

**In Joyful Hope....**

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Baby Ellickal MI  
Provincial

## BE A RUCKUS YOUTH

**Christus Vivit.** A post-synodal apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis, on young people, faith and vocational discernment, written in response to the Fifteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, held in Vatican from 3 to 28 October 2018. It is addressed to young people and to the entire people of God. This is the only papal document that had gone through a long list of preparations. This document is the result of several stages of process, namely, Lineamenta, online questionnaire for all youth, International Research Seminar, Pre-Synod, Instrumentum Laboris, Synod and Final document of the Synod (proposals). Among these, online questionnaire, International Research Seminar and Pre-Synod are unique features of this Synod. The document is the outcome of the world Synod of Bishops on “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment”.

“Dear Young people, don’t observe life from a balcony. Don’t confuse happiness with an armchair, or live your life behind a screen. Whatever you do, do not become the sorry sight of an abandoned vehicle! Don’t be parked cars, but dream freely and make good decisions. Take risks, even if it means making mistakes. Don’t go through life anesthetized or approach the world like tourists. Make a ruckus! Cast out the fears that paralyze you, so that you don’t become young mummies. Live! Give yourselves over to the best of life! Open the door of the cage, go out and fly! Please, don’t take an early retirement” (CV 143). The Pope continues: “Young people are not meant to become discouraged; they are meant to dream great things, to seek vast horizons, to aim higher, to take on the world, to accept challenges and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better” (CV 15). “Everyone is born as an original, but many people end up dying as photocopies. Don’t let that happen to you!” (CV 106). If you see a priest at risk, because he has lost the joy of his ministry, or seeks affective compensation, or is taking the wrong path, remind him of his commitment to God and his people, remind him of the Gospel and urge him to hold to his course. In this way, you will contribute greatly to something fundamental: preventing these atrocities from being repeated (CV 100). You have worth; you are not insignificant. You are important to him, for you are the work of his hands. That is why he is concerned about you and looks to you with affection. “Trust the memory of God: his memory is not a ‘hard disk’ that ‘saves’ and ‘archives’ all our data. His memory is a heart filled with tender compassion, one that finds joy in ‘deleting’ from us every trace of evil” (CV 115). He does not keep track of your failings and he always helps you learn something even from your mistakes. Because he loves you. Try to keep still for a moment and let yourself feel his love. Try to silence all the noise within, and rest for a second in his loving embrace.





## LETTER FROM THE SUPERIOR GENERAL - 3

Fr. Leo Pessini MI

Dear Camillian confreres, health and peace!

**A**fter my last communication of 6 February of this year, I would like to update you once again on my current state of health.

With great feelings of gratitude, I would like once again to thank all and each one of you for your feelings of nearness to me during this very demanding stage of my life: visits, telephone calls, call and messages have enriched my days constantly with peace and hope.

After the recent meeting of the Camillian Charismatic Family of 10-14 March 2019, and the meeting of the major Superiors of the Order of 14-18 March 2019, both of which were held in Rome, trusting in my overall stable condition and supported by the pathway of therapy that has been prescribed to me over recent months, I left for São Paulo (Brazil): my country where my parents and my confreres of my Camillian Province live.

The programme was to celebrate the solemnity of Easter with my relatives and confreres and then return to Rome, to the generalate house, in order to continue my activities connected with the government of the Order, in harmony with my confreres who are the other members of the General Consulta, and above all accompanying the preparations for the next General Chapter which will be held in May 2020.

The medical doctors and specialists of our famous St. Camillus Hospital of Pompeia (São Paulo) have always remained in close and continuous contact with the health-care workers of the Madre G. Vannini Hospital and with the cancer specialist of the Umberto I Polyclinic of Rome. Ten days ago, the surgeons of the St. Camillus Hospital decided to engage in a laparoscopy: I am now in convalescence, with great peace of mind, at the Camillian community of Cotia (São Paulo).

In the light of this new situation, my medical doctors also

prudently assessed the change in my protocol of therapy: the suspension of the current treatment with bio-molecular drugs and the beginning of so-termed immunological therapy, which is also available in the Brazilian health-care context. This new protocol envisages a series of four infusions at regular intervals of three weeks to be administered at a day hospital.

This sudden change at the level of therapy as a result, and necessarily, also changed my diary: my new pathway of treatment suggested that I should stay in São Paulo, at least for the next three months.

However, as the proverb has it, 'every cloud has a silver lining'. Here in São Paulo in recent days I have been able to open my pastoral visit to the Camillian Province of Brazil, which for some time had been planned for this month of May. Fr. Laurent Zoungrana (the Vicar General) and Br. José Ignacio Santaolalla (a member of the General Consulta) are beginning their journey of listening in all our communities of Brazil. In September, once again in São Paulo, there will be the international meeting of all 'our works' of the Order – I will also be able to be present at this event which is important for the development of our ministry.

Our journey together continues...

With a profound sense of gratitude for the human and spiritual solidarity that you have demonstrated towards me, I send you my greetings, trusting in the care for my life and my health offered by expert health-care workers and in the intercession of Our Lady of Health and St. Camillus.

São Paulo, 12 May 2019  
Sunday of the 'Good Shepherd'

# PENIEL

## Seeing God Face to Face

By Sebastian Christi MI



**The inspiration for this ministry is from St. Camillus de Lellis himself, our founder and example, who followed JESUS so closely in the Kingdom ministry through personal suffering and through his exemplary imitation of JESUS' compassion for the sick.**

**S**urprising is the love of the Lord every moment! Words find themselves choked within to proclaim His deeds. Peniel, the centre to care for the illness of the souls, is a retreat centre at Mananthavady, began in the form of a prayer house intended to provide space for personal prayer for individuals and groups. Envisaged by the community led by Fr. Sojan Koonanickal to bring people closer to JESUS, the Healer, Peniel began to provide the space for small groups or individuals for personal prayer, group spiritual activities like retreats, recollections and the like. In course of time the Lord is making it to grow according his plan. In the year 2017, this centre extended its ministry for laity as well by initiating charismatic retreats.

Inspired by our age old dictum "Preach the Gospel and Heal the Sick", our Provincial Fr. Baby Ellickal and his council dared to venture into this new expansion of ministry. Thus, Peniel - through all its ministries - embraces the vision of our charism of holistic healthcare with special attention to the spiritual health of the people. It now serves as a centre for spiritual growth and enhancement of the people of God who believes in JESUS and who wants to come to know and believe Him.

It is a new and innovative ministry initiative for Camillians in India. Even though retreats and inner-healing spiritual

exercises are common in Kerala, for us Camillians it is a new venture all-together as we are able to open the doors of our charism - of caring the sick persons with Christ's compassion - to the spiritual realm of the society. It is extending our hands with more hearts to the suffering flock. Breaking open our horizons of ministry beyond the physical care and mental well-being, our charism expresses its original spirit with real Christian momentum in its affirmative.

### **Why going so Strange?**

Why at all spiritual activities for the general public – even to those who are not apparently 'sick'? Does our charism leave open such a door anywhere? This was my personal struggle in the initial years of practicing spiritual ministry of preaching and the related. In course of time the Lord taught me the mystery of suffering that is present in every human existence. It is not only in the hospitals and counselling centres that we find, console and heal the sick. So genuine we find them in spiritual venues too as in these cases. I have personally experienced that in the faith brimming cultural context of India, it is more likely that we have better and easier access to the suffering flock in spiritual ministry. There we encounter persons' mental, physical, social and spiritual sufferings.

## In the Footsteps Jesus and St. Camillus, our Founder

The inspiration for this ministry is from St. Camillus de Lellis himself, our founder and example, who followed JESUS so closely in the Kingdom ministry through personal suffering and through his exemplary imitation of JESUS' compassion for the sick.

Jesus' Kingdom ministry was enfolded through his preaching and works of signs (miracles). Most of his ministry, as all know, was around the sick and the suffering. Jesus' human compassion was triggered by the divine intention! His compassion to the sick and his interventions in their lives were not only oriented for their physical well-being; rather, through such physical experiences he intended to open their hearts to the Father by the washing in the 'Siloah' which He Himself is. His intervention in the suffering of the man born blind (St. Jn 9:1-39) was ultimately aimed at opening the man's inner eyes of faith by revealing Himself as 'the Son of Man' (vv. 35-38). The healing was His invitation to believe in Him for the right vision of life! Imitating Jesus' compassionate care for the sick and suffering, no Camillian can go blind toward this divine intention. Genuine Camillians ministry reaches to the core of the kingdom value – Eternal Life, i.e., salvation of every soul.

St. Camillus, who cared for the sick with Christ's compassion, approached every suffering person holistically. He was so diligent to care for their physical, mental and spiritual well-being. He always had a deep desire for the salvation of the souls of whom he cared for physically. Fr. Cicately, a contemporary of our founder, reports that St. Camillus spent hours before the Holy Eucharist, and thus inspired by the Lord, he could grasp the spiritual status of the souls of the sick under his care nearing death. He used to rush to such persons to remind them of their miserable sinfulness and prepare them for a genuine confession and for good death. St. Camillus also used to visit persons in their homes and urge them for a change of heart. Turning their hearts to Jesus, delivering them from the evil influences and assisting them to come out of their struggles in faith, he served not only their body, rather more vigorously their souls in view of their total well-being.

Peniel is an attempt - by interpreting his spiritual zeal in the present age - to look into the spiritual aspect of human existence. So that through spiritual and inner healing a person is reinstated even into his physical well-being in the light of the Word of God and catholic teachings we as Camillians attempt also to empower the suffering ones mentally and spiritually to accept the reality of suffering as a channel of God's grace and a means of sanctification.

### In Fact...

I remember a man attending the retreat in Peniel thrice, and while asking him what made him to return to our centre repeatedly, he shared his experience of a 'spiritual resurrection': he was a person far from JESUS and was fully broken in mind and in wealth, full of bitterness toward a person who deceived him, unable to forgive! The first retreat

gave him grace and convictions to return to spiritual life and getting boosted up he wanted to grow in grace by which lot many of his difficulties vanished.

An old lady of above 70 years surprised us by her testimony of having been healed physically of her certain abdominal and bowel difficulties and to our surprise we found her back for another retreat bringing some others too with her! There are live testimonies of people coming to hope breaking through depressions mental breakdown due to financial crisis, blocks to getting married and so on. We have also felt the strong intercession of St. Camillus during the retreats because we find the sick getting physically healed. May the Name of JESUS, the healer be glorified!

### The Name and our Ministry

The name Peniel, meaning 'the Face of God', comes from Gen32:30, where Jacob wrestling with the angel of God, realizes God's presence. 'So Jacob called the name of the place PENIEL saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life preserved" ' (Gen32:30). Through the Psalmist the Almighty commands us to seek His Face (cf Ps 27:8a) and with the psalmist all those who love the Lord respond: 'My heart says to Thee, "Thy face, LORD, do I seek" '(Ps 27:8b). So this name has been taken from this supreme command of the Lord and the inner-most thirst of every soul to seek the Holy Face of God and to speak to him face to face as with a friend (cf Ex 33:7-11). People loaded with spiritual and psychological burdens and physical sickness are welcome to this place of spiritual communion with JESUS to experience his compassionate healing touch through the listening to the Word of God, participating in Eucharistic Adoration, Spiritual Sharing, Spiritual guidance and psycho-spiritual counselling.

### Peniel aims at

Through Peniel and its ministries, we aim at helping people to grow in JESUS, the wounded healer. Thus we try to participate in the healing ministry of JESUS by realizing our charism through the ministry of holistic health by preaching of the Word and through other spiritual ministries. Moreover, we envisage to help them to understand that suffering is not sign of God's negligence over them but expression of His love and a channel of His grace. In addition, Peniel is a Camillian attempt to let the people experience the Kingdom through spiritual, psychological and physical healing and consolation. Peniel hopes to empower human race to understand the mystery and value of suffering which is inevitable for one's sanctification and salvation. We share in the meditation of our founder on the Christ crucified and prepare ourselves and others to participate in the mystery of the Cross.

### Present activities

- Personal prayer days / personal retreat by religious and priests
- Monthly residential charismatic retreat (usually begins on the evening of the first Tuesday of every month and ends by the night on Friday of the same week)

- Retreat and seminars for our formees
- Seminars/prayers gatherings by other catholic spiritual groups

### Activities We Envisage:

- Residential spiritual retreats with special reference to the mystery of suffering
- Popularizing Marian Devotion motivated by St. Camillus' special love for the Blessed Virgin
- Ministry through media (print media, social media and the like)
- Spiritual guidance and psycho-spiritual counselling
- One-day spiritual conventions
- Out-reach spiritual ministries

I am thankful to the Almighty for the whole hearted support of the Provincial and his council, my superior and the confreres

of my community and from other communities who assist at the centre, Daughters of St. Camillus who volunteer to assist at the centre and laity from Camillian Family and other volunteers. Frs. Lijo Pattathil, Reji Kaithaparambil, Jofree Nakkuzhikkattu, Teji Anickattuvayalil and Bobin Eanthumkal render their whole hearted co-operation in preaching the Word, Sacrament ministries, Spiritual Sharing/guidance and psycho-spiritual counselling. Peniel has been an experience of our Lord's care for our new step of ministry and the community's collective responsible involvement. Our mother province too was so benevolent to water and manure this new branch of ministry through prayers, encouragement and financial support. Presently, Peniel can accommodate 26 persons (including the volunteers) for a residential program and 100 persons for the nonresidential. All glory ever be to the Almighty!



# A developing Mission

By Babychan Pazhanilath MI



Uganda is a mission of Anglo – Irish province started in the year 2000. Indian province began to collaborate with the Anglo – Irish province in 2010. Johnson Vellachira, (Late) Shibin Arppathanath, Russel Tharappel, Biju Elenjickal and Jofree Nakkuzhikkattu have contributed remarkably for the development of this mission. The formation program in Uganda is now quite settled and stable, thanks to the selfless services of Indian missionaries here in Uganda. The fruits coming out now are the result of their hard work.



The Ugandan mission has now two perpetual professed members, two temporary professed members, five novices, fourteen philosophy students and seven orientation students. Within one year, we will have four Ugandan Camillian priests, and five temporary professed members. At present there is one community having three Camillians including me and a diocesan priest helping in the formation.

### Ministry

We have a small health centre attached to the seminary, where about 400

patients visit in a month. Weekly visits are made by the medical team to the neighbouring villages. We are also involved as chaplain in one of the hospitals. We do collaborate with the parish in celebrating mass in four sub- centres of the parish whenever possible.

### Future Plans:

1. To start theology in Uganda. At present theology students are sent to Tanzania for their studies. From this year we are planning to have the

theology studies here in Uganda with a Camillian formator from Tanzania, thanks to the generosity of Tanzanian delegation and German Province.

2. To start a small day-clinic in Musoli, where we have a piece of land, 15 kilometres away from the present community.

3. To develop the farm land (140 acres) for the future financial support.

I hope that within a maximum of five to seven years, Uganda can become an independent delegation.





**In joyful hope.....**

By **Dipak Lakra\***

**G**iving a new momentum to St. Camillus province, the temporary profession of nine novices was celebrated at Snehadan, Bengaluru on May 25, 2019. As these young religious lined-up wearing Camillian habits with red-cross on their chest, the province rejoiced over its new vigour and thanked God for these gifts. For the newly professed, it was also a day of fulfillment of their long-cherished dreams to be part of the Camillian Order.

During the Eucharistic celebration held at Snehadan, Ajin Joseph, Albin Thomas, Albin K. Joseph, Bimal Nayak, Dipak Lakra, Fedric Bara, Nitesh Kispotta, Rahul Nayak, and Sikendra Singh, dedicated their life for the service of God

and of the sick in the Camillian family.

The provincial Fr. Baby Ellickal accepted their Profession in the presence of the novice master Fr. Sunil Pattakudilil, the Vicar Provincial Fr. Lijo Pattathil, many Camillian conferees and the family members of the newly professed.

The professed had spent one year of novitiate in prayer and ministry under the guidance of the novice master Fr. Sunil and spiritual directors. As an immediate preparation for the profession, a spiritual retreat of eight days was conducted to help the novices make free decision.

*\* Dipak Lakra is a temporary professed religious of St. Camillus province, India.*

## **New buds of hope for the Province**

By **Jestin Joseph\***

**T**wenty two new buds in the garden of St. Camillus Novitiate. The 22 pre-novices entered novitiate on the eve of the birthday of St. Camillus, during the Holy Eucharist solemnly celebrated in the Snehadan chapel.

Fr. Jaison Narikkuzhiyil welcomed everyone to the ceremony. The main celebrant was Fr. Christopher Surin. It was his first Eucharistic celebration in the Snehadan community. After the homily, the Provincial Fr. Baby Ellickal admitted the pre-novices to the novitiate.

The novices were given a Holy Bible, the Breviary, the Life of St. Camillus



and a Rosary during the ceremony, in the presence of the novice master Fr. Sunil Pattakudilil and the assistant novice master Fr. Savari and many other Camillian confreres.

The novitiate has been shifted from

Snehadaan to Upasana, Bengaluru, due to a larger number of novices, which Snehadan cannot accommodate.

*\* Jestin Joseph is a novice of St. Camillus province, India.*

# United in One Spirit

## Gathering and annual retreat of the temporary professed and the students of philosophy

By Deepu Varghese\*

It was a blessed time for the temporary professed and the philosophy students to get together for our annual retreat from May 12 to 17 in Peniel Prayer House at Mananathavady. We thank God that we had Fr. Shaji OFM Cap. as our preacher. We reflected on Jesus in the Gospels; the crucified, poor, humble God on the first day. On the second day, we meditated upon evangelical counsels. We were inspired as we looked into the poverty, obedience and chastity in the life of Jesus. To be poor is to have trust in the divine providence, to be obedient is to be humble to accept the will of God and to be chaste is to be totally available with a loving disposition. Community life was our subject of meditation on the third day.

Our preacher inspired us by saying that we cannot question the presence of the other in our community, because Jesus gave me my brother; it was never my choice but His, who loved me to the point to give His life for me. We also reflected on priesthood, Mother Mary, ministerial life and suffering. On the last day, the preacher prepared us for a good confession. In short, it was a challenging as well as a reflective retreat. We thank God for His steadfast love and mercy that endures forever.

Soon after the retreat, from May 18 to 21, we had a few classes. The first session was engaged by Fr. Biju Kizhukkarakattu and

advocate Jijil Kizhukkarakattu. They spoke in detail about child abuse, media, use of media, problems faced by religious in the above mentioned areas etc....and concluded explaining the professional way of dealing with these.

Fr. Bijoy Kuliraniyil presented in nutshell the ways and means of accounting. In his class he highlighted the important points like basic accounting terms and concepts, books of account, types of account, registers to be maintained. He also taught certain methods and plans in daily accounting. He also presented the new areas of challenges in accounting like GST, CGST.

On the last day we reflected on Camillian spirituality and *Christus Vivit*, the encyclical of Pope Francis, which was presented by Fr. Baby Ellickal. The highlights of the day were the young people from Old Testament and New

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**To be poor is to have trust in the divine providence, to be obedient is to be humble to accept the will of God and to be chaste is to be totally available with a loving disposition.**

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Testament, young saints and youth ministries. They demanded us to be energetic transparent youth for Christ. He also stressed on the point that we are born original, and are not expected to end up as photocopies. Fr. Baby also quoted many points about community life and its challenges in this current scenario. He spoke in detail about community living.

\* Deepu Varghese is a temporary professed religious of St. Camillus province



Participants of the annual retreat and seminar for the temporary professed and the students of philosophy



## COLLABORATIVE MINISTRY

### **St. Camillus province has been collaborating with other religious congregations for some years in rendering services to the sick.**

By Teji Anickattuvayalil MI

It is my joy to pen down these few lines, as my experience working in Snehasadan Centre.

Well, I feel this is a God-given opportunity to render my service, rather share God's compassionate love to these innocent children who suffer for no cause of their own. Initially I had my own fears to work in this Centre, but when I saw the priests and the staff, so affectionately dealing with these children, I asked myself, "if they can do, why not I?"

Children are so simple and very loving in nature in spite of their own feelings of being without parents. The priests and the staff are everything for them; and the little ones are so free to express their feeling and tantrums. Our loving God is so gracious, that He has directed these children to Snehasadan to express His love through Camillians and the staff. Regarding the management and the staff, in the beginning I felt that I am lost in this center, but the concern and the belonging nature of the staff made me feel one among them in all the activities of the Centre.

The Sisters of the Queen of Apostles (SRA) has been collaborating with the mission of Camillians in Mangalore for a few years, as they are partners in the education of the

Orphan and Vulnerable children through Dharmajyothi Social Service Centre at Vamanjoor. Sr Juliet Lobo SRA, Provincial Superior, was happy to send Sr. Clarice Lobo SRA to Snehasadan, a Unit of Sneha Charitable Trust of Camillians, in view of collaboration and extending their compassion towards the marginalized and the sick.

Sr. Clarice hails from Mangalore. She has far-fetched experiences in the mission stations as she was the founder and pioneer of Bidar missions of the Society. She was the administrator of St. Ignatius hospital in Honnavar. She is an effective and dedicated nurse who proved it while serving the street children in a remand home in Goa. She has also worked with senior citizens in Mangalore. The rich experiences of the person mean a lot to the mission and the center. Snehasadan family is happy to have Sr. Clarice Lobo who can better actualize the motherly care which was always dreamt by St. Camillus, our Founder, in this care home where the ninety-five percentage of residents are fully and partially orphans and vulnerable.

I pray and implore God's blessings upon each member of this Centre to gracefully continue this noble task. God Bless each one of us!!!!





## Ministry collaboration with FCC and DSC at Snehadaan

By Sunny Aresseril MI

The Provincial of the Ministers of the Infirm Fr. Baby Ellickal has made an agreement with the Provincial Superiors of the Franciscan Clarist Congregation (FCC) and Daughters of St. Camillus (DSC), that they would avail their trained sisters to work in Snehadaan and Sneha Care Home, Bengaluru as nurses and teacher. As a result, three FCC sisters, Sr. Celia, Sr. Seena and Sr. Jasmine, joined Snehadaan on May 15, 2019 and two sisters from

Daughters of St. Camillus, Sr. Daisy and Sr. Anila joined on June 1, 2019.

Presently Sr. Celia FCC is working as the nurse coordinator at Snehadaan. Sr. Jasmine FCC is working as the nurse coordinator of Sneha Care Home and Sr. Seena FCC is working as the education coordinator of Sneha care home. Sr. Anila DSC and Sr. Daisy DSC are working as staff nurse at Snehadaan.

## Bidding them farewell with gratitude

By Jaison Narikuzhiyil MI



Sr. Jancy Palatty, Sr. Valsa Kurisuveetil and Sr. Sophie rendered their service in Sneha care home, Snehadaan and CPHC from May 2017 to April 2019. St. Camillus

Province had entered into a collaboration with FMSC sisters (Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart) with the initiatives of the provincial Fr. Baby Ellickal and Sr. Gracy, the provincial of FMSC, and they decided to make three of their sisters available for the services at Snehadaan.

Sr. Valsa served as the principal and education coordinator of Sneha Care Home while Sr. Jancy worked as the staff nurse in SCH. Sr. Sophie worked as the coordinator in Camillian Pastoral centre for an year and returned to the province. Snehadaan community really value their presence and services. We also found them often engaged in meeting the inmates and listening to them and praying with them during their free time.

By Babu Seenappa

On 1st of May we organized a farewell to the sisters of Divine Providence, in appreciation of and gratitude towards the sisters for the six years of collaborative ministry with Camillians, caring for the HIV infected children at Snehagram, Krishnagiri. It wasn't a happy moment for Snehagram to end this collaboration, but as it is said there is time for everything.

Fr. Baby Ellickal, the Provincial of St. Camillus province, and Sr. Mary, the Provincial of Daughters of Divine Providence were present at the function. Fr. Baby Ellickal expressed gratitude to the sisters. On behalf of Snehagram Family, the students presented a small token of love and gratitude.





## Creative in healthcare ministry

By Sr. Maria Cecilia Maria Villa DSC

**T**he provincial superior of the Ministers of the Infirm Fr. Baby Ellickal conducted a workshop on “Re- reading of Camillian charism and spirituality in order to be creative in pastoral healthcare ministry”, from 6th to 9th June 2019 for the Daughters of St Camillus at Mother Vannini Educational society auditorium located at Tadepalligudem, West Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh, India. Around 50 sisters from different parts of the country participated in the workshop. The presence of Sr. Anila Komputhukil, the provincial superior of the Daughters of St. Camillus also added colour to the event.

The workshop was about what it meant to be a true Camillian Religious in the present world. We camillians are blessed with a charism so dear to the heart of God and of the Church. We

are called in a special way to take care of the sick who are our Lords and Masters. Each one of us is responsible to render our service according to the needs of our times. It was in fact a great time for all of us to turn back and look at the way we travelled in practicing our charism. To care for the sick or to render our holistic service is a great challenge in today’s world. Through this workshop, which also paved way for group discussions and presentations, we were able to understand our limitations and shortcomings. Every one of us is a wounded healer, thus the good news is that we are healers because we are wounded. Pastoral care plays a vital role in the lives of the sick. Thus, following the example of St. Camillus we shall try to move on to love our charism with new enthusiasm and vigor. We wish to be a living offering of love, a song of thanksgiving made of humble and silent service to the poor, the most abandoned with simple gestures full of compassion and Mercy.

**The workshop on Camillian charism and spirituality was in fact a great time for all of us to turn back and look at the way we travelled in practicing our charism.**



“I intend that spiritual care should never alone be attended to without corporeal care”  
- St. Camillus de Lellis,  
July 10, 1614.

# Updates on Northeast Mission

By Patrick Nayak MI

As per the decision of the Provincial Chapter to begin a mission center in the Northeast, the present administration has taken the lead and had a meeting with the Archbishop of Guwahati; and during this meeting that the Archbishop gave us the official permission to begin a community for formation and for ministry in the Archdiocese of Guwahati, Assam.

In view of realizing this mission project, I have been sent to Guwahati. I was appointed as Assistant Vicar at Mattia, one of the parishes of the Archdiocese of Guwahati in 2017. Well, initially it was difficult to set-in, mainly due to the different cultures, attitudes and languages. It was challenging and demanding moments for me as I was getting enculturated into the Northeast. Meanwhile, I was also seriously studying the culture and the different possibilities of venturing into the land of Northeast with our mission of healthcare ministry.

Finally, last year, we purchased a piece of land in Bandhapara, near Rajapara (70 km away from Guwahati town) about 1 acre and 65 cents (St. Camillus House, Bondha para, Rajapara Post, Kamrup Dt., Assam, +918310967459). We have just done earth filling for some portion of the land for the construction purposes. We are still waiting for some civil documents to get done in order to

begin the construction work.

However, the future vision for the northeast is: To build a small community for the mission in the Northeast; to promote more vocations from the different States of the region (in fact, we already have promoted a candidate from here); to develop a small community health clinic for the poor people in the villages, to promote collaborative ministry with the Archdiocese of Guwahati and the other diocese of Northeast in terms of health animation and healthcare training programs and to help in the pastoral care ministry in the parishes and hospitals.

The current position of the mission is this: I will be relieved from the parish by the end of August 2019 and will dedicate my full time for this mission project. We have opened a Bank account and applied for electricity connection. Fencing the boundary is going on. We require to dig a borewell later in the course of time. We are just waiting for the official documents to be acquired and then, we will proceed with the construction of a building for the community. I am given a car for the use of this mission and I will be staying with the Capuchin fathers at Rajapara.



# Sneha Care Home And Shining Star School

By Mathew Sauriyamthottiyil MI

## School Closing: Report Day and Parents'/Guradians' Meeting

The school academic year 2018-19 closed on 7th April 2019 with a thanksgiving prayer song by the children of the school followed by the prize distribution ceremony. Certificates of merit and excellence were awarded to children who had excelled in their academics, cocurricular activities like sports and athletics. The children performed group dances, sang songs and the kindergarten children did an action song for their parents and guardians, who also attended the programme. The day was also marked for the parents to meet the staff of Sneha Care Home in preparation of taking their children for the summer vacation.

## Asha Foundation - Camp Rainbow for 12 Children

Day camps are a part of Camp Rainbow outreach programmes. These outreach programmes are aimed at continuing to give learning opportunities for children. A day camp for Sneha Care home children was held on the 1st of June 2019. Two leadership team members conducted the programme along with some volunteers. The programmes were planned keeping in mind the age of children and the number of children, the number of volunteers. The programme was scheduled from 11:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m. The schedule had different programmes for children like Arts and Crafts, Team-building, Performing Arts, Life-skills and different types of painting.

## The Ananda Yana Run

Sneha Care Home helped host the 4th edition of the *Ananda Yana Run* on Sunday June 2, 2019. It was organised by Runners High at Snehadaan. The Run, an annual event, had two categories of events viz., *Thayi Mane*



Children of SCH plant tree saplings as part of an environment project

*Ota* covering a distance of 4 km and *Sneha Ota* of a distance of 10 km along a scenic route through the country side. Over 2000 people, amateurs and professionals, both young and old from all walks of life participated in the Run. All the children and staff of Sneha Care Home actively participated with great enthusiasm in various ways. 24 of our children in the age group of 9 -12 and three of our teenage girls were thrilled to have successfully run the *Thayi Mane Ota* in approximately 45-50 minutes, despite not having the opportunity of professional training and regular practice.

## Shining Star School Opening Ceremony June 3rd 2019

The school opening ceremony 2019 of Shining Star School was held on June 3, 2019. The school happily welcomed

the students to a new exciting year of learning and teaching, fun and laughter, invention and discovery. The ceremony began with the students ushering in the new Academic Year 2019-2020 with a prayer song and inviting the whole assembly gathered, to thank God for the success of the previous year and ask His Grace and blessings for the year to begin. The Director of the school and Sneha Care Home Fr. Biju welcomed the Chief Guest, the new Administrator of Snehadaan, Fr. Sunny and the new Principal of the school Sr. Seena. Fr. Sunny led the students in the lighting of the Lamp of knowledge and compassion and it spread divine grace. Fr. Sunny through his warm and candid address to the school students shared his thoughts about the value of education and its importance for a better life and good governance; how

governments and countries benefit from it making governments more accountable. He passionately urged the children to study well in school and pursue it further for a better and bright future. With simple concrete examples like daily reading of the newspaper, he stressed the importance of not only being well informed but of applying that

knowledge in one's day to day life. Fr. Biju welcomed the children and staff of the school and stressed the importance of discipline, good conduct, value education, neatness in dress and work, good communication skills and Spoken English. He wished all a Successful and Fulfilling New Academic Year.

### Wake the Lake Project at Kodige Singasandra with HCL

On June 8, 2019 SCH, United Way and HCL planted tree saplings at Kodige Singasandra Lake as part of the Environment Project of Wake the Lake Project in Bangalore. Our HCL Funding and CSR Partner along with our Convergent Partner United Ways are working together on a Project of 'Wake the Lake' (cleaning up and beautifying the lakes of Bengaluru) of Lake Kodige Singasandra, 13 kilometres away from Sneha Care Home. Our children have helped in planting 300 saplings at the lake and there will be follow up programmes through the year.



Children who participated in Ananda Yana Run

## New chaplaincy ministry initiatives

By Eanthumkal Bobin MI

St. Camillus province has entered into ministry collaboration with St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru and St. Thomas Hospital, Chethipuzha, Changanassery, Kerala. It has been our dream to open new hospital chaplaincy ministry in the hospitals. The chaplaincy ministry at St. Philomena's Hospital is going on well and our ministry is highly appreciated by the hospital authority, staff and the sick people. Thus, we begin our hospital chaplaincy ministry in other two hospitals. Fr. Siby Kaitharan has been appointed as the Chaplain and the head of pastoral healthcare

department at St. Thomas Hospital, Chethipuzha, Kerala and he began his ministry in the beginning of June 2019. The community of Snehatheeram will be helping him to carry out this healing ministry in an effective way. Fr. William Eronimoose has been appointed as the Chaplain at St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru and he began his ministry on 1st May 2019. The community of Upasana will be helping him too for the effective management of this new ministry initiative.



### NEWS BRIEF...

- Bobin Thomas Eanthumkal left for Italy on May 30, 2019. Currently he is doing the Italian language course at Verona. He will be engaged in ministry and later in higher studies.
- Chennattu Siby Augustine defended his licentiate thesis on June 25, 2019 at Salesian University, Rome.

**“Let your hope keep you joyful,  
be patient in your troubles,  
and pray at all times.”  
(Rom. 12:12)**



*Photo: Chennattu Siby*