

# THUCKALAY TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOL. 2 | ISSUE 9  
DIOCESE OF THUCKALAY



**MAR GEORGE RAJENDRAN SDB**  
**Selfless Love for His Sheep**



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### THUCKALAY TIDINGS

September 2022 | Vol. 2 | Issue 9

A Monthly online newsletter of Diocese of Thuckalay

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**DIOCESE OF THUCKALAY**  
BISHOP'S HOUSE  
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Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu – 629 175



# Message

Dear and Loving Friends in Jesus Christ,

**I thank you, Yahweh, with my whole heart,  
I recount all your wonders,  
I rejoice and delight in you,**

**I sing to your name, Most High. Psalm 9:1-2**

I thank and praise our Lord Almighty for the blessings and graces that I have received in the last 10 years of my episcopacy and ministry in the Diocese of Thuckalay. My motto has been – **With God All Things are Possible** – and God has been very benevolent to me since my calling to Catholic Faith, the gift of priestly vocation with the Salesians of Don Bosco and choosing me to lead the Diocese of Thuckalay.

I admire and appreciate the great foundation laid by the missionaries from the Archdiocese of Changanacherry through its Kanyakumari Mission and later the consolidation of faith carried out under the leadership of the first bishop of the Diocese, who is the present Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Church, His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry. Their visionary base has given me the strength and courage to take forward the mission of the Diocese of Thuckalay.

I gratefully acknowledge that the priests and religious serving in the Diocese have been walking with me in the fulfillment of my mission as the second Bishop of the Diocese. Every encounter has taught me lessons to be faithful to the mission. I have learnt a lot from their love for the Church and the people and I continue to learn from their life and works. All of them have effectively shared the mission of the Diocese with dedicated service.

I have high regard for the faithful of the Diocese, who have impressed me with their basic faith practices as Catholic communities in different parishes, mission centres, *Uraviyams* and families and of course in their personal devotion and expressions of love of God. I have a lot to learn from the simple faith that our ordinary faithful

profess. I have been touched by the way our social workers have been contributing with greatest love for the suffering humanity.

I joyfully recollect and thank God for using me as an instrument in His mission to motivate others to contribute for the causes of the Church and the Diocese. Through His Grace, the Diocese of Thuckalay has been gifted with additional jurisdiction of all the southern districts of Tamilnadu in 2017 and we are grateful to the Bishops of the Syro-Malabar Church for supporting us with missionaries to take the mission forward and reach out to the needy in some of the remotest places in the extended territory; we have accorded top priority to our extended territory.

I am grateful to all the friends of the Diocese of Thuckalay, benefactors, institutions, and organizations for individual and collective assistance and sponsorships that have contributed for the causes we stand for. Your prayerful and financial assistance have kept us active in our selfless service.

I implore everyone of you within and outside the Diocese to continue your selfless assistance in carrying forward the mission that have been entrusted to us by Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Diocese of Thuckalay. Your support has been immense and is highly appreciated by me.

May God constantly shower His abundant blessings upon every one of you.



+ **George Rajendran sdb**  
*Bishop of Thuckalay*

## Vianney Day Celebration

The feast of St Maria John Vianney, patron of all the priests, especially the Diocesan priests, was observed in the Diocese in a meaningful way. As in other years, all the priests gathered at St. Mary's Minor Seminary, Mukootukal on 04 August 2022 where our Minor seminarians are being formed for the first four years. The programme began with an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which was conducted by the Regency brothers. This was followed by a volley ball match between the priests and the seminarians. Although both teams played the match well, the Seminarians overcame the stiff challenge and won the trophy. There was a cultural programme in which the seminarians displayed their talents. It was indeed a day for all Diocesan priests to gather and celebrate the life of St Maria John Vianney and rededicate ourselves as priests for the Church.





## Angels' Meet at Thenkasi Mission

A meeting of the children, who had received First Holy Communion within the last five years in Thenkasi mission was held on 14 August 2022 at St. Mary's Church, Vanchinagar. There were 21 angels participated in the meeting. The event started with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist presided by

His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb. A large number of faithful from different parishes of Thenkasi mission participated in the Holy Eucharist. This was followed by a brief gathering where a mementos and certificates were given to the children.





## FCC Convent Blessing at Virudhunagar

Franciscan Clarist Congregation (FCC) Sisters of Idukki Province started a community in a rented house at O Kovilpatti in the district of Virudhunagar on 10 August 2022 to begin their Ad Gentes mission and Evangelisation ministry. In the presence of Rev. Sr Suguna FCC, Provincial Superior of Idukki Province, Curia members and Reverend Fathers and Sisters from the extended mission territories, His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb celebrated the Holy Eucharist and blessed the chapel and the house. This was followed by a public meeting where the political leaders of the village were also present. They appreciated the efforts of the missionaries in reaching out to the poor people in and around O Kovilpatti.





## Golden Jubilee Celebrations of St. Paul's Church Thettiyode

St. Paul's Church, Thettiyode, established on 15 August 1972 commenced its one-year Jubilee celebrations on 13 September 2021. For the last one year, the whole community sang the jubilee song requesting God's special blessings to His faithful. The renovated Altar and the interior were blessed on 29 May 2022. The popular mission retreat guided by Vincentian Fathers from Trichy was conducted from 12 June to 17 June 2022. The conclusion of the Jubilee year celebrations began on 9 August 2022, and had its conclusion on 15 August 2022. On 14 August 2022, the sixth day of the feast, His Excellency Mar George Rajendran

sdb celebrated the Solemn Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist. Jubilee Concluding Meeting was held along with the Inter-Religious Meeting just after the Holy Eucharist, presided over by His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb. The event was graced by local Hindu, Muslim leaders, the elected local civil body members, Very Rev. Fr Joseph Bright, Vicar General of the Diocese of Marthandam and FCC Sanjoe Provincial Superior. A Jubilee History Album was also released on the occasion. We congratulate the priests, religious and the faithful of St. Paul's Church.





## Forane Priests' Conference

The Forane level Priests' conferences were held at three different places - **Pathukani** for Manjalumoodu - Kaliyal - Arukani, **Palappallam** for Soosaipuram - Plankalai and **Padanthalumoodu** for Nithravilai - Padanthlumoodu on 18, 19 and 20 August 2022 respectively. The conferences were held in order to evaluate the activities of various departments at the Forane levels and to suggest ways to

strengthen them. As the number of participants was small and much time was allotted, the sharing was very vibrant and many suggestions came up for the betterment of our pastoral activities and our reach out to the faithful through the departmental activities. All the meetings were organised by Forane Vicars and Very Rev. Fr Thomas Powathuparampil, Vicar General of the Diocese Thuckalay chaired them.



# TNBC: Health Commission's TOT Program at Poondi

Tamil Nadu Bishops' Conference (TNBC) Health Care Commission, headed by His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb as the Chairman, organised two days of Training of Trainers (TOT) program for all the Diocesan Health Commission Secretaries and members of 22 Catholic Dioceses of Tamilnadu at Poondi Matha Retreat Centre, Poondi on 02 & 03 August 2022. There were 104 members from all the dioceses participating in the training program. From our diocese Rev. Fr Jimmy Thekkekkadamathil, Director of Health Care

Commission along with 9 nurse sisters took part in it. The Health Care Commission has taken up the theme CARE YOUR HEART for this year. Efficient Doctor Sisters were invited to take sessions for the participants. The gathering decided that CARE YOUR HEART would be the theme for all the Diocesan level awareness programs and the health care related activities in all the Catholic Dioceses of Tamilnadu.



## NEED PRAYER SUPPORT!

The Diocese has prayer groups.

Please write the following and send SMS

 +91 94871 65903:

Name: .....

Place: .....

Intentions: .....

In detail you wish to express,

 : [bishopofthuckalay@gmail.com](mailto:bishopofthuckalay@gmail.com)



## Leadership Training Camp for the Youth

A residential Leadership Training Camp for the Syro-Malabar Youth Movement (SMYM) was conducted for three days on 19, 20, & 21 of August 2022 at Sangamam, Pastoral Centre of the Diocese under the leadership of Rev. Fr Joseph Santhosh, Director of Youth in the Diocese. The programme was managed by Rev. Fr Arul Antony sdb, Director of Vazhikaati, Salesians of Don Bosco Trichy Province. The programme aimed at forming the young animators who can help in animating the children and the young in their respective areas and be available for the Diocese as leaders. The programme began on 19 August 2022 with the inaugural ceremony. On the first day, the topics that were dealt with were - Who is a

Youth? the vocation, the social responsibility – the resource person being Rev. Fr Prabin, Director of Youth Apostolate in Diocese of Sultanpet. The second day focused on self-identity, overcoming low self-esteem and discernment in the matters of love relationship, quality for effective leadership. The concluding day's programme was animated by Rev. Fr Arul Antony sdb. He focused on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis, a self-empowerment tool. Thirty-five youth participated in the programme, out of which 15 youth were selected for the second level of training which was conducted on 31 August 2022 at Kalluvilai.





## Syro-Malabar Synod

The Synod of the Syro-Malabar Church was held from 16 August to 25 August 2022 at the Archiepiscopal Curia, Mount St. Thomas, Kakkannad. The Synod Fathers used the occasion to study the contemporary issues that affect the Church and the society and to discern God's will on these issues. The Synod has evaluated and offered support and remedies to the issues of farmers and fishermen in Kerala and steps taken by the Kerala government to convert Sundays as working days. The Synod gave its formal approval to the revised text of the Liturgy of the Hours. With regard to the crisis of the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly, the Synod offered its total

support to all the steps that the Apostolic Administrator, Archbishop Andrews Thazhath would take aiming at the good and the unity the Archdiocese. The Synod has decided to institute *Paurasthya Ratnam* award for those who make invaluable contributions in the field of the Syro-Malabar Liturgy. Archbishop Emeritus Mar Joseph Pawathil who has worked tirelessly to preserve the liturgical traditions of the Syro-Malabar Church is the first person to be honored with this award. Effective Youth Apostolate was one of the main topics of discussion in the Synod. It was assessed that the Church needs to walk with the Youth.



## Strengthening the Major Seminarians

His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb visited our Major Seminarians who are studying at Mangalapuzha, Vadavathoor and Aluva Salesian Seminaries, after the Syro-Malabar Synod. Rev. Fr Thomas Powathuparampil, Vicar General of the Diocese visited the brothers at Kunnoth Seminary and the brothers studying in Poonamallee also were visited by our fathers. It's truly a blessing for the Diocese of Thuckalay that there are 26 brothers being formed in various Major Seminaries. They were very happy with the visits and get the good counsel of the Bishop and the fathers. They gratefully remember all those who have been supporting them in strengthening of their vocation to priesthood. The entire Church has to pray for strengthening of vocation and for new vocations to priesthood and religious life for God to provide us with zealous missionaries to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord.



**You can support the missionary activities by sponsoring a Seminarian in his formation:**

Please write / mail to us for any enquiry / details. We shall contact you with all further details soliciting your generous support:

**Postal Address:**

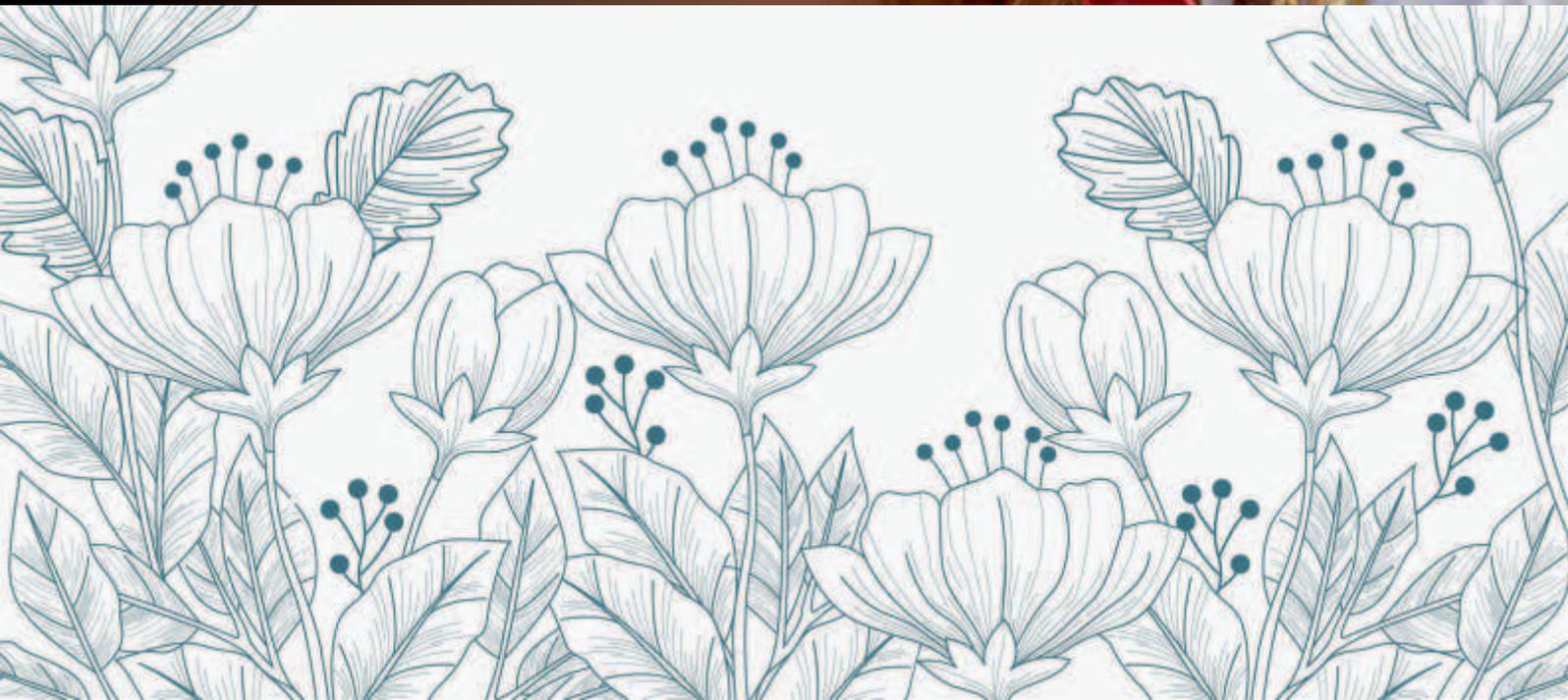
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# *Blessing* *of* **Main Entrance Door at Arukani Church**

The newly built main entrance door of Holy Family Forane Church, Arukani was blessed on 28 August 2022 by His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb. The old shutter door is replaced with a wooden door filled with carving designs and beautiful artistic works. This was followed by the Holy Eucharist and an agape meal. Rev. Fathers and Sisters from Arukani, Kaliyal and Manjalumoodu Foranes were present for the blessings. The faithful were very happy that their Church entrance is very inviting for their prayers, adoration and reflections.





## Diocese Level Cricket Tournament

Christ the King Church, Palappallam in connection with its Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in collaboration with Palappallam Youth Movement organised a Diocese Level Cricket Tournament at St Alphonsa College campus, Soosaipuram on 28 August 2022. There were 12 teams that took part in the tournament. Christ the King Church, Christurajapuram won the Trophy. Very Rev. Fr Antony, Forane Vicar of Soosaipuram graced both the inauguration and concluding programs and gave away the first prize. Rev. Fr Joseph Santhosh, Youth Director of the Diocese and other priests graced the concluding function.



## Educare: Students' Skill training Program

Kanyakumari Social Service Society (KKSSS), the social arm of the Diocese of Thuckalay organized programmes for the Educare students on 09 August 2022 and 31 August 2022 at Kalluvilai. The sessions on the empowerment of children in communication and skills of learning were conducted by Sri. Seemon, warden of Malar Nilayam Boy's Home Pilankalai. Students were very active and energetic to attend the classes. There were 40 students who participated and benefited from the Educare program. The Diocese is very much happy and grateful to the benefactors who generously contribute to the education of the poorest children in the diocese.



***You can come forward to partner the Educare Sponsorship Program of the Diocese of Thuckalay.***

**You can help a Child for Education at different levels.**

**School Education : 5 - 7 Years**

**College Education : 3 Years**

*For details contact*

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## CTWWC Village visit

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Tamil Nadu Social Service Society (TASOSS) members visited Kanyakumari Social Service Society (KKSSS) for the evaluation of the Changing the Way We Care (CTWWC) project on 24 August 2022. They were divided into three groups for visiting Methukummel, Marapady, and Thadikkarakonam. They made a creative impact on the people with

regard to their health and social well-being. After the house visits in these three villages, the team had conducted a campaign programme for the women at Mathapuram. About 60 women participated in this programme. At the end of the program there was an evaluation meeting in which all appreciated the social work carried out by the Diocese of Thuckalay through KKSSS.





## **PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL General Body Meeting**

The Fifth General Body Meeting of the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese was held on 30 August 2022 at Sangamam. All the members gathered together in order to reflect and deliberate on the agenda: Participation of the Laity in the Life and Mission of the Church. The Secretary, Rev. Fr Joshy Kulathumkal, presented the agenda and invited the members for an open discussion. The members had an open discussion expressing their view especially for the evangelical mission of the Church to be given thrust. The Council unanimously resolved to empower the existing structures in the Diocese to strengthen the laity and make them ready to carry out the works of evangelization.



## ONE DAY RETREAT for Mothers at Sinai Retreat Centre

Mathru Jyothis Iyakkam and Sinai Retreat Centre jointly organized a one day retreat for the mothers of the Diocese on 27 August 2022 at Sinai Retreat Centre, Kalluvilai. His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb inaugurated the retreat. Rev. Fr Martin Raja CPPS, St. Gasper Retreat Centre, Bangalore was the main preacher. There

were arrangements for the participants for the Sacrament of reconciliation and for counselling. The retreat concluded with the celebration of Holy Eucharist. The participants desired that such retreats are organised regularly for strengthening of their faith and to increase their resolve in the various missions of the Catholic Church.





## Popular Mission Retreat at Plankalai

The Diocese of Thuckalay during its silver Jubilee made a resolution that all the parishes must conduct retreats for the faithful. The Diocese arranged a program with the Vincentian Fathers to conduct the Popular Mission Retreat in all the parishes of our Diocese. The first sets of retreat were conducted in many of the parishes and the second sets of the retreat have begun. The Popular Mission Retreat has been going on at Little Flower Church, Pilankalai from 28 August

2022 to 02 September 2022. It was encouraged that all the parish members must participate in this spiritual renewal thus we could witness number of participants received spiritual benefits from this Retreat. They had a beautiful rally carrying the Papal Flag went around the Town. On its conclusion Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Powathuparampil, Vicar General of the Diocese participated and administered Eucharistic blessings.

## MEDICAL CAMP at Soosaipuram



Sisters of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SABS) conducted a one-day Medical Camp at Soosaipuram Parish on 14 August 2022. Number of people from the parish and the surrounding areas benefited from the medical camp. Very Rev. Fr Antony Jose, Forane Vicar of Soosaipuram inaugurated the medical camp in the presence of other Fathers from the Parish. The Medical Camp was well appreciated by the people who benefited from the camp.





## Chanbagatharisu Mission

The Diocese of Thuckalay has been one of the fast-growing mission dioceses around the world. The dedication of the priests and religious working in the vineyard of the Lord are factually remarkable. On 28 August 2022 Chanbagatharisu, one of our Mission stations celebrated its feast of St Euphrasia. His Excellency Mar George Rajendran sdb celebrated the Holy Eucharist. His Excellency

met the faithful after the Holy Eucharist and interacted with them. They expressed very freely with their Shepherd and stated that their faith gave them a hope in their suffering and moments of weakness. The Bishop expressed his joy in their sharing and urged upon them to live for the Lord our Creator and Counsellor.



## New Bishops of the Syro-Malabar Church

### Hearty Congratulations to the New Bishops



**Mar Thomas Padiyath**  
Auxiliary Bishop  
Diocese of Shamshabad



**Mar Joseph Kollamparampil**  
Auxiliary Bishop  
Diocese of Shamshabad



**Mar Alex Tharamangalam**  
Auxiliary Bishop  
Diocese of Mananthavady

*Greetings from the Diocese of Thuckalay*

## VOCATION AND MISSION

**Rev. Fr Thomas Thekkethala CMI**

**Rooted to the Mission of the Church**

The sacrament of orders is one of the seven sacraments instituted by Christ, thanks to which a special consecration is given to those who receive it, which with a particular gift of the Holy Spirit, allows them to exercise sacred power in the name and with the authority of Christ at the service of the people of God. It is Christ Himself who wished that without the priest there can be no celebration of the two essential sacraments: Eucharist and Penance. The sacramental character which distinguishes priests, by virtue of the Order received, makes their presence and their free ministry unique, necessary and irreplaceable. This issue on the Vocation and Mission Column, Tidings introduces another religious priest working in the Diocese of Thuckalay, Rev. Fr Thomas Thekkethala CMI. Currently he serves the Diocese as the Forane Vicar of Thuckalay-Pilankalai. This year marks his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of sacerdotal ordination. We congratulate him and assure him our prayers to continue his ministry bearing fruits for Jesus.

**Tidings:** Thank you very much, Fr. Thomas, for accepting our invitation to spend time for sharing your life experiences with the readers of Tidings. Let me convey in the name of all readers prayerful wishes on the silver jubilee of your sacerdotal ordination.

**Fr. Thomas:** Thank you very much for your generous heart to select even the least one for this interview. It is with great pleasure I share my life experiences with the readers of Thuckalay Tidings.



**Tidings:** Can you talk about your childhood, schooling, etc.?

**Fr. Thomas:** I was born on 15 April 1968 as the seventh child. My parents are Chacko Devasia and Mariam Devasia Thekkethalackal. My home parish is Lourdes Matha Church, Pacha Chekkidikadu. I still remember with great joy and enthusiasm about the days of my childhood especially as it was a church-oriented life. My father was the organist of the Church choir and it influenced me a lot to direct my life towards ecclesiastical functions. My mother, who was an ardent devotee to Mother Mary, induced in me a special piety to Her. I could easily develop devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and in the worship of God. Besides, my uncle Rev. Fr James Thekkethala was also a CMI priest. Our childhood life in Kuttanadu is unique. As we are surrounded by water, we all have got a good voice at least on the volume basis, in order to call others before drowning in water and it helps much in personal life to be in contact with others. During my schooling, the great inspiration were the teachers, later it helped me for the B.Ed. studies. The treasure of my school days was the deep friendship which I kept with many. Till 7th standard I studied at St. Xavier's UP School, Pacha and then went to St. Aloysius School, Edathua to continue high school studies.

**Tidings:** Thank you very much for mentioning your friendship during schooling. Now shall we talk on your vocation and formation to priesthood?

**Fr. Thomas:** My vocation to priesthood is a precious gift from God. First of all, I should thank my parents, who infused in me a particular love towards the Holy Eucharist and devotion to Mother Mary. Then my uncle's life example as a priest in the order of Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI) influenced me much to take a firm decision to offer my life for the service of the Church and for the evangelization of people. I joined in CMI congregation in 1983, after my secondary studies. I started my formation at Mannanam and it was a blessed experience for me to know more about the Catholic Church in general and CMI Congregation in particular specially to know deeply the life of St. Chavara Kuriakose Elias. After the primary formation, I was sent to Punalur for the novitiate. Those two years were precious experience; I enjoyed a special friendship with Jesus, which helped me at various moments to overcome the spiritual as well as corporal obstacles. Hours spent before the Holy Altar were not in vain but aided as a catalyst to form myself spiritually. Another important memory during the novitiate was the time of work. It



was hard yet we enjoyed together with our master. After novitiate, I was sent to Bangalore Dharmaram for the B. Ph and B. Th studies. Intellectual formation is also important for the candidates to priesthood. I completed also B. Ed studies at Mannanam college.

**Tidings:** What are some ways that we can promote and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

**Fr. Thomas:** Aside from prayer, without which there would be no vocations, in the end we are not the agents who draw men into priesthood. It is the Holy Spirit. By praying to the Holy Spirit, more will be drawn to this holy vocation. It is important for parents to let children know that this is a good way to give your life. It is a good path that is both noble and beautiful. I believe there have to be two things: a sense of God's call and Providence and the giving of oneself as a gift to God.

**Tidings:** Profession and ordination?

**Fr. Thomas:** I did my first profession on 19 March 1988, on the feast of St. Joseph. Aside from Our Lord, St. Joseph is a hero to me in many ways. I was so happy that the congregation selected the feast day of St. Joseph for the first profession. I was consecrated a priest on 27 December 1997 at St. George Forane Church, Edathua by the





imposition of hands by Mar George Alencherry, then bishop of Thuckalay. It may be the reason why later I came to this mission land of Thuckalay.

**Tidings:** What have been some of the greatest joys for you as a priest?

**Fr. Thomas:** The celebration of the Sacraments, undoubtedly, and bringing our Blessed Lord to His people. Traveling the world as a priest and seeing what graces lie around every corner for those who keep their eyes open. I enjoy my priesthood more and more everyday despite what all the difficulties and hurdles come against me. I simply display what living His life does when united in priesthood.

**Tidings:** Your services and missions?

**Fr. Thomas:** During my formation I enjoyed teaching and I wanted also to become a teacher. But my superiors asked me to go to Germany for pastoral ministry. I obeyed them and went to Germany and continued my pastoral ministry for 13 long years. It was another important time to put in practice what I learned during the novitiate period. During the leisure time, I spent more time before the Blessed Sacrament. One of the main obstacles was the difficulty with the German language but God's Providence was very high that I managed from the very beginning to

communicate with the faithful. Then I was entrusted to look after the priest home at Chethipuzha, Changanacherry. Those five years were blessed moments in my life to know and understand the life of many wise and holy priests. Later I was transferred to the land of Thuckalay as the superior and parish priest of Pilankalai Church.

**Tidings:** Finally, you reached at Thuckalay. How is your experience at Pilankalai?

**Fr. Thomas:** Yeah...Really... Diocese of Thuckalay is a nourishing mission land. In the beginning I felt a little bit difficult to learn the Tamil language. At this late age I was doubtful about whether I would be able to learn a new language. Here too I could have experienced the great mercy and providence of God, which helped me to come out of myself to be in touch with people. Pilankalai and Kaisalavilai parishes welcomed me wholeheartedly as a member of their families. I love them as a pastor, father and a spiritual guide.

**Tidings:** How is your experience as a parish priest?

**Fr. Thomas:** Though I am a religious by order, most of the time I served the Church as a parish priest, 13 years in Germany and now in Pilankalai. I have always enjoyed the life as a parish priest. When I think about my life as pastor, I would like to remember the words of Jean Baptiste Lacordaire, 'To live in the midst of the world without wishing its pleasures; To be a member of each family, yet belonging to none; To share all suffering; to penetrate all secrets; To heal all wounds; to go from men to God and offer Him their prayers; To return from God to men to bring pardon and hope; To have a heart of fire for Charity, and a heart of bronze for Chastity; To teach and to pardon, console and bless always.' My God, what a life; and it is yours, O priest of Jesus Christ. During these years at Pilankalai I visited all families and collaborate with all pious associations in



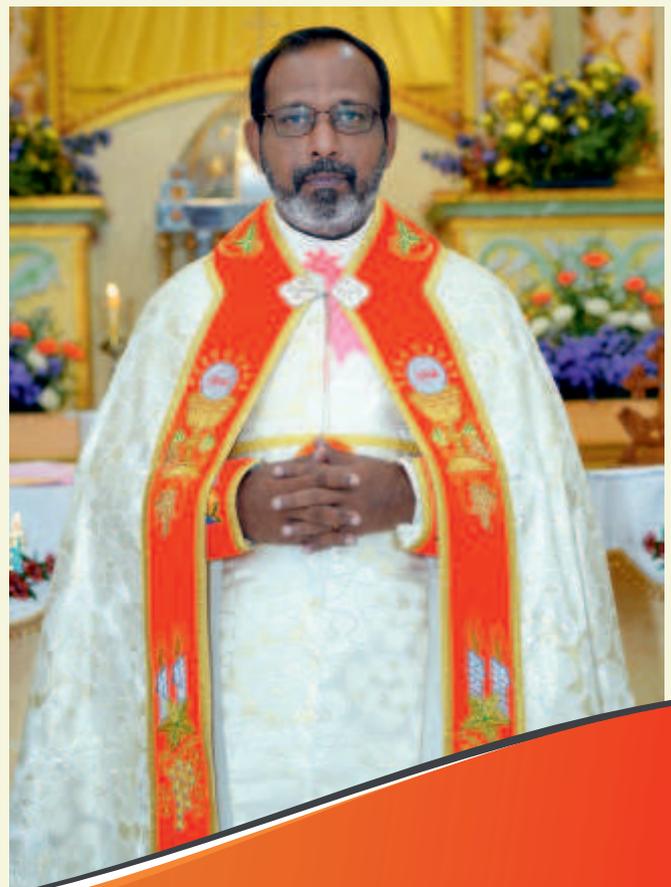
the parish. Besides, with the help of the faithful and benefactors, we have realized even the completion of Kaisalavilai Church. I render all glory to God.

**Tidings:** What advice would you give to a young man who is contemplating a vocation to the priesthood?

**Fr. Thomas:** My advice would be to draw close to our Lord in the Sacraments and to have an assiduous prayer life and a devotion to Our Lady. One should and must do this as a Catholic man. However, some men, when they do this, will have awoken in them a desire for more, which is Christ's desire for them to come after Him in the beautiful Divine friendship of the priesthood.

**Tidings:** Thank you very much, Father, for your valuable time spent with us to share your experiences with us. In the name of all readers of the Tidings we wish you all blessings and wishes on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your sacerdotal ordination. We wish you many more fruitful years of service being very much rooted to the mission of the Church. Your love for the mission and the people is an inspiration to many of our young priests and seminarians.

**Fr. Thomas:** God bless the Church and may the Holy Spirit inspire many young men and women to priesthood and religious life and provide many labourers for the abundant harvest.



# Greetings TO THE JUBILARIANS

## Silver Jubilee of Priestly ordination



**Fr. Thomas Thekkethalackal CMI**  
Priestly Ordination: 27/12/1997  
Superior at Pilankalai and Parish  
Priest of Little Flower Forane Church



**Fr. Mathew Thekkekkutt**  
Priestly Ordination: 31/12/1997  
Parish Priest of St. Maria Goretti Church,  
Atencode

25  
Years

## Silver Jubilee of First Religious Profession



**Fr. Jogy Marangattu CMI**  
First Profession: 19/03/1997  
Rector of St Mary's Minor Seminary,  
Mukootukal



**Sr. Lisa Plathara SH**  
First Profession: 30/10/1997



**Sr. Mareena Thakadiyal SH**  
First Profession: 30/10/1997



**Sr. Sherin Maria CMC**  
First Profession: 16/04/998



**Sr. Mary Elsitta LSDP**  
First Profession: 02/01/1998



**Sr. Jessin FDSHI**  
First Profession: 05/06/1998



**Sr. Helency Francis DSHS**  
First Profession: 13/05/1998



**Sr. Mini Thomas DSHS**  
First Profession: 13/05/1998



**Sr. Elseena ASMI**  
First Profession: 10/09/1997



**THUCKALAY**  
MISSION  
DIOCESE OF THUCKALAY

***Congratulations!***

**10<sup>th</sup>**

**Anniversary of  
EPISCOPAL ORDINATION**

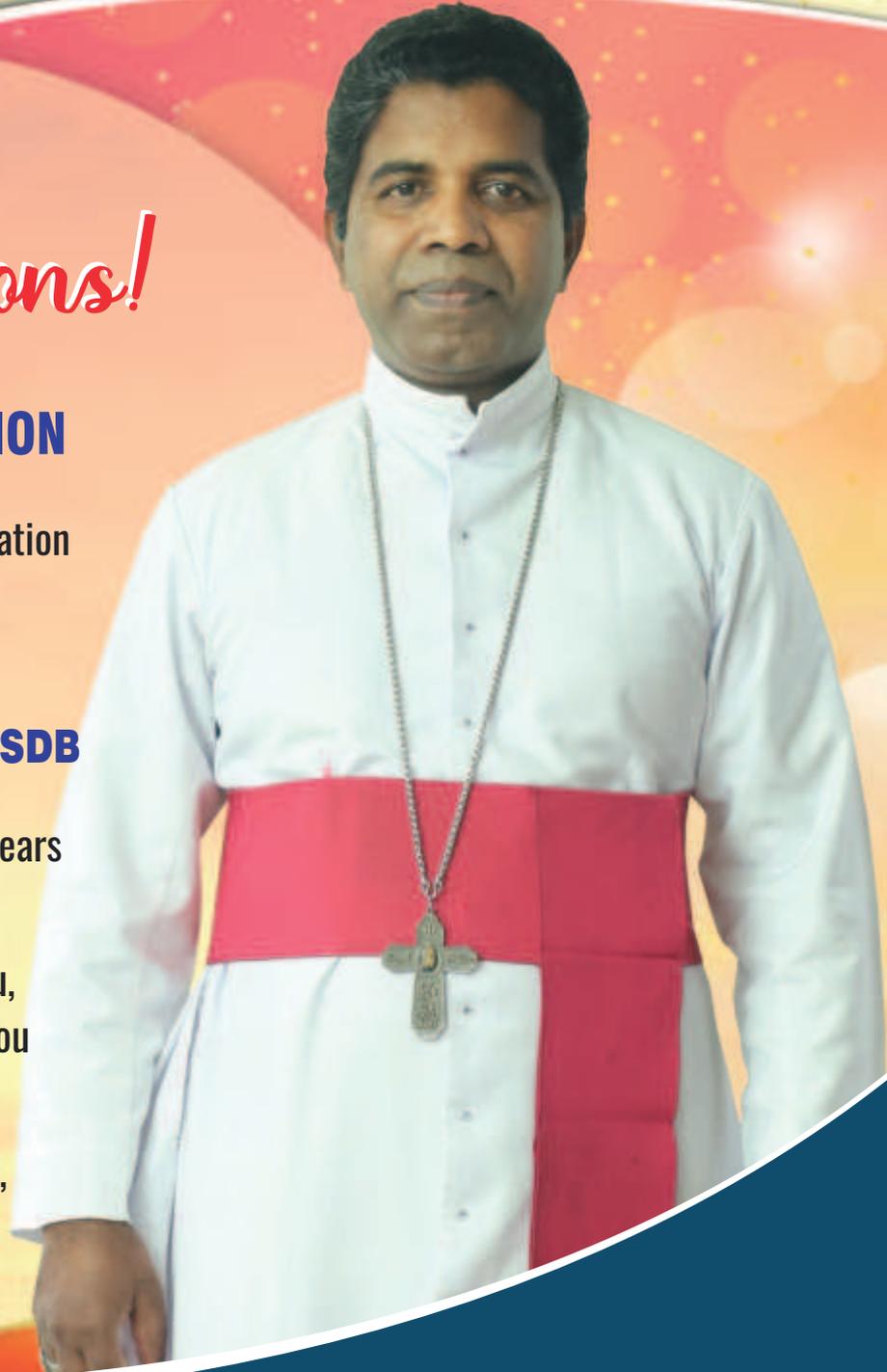
On the 10<sup>th</sup> Year of Episcopal Ordination  
of  
His Excellency

**MAR GEORGE RAJENDRAN SDB**

We Wish You Many More Fruitful Years  
in the Service of the Lord.

May the Spirit of God Guide You,  
Enlighten You, and Strengthen You  
in Your Ministry.

May God Give You Good Health,  
Joy and Peace.



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Mission Procure - [bishopofthuckalay@gmail.com](mailto:bishopofthuckalay@gmail.com) | Mob +91 9487165903

Website : [www.thuckalaydiocese.org](http://www.thuckalaydiocese.org)