

Priory of the Most Holy Trinity ♦ India



Kumar received the sacraments of baptism and Holy Eucharist and then the scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, all on Easter Sunday.

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

On the occasion of a visit to a Carmel recently, I was given a profound lesson in gratitude. It was while talking to a meek sister through a medieval looking grill that

my conscience was not so much as pricked, as fairly run through with a broadsword. The conversation went something like this:

“Father, God is so good Father! He gives us the things that really make us happy. People think that gold and jewels and money and riches and things like that make you happy. Father, no, these things don’t make Carmelites happy. Chocolates are nice, but God gives us the things that really make us happy. You see Father, a man came to the Carmel; he came on a tractor with a great load of cow manure. We were so happy; it was for the garden Father. All the sisters were so happy! Backwards and forwards the sisters went with wheel barrows full of manure. God is so good to us Father. We prayed for that man, Father.

“But Father, God’s goodness didn’t stop there—the man told his friend how grateful we were for the load of manure, and then one day, his friend rang the bell and asked the sister if we wanted a load of, not cow manure, but horse manure!



The grill at Carmel.

Can you imagine, Father? Horse manure is even better for the garden than cow manure! God is so good. We were so so happy Father, all the sisters... We prayed for his friend too Father....”

“Yes sister,” I said, “God is good.”

While kneeling in the convent chapel, a few moments later, looking at the tabernacle which houses this God Who is so good, I reflected upon the extraordinary graces we too have received in the mission and upon the extraordinary generosity of our spiritual and temporal benefactors. Most had given treasures of value far in excess of dozens of loads of manure and



Fr. François Laisney came to help at the priory for three months. He has already learnt the Tamil alphabet (247 letters which include 18 vowels) and has set a blistering pace of apostolic activity for his confrères to follow. Here he is with Mr. Michaelas and Mr. Rosario.



Just as Fr. Laisney was about to leave India again, a familiar beard appeared, behind which was Fr. Francis Chazal! Our joy was complete.



Fr. Valan Rajakumar Devasahayam left India after four and a half years of unceasing labour in his home country. May God bless him in his new apostolate in Manila.

oh how little gratitude has been shown to them! Dear Lord, please supply our want of thanks. May our ingratitude make their gifts even more meritorious in Thine eyes....

In Jesu et Maria,
Rev. Robert Brucciani

CHRONICLE

▪ 6th March: Fr. Joseph Pfeiffer left India after three and a half years of rampant activity. He has been transferred to the Philippines.

▪ 12th March: India welcomed the arrival of Fr. Laisney for three months. Fr. Laisney hit the ground running: after the consecration of the new altar in Singapore he arrived in Chennai on Saturday evening and then had to rise at 5am for a 1hr 45min drive to R.N.Kandigai for a Missa Cantata and then back again to Chennai for another Sung Mass at 11:45am. From there he was deposited on a flight to Bombay and driven to Malad where he offered a third Sung Mass at

6:30pm. He was up again the next morning for Mass at 4:15am, then took a flight to Chennai and another to Tuticorin to arrive at the priory in time for lunch.

▪ 26th March: Andrew Leese left the priory to complete his round the world cycle trip. Godspeed and many thanks!

▪ 28th March: Fr. Valan left India after four and a half years of devoted activity. His publishing work has furnished the mission with, among other things, a bi-monthly Tamil magazine, a Tamil Catechism in Pictures and even a completely re-typed edition of the New Testament in Tamil. He is now a collaborator of Fr. Onoda of Our Lady of Victories, Manila.

▪ 10th April: Veritas Academy finished the school year and preparations began in earnest for Holy Week.

▪ 24th April: Easter Sunday, a day of exaltation and exhaustion for the priests.

▪ 9th—15th May: Fr. Gregory organised a catechism camp for boys at the priory. Seventeen young men attended.



Clement and Peter also made their first Holy Communion on Easter Day.

They studied, sang and played under the Indian summer sun (jolly hot).

▪ 26th April—25th May : Fr. Brucciani returned to the U.K. for a holiday and all but a handful of the boys went to their home villages in Andhra Pradesh to visit their relatives or to stay with friends. Volunteer Randall Leese joined his brother in Thailand and Joseph Carron returned to India for a final fling before returning to Switzerland. May God bless them all. Ω



Andrew Leese departs for Thailand with a stowaway.