

PALLOTTINE SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE



The Newsletter
of the
Pallottine
Social Welfare Centre

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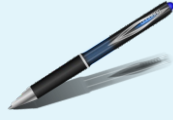
HAPPY
NEW YEAR
2024

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Editor's Note...



"Christmas is forever, not for just one day. For loving, sharing, giving are not put away" states Norman Wesley Brooks. As we are in the midst of celebrating the festival of Christmas, it's important to ask ourselves whether this Christmas is all about myself, my family and my friends or it enables us to walk an extra mile to find others or strangers with whom I can share the joy of Christmas by acts of love and charity. I am happy to state that over the course of past four years, Pallottine Social Welfare Centre has been trying to take the extra step to celebrate Christmas along with the HIV-AIDS affected people and also empowering the rural women by imparting skill-based education by offering Tailoring, Beautician and Embroidery Courses. Pallottine Social Centre also takes concrete steps to improve the lives of the poor and rural women by making them economically independent. In this way, the Centre lets God's love known not only during the time of Christmas, but also every day through the various upliftment programmes it offers. As we are in the joyful season of Christmas, let us pledge ourselves that not only we seek Child Jesus in the well decorated cribs, but also more importantly in the poor, needy and sick. Let us be instruments of spreading God's love through acts of charity and service of others. Pallottine Social Welfare Centre, by distributing nutritious food materials for the poor and by empowering rural women through St. Vincent Pallotti Community College, displays the spirit of Christmas not only during Christmas festivities, but also throughout the year.

I wish and pray that this season of Christmas transforms our lives. May we share the gift of Child Jesus with others especially those who are marginalised and in the periphery of the society. Thus, Jesus, the Love Incarnate, may be born among us daily and continue to bless us in the coming New Year 2024. I conclude the editorial message by quoting the words of St. Mother Teresa: "It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you."

I thank Fr. Vensus George, my community member, for his support and help. I also take this opportunity to thank Very. Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Savariaradimai, the Provincial, and his team for their continued support and encouragement. I thank especially friends and benefactors both from Germany and India. May God bless their generosity! Once again, I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a hope-filled New Year 2024.

Fr. Dr. Jerome Mariadhasan SAC (Director)
Pallottine Social Welfare Centre,
Salem, Tamil Nadu.





Inauguration of New academic year at St. Vincent Pallotti Community College



On February 04, 2023, a new academic year was inaugurated at St. Vincent Pallotti Community College

with a short prayer invoking the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Totally 56 students joined the Tailoring, Embroidery, and Beautician courses. We hope that joining these courses would help the students to become more economically independent, besides empowering them socially. We wish all students the very best and God's choicest blessings! May the programmes offered at St. Vincent Pallotti Community College inspires many more rural women to join these courses, and acquire the needed skills, so as to get their due place in the society, and respect in their families.

International Women's Day Celebration

St. Vincent Pallotti Community College and Pallottine Social Welfare Centre organized International Women's Day on March 08, 2023. Mrs. Karolin Erbe, a social activist and Educationalist was the chief guest for the function. There were 60 women who took part in the function.



The Students of St. Vincent Pallotti Community College performed meaningful programmes such as dance, skit and songs. The chief guest, in her address, called the women present at the function to be aware of their rights in the society. She emphasized that they must acquire, both, economic independence and become conscious of their civil rights.

Fr. Jerome, Director of St. Vincent Pallotti Community College, while addressing the women present, said that the aim of providing skill-based education was to get their due place, and to enjoy equal rights on par with men in the society. Overall, International Women's Day celebration reminded them not only of their glorious womanhood, but also it made them aware of their rights and duties.

Visit of OLGH Provincial and Mission Secretary of Heart of Jesus Province, Germany.



On February 27, 2023, Very Rev. Fr. Emmanuel, the Provincial of OLGH Province, and Fr. Rainhold Maiser, Mission Secretary of the Heart of Jesus Province, Germany, visited the Pallottine Social Welfare Centre. It was a joyous and memorable occasion. The guests could spend time with both the beneficiaries of the HIV/AIDS Programme, and the students of St. Vincent Pallotti Community College. We are grateful to the Heart of Jesus Province, Germany, for their continued support for the HIV/AIDS Programme from its inception here at the Centre. We thank Frs. Rainhold Maiser and Fr. Emmanuel for their kind visit.



Visit of Provincial of St. Nicholas of Flue Province, Switzerland, and OLGH Vice-Provincial

On March 12, 2023, Very Rev. Fr. Andy Givel, the Provincial of St. Nicholas of Flue Province, Switzerland, and Fr. Francis Sahaya Rajan, the Vice-Provincial of OLGH Province visited Pallottine Social Welfare Centre. It was an occasion for Fr. Andy to know the diverse activities of the Social Welfare Centre, particularly the HIV/AIDS Programme and Welfare Programmes for the upliftment of rural women. He expressed his special appreciation towards the staff and confreres in charge of the Centre. Fr. Rajan also expressed his happiness over the various activities conducted at the Pallottine Social Welfare Centre. We thank them for their visit and words of encouragement.



Welfare Programme for HIV/AIDS-Affected People

Over the years, Pallottine Social Welfare Centre has become a place of hope and comfort for more than 70 HIV/AIDS-affected families. Regular distribution of nutritious food material helps those who are sick; educational scholarship assists the children in their education; and other financial assistance supports expenses associated with medical care and repairing the houses of these poor people. Besides, Pallottine Social Welfare Center provides them regular counselling through field workers, and organizes motivational sessions during periodical gatherings at the Center. These activities make them feel that they are loved and cared for. Besides, they also have developed a fellowship and a special bond among themselves that helps them to endure their sufferings and pains collectively as a well-knit group. A special note of thanks to the Heart of Jesus Province, Germany, for their continued financial help. We also appreciate the local donors for their support. May God bless them abundantly for their generosity and kindness!





Canonical Visitation from Very Rev. Fr. General and His Team

On 16th July, 2023, Very Rev. Fr. Zenon Hanas, and his team made their canonical visitation of Pallottine Social Welfare Centre. They enquired about community life, and other welfare activities happening at the Centre. It was a wonderful experience to meet them and get to know their perspectives on social apostolate. They were happy with our approach and method of carrying out our social service, especially towards the HIV/AIDS-affected families and the work of uplifting and empowering rural women. They also celebrated the Eucharist with us and prayed for us. We thank them for their visit, and appreciate them for their suggestions and words of encouragement.



Christmas celebration at Pallottine Social Welfare Centre, Salem



Christmas is a festival of sharing with the poor, needy and the sick. Keeping the spirit of Christmas, Pallottine Social Welfare Centre organized a Christmas Celebration on December 02, 2023. Mrs. Nandhiini, Police Inspector in charge of Steel Plant area and Mr. Udhyakumar, Salem City, Traffic Sub-Inspector were the chief guests at the event. Fr. Arulappan, VF of Attur Deanery, and Parish Priest Attur Parish was the guests of honour. Frs. Ramesh SAC and Lourdusamy SAC attended the function as special guests. On that occasion around 100 people including St. Vincent Pallotti Community College students and HIV-AIDS patients, well-wishers and friends attended the celebration. We distributed nutritious food materials and new clothes for 65 HIV-AIDS affected families. St. Vincent Pallotti Community College students entertained the crowd with various entertainment programmes. The chief guests of the Programme appreciated our efforts in serving the sick especially those who are most neglected in the society. At the end of the celebration, all enjoyed the delicious meal. We take this opportunity to thank all our benefactors specially the Heart of Jesus Province, Germany, for their continued support and help. Overall, it was a celebration which reminded the true meaning of Christmas, that is to see Child Jesus not only in the beautifully decorated crib, but also in the sick and the most marginalized sections of society.

Valedictory Function at St. Vincent Pallotti Community College, Salem

Over three years, St. Vincent Pallotti Community College helps to empower women specially the rural women by making them economically self-sufficient and independent by imparting them skill-based education. The Community College offers Tailoring, beautician and embroidery courses. After completing the five months of





regular course, the students take exams conducted by NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation). 17 Tailoring students and 12 Beautician students appeared for the exams and all of them passed with “A” grade. On December 02, 2023, during our Christmas Celebration, they were awarded with central government-approved NSDC certificates. The College management is confident that these certificates would enable them to get jobs in the various government and non-governmental sectors. The Institute will also help them to start their own tailoring and beauty parlour centres. It is one of the small steps in the direction of women empowerment. We at the community college strongly believe that economic empowerment plays a significant role for women empowerment in the society. St. Vincent Pallotti Community College management congratulates all the students who have successfully completed their courses and got awarded the NSDC certificates. We are also grateful to Fr. Dr. Arul Xavier, Director, ICRDCE, Chennai for his continued support and partnership. A Special note of thanks to all the benefactors and friends, especially from Germany.



Congratulations



The Editorial Team welcomes **Fr. Vensius George** to Pallottine Welfare Centre Community, as he is appointed as residential staff. May God bless him that he may have a pleasant stay at the Social Welfare Centre, Salem.

The Editorial Team congratulates **Fr. Jerome**, as he is appointed as Mission Secretary and Social Work Coordinator of OLGH Province, Tamilnadu. We wish him all success in his new responsibilities.



Make Christmas Last All Year Long



Why confine the beauty of Christmas to a single season?
Give to the needy whenever you're able.

Volunteer at a soup kitchen at least once a month.

Wish people a good day every day.

Sing your favorite Christmas carol just because.

Send cards to let loved ones know you're thinking of them.

Surprise someone now and then with a gift from the heart.

Let that mistletoe hang all year round and use it.

Pray for peace on earth each and every day.

Try to love your fellow human beings even though they're far
from perfect.

Give thanks for all the Lord provides.

Keep Jesus first in your heart.

If you can do these things all year long,

Christmas never has to end.

- By Kelly Roper





● Christmas – A Time for Reaching out

His name is Bill. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant, profound and bright. He became a Christian while attending college. Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed and conservative church. One day Bill decides to go there. He walks in without shoes, wearing jeans and his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service has already started and so Bill starts down the aisle looking for a seat. The church is completely packed and he can't find a seat. Bill gets closer to the pulpit. When he realizes that there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. By now the people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick. About this time, the minister realizes that from way at the back of the church, a deacon is slowly making his way toward Bill. The deacon is in his eighties. He is a godly man, elegant, dignified and courtly. He walks with a cane. It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church is utterly silent except for the clicking of the Deacon's cane. All eyes are focused on him. You can't even hear anyone breathing. The minister can't even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he wants to do. Now, they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with him so he won't be alone. Everyone chokes up with emotion. When the minister gains control, he says: *“What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen you will never forget”*

What the deacon did to Bill during worship is what God does to us at Christmas. He leaves his exalted state and reaches out to us and becomes one among us, like us in all things except sin. May this Christmas help each one of us to be Christ-like in dealing with our neighbour!

- By Fr. Dr. Vensus George SAC





The Group of Frogs (Encouragement)

As a group of frogs was traveling through the woods, two of them fell into a deep pit. When the other frogs crowded around the pit and saw how deep it was, they told the two frogs that there was no hope left for them.

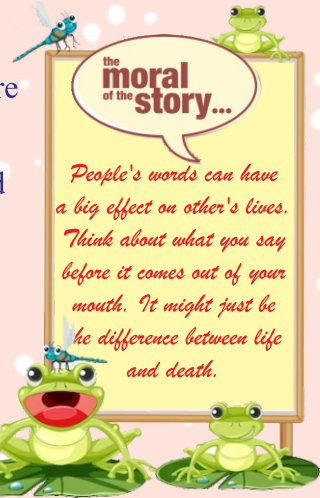
However, the two frogs decided to ignore what the others were saying and they proceeded to **try and jump out of the pit.**

Despite their efforts, the group of frogs at the top of the pit were still saying that they should just give up. That they would never make it out.

Eventually, one of the frogs took heed to what the others were saying and he gave up, falling down to his death. The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and just die.

He jumped even harder and finally made it out. When he got out, the other frogs said, **“Did you not hear us?”**

The frog explained to them that he was deaf. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.



the
moral
of the
story...

People's words can have a big effect on other's lives. Think about what you say before it comes out of your mouth. It might just be the difference between life and death.

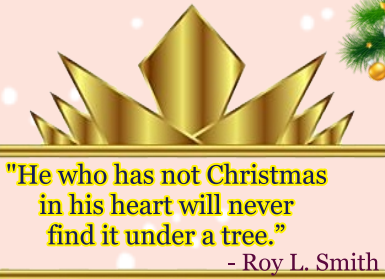
Famous Quotes

“

**“Christmas, my child,
is love in action.
Every time we love,
every time we give,
it's Christmas.”**

- Dale Evans Rogers

”



**“He who has not Christmas
in his heart will never
find it under a tree.”**

- Roy L. Smith

“

**“The best and most beautiful
things in the world cannot be seen
or even touched. They must be
felt with the heart.”**

- Helen Keller

”

Toilet for Poor Families

Pallottine Social Welfare Centre at Salem extended its Helping hand to two Parishes namely Suramangalam and Melathirupanthiruthi in constructing ten toilets for the Poor and needy families.



19 sardars went for a film. On asking them why they came in a big group of 19? They replied that the film was only for above 18.



A politician visited an Indian village and asked what their needs were. "We have 2 basic needs sir," replied the villager. "Firstly, we have a hospital, but there's no doctor." On hearing this, the politician whipped out his cellphone, and after speaking for a while he reassured the village leader that the doctor would be there the next day. He then asked about the second problem.



"Secondly sir, there is no cellphone coverage anywhere in the village."



A teacher tells all students in a class to write an essay on a cricket match. All were busy writing except one Sardar. He wrote "DUE TO RAIN, NO MATCH!"



Donate To A Cause

**Yes I want to be a friend of Pallottine Social Welfare Centre
I would like to make the following contribution:**

- Your contribution worth Rs. 3500 annually could transform a child's school education.*
- Your contribution worth Rs. 5000 annually could help a poor family to buy a Tailoring machine.*
- Your contribution worth Rs. 7000 annually could help to transform a HIV/ AIDS family.*



Contributions :

Name : Smile Social Welfare Trust

Account No : 0302073000002189

Bank Name : South Indian Bank Ltd.

Branch Name : Salem Leigh Bazar

IFSC code : SIBL0000302



The management, staff and students of the

St. Vincent Pallotti Community College

wish you

*a Merry Christmas and
a Happy and successful New Year*

