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LET US ALSO GO, THAT WE MAY DIE WITH HIM *John 11:16*

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# APOSTLE

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Newsletter of the SSPX; #1 Marcel Lefebvre Place, Annie Nagar, Sivalaperi Rd , Palayamkottai, 627002

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Dear Friends and Benefactors,

A blessed and joyous Easter to you all! The penitential season of Lent is over and the mantle of suffering is exchanged for a robe of resurrected happiness. The priests of the priory returned from the circuits with peaceful but fatigued smiles. The schoolchildren are ecstatic about the end of the school year, that is until they discover the meaning of “summer school”! Other notable events are: the foundations of a new church have begun in Trichy, the completion of the plans for a new orphanage/convent building, the sending of the first lady to Italy for novitiate training, and the preaching of a priests retreat (by the District Superior) and an Ignatian Retreat for eight ladies interested in a religious vocation. We ask for your prayers and sacrifices for the Indian Mission. On a more personal note, due to health reasons, I will be going to recover for sometime in our priory in Switzerland. I will never forget all the good people in India and will continue to pray for their souls. I will certainly make visits in the future years and keep one eye always on the developments of this indescribable place.

In Maria, Fr. Patrick Summers



*ABOVE: The Faithful of Nagercoil on the long awaited day of March 3rd. The new church was blessed under the patronage of St. Thomas the Apostle. Large numbers of faithful came and celebrated in spite of difficulties with the local authorities.*

## Blessing of the “St. Thomas the Apostle” Church in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

After only eight months of construction the majority of work was completed on this new structure. The devout faithful suffered for more than two years in a ramshackle shed for the Holy Mass every Saturday and Sunday. A generous benefactor from Germany was able to schedule a trip in March out to India to see the fruit of his donations and therefore the dedication date was set for the first Saturday in March. All was going smoothly up until the week before the dedication. As is often the case, the devil was not happy to see the spread of the true religion in India. A complaint reached the ears of the police and (contrary to custom) they took immediate action and wanted to stop the use of this building as a church. Legally the building was in the clear, but the law in theory and in practice are two different things in this region. Several lawyers advised the priests to delay the inauguration of the church for several months until the legalities were sorted out. Providentially it was the month of St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, and the priests simply put these technical problems into his capable hands and asked others to pray for this intention. Finally the big day arrived...not a single problem was encountered nor have there been any from that time. The only real problem is how to sufficiently thank St. Joseph!



**Left:** Fr. Summers begins the ceremony for the blessing of a church, while some friends from Germany and Switzerland look on.

**Below Left:** The dilapidated shed where the Mass was celebrated in exile for two years. The faithful were just as excited as the priests to be leaving that place. Here they are dismantling the church furnishing to be shipped to the new location.

**Below Right:** The nave is completed and floored in tri-color marble and granite. The plans for the sanctuary are going to take almost another year, especially the marble altar which is another elaborate design from Fr. Francois Chazal. In the mean time, a wooden altar and wall crucifix are on the way.



## 2007 Ignatian Retreats



*From left to right: Fr. Summers, Fr. Chazal, Fr. Mathias, Dr. Suneel, Fr. Couture, Anthony, Fr. Xavier-Ignatius, Anistas, Fr. Valan.*



*Left to right: Fr. Joseph Pfiesser, Fr. Chazal, and Fr Summers. These three priests all were stationed in Post Falls, Idaho at some previous stage in their apostolate.*

In the first week of January the priest of the priory and two associate priests came to the beautiful hill station of Kodaikanal to attend a retreat preached by the District Superior, Fr Daniel Couture. This delightful venue was especially chosen for its cool temperatures and its fresh air. Located at 6000 feet elevation, this small town was started by the French Jesuits several hundred years ago. It was truly a novel experience for the priests to sleep in the cold air and actually use blankets and covers on their bed at night just to stay warm...even resorting to warm water for showers! Fr. Couture preached the five day Ignatian retreat to the nine retreatants and gave the entire week a sacerdotal spin. After the retreat was finished, Fr. Couture was able to spend another week visiting the priory and the orphanage.

In the third week of February, Fr Joseph Pfiesser arrived from the Philippines to preach a full six day Ignatian retreat to eight ladies interested in the religious life. A local Catholic retreat center was rented and a chapel was established for the week of the retreat. The majority of the ladies had never been on a real retreat, especially not for this, the mother of all retreats, The Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius. Fr. Valan was able to assist Fr Pfiesser by giving a few conferences before he went on circuit and he was replaced by Fr. Chazal for the last few days of the retreat. But it was Fr. Pfiesser who bore the brunt of the conferences and talks, living on location and handling all the details. Many thanks to this indefatigable laborer in God's vineyard!

**Right:** Fr. Chazal and Fr. Pfiesser after the retreat standing with the ladies who are seeking the "Pearl of great price".

**Below:** Fr. Pfiesser relaxes with the hostel mascot "Danny". As usual, Fr Pfiesser was all smiles and anecdotes during his enjoyable visit to south India for two weeks.





***Clockwise from Top Left:** 1. Mary Magdalene attends to the pumpkin patch which Swaruppa has planted. 2. It is often said that “The eyes are the windows of the soul”. If that is accurate, then the children of India are angelic beings, judging merely from their eyes. 3. The girls at Veritas Academy are jumping for joy at the end of the school year. 4. Not an uncommon sight for the priests in India, and a very consoling sight at that. It is certainly a special grace in this country to see the overwhelming devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Here the new mother places her infant on the top altar step to put the child under Her special protection. In spite of all of the nonsense of the modern clergy, many of the faithful cannot be moved from their traditional devotions. Deo Gratias!*





*Left: “Only the humble shall enter” comes to mind when doing “house” blessings in a village near Chennai. In this land of contradictions, we find incredible wealth pouring into the country through foreign and domestic investments, yet the majority of Indians are untouched or unaided by this influx of wealth. All too often we find that the people emulate the Western world, in its failings and apostasies.*

*Below: We cannot let pass the magnificent Mumbai train system which we use on the northern circuit. If humility is need to enter the village house, then fortitude and hope are needed to make an entrance onto the trains. These trains are almost essential to make it around to see all the parishioners spread around this megapolis of Mumbai. Fr. Chazal has become an expert at applying the proper amount of force to weight ratio in gaining access to overcrowded trains. But the battle is not over when one finally gets on the train...to get back off the train at the appropriate spot is not so easy since others are also trying to get on. Here, one cannot apply the counsel to “Turn the other cheek”. We must rather apply the counsel of St. Paul, “We must be all things to all men.”.*



## The Northern Circuit News

Every month for 10 days, one of the priests from the priory (normally Fr. Chazal) travels (by train, scooter, car, bus, plane) to our circuit chapels in Mumbai, Bangalore, Goa, and Chennai. This whirlwind trip is not often featured in the APOSTLE magazine for the simple reason that it is not where the priests are living. Perhaps this can be remedied in the future, for the long range plans are to start a second priory near Mumbai. Here below we will try to show a few glimpses of what keeps the priests busy on this northern circuit.



*Above: We are happy to report the ordination to the subdiaconate of Gregory Michael Noronha (extreme left of photo) on March 9 by His Excellency Bishop Fellay. The Reverend Mr. Norhona originally hails from Mumbai but now he is in his fifth year at Holy Cross Seminary.*

*Clockwise from Left: 1. Fr. Chazal distribute communion on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in Vasai (north of Mumbai). 2. Fr. Chazal begins the Mass of the Feast, after which is a procession to a old Portuguese Church (Our Lady of Life). 3. The altar boys await the instructions of the celebrant. 4. Fr. Valan says Mass in Malad, Mumbai for the dedicated faithful there.*

## News from the Priory of the Most Holy Trinity



*Clockwise from Above: 1. The boys enact the scene of the elven army fighting the forces of evil. The "Lord of the Rings" on audio CD was used to help the boys in the hostel learn English and a good story. 2. The boys help Danny stay cool in the sand. This cute yellow Labrador has occupied all the free time of the boys and girls. 3. The first funeral in Palayamkottai from the Aged home of Nav Jeevan. "Grandmother", as the girls called her, died after receiving Holy Communion and Extreme Unction. 4. Fr. Chazal encourages little Bernard to continue in his Franciscan desires. The brother of Fr. Chazal is in the Capuchin monastery in France. 5. The greenery around the priory has been slowly advancing on the desert. "Project Garden" was started by Fr. Jackson in the previous year and was smoothly taken over by Fr. Valan when he was transferred to Palayamkottai. With constant reminders to the boys to "Water the Plants!", the compound is actually sprouting trees and even beautiful flowers.*



# Last Glimpse of Life around the Priory



*Clockwise from Above: 1. Soccer continues everyday for one hour. The flowers and trees are still progressing. 2. Fr. Chazal with the Singampari children after Mass on Sunday. 3. Are the "Tourism Police" there to help tourists or obstruct them?. 4. Thomas has a real case of "Puppy love." In the first two months of his life, Danny almost never touched the ground, thanks to the children.*



## Contact Information

1. Please note that we are using a new email address: [sspxindia@gmail.com](mailto:sspxindia@gmail.com)
2. Due to continuing problems with the local fax line we have changed over to internet fax and our number is 18665308582. It is a USA phone number.
3. If you wish to send donations:
  - \* Within India = please make payable to "Bright Social Services Society" or "Studere Educational Trust"
  - \*\* In Europe = please send to the General House in Menzingen "SSPX" with a note, "For the India Mission".  
The address is: *Priesterbruderschaft St. Pius X; Menzingen, Switzerland 6313.*
  - \*\*\* In the USA = please send to the District Headquarters "SSPX" with a note, "For the India Mission".  
The address is: *Regina Coeli House; 11485 N. Farley Road ;  
Platte City, MO 64079. USA*
  - \*\*\*\* We can receive foreign donations direct into an approved account under the name "Bright Social Services Society" and mailed to our house address.  
*Priory of the Most Holy Trinity; 8 A/3 Sivalaperi Road.; Annie Nagar, Palayamkottai; Tamil Nadu 627002, India*