

# **Reaching The Unreached**

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625203

## **Happenings of November 2016**

Dear Well-wishers,

Greetings from RTU.



This month was a remarkable one for us to celebrate Children's Day in a colourful manner in all our schools, Children's Villages and home support programme. The birthday of Jawahar Lal Nehru, who was the first Prime Minister of Independent India, is celebrated 14<sup>th</sup> November and, as a tribute to his love for children, it is celebrated as Children's Day in India. We organised cultural programmes and competitions, and our teachers performed songs and dances for their students. We not only celebrated this day for our own children but extended it to children in other schools in the Dindigul and Theni districts. 126 teachers with 390 children from 69 schools participated in the celebrations and inter-school cultural competitions such as fancy dress, dance, art, song and elocution were conducted. Mr Kennedy, Manager at the State Bank of India in Genguvarpatti honoured the students with valuable prizes and certificates.



### **Childcare in our Children's Villages and Hostels**

A seminar was organised for all the foster mothers caring for our children in the Children Villages. Mrs Rosalin, Child Protection Officer from Theni District Child Protection Unit, was the resource person and she facilitated the meeting with child related documentary films. She talked about how to encourage the children to gain a wide range of skills beyond their academic studies.



Six of our General Nursing & Midwifery students (Ms Geetha, Ms Soundarya, Ms Abinaya, Ms Sangareswari, Ms Saranya and Ms Chitradevi received their graduation certificates from Claudine School of Nursing in Batlagundu on 26<sup>th</sup> November. On the same day, five of our new students (Ms Kalaiselvi, Ms Karthika, Ms Pothumani, Ms Devayani and Ms Devamisma) lit their lamp to start their Nursing courses.



Seven of our girl students scored high marks and became eligible to join the Government Medical colleges for General Nursing & Midwifery. S Vinitha and K Ragadevi were allocated their courses in Salam Medical College Hospital and M Pandiswari, M Kohila, R Lavanya, V Kalaimani and M Selvi joined Theni Medical College Hospital. These are large teaching hospitals with many departments so this a great opportunity for girls who will be guaranteed good jobs on graduation. **S Vinitha is the 7th rank holder for the nursing selection in the whole of Tamilnadu state.** We sincerely thank Br Arockiadass who has been supporting our 12th standard students in our St Peter's School. We really appreciate his efforts to support these students to gain seats in Government colleges.



#### Schools and Education





On 11<sup>th</sup> November, in the presence of RTU board members, Br James Kimpton and Dr D K Oza, President of RTU, we inaugurated new classrooms and a new computer lab at our St Peter's Higher Secondary School. Rev Fr Anuminathan, Minister Provincial, Mary Queen of Peace Province, Thirumangalam in Madurai, blessed the building. It is a great blessing for our students to have new classrooms and new computers to increase their knowledge and skills.

Four of our teachers from our schools were invited to participate in a meeting Gandhigram University on 'Evolving a New School Curriculum based on Peace and Justice'. It was a useful meeting for our teachers to spread the news about Peace and Justice through our school curriculum activities.

On 29<sup>th</sup> November, a science exhibition was conducted at St Peter's Higher Secondary School for children from local village schools. There were 61 teachers with 135 children from 34 schools from the Theni and Dindigul districts who took part. The children explained their presentations so vibrantly. Members from The Lions Club in Bodinayakanur, Ln Mr Balaji, President, Ln Mr Pandian, Secretary and Ln Mr Naveen, Treasurer, honoured the children with prizes and certificates.



An Individual Talent Test was conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> November in our St Peter's Higher Secondary school for our students by the District Educational Office at Theni. From our school, Selvi Azhageshwari who is studying 9<sup>th</sup> standard won the prize for writing composition. Other participants were also encouraged to develop their talents and get prizes in the future.



35 students from 12<sup>th</sup> standard at St. Peter's Higher Secondary School participated in a 3-day seminar on ecology at Senbaganur, Kodaikanal. This was a well organised programme by those passionate about safeguarding the natural world and our students learnt about preservation of plants and water.

Over on our Bodi site, 5<sup>th</sup> standard students at Nirmala Middle school performed a drama about how to preserve plants, 4<sup>th</sup> standard students had a debate about the positive and negative elements of plastics and 7<sup>th</sup> standard students learnt about making paper bags and files.

## Housing and Water



During this month, eight houses at Ayyampalayam, one at Ayyankottai and another one at Old Batlagundu were completed. All the family members are living happily and safely in their new homes. The people living in these houses expressed their sincere thanks to all the volunteers and to RTU for providing these houses.

The RTU board meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> November at our main RTU campus. All the executive members were present in the meeting and discussed the progress of each of our programmes.

As we continue to work for the development of the children and the poor, we feel supported and encouraged by you. It helps us to move forward for the welfare of the children and poorest in our communities. I take this opportunity to thank all the donors and individuals for their unstinted cooperation in all our endeavours. We all remember you in our prayers.

May God bless you all!

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