



Volume 7 Issue 9

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Dialogue of Life

Dear Sisters and Brothers,
Greetings ! Trust all of you are in good health and spirits!



As I write these few lines, I have just returned from our mission in Randham-Korattur where I had the joy of participating in a triple celebration. Firstly, on the 26th of September the parish community in Randham celebrated the 42nd annual feast of Our Lady of Velankanny, the patroness of the parish, secondly, there was the opening of the silver jubilee of the parish and of the presence of the Passionist community in Randham and, thirdly we had the foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of a new church.

During the few days of my stay in Randham, I had the occasion to witness a beautiful incident typical of the true spirit of India, that of **acceptance, appreciation, and celebration of diversity**. As I was chatting with some of the confreres on the proposed location for the new church where the site engineer and his crew were marking the ground for the excavation work, Fr. Nambikai drew my attention to two middle-aged men who had come to the spot. Fr. Nambi told me that they were two Hindu brothers from our parish who had come to offer their voluntary labour for digging the ground for the foundation stone laying ceremony the following day. They were the first ones to be on the spot long before our own parishners who also turned up to extend their help in digging. What an example of true religious harmony!



India has a history of long-standing tolerance and peace, positive accommodation, and happy interaction for centuries. However, for quite some time now this rich and precious heritage of our country is under threat from the who is who of the current political dispensation bend on dividing the people based on religion. The ideology of cultural nationalism of one language, one religion and one nation is threatening the pluralistic fabric of India, guaranteed by the Constitution of India. In this context it is important to remind ourselves as often as possible that to be an Indian means to be interreligious and to be a religious means to be interreligious. **To be interreligious means to be in dialogue**; not simply at the level of intellectual or doctrinal level but at the level of life. Something like what I witnessed in Randham. **Dialogue of life** is the forward!

Faced with much tension and disharmony, violence and discrimination prevailing in the country, as Passionists, called to contemplate the One who died to restore peace and harmony, we have a mission in the area of peace and reconciliation. And, before all else, it begins with the simple **dialogue of life**! Something simple to practice in our areas of ministry.

Stay safe and stay blessed!

Paul Cherukoduth, C.P.
Vice Provincial

UPDATES

OCTOBER

Birthdays

Siby	03
Dennis	03
Rajan	03
Binu	07
Mahendra	10
Sony	14
Abiyouth	18

Feast Days

BL. Isidore de Loor	06
St. Innocent Canoura	09
St. Paul of the Cross	19

Foundation stone was Laid by Fr. Paul

Its Silver Jubilee for Randham Mission: Image of the proposed Jubilee Church (Right)



Ground breaking ceremony inaugurated by Fr. Paul joined the villagers (below)





To mark the year of Jubilee Fr. Paul lighted the Jubilee Candle and hoisted the Jubilee Flag (Left)

Fr. Xavier USA, one of the pioneers of Randham Mission planted the Jubilee tree (Right)



The feast was sponsored by St. Gabriel's Youth of Randham



Flag hoisting for the feast (Right) & Faithful made Pongal (thanksgiving) to thank God for having given good harvest





Remembering Fr. Xavier VT CP on the 6th Month: Kochi Community paid their visit to the tomb and offered prayers. (Left & Above)

St. Antony's Chapel, a substation of Palliport parish was renovated with the help of the faithful and opened for worship. (Below)



Dcn. Antony Thomas joined the Shrine of St. Teresa of Avila, Mahe for his Deaconate ministry.





Welcome back Fr. Binu, who returned from Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Health, Velankanni after two years of ministry. He joined Jeevadhama community as Administrator and to pursue his MTh studies at Kristu Jyothi College. Bangalore. (Above)



Fr. Shaji joined for ministry St. Antony's Parish at Kattur in the Diocese of Trichy. (Above) &

Fr. Antony John joined for ministry at the Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Health, Velankanni for the English speaking pilgrims. (Right)



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Verba volant, scripta manent!