

2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

# PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

## LA SALETTE MATHA PROVINCE

VOL XIV, NO.01

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Dear Fathers and Brothers,

As you all know, in the month of November, I had my canonical visitation in Australia for two weeks. I would like to mention an experience which happened there. On 13 November, I celebrated Holy Mass at St. Antony's Church, Toongabie, where Fr. Joby Kadambattuparambil MS is Vicar.

After the Mass, together with Fr. Joby, I was standing in the courtyard to greet the people. Many people came and spoke with us. Meanwhile, a father and daughter came to me.

Shaking hands, he said:

"Father I'm Ramu, from India"

"You belong to which part of India?" I asked.

"Andhra Pradesh"

When I heard about Andhra, I wanted to know more about him.

"Where in Andhra?"

"Vijayawada"

"Which is your proper place in Vijayawada?"

"Kanchikacherla ...."

When I heard Kanchikacherla, my heart started to beat faster.

"Do you know Amarlapudi Shekhar in Kanchikacherla?"

"Yes father, he is my cousin and a very good friend."

When I mentioned the names of Shekhar's wife and children, his eyes widened.

"Father how do you know Shekhar?"

"He is also a good friend of mine. I met him when I was doing ministry in Andhra.

We both went to the house of each other. You know, when I told him about my journey to Australia, he told me that he had a relative and a childhood friend here, but I didn't pay much attention to it because I found it difficult to find such a person in the midst of so many busy schedules. I didn't even ask the name of the friend at least. But today, God has placed that friend before me..."

Accepting Ramu's invitation, Fr. Joby and me went to his house for dinner. We prayed and had dinner together. As I left there, I was thinking about God's wonderful interventions. When I sent photos of us together to Shekhar, I was surprised by his reply: "Father it's a miracle... I can't believe my eyes and ears!"

Christmas is a season of wonder that God has prepared for us. How many stories of miracles the Holy Bible will present before us this month.

The messenger of God comes to the unknown Virgin Mary of Nazareth... The movement of the baby in her womb by divine intervention... God's grace on the barren woman Elizabeth... Message of joy to the shepherds and Magi... The Guiding star... In this way, many wonders are combined with Christmas.

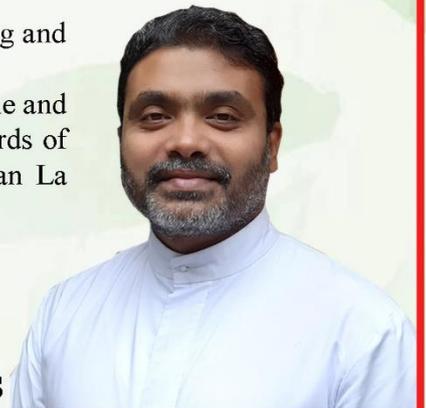
The coming days are the days when God calls us to believe that divine interventions will also take place in our lives. It has no age or time. All you need is an open mind and unwavering faith. These days also lead us to the realization that only when the doors of the inn are closed do we reach the haylofts. We can also strive to recognize divine interventions in our lives. Let us wait with the shepherds for divine intervention in our lives: "To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord" (Lk 2:11).

Let us continue to pray for Father JP who is journeying through a lot of suffering and pain. May the good Lord give him strength and courage.

My sincere gratitude to members ministering in Australia for the warm welcome and hospitality rendered to me during the time of Canonical Visitation. My special words of appreciation to Rev. Fr. Joby kadambattuparambil MS, the superior of Australian La Salette Community, for all the arrangements made during the visit.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Yours in Our Lady of La Salette  
**Rev. Fr. Jenson Chenthrappinny MS**





## LA SALETTE NIKEHAN, HUNSUR, MYSORE

**Funeral of Fr. J.P:** The Nikethan community participated for the funeral services of Fr. Jose Punnakunnel MS. The community whole heartedly expressed the deep sorrow and prayed for the eternal repose of the Soul.

**Monthly Recollection:** Minor seminarians had monthly recollection on December 12. Fr. Lithin Palakkal MS led the recollection.

**Annual Retreat:** During the Christmas vacation brothers had annual retreat. Retreat was guided by Fr. Geo Thaiparambil. The community thanked him for his availability.

**Death of Father of Fr. Kuriakose:** The community attended the funeral services of Mr. Joseph (father of Fr. Kuriakose) and prayed for the departed soul. The community consoled and expressed deep sorrow towards Fr. Kuriakose and family.

**Christmas Celebration:** The community celebrated Christmas on Christmas eve. We shared the Christmas Gifts and prepared crib. The celebration was minimized due to the demise of Mr. Joseph (father of Fr. Kuriakose).





## LA SALETTE VIDYA NIKETHAN, HUNSUR, MYOSRE

**Sports Day – High School:** La Salette Vidya Nikethan conducted one day sports for all the students until 10th grade. Mrs. Shyla the principal of the St. Anthony's International School was the chief guest of the day who inaugurated the sports event. All the students enjoyed the sports day well.

**Sports Day –PU Students:** One day sports day was organized for our PU students on 9th of November. Many of the invited guests were present for the function. Mr. Pavan HP Manjunath (Son of Mr. Manjunath) was who inaugurated the sports event. Many of the youth congress members from Hunsur constituency were present for the sports event. La Salette PU College honored Mr. Arun Nayak from Mardur village who bagged three gold medals in Nepal athletics and HP Manjunath distributed cash prize for him.

**Picnic:** Our tenth and ninth class students had their one day picnic to Wonderla, Bangalore. All the students and staff enjoyed playing in different rides and in water.





**Christmas Cringle:** As part of the Christmas celebration Christmas cringle lots were taken for all the teaching and nonteaching staff. All were happy to pray for their Christmas friend and buy some gifts for their friends. It was exchanged during the Christmas party celebration of the staff.

**Christmas Celebration:** On 21st December La Salette kindergarten celebrated Christmas very joyfully and colorfully. The presence of Fr. Jenson and Fr. Mathew made the day more joyful. Different talents from KG

students and teachers came out as the celebration was kept separate. All enjoyed the programme and Christmas cake.

On 23rd December was the Christmas celebration from 1 grade to PUC. Blessing of the crib, varieties of Christmas programmes, Santa clause dances, gift distribution for the Christmas articles preparations, Cake distribution were the matters of that day. Cakes were distributed to all the teaching and non teaching staffs. In the afternoon each class had their private Christmas celebration in their respective classes.

**Holiday:** From 24th December to 1st January is declared holiday for the institute.



**Women Empowerment Programme:** It was one of the big event of La Salette Vidya Nikethan and PU College to gather all women members of our society on 17th of December. The huge gathering was begun from Mardur Panchayth accompanying all women and officials including Fr. Jenson Chenthrappinny with Nazic Dhol and school band to our college auditorium. Around 1200 women participated in the program. Our honourable MLA Mr. Manjunath inaugurated the function and congratulated La Salette institute to organize such a wonderful programme for the women. There were two speakers who spoke about the rights and duties of each girl child and women. It helped them to conscious about their life and rights.





## LA SALETTE MARIAN CENTER, TVM

**Christmas Celebrations:** Marian Centre community had a wonderful Christmas season. The various ministries of the season were helpful for the members to share the baby Jesus to others. Christmas carolling from both St. Jude's Church and Fathima Matha Church made the songs of joy in the campus. Visits of Deacons Anson, George, and Joyal made the month more memorable.



## LA SALETTE NOVITIATE, HUNSUR, MYSORE

**Classes:** Rev. Fr. Jenson Chenthrappany MS, the Provincial Superior and Lithin Palakkal MS joined with Novices for the classes. Thanks to dear fathers for being with us and guiding them to be a true disciple of Jesus.

**Funeral Service:** Novices attended the funeral service for Fr. Joseph Punnakunnel MS at Parakkadavu.





## LA SALETTE ASHRAM, WAYANAD

**Funeral:** Ashram community along with laity members took part at the funeral service of Rev. Fr. Joseph Punnakunnel MS.

**Memorial Service:** La Salette Ashram community along with lay associates organized 7th day memorial service and Holy mass in honour of Rev. Fr Joseph Punnakunnel MS at our shrine. Community members participated at the funeral and 7th day ceremony of the beloved father of Fr Kuriakose Chennelil.

**Visit:** Family members of Fr. Rojan (elder brother and family) visited our ashram and stayed with us for two days.

**Christmas Crib:** Ashram community along with the help of our Alter servers made a beautiful crib.



## LA SALETTE MARIA BHAVAN, CHEMPERI

**Roofing:** The roof work above car porch is done using Polycarbonate Sheet.

**Front Gate:** Industrial works for making the front Gate is done.

**Christmas:** La Salette Maria Bhavan celebrated its first Christmas in a Solemn way. Around hundreds of faithful participated for the daily Masses as preparation for the Christmas. On 24 Fr. Benny cut the Christmas Cake & the cakes were distributed to the people sharing the joy of Christmas. Stars, Crib, Carol, fire crackers....all were part of our Christmas this year.





## LA SALETTE NILAYAM, THORREDU, AP

**Fixing New Transformer:** The house was in emergency to fix a new transformer near the compound to sort out the problem of electricity connection in the house.

**Christmas Celebration:** The community celebrated the Christmas gathering with simple way of cutting cake and sharing gifts exchanges to each other.

**Christmas Wishes to Neighbors:** The community has taken an effort to wish Christmas greetings around our Christian denomination churches. It was well appreciated by the surrounding friends of ours in order to strengthen ecumenical dialogue between these churches.

**Lutheran Pastor Visit:** The Nilayam community were so pleasant and happy for the presence of Lutheran Pastor and his group in our house as part of the Christmas time. They were indeed glad and enjoyed our fellowship in our house.



## LA SALETTE VIDYA NILAYAM, THORREDU, AP

**New Calendar Release:** The school has unveiled new calendar for the students to prepare their academic year well-disciplined way to be focused and motivated in the future.

**Parents Meeting:** In the development and the smooth functioning of the school, parents are called for the meeting to have a better collaboration and coordination in the integral part of the school. Fr. Manibushan conducted the class for the parents wherein he highlighted the vital role played by the parents to involve in the behavioral patterns of the students and create a conducive atmosphere for the intellectual growth for the children at homes. He had taken an effort to explain to them by the medium of the power point presentation which was well appreciated by the parents.





**Christmas Function:** After the pandemic the school management has planned to celebrate Christmas function with the invitation of the parents to include in the Christmas program. We have invited Rev. Fr. John Peter (Director of Nirmalagiri Shrine) a renowned and a prolific personality to deliver Christmas message to the students as well as to the parents. He was well appreciated for his wisdom and speech. All were happy and joyful the way he presented the message to the parents and the students. Later the School campus have exchanged the Christmas gifts and followed by the sumptuous dinner.

**Career Orientation Class:** In order to foster the growth of the students, the school management invited a well-known IAS academy institution from the city to present an excellent coaching for the 10th class students. The students were really taken up by their knowledge and creative imparting.





**Award Ceremony to Topper:** The school has organized an award ceremony for the topper of the school of 2022. We are so proud of the student and appreciate her for the excellency in education.

**Virtus Tree:** The school has introduced an event called “the Virtus Tree 20 days with 20 virtues” to practice for the students. This event got tremendous impact on the students to look back to their lives and arrange the class rooms with these virtues like a shape of tree according to their creativity.



## **ST. JOSEPH'S RCM CHURCH, THORREDU, AP**

**Christmas Carol in All Villages:** Christmas brings joyful moments in our lives. To bring greater joy and happiness in the parish, the parish arranged carol group to go around the villages to spread the fragrance of Christmas greetings to the people. People are so happy to invite the groups as the preparation and invitation of the redeemer in their homes.

**Christmas Mass:** Finally, the parishioners wholeheartedly celebrated the holy birth of Jesus in a scintillating way. People were so much taken up by the Christmas preparation and celebration of the Holy mass at midnight of this year. Fr. Jince celebrated the mass and the homily was delivered by Fr. Manibushan.

**Village Christmas Celebration:** We have joyfully celebrated our Christmas celebrations in our Sub stations. It was evident that people are growing more spiritually as their internal preparations and better collaborations with the parish priest for the event.





## LA SALETTE SADHAN, BENGALURU

**Laity Gathering:** As part of our preparation to welcome the child Jesus, the Sadhan community organized Eucharistic adoration and confession for the laity to prepare themselves.

**Christmas Eve:** Sadhan community beautifully organized the solemn liturgy of Christmas Eve. Rev. Fr. Jenson Chenthrappinny MS, the Provincial Superior presided over the Eucharistic celebration, and Frs. Bibin Parakunnel delivered a meaningful Christmas message. Community shared the joy of Christmas by cutting a cake after the Eucharist along with the laity.

**Christmas Crib:** Sadhan community not only made a crib in our hearts but also made a beautiful crib in our courtyard.



**Holiday Mood:** Philosophy brothers were in their home for the Christmas holidays.

**Ordination Anniversary:** With prayer and thanksgiving to the lord for the gift of priesthood Sadhan community celebrated the ordination anniversary of our elder priest Fr. Mathew Manjaly M.S, very solemnly.

**Annual Retreat:** Beginning something with Jesus will always be great. So, the philosophy brothers were in preparation to welcome the new year by having their annual retreat from 31st December. The retreat was conducted by Srs. Joe Mary MSMI and Justeena MSMI from Kulathuvayal Retreat Centre, Kerala.

**Visitors:** In this Christmas season, we were lucky with the presence of Frs. Jojo Pulpayil and Jince Koothodiyil MS. The community also welcomed Dn. George and Dn. Anson.



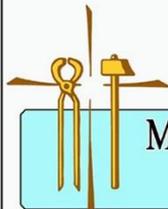


# OBITUARY



**REV. FR. JOSEPH PUNNAKUNNEL MS (71)**

18.01.1951 - 08.12.2022



Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette  
La Salette Matha Province-INDIA

