

LET US ALSO GO, THAT WE MAY DIE WITH HIM *John 11:16*

APOSTLE

Newsletter of the SSPX; #1 Marcel Lefebvre Place, Annie Nagar, Seevalaperi Rd , Palayamkottai, 627002

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Do not you say: There are yet four months, and then the harvest cometh? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and see the countries. For they are white already to harvest. . Jn4 v.35

Having just arrived in India after saying goodbye to Father Patrick Summers (the new Headmaster of St. Michael's School in Great Britain), it seems as if these words of Our Lord Jesus Christ could not be more fittingly applied than to this beautiful country. The work of Father Summers, his confreres, his predecessors and many devout faithful has left a rich harvest within this vast and predominantly pagan sub-continent, a harvest left for others to reap. While the temptation might be to assess the harvest by the size, the number and the beauty of its buildings, or perhaps by the grandeur of the liturgy and the size of the attendant congregations, the only true measure, of course, is the piety of the faithful. Indeed, the material inheritance is extraordinarily rich: a priory and four chapels have been built, one is near completion, work will soon commence on the new junior school, and a truly grandiose project is underway to build an orphanage in conjunction with the Society of Servi Domini. This material splendour, however, counts for nothing besides the beauty of a single soul ordered to God; and it is in this that my heart rejoices above all, for the reverence and piety of the faithful, their dignity and the delicacy, are truly an inspiration and an example to follow. May God grant that this apostolate continue to grow and prosper in grace so much so that these words of Our Lord may also be realised one day in His priests: *And he that reapeth receiveth wages and gathereth fruit unto life everlasting: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. Jn. 4v.36.*

In Jesu et Maria, Father Robert Brucciani



*The Missionary Priests of India.
Fr. Valan Rajakumar, Fr. Robert
Brucciani, Fr. Daniel Couture
(District Superior), Fr. Joseph Pfeiffer,
and Father Francis Chazal*

A Day In The Life Of An Orphan

The Orphanage of the Society of Servi Domini is perhaps the brightest jewel in the crown of the Indian Mission. Run at present by four postulant sisters of the Institute of the Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart, it looks after ten girls between 8 and 14, seven young ladies between 17 and 28, two elderly ladies and is also the official guardian of eight boys who stay at Holy Trinity Priory. It is a truly wonderful work of compassion and the source of many graces for those who live and work there. Furthermore, in conjunction with the school, this noble undertaking is perhaps the single most effective means of forming souls for future vocations and for good Catholic families in India. The children live in a wholesome Catholic environment; there are no fashions, there is no fast-food, no electronic media (except perhaps the occasional film!) plenty of activity and a good amount of work too. Furthermore, the children are almost unique in that they are being raised free from the enormous social pressure of the caste system that exists in Indian society, a pressure which can act for the good at times but which also can be a cause of appalling evil.

Here, in a few pictures is described a day in the life of an orphan.

6:00am. Rise and shine (the sun does actually shine every-day).

6:30am. Early morning study.

7:00am. Anistas, one of our pre-seminarians, rings the bell for morning prayers and Mass (bottom left). On feasts of the 2nd class we have a Sung Mass (right).

8:10am Breakfast.

8:45am. Mr. Michaelas and the boys depart for the school in the "Tempo" (bottom centre) while Miss Marie-Blanche and the girls depart in the "Jeep" from the orphanage (bottom right).





9:00am Assembly and prayers followed by lessons. Miss Josephine checks Jacinta's exercise book (**above right**) while Mr. Xavier examines Mary Magdalene on her Tamil homework. He does not look impressed (**above**).

10:40am. At break time Jyothi sits next to Miss Arockia to discuss the day's events (**below left**).

10:55am. Two more 50 minute lessons follow. Joseph explains the mystical sense of the answers he gave in his catechism test to Father Brucciani (**right**) while at 12:34pm, it looks as if Theresa has run out of steam (**below right**). It must be time for lunch!





12:35pm. Lunch. For want of furniture, the children must sit on the floor but the food tastes just as good (**left**). After lunch, Miss Arockia finds herself the centre of attention of the girls (**below left**) while Mr. Xavier supervises Celestine, Jerold and Pragash who find themselves on detention (**bottom left**).

1:35pm. Miss Marie-Blanche rings the end of recreation (**bottom right**).

3:15pm After another two 50 minute lessons, the school day ends. We all sing a heartfelt "Sub Tuum."

Veritas Academy is currently housed in a rented building which, on account of the noisy fans, limited space and poor lighting, is quite trying on both staff and children. The future, however, is bright for, thanks both to the generosity of our benefactors and the industry of the Fr. Francis Design Studio, a new school building is on the drawing board. It should be ready towards the end of 2008.



3:30pm. Teatime is followed by some gardening for the boys. The grounds are rather large at the Priory and, in our part of Tamil Nadu, there is little rainfall; this means that the boys must work hard to keep Fr. Valan's horticultural dreams alive (**opposite top left**) .

4:30pm. Study (**opposite top right and centre left**) is followed by recreation and showers.

6:30pm. Rosary (& Benediction on Thursdays....or Fridays at the Orphanage).

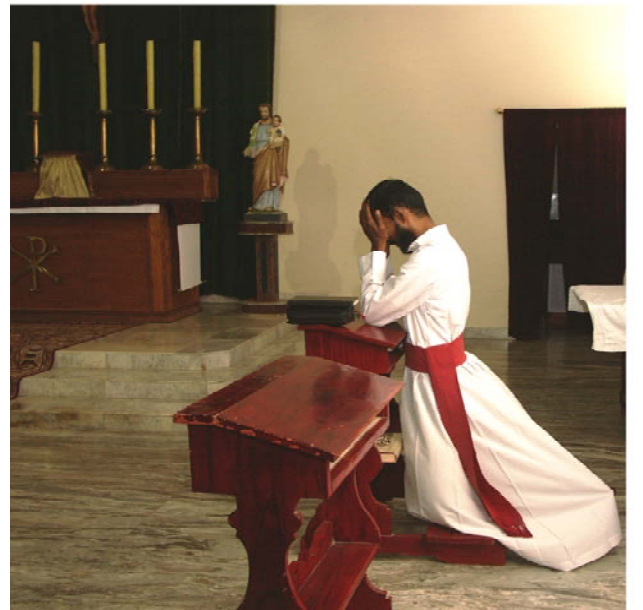
7:00pm. One last hour of study time.

8:00pm Supper followed by recreation (which includes tormenting Danny the untrained dog).

8:45pm. Compline and other night prayers (**opposite centre right & bottom right**).

9:30pm. And finally lights out (**opposite bottom left**).





Goa. The Rome of the East

While our Missionaries of the North, Fr. Francis and Fr. Pfeiffer were evangelising unchartered territory, Fr. Brucciani made the monthly pilgrimage to Goa.

Goa, the “Rome of the East” was ruled by the Portuguese for over 450 years until 1961. In its heyday it was the staging post for Portuguese trade with the East and became the hub of missionary activity for the Dominicans, from as early as 1510, for the Franciscans from 1517 and finally, and most successfully, for the Jesuits with St. Francis-Xavier’s arrival in 1542. Its buildings reflect the joyful opulence of the counter reformation in their design, but alas, they now reflect the demise of the Faith in their current state of neglect.



The Viceroy's Arch (above) was the arch through which St. Francis-Xavier and all missionaries entered Old Goa after disembarking at the river jetty just beyond. On the top of the arch is a statue of St. Catherine impaling a pagan on the end of her spear. Goa was won from the Muslims on St. Catherine's day 1498.

The Basilica of Bom Jesus (above right) contains the relics of St. Francis (right) and the Church of St. Cajetan (below) is built as a miniature of St. Peter's in Rome. On its left is the Pastoral Institute of St. Pius X for the “orientation” of newly ordained clergy (sic.).



Vocations

Well may I rejoice in the Lord, well may this heart triumph in my God. The deliverance he sends is like a garment that wraps me about, no bridegroom so proud of the garland that crowns him, no bride of the necklace she wears. See how yonder earth gives promise of spring, how the garden seeds give promise of flower! And the Lord will make good His promise for all the world to see; a springtime of deliverance and renown. Isiah LXI 10-11 :

On the Feast of the Assumption Suneel Reddi received the cassock from the hands of Fr. Peter Scott at the Holy Cross Seminary, Gouldburn, Australia. The cassock symbolises death to the world. Suneel has five and a half years of prayer and study ahead of him; please keep him in your prayers as he advances towards the sacred priesthood of the New Testament

On July, “Auntie” Swarna, the foundress of the Society of Servi Domini (cousin to Suneel), made her first step towards the consecrated life by being invested with the habit of the Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart in and taking the name in religion of Sr. Maria Immaculata. May many of her adopted sons and daughters see the beauty of her example and may the selfless devotion of all those who help at the Orphanage and Priory inspire vocations among you the readers too!

Suneel Reddi in his new cassock (and coat) with Rev. Mr. Gregory Noronha (right) .

Sr. Maria Immaculata, bride of Christ, before the ceremony (below) and after the receiving her new habit (below left).

