skit. Months of practice and preparation for each item and their dedication was evident in the quality of the items performed by each Parishes. Eleven parishes, without the discrimination of big or small participated and put their heart and soul out there to compete with their fellow contestants. The events got over by 8.30 pm and everyone departed to their homes with a sense of fulfilment and happiness that they have done it for the Glory of God.

### **Jyoti Catechetical Fest at Rajasthan**

This year in order to have greater participation from the Parishes of Rajasthan, we had the Literary Events separately on 3rd Sep 2023 at their respective parishes. Many talented youth and children took part in the events and eagerly waiting to have the results.

Also, the Cultural Events will take place on 15th October 2023 at Bikaner which will witness the vigour and team spirit of our youth from Rajasthan. ■



## Poem

# The Unending Mystery of Love

I found the mystery of love in littleness.  
On that frosty morning, as I peeped through  
the window  
There stood, "Les Buissonnets" in the freshly-  
fallen snow  
In a large garden, with its magnificent beauty.

Who could know that the beautiful flowers of  
that garden would bloom elsewhere ?  
The little, little queen among them a  
pampered, sensitive child of the Martin family  
destined to win the crown of her beloved.

How Sad! She lost her mother in Childhood  
Then sheltered in the arms Of Rose Taille  
Breathed the fresh air of the becafe forest of  
Semalle

The Sweet gentle Pauline to be  
Called 'Mamma'

God calls for conversion, on the eve of a  
blessed Christmas,  
Here ends a ribbon of her life, to begin a  
giant run,  
To run and to finish, yes, it needs new  
ground to be planted  
The Soil of Carmel to hide, then to rise in  
glory.

She is armed with the new weapon of  
love  
proclaims" My way is all Love and  
confidence"  
love becomes stronger than death, finds  
consolation  
in the embrace of her beloved as a child  
in the arms of its mother.

Christ alone the surety of her life  
Determined to shed her blood to win  
Souls for Christ  
To host the flag of Christ in a world of  
unbelievers.  
Heaven to do good on earth.

O Little Saint remember thy promise.  
Let the roses of blessings rain down on  
us  
May we find Joy in littleness, hope in His  
promises  
and love in total surrender.  
Amen



Sr Anitta Chacko FCC

# The Message of Therese

Bro. Arun Baby Chemmanampadath CST



*She is a saint of  
everyday life,  
without any show,  
but infinitely  
meritorious and  
filled with love,  
like the simple life  
of the Holy Family  
at Nazareth.*

**T**herese of Lisieux appears in the history of spirituality with a disconcerting originality. The fact that she carries her message in simple, at times even in childish language, takes away nothing of this originality. On the one hand, she says of her life, "The Almighty has done great things in the soul of His divine Mother's child and the greatest thing is to have shown her littleness, her impotence." On the other hand, this is the very person who knew to be an object of the special love of God, who was aware of never having lost her baptismal innocence, and who felt all the possible desires for perfection. All these realities are great graces. This perhaps accounts for its simplicity as well as for its depth and above all for its sublimity. Simplicity is the master quality that sets the tone in all her works, not because she was poor in intellectual gifts, but on account of the many complementary Virtues harmonized into unison on a higher level.



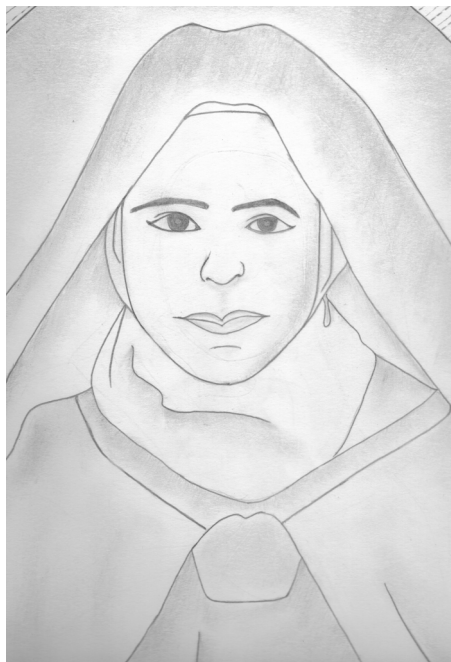
Divine simplicity is so rich that it defies all our attempts at analysis, and the same is true of Therese's simplicity. Therese said to herself: "For simple souls, there must be no complicated ways." Her way will always be most ordinary and accessible to everyone. "There will be something in them for all, except those following extraordinary ways." She is a saint of everyday life, without any show, but infinitely meritorious and filled with love, like the simple life of the Holy Family at Nazareth. "I'm sure that her (The Blessed Virgin) real life was very simple." The most divine life under the most human exterior. All her greatness comes from her love. Great geniuses simplify the world, and Therese's genius goes directly for essentials: love, the blossoming in us of our baptismal grace, and perfect docility to the Holy Spirit "This consists of separating the accidental from the essential in an



object and then reducing the accident to zero and raising the essential to the infinite." The primacy of love sets all the rest free. The Little Way has a matchless hallmark of simplicity as its character.

Simplicity does not exclude depth, and on this point, Therese's genius resembles that of St. Thomas Aquinas. Spiritual childhood takes us back to the fundamental message of the Gospel: God's Fatherhood and our title of children of God, which makes us like the Son. Everything else falls into a harmonious perspective. Therese's littleness which leaves the soul nothing in itself to lean on, goes just as far in its stripping of the Ego, as St. John of the Cross with his mysticism of 'Nothing.' Her trust and abandonment go to the very limit of the theological virtue of hope. As to love, even among the greatest mystics it is not easy to find the ardor and the selflessness of the one who was pre-eminently the saint of pure love: "To love, to be loved, and to return to the earth to make love loved." One could say the same of all the aspects of Therese's mystical doctrine.

Hence her doctrine is closely connected with her life not only because it is perfectly incarnated in it, but also because she understood and formulated it progressively in the light of her lived experience. Looking at it from the distance of a hundred years, one gets the impression that God, who had entrusted her with the message of proclaiming the spiritual childhood, had so arranged her entire life as to make it an aid to formulate and live this doctrine. Therese's merit was to have cooperated with this divine plan in her regard. Thus we could have before our eyes this marvel of spiritual life. ■



**Bro. Albin Edavanattukulam**  
*LFS, Malout*



**Bro. Noha Antony**  
*LFS, Malout*



**Alina Khalkha**  
*Aspirant, LF Convent Hanumangarh Jn.*



# Gallery



Church Dedication - Little Flower Church, Guruharsahai, Punjab



Church Dedication - Sacred Heart Church, Jalalabad, Punjab





Memorial of Fr Varghese K at Hnmg



Farewell to Fr Shyju C at Hnmg



Visit by SABS Provincial Superior (Hnmg)



Independence Day Celebration (Hnmg)



Cricket Tournament - LFCS, Hnmg



Basketball Tournament - LFCS, Hnmg



Inter-school Debate Competition  
- LFCS, Hnmg



Teachers' Day Celebration - LFCS, Hnmg



Junior Clergy Meet at Hnmg



Junior Clergy Meet





Junior Clergy Meet



Onam Celebration at Bathinda Zone



LFCS, Kot Shamir



LFCS, Churu



LFCS, Churu



LFCS, Churu



Fr General with FCC Aspirants, Hnmg



LF Minor Seminary, Malout



MSMI Convent Blessing, Sadiq



MSMI - CST Contract Signing, Sadiq





# Mudickal Vibes



B'Day Celebration of Fr John  
Mundackal



B'Day Celebration of Fr John  
Kudilil



Vianney Day



Feast Day Celebration of Fr Kurian  
Moonjely



Farewell to Fr Shibin Kocheelath



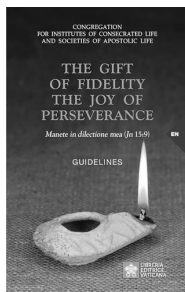
Reception to Msg. Mathew  
Nellikunnel



Visit by Mar Thomas Padiyath



Bon Voyage! Fr Rijo & Fr Robin



# The Gift of Fidelity and the Joy of Perseverance

Bro. Joseph Ayathupadath CST



## BOOK REVIEW

*The Gift of Fidelity and the Joy of Perseverance* is a work that brings views regarding some of the recurring issues inherent in fidelity and perseverance in the state of consecrated life. To make us aware, the Congregation for Institute of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life has taken the initiative to articulate this volume. It proposes to provide certain guidelines for consecrated life based on the norms of the Canon Law. It highlights the current difficulties of members that they face in the institutes of consecrated as well as secular lives. The word 'Consecrated' means to be set apart, therefore, consecrated persons are set apart to love and live for God and His church. The being of consecrated life is to remain (Jn 15:9) in God's love.

Everything is getting changed day by day, our lives, culture, faith etc. since the beginning of the consecrated and religious life there exists a struggle for fidelity and lack of strength to perseverance. The era in which we are living is a period of great trials and tribulations where consecrated persons face difficulties in living a consecrated life. Consecrated life is a call to renew the heart and mind of the person. St. Paul says, so that they may discern God's will, what is good, pleasing, and perfect (Rm 12:2) and a call to remain 'forever' faithful to Him, the one who called (Jer 1:5-10). But finite beings after unsatisfied and discouraging moments in their lives run away from it. Pope Francis affirms; 'When the 'forever' is weak any reason is valid to leave the path taken.'

What is the reason why everyone abandons this consecrated life? The reason is simply the lack of perseverance to face the difficulties that occur in daily life. It is not normal to separate from the institute after long periods of formation and living this consecrated life for many years taking the oath to be a faithful servant until the last moments of life. Remember crisis can become an opportunity for transformation, purification, self-understanding etc. Another critical element that can be seen in the consecrated life is the difficulties that take place in our communities, i.e., problems in interpersonal relationships. People often live in isolation even in those communities where several members

live. One of the reasons that can cause problems in the community is the ineffective use of the digital world. We should be able to see our fellow members as brothers and sisters in the bond of fraternity because we are members of one family (Jn 19:26-27) and have made a covenant with God as well as our brothers and sisters.

Now comes the question about the gift of fidelity and joy of perseverance. The world of consecrated men and women is getting renewed now and then, and remaining faithful is no longer taken for granted. If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it (Mt 16: 24-25). 'Fidelity is the very being of God's love', the love for the Church and his chosen people. The whole history of salvation is an indication of God's faithfulness to His chosen people. We know Israel was not a faithful generation, has gone astray and repeated to be unfaithful (Ps 78:8). But God was faithful to them even when they repeated their infidelity (Is 54:8).



There is no life without cross and suffering. We need to be courageous enough to embrace the pains and suffering because our role model and master is one who suffered until the last moments of His life being a faithful



child of Abba, said: My food is to do the will of the Father (Jn 4:34). The joy of perseverance made him faithful to God the Father. St. Paul denotes fidelity as one of the fruits of the Spirit (Gal 5:22). The faithful witness, Christ, teaches humanity to be faithful. We can never achieve this faithfulness through our efforts. Grace is given to us and invited to

respond to the Father through the Son who loved us and gave himself as a ransom for many. In consecrated life fidelity to the Father is the faithfulness to the Vocation, fidelity to Christ enables every consecrated person to be part of

the Risen One, and fidelity to the Holy Spirit enables one to be faithful to his or her identity.

Anyone who perseveres to the end will be saved (Mt 10:22b; 24:13; Mk 13:13). Perseverance is the ability to do something despite difficulties or delays. It is a vital quality of fidelity. In Perseverance, the genuine love of Christ is revealed. By testing our faith, we can measure the amount of our Perseverance (Jas 1:4). The perseverance of consecrated persons depends on following the rules and constitutions of their institutes. Do not be afraid to show the joy and happiness of having answered God's call. Nowadays many of the brothers and sisters with the loss of perseverance abandoned the consecrated life. All of us should seriously think about the reason to remain in this life and the reason for leaving this vocation. We are all responsible for the vocation of our brothers and sisters because we are 'united in Christ as a distinctive family'.

Consecrated persons should become men and women of discernment. They should become capable of reading reality in the light of the Spirit and need to choose, decide and act according to the will of God. The core of this life is to remain in the love of God even amidst pain, suffering, misunderstandings etc., which helps us to remain in the gift of perseverance. May God be our saviour, Jesus be our master, Holy Spirit be our strength and Mother Mary be our model, so that we may become faithful and persevering men and women of the Vocation received.

Amen. ■





VOTIVE CANDLE WRAP

Saint Therese of Lisieux

O Little Therese the child Jesus  
Please pick up a rose for me  
From the heavenly gardens and  
Send it to me.

As a message of Love.

O Little flower of Jesus

Ask God today to grant favors  
I now place with confidence

In your hands.

St. Therese

Help me to always believe  
As you did.

In God's great love for me

So that I might imitate your  
"Little way" each day.

Amen

Handwritten by Paulina Bihan  
Candidate, FCC Hnmg



## Province Picnic Highlights





**47<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
IN HEAVEN**



**VERY REV. FR BASILIUS PANAT CST  
FOUNDER  
LITTLE FLOWER CONGREGATION  
(CST FATHERS)  
(1891-1976)**