



### From the Provincial's Desk

*My Dear Brothers, Sisters,  
Co-workers & Friends in  
Hospitality,*

Hospitality has a great meaning and relevance for our mission in the field of Health care. It gives us our identity as Hospitaller brothers, and Co-workers. Just as we harmonize different notes to produce a tune, the diversity of our brothers and co-workers, customs, traditions, languages and attitudes unify to produce the one great organization that is John of God Family. I often think and feel that the name of our order OH should have been Order of Hospitality instead of the present name Order of Hospitallers.

According to our present censuses, we have hospitality services of St. John of God in 51 countries. That shows that we have multi-cultural, multi-lingual and multi-traditional situation that lives in harmony. We have a duty to preserve the unity and oneness of Hospitaller family. Individualism never promotes harmony in the community and family.

In our changing society today it is extremely difficult to be a good brother of John of God. Times may change, but the religious brothers' ministry in the church will always remain the same. The co-workers should be a source of support to them, helping them to live their vocation. So we must prepare ourselves spiritually and professionally to spread this Charism of Hospitality to different parts of India as best as we can. Our mission of mercy brings healing and hope to thousands of suffering and needy people. In this direction we need new initiative, total commitment, positive attitude, encouraging words, integrity to our Charism, spiritual maturity and fidelity to our duties and responsibilities.

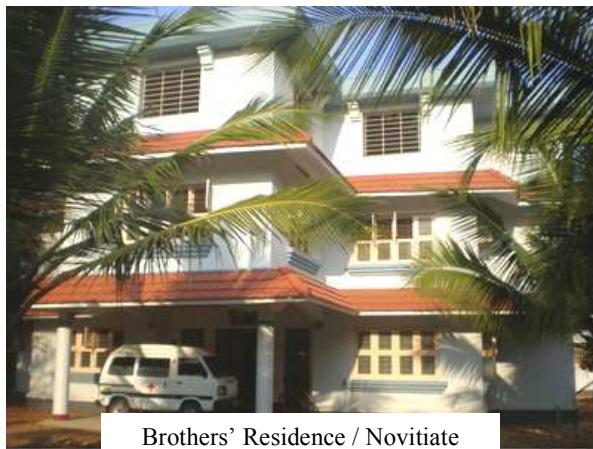
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### Blessing and Inauguration, Trichy



Chapel

The Order's Centre at Trichy expands its facilities there. A Chapel and Brothers' Residence were constructed recently. Most Rev. Dr. Antony Devotta, Bishop of Tiruchirappalli Blessed the chapel on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in the presence of Rev. Bro. Andreas Hellermann, Ex-Provincial of the Mother Province and Rev. Bro. Augustine Polaprayil, Provincial. Many Brothers, Sisters and Co-workers from different centers of the Province and from neighbouring communities participated in the solemn event. The ceremonies began at 3 pm with the consecration of the chapel and inauguration, and concluded with a social gathering.



Brothers' Residence / Novitiate

The centre was elevated as a Canonical Community under the patronage of 'Holy Family' in the year 2007 in remembrance of the Mother Province of India, former Holy Family Province, Rhine, Frankfurt. The Holy Family Chapel constructed in an attractive design stands as a symbol of great love and concern of the Mother Province, Frankfurt, who financed the construction, towards the Indian Province.



The centre runs a care and support centre for the terminally ill, 'Santhi Nilayam' which was opened in August 2006 with modern facilities for 40 patients. It was financed by Kröner Foundation, Germany. The Indian Province gratefully remember, Mr. Joseph Kröner and Mrs. Annie Kröner, for their great financial contribution for the centre and further expansion of its facilities. The province is thankful to the Austrian and Bavarian Provinces who also contributed towards the construction of Brothers residence and the services there.



Construction of the building for Apostolate, 'Santhi Nilayam' was implemented by former Director, Rev. Bro. Thomas Kanjiramoottil and the Chapel and Brothers Residence by Rev. Bro. Antony Palamattom, the present Prior and Director of the Centre.

The Centre started admitting patients on 25th September 2006 and since then the centre has given care and support for 227 new patients and the total number of admission is 401. We have 12 co workers working with the Brothers at the centre.

Sine 14th December 2008, the Novitiate of the province is functioning at Trichy. At present there are 4 Solemn Professed Brothers and 3 Novices.

## ..... Provincial's Message

.... Continuation from Page 1

Human needs and wants never come to an end. Healing is always highly demanding because of the nature of human suffering which is varied. Let us try to come out from our institutions and try to improve the social and spiritual well being of our rural and urban population by our involvement among the poor and needy. Let us try to move towards them rather than waiting for them in our centres. All of us need to work towards a larger goal of building "healthy, sustainable welfare communities".

According to Buddha, the people who are concerned with their own welfare and the welfare of others are the chief, the highest, the topmost and the best. This is the serum which has to run through the blood vessels of each one of us in order to develop a harmonious Hospitaller Family.

Fraternally, \_\_\_\_\_

*Bro. Augustine*

Bro. Augustine Polaprayil OH  
Provincial

## Visit of Bro. Andreas Hellermann

Rev. Bro. Andreas Hellermann, former Provincial of the then Holy Family Province, Frankfurt and present Prior of Püttlingen, Germany visited all the communities and centers of Brothers and Sisters of St. John of God. He arrived in India on 28th June and returned to Germany on 20th July. The important function we attended during his visit was the Blessing and Inauguration of the Chapel and Brothers residence at Trichy.



On 16th July 2009 he celebrated his 60th Birthday at Kattappana with the Brothers and Sisters.



## DCL Special School Fest, Velloor



Deepika Children's League (DCL) conducted its 10th Special School Fest on 6th March 2009 at St. John of God Centre, Velloor. DCL Chief (Kochettan) Fr. Roy Kannanchira welcomed all the participants. Kerala State Minister for Public Works, Sri. Mons Joseph inaugurated the Fest. Chief General Manager of Deepika Daily, Rev. Fr. Cherian Thazhamon presided over the inaugural function. Sri. J. Oommen, President of Kerala Special School Association, Bro. George Kizhakkekara, Director of St. John of God Special School, Sr. Litty Xavier, Principal of St. John of God Special School, and many other dignitaries facilitated in the function.

Many competitions were conducted after the inaugural function. Students from the districts of Kottayam, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Idukki, Pathanamthitta, Kollam and Trivandrum participated in it. Sevagram Vettimugal won the Special School Fest Ever-rolling Trophy. Sanjos, Ettumanur and DCMR Theekoy won the second and third places respectively.

Prices were distributed by Marketing Director of Deepika Sri. Chackochan Malayil during the concluding gathering held in the afternoon.

Arrangements and organisation of the venue, St. John of God Centre, by the Brothers, Sisters and Staff of the centre were well appreciated by the DCL and Deepika.

## 10th Anniversary of St. John of God Special School Velloor

On 8 March 2009 St. John of God Centre celebrated 10th Anniversary of the School. The thanksgiving Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. George Madathikandom (Rector, Vadavathur Seminary, Kottayam).



Bro. Brian O'Donnell, President, APIPC and Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel, General Councillor Rome participated in the celebrations. The public meeting that followed was inaugurated by Bro. Brian O'Donnell; he also delivered a congratulatory speech. Others who spoke on the occasion included Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel, Bro. Augustine Polaprayil, Sr. Rosy Joseph SCJG and Mr. K.A. Abraham (Pampady Panchayat President).



## Friends of John of God



On March 8, during the tenth Annual Day Celebration, the logo of 'Friends of John of God' was released by General Councillor Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel and Provincial Bro. Augustine Polaprayil. Friends of John of God is an association of people who support the works of the Brothers of St. John of God. They support spiritually through their prayers and financially by contributing some amount regularly. They also encourage other people to become part of Friends of St. John of God. The main purpose of the Friends of St. John of God is to raise funds to support the services rendered to the people with learning disability at Velloor.

### Refresher and Tour Programmes

During the vacation, the school management arranged a one-month program for the staff of the special school from April 20 to May 20. There were classes on yoga, intellectual disability, etc. and provided different work experiences for the staff. The last academic year was concluded with a tour programme for students and staff. On 20th March 50 students accompanied by staff visited the wildlife sanctuary at Thekkady in Idukki District. 50 staff visited Kodaikanal and Madurai on 31 March and 1 April.



### New Academic Year



St. John of God Special School reopened after 2 month annual holidays on 1st June 2009 and new academic year started. There are 158 students this year. 103 students are in the resident care and 55 students are in day care. Among them 127 are boys and 31 are girls.

### B.Sc. Nursing Graduation and Farewell Ceremony, Kattappana

Graduation and Farewell of the First batch of B.Sc. students of St. John's College of Nursing was held on 18th April 2009 at 2 pm. Bro. Pius Manithottiyil, Director of St. John's Hospital,



welcomed all to the ceremony. Mar Mathew Arackal, Bishop of Kanjirappally Diocese, presided over the ceremony which was inaugurated by Hon. Harul Al Rashid, Justice, Kerala High Court. In his inaugural address he reminded the students about the need of dedicated and sincere hard work in their professional field. Provincial Bro. Augustine Polaprayil delivered the keynote address. The ceremony ended with the distribution of certificates and mementos to the students by the chief guests.



### Construction of Psychiatric Hospital & Eustachius Kugler Home at Kattappana



Construction of new building for Pratheeksha Bhavan, 'Eustachius Kugler Heim' and Psychiatric Hospital at Kattappana are progressing. 'Eustachius Kugler Heim' is financed by the Bavarian Province, in



remembrance of Bro. Eustachius Kugler OH, former Provincial of the Bavarian Province, who will be declared as 'Blessed' on 4th October 2009 at Regensburg. The Psychiatric Hospital project is financed by the Austrian Province.

### Holidays Bro. Binish



Bro. Binish Mulackal who works in Vatican Pharmacy, Rome had been in India for his annual holidays. He arrived at Cochin on 4th June and returned to Rome on 3rd July 2009.

### Canonical Visitation



Bro. Augustine at Deshgaon with villagers during Canonical Visitation

Provincial Canonical Visitation by Provincial Bro. Augustine Polaprayil was conducted from 8th May to 25th June 2009 in all the communities and

centres of the Province. The visits enabled the Provincial to hold personal talk and meeting with each of the Brothers, to share their views, opinion and suggestion for the growth and development of the Order in India and personal life. It helped the Provincial to see and experience the lifestyle of the community, and also helped to make necessary recommendations, suggestions and actions. Bro. Aloysius Mattathil, Province Bursar accompanied him to Kattappana, Velloor, Deshgaon and Poonamallee Communities.

### Arrival of Aspirants

As a result of the hard work of Vocation



Aspirants with their Master, Bro. Raphael

Promoters and advertisements in many periodicals, this year the province has got 17 candidates. From Tamil Nadu and North India we got good response though the response from Kerala was poor. We have 6 candidates from Tamil Nadu, 6 from Orissa, 2 from Chattsgarh 1 from Uttar Pradesh, 1 from Andhra Pradesh and 1 from Kerala. This year the Province conducted vocation promotion campaigns very effectively in the states of Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh etc. The new academic year for the Aspirants started on 3rd July 2009 as per the new formation curriculum of the Province.

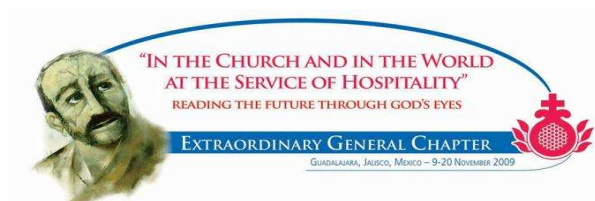
After successful completion of one-year Diploma Course in Psychology, Religious Sociology and Formative Spirituality at Siddhi Vihara, Mysore, Bro. Raphael Swamydoss

joined the Poonamallee community as the new Master of Aspirants. Bro. Chinnapparaj, who is doing B.Th in the Sacred Heart Seminary was the Master during the past year.



### Extra-Ordinary General Chapter, Mexico

LXVII Extraordinary General Chapter of the



Hospitaller Order of John of God will be held at Guadalajara in Mexico from 9th to 21st November 2009. The theme for the Chapter is "In the Church and in the World at the Service of Hospitality" Preparations for the Chapter is progressing at the General Curia, in the Mexican Province and also in all the Provinces. The main agenda of this Extraordinary General Chapter is the revision of the Order's General Statutes. Election of Vocals to the Chapter from all the Provinces is over in all the Provinces. 76 Brothers from the Provinces of the Order and General Curia attend the Chapter. There will also be chapter secretaries (3), moderator, Canon Law expert and interpreters in different languages.



Venue of General Chapter at Guadalajara in Mexico

Provincial Bro. Augustine Polaprayil, Bro. Yanka Sharma (1st Vocal) and Bro. Chinnapparaj (2nd Vocal) will be attending the Chapter from the Indian Province. Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel who is in Rome, will participate in the Chapter in his capacity as 3rd General Councillor.

### The Beginning of the Celebration Beatificatin of Eustachius Kugler

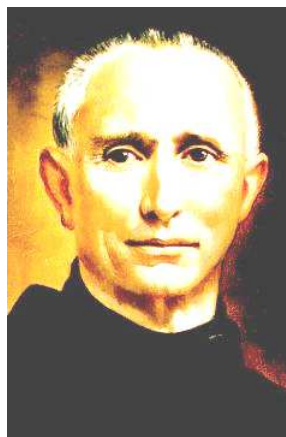


Preparations for the Beatification ceremony of Bro. Eustachius Kugler which will be held on 4th October 2009 is progressing in the Bavarian Province and in the General Curia. The ceremony will be presided over by the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, H.E. Angelo Cardinal Amato, as the representative of the Holy Father.



Some 1000 guests and co-workers of the Brothers of St John of God of the Bavarian Province went on a pilgrimage to Neuhaus, the birthplace of Bro. Eustachius Kugler, on 11 July this year, to prepare themselves

together for his Beatification. Representatives of the participating Centres belonging to the Bavarian Province were given five highly significant symbols of the life of Bro. Eustachius: the man of prayer, the Christian man, the disabled man, the man at the service of others, and the artisan. The Brothers, Co-workers and Guests will study the symbols in greater depth between now and the date of the Beatification and will submit the results of their reflections on the eve of his Beatification, on Saturday 3 October, in Regensburg. St. John of God Sisters from India who are working at Neuburg and Falkenstein participated in the pilgrimage.



Provincial Bro. Augustine Polaprayil, Bro. Stephen Chirayath and Sr. Dr. Mercylit SH who are representing the St. Thomas Province, India and Sr. Anice Kochamkunnel, Sr. Merly and Sr. Flowerlet representing the Sisters of Charity of St. John of God, will

be attending the Beatification ceremonies on 4th October.

### Profession of Bro. Siby Kalluvettathu



Bro. Siby Sebastian Kalluvettathu made his Simple Profession on 8th March 2009 at Velloor. He made his profession into the hands of Provincial Bro. Augustine Polaprayil in the presence of Bro. Brian

O'Donnell, Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel and Brothers & Sisters at Velloor. On 14th April he left for Rome for spirituality studies. He is staying in the General Curia at Nocetta, Rome. At present he is doing Italian language studies in preparation for his professional studies.





## Meeting on Pastoral Care & Bio-ethics



A meeting of the Pastoral Care and Bio-ethics committee was held at Velloor on 9th March and at Kattappana on 11th March under the leadership of Bro. Brian O'Donnell, Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel and Bro. Augustine Polaprayil. They have suggested to form a committee for Pastoral Care & Bio-ethics in each centre and give more attention to the related issues. Brothers and co-workers responsible for Pastoral Care & Bio-ethics in the centres attended the meetings at the respective centres.

## Mid-Term Assembly



Mid-Term Conference of the St. Thomas Province India was held on 13th and 14th March 2009 at Poonamallee. 22 Brothers participated in the Conference. Bro. Brian O'Donnell was the Facilitator. Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel represented the General Curia. Rev. Fr. Mathew Vallippalam OFM Cap. participated in the meeting as an observer.



The Theme of the Conference was '*Moving Together in Hospitality*'. Bro. Augustine Polaprayil welcomed all the members to the conference which was inaugurated by Bro. Brian O'Donnell. After the inauguration he gave a PowerPoint presentation on the theme. Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel delivered presidential address. Primary focus of the Conference was a

review of the programme contained in the declarations of the 2007 Provincial Chapter and planning for the future of the Province. On the second day, 14th March, 8 co-workers - representatives of Sisters and co-workers from all the centres also attended the Conference. Bro. Brian O'Donnell prepared the final statement and conclusions of the conference.

## New Community of Mercedarie Sisters



Mercedarie Sisters who have their Generalate in Spain have started a new community at Vallakkadavu near Kattappana. Three Sisters arrived at Kattappana on 19th May 2008 and they are working at our centre. They were searching to buy some land, and finally bought a plot of land with a well constructed house at Vallakkadavu. Blessing of the house was done on 9th July by Rev. Fr. Antony Kochamkal, Vicar, St. Antony's Church Vallakkadavu. The Indian Province has a close association with the Mercedarie Sisters. They have sponsored the Province's tsunami rehabilitation project and housing projects in various centres.

## Transfer of Bro. Morly and Bro. Saji



Bro. Morly Joseph and Bro. Saji Mullankuzhiyil have been transferred from Wien to Linz community in Austria, by the

Austrian Provincial, Bro. Ulrich Fischer with effect from 2nd April 2009. They work in the hospital in Linz. Among the three Brothers from India who were in Wien Bro. Johnson remains there.



## Formation Studies of Bro. Salim Lakra



Bro. Salim Lakra, who completed Diploma course in General Nursing in Bangalore this year has joined for a one-year Diploma Course in Psychology, Religious Sociology and Formative Spirituality at Siddhi Vihara, Mysore. The course commenced in June and will end in March 2010.

## Annual Retreat 2009

Annual retreat for all the members of the Province will be conducted in two batches. The first batch will held from 24 to 29 August at Kattappana and the second batch from 7 to 12 September at Poonamallee. Rev. Fr. Antony Ettunkal OSA will guide the retreats.

## Arrival of Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel

Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel, General Councillor in Rome, is coming for annual holidays on 31st July. He will be in the Province for one month and participate in APIPC meeting. He will return to Rome on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.



## Feastdays

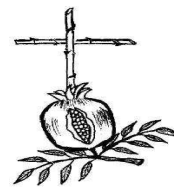
August	
1	Bro. Alphonse M.Höring (Frankfurt)
15	<b>Assumption of our Bl. Virgin Mary</b>
21	Bro. Pius Manithottiyil Bro. Piuskutty Kochuparampil Bro. Pious Vattothukunnel
23	Sr. Rosy Joseph (Sister General)
28	Bro. Augustine Polaprayil
September	
21	Bro. Jobino Kochodackal
27	Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel
29	Bro. Raphael Swamydoss Bro. Michael Mockenhaupt (Püttlingen)
30	Bro. Sudhir Kujur
October	
4	Bro. Francis Mannaparampil
9	Bro. Johnny George Pullanthithundathil
22	Bro. Donatus Forkan (Prior General)

## Centers of the Province

<b>Poonamallee, Chennai</b>	St. Thomas Provincial House St. Thomas Community of John of God Postulantate & Aspirantate St. Thomas Home for the Aged St. John of God Dispensary
<b>Kattappana</b>	St. John of God Community St. John's Hospital 'Pratheeksha Bhavan' St. John's College of Nursing St. John's School of Nursing
<b>Deshgaon, Khandwa</b>	St. Richard Pampuri Community St. John's Health Centre
<b>Velloor, Kottayam</b>	Community of Mary Health of the Sick St. John of God Centre (School and Home for the Differently Aabled) St. John of God Vocational Training Centre
<b>Trichy</b>	Holy Family Community of St. John of God Novitiate 'Santhi Nilayam' (Care & Support Centre for Terminally Ill)
<b>Bangalore</b>	St. John of God Community
<b>Vellervally</b>	St. John of God Community

## APIPC Meeting

Annual Statutory Meeting of APIPC will be held on 1st and 2nd September 2009 at Poonamallee, Chennai.



Representatives from the member countries in the Asia-Pacific Region will take part in the meeting. Bro. Vincent Kochamkunnel, General Councillor will represent the General Curia.

## New Telephone Numbers



New direct landline number of Provincial, Bro. Augustine Polaprayil at Poonamallee:  
**0091-44-26496124.**

New landline number of Novitiate House at Fathima Nagar in Trichy:  
**0091-431-2906071**



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