

Reaching The Unreached

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625203

Happenings of July - 2016

Dear Well-wishers,

Greetings from RTU.

At the beginning of July, we were delighted to welcome ten young volunteers from Lasallian Developing World Projects in the UK to build 10 houses for the poorest people in our rural villages. Their involvement in our house building programme was great and very much appreciated.

This month we have helped all the new children in our schools to develop their attitude and belief in their own abilities. Now they are showing a keen interest in their studies and extracurricular activities.

Visit of a Lasallian Celebrity – an ineffable visit



The Most Rev. Bro. Robert Schieler, Superior General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools from Rome visited our campus on 4th July. The purpose of his visit is to see Bro James Kimpton as part of his Pastoral Visit to the Delegation of India. He was accorded a five star welcome by our children and staff. There were cultural dances all along the way to Bro James' crib. He was spellbound with the performances of the children. He spent almost 30 minutes with Brother and had a quick look around the SCV campus. His visit brought many cheers to our children and great happiness to Brother. It was an ineffable visit.

Child care at our Children's Villages

Two new young mothers in their 20s recently joined as foster mothers in our Children's Villages with their own children. One is Nisha who has a 2 year old daughter and her husband died in an accident. Another one is Mrs Thangammal who has three children and her husband died last year. They are living happily in their new homes by taking care of our children. All the children welcomed the new mothers with great joy and love.



The 9th Pushparani Hostel Day was celebrated on 30th July with a special dinner and cultural shows performed by the children, which was attended by Br James, Fr Antony and all the mothers living in the Children's Village where the hostel is based. The children appreciated the uniqueness and motherly care given by the warden and wished her good health and a long life.

Schools and Education



On 4th July, Ramadan was celebrated according to RTU custom. Moulavi Jabar Sathik Hashrath from Muhaideen Andavar Mosque in Genguvarpatti and the elders of our local Muslim community honoured this function. Children learned the message of Ramadan and its meaning of love, charity and brotherhood. Celebrating all the festivals from different religions helps develop the inter-religious understanding of the children from an early age. All our children were encouraged to see how Muslims observe the five daily prayers on time and to use their downtime just before breaking their fast at sunset to recite the Quran and intensify remembrance of God.

School teachers visited all the parents including our own Children's Village foster mothers and hostel wardens to better understand the children studying in our schools. These meetings are so useful both for the teachers and the parents to enhance the growth and learning of the children. Teachers showed progress records and explained to the parents how each child was performing in their school work.





Natya Mala (a traditional dance) was conducted in St Peter's Primary School premises to improve the dance skills of our children. Mr. Ian Brady, Chair of RTU-UK, Mr. Mark Cassidy, Mr. Steve Cassidy, Mrs. Sue Davies and her family members and all the Lasallian UK volunteers attended this function. They enjoyed the programme and encouraged our children by words of appreciation.

A food festival was organized on 23rd July for the students in Nirmala Middle School to impart the knowledge of the nutritious value of the traditional food. This festival focused on traditional food systems and sustainable livelihoods, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.



The Mobile Tailoring Units were reopened in Genguvarpatti, Devadhanapatti and Vadakarai Periyakulam villages for the 2nd new intake of students on 2nd July. Most of the new students were present during the reopening.

Medical and Healthcare



During our mobile health clinic rounds in the villages, we identified one lady namely Jothi in Melmangalam village who is 22 years old and gave birth to triplets. Her husband is a labourer and she went to her mother's house for the delivery. The whole family are living in very poor circumstances and were finding it very difficult to meet the expenses of the three babies. To help the mother care for these three babies, RTU has extended financial support to her. Now the mother and three babies are living happily and growing healthier.

Community Development

The annual celebration for the three Self Help Groups in Meenachipuram village was organized by the SHG members on 15th July. Mr Sundar, Sub-collector of Theni District and Mr Nagaraj, Block Development Officer were the chief guests. Mr Sundar distributed Rs. 66,000 to 11 SHG members to establish the Individual Household Toilet initiative in Meenachipuram village during this function. Mr Nagaraj talked about the importance of the Individual Household Toilet and Clean India programme. Meenachipuram village got a special award from the Sub-collector for actively participating in the clean India Programme. In total, 260 villagers participated in this function and among them 55 members were from our SHGs which are actively functioning in this village.

Housing and Water



During the month, 3 houses at Palapatti, 1 house at M. Meenachipuram and 6 houses at Genguvarpatti were completed. All the family members are living happily and safely in their new homes. We thank the 12 Lasallian volunteers from the UK for their tremendous contribution in completing these houses on time and appreciate all their hard labouring work in tremendous heat. The people living in these houses expressed their sincere thanks to all the volunteers.



I take this opportunity to thank all the donors who are accompanying us by providing significant support and encouraging us to fulfill the needs of the poorest children and people. I am very grateful to you for all your continuous support. With your blessings and cooperation, we are marching ahead well in terms of reaching out to many more children. This is made possible because of generous supporters like you. Your contribution really brings hopes and love in the lives of many poor children.

May God bless you all!

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