



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER- 2026

DIVINE PROVIDENCE PROVINCE

THE WORLD NEEDS A MOTHER

The month of September invites us to contemplate the heart of our Guanellian vocation through three profound signs of faith: the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and the witness of Don Armando Budino (1913–1993), former Superior General of the Servants of Charity. From Mary, the Mother who stood beneath the Cross, and from the faithful witness of Don Armando, we are invited to rediscover what our wounded world needs most today: “THE WORLD NEEDS A MOTHER.”

Who Is a Mother?

A mother is not adequately understood through a definition but through experience: in her embrace, sacrifices, hidden tears, sleepless nights, silent prayers and the joy of seeing her children grow. Motherhood is love, sacrifice, patience, protection, forgiveness, hope and self-giving. Behind many beautiful lives, strong families and generous vocations stands the silent and often unseen love of a mother.

The First School of Love

Before we understood the word love, we experienced it through our mother. Before we learned to pray, someone prayed for us. A mother is our first school of love. True maternal love does not teach hatred, violence or revenge. A mother desires life and goodness for her child, and because she knows the



value of her own child, she can understand the value of another mother's child. Perhaps this is why the world so desperately needs a mother's heart. We have extraordinary technology, knowledge, wealth and power, yet humanity still struggles to live the simplest lesson we learned at home: love one another.

If we asked our mothers, "What is your dream for me?", would they ever answer, "I want you to hate, destroy or make another mother weep"? No. Their dream is simple: Live well. Love. Be good. Be happy. Do good to others. What might happen if humanity listened again to the wisdom of its mothers? Perhaps there would be more peace, forgiveness, joy and charity.

Mary: Mother of Humanity

There is no substitute for our own mother. Yet, in His loving Providence, God gave humanity a Mother who belongs to us all: the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary's motherhood began with her humble "Yes to the End". She loved when she understood and when she did not understand; when her Son was welcomed and when He was rejected; when He was praised and when He was mocked. At Calvary, Mary stood beneath the Cross. Her suffering could have become hatred, but she allowed it to become love. Her breath became prayer. Her tears became compassion. Her silence became forgiveness. Her suffering became an offering. Her presence became hope. At the very place where humanity revealed its capacity for cruelty, Mary revealed the greater strength of the human heart: the capacity to continue loving. That is motherhood at its highest.

The World Needs a Mother

Today, the world does not need more hatred to defeat hatred, nor revenge to answer revenge. The world needs a Mother. It needs Mary's heart—a heart that remains tender without becoming weak, that suffers without learning hatred, that is wounded without becoming a weapon, and that stands beside humanity's crosses without losing hope. Mary does not invite us merely to admire her but to imitate her. If families learned her tenderness, communities her patience, leaders her compassion, nations their respect for life, and each of us her capacity to forgive and love, many wounds of our world could begin to heal. Perhaps peace begins not first at negotiating tables, but at a mother's knee, in a mother's embrace, through a mother's prayer, and within a heart that has learned to love. Let us therefore remember our own mothers with gratitude. Let us cherish their sacrifices and listen again to the values they planted within us. And above all, let us return to Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of humanity, asking her to teach us tenderness, compassion, obedience, patience, forgiveness and love.



As we conclude, I extend my prayerful greetings to all our confreres and Guanellian Sisters gathered in Italy for formation and for a deeper renewal of our Guanellian charism. Let us continue to pray for our Superior General, entrusting his health and speedy recovery to the loving Providence of God.

I also kindly ask every community for full cooperation with the Economy Office regarding the latest requests and the forthcoming visit of the Economy Office team. In the midst of the challenges and difficulties we face, let us remain united, transparent, responsible, and faithful to our mission. May Divine Providence guide us, strengthen our communion, and help us to live our Guanellian charism with renewed faith, charity and hope.



FR. GNANARAJ SDC
Servant of God's Love

PROVINCIAL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER - 2026

- 7 Sep, 2026 – DGMS Society Meeting @ DGMS
- 10 Sep, 2026 – Meeting of Superiors and Residence-in-Charges (India), online at 10:00 a.m.
- 14 Sep, 2026 – Society of Servants of Charity Meeting, Dindigul
- 16 Sep, 2026 – Guanellian Society Meeting, Madurai
- 28–29Sep, 2026– Meeting of Provincials and Delegates, online





MADURAI ZONAL RECOLLECTION

DINDIGUL : The Zonal Recollection, with participants from the Sivakasi, Madurai, and Dindigul communities, was held on August 1, 2026, at Yesuvanam Community in Sivagangai. The recollection day was animated by Fr. Thomas, Spiritual Director of the Idaikkattur Shrine, on the theme “Narcissistic Attitude of Priesthood.” During the session, attention was drawn to five important aspects of priestly life: respecting others rather than being self-centred and seeking respect, serving others rather than seeking recognition, accepting correction rather than being defensive, cultivating humility rather than promoting oneself, and placing God and the mission at the centre rather than seeking personal glory. The participants were invited to examine their attitudes, relationships, and ways of exercising priestly ministry in the light of these reflections. The recollection provided a meaningful opportunity for prayer, reflection, self-examination, and renewal, encouraging everyone to embrace a more humble, selfless, and Christ-centred approach to priestly service.

PROVIDENCE OF GOD

WARANGAL : A great opportunity was provided to celebrate Holy Mass in one of the larger parishes of the Khammam Diocese through the initiative of Guanella Prema Nivasam, Warangal. Rev. Fr. G. Suresh Kumar, PIME, Parish Priest of Blessed John Mazzucconi Church, Khammam North Parish, generously introduced the mission of Guanella Prema Nivasam and spoke to the faithful about our “Good Children” and the charism of St. Louis Guanella. The faithful were encouraged to extend their support through donations such as rice bags, financial contributions, old clothes, and other



useful items. In response to this appeal, several generous-hearted parishioners came forward and offered whatever they could. Their generosity and solidarity became a beautiful expression of Providence and concern for the children entrusted to our care. For this gracious support and the generosity of the faithful, heartfelt gratitude is expressed to God, whose loving Providence continues to sustain the mission, and to Our Lady of Divine Providence, under whose maternal protection the work is carried forward.

80TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

WARANGAL : The 80th Independence Day was celebrated with great joy and patriotic spirit at Don Guanella Day Care Centre, Warangal, with the participation of the special children, lovingly called our “good children,” along with the children of Don Guanella Evening School. The celebration was graced by Mr. Badeपुरi Aswarya Gopinath, Councillor of Ward No. 23 of the Municipality, who served as the Chief Guest. He was deeply impressed by the mission and charitable service being carried out for the children in the locality and assured his continued support and availability for the mission. Rev. Fr. Paul Raju, Rev. Fr. Saimon, the local Parish Priest, and Rev. Sr. Fathima were also present as honoured guests. The programme commenced with the hoisting of the National Flag, followed by a vibrant cultural programme presented by the children. Gifts were distributed to the children, and the celebration concluded with a delicious meal shared by all. The day was marked by gratitude, joy,





patriotism, and a renewed commitment to serving society with love and compassion. May our beloved nation continue to shine in unity, peace, and prosperity. Be proud to be an Indian. Jai Hind!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF MOTHER TERESA



WARANGAL: The birthday of St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) was joyfully celebrated at the Mother Teresa Centre in Mahabubabad, located near the Guanella Day Care Centre, Warangal. The special children of the Guanella Day Care Centre, together with the children of Don Guanella Evening School, resident priests, the local Parish Priest, and the staff, actively participated in the celebration. The gathering provided a beautiful opportunity for everyone to remember and honour the life and mission of Mother Teresa, whose extraordinary love for the poor, the sick, and the most vulnerable continues to inspire people across the world. The participation of our “good children” added great joy and meaning to the celebration, while the presence of the priests, children, and staff strengthened the spirit of unity and fellowship. The celebration was experienced as a meaningful reminder of the call to serve others with love, compassion, humility, and selfless dedication, following the example of Mother Teresa.

SEMINAR

KOPPAKA: An enriching seminar on the “Statutes of Guanellian Cooperators” was conducted for the GC Aspirants at Guanella Bhavan. The session was led by Mr. Dominic and Mr. Hubert, who guided the participants in understanding the spirit, mission, vocation, and commitment of a Guanellian Cooperator. The seminar began with prayer and an introduction to the Guanellian charism, followed by a detailed explanation of the Statutes, including the foundational principles, rights, duties, responsibilities, and spiritual commitments of the Guanellian Cooperators’



Movement. Particular emphasis was placed on the vocation to serve the poor, the needy, and persons with disabilities with the compassionate heart of Christ. Through examples from the life and mission of St. Luigi Guanella, the participants were reminded that faith, charity, compassion, and selfless service are essential elements of the Guanellian identity. The aspirants were also encouraged to reflect on how the Guanellian spirit could be lived in their families, workplaces, and local communities.

The interactive nature of the session provided an opportunity for the GC Aspirants to raise questions, share reflections, and deepen their understanding of their vocation. It was emphasised that formation is an ongoing journey of prayer, service, and fraternity. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks and group prayer. The participants expressed their gratitude for the clarity and inspiration received, and the session was experienced as an important step in their formation and preparation to walk more closely with the Guanellian family and to live the mission of charity more intentionally.

NEW LAWNMOWER





KOPPAKA: On 15 August 2026, the joyful occasion of Independence Day and the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was marked with a special blessing at Guanella Bhavan, as a new lawnmower, generously sponsored by a kind-hearted donor, was blessed and received with gratitude. On this double feast day, celebrating the freedom of our beloved nation and the glory of our Heavenly Mother, the gift was gratefully welcomed as a beautiful sign of the Providence of God. The new lawnmower will be of great assistance in maintaining the campus clean, green, and beautiful, thereby contributing to a pleasant environment for all. Heartfelt gratitude is expressed to the generous donor and to Rev. Fr. Pandian, through whom this blessing of Providence was made possible. May God, through the loving intercession of Our Lady of Divine Providence, assumed into Heaven, bless them abundantly and reward their generosity. Happy Independence Day and Happy Feast of the Assumption!

A DAY OF JOYFUL SERVICE

TANJORE : On Sunday, 16 August 2026, Trinity Hospice was blessed with a joyful celebration of charity, community, and active faith when 25 members of the Guanellian Lay Movement (GLM), accompanied by their Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Bernandes, travelled from Karupur Guanellian Parish, Kumbakonam, to spend a memorable day with the residents. The visit was marked by generous service and genuine fellowship. The entire lunch was lovingly planned, sponsored, prepared, and brought from Kumbakonam by the GLM members themselves. Upon their arrival, they were warmly welcomed by the Fathers and residents, and the gathering began with a prayer of gratitude.

The afternoon continued with lively cultural performances, including dances presented by couples and children from the GLM. Encouraged by the joyful atmosphere, several elderly residents also participated by singing and dancing with





the visiting families, making the celebration a truly memorable experience. Beyond the cultural programme, the GLM members spent personal time with the residents, listening attentively to their life stories and memories and offering them meaningful companionship. Their generosity extended beyond their presence, as several members, deeply moved by the needs of the hospice, offered spontaneous financial contributions and donated the daily kitchen requirements. Heartfelt gratitude is extended to Rev. Fr. Bernandes and the entire Guanellian Lay Movement of Karupur Parish for bringing love, laughter, generosity, and solidarity to the residents of Trinity Hospice and for making the day a beautiful expression of the Guanellian mission of serving others with a compassionate heart.

ONE-DAY PICNIC



KUMBAKONAM - On 22 August 2026, the people of Santhanalpuram Sub-Station enjoyed a joyful one-day excursion to Pichavaram. A group of 24 participants took part in the outing and enjoyed a memorable boat ride through the beautiful waters of Pichavaram. Two boats were arranged for the group, and the participants spent an enjoyable hour experiencing the natural beauty and refreshing atmosphere of the place. Following the boat ride, Mr. Aruldas generously arranged and served a delicious meal for everyone.

In the afternoon, the group travelled to Cuddalore, where they visited our Boys' Home and were warmly welcomed by the community, who provided traditional Tamil Nadu snacks. The group then visited our Minor Seminary and Sagayamatha Parish Church, where they spent time in prayer and fellowship. The excursion continued with a visit to Silver Beach, where everyone enjoyed the beautiful seashore and the refreshing atmosphere. After a day filled with recreation, fellowship, and meaningful visits, the group returned happily to Kumbakonam, carrying with them joyful memories of a wonderful day together.



PILGRIMAGE TO ST. ANNE'S CHURCH



CUDDALORE : On 8 August 2026, the Legion of Mary from Sagayamatha Parish, Cuddalore, undertook a prayerful pilgrimage to St. Anne's Church, Korukumedu, Pondicherry. The journey commenced at 9:00 a.m., and the pilgrims reached the church at 10:00 a.m. As an expression of thanksgiving, Pongal was offered in front of the church, after which the pilgrims gathered in prayer and devotion. The Holy Rosary was recited with various intentions, seeking the maternal intercession of Mother Mary and the heavenly protection of St. Anne. Following the Rosary, Fr. Vincent, the Parish Priest, celebrated Holy Mass and delivered a meaningful and inspiring homily, encouraging the faithful to deepen their faith and devotion. The pilgrimage concluded with a joyful fellowship meal shared by all the participants. The day proved to be a blessed opportunity for prayer, thanksgiving, spiritual renewal, and fraternity, strengthening the bonds of faith, devotion, unity, and community fellowship among the members of the Legion of Mary.

YOUTH INAUGURATION





CUDDALORE: On Sunday, 16 August 2026, the Parish Youth Group was inaugurated at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church, Samupillai Nagar, Cuddalore, with great joy and enthusiasm. Rev. Fr. Jeeyaseelan, SdC, Youth Director and Vocation Promoter of the Province, presided over the Holy Mass and delivered an inspiring homily, encouraging the young people to deepen their faith, actively participate in the life and mission of the Church, and generously offer their talents and time for pastoral activities. The liturgy was beautifully animated by the youth, reflecting their enthusiasm and commitment to the parish community.

Following the Holy Mass, Fr. Jeeyaseelan, SdC, spoke about the importance of young people in the pastoral mission of the Church, reminding them that they are vital pillars of the Church and have a special responsibility in building a vibrant, united, and faith-filled Christian community. The programme was animated by the Parish Priest, Fr. Vincent, SdC, with the valuable support and guidance of the Parish Youth Coordinator, Mrs. Arockiamary, Professor at St. Joseph's College. The inauguration marked a meaningful new beginning for the parish youth, encouraging them to journey together in faith, fellowship, service, and leadership, while joyfully discovering and responding to their role in the mission of the Church.

7TH ANNIVERSARY NEW CHURCH

CUDDALORE- On 24 August 2026, the Feast of St. Bartholomew was joyfully marked with the celebration of the 7th Anniversary of the new church of Sagayamatha Parish. The celebration commenced at 6:00 p.m. with the blessing of the car procession by Rev. Fr. Mathias, SdC, Rector of SJS, followed by the Holy Rosary. The Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Francis, SdC, Province Treasurer and Councillor, with Rev. Fr. James, Rev. Fr. Vanathiyan, Rev. Fr. Antony Xavier, and Rev. Fr. Rishar concelebrating. Rev. Fr. Arun David preached an inspiring homily, inviting the faithful to give thanks





for God's blessings and to remember with gratitude all those who contributed their time, talents, resources, and prayers towards the construction of the beautiful and historic church. At the conclusion of the celebration, Fr. M. Vincent, Parish Priest, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the confreres, sisters, and parishioners for their generous collaboration and support in making the dream of the faithful a reality. The presence and participation of the Superiors, confreres, and sisters from the local communities added great joy and beauty to the occasion. Special appreciation was expressed to Fr. Francis Xavier, Fr. Johnson, and Selvan Imman for their dedicated efforts in providing the live YouTube telecast and photographs, enabling people from different places to participate spiritually in the celebration.

A TRANSFORMATIVE DAY



CUDDALORE, SJS - In celebration of the 250th Jubilee of the Missions Étrangères de Paris (MEP) in Puducherry, the brothers of Saint Joseph Minor Seminary were given an enriching opportunity to step away from their daily routine and participate in a transformative half-day excursion. Accompanied by Fr. Carlos and Bro. Arokiasamy, the seminarians travelled by public transport in two groups to explore the rich heritage and missionary contribution of the MEP Fathers in India and beyond. Upon reaching the jubilee venue, the brothers visited the special MEP historical exhibition stalls, where they interacted with the guides, listened to detailed explanations, and participated in meaningful discussions about the history, growth, and global mission of the congregation. Following the exhibition, the brothers joined thousands of faithful for the solemn Thanksgiving Mass, presided over by Cardinal Oswald Gracias, in the presence of numerous bishops, priests, religious sisters, and lay faithful, creating a profound atmosphere of faith, gratitude, and unity. The excursion concluded on a joyful and positive note, and during their reflections, the brothers expressed how deeply they valued the experience.



OUR ANNUAL FIELD VISIT

CUDDALORE, SJS- Learning extends far beyond textbooks and classrooms, and this was beautifully experienced by the XI Standard students of St. Joseph's School during their annual field visit to Puducherry Beach, a local park, and the Botanical Garden. The excursion provided the seminarians with a valuable opportunity to connect their classroom learning with real-world experiences through observation, exploration, and interaction with their surroundings. The students enthusiastically explored the natural environment, observed local flora and fauna, and engaged in meaningful discussions and questions throughout the visit.

As part of the excursion, they also visited the MEP (Missions Étrangères de Paris) historical exhibition, where they deepened their understanding of the history, growth, missionary contribution, and long-standing presence of the congregation in Puducherry. The visit became not only an academic experience but also an occasion for fellowship and recreation, as the students enjoyed group discussions, a picnic lunch, and valuable moments of bonding with their classmates and teachers. The field visit proved to be a joyful and enriching experience, reminding the students that experiential learning can inspire curiosity, broaden understanding, and make education more meaningful.

A MONTH OF BLESSINGS

CUDDALORE, SJS - In a spirit of joy, gratitude, and fellowship, the St. Joseph's Minor Seminary (SJS) community sets aside a special day each month to celebrate the birthdays and ordination anniversaries of its members. While each personal milestone is remembered with prayer and warm greetings on the respective day, the community also gathers for a joyful joint celebration, sharing in the happiness of the



celebrants as one united family. On 29 August 2026, the monthly celebration was organised as a vibrant cultural programme, providing the brothers with an opportunity to express their creativity through handmade greeting cards, heartfelt poetry, speeches, music, dance, and meaningful mime performances dedicated to the celebrants. Beyond entertainment, the gathering served an important formative purpose, helping the brothers overcome stage fear, step beyond familiar peer groups, develop confidence, and strengthen bonds across different languages and backgrounds. The day became a beautiful occasion of thanksgiving, celebrating the milestones of the community while highlighting the strong bonds of brotherhood, deep faith, and vibrant family spirit that characterize the SJS community.

A HEARTFELT THANKSGIVING



KUNNAMALAI: The Kunnamalai Community expresses its heartfelt gratitude to the Guanella Preethi Nivas Community, Bengaluru, for their generous charity and loving concern towards those in need. Various useful items, including study tables, computer tables, snacks, grocery items, and old clothes, were generously provided by the Preethi Nivas Community. These gifts were received with deep gratitude and were subsequently shared with needy people in the locality, allowing the generosity



extended by the community to become a blessing for many more. The study tables and computer tables have been particularly useful in supporting the educational needs of children and young people, while the snacks and grocery items have provided assistance to families facing daily difficulties. This beautiful act of sharing reflects the spirit of St. Louis Guanella, who dedicated his life to serving the poor, the abandoned, and those most in need. Through such generosity, the Guanellian charism of charity and service continues to reach and transform lives. Sincere gratitude is extended to the priests, staff, benefactors, and every member of the Guanella Preethi Nivas Community, Bengaluru, for their kindness and generosity.

HOPE GIVERS BRING JOY AND DIGNITY



Bengaluru: In a heartwarming gesture of care and solidarity, Hope Givers, a social initiative led by its founder, Mr. Anand, and his team, visited Guanella Preethi Nivas Trust and extended their generous support to the children by providing essential educational and nutritional items. As part of the initiative, new study and activity tables were donated, offering the children a comfortable and dedicated space for learning, reading, and creative activities. Fresh fruits and snacks were also distributed, bringing joy and nourishment to the children. Beyond the material assistance, the visit became a meaningful expression of charity, dignity, and compassionate service, reminding the children that their education, well-being, and future are valued. Mr. Anand highlighted that providing proper study facilities helps promote dignity in learning, while sharing fresh treats brings immediate happiness to the children. The representatives of Guanella Preethi Nivas expressed their sincere gratitude to Mr. Anand and the entire Hope Givers team for their generosity and concern. The children joyfully participated in interactive activities with the visitors, and the gathering concluded with refreshments shared in an atmosphere of friendship and fellowship.



80TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

BENGALURU: The 80th Independence Day of India was celebrated with great patriotic spirit and enthusiasm at Guanella Preethi Nivas Trust, Geddalahalli, Kothanur, Bengaluru, on 15 August 2026, in collaboration with Karnataka Craistara Rakshana Vedike (R). The celebration commenced with the hoisting of the National Flag by Dr. H.T. Sangliana, former Member of Parliament and retired IPS officer, in the presence of Rev. Fr. Gnanaraj, SdC, Provincial Superior, and Rev. Fr. Kulandai Samy, SdC, Local Superior of the Community. The programme highlighted the valuable contribution of Christians to the development of India and emphasised the importance of social justice. Shri Ramesh Kumar, former Minister and former Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, delivered the keynote address on “The Contribution of Christians in Developing India,” while Shri C.S. Dwarkanath, former Chairman of the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, addressed the gathering on “Christianity and Social Justice.”

The programme also featured the presentation of the “Nenapina Kaanike” Awards to distinguished personalities in recognition of their valuable contributions to society. Special honours were conferred upon Mr. S.P. Rajesh Gowda, former BSNL Director, Government of India; S. Mary, retired Police Sub-Inspector; and Rev. C. Ramu of Christ Church Gospel Ministries, Bengaluru. The celebration was jointly organized by Rev. Fr. Kulandai Samy, SdC, Superior of Guanella Preethi Nivas and Preethi Nivas Trust, along with Shri M.S. Gurudas, Rev. John Mendes, and Shri Prithvipal. The event became a meaningful expression of patriotism, social responsibility, Christian contribution, and commitment to justice, reminding all present that the gift of freedom calls every citizen to work together towards building a more compassionate, inclusive, peaceful, and just India.



YOUTH POWER



KUNNAMALAI: The New Dawn Social Work Centre, Paramathi, Namakkal District, run by the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod (SCC), organized a meaningful seminar for young people on the theme “Forging Youth Power.” The seminar marked a new beginning by bringing young people together beyond religious differences and creating a common platform for unity, fellowship, and social responsibility. The session was led by Sr. Rosi, SCC, who highlighted the power, potential, and responsibility of youth in transforming society. The participants were encouraged to recognize their talents, develop leadership qualities, strengthen teamwork and self-confidence, and actively contribute to the well-being of their families, communities, and society. The seminar inspired the young people to understand that when youth come together with a common vision, their collective strength can become a powerful force for positive change. It provided an opportunity for them to move beyond differences and limitations and to work towards building a more inclusive, peaceful, and compassionate society. The programme was successfully coordinated by Sr. Jeyarani, Director of New Dawn Social Work Centre, together with the dedicated staff, whose efforts and commitment contributed greatly to the meaningful conduct of the seminar.

KANBOM KARPOM

MADURAI- On 8 August 2026, a group of students and teaching staff from our Special School visited Samanar Hills, a historically significant site in Madurai, known for its monuments dating from the 2nd century BCE to the 12th century CE. The visit provided the students with a valuable opportunity to learn beyond the classroom while enjoying the natural beauty and historical heritage of the place. The students and staff were particularly fascinated by the scenic surroundings, especially the pond and the temple located nearby, where they were able to observe large fish and experience the peaceful atmosphere of the site. The group was then guided to the



Settipodavu site, a natural cave situated on the western slope of the hillocks. The experience became an enriching learning opportunity, combining history, nature, exploration, and fellowship. The students returned happily with cherished memories and some refreshments, carrying with them the joy of discovering history and learning through direct experience.

GREEN EARTH EVENT

ELURU - On 1 August 2026, Guanella Karunalaya celebrated the Green Earth Event with great joy and enthusiasm, highlighting the importance of caring for nature and protecting the environment. The ten boarding boys studying at Guanella Karunalaya actively participated in the programme, and each boy planted a sapling on the campus as a meaningful gift to Mother Earth. The saplings were planted as a lasting remembrance of their fruitful stay at Guanella Karunalaya and came to symbolize their growth, learning, and precious memories. Just as the young plants will grow into strong and fruitful trees, the boys too are being encouraged to grow into responsible, caring, and successful individuals. The activity inspired the boys to develop greater love, concern, and respect for nature and helped them understand the importance of planting trees in keeping the earth green, clean, and healthy. The





staff members guided and encouraged the boys throughout the plantation activity, creating an atmosphere of unity, gratitude, and hope. The event also reminded everyone of the shared responsibility to protect the environment for future generations. The newly planted saplings will continue to stand as living memories of the boys' journey at Guanella Karunalaya, making the Green Earth Event a memorable and inspiring experience for the boys and the entire Guanella Karunalaya family.

INDEPENDENCE DAY



ELURU - On 15 August 2026, Guanella Karunalaya celebrated India's 80th Independence Day with great patriotism, joy, and enthusiasm. The celebration was attended by all the boys of Guanella Karunalaya along with the parishioners, who gathered together in a spirit of unity, respect, and love for the nation. The boys were well prepared for the occasion and participated with great discipline and enthusiasm. They marched in an orderly formation and warmly welcomed the Chief Guest, reflecting their confidence, unity, and respect for the national celebration. The National Flag was hoisted with dignity and pride, and all those present stood respectfully to honour the Tricolour. The boys proudly saluted the National Flag and participated in the celebration with genuine patriotic spirit. The occasion provided an opportunity to remember with gratitude the sacrifices of the freedom fighters who dedicated their lives to the independence of our nation and encouraged the boys to grow as responsible and committed citizens. The parishioners also joined the boys in celebrating this significant national occasion and encouraged them in their efforts. The celebration created a strong sense of patriotism, unity, and togetherness among all who participated. The Independence Day celebration at Guanella Karunalaya became a memorable and meaningful occasion, inspiring everyone to cherish the freedom of our nation and contribute positively to its future.



VISIT OF BSW STUDENTS

DINDIGUL: On 11 August 2026, forty-three students pursuing the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) programme at Anugra Institute of Social Science (AISS), accompanied by Prof. Joseph Wilson, visited Guanella Karunai Illam (GKI) to gain a deeper understanding of its mission, activities, and services. During the visit, the Director of GKI introduced the students to the institution's vision, mission, objectives, and various programmes, providing them with an opportunity to interact, ask questions, and seek clarification about its ministry and services. Drawing from their academic studies and previous exposure to similar institutions, the students shared their insights into the challenges involved in managing a non-governmental organisation, particularly in caring for and supporting persons with mental illness. Following the interaction, the students were taken on a tour of the various facilities and activities of GKI, where they had the opportunity to interact with the residents, observe vocational training programmes, and learn about the production and marketing of products prepared by the residents. At the conclusion of the visit, the students expressed their sincere gratitude to the management and staff of GKI for providing them with a valuable and enriching opportunity to learn from the institution's experience and service to persons in need.

17TH ANNUAL SPORTS DAY

SIVAGANGAI: The 17th Annual Sports Day of St. Guanella Anbagam Special School and Home, Yesuvanam, was celebrated with great joy, enthusiasm, and sporting spirit from 21 to 27 August 2026, with the grand finale held on 27 August 2026. The week-long sports festival commenced on 21 August with an inaugural prayer, followed by a variety of specially adapted games and sports events designed to provide our differently-abled children with opportunities to showcase their talents, abilities, strength, and team spirit. The children were divided into two vibrant teams,





the Red Team and the Yellow Team, and actively participated in various events, including running races, ball throw, musical chairs, Run Run Ring Ring, and other entertaining games.

The entire campus was filled with cheers, smiles, excitement, and a wonderful spirit of sportsmanship as the children enthusiastically participated in every event. After a series of enjoyable and spirited competitions, the Yellow Team emerged as the Overall Champions, while the Red Team secured the Runner-up position. The valedictory function was held on 27 August 2026, during which prizes were distributed to the winners and runners-up by Dr. Sekar of Sagayarani Multi-Speciality Hospital, Kalayarkovil. The Fathers, Brothers, and staff members encouraged and appreciated the efforts and participation of every child, making each participant feel valued and celebrated. The programme concluded with a thanksgiving prayer. The Sports Day was truly a week of joy, inclusion, friendship, and victory, bringing out the hidden talents of the children while reminding everyone of the beautiful truth that “Every child is a champion.”

INDEPENDENCE DAY

SIVAGANGAI: “Freedom is not given; it is earned through the sacrifices of our heroes.” The 80th Independence Day of India was celebrated with great patriotic fervour and enthusiasm at St. Guanella Anbagam Special School and Home, Yesuvanam, on 15 August 2026. The celebration commenced at 8:30 a.m. with the hoisting of the National Flag, followed by the National Anthem, which was sung by the special children and staff, filling the campus with a deep sense of pride and love for the motherland. Mr. A.K. Prabhu was honoured as the Chief Guest and graciously participated in the celebration, encouraging the children and staff through his inspiring presence and motivational words. He encouraged the children to understand the true value of independence and to grow as responsible, proud, and compassionate citizens of India. The special children then presented patriotic songs





and dances, expressing their love for the nation with joy and enthusiasm. Their performances beautifully reflected the values of unity in diversity, inclusion, and togetherness that are cherished by the institution. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks, in which the staff expressed sincere appreciation to Mr. A.K. Prabhu for his valuable time and encouragement and to all the children and staff who contributed to making the celebration memorable.

FROM NATURE TO EMPOWERMENT



THALAVADI – 11 August 2026: A new Areca Leaf Plate (Pakkumattai Thattu) Making Vocational Training Programme was introduced for the residents of Nazareth Illam, Home for Mentally Ill, Thalavadi, with the aim of providing meaningful and structured opportunities for skill development and rehabilitation. The initiative enables the residents to engage in purposeful activities that enhance concentration, creativity, coordination, and a sense of accomplishment, while contributing positively to their overall well-being. The eco-friendly nature of areca leaf products also introduces a practical and potentially sustainable livelihood skill, while fostering greater awareness and responsibility towards the environment. Through such vocational initiatives, the management of Nazareth Illam continues to strengthen its holistic approach to rehabilitation by empowering persons with mental illness through purposeful engagement, social participation, skill development, and opportunities for greater independence and dignity. The programme stands as another meaningful step towards creating an environment in which every resident is encouraged to discover abilities, develop confidence, and participate actively in community life.



FREEDOM IN EVERY HEART



THALAVADI – 15 August 2026: Independence Day was celebrated at Nazareth Illam, Home for Mentally Ill, Thalavadi, with patriotic spirit, joy, and enthusiastic participation from the residents and staff. Mr. Gilbert graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and encouraged the residents through his presence and words. The residents actively participated in the celebration by presenting cultural programmes and delivering a short speech that conveyed the inspiring message of freedom, unity, and dignity. The celebration highlighted that true freedom goes beyond national independence and includes the freedom to live with dignity, receive compassionate care, develop one's abilities, and be recognized as a valued member of society. The joyful participation of the residents reflected their talents, confidence, and desire to be actively involved in community life. The programme concluded with a renewed commitment to promoting inclusion, dignity, hope, and independence among the residents. The celebration became a meaningful tribute to the spirit of our nation and a beautiful reminder that the dignity and freedom of every person must always be cherished and respected.

EYE CAMP AT NAZARETH ILLAM

THALAVADI – 20 August 2026: An eye screening camp was organized at Nazareth Illam, Home for Mentally Ill, Thalavadi, with the support of the Eye Care Medical Team from Thalavadi Primary Health Centre (PHC). The residents were provided with comprehensive eye examinations and appropriate medical guidance, enabling vision-related concerns to be identified and timely care to be recommended. The camp also helped create greater awareness among the residents about the importance of regular eye check-ups and maintaining good eye health. The initiative reflected the commitment of Nazareth Illam to promoting the health, dignity, quality of life, and overall well-being of its residents. The medical camp became a meaningful expression of compassionate care, ensuring that the residents are supported not only in their rehabilitation but also in their essential healthcare needs.



A Journey of Joy, Discovery and Cultural Learning

Thalavadi – 24 August 2026: The residents of Nazareth Illam were taken on a recreational mini picnic to the Dhondenling Tibetan Settlement, providing them with a refreshing break from their daily routine. The journey through the mountains offered beautiful natural scenery and the memorable experience of spotting elephants along the way, adding excitement and joy to the outing.

The visit provided valuable opportunities for relaxation, social interaction, recreation, and cultural learning, allowing the residents to experience a different way of life while enjoying the peaceful surroundings. Such recreational and exposure activities play an important role in holistic mental health rehabilitation, helping to promote confidence, social participation, emotional well-being, and a sense of belonging. The outing became a joyful and enriching experience for the residents and reflected the continued commitment of the management of Nazareth Illam to promoting their happiness, dignity, social well-being, and overall quality of life.





VISIT TO CRPF QUARTERS

CHENNAI- As part of the monthly “Karpom Karpom” programme, an educational visit to the CRPF Quarters was organised for our special children, providing them with an opportunity to learn through direct experience and interaction. The visit was carried out with the guidance and support of Mrs. Anisha, Chief Secretary, along with Mr. Pavitran and Mr. Ravi, who warmly welcomed the students and extended their kind hospitality throughout the programme. During the visit, the CRPF explained the important responsibilities of the security forces and their dedicated service in maintaining the peace, safety, and security of the people of India. The students listened with great interest and enthusiasm and thoroughly enjoyed learning through practical interaction. The visit became a memorable and enriching experience, providing valuable knowledge while deepening the children's respect for those who work tirelessly for the safety and peace of the nation. At the conclusion of the programme, Fr. William expressed his sincere gratitude to Mrs. Anisha, Mr. Pavitran, Mr. Ravi, and the entire CRPF team for their warm hospitality, valuable guidance, and generous support in making the visit meaningful and enjoyable for the children.

ONAM CELEBRATION

CHENNAI- Don Guanella Special School celebrated Onam on 25 August 2026 with great joy and enthusiasm, providing a meaningful opportunity to honour the people of Kerala and celebrate the rich culture, traditions, and joyful spirit of the festival. The celebration was organized especially for the special children, who participated enthusiastically along with their teachers and staff. Rev. Fr. J. Arputharaj, Director and Principal, warmly welcomed the distinguished guests, including Rev. Fr. Kumar, SdC, Rev. Fr. John Peter, Dr. Alice, and Mr. Kumar, DDAWO, Thiruvallur District, whose



presence and encouragement added great joy and significance to the occasion. The children and teachers took part in a variety of traditional and recreational activities, including creating beautiful Pookalam (floral decorations), participating in traditional games, dancing, and other enjoyable programmes. These activities enabled the children to experience and appreciate the cultural richness of Onam in a simple, joyful, and inclusive manner. The entire day was filled with happiness, laughter, friendship, and togetherness, as the children enthusiastically participated in every activity and enjoyed precious moments with their teachers, friends, and guests.

ANNUAL SPORTS DAY

CHENNAI- On 15 August 2026, Don Guanella Special School, Chennai-56, joyfully celebrated the 80th Independence Day of India along with its Annual Sports Day, bringing together patriotism, inclusion, participation, and celebration. The programme was organized under the leadership of Rev. Fr. J. Arputharaj, Director and Principal of Don Guanella Special School, and was graced by the presence of distinguished guests, including Rev. Fr. Periyannayagam, SdC, Superior of the Don Guanella Major Seminary Community, Mr. Jayaseelan, M.A., M.Phil., IRS, Velachery, Mr. Martin, Donor, and Miss Philominammal.





tireless efforts, patience, dedication, and loving support contributed greatly to the successful organization of the celebration.

DC INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS MEET



CHENNAI- On 29 August 2026, the 13th DC Inter-School Sports Meet was organized by Anbalaya Special School, Thiruvottiyur, Chennai, under the guidance of Mr. Prabakaran, providing a valuable platform for special children from various institutions to participate in sports, showcase their abilities, build confidence, and develop a spirit of sportsmanship. A total of 13 students from Don Guanella Special School enthusiastically participated in various sporting events and delivered impressive performances, bringing great pride and joy to the school community. Among them, three students secured First Prizes, while one student won Third Prize in their respective events. The achievements were warmly appreciated by Rev. Fr. J. Arputharaj, Director of Don Guanella Special School, who congratulated the students for their sincere efforts, hard work, enthusiasm, and excellent performance.

ZION DENTAL MEDICAL CAMP





and compassionate support. Their valuable contribution made the medical camp a meaningful and beneficial experience, helping our children to maintain healthier smiles and better oral health.

A LIFELINE ON WHEELS



THANJAVUR- A significant blessing was received by Trinity Hospice through the generous contribution of Mr. Martin and Ms. Philomena, who sponsored a fully equipped ambulance to support the medical and emergency needs of the residents. Recognizing the importance of reliable medical transportation for the newly established home for the destitute, the donors contributed ₹10 lakhs, turning a long-awaited need into reality. In July 2025, a Maruti Eeco van was acquired as the foundation for the medical transport unit, and over the following year, careful planning and modifications were undertaken to equip it for safe and professional patient transportation. The ambulance was equipped with waterproof platform flooring, an integrated patient attendant seat and footrest, storage cupboards for medicines, oxygen outlets and gas pipelines, a high-grade stretcher trolley, a stainless-steel front bumper, heavy-duty cooling fans, and blue and red siren light bars with a high-decibel speaker system. Following the completion of the technical upgrades, the vehicle returned to Trinity Hospice on 22 August 2026 and was solemnly blessed that evening by Rev. Fr. Viswasam, Superior and Director of Trinity Hospice, during a special prayer service. We give thanks to God for this timely blessing and express our deepest gratitude to Mr. Martin and Ms. Philomena for their enduring generosity, compassion, and support towards the residents of Trinity Hospice.

MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING

GRASS LAKE - A healing Mass took place at the Shrine on August 1st. Many people attended and received Anointing of the Sick. A Healing Mass will now take place on every first Saturday of the month at the Shrine.



SUNFLOWERS WITH LAURA



CHELSEA – Each spring, Laura Rayer, St. Louis Center Activities Coordinator, starts sunflower seeds with the residents. They carefully place their seeds in wet paper towel and hang them in a sunny window in a ziplock bag to hold the moisture. Once the weather has warmed and the plants are stronger, Laura helps the residents plant them in one of the raised beds in the garden. It is a favorite spot for many of the residents to sit and enjoy the pleasant weather. The residents also enjoy making holiday themed crafts and foods with Laura's guidance. Laura puts her heart into leading meaningful activities for the folks who live at the Center.

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL FOR PARISH STAFF

GRASS LAKE - On August 12th, St. John the Evangelist Church in Jackson, MI held a Staff retreat at the Shrine. Around a dozen staff, including Fr. Chas Canoy and Fr. Randy Koenigsknecht. They met in the Pastoral Center for a spiritual talk, then prayed the Rosary at the Holy Rosary Walk. They finished the day with adoration and benediction in the Church.





GOLFING FOR GOOD

CHELSEA – The 39th Annual Memorial Golf Outing drew a record crowd for the event on Saturday, August 15th. This year Ellie Unterbrink was honored by her family and friends who happily turned out to support St. Louis Center. Fr. Sachin Son, SdC, met most of the 140 golfers, tried his hand at driving, and enjoyed exploring the golf course. The Knights of Columbus Council from Milan MI surprised Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC, with a generous donation during the awards ceremony.

LANDSCAPING UPGRADES



GRASS LAKE - Work continues on the landscaping of the Holy Rosary Walk. With the concrete curbs completed, Shrine helpers are installing landscape fabric and rocks around the base of each statue. This will not only cut down on weeds, but will also make the Rosary Walk very aesthetically pleasing, and it will be easier to maintain the lawn surrounding the statues.



THERAPEUTIC MOVEMENT DISGUISED AS DANCE

CHELSEA – Each Tuesday morning at St. Louis Center, local dance company Ballet Chelsea offers an important class for the residents. A well-trained instructor leads participants through a series of movements and stretches that help maintain their flexibility, balance and coordination. On August 24th, they began class by joining the circle and preparing for the music and fun.

SAFETY FIRST

GRASS LAKE - Security cameras are being added near the Church. Most activity in the grounds is already being captured, but the cameras around the Church building will now provide another layer of security for the Shrine, protecting visitors and the property from danger and vandalism.

BARN SANCTUARY

CHELSEA – A new partnership was created in the spring between Skill Building Program at St. Louis Center and the nearby Barn Sanctuary. At least once a month, 2-3 residents head over to the farm to volunteer their time working with the animals and doing farm chores. On August 21st, Albert, Brian, Emely, Jacqui, and Patrick worked hard and made new friends.



† Happy BIRTHDAY

- 02 - FR. X. JOHN JOSEPH
- 08 - FR. A. KANIKKAI RAJ
 - FR. S. AMAL RAJ
 - FR. R. LAWRENCE THAMBUSAMY
- 14 - FR. DAVID EDWARD STAWASZ
- 16 - FR. T. DAVID ANBURAJ
- 18 - FR. K. ANIL FRANCIS KUMAR
- 19 - FR. K. MARIA PAULRAJ
- 26 - M. FR. ARUN DAVID
- 28 - X. FR. LEO JOSEPH
- 29 - FR. V. IRUDAYARAJ



Let Us Stand United in Prayer

Let us come together in prayer for the people of **Nepal** who have been affected by this devastating natural disaster.

Let us remember those who have lost their lives
and pray for strength, comfort, healing,
and hope for all those who are suffering.

