



Volume 7, Issue 01

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Off to a good start

Dear Sisters and Brothers,



Greetings from Bangalore! I trust that this will find everyone doing well.

As we are about to bid farewell to the first month of 2020, I look back over the last few weeks and I want to say that we are *off to a very good start*.

At the beginning of the year, we had Fr. Martin Coffey, C.P., our Executive Secretary for formation, visiting us for two very important gatherings. One was a meeting with all our formees and formators. From what has been shared with me by our students as well as the formators, it seems that it was a good experience for both.

The formation meeting gave way to five days of quiet and prayer. Fr. Martin guided us through those days by sharing his own experience of being a Passionist with its ups and downs, lights and shadows, and struggles and fulfilment. By calling us to an experience of *interiority*, he invited us to get to know the person of Jesus more closely as a friend would do. Because, Jesus was a man with an extraordinary capacity for friendship. He had the extraordinary inner freedom to love and to be loved, especially by those whom society looked down upon.

Interiority

Be still and know that I am God

Be still and know that I am

Be still and know

Be still

Be

This has a far-reaching implication for our formation, both initial and on-going. Because in the end, formation means formation of the heart...to have the sentiments of the Son...*"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God..."* (Phil. 2:5). Ultimately, this kenosis leads one to the inevitability of the Cross. Therefore, to know who God is for us and what God's love means for us, we need to gaze at the Cross of Christ. There in one glance, Fr. Martin says, we see the Crucified Christ and the crucifieds of today! All this requires a nurturing and cultivation of interiority where it is more important *to be than doing!*

A few days after the retreat we had the fraternal visit of Fr. Joachim, our Superior General. Although the main purpose of his visit was to bless our newly constructed monastery in Kochi, he allowed himself the time to visit our mission parish in Randham-Korattur, the parish at Palliport as well as the Passionist Sisters located in Kochi. As always, his presence among us those few days was very encouraging and enriching for all of us. His gracious and inspiring words on the day of the blessing were a reminder about who we are and what we are about as Passionists in India and elsewhere. He reminded us that the new monastery should be a place of prayer, fraternity and hospitality.

As we continue through this new year and the beginning of this new decade, let us focus ourselves on cultivating the much-needed interiority required for a life of prayer, fraternity and hospitality.

Fraternally,

Paul Cherukoduth, C.P.
Vice Provincial

UPDATES

FEBRUARY

Birthdays

Fr. Sebastian KX 21

Ordination

Fr. George 10

Fr. Siby 14

Fr. Antony X 19

Fr. Sony 25

Feast

Commemoration of the Passion 21

Ash Wednesday 26

St. Gabriel Possenti 27

THOM Vice-Province, INDIA Welcomes Fr. General



New Community Residence, Ashram JXP at Kochi was blessed and inaugurated by Fr. Joachim Rego CP



ASHRAM J.X.P.
PASSIONIST COMMUNITY RESIDENCE
BLESSSED BY
Most Rev. Fr. JOACHIM REGO, C.P.
SUPERIOR GENERAL
ON 19th JANUARY 2020
FOUNDATION STONE BLESSSED BY
V. Rev. Fr. PAUL CHERIKKOOTTIL, C.P.
VICE PROVINCIAL
ON 24 APRIL 2016



Fr. General visited Passionist Sisters at Kochi (Above) and warmly welcomed by members of Passionist Lay Movement at Palliport (Below)



Fr. General's exhortation to Minor seminary students at Kochi (Right above)

Randham Mission and its substations fondly welcomes Fr. General, Foundation stone of the proposed new Church was blessed





Vice Province Retreat preached by Fr. Martin Coffey CP



Fr. Martin Coffey CP, the Executive Secretary for Formation met the Formators and the Students of Theology



Pongal celebrations at Jeevadhama (above) and Randham– St. Gemma School (below)

Pongal celebrations by students of Minor Seminary at Kochi



Randham community participated in the Vocation Promotion Expo in Diocese of Vellore



St. Gemma School conducted Exhibition (above) and celebrated Republic day and Sports Day (below)





Congratulations to Fr. Xavier USA on Silver Jubilee of his Ordination & safe journey to Fr. Vimal as he is commissioned for ministry in Holy Cross Province (left below).



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Verba volant, scripta manent!**