

# Reaching The Unreached

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625203

## Happenings of September 2015

Dear Well-wishers,  
Greetings from RTU.



On 18<sup>th</sup> September RTU Day was celebrated with overwhelming joy. This is a day where all RTU staff come together. It began with a parade or procession from the entrance of RTU to the stage in the St Peter's Primary School campus. It lasted for three hours and all the departments were on stage for one programme or another. At the end there was sumptuous meal for all the children and the staff. The children and the staff from our Bodi site 55 km away also came over for the function. Br James also attended the function for about an hour and honoured the staff who had completed 15 years of service at RTU (Mrs Rani – Balwadi, Mrs Boomadevi – Arul Malar Primary School and Mrs Amutha – St Peter's Primary School).

Mr. Ramesh, the Director of Dry Air Technology and good sponsor of RTU came for the function. Karur Vysya Bank, Batlagundu sponsored all the prize materials for the staff.



The birthday of Mother Mary was celebrated in the usual way and there was a small procession from our main RTU campus to Sirumalar Children's Village with the children and staff. At the end of the procession there was a small prayer service thanking Mother Mary for her protection and care for RTU. It was followed by sharing of *Pongal* (sweet rice) which is a symbol of thanksgiving. This feast was also celebrated in our schools.



### Child care in our Children's Villages



Vinayagar Sathurthi (the birth of Lord Vinayaga) was celebrated in all the Children Villages. As it was a national holiday, there were special prayers and poojas at their convenient timings. Velanganni Hostel celebrated its 14<sup>th</sup> annual day. It was a nice celebration with a variety of entertainment. The girls from the neighbouring hostels Anbu Illam and Miriam also joined with the girls of Velanganni Hostel by taking part in the programmes and shared their joy.



Nirmala, who came to us as a child and is now 26 years old, recently got married to Karikalcholan. We are very happy that she is now settled in life. The parents of the groom are very kind and we are sure that she will have a good life with her new family. We wish them all the best and a happy married life.



Camp Rainbow was conducted for HIV positive children. Last year we held this camp for the first time for our children. This year we extended this opportunity to the children living outside so 20 children were from RTU and the rest were from Jeevan Joythi and Arogya Agam. Altogether 57 campers participated in the camp. The main goal is to raise

awareness of the importance of taking regular medication and staying healthy. There was a lot of fun and games with a delicious meal provided by our nutrition department. It is a joint venture of Serious Fun from USA, YRG Care in Chennai and RTU. There was lot of preparation for the leaders' team and the staff team beforehand.

The children from the hostels went home for a week-long quarterly holiday and returned refreshed.

## Our schools

Krishna Jeyanthi (the birth of Lord Krishna) was celebrated in the schools. Two children were clothed as Lord Krishna and Radha. It is very cute to see the children clothed like this. Special prayers were offered to the Lord.

On 5<sup>th</sup> September Teachers' Day was celebrated. The teachers were divided into four groups and each group went to one of our four children villages. The children expressed their love and gratitude with singing, dancing, poems, skits etc. The teachers were very happy to have this tribute of love from their students.



All the students had a week of quarterly holiday. During this holiday 12<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> class students went for educational trips to Kodaikanal and Madurai respectively. In Kodaikanal, the Solar Observatory was very informative and the students enjoyed seeing other lovely sightseeing places.

## Community development in rural villages



66 members from various Self Help Groups took part in training on 'Entrepreneurship'. They had training on Tamarind packing which are exported to foreign countries. A group of 15 members also went to Madurai to visit an exhibition and sale of products of the Self Help Groups and another NGO. They had a very fruitful trip which brought a lot of learning.

## Housing and Water



11 houses have been completed at Ayyampalayam. The people are very happy to have a nice village house. On the day of opening there was lot of joy on the face of the people. They are grateful to RTU for creating this life-changing situation within a short span of time (3 weeks).

The services of the RTU is boundless. We try to reach out to many more children and to give them new opportunities to lead a better life with hope for the future. This is made available thanks to supporters like you. Your contribution, whether big or small, can create tremendous changes in the lives of the children and the poor.

May God bless you all!

Yours fraternally,  
Fr. J. Antony Paulsamy, OFM Cap,  
Secretary and Director.