

# EPHREM NEWS

St. Ephrems Theological College, Satna

Patron  
Joseph Ottapurackal

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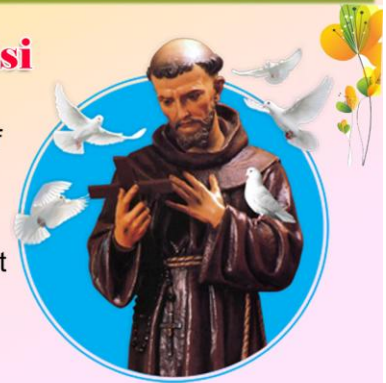
## Festal Celebration of St. Francis Assisi

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Together with our Capuchin brother, ETC celebrated the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on 04<sup>th</sup> October. The feast day celebration invited everyone to imbibe the spirit of St. Francis, the ardent lover of nature, that the missionaries may lead a humble and simple way of life.



## Visit of Synodal Commission



It was a wonderful day for ETC on 12<sup>th</sup> October because of the graceful presence

of His Excellencies Mar Joseph Kodakallil and Mar Raphael Thattil, the Synodal commission for the St. Ephrem's Theological College. Bishops met all the brothers in batches and sought proposals. They opined that brothers should prepare themselves to become zealous and good missionary priests especially in the contemporary scenario. The bishops also had discussions with the staff on the conditions and the welfare of the seminary.

## Mercy Fest 2016

The "Mercy Fest" in connection with the Extra Ordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy was conducted in Ephrem Pariwar on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The celebration was organized according to the proposals of the brothers.



The Fest was inaugurated by Rev. C. A. Varghese, the Vicar General of the Delhi diocese of the Marthoma Church and the principal of the Kristukula School, Satna. In a meeting held in ETC auditorium, the chief guest distributed the prizes for the rank holders of the different batches in the previous scholastic year and also the winners of the Sports and Arts Competitions. Rev. Fr. Manu CMF and Bro. Febin Kodiyan extended the felicitations. The meeting was followed by different games, the Lucky Draw, the Auction and a Film in order to collect the sum from the participants. All the different communities and the families of Ephrem Pariwar took part in the programmes very earnestly. The money collected will be used for the building of the house of one of the non-teaching staff of ETC.

## Pilgrimage to Satna Cathedral Church



The brothers of both ETC and VSH made a pilgrimage on foot to the St. Vincent Cathedral Satna and entered through the Door of Mercy on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The pilgrimage was conducted in order to imbibe and to give the message of the Merciful God and the Extra Ordinary Jubilee year of mercy. Very Rev. Fr. Rector together with Frs. Alex Pandarakappil and Sebastian Kallath VC joined the brothers for the pilgrimage which began after a prayer session in the chapel in the early morning at 5'O clock. On the way brothers prayed the rosary, the rosary of mercy and other prayers with particular intentions. All had their breakfast from the bishop's house. Later all entered through the Door and prayed the rosary of mercy.

## Silver Jubilee of Cathedral Church, Satna

2016- 2017 is the Jubilee year of the consecration of the St. Vincent Cathedral, Satna. The church was blessed 25 years before by His Excellency Mar Abraham D.Mattam . The parish celebrated her jubilee together with the feast of her patron. All the seminarians participated in the celebrations which included high sung Holy Qurbana by His Excellency Mar Joseph Kodakallil, cultural programmes and solemn dinner. Many pioneers of Satna diocese like Very Rev. Frs. Joseph Edattu VC, Augustine Vallooran VC, etc. and fathers from different mission stations and parishes of Satna concelebrated the holy Qurbana.

## Jail Ministry

Four of our brothers made a visit to the central jail in Rewa on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The visit was arranged by the social service society of the eparchy of Satna. The brothers staged group dance and performed group song on the occasion.

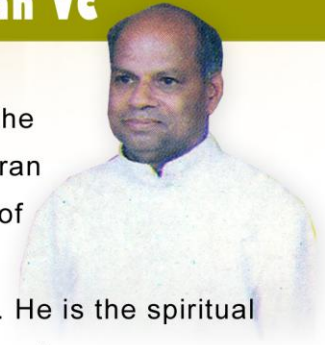


### Visit of Mar George Rajendran

His Excellency Mar George Rajendran, the Bishop of Thuckalay, made a visit to the seminary on October 16. He reached in the early morning and spent time here with the brothers of his eparchy, Dn. John S. Joseph and Bro. Joseph Kozhuvakandathil. In the evening he met all the brothers and gave a thought provoking message after the evening prayers. Bishop went back in the evening.

### Visit of Fr. Augustine Vallooran VC

ETC had a special guest in the personality of Rev. Fr. Augustine Vallooran VC, one of the pioneers of the eparchy of Satna and a strong pillar behind the establishment and development of ETC. He is the spiritual father of Vincentian philosophate in Bangalore. Together with him V Rev. Fr. Joseph Edattu VC and Fr. Roy Varakath joined with us for the lunch.



## Deepavali Celebrations

ETC celebrated the festival of lights, Deepavali, in a joyful way.

All fathers and brothers gathered in front of the seminary in the evening and V. Rev. Fr. Joseph Ottapurackal spoke about the significance of the celebration. The 4<sup>th</sup> years conducted a game and started the awaited fireworks. All had fun on the occasion.



Rev. Fr. Sebastian Kallath VC together with Dns. John S. Joseph and Joseph Rathappillil celebrated their birthday. The community prayed for them in the Eucharistic offering and later in the refectory, the community extended them the greetings of the day.

*Happy Birthday*

## DEACONS PICNIC

## Mission Seminar



The 4<sup>th</sup> year theologians left for a picnic on the eve of 21<sup>st</sup> evening. They visited Lucknow, Badapur, Haridwar and Allahabad.

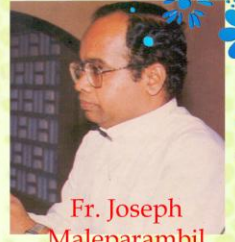


Rev. Fr. Alex Pandarakappil, the Vice Rector of ETC participated in a mission seminar which was held in Punjab on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Hearty congratulations dear father.

# St. Ephrem's through the ages....

1998-2000

Contd.....



Fr. Joseph Maleparambil

On 30<sup>th</sup> June 1998 new academic year began with new faces in the staff. Rev. Fr. John Thoppil joined the staff as a professor of Dogmatic Theology cum procurator of

ETC. Rev. Fr. John Punnolil from the diocese of Kothamangalam joined to ETC as a professor of canon law.

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, Bethania, an institute for religious studies for sisters, was blessed and inaugurated by His excellency Mar Abraham D. Mattam. For the Home day celebration on 12<sup>th</sup> September, Mar Joseph Pallikparambil, the bishop of Palai was the chief guest.

On 20<sup>th</sup> September His grace Most Rev. Alan de Lastic, president of CBCI, His excellency Rev. Dr. Charles Soreng, the bishop of Hazaribag and Rev. Fr. Sebastian SJ made their official visit to ETC as apostolic visitors. His excellency Mar Vijayanad Nedumpuram from the diocese of Chanda visited the seminary on 08<sup>th</sup> October and motivated the community with his passionate and zealous speech on the missionary activities in his eparchy. On 30<sup>th</sup> June



Apostolic Visitation

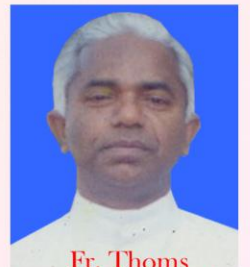
1999, Rev. Fr. Thomas Neendoor from the diocese of Tellicherry joined in ETC staff. On 13<sup>th</sup> October ETC had her family day celebrations with various cultural programmes. On this auspicious occasion, His excellency Mar George Punnakkottil, bishop of Kothamangalam was the chief guest.



Welcome to the new bishop

On 18<sup>th</sup> November Rev. Dr. Thomas Anikuzhikattil from the diocese of Kothamangalam joined as a new staff member of ETC. On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2000, His Excellency Mar Abraham D. Mattam retired after long 32 years of his remarkable service. Msgr. Mathew Vaniakizhakkal VC became his successor. On 24<sup>th</sup> January a farewell dinner was hoisted in honour of the outgoing rector Rev. Fr. Joseph Maleparambil. As a rector his service was indeed laudable. On the same day Rev. Fr. Thomas Anikuzhikattil was appointed as the new rector. A national symposium on *Church and mission in the third millennium*

was conducted in ETC from 16-18 February 2000. His grace Most Rev. Alan de Lastic, the Archbishop of Delhi and the president of CBCI gave the inaugural address. Archbishop of Bhopal, His grace Dr. Pascal Topno presided over the inaugural session.



Fr. Thoms Anikuzhikkattil



Inauguration of National Symposium

The episcopal ordination of Mar Mathew Vaniakizhakkal VC, the new bishop of Satna diocese took place on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2000 in St. Vincent Cathedral Church. His grace Mar Varkey Vithayathil, the Major Archbishop of Syro Malabar Church was the main celebrant. Many archbishops and bishops from Kerala and North India were present in the celebration. On 14<sup>th</sup> April 2000, brothers said good bye to a wonderful and memorable academic year just passed.

(Contd...)

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