



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

LA SALETTE MATHA PROVINCE

VOL XV, NO.01

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Dear fathers and brothers,

2023 ended with the news of two deaths. The first one is Mr. Chacko, the beloved dad of Fr. Jolly Ayyamkolil MS, a person who was lucky enough to live 98 years. The second is Fr. Suwarna Raju, Ofm Capuchin, the brother of Fr. Benjamin Arugolanu MS. Of these, the first funeral was generally peaceful, while the second was more tearful. The reason for this is obvious: Fr. Suwarna Raju was only 56, whose demise was unexpectedly at an early age. He had jaundice, malaria, and pneumonia, which eventually took away his life on earth. You may think, why do I write about death in the first note of the new year? Every death tells us that nothing is permanent in this world. I remember burning the 2023 calendar before writing this. Calendars, which had been a guide for an entire year, had to be moved from the desk and from the wall. But the departure of the calendar was after fulfilling its responsibility. It was serving us with the correct dates, days, events, and holidays of the year 2023. This teaches us a lesson: no matter how dynamic life may be, it has an end. No matter how long a sentence is, it ends with a full stop. And however fiery the sun may be, it has to journey to the west. Since there is an end, it is worth meditating on how we live our lives on earth.

To lead a meaningful life, as a religious, a four-level responsibility is worth pondering. The first one is loyalty and fidelity to oneself. This is where personal holiness and faithfulness should be tested by each one. One must be faithful. We have to take care of our body, mind, and soul. The second is our responsibility to our congregation or religious community. In our commitment, we can either be zealous and enthusiastic or be lazy and sluggish. The third one is our relationship with God. This is where the thought that I am a priest, a religious, a seminarian, etc., should lead us. When loyalty to God is compromised, our lives become aimless. The last one is our responsibility to society. People around us are always watchful. They closely observe and judge our actions. They can easily identify real and fake.

Before the completion of this reflection, let me write a note on Sneha-Sangam which was a fascinating gathering in the last days of 2023. The days when all the brothers in formation and formators gathered together were very enjoyable. It was really life-giving and encouraging. Special thanks to everyone who worked behind it, especially the coordinators and members of the Nikethan community.

As we continue our journey, let us try to live our short lives as responsible religious. It is only when we treat our religious calling as precious that our lives become meaningful. May this year bring us closer to Jesus as committed La Salettes. May you all enjoy good health, and may your days be joyful and graceful.

Wishing you a happy 2024

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





LA SALETTE SADHAN, BENGALURU

Advent: We welcomed the season of advent by setting a beautiful advent candle for the Holy Mass of First Sunday of Advent. Rev. Fr. Jenson Chenthrappinny MS presided over the Holy Mass and Fr. Mathew Manjaly lit the first candle.

Preparation for Christmas: We decorated the compound with lights and set up a lovely crib in preparation for Christmas Eve. We also began praying for our Christmas crinkles after choosing them and planned an hour of adoration and confession for the laity as an immediate preparation for the Christmas.

Christmas Carols: We were so glad to welcome the Christmas carols from different communities and parishes, and we shared with them the joy of Christmas by distributing cakes.

Exams: First year philosophy brothers had their semester exams from 8th December to 22nd.

Vacation: Second and third year philosophy brothers had their Christmas vacation days.

Christmas Eve: We had the Vigil Mass celebrated by Fr. Jesbin Pulavelil MS and followed by the distribution of cakes to all who joined us for the celebration.

Snehasangamam: We participated in the great event of Snehasangamam 2023 and performed an Eye-opening programme, representing the Sadhan community.

Visitors: We were glad to have the presence of Frs. Kuriakose, Tinto, Benjamin, Anson, and Fathers and Sisters from the neighbouring Communities.

Feasts of the Month: We solemnly celebrated the feasts of Immaculate Conception of Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Francis Xavier, St. John of the Cross, St. John the Apostle, St. Stephen and the Feast of the Holy Innocents

Last Day of 2023: On December 31st, Sadhan community had solemn adoration to thank God for all the graces and to pray for a prosperous year to come.



LA SALETTE, UMMANNOOR, PUNALUR

Christmas Preparations: A retreat and 7 days of Carol were organised in both parishes in the advent season. Christmas evening was blessed with sacred liturgy and various cultural programmes.

Renovation Works: Electrical maintenance in advanced manner and roof works were done in Ummannoor St. Mark's Church.

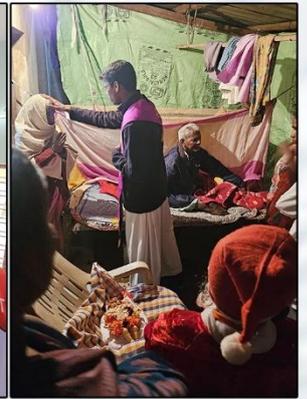


LA SALETTE MISSION, NUTHANKAL, KHAMMAM

Prayer: Service: We had one day fasting prayer service and Novena to Our Lady of La Salette.

Visit and Mission Experience: Fr. Jince and Fr. Robin visited the mission at Khammam together with the postulants Nibin and Nirmal. Postulants extended their valuable service in the mission.

Christmas Celebration: We had Christmas Carol and a colourful celebration of Christmas in the parish and in every village.



LA SALETTE MARIA BHAVAN, CHEMPERI

Birthday Celebration: The community celebrated the Birthday of Fr. Jino Chackiath MS on 17th of December.

Christmas Greetings: the community joyfully celebrated the joy of Christmas.





LA SALETTE SCHOLASTICS, NAGPUR

Farewell to Deacons: Our Deacons successfully completed their Theology studies and departed to their dioceses and congregations. Seminary gave them a memorable farewell and thanked them for their contributions to the seminary.

Rector's Birthday: We celebrated the Birthday of Fr. Aquin Norohna OP, the Rector, with immense joy and happiness. We conducted a cricket match and the Rector's team won the match

Bethlehem Memories: Seminary conducted a carol singing competition. Number of parishes, schools and seminaries participated, and it was very successful.

City Carol: Proclaiming the birth of Jesus and sharing the joy of Christmas we conducted a carol around the city.



Christmas Joy: We had a beautiful celebration of Christmas. We began our celebration with the Vigil Mass. Second year Philosophers made a beautiful crib in front of the seminary. We had cake cutting, sharing the joy of Christmas after the Mass, and laying hands over the people to pray for them.

Snehasangamam: We joyfully participated snehasangamam 2023. It was beautiful time of coming together and celebrate the spirit and joy of La Salette. It was an occasion for each one of us to come to know our younger brothers and be with our La Salette community.

Year Ending Program: Seminary conducted year ending program with lot of batch competitions like singing, reels making, spot dance, etc. Second years philosophers became the champions of the





LA SALETTE BHAVAN, PARAKKADAVU

Laity Gathering: La Salette Laity of Parakkadavu organised a wonderful Christmas celebration with sharing of cake, carol singing, etc.

Happy Birthday: Community joyfully celebrated the Birthday of Fr. Bibin, the Asst. Rector.

Memorial Mass: We had a special memorial Mass for Fr. Joseph Punnakkunnel MS along with him family members on 8th of December. Rev. Fr. Jenson Chenthroppinny MS, the Provincial Superior presided over for the Mass, Fr. Mathew Manjaly MS shared his memories with Fr. Joseph, prayers were offered at cemetery, and a meal was served.

Exam Days: Seminarians successfully completed the Christmas term exams and were in vacation for the Christmas after the Christmas gathering.

Christmas Party: Bhavan and Sneha Bhavan community made the community Christmas party on 16th of December. We shared our joys and exchanged gifts. Special thanks to Fr. Augustine Cheerakathil MS for sponsoring gifts to our

seminarians.

Snehasangamam: All the seminarians and Fr. Johnny joined for the Snehasangamam at Niketan, Mysore.

Maintenance: Mrs. Sheeba Andrews came over here from Bombay to Paint our La Salette Statue. Statue of Our Blessed Mother looks so beautiful now.

We installed 9 new windows to our study hall and refectory and painted the both halls.





LA SALETTE ASHRAM, WAYANAD

Cluster Meeting: Mysore-Wayanad-Chemperi cluster meeting was held at Ashram on 2nd December. A detailed discussion was conducted on shifting of Novitiate formation and the members actively participated in it. A detailed report was sent to the administration.

Warm Welcome: Ashram community welcomed Fr. Sijo Thekkekkunnel.

Memorial Mass: A memorial mass was celebrated on the First Death Anniversary of Fr. Joseph Punnakunnel.

Students Retreat: Students retreat was organised by the vocation promotion team.

Retreat: A three days retreat was held at Ashram from 15 to 17th Dec. Thanks to Fr. Kuriakose for joining the team.

Laity Gathering: Christmas gathering of the Laity was conducted on 17th afternoon. Fr. Kuriakose guided the group with a Christmas message.

Charismatic Group Gathering: Zonal meeting and prayer day was held for the members of the Charismatic group on 22nd December.



ST. JOSEPH'S RCM CHURCH, THORREDU, AP

Carol Singing in the Villages: We had Carol singing & House blessing for all the families in our parish & 6 villages from 9- 21 of December.

Christmas Lightings & Crib: This year too, our parish youth have put up a very nice crib, rotating star and decorative lights.

Christmas Celebrations: La Salette Missionaries along with Parish community had a wonderful Christmas celebration. After the Christmas Mass, we had cake cutting which was followed by cultural programs and distribution of gifts. We had Christmas celebrations in our 6 sub-stations from 25th to 30th of December.

Thanksgiving Day: On 31st of December, together with the Parishioners, we offered a thanksgiving Adoration and Holy Mass.

LA SALETTE NILAYAM, THORREDU, AP



Visit of Postulant: Postulant Bro. Akhil visited us during Christmas and indeed his service helped us a lot in community, school, and parish especially in making the Crib & Carols.

Birthday Celebration: The Nilayam community celebrated the Birthday of Fr. Robin. The Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Robin and Fr. Anson shared a short message. All the fathers and sisters wished and prayed for him.

JANUARY 2024

06	1978	Birthday	Muttathil Joby
10	1969	Birthday	Thadathilkunnel Benny
10	2009	Ordination	Thekkekunnel Sijo
11	1976	Birthday	Manjaly Jose
14	1992	Birthday	Palakkal Lithin
14	2013	Ordination	Kochuthazath Anil
	2015	Ordination	Poovathinkal Sanish
15	2013	Ordination	Porianvelil Dileesh
	2015	Ordination	Koothodiyil Jince
16	2013	Ordination	Manchira Anoop
17	2015	Ordination	Muttathil Rijo
	2018	Ordination	Gompa Manibushana Rao
18	2017	Ordination	Edakkala Joemon
21	1963	Birthday	Valummel Alex
21	2012	Ordination	Chirayath Prince
	2017	Ordination	Anit Mavathara
22	1998	Ordination	Ayyamkolil Jolly
28	1976	Birthday	Kunnu Sibi
28	2012	Ordination	Kunnumpurath Jiss
30	2012	Ordination	Edakkara Sibi
	2014	Ordination	Vallattu Robin



FEBRUARY 2024

01	1980	Birthday	Kadambattuparambil Joby
02	1975	Birthday	Chempottickal Biju
04	1965	Birthday	Vadakkan Johnny
04	2010	Ordination	Valiyakandathil Jiju



LA SALETTE VIDYA NILAYAM, THORREDU, AP

New Calendar: We distributed calendar of 2024 to all the students and staffs.

Karate Championship: Our students participated in in a Karate championship and made us proud by bagging a gold medal and two silver medals.

Greetings: The school staff along with children joyfully celebrated the Birthday of Fr. Robin MS. The students expressed their love by songs, speech and dances.



Christmas Competitions: On behalf of Christmas celebration various competitions were conducted for teachers and students like: poster making, star making which illustrated many virtues, and carol singing. Every one participated enthusiastically in the competitions and bagged prizes.

Christmas Time: On 23rd our school celebrated Christmas with cultural programs and followed by gift exchange and agape. Fr. Angel Ravindra, the Parish Priest of Alcotgarden, addressed the gathering and gave a beautiful message on Christmas. Towards the end of the programs we distributed gift to the students who are class toppers.





LA SALETTE NIKETHAN, HUNSUR, MYSORE

Cluster Meeting: Nikethan community attended cluster meeting at Wayanad Ashram House.

Parish Feast: Fathers and brothers attended the parish feast and shred our joy with them.

First Death Anniversary of Fr. Joseph Punnakunnel: We had one-hour special prayer service in the community on the First Death

Anniversary of Fr. Joseph Punnakunnel.



Community Christmas Celebration: We celebrated our community Christmas party on the Christmas Eve with Christmas programmes and exchange of gifts. Brothers made beautiful Christmas crib and a big Christmas tree.

Counselling Programme: Brothers had two days of fruitful special counselling section which made great positive impact on their life.

Birthday Celebration: We celebrated the Birthday of Sr. Sangeetha and Bro. Jerin.

Monthly Recollection: Brothers had monthly recollection and confession led by Fr. Benjamine.

Visitors: The community enjoyed the presence of Frs. Jenson, Anoop Manchirayil, Johny, Anson, Lithin, George, and Jeneesh Mundithottiyil.





LA SALETTE VIDYA NIKETHAN, HUNSUR, MYOSRE



Birthday Celebration: La Salette Vidya Nikethan celebrated the birthday of Sr. Anopa, our headmistress on 2nd of December very joyfully. The day was coloured with stage programmes and greetings of our students and teachers. Payasaam was served to all students and staff on her birthday.

Christmas Competitions: La Salette Vidya Nikethan arranged various Christmas competitions for our students and staff like Christmas tree, Christmas card designing, Christmas articles, Christmas star, Christmas message, Christmas wreath etc. Many students and teachers participated in these competitions and those who have performed well awarded with prizes.



Students Exposure to Old Age Home: Our tenth class students and the management visited an old age home at Dornahalli on 15th of December. The students had an interaction with the inmates and donated some food items and toiletries. Students realized the need of taking care of their parents in their old age.

Fun Fair: La Salette Vidya Nikethan organized one-day fete for the educational purpose of our students who are poor in our school. All the students and teachers cooperated very well for this Endeavour. Various games and food items were the main icons of this fete.





Industrial Visit: Our PUC commerce students made one-day industrial visit to Mysore as part of their academic studies.

Visit from KRCE: Fr. Francis Almeida, the Secretary of KRCE (Karnataka Regional Commission for Education) visited our school and enquired about the difficulties of running schools in rural area. Fr. Almeida expressed himself that at any time he is ever ready to help out us in any difficult times.

Coin Exhibition: La Salette Vidya Nikethan School organized one day coin exhibition for all the students and staff in our school auditorium.

FA3 EXAM: Our students had their third formative assessment from 20th December to 22nd December.

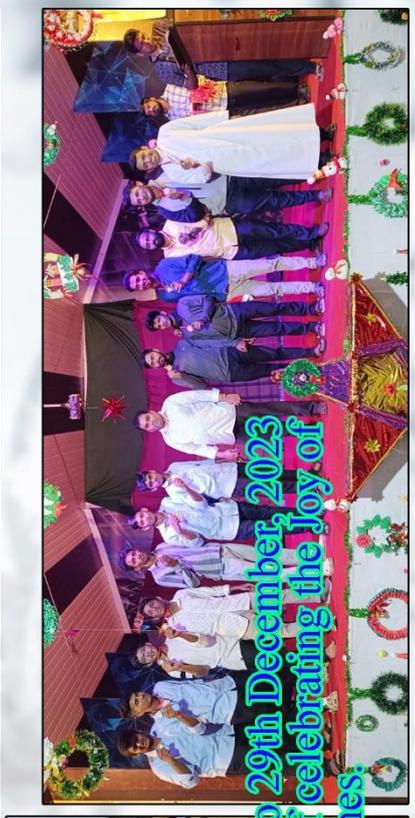


Cake Exhibition: La Salette Vidya Nikethan organized cake exhibition for the staff and students. The teachers and students prepared and arranged cakes in such a way that get the prize. Twenty-five cakes were there for the display.

Christmas Programme: On 23rd of December we celebrated Christmas in La Salette Vidya Niekthan. We had blessing of the crib and placing infant Jesus in the crib during the assembly and after that we had three hours of Christmas programmes in the auditorium. Christmas cakes and snacks were distributed to all the students and staff members. After the programmes all the teaching and non-teaching staff had their exchange of their Christmas gifts. All the students had their class wise Christmas celebration in the afternoon.



Snehasangamam 2023



Snehasangamam 2023 was held from 27th December to 29th December, 2023 at La Salette Nikethan, Htusur. It was indeed a time of celebrating the Joy of being La Salette for our younger ones.

