

News and Views

Newsletter of the Divine Providence Province



HOPE

January 2021

Volume 14 Number 1

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure that the old year leaves. – Bill Vaughan

Happy New Year! 2021 is filled with hope that the Lord will lead us forward, whatever may happen. When we closely follow the Vicar of Christ, Pope Francis these days, we find that he too is struggling to give thanks for the difficult year 2020; marked with losses of human lives, unemployment and displacement of people. But finds reasons for hope that the pandemic has urged all of humanity to care for each other, especially those who are in dire need of human solidarity, and moreover he is appealing to us to have a mentality and culture of care and to take interest in the problems of others.

How suiting it is to we Guanellians who are supposed to be in the direct care of the vulnerable humanity of the society. Our Superior General in his New Year message has imitated the Holy Founder in looking forward very positively to the New Year.

We have begun the year as in the past with the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God who stands out as the best icon of hope and confidence when there was no sign or glimpse out there for placing such a strong hope in the Lord.

Her firm “YES” in the midst of many “NOs” is the best example for many of us who struggle with many “NOs” in our personal life and community life. We too are called by faith to look for a bright future even when normalcy is not restored, vaccines have not reached all of us, and human mobility has been paralyzed.

Let us encourage one another toward a better world. Let us care for each other starting in our own our communities. The baby Jesus, reason for our hope, is prompting us to become a neighbor to others rather than asking who my neighbor is. Our compassionate look, simple smiles, gentle touch may restore the hope and light which people need at this moment. I ask your prayers and collaboration in the animation programs scheduled for this month: leadership meetings, workshops, Tutelage programs, Pongal and many special liturgies. See my calendar for details.

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Fr. Ronald J, SdC
Provincial Superior

January Calendar of Fr. Provincial

- 4-5 **Chennai:** Class - DGMS
- 6 **Marriage of Fr. JJ's Nephew**
- 10 **Pallikarani:** Mass
- 11-13, 15 **Provincials Meet with General Council**
- 14 **Cuddalore:** Minor Seminarians Meet
- 16-17 **Chennai:** Temporary Professed Formation on Interculturality
- 18-19 **Chennai:** Regents Meet
- 20-22 **Tutelage Program**



“Mary stands out as the best icon of hope and confidence when there was no sign or glimpse of hope.”

- 23 **FCRA Workshops for Superiors and Treasurers**
 - 24 **Devi Nagar:** Mass
 - 25 **Viriyur:** Marriage Mass
 - 26 **Krishnaperi:** Jubilee Mass
 - 29 **Thennur:** Marriage Mass
- Ordination Day**



PROVINCIALATE -On December 26th, we celebrated the ordination day of Fr. Ronald, the provincial superior, during the Christmas celebration. We invited our neighboring religious communities and lay people according to the word of Pope Francis, “All

INSIDE:

Provincial	2
India	3-8
United States	9-10
Calendar	10

those living near us are our Brothers not neighbors.” Fr. Ronald presided over the celebration and shared his experience of the priesthood. After the celebration we had the delicious meal prepared by Rev. Fr. Paul Dinakaran. We thank all those who prayed for him on his special day.

Christmas Celebration

PROVINCIALATE - On December 29th, we celebrated Christmas with Evening School Children. Almost 100 children, five teachers and four volunteers participated in the celebration. We shared the LIGHT OF JOY with the children, but due to Covid-19 we couldn't celebrate in a grand manner for their safety. Fr. Ronald shared

the Christmas Message saying that God was born as a man to bring the joy of salvation, therefore let us share the joy of Christ where we live and wherever we



go. We distributed Christmas gifts to all the children. Afterwards we shared a meal together to end the celebration.



Life Continues

By Fr. Franklin, SdC



When the teacher asked the students how they would welcome the new year, they began to contribute many ideas: lighting fireworks, sharing snacks and drinks, watching football, hugging family and friends, and making lists of resolutions were some of them. However, the teacher was a bit disappointed because no one thought to welcome the new year with a prayer. Unfortunately, as the teacher discovered, we often look at 2021 as a block of time. We see 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds. In fact, we should be looking at it as a gift, a gift from God. We have done nothing to deserve it, earn it, or purchase it. Like the air we breathe, time comes to us as a part of life. The gift of time is not ours alone. It is given equally to each person: rich and poor, educated and ignorant, strong and weak—every man, woman, and child has the same twenty-four hours every day. It cannot be stopped. There is no way to slow it down, turn it off, or adjust it. Time marches on. Life continues; it does not stop. Whatever happens, life continues to tick the seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, and months.

Whatever 2020 held for you - peace or pain, joy or sorrow - January presents an opportunity for renewal. We all know that in 2020 the whole world suffered from COVID-19, quarantine, life and death situations; “Stay Home and Stay Safe” became a common expression and with it one giant situation: boredom amid a loss of family and community togetherness. The pandemic brought much of regular activity across the globe to a standstill. Despite the interruptions to regular activity, life continued; it was often frustrating, depressing, and confusing, causing chaos and crisis in our family and society. Despite this, tomorrow always stood ready with additional challenges.

The real truth is that we do not have to be victims; the way we respond is up to us. In fact, it is our Faith that guides us to the response that we must have. For when God created man “in His image and likeness, He endowed him with intelligence and freedom, and made him lord of creation” (Gn 1,26), he gave us the responsibility for stewardship of this world. As the psalmist proclaims (Ps 8,5-6), “Thou hast made him little less than the angels, Thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, Thou hast set him over the works of Thy hands. Thou hast subjected all things under his feet.” With this responsibility came that which Christ placed on us to guide our response to everything life throws at us, even a Pandemic. Our faith thus points the way to how we must deal with these troubling times: “Love one another,” Christ said, “as I have loved you.”

As followers of Christ, we have the responsibility to, in everything, reflect His love. Unfortunately, many of us have forgotten our responsibilities to our families, our society, and to God. We have become more selfish, self-oriented individuals who have turned our backs on others in need. This selfish attitude causes great danger to our family, friends, society, and ourselves.

Our #1 resolution of the new year must be to approach all of the quandaries and choices we face with Faith, Love, and Hope. We must seek to protect, comfort, and support all of those we encounter; encouraging, sacrificing for and giving of ourselves to others as a path forward through the threatening choices the pandemic has given us. The new normal we must seek in the new year must be founded on faith and trust in God as we seek to do His will- to bring our family and society together through the love and support we give each other in these troubled times.

Disabled Celebrate at Evening School

CHENNAI - Don Guanella Special School celebrated World Differently abled day on December 13-15th. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation we divided our students according to these three days so that smaller amounts of people would be gathered at a time. We celebrated each day with happiness and joy. Everything went well. We also helped our students to gain benefits from our benefactors and well-wishers on World Disabled Day.



Arrival of a New Set of Wheels

CHENNAI - Since Don Guanella Special School's old bus was no longer adequate for use, we underwent a long struggle of fundraising in the beginning, but it turned out to be a successful initiative. In the end, with your support and with the Providence of God, we were able to buy a new bus. The staff and the good children are so happy to utilize the new bus because it was designed according to the needs and expectations of children with special needs.



A Season of Sharing Joy

CHENNAI - The joy of Christmas was celebrated at Don Guanella Special School with Don Guanella Major Seminary fathers and brothers, DGSS staff, DPP fathers and staff. Bros. Ajis and Sachin organized and enthused the whole gathering creatively with games. Everyone had a good time by revealing their secret Christmas friends and sharing gifts. The children of the DGSS staff performed an angelic dance with a celestial hymn. All were filled with wonder and amazement for it was for the first time we gathered as one community. Fr. Benson wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in advance. Fr. Antony Samy gave the message for Christmas. To end the event, DGMS brothers sang Christmas carols and brought the mood of Christ's birth with their melodious voices.

A Most Blessed Day

CHENNAI - To celebrate the birth of new life is to appreciate the miraculous work of the Creator. We are humbly called Guanellians after our founder, St. Louis Guanella, whose birthday we celebrated on December 19th. The DGMS community celebrated the day of with solemn morning prayers in front of our founder's statue in the quadrangle. And in the evening, the celebration continued with solemn holy Mass presided over by Fr. Benson. In the homily he congratulated and appreciated everyone for their eagerness to renew their vows. He also shared about our founder's spirit. The day was so



blessed by the Lord, because GLM members of our community renewed their vows after Mass, promising to continue to serve and follow in the founder's footsteps. The celebration came to an end with an agape meal to share the joy of birth and renewal. Fr. Benson gave his Christmas wishes to every member with a gift of a Bible diary and calendar of our province.

Jesus, the Universal Sanitizer

CHENNAI - December 19th is the day of celebrations. After the continental Mass Fr. Anthony Swamy blessed the creche. The creche was created by 1st year brothers of theology and philosophy. The creche this year depicted the current pandemic situation since we know that COVID-19 brought the world to a standstill. Brothers made beautiful sanitizer, where Christ was born, meaning He is the sanitizer who came down to wash us from all iniquity and our uncleanness (Ezk 36,5). After the agape meal, Fr. Benson presented gifts to the brothers and fathers. He then conveyed his wishes to all, and gave some instruction for all regarding Christmas vacation, for brothers were to go home on December 23rd. The celebration ended with the Christmas gift exchange.



World Differently Abled Day Celebration

BANGALORE - On December 19th at Guanella Preethi Nivas, the confreres, Guanellian Cooperators, Guanellian Lay Movement, Guanellian Youth Movement, benefactors and well-wishers organized World Differently-abled Day. That day 35 institutions and neighboring religious communities participated. Mr. Antony & Mrs. Antony, the proprietors of Ammas Pastries, were the chief guests. The day was full with cultural programs and gifts were distributed to each institution. With the sharing of a sumptuous lunch, the event successfully ended.



Intercontinental Mass

BANGALORE - On December 19th the Guanellian sisters, Guanellian Cooperators, Guanellian Lay Movement, Guanellian Youth Movement, benefactors and well-wishers were invited to celebrate the intercontinental holy Mass at 7:30 pm in the Guanella Preethi Nivas chapel. Fr. Kulandaisamy, the superior of the community, presided over the celebration. Everyone shared a festive meal after Mass.



Life is a Gift from God

BANGALORE - On December 21st there was a triple celebration at Guanella Preethi Nivas in anticipation of the birthday, feast day & Ordination anniversary (December 22nd, 25th & 26th) of our local superior, Fr. Kulandaisamy. The celebration was very simple with a few cultural performances. Guanellian Cooperators and Guanellian Lay Movement members colored the program with many surprises. The celebration ended with a sumptuous meal offered by the local GC & GLM community.



Musical Gala

BANGALORE - On December 14th a musical ensemble gave a free performance at Guanella Preethi Nivas. The group consisted of 15 artists who made our grandfathers dance and sing. Even our neighbors and well-wishers were invited to enjoy the program with all the precautionary measures taken due to Covid-19.



Phonetics Class Offered

CUDDALORE - There was one week of an intensive course on "Phonetics" arranged at St. Joseph's Seminary for the seminarians and DSMP candidates from December 14-18th. Twenty-five participants who



were enthusiastic and eager to learn the pronunciation joined the class. The passionate and demanding teacher was Fr. Ronald, the Provincial, who made these days

compact with eager learning and unfailing practices. The students learned the basics of phonetics and are able to advance in their learning and practicing pronunciations while speaking and reading. We are grateful to the naturally smart teacher, Fr. Ronald.

30th Anniversary Celebrated

CUDDALORE - On St. Louis Guanella's exact birthday, Fr. John Bosco, the First Indian Guanellian Priest was ordained, and so, on December 19th 2020 he celebrated



his 30th anniversary of priestly ordination in a grand manner at St. Joseph's seminary. This event coincided with the Intercontinental Mass for the Founder. He was the main celebrant, homilist and hero of the day. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, our General Councilor and former

Provincial came to wish him in honor of this precious day. It indeed doubled his joy. The Divine Providence Province shall always be grateful to this first Indian Guanellian priest for his long years of service, dedication, contribution and example of life to the young confreres.

Seminarians Learn Folk Dances



CUDDALORE - The Tamil culture is rich and ancient with its many martial arts and folk dances. From the time of the ancient kings they were encouraged and sponsored so that they were multiplied and refined over the years. In Tamil culture there are many types of attractive and meaningful folk dances. Miss Suganya, a young and experienced folk artist master, came from Chennai to give the seminarians a 6-day intense training to learn these dances December 7-12th.. The seminarians were so cooperative and enthusiastic that they learned five dances in these six days: Silambattam, Karagattam, Vedaratam, Kolattam and Oyilattam. On the sixth day they displayed their new skills on stage in a performance that was very exciting and a feast to the senses. The beauty of this was that many of the students are not Tamilians. Many of them are from north India, a completely different culture, and they were also eager to learn and perform these Tamil classics.

Birthday of our Founder

CUDDALORE - December 19th, the birthday of our founder, was a special day for all Guanellians worldwide, especially for Don Guanella Boy's Home community.



In order to celebrate the birthday of our founder there was a monthly recollection with a talk given by Fr. Soosai Rathinam, General Councillor, and he celebrated the intercontinental Mass at our Sagayamatha Parish.

Suppose Christmas was also celebrated with the boys and the creche was blessed by Fr. Rathinam. The students and the workers received Christmas gifts from Fr. Rathinam and Fr. Francis, the Superior of DGBH.

Celebrating the Differently Abled

CUDDALORE - World Differently Abled Day was celebrated on December 20th at Don Guanella Boys Home and in collaboration with GLM members. Fr. John Bosco, the first Indian Guanellian priest, was the chief guest. The special program began at 11:00am. The cultural programs were given by the seminarians and the DGBH students. There were 100 differently-abled persons invited on this special day and they were honored with bed sheets, groceries and food packets. Fr. Francis, superior of DGBH thanked all the fathers, GLM Members and the special guests.



Gifts for Seminarians

CUDDALORE - As a meaningful gift for the New Year, all Cuddalore minor seminarians were given new sports jerseys. The 37 seminarians rejoiced with enthusiastic spirits as they are divided into three Teams for all sports and games meets. These colorful jerseys brought them



gladness and spirit for games and performance. They are excited to begin preparing for sports events. We are grateful to the sponsors of these beautiful gifts this year.

Feast of St. Francis Xavier

VATLURU - St. Francis Xavier disembarked to Goa from the center of Portuguese activity in the East, on May 6, 1542; his companion remained behind to work in Lisbon. Much of the next three years he spent on the southeastern coast of India among the simple, poor pearl fishers, the Paravas. Francis travelled tirelessly from village to village instructing and confirming them in their faith. His evident goodness and the force

of his conviction overcame the difficulties of verbal communication. In his honor there was a grand feast of St. Francis Xavier at the Showaripuram substation in which Most.Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera D.D., the Bishop of Eluru presided over the holy Mass and gave his blessings to the people. Guanellian priests, diocesan and religious clergy and our DSMP sisters were part and parcel of the celebration. The people were very happy to celebrate their annual village feast.

Renovations Blessed

VATLURU - Fr. Ronald, Provincial Superior of DPP, paid a visit to Guanella Karunalya. There were two



events which took place in his presence. First, Fr. Ronald blessed and opened the renovation project of the new tin sheet roof for the drying of the boys' clothes. Secondly, the renovated church of Koppaka B, a substation of the Vatluru parish, was inaugurated by Fr. Ronald on December 19th during a holy Mass which he presided over. In this event Guanellian confreres and DSMP sisters participated. The local people were indeed very happy about the renovation of the church.

First Holy Communion

VATLURU - There was a grand celebration at Sacred Heart Church during which 81 children received their First Holy Communion on December 25th. The children are from Vatluru, Showaripuram, Kalaparu, Angelipuram and Ammapalem. Fr. Dr. Inje Paul, Vicar Forum of our vicariate (diocese of Eluru), was the main



celebrant and obtained blessings from the Lord. The children were very happy to receive the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the first time. Fr. Francis Assisi, the parish priest, organized the event.

Grand Celebrations

WARANGAL - On December 20th the Banjara Christmas celebration was held at Yesu Gutta, in the Warangal diocese. It is the part of the Banjara Mission to celebrate Christmas with the local people. This year, since the Guanellians have taken charge of the mission and study the possibility to minister to local differently abled people, in addition to Christmas, World Differently Abled People's Day was also celebrated. The celebration began with Our Lady of Divine Mercy's car procession. Most Rev. Udumala Bala DD Bishop of Warangal, blessed the car and led the procession to the top of the mountain and prayed to Our Lady of Divine Mercy. Then he presided over Mass. Fr. Ronald, SdC,

the Provincial Superior of the Divine Providence Province, also participated in the function. Priests and Religious brothers and sisters from nearby parishes



and Religious communities joined the celebration. About 65 differently abled children and adults with their parents were the special guests for the celebration. Nearly 400 people from nearby parishes participated in the celebration. After holy Mass there were dances by the children to express the happiness of the Nativity of Our Lord. Christmas gifts and groceries were distributed to the differently abled people. The celebration ended with words of gratitude by Fr. Joseph Peter, SdC who is the in-charge for this mission. There was also a distribution of food for all those who participated.

Monthly Recollection

SIVAKASI - On December 13th Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC, General Councilor, visited the Krishnaperi community and gave the monthly recollection. Fr. Superior welcomed him with a shawl and the recollection began with a Holy Spirit song. Fr. Soosai spoke about



the third week of Advent and preparations to welcome and celebrate our Lord Jesus' birth. He also made us ponder what our identity is: disciples of Christ, united

in a bond of charity following in the footsteps of our Founder, St. Louis Guanella. We are called to hope as consecrated persons and strive to be happy religious.

Visit to Vadapatti Mission

SIVAKASI - Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC, General Councilor, visited and celebrated holy Mass at Vadapatti mission parish, also he preached the homily. People welcomed him with a garland and shawl. He commended the people for their work on the construction of the arch, bell tower, flag pole and Grotto to commemorate the golden jubilee. He wished the parishioners soon to celebrate the 50th Golden Jubilee. After Mass the tuition children danced and Fr. Soosai gave each of them a gift. We also did some relief work that day. Fr. S.P. Samy thanked everyone for their participation.



Suppose Christmas

SIVAKASI - On December 21st suppose Christmas was celebrated at our Krishnaperi boys home. Fr. Amalraj, parish priest of Madha Kovil Patti, celebrated holy Mass. Fr. John Martin, parish priest of Sivakasi, preached the homily. Fr. Irudhyaraj blessed the crib and delivered the Christmas message. Fr. Superior welcomed the fathers with a shawl. A special guest from the Child Welfare Committee, Mr. Satheesh, was invited. He appreciated our work and mission. The Mrs. Rani and Mr. Packiaraj Nirmala families sponsored Christmas clothes, cake, calendar and lunch for the boys who danced two songs. R.C. Primary and Veeramamuniver High School staff and Marianus Nagar parish choir members participated.



Sacraments Celebrated

SIVAKASI - The ordination anniversary of Fr. S.P. Samy was celebrated on December 26th and six children of Vadapatti mission parish received their first Holy Communion that →



day. Fr. S. P. Samy celebrated Holy Mass, Fr. Thambu Samy gave an introduction. Fr. Vincent preached the homily during which he asked the children why we receive Holy Communion and told them of the importance of the sacraments in our Christian life. Parishioners presented Fr. S.P. Samy with a shawl and gifts while Mr. Arokiasamy gave felicitation. A cake cutting and sharing brought the event to a close.

Chapel Celebrates 100 Years

KUMBAKONAM - On December 8th at the Perumbandi substation, we had a centenary celebration of the chapel which is dedicated to Our Lady of Periyannayagi. Our beloved Bishop Most. Rev. Antonysamy came to our Lady's chapel, blessed it and inaugurated the renovated chapel, with his special blessing and joyful sharing. In the evening, Fr. Ronald, Provincial Superior, celebrated the feast Mass and preached the Gospel in an effective manner. The parishioners felt abundantly blessed by his presence.



World Special People Day

KUMBAKONAM - The Kumbakonam community celebrated World Special People Day for 10 special children with the help of the Guanellian Lay Movement. Through the Good Samaritan ministry which we started, we brought these special children by auto to the event. They also participated in the holy Mass, receiving blessings from God. After Mass, the special children were provided non-perishable foods, bed sheets, Christmas cake, tea and biscuits from Fr. Mathias. Thanks to the local GLM and their joyful collaboration, we are able to do the mission work of St. Louis Guanella.



Best Performance Award

SIVAGANGAI - Guanella Anbagam children participated in World Differently Abled Day at the Sivagangai District differently abled welfare office. Fourteen special schools from the Sivagangai area participated in this event. Our good children exhibited their talents with a dance program, delighting the



whole audience who applauded their performance. Our children received prizes and certificates for best performance from the honorable minister for Khadi and Village Industries Board, and Thiru P. Madhusudhan Reddy, I.A.S., Collector of the Sivagangai District. It was a great opportunity for exchanging joy and learning more about other schools and their services. The director of Anbagam and all the teachers and care takers received well deserved appreciation for their hard work.

Priestly Ordinations

"This is the day the Lord has made, will Rejoice and be Glad in it." Ps 118,24



THALAVADI - November 12th marked a significant day for our Congregation and the Church, nine of our deacons were ordained by Most. Rev. Dr. George Anthony Swamy, Archbishop of Chennai-Mylapore. Though we were caught up in this pandemic situation, God's plan for them came true. The day started with the blessing of God with a good shower of rain. The Mass was held in Sacred Heart College chapel including a solemn procession with a celestial choir. Two confreres representing each different community participated in the celebration. Only five members from the deacon's families were allowed to participate in the ordination ceremony, because of pandemic protocols. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, the general councilor graced the occasion with his presence and witnessed the ordination. The Archbishop was strong enough to say that 'these deacons are going to be the ministers of the Church.' He also stressed the importance of fraternal life from the encyclical of Pope Francis "Fratelli Tutti", and

recommended that they make a personal commitment towards the congregation. After Mass and with joy the new priests cut cake and celebrated. Thereafter all shared an agape meal which was arranged systematically in the DGMS refectory for the Archbishop, religious, the family members and friends of DGSS.

A Joyful Christmas Celebration

THALAVADI - The festival of Christmas celebrates



the glorious advent of the Son of God, Jesus born in Bethlehem. His message of love and compassion inspires millions of followers all over the world today, in particular in the time of this great Covid-19

pandemic. Christmas is a time to give and forgive; the festival which inspires the spirit of sharing and caring. Excitement reverberated in the air as the festival of joy and giving was celebrated with great festive spirit by the residents at Nazareth Illam on December 23rd. The entire campus was soaking in the spirit of Christmas, beautifully decorated, the crib was prepared and everybody was dressed in red and blue. The significance of the festival was explained to the residents through the Christmas story by Fr. Gnana Raj, the Superior. The staff sang melodious carols and the residents danced beautifully. They were all energized by the dance performance, fun and celebration. The very important message of peace, hope, love and joy was shared with the staff and residents by chief guests Mr. Sebastian and Mr. John De Britto. The community distributed a small Christmas gift to all the staff and residents. The boundless joy of celebrating the festival was visible on everyone's faces.



Advent Retreat

GRASS LAKE- An Advent Retreat was offered at the Pious Union of St. Joseph on December 12th. Fr. Franklin spoke about the Communion of Saints, about how we

on earth are the Church Militant, combatting the evil forces in this world in order to reach heaven

one day. He spoke, too, about how we have the

opportunity to help the Holy Souls in Purgatory by our prayers and sacrifices. Even with over 60 people in attendance, there was still time for adoration and confession.



Community Christmas Spirit

CHELSEA- In spite of the many challenges we've faced in 2020 as a result of this year's pandemic, St. Louis Center

has been truly blessed, as every resident has remained healthy and COVID-free this year. And along with their health, the residents are also grateful for the Christmas season and the tremendous outpouring of love

and support they've received from the local community throughout Southeast Michigan. Along with the many people who have made their year-end contributions, many groups and organizations have made special efforts to help the residents feel special and know that they have not been forgotten. To all of them, our residents say "Thank You!"



Christmas Parade

CHELSEA- To get into the Christmas spirit, the residents participated in a Christmas parade through St. Louis Guanella Village on Thursday, December 17th. Fr. Dave Stawasz led the way in a golf cart disguised as a stack of



gifts. The adult residents followed with signs and cheers of "Merry Christmas." The children sat on their porches anxiously waiting for the grand finale: the appearance of Santa and Mrs. Claus. At the end of the parade route, Fr. Dave presented the keys to St. Louis Center to Santa just to be sure there is nothing to prevent him from getting in on Christmas Eve.

School Celebrates Christmas

E. PROVIDENCE - "The all school Christmas Mass was held on December 21st.

To heighten the beauty of the celebration, the 5th Grade teacher, Arielle Rogers, sang "O Holy Night". (1)

The 2nd graders made Christmas gift bags for the seniors at Sacred Heart Church Senior



Center. They were able to deliver the bags at a safe distance and sing a few Christmas songs to wish the seniors and Sr. M & M a very Merry Christmas! (2)

One of the second graders, Tyler B., had a winning Golden Ticket from a project by Alan Shawn Feinstein and the Feinstein Foundation



Virtual Club. Our school will receive \$5,000 and Tyler will be given \$500 to donate to a charity of his choice. Tyler chose the Hope & Faith Drive, LLC which is an organization the school works closely with by collecting food for the needy. (3)

The annual Christmas pageant had to be reimagined this

year. The stage was the school gymnasium instead of the church and instead of a live performance during Christmas Eve Mass, the production was streamed "live on Facebook."



Wells Fargo to Support St. Louis Center

CHELSEA - "During the COVID pandemic, SLC has faced decreased funding and increased costs," said Christina Ferris, Development Director at SLC. "We are grateful for a generous contribution from Wells Fargo to help us provide continued care for our residents."

"COVID-19 has brought increased challenges to local nonprofits, like SLC, impacting their ability to serve their communities," said Jim Broner, Vice Chairman in Corporate & Investment Banking at Wells Fargo in New York City. Broner learned about SLC during a recent virtual event for SLC hosted by former University of Michigan Men's Basketball Coach John Beilein and other former players. "During these unprecedented



times, Wells Fargo is pleased to help SLC mitigate some of the adverse effects brought on by the pandemic."



Calendar

January Calendar of Events

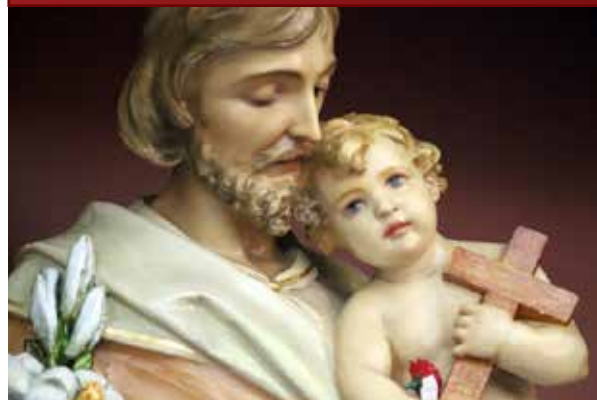
- 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God; World Day of Peace**
- 6 Epiphany of the Lord**
- 10 The Baptism of the Lord**
- 12 Grass Lake: Mother of Divine Providence Day- PUSJ**
- 16 Grass Lake: Monthly Infant Loss Remembrance Mass- PUSJ**
- 19 Grass Lake: Monthly St. Joseph Day - PUSJ**
- 25 The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle**
- 31 Feast of St. John Bosco**

Best Wishes and Prayers to:

- 5 Fr. Paul Arokiaraj C.: birthday**
- 6 Bro. Paul Dhinakaran C.: birthday**
- 7 Fr. Charles: birthday**
- 9 Bro. Francis Xavier A., Bro. Alfie Matulac: birthday**
- 11 Fr. Jegan Patrick Daniel: birthday**
- 22 Fr. A. Periyamayaga Samy: birthday; Fr. Vincent M., Fr. Vincent S.: feast day**
- 23 Fr. A. Periyamayaga Samy, Fr. S. Periyamayaga Samy, Fr. A. Perianayaga Samy, Fr. Periyamayagam M.: feast day**
- 26 Bro. Kulandai P.: birthday**
- 30 Bro. Vijay P.: birthday**
- 31 Fr. John Bosco: feast day**



Year of St. Joseph Announced



Pope Francis announced that beginning on December 8, 2020 we would begin a special "Year of St. Joseph."

This is especially significant for our congregation since our name was originally intended to be "The Sons of St. Joseph."

May this special apostolic year draw as all closer to this humble saint; imitating his humility, obedience and devotion.

Have questions or comments about this newsletter? E-mail the Communications and Community Relations Office at: kellyf@stlouiscenter.org