

# News and Views

Newsletter of the Divine Providence Province



## ATTENTION PLEASE!!!

In a particular jail in Miami about ten years ago, the break-out rate, levels of conflict and drug abuse were the highest of all jails in the U.S. After the arrival of a new governor, he sent all prison staff to customer service training. When they returned they began to treat the prisoners as if they were customers! And two years later the jail had the lowest break-out, conflict, and drug abuse rates! ...All down to one word, one change in attitude, and that was – **RESPECT!**

Instead of seeing the prisoners in a negative light based on their histories, they began to respect their **'innate dignity and worth'** as human beings. Very often, **RESPECT** is the *most under-estimated, un-recognized, and un-used power*. If this prison staff could forget the histories of those hard-core criminals and respect them for who they are and create miracles, what about the little mistakes which my parents, my siblings, my superiors, my friends, my community member, my parishioners, my neighbor commit?

And we are all related. The jail staff had no relation at all and moreover, their minds were trained to say

that prisoners are criminals. But, they totally forgot that they were a prison staff and operated from a different perspective. And this can be done with anyone! Confreres can do this with community members, teachers with students, healers with patients, parents with children, and friends with friends. A child of God giving respect to another child of God...and miracles happen! This is Empowerment...this is real magic!

Unless I absolutely erase all the labels I have in my mind about people, I cannot emit the energy of respect. Even if I quietly carry it in my subtle consciousness that they did this and that, I will not be able to see them in their 'innate goodness' for what they truly are.

When we think of the word 'respect', we look at it as something that we are supposed to get from people. **They should respect me!** It's so easy to say, "But if they don't respect me, then how can I respect them?" or "They did such a thing that I lost all respect for them." Do I have to wait for you to respect me...to start respecting you? Remember, **respect is not a commodity to be exchanged**. It has nothing to do with what the other is! It's not about the other person being worthy of my respect...it's about my nobility of heart and attitude. If a jail staff can do this to so-called criminals, and a governor can think of such a beautiful thing, why can't I do that to my confreres, my friends, my staff and my domestic helpers?

"The work of evangelization starts from the heart," said Father Guanella. In our lives good principles and sound values help us lead a good, happy and peaceful life!

*Fr. Soosai Rathinam.*

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“The work of evangelization starts from the heart.”

St. Louis Guanella

## September Calendar of Fr. Provincial

- 1-2 **Bangalore:** Canonical Visit - GPN
- 3-4 **Mysore:** Canonical Visit - Preethiya Sevakaru
- 5-6 **Thalavadi:** Canonical Visit - Nazareth Illam
- 10 **Kadambathur:** Wedding Mass
- 11-12 **Bangalore:** Class for Novices - DGMS
- 15 **Chennai:** Local Chapter - DGMS
- 17 **Departure to USA**
- 19-21 **Chelsea:** Canonical Visit
- 22-23 **E. Providence:** Canonical Visit
- 25-26 **Chelsea:** Assembly
- 27-30 **Chelsea:** DPP 15th Plenary Meeting
- 30 **Chennai:** Conferring of the 'Declaration of Intent' - DGMS

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## Human Rights By Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC

In today's world, because of their faith or belief, persons belonging to religious minorities experience various degrees of abuse that run from physical attacks to kidnapping for ransom, from arbitrary detention and obstacles in requesting registration, to stigmatization. Effective protection of the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities is lacking or inadequately addressed even in the U.N. and international systems. Lately this worrying situation has caught the attention of some Governments and segments of civil society. Thus awareness about this serious problem has become more evident. On the other hand, widespread discrimination affecting religious minorities persists and even increases.

The Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief has rightly focused his report on the many human rights violations perpetrated against persons belonging to religious minorities. States may be directly involved through indifference toward some of their citizens or through the political will to marginalize, suppress or even eliminate communities with a different identity no matter how long they historically have been rooted in their own country. In some circumstances, non-State actors also take an active and even violent role by attacking religious minorities. The extensive indication of the variety of violations reported offers a realistic picture of today's oppression of religious minorities and should serve as a call to action.

However, the report underplays the basic issue that minorities are defined either from the perspective of a "majority" or from the perspective of other "minorities". Moreover, according to the report the State should act

in a neutral way in the recognition of religious groups. Indeed, the report defines individual persons as holders of the right to freedom of religion and sees the goal of protection of religious freedom directed at "ensuring the survival and continued development of the cultural, religious and social identity of the minorities concerned". It indicates individual protection of religious freedom as the way to achieve the protection of religious communities, a process that will not translate automatically in their protection. In fact, the report itself shows very well that most violations of religious freedom occur at the religious group level.

While the State should enforce the universality of human rights by balancing freedom and equality, it often identifies itself with the "dominant community" in a way that unfortunately relegates minorities to a second class status, thus also creating problems for the religious freedom of individuals.

Individual freedoms and rights can be reconciled and harmonized with those of the community that wants to preserve its identity and integrity. There is no opposing dialectical process,

but a necessary complementarity. The person should not become a prisoner of the community nor should the community become vulnerable simply because of the assertion of individual freedom. The Special Rapporteur rightly states that by stressing too narrow an understanding of equality, we may lose the diversity and specificity of freedom.

The legal recognition of a minority is the starting point for the necessary harmony between individual and



group freedom. By adopting such a realistic approach to this issue the coexistence of communities is facilitated in a climate of relative tolerance. However, before such a realistic approach can be pursued, legal status must be granted to religious communities as is required by the innate human right of any person, which precedes and is binding on the State. We fully agree then with the Special Rapporteur's recommendation: "What the State can and should do is create favorable conditions for persons belonging to religious minorities to ensure that they can take their faith related affairs in their own hands in order to preserve and further develop their religious community life and identity". Only through respect for this balance can both peaceful coexistence and the advancement of all human rights be attained.

The recognition of the freedom of other religious communities does not reduce one's own freedoms. On the contrary, the acceptance of the religious freedom of

other persons and groups is the corner stone of dialogue and collaboration. Genuine freedom of religion bans violence and coercion, and it opens the road to peace and authentic human development through mutual recognition. The experience, and by now a tradition, of interreligious dialogue in Western societies proves the value of a reciprocal recognition of religious freedom.

Religious freedom is also a duty, a responsibility to be fulfilled both by individuals and religious groups. The recognition of the religious freedom of individuals and social groups implies that they should act by the same standards of the freedom they enjoy and such a condition justifies their presence as important and authentic actors in the public square. To eclipse the public role of religion creates a society which is unjust since it would fail to take into account the true nature of the human person and would stifle the growth of authentic and lasting peace for the whole human family.

Vietnam

**Inter-Congregation Football**

**HO CHI MINH** - The students in formation attended the Inter-Congregation football tournament on August 19th. It was a one-day football tournament with many religious congregations participating. The seminarians had a wonderful time playing football and getting to know other missionary congregations. At the end of the tournament the Servants of Charity took Third Prize.



**Retreat for Aspirants**

**HO CHI MINH** -Our aspirant students went on retreat to a Cistercian Monastery. The topic for the retreat was, 'discernment of a religious vocation.' They were very happy to stay in a monastery and learn about silence and prayer. It gave them the opportunity to begin discerning the vocation to which they are being called in their own lives.

## God's Poor are the Favorite of Providence

**MYSORE** - The inaugural celebration of Don Guanella Evening School was held on July 19th in the village Horahalli. It was drizzling a little but the evening school children were very excited to exhibit their talents and add color to the simple inaugural function. The president, local leaders, educators, community fathers and brothers were present for the function. After the short cultural program Fr. Praveen SdC spoke to the children, inviting them to help each other to form a better society. The children gave him a positive reply.



A small request was made to the village president and local leaders to build a shelter for the benefit of the evening school children. Upon distribution of snacks the event ended.

## Father's Visit

**CUDDALORE** - The community joyfully welcomed Fr. Soosai, Provincial Superior, for a canonical visit July 28th - 31st. The visit opened dialogue for an assessment in all dimensions of consecrated life and apostolic work. It brought the space and time to revitalize the Guanellian way of life with the triple exercises of retrospection, introspection and propection. Fr. Provincial spent time with the confreres both collectively and personally, insisting upon getting to the root of our Guanellian spirituality, Guanellian apostolate and Guanellian Interculturality. He helped the confreres to be strong and vibrant in actualizing their specified apostolate projects for the current scholastic year:

Aspirancy formation at St. Joseph's seminary, mission for the poor children, ministry of communication, open house ministry for the homeless, Don Guanella Oratory, St. Joseph's Evening School, pastoral ministry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Guanellian) parish and Guanella Rehabilitation Center. The Provincial visit encouraged the community more and boosted fraternity.



## Enthronement of Mother and Baby

**CUDDALORE** - July 31st was a pleasant day for St.



Joseph's Seminary. The day was adorned with the canonical visit by Rev. Fr. Provincial Superior. During his visit, Fr. Soosai met the Aspirancy brothers, giving them an energizing Guanellian spiritual talk for their sustenance and perseverance in their vocation. Through his conference he helped

them to discern their vocation for soul-content mission. Along with this, to make the event more memorable Fr. Provincial enthroned the statues of Our Lady of Lourdes and Infant Jesus at the seminary entrances; gracing the atmosphere of the formation house and the young scholastics. The other remarkable moments of the visit were a community meeting, personal dialogue with the confreres, checking the community and specified ministry project, tome for constructive appraisal, visiting ministry places and the beneficiaries, planting trees in and around the seminary, a cultural bonanza, and fraternal sharing. On the whole this visit strengthened and graced the community.

## Entrance to the Postulancy

**SIVAGANGAI** - On August 6th the New Postulants began their academic year by answering a question raised by Fr. Soosai Rathinam, Provincial Superior, "what do you all want?" The candidates expressed their willingness by saying, "we want to enter into postulancy." Fr. Provincial presided over Mass and brought the blessings of the heavenly father upon everyone. After the Gospel was read Fr. Kulandai, Rector of the Postulants, called each candidate by name and they responded 'present'. Fr. Soosai verified their willingness to begin their postulancy formation which prepares them to enter into the school of holiness. He also prayed for them and gave them



a holy cross, explaining its meaning, importance and its connections to formation. Guanellian Fathers from Madurai, Sivakasi, Dindigul and the Salesians of Don Bosco the neighboring community were also present for moral and spiritual support.

### Guanellian Youth Movement Inauguration

**CHENNAI** - The Guanellian Youth Movement



[GYM] joyfully celebrated its inauguration at Don Guanella Major Seminary on August 6th for the 2017-18 academic year. In the presence of Fr. Prakash,

GYM Director, twenty GYM Members participated. Miss Rachel read the word of God, Bro. Bosco invoked God's blessing by his prayer song and Bro. Arun welcomed the gathering. Then, the lamp was lit by Youth President Christopher, Secretary Anu, Vice-President Cyril and Fr. Prakash, Chief Guest. Fr. Prakash gave a special talk on GYM. After the inauguration, the GYM Members participated in the Holy Eucharistic celebration of Fr. Samson [Rector], and Fr. Prakash's priestly ordination anniversary. After Mass, a delicious meal was served which was arranged by Fr. Francis, Procurator. Everyone went home with the spirit of St. Guanella in their heart.

### Renewal of Promises

**SIVAGANGAI** - The Yesuvanam community is thankful to God for His grace of twenty Guanellian Co-operators renewing their vows for the second time. On August 6th



Fr. Soosai, Provincial Superior, presided over holy Mass and Fathers from Madurai, Sivakasi, Dindigul

and Salesians of don Bosco the neighboring community concelebrated who invoked the blessings of the heavenly father upon every one gathered. After Holy Communion

Fr. Kulandai, community superior, called the Guanellian Co-operators by name and they came before the altar and in the presence of Fr. Soosai renewed their promises. Rev. Fr. Provincial Superior received their promise and prayed over them. GLM members also participated in the Mass and prayed for the Guanellian co-operators who renewed their promises.

### “Spiritual Nourishment”

**BANGALORE** - The Cooperators and the Guanellian Lay Movement members had their quarterly Recollection at Guanella Preethi Nivas on August 12th. The Recollection was led by Fr. Adolf Washington who motivated the members with his inspiring talk. Fr. Adolf said how in the dark moments of our life we should not fear but be assured that God is with us. He related this with a short story as to when a hen fears threat to its chick



she stretches her wings and the chick rushes into them. Though it's dark and the chick does not realize what is happening it feels safe under the wings of the hen.

Fr. Adolf quoted from John 6 about how twelve baskets of fragments were left over after distributing food to a large crowd. He reflected, the little boy had carried food for himself and was unaware that the food would be multiplied. What we should learn from this little boy is his generosity and trust in Jesus. Following this was a talk by Fr. Gnanaraj, the Superior, who referred to the Charitas and explained about our fidelity to the Lord, Congregation and the Mission. What's our response to our vocation? He said that fidelity to the Lord will lead us to fidelity to the Congregation and then to the Mission. Remember that the consecrated life is the root of the Church that needs to be safeguarded. Following this Fr. Gnanaraj explained about the upcoming General Chapter and the theme.

The gathering ended with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by confession and finally holy Mass. The members were very spiritually nourished.

### Let Freedom Never Perish

**MYSORE** - On August 15th the fathers and brothers of Preethiya Sevakaruru went to Horahalli to celebrate the 71st Independence Day of India. A small program

was organized by the evening school teachers and children. Panchayat leaders, the president of the village, educators, fathers, brothers and the dignitaries of the function were symbolically invited with a rose flower and lemon. The evening school children then presented



their simple and meaningful cultural program. The priest in charge gave a speech in which he said that as citizens we have to come together leaving out caste, color, religion, culture, and corruption to build our nation as the greatest country in the world. He also said

that this can be realized only when we love each other. The children were given sweets and snacks. With the singing of the national anthem the celebration came to an end.

### Independence Day Celebration

**THALAVADI** - Freedom; freedom from colonial rule, and Mary's complete freedom from sin and death. Nazareth Illam, home for the mentally ill, commemorated both of these great events as Indian citizens and as Catholics with the mentally challenged patients. Mr. Balan, an engineer and the chief guest, presided over the event and hoisted the flag. The program began with a parade by our patients who also demonstrated a drill for the group. With patriotic feelings all were called to attend Mass followed by cultural programs. The program was emceed by Mr. Sathaya Raj, a staff member. The patients, who were trained by the teachers, exhibited

their talents by dancing, singing, skits and speeches. They all had fun and were filled with patriotic feelings which made them understand that we are free from something and free for something.



### Freedom Brings Growth

**CHENNAI** - Don Guanella Evening School celebrated the 71st Independence day on August 15th in a grand manner. The honorable chief guest was Mr. Davis Ilangovan, the Senior Advocate from Poonamallee.

There were many programs by the evening school students: Speech, Dance, Drama and disguising competition. Mr. Ilangovan attracted the students with his address quoting the lives of persons who worked and died for the freedom of India like Gandhi and Patel. It was a great occasion for the students to express their talents.



### Independence Day Celebrations

**KOPAKKA** - The Independence Day celebrations at Guanella Bhavan were done respectfully to pay tribute to the nation. The program began with a colorful parade by the brothers. Fr. Benson hoisted the flag and the National Anthem was sung. He addressed the gathering emphasizing the importance of Freedom and Independence, "Freedom does not mean to do whatever one likes but to do what one ought to do responsibly. Being proud to be an Independent Indian, free from British rule, we also need to pray for our national leaders to rule with Fraternity and Unity and the welfare of the people." The Indian national pledge was recited by the whole congregation and the group dispersed wishing each other "Happy Independence Day."



### Parents Meeting

**THALAVADI** - On August 20th, the parents of Nazareth Illam residents were called for a meeting. The purpose was to nurture the feelings of love for their parents and relatives. The event began with a solemn cultural program by the patients. The parents were happy after seeing them dancing and singing followed by lunch and the meeting. Fr. Navis, director, met and was introduced to the parents for the first time. He

insisted the parents visit each month to help them look after our patients. Donation books were given to parents who wished to help raise funds for the mission. Doctors have strongly recommended that ten of our patients can be discharged. Three patients who were discharged that day came forward to share their own stories, it was moving and made us happy.



the confreres were so happy to offer their sons for the ministry of the church and the congregation.

### Medical Camp

**THALAVADI** - "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick." The psychiatrists from General Hospital, Erode district, made their monthly visit to examine the patients at Nazareth Illam on August 23rd. Dr. Anand, and Mr. Jaya Prakash, Psychic Counsellor, examined the patients and prescribed medicine according to the progress and development of the patients. For some, medicines were extended for more time; for others new medicines were prescribed. The doctors highly recommended that some patients who are returning to normal life be discharged. The doctors appreciated our mission and the way we look after our patients in the spirit of our founder.

### "To Gain Christ" (Phil: 1,21)

**CUDDALORE** - August 22nd was a glorious day for India, the Guanellian Family and the Divine Providence Province, as eight new priests to personify the vision and mission of St. Louis Guanella were ordained. As that day is sanctified by the feast of the 'Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary', it was more pertaining to the Mother Congregation, to be crowned with the eight new sacerdotal sons to extend the hearts and hands of charity to all those who are in dire need of human, spiritual and charismatic assistance. The gift of the holy



priesthood was conferred to these eight young soldiers of Christ by Most Rev. Dr. Antony Anandarayar DD, Archbishop of the Pondy Cuddalore Diocese. During Mass, the Liturgy of the Word fed all the faithful, especially the newly ordained, three important ways of religious priestly life such as "Wholistic Human Maturation, Progressive Divine (Spiritual) Transfiguration and Committed Charismatic Consecration". The new priests were very fervent and courageous to actualize these ways of life through their common motto "Gaining Christ". All those gathered for the event showed their spiritual fraternity through their prayers and religious solidarity. The parents of



### First Recollection for Novices

**LEGAZPI** - The last Saturday of each month is set aside for community recollection. July 29th was the first time the novices participated. The day was organized at Busay Falls, which is nearby. During that day, we all listened to the short sharing of Fr. Dong. Through his sharing, we could understand the meaning of a religious person who is always joyful by serving the least brethren. This joy has been given to us through Jesus Christ in our daily life, and sometimes we forget that Jesus is our loving and compassionate redeemer. But He is there waiting for us in the daily struggles and hard situations of our life. "Do we need to be aware of His presence?" Yes, he is present everywhere, especially in our joys and sorrows, we could feel his presence and the gifts, which he has given us through nature. With the silence of the environment together with the mood of recollection, each one of us could find for ourselves a meaning for this recollection. We spent a half day at Busay Falls.



On the way home we went to see Most Rev. Bishop Lucilo B. Quiambao, D.D. at the house of retired Bishops. With the warm welcome of a spiritual father, he spent time giving spiritual food to us: "The spiritual work cannot be compared with anything". This statement reminds the new Novices that Life is not only to satisfy our needs but it has the hidden meanings which need to be discovered during this year of our Novitiate through our prayer life.

### Music for the Soul

**LEGAZPI** - Life is beautiful and for those who want to follow Jesus in the footsteps of St. Louis Guanella, we need to develop our talents. A friend has volunteered to stay and teach the Novices about music and to play



piano and guitar. The Novices began music class on August 1st. As St. Augustine said, "singing is praying twice," so learning instruments is not only for fun or for our own sake but for praising God better and making life colorful. Hopefully, this will be a great chance for them to know clearer that life is colorful.

### Feast of a Priest

**LEGAZPI** - On the feast of St. Maria Vianney August 4th, patron of the parish priests and confessors, mass was celebrated at Harong Kan Sagrada Familia. During Mass, everyone thanked God for His generosity. Even though modern life is full of difficulties and challenges, God still sows seeds of His love into the hearts of those generous enough to respond to His call. Priests sacrifice themselves for the sake of souls who thirst and



long for God. They need to be guided in their spiritual lives. Priests also sacrifice themselves for the sake of the congregation to inspire a new generation of confreres. Through their example, novices learn more about the congregation, founder and service to the poorest of the poor.

### Marian Procession

**LEGAZPI** - Part of our ministry with the children is to play and have fun, but we also teach them how to pray and the basic catechesis of the Catholic church.

On August 5th a small group of children was organized for a short procession devoted to beloved Mother Mary. With the love for the innocent hearts of our children, we prayed and sang the songs of Mary during the procession. This event is not only for the children but



also for the conversion of the whole area surrounding our ministry. They too need the seed of faith to be sown in their hearts, and to learn to avoid the temptations of the world. Let us always remember that those innocent children are the future of the church. We also have a responsibility to care for them no matter their color, nationality or standard of living. But the importance is we are all special in the eyes of God.



### Learning about Yourself

**LEGAZPI** - Dr. Norma Moll, a psychologist in Legazpi, began the psychology class by giving a talk on August 10th. The Novices were guided to look back at their inner childhood and parts of their lives which were long forgotten to get a better understanding of themselves.

Through this class, the Novices learned basic skills of thinking, preparing for a better future and recognizing their real self so that it would lead them to achieve higher goals in life. These skills include self-acceptance, improving self-image, ability to handle future crises ... lessons necessary and useful for them as they prepare for their future.



### Let the Children Come to Me

**LEGAZPI** - On August 11th Mass for the children was celebrated by the Servants of Charity as part of their ministry. The hope is to help bring the children nearer to Jesus as He commanded, and to further the communication between their parents and the priests in order to guide them in their spiritual lives. After Mass, there was plenty of time for Sunday fun, giving them a chance to enjoy their



childhood and to discover life. This will teach them the goodness of life, and show them that the love of God is still present even in this very busy modern world. However, still someone is caring for them, loving them and accompanying them as much as they can. For life is to share what we have as Jesus Himself shared His own life with all of us for our eternal salvation.

### Buwan Ng Wika 2017\*

**MANILA** - On August 18th Guanella Center celebrated Philippine Language Month\* with the theme; "Filipino Wikang Mapagbago." Persons W/IDD who live nearby as well as residents from Guanella Home for Special Children participated in the activity. The program began

with a parade. All the participants wore their national costumes, and followed by singing the Philippine national anthem led by SpEd pupils and an opening prayer by Alexa Solomon. Participants put great effort into preparing their costumes with the help of staff. Awards for best Filipino costume were given to Katrina Peredo (for the female category), Ren Gabriel (for the male category), and Noryn Ygay as the "crowd favorite."



### A Night of Celebration

**MANILA** - The priests, brothers, seminarians, Daughters of St. Mary of Providence, as well as friends, relatives and benefactors gathered on August 21st to celebrate the birthdays of Fr. Loyola, Bro. Francis, and Bro. Khiet; the Sacerdotal anniversaries of Fr. Loyola and Fr. Charle; and a send-off gathering for Bro. Alfie who is going to Israel for mission and Fr. Ronnie who is going to Italy. The night began with evening prayer and was filled with messages and performances for the celebrators. The evening included a simple dinner and a send-off ceremony presided by Fr. Battista. There was also a surprise visit by His Excellency Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, D.D., Bishop of Novaliches.



### Dads & Lads Support St. Louis Center

**CHELSEA** - This year marked the 20th year of the Dad and Lad Golf Outing at Twin Lakes Golf Course in Rochester Hills, MI on August 2, 2017. From the beginning in 1997, the outing has been dedicated to raising funds for St. Louis Center in Chelsea, MI. The co-chairs of this outing are Michael Chirco, Salvatore "Sam" Cattone, and Joseph Maniaci. Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC., who has been at St. Louis Center since 1980, expressed gratitude for his good friends who care so much about SLC. "These generous men and women have worked extremely hard to help us survive during good times and difficult times. We owe a great deal to the members of the construction trades as well as the local Italian American community who have made it possible for us to continue delivering quality services to our residents."



complimentary admissions tickets and \$10 in "Lugnut's Loot," which allowed them to purchase any food, drink or souvenir in the park for that sum of money. Surrounded by priests and nuns from throughout the Lansing Diocese, SLC's residents got to watch a tight game, in which the Lugnuts lost to Lake County by a score of 6 - 5.

### Fatima Knights Bring Food and Fun

**CHELSEA** - The Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Fatima Council in Michigan Center returned to St. Louis Center on August 18, 2017 for another year of barbecuing dinner for the residents, and interacting with them in a game of kickball afterwards. Also known as Bishop Zaleski Council #6687, the members



brought many of their wives along who assisted in food preparation, serving, and playing in the kickball game at the end of dinner. According to Grand Knight Bill Roller, "Our favorite part of coming to SLC is our chance to interact with the residents through dinner and a kickball game. We appreciate the Servants of Charity giving us this opportunity."

### Tocco Family Picnic

**CHELSEA** - Continuing their long standing tradition of service and dedication to St. Louis Center and its residents, Jack Tocco, Jr. continued his father's legacy for another year on August 20th with the Tocco Family Picnic. The Tocco Family resides north of the City of



Detroit, and brings a large contingent of friends and family every summer to feed and entertain SLC residents on a Sunday afternoon in August. The picnic begins with lunch. The fun continues after lunch with cotton candy and

snow cones, along with balloon creations and tattoos provided by Peek-a-boo the Clown. While the residents were having a great time, the Tocco Family and their friends enjoyed putting a smile on everyone's face for the day.

### Knights of Columbus Honor Guanellian

**CHELSEA** - On Saturday August 5, 2017, Temperance, MI Council #8902 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish held their Annual Awards Night, and Fr. Enzo Addari, SdC., Administrator of St. Louis Center was one of the guests of honor. Fr. Enzo led the opening prayer, and later spoke about St. Louis Center and the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead.



### A Night at the Ballpark

**CHELSEA** - On August 11th, thirty residents and staff members from St. Louis Center received V.I.P. transportation from Chelsea to Lansing, MI on a Dean Transportation bus to enjoy the annual Vocations Night hosted by the Class A Major League baseball team known as the Lansing Lugnuts. Along with a great bus ride, residents and staff received



**Staff Receives “Therap” Training**

**CHELSEA** - Thanks to a substantial grant from St. Joseph Mercy Health System, St. Louis Center began modernizing its internal incident reporting system with across the board employee training for all Direct Care Workers



on Wednesday, August 30th. The software training was conducted by the “Therap” Company, and was offered during a two day period for all shifts. Laptop computers were purchased for use by St. Louis Center employees to document daily activities of residents, including medical and behavioral issues to eliminate paper reports. This will help to streamline the reporting system to provide rapid access to important information regarding the day-to-day lives of our residents, and is meant to improve the quality of care given by SLC staff.

**Summer BBQ**

**CHELSEA** - Members of St. Louis Guanella Council #3092 of the Chelsea Knights of Columbus returned on the evening of August 31st to spend time with

the residents of St. Louis Center and provide them with their annual end of summer barbeque. With fall temperatures in the air, the Knights and their Ladies provided one last cookout for everyone as school begins and summer ends. SLC residents enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, salad and watermelon for everyone to enjoy during one last night in August.



**Village Progressing**

**CHELSEA** - St. Louis Guanella Village at St. Louis Center is the new intentional community being built for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities; with a planned opening in 2018 for its four new Children’s Homes. The Village will eventually be adding family homes, new direct care homes for adults, and townhouses for independent living. House #1 is nearly complete, as most finish work has been done on the exterior and the electrical, plumbing, and drywall has been completed on the inside .

**September Calendar of Events**

- 8 **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 9 **Chelsea:** Vocation Retreat for Boys  
**Bangalore:** Guanellian Cooperators Meeting
- 9-10 **Manila:** Vocation Seminar
- 10 **Bangalore:** Guanellian Lay Movement Meeting
- 12 **Grass Lake:** Mother of Divine Providence Day- PUSJ
- 14 **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
- 15 **Our Lady of Sorrows**
- 19 **Grass Lake:** St. Joseph Day- PUSJ
- 21 **St. Matthew, Apostle**
- 23 **St. Padre Pio**  
**Bangalore:** GLM Evening Prayer with the Elderly - Aged Home
- 29 **Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels**
- 29-Oct 2 **Bangalore:** GLM Pilgrimage to Kerala
- 30 **St. Jerome**

- 13 **Bro. Arocki Doss J.:** birthday
- 14 **Fr. David Stawasz:** birthday
- 18 **Fr. Anil Kumar:** birthday
- 21 **Fr. Pravin:** birthday
- 25 **Bro. Mauro Cecchinato:** birthday
- 26 **Bro. Arun David:** birthday
- 28 **Fr. Leo Joseph:** birthday
- 29 **Bro. Iruthayaraj:** birthday; **Fr. Felicks, Fr. Rishar Raffee Jegan, Fr. Gabriel, Bro. Michael Durai Samy A., Bro. Iruthayaraj:** feast day

**Best Wishes and Prayers to:**

- 2 **Fr. John Joseph, Bro. Joseph S.:** birthday
- 8 **Fr. Lawrence Thampusamy, Fr. Amal Raj:**

Have questions or comments about this newsletter? Email the Communications and Community Relations Office at: [news@servantsofcharity.org](mailto:news@servantsofcharity.org)