

News and Views

Divine Providence Province



PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Dear Confreres!

Pope Francis has approved 'Pilgrims of Hope' as the theme for a Jubilee Year to take place in 2025. With ancient roots, a Jubilee in Christian tradition is held every 25 years and invites the faithful to a year of conversion and repentance, a time of reconciliation and justice, a time in which all things that belong to God are returned to God.

The image of a 'pilgrim Church' was brought to the fore at the Second Vatican Council, recalling for the Church its nature as a community of disciples journeying through human history. Through trial and tribulation, the pilgrim people of God orients itself to the fullness of God's kingdom, engages with and sanctifies the concrete realities of its time, and commits itself to a path of ongoing conversion, including penance and renewal, before God until it 'arrives at the light which knows no setting' (Lumen Gentium 8).

The Jubilee theme of 'hope', rather than promoting the Church as a naive society or program for positive thinking, challenges the Church to radical discipleship and outward mission. Living as a person of hope necessitates the courage to commit one's self by a daily response to God as our future. This grace of hope not only comforts us by awakening us to the presence and love of God but also disrupts us by urging us on, to the renewal and conversion that this great love invites.

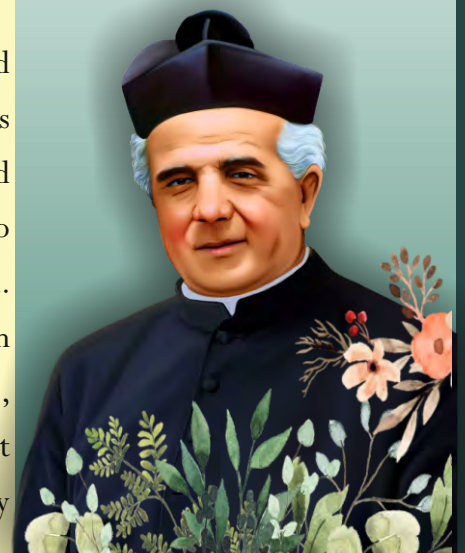
The hope we have as the baptized by our adoption into Christ and the reception of God's grace in the Eucharist and other sacraments asks something of us. So we not only "hold" hope as it were but are compelled to "live" hope, to embody it in our actions and practical commitments to love God and our neighbor even when the loving is hard.

We are faced with the reality of a world in which people continually experience moments of darkness, anguish and despair in the face of multiple crises that threaten our existence. Pandemics, wars, insecurity



Let
Jesus
ignite
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heart
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of His love.

St. Guanella



OCTOBER 2023





and social misery are eloquent facts of the desperation of our people in their march towards the fullness of life. Nowadays, the news coming to us from the media and different life experiences often make us look up to heaven and ask, like the psalmist: "Where will help come from?" (Ps. 121)

In this context of multiple existential challenges, the world needs a presence that restores hope, a word that reassures people in their life choices, a witness that sheds light on doubts for more convincing action and commitment. In short, our contemporaries need a pilgrim who is walking with them, a witness and bearer of hope. It is in this journey of the men and women of the world that a Guanellian religious, as a pilgrim with his brothers and sisters, accepts to offer himself as the presence of Christ and of hope. Our congregation, in particular our province as an institution of hope is to reassure them and bear witness to the presence of God in this journey towards full communion with Him.

Pope Francis reminds us of this when he says that "a worldwide tragedy like the Covid-19 pandemic momentarily revived the sense that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person's problems are the problems of all. Once more we realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together" (Fratelli Tutti, 32). Human life is a journey, or rather a pilgrimage, to be undertaken as a team with fellow travellers whose presence gives meaning, joy and support in the search for new goals, striving towards the infinite. Walking together on the path of life is a necessity for today's mission. And in a special way for us, it updates and strengthens the importance of his life in community (with a particularly communitarian lifestyle), the awareness of his belonging to the religious family and the Church, to remain in communion for the life and mission of the congregation.

Indeed, being on pilgrimage with others reveals one's desire to participate in the life of the community, communion with the aspirations of each of the pilgrims, sharing one's hopes with others. It is also an expression of one's attitude to welcome and listen to the hopes of others and to carry them together; it is also the will to be part of the community in the making; it is, in fact, being in communion and living synodality. This symbolizes the hope of each pilgrim in the time and space of their existence; but it also imposes on each one the need to define themselves and be aware of who they are on this common journey. As an integral part of the jubilee year for the Church in 2025, the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life (DICLSAL) is inviting the participation of all consecrated men and women in the Jubilee of Consecrated Life to be celebrated in Rome (8-9 October 2025) and nationally in home countries (2 February 2025). wish you all a good preparation to celebrate the jubilee year and happy feast of our holy founder St. Louis Guanella. May our dear founder continue to intercede for us that we may continue to live and spread the Guanellian charism, spirit and mission!

FR. RONALD. J SDC
Provincial Superior





MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SUPERIOR

Dear Confreres

Receive my fraternal greeting, may the love of God dwell in our hearts and make us able to live in fraternity and communion. We entered the month of October, this year particularly rich with events of growth for the Church and the Congregation. In the Church, at Rome, the first session of the Synod on synodality is celebrated. A meaningful and delicate passage in the journey of the Church. The Synod is not only entering the pastoral aspect of the Church's life but also in themes touching its very identity. Our prayer to the Holy Spirit is the best way to be part of such an important gathering for the whole Church, for us all as a Church!

The indication of the 21st General Chapter, which I did, in union with the General Council, on October 2nd, is the Feast of the Guardian Angels. Just as the Angels, in God's name, guard our life and keep watch on our journey, so also each one of us is called to keep watch, to live and foster the gift of the Spirit we received: our charism. The General Chapter is actually an event of evaluation and program starting from the charism.

1. October 9 is the anniversary of Brother Giovanni Vaccari's birth to heaven. He is one of our home saints. The General Postulator already sent specific indications about the way to live this anniversary and also about the process of canonization, which was concluded in Palencia diocese and has started the first phase at the Dicastery of Saints in Rome. Brother Giovanni is another gift, as an example and exhortation to the more and better offered by God to each one of us. Let us be his heirs, with faith and courage.

2. October is the month of our Founder. During this month, over the years, the Church has proclaimed his holiness and the values offered by his life and mission. We are his spiritual sons. It is a grace given by God when He called us to the Congregation of Don Guanella. This work, which was born in the mind and heart of the Heavenly Father, and was offered as a project by the Spirit to Don Guanella, is now entrusted to us. What a responsibility for our life!

The best way to celebrate his feast day and our gratitude to God for the Founder is to take an extra step, to move forward, personally and as a community, in making his spirit and charism shine in our lives. Often the enthusiasm and passion for Don Guanella and his charism appear fading in several confreres, obscured, with little life and attraction. What is happening, dear confreres? We cannot afford such mediocrity. Let's move, roll up our sleeves, and open our hearts to the breath of the Spirit who still wants to accomplish with us, as he did with Don Guanella, miracles of good, growth, holiness, and creative charity. We are always means and co-operators of God in the charity we do! Best wishes to each

and everyone, to the communities, the collaborators in our houses, and the persons we love and serve. May the Founder obtain for us from God liveliness and enthusiasm in living out our charism!





INDICTION OF THE 21ST GENERAL CHAPTER

Dear Confreres,

The time for Chapter is already here!

During these days we are entering the year of preparation to celebrate the 21st General Chapter. We will have the opportunity to recall, give thanks, and pray for all that happened during the past six years, for all we have celebrated, suffered, overcome together, in ways of solidarity and fraternity. We will also see all that we still need to welcome in our hearts and express out, because it is only as shapeless clay, because of our human frailty. During the January meeting of the General Council with the Superiors of Provinces and Delegations, we agreed on some aspects of the celebration of this important event of our Congregations.

- In particular, we chose as theme of our reflection: Faithful and creative in the charism, co-responsible in the mission. With Christ, we take up the challenges of our time!
- The Chapter will begin at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 6, 2024 in the Shrine of the Sacred Heart at Como, with the Eucharistic Celebration to invoke the Holy Spirit. After supper, the Chapter members will move to Barza d'Ispra (Va), the seat of the General Chapter of the Servants of Charity.
- As an indication, the closing of the Chapter will be with the Feast of the Founder in the Shrine at Como, Thursday October 24, 2024, but this shall be decided by the Chapter itself.
- **The Chapters of Provinces and Vice Province, and the Delegations' Assemblies must be celebrated not later than June 2024**, so that at the end of that month the convocation of the members may take place.
- We will not form a special preparatory Committee, rather the General Council will coordinate the preparatory work, involving all the confreres by means of a questionnaire about the Congregation.
- We apply again the **following indications**, already used for the past General Chapters:
 - a) The percentage to be used to elect the Delegates of each Province to the General Chapter is one Delegate every 20 confreres of perpetual vows (or a fraction over 10) and one Delegate every 40 confreres of temporary vows (or fraction over 20)
 - b) The Vice Province "Our Lady of Hope", by way of derogation from the Statutes, will not hold the Assembly of the perpetual confreres but a Vice Province





Chapter, celebrated in analogy with the Provincial Chapters, therefore with the election of the Delegates to the General Chapter.

c) The General Secretary will inform later, giving all the necessary indications for the celebration of the Provincial Chapters and of the General Chapter.
All these taken into account, and having received full consent of the General Council

THE 21ST GENERAL CHAPTER OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE SERVANTS OF CHARITY

May the Holy Spirit enlighten and help us to see the signs of his love in the events of our history. I entrust our effort for a good outcome in the preparation and the execution of the Chapter works to the intercession of Brother Giovanni Vaccari, whose body is buried in the very Chapel where we shall be celebrating the liturgies during the General Chapter. He loved so much the Congregation, may he obtain from the Good Shepherd the necessary assistance to evaluate and plan the life of our Religious Family. I send brotherly greetings to you and to all the members of the large Guanellian Family you will be able to involve in prayer for our important meeting.

Prayer for the 21st General Chapter of the Servants of Charity
October 6 – 24, 2024

God, our Father,
you gather us in community
and send us into the world
to be witnesses of your love;
Lord Jesus Christ ,
you call us to be your disciples
and walk with us along the paths of the world;
Holy Spirit ,
you inspire us to consecrate ourselves
for the mission and to make a home with
the poorest and most abandoned;
Look with favour on your sons
preparing to celebrate the 21st General Chapter.
Give us the gift of discernment to know,
welcome and accomplish your will
with courage, fidelity, humility and trust in You, who are Love.
Holy Trinity,
through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of Divine Providence
of our founder, St. Louis Guanella,
and of the saints of our home,
we entrust to you the preparation and the celebration
of the 21st General Chapter of the Servants of Charity.
- Amen.

Padre Umberto Brugnoli
Superiore Generale SdC





AWARENESS SEMINAR FOR BOYS



CUDDALORE: On 9th September 2023, Don Guanella Boys Home organized a seminar on 'Abuse Awareness' and offered Group and Individual Counselling for boys. It was animated by Mr. Raj Kumar, a renowned psychologist at Mahatma Gandhi Hospital and Research Institute, Puducherry and by Mrs. Salomina, Assistant Professor of St. Joseph's College, Cuddalore. Resource persons offered a basic and practical value-based education to boys. Boys made an appreciative participation with their keen listening and clarifications. Sufficient time for Q/A was a great opportunity for boys to learn more. Boys expressed that it was a useful program for their age and the future. At the end of the program, Fr. Director, who organized the event, thanked and honoured the presenters with mementos.

SKILL COMPETITIONS FOR BOYS

CUDDALORE: On 15 & 16 September 2023, Don Guanella Boys Home conducted Skill Competitions like Singing, Poem writing, Speech, Short stories, Essay writing for boys to exhibit their talents. Boys actively participated and brought out their talents and inspired one another to come forward in the future. Prizes and special gifts were given. It was an



encouraging event for boys to explore in their field of expertise. The judges were Mr. Don Bosco, Mr. Bosco Ezhilan, Miss. Daisy and Mrs. Patricia. Special thanks for their support and availability. Fr. Superior and every confrere in the community gave their great support and collaboration for the animation of competitions. Fr. Director organized the program.





PIOUS ASSOCIATION AND THE PILGRIMAGE



CUDDALORE: On 28th September, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church organized a one-day pilgrimage for the parish pious association (Franciscan Illara Eyakam) and for the parishioners to Chennai (Oonjal Madha Church, Divine Mercy Church-Kelampakkam, Arockia Madha Church-Besant Nagar, St. Antony Shrine-Palavakkam and Kovalam Church). the day brought many rays of blessings and experiences for the pilgrims. With the celebration of the Holy Mass and the recitation of the Holy Rosary, and the visitation of different holy places, It was a nice opportunity to encourage the pious associations and parishioners to increase and strengthen their participation and service to the parish .

CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY FEAST

CUDDALORE: On 8th September 2023, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church, Cuddalore, celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary feast along with all the members of the Parish. Fr. Peri blessed the cart procession at 6 pm followed by Holy Rosary. Then Rev. Fr. Ronald, Provincial Superior celebrated the solemn holy mass and preached the homily. In his homily, he mentioned that we witness in Mary a living and vibrant faith based on her total surrender and commitment to the will of God; She is the greatest among all the saints not just because she is the one closest to the throne of her Son in heaven, but because of her very own exemplary life. After communion, the parish distributed gifts to all the





members of the Legion of Mary. After the holy mass, all those who celebrated their feast day, had a cake-cutting ceremony sharing their joy and devotion with one another. With the distribution of snacks and drinks, the celebration came to its recession. Thanks be to God for the gift of the Blessed Virgin Mother. Ave Maria.

VISION BECOMES A MISSION



Kumbakonam: The community witnessed the Guanellian family spirit and charity by embracing children with special needs and other people who are in need with respect and esteem. Recognizing Christ in each person, the community started providing a basic education that would empower good children with knowledge and skills to succeed in life. Through a caring environment, children were prepared to enhance their skills and talents to positively contribute to the family and society. Every day around 15 beneficiaries are brought to the community through a jeep and are trained to do some basic exercises and games to refresh their mind. After a delicious meal, they were taken back home. The community also has started a CBR program (community-based rehabilitation) where it provides some groceries, medical help, and seasonal gifts to the beneficiaries.

THE GRACE-FILLED DAY

Kumbakonam – It is evident from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. On 9th September, Our Lady of Divine Providence Parish had a great celebration as 60 of young parishioners



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were confirmed by Most Rev. Antonisamy, Bishop of Kumbakonam. Holy Mass was celebrated by the Bishop and in his homily, he explained about the nature of the Holy Spirit and how He works in our lives and shared some tips on how to use the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. Fr. J. David and Sr. A. Saleth prepared the children spiritually for the past two months for this great event. The parents, God-parents, relatives, and friends were very happy about the event. The children were graced and joyed exuberantly upon the reception of the Holy Spirit.

THE FEAST OF MOTHER MARY



Kumbakonam – The Feast of Blessed Mother Mary is a cherished tradition in our church, a day filled with reverence and celebration. Her birthday was not only the beginning of Her life, but it also bore new hope in the birth of the One who will give men their rebirth by becoming God's children. The feast began on September 01 with a flag hoist by the parish priest. Fr. C. Paul eloquently shared about Mother Mary's significance on this special occasion. As everyone gathered in the church, the atmosphere was infused with a sense of devotion. The backdrop was meticulously crafted by the parish youth group. It depicted Our Lady of Veilankanni on the boat, which was adorned with vibrant flowers and symbols representing the spiritual symbols of the Blessed Mother. It served as a beautiful tribute to the Mother Mary of Jesus. On 8th September, the faithful were taken in procession to venerate the beautifully decorated statue of our Blessed Mother with prayers and praises. The small decorated Mother Mary statue was taken to substations of the parish where people recited rosary and other prayers, sang songs, and made silent prayers invoking the blessings for all. It was a day of reflection, a reminder of the values that Mother Mary epitomizes, and an opportunity for all to emulate her grace and kindness in life. The Feast of Mother Mary is not just a religious observance it is a day when the parish community comes together to celebrate love, kindness, and faith. It reminds all to strive for these virtues in daily life, making it a significant day. Ave Maria!

CONGRATULATIONS



CHENNAI: Congratulations to Mrs. Deepa Devi, the Principal of Don Guanella Special School, on receiving the Best Special Educator Award from the Lions Club. This is a well-



deserved recognition for her dedication and hard work in the field of special education. Her commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of students with special needs is truly praiseworthy. We wish Mrs. Deepa Devi continued success in her important work and hope that her efforts continue to benefit the special education community.

TEACHER'S DAY

CHENNAI: Teacher's Day was celebrated on 5th Sept, in DGS school with pomp and grandeur. Rev. Fr. Ligori was invited as the chief guest for the program. The guests and the teachers were welcomed with flowers and gifts. The Parents and students performed various cultural activities like Dance, songs, felicitation, fun games, etc. The Chief guest delivered an impressive speech about teachers and the cause of education. Fr. Director thanked all the teachers for their immense contribution to the school throughout the years. Finally, delicious food was distributed and the event came to an end around 4 P.M.



A QUARTERLY ASSESSMENT

CHENNAI: DGSS organized a quarterly assessment for students from 11th to 13th September on the school premises. Everyone participated with great interest and collaboration. The evaluation of the students' performances and their activities was done, and the progress cards were made. In light of this, from 14 to 26 September, the faculty team spoke to each parent individually about the student's development and progress. The team presented their perspectives to the parents, upon their children's accomplishments, achievements in the first term, and



their indicated goal setting for the upcoming terms. The director thanked all the parents for their great support and contribution to their children's growth and development, and strongly urged them to involve more in their children's academic and extracurricular activities.



EVENING SCHOOL TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Koppaka: Teachers are often considered the architects of society, shaping the minds of future generations and imparting knowledge that lasts a lifetime. On 5th September every year, the world celebrates Teachers' Day, a day dedicated to honoring these exceptional individuals. While teachers from regular schools receive recognition and appreciation on this day, it is equally important to acknowledge the efforts of **Evening School Teachers** who work tirelessly to educate and enhance children. Despite the challenges they face, evening school teachers create a nurturing and inclusive learning environment where students feel encouraged and motivated to excel. On this day Guanella Bhavan honoured these unsung heroes and acknowledged their significant contributions. At the end of the day, all teachers were invited to the Koppaka seminary and were served delicious food. And as a token of love, a small gift was presented to them.



THE NATIVITY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Vatluru: Pope Francis said "I like to invoke Our Lady in this aspect,". "Our Lady 'in haste,' who always gets things done quickly, never keeps us waiting, because she is the Mother of all." It was an August celebration in the Sacred Heart Church, Vatluru where the parish celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in a grandeur way. People actively participated in all the liturgical activities with great devotion to Mary, interceding for her unfailing help and intercession. The festal Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Dr. Inje Paul, the local VF. There was a solemn cart procession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.





TEACHERS' DAY



ANTHONIYARPURAM: On 5th September, Anthonyarpuram parish celebrated Teachers' Day in the church. All teachers from the parish were invited to participate in the holy mass. Special prayers and blessings were offered for them. Children from the parish presented special gifts to all the teachers.

Fr. Johnson SDB was the special invitee for this special occasion who also celebrated his 25th Priestly ordination anniversary. He preached about the teachers' vocation and ministry to the Catholic Church. At the end of the Holy Mass, teachers together cut the cake and shared their joy of being educators.

LED WITH A VISION

CUDDALORE: At the beginning of September from the 4th to the 9th the SJS community rejoiced in welcoming Fr. Provincial Superior to inspire excellence and embrace growth in the initiation candidates for the classes on Introduction to Grammar. The students were truly inspired to have a thirst for knowledge and gain wisdom with the view of excelling later. The presence and stay of the Major Superior inspired the young ones and the community members to be of help and equip themselves all the more. With a note of thanks on the final day, the students thanked and made a show of their learning from the classes.



NEW HELPING HANDS

BANGALORE: It was once again a great day for our GPN community to have two prominent companies i.e Food Bank Bangalore with the association of Delta Airlines came over here to visit our elderly destitute home. FBB has chosen our home to sponsor the monthly basic needs. So in view of it all the staff





of the two companies around made their presence and spent time with our elderly men organizing some fun activates like musical chair, Dance on the paper, treasure hunt and entertained them. Our elderly men enjoyed the programme and were enthused. They also had a wonderful sharing with them and encouraged everybody to be and joyfully. Finally the programme came to an end with vote of thank by Fr. Kulandaisamy.

BIRTHDAY TO MOTHER MAY

Anthonyarpuram : On the 7th of September Anthonyarpuram organized a Night vigil ceremony in view of celebrating the birthday of our Blessed Mother Mary. All the faithful gathered in the church prayed the holy rosary and participated in the car procession. They also conducted inner healing service followed by the Holy Mass and birthday cake cutting for the Blessed Mother. Fr. Kanikkai celebrated his birthday on this precious occasion and he cut the cake.



STAFF'S JOY OF EXPOSURE

Don Guanella Special School staff and students were taken on a visit to Rameshwaram, Sivagangai, Madurai, and Dindigul from 28th to 30th September. These are well-known tourist destinations in Tamil Nadu, a state in southern India famed for its cultural and historical significance. Rameshwaram is famous for its temple, the Baman Bridge, the Abdul Kalam Cementry, and its scenic splendor. They also visited the Kaleeswarar temple in Kalayar Kovil and the Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple, a magnificent Hindu temple devoted to the Goddess Meenakshi. It sounds like a fascinating journey filled with religious, cultural, and natural experiences.





VOLUNTEERS OF VITO



BANGALORE:“Life's most persistent and urgent question, what are you doing for others?” Martin Luther King Jr. To answer this question we have some of the Volunteers of VITO group who are members from different IT companies coming together for one particular purpose. This VITO made their visit to our home and entertained our elderly men. First they had introductory session among themselves. Then the volunteers made our elderly men very active by organizing some mind refreshing games and fun activities. The group was so service minded. Our thathas had a very good time enjoying the activities.

A PILGRIM SURPRISE

Grass Lake - On September 10th a group of Chaldean pilgrims visited the Shrine. Though the visit was unexpected, volunteers quickly arranged candles and manned the gift shop. The pilgrims then lit candles, donated for gift shop items, and attended a special 12:00 pm Mass celebrated by Fr. Leo. After that, the pilgrims enjoyed the grounds and quiet prayer time. As they left, they thanked Fr. Leo for the beautiful Mass and warm welcome from everyone.

A TIME TO REMEMBER

Chelsea – September 11th is a day for all Americans to take a moment of silence to remember the lives lost on that day 22 years ago, those who were victims of the attacks and those first responders who risked their lives for others. This year, the St. Louis Center residents and staff gathered for a short ceremony of reflection organized by the Center's staff. Each participant got a candle upon entering the gym. Brad Crosier, a direct care worker, spoke briefly about the events that day and Fr. Franklin offered a



prayer and blessing. Each person with the candle turned it on and a moment of silence was observed. To end the commemoration, the song “I Believe – A 9/11 Tribute” was played as everyone departed.



LIVE ON THE AIR

Chelsea – Ave Maria Radio in Ann Arbor MI is a major contributor to the EWTN Global Catholic Radio network. They produce several shows locally that have nation and global syndication. In order to continue producing their quality programming they have on air pledge drives. On September 13th Fr. Amal was an in-studio guest, and Fr. Enzo was interviewed on the 14th. They each spoke about different aspects of the Guanellian Mission, St. Louis Center, euthanasia and abortion. Callers responded to the inspiring work being done here in Chelsea and around the globe.



INSPIRING YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



Chelsea – A nearby high school reached out to the St. Louis Center Volunteer Coordinator, Michelle Mikolajcyk in order to help instill leadership and giving into the hearts of some of the graduating seniors. Each week, six students head out to the Center during class time to help engage Day Program participants in fun activities. They put together puzzles, play board games, corn hole and floor hockey. There is a bit of fun for everyone. The residents of the Center get to make new friends and the students learn about life for people with different abilities than their own.

FUNDING A FUTURE

Chelsea – Through the generosity of a St. Louis Center benefactor, current staff members and their family members are eligible to apply for a scholarship to help fund their higher education.





Several staff members applied for the scholarship, but one young woman stood above the rest with her impressive application. Isabell Frey, Housekeeping Lead, embarked on an intensive boot camp at Michigan State University to further her studies in cybersecurity. Her grandparents, her aunt, and her boyfriend joined her at the Center on Wednesday, September 20th to receive her award and met Will Johnson, the scholarship funder. It was a very proud moment not only for Isabell and her family, but the Center's administration as well.

CELEBRATING OUR STAFF

Chelsea – Guanellian staff around the globe do work that is far from glamorous and are often barely recognized for their efforts. To show appreciation for their hard work, St. Louis Center hosted an All-Staff Day September 21st. The day began with a light breakfast provided by the family members of Center residents. Several different personal development trainings were offered, topics that not only benefit the work they do at the Center, but in their personal lives as well. During lunch in the gym, vendors were on hand to assist with benefits and the nurses took blood pressure readings. The day also included games and prizes. The most popular activity was the t-shirt contest. The staff is anxious to purchase a shirt with the winning design. The day was quite successful and organizers plan to offer this each year.



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300 MEN WHO CARE



Chelsea – Thursday, September 21st was an evening of fellowship, food, football, and fun for about 300 men wanting to support St. Louis Center. The Randazzo family hosted the 8th Annual Men's Social at their Macomb Township store. Sonny Randazzo, the main organizer of the event, lost his father just the week before. He said, "My dad may have passed away, but he would want us to continue." The Italian-American community truly treats the work of St. Louis Center and the Servants of Charity with the utmost dignity and respect, and it showed by the outpouring at this year's event. All proceeds benefit the Center. The Knights of Columbus also had a visible presence this year. Chris Kolomjec, State Deputy; Charles McCuen, State Treasurer; Dan Fuller, State Warden; Walter Winkle, Immediate Past State Deputy; and Larry Grabowski, Executive Secretary; were all in attendance. Ken Unterbrink, Past State Deputy, was also present. He remarked, "It was an amazing evening of fellowship for men united in a singular cause ... supporting St. Louis Center and people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities."

ANGELS ON EARTH





Chelsea – Members of the Italian American Club of Livonia have been hosting a benefit dinner for St. Louis Center for the past 27 years. This year, 250 people gathered at the 'Be a Guardian Angel for St. Louis Center' event. Fr. Enzo Addari opened the event by celebrating Mass in the lower level of the Italian American Club's Banquet Center in Livonia. After Mass, the banquet room opened for attendees to explore the silent auction items, and support the other gift raffles. This year was several live auction items that offered the chance to vacation 'Up North' at private homes, a local restaurant donated a meal for 8, and Cantoro Market gave a basket of fine Italian foods which included a 15 pound Prosciutto. The organizing committee did a fantastic job of gathering gifts and entertainment to make the benefit event a huge success, especially the free will appeal that is helping to cover the cost of new furnishing for St. Joseph Hall. Eight residents of St. Louis Center enjoyed the event and helped the guests understand more fully how much their generosity is appreciated.

ALHAMBRA RIVER CRUISE

Chelsea – The International Order of Alhambra exists almost exclusively to serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. On Sunday, September 24, 2023, Manresa Caravan 217 and 21 volunteers treated approximately 100 people with IDD on a two hour Diamond Jack boat cruise on the Detroit River. The boat headed along the Detroit side of the river, rounded Belle Isle, cruised along the Canadian side, and traveled under the Ambassador Bridge before returning to the dock. They enjoyed pizza, snacks, and beverages. A variety of music provided a backdrop for dancing and sightseeing. 20 St. Louis Center residents were accompanied by 5 staff members. Staci Ellerby, Social Services Assistant, said, "I had such a great time on this outing last year that when I heard they were going again, I knew I had to go."

FIRST GOLF TOURNAMENT



East Providence: Sacred Heart School held its first Golf Tournament on 20th September. The event, took place at Swansea Country Club, was a huge success. The fund that was raised up for the school totally out of the generosity of those Golf Tournament Club members.

SCHOOL YEAR

East Providence: To invoke the blessings of the Lord in the beginning of the academic year 2023-2024 Fr. Silvio celebrated the holy Mass in the school and gave a blessings to the faculty and staff in order strengthen their wisdom with the intercession of St. Louis Guanella.





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Birthdays

5 - Fr. Maria Arokiadoss
 7 - Fr. Visuwasam
 8 - Fr. Satheesh Caniton. A
 10 - Fr. James Stanley Babu
 11 - Fr. Anthony Lourduraj. S
 12. Fr. Nico Rutigliano
 17 - Fr. Antony Xaviour. R
 19 - Fr. Arockia Nathan
 20 - Fr. Soosai Rathinam
 21 - Fr. Francis Sunil Kumar
 27 - Fr. Arul
 29 - Fr. Anandhan T.

FEAST DAYS

1 - Fr. Kulandaisamy/
 Fr. P. Kulandai
 4.- Fr. Francis Assisi
 7 - Fr. Praveen Jeba Kumar

Best Wishes

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Prayer to Saint Louis Guanella

O Saint Louis Guanella, apostle of charity,
 who spread the treasures of your heart to the

poor and suffering,
 whom you dearly loved, in a world filled with

hatred and selfishness,
 obtain for us from Divine Providence
 an ever increasing love of God
 and our neighbor.

Obtain for us also
 the favor we are now asking for...,
 (ask for the grace that is needed ...)
 and the grace of final perseverance.

Amen.

