



"It is in dying that we are born to eternal life"

CMSF NECROLOGY 2016



**"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.
Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies;
and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."
Jn. 11/25-26**

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CMSF NECROLOGY - 2016 is an updated version and it provides detailed information about the deceased Brothers of our Congregation. It is the Sixth Edition and it contains the detailed life history of veteran Brothers who have laboured in the Lord's Vineyard for several years and have gone for their eternal reward. We have included the available photos of the deceased Brothers as an added feature of this edition.

Let us gratefully remember and pray for our Brothers who have gone before us to their heavenly abode after having completed their pilgrim journey on earth.

**This edition is dedicated to
Bro. Paulus Moritz, CMSF, our Founder
On his 75th Death Anniversary in the year 2017, and to his
early Companions.**

Published in August 2016

**CMSF GENERALATE
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Borivali West
Mumbai - 400 103**

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JANUARY 1
BRO. CHRYSOSTOM RODRIGUES, CMSF (INDIA)

Brother Chrysostom, in baptism Alcino Francis Maria Rodrigues, was born on 16th March, 1888 at Ribander in Goa and was brought up in a pious Catholic atmosphere. He was admitted to the Congregation on 1st January, 1921, made his first profession on 20th January, 1922 and the final profession on 4th October 1927.

Whether in religious houses or in the villages, Bro. Chrysostom found ample scope for the corporal or spiritual works of mercy. His labour was very fruitful in the missions particularly at Khandwa, Zaroli and Bhilad. By his tireless and persuasive ways, he was instrumental in bringing many to the knowledge and love of God in the missions.

As one of the General Councillors, after the first General Chapter, he earnestly endeavoured to strengthen the religious discipline and the spiritual life of the Congregation. Though firm and inflexible on matters of principles, he was always gentle, kind submissive and serviceable in his dealings and dispositions.

He founded the Orphanage in Goa where his charity and sympathy to the poor were conspicuous. He worked strenuously for the development and maintenance of the school and orphanages at Goa Bassein and Mount Poincur, for whose upkeep he gladly underwent the difficult task of going to collect alms in Bombay. In that humble position, at Sonapur, near Marine Lines, on the New Year morning 1943, after his return from Mass, and Holy Communion, he had a sudden attack of high blood pressure, and after being anointed with the last Sacraments, he peacefully breathed his last. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur, where he laboured many years as a humble Franciscan in the service of the poor and abandoned of the society.

JANUARY 4
BRO. LEONARD AGUIAR, CMSF (INDIA)



Marceline Aguiar was born on 18th June 1899 to Mr. Justin and Mrs. Matilda Aguiar. From the very beginning of his youthful years his entire yearning was to embrace an austere type of religious life. Accordingly, inspired by the Franciscan way of life, he joined our Congregation at Mount Poincur on 2nd November 1923, and in religion received the name of Bro. Leonard.

He spent his period of religious formation at Mount Poincur, where he was trained well to teach the Orphans with great enthusiasm, and also improved the general status of the Orphanage. Shortly after his first profession on the 2nd August 1926, he was assigned the task of collecting alms in Bombay and thereafter, he worked as the school manager. He was also assigned to the upkeep of the Orphanages in Goa and Bangalore. In accordance with his early aspirations, Bro Leonard attached highest importance to the exact observance of religious rules and discipline, and he was known for his intelligent interpretation of the rules.

It was his ingenuity and religious observance that saw him being elected as the Superior General of the Congregation for two terms. He did extremely well as General and Leader of the Congregation. A small book of customs was formulated at his suggestion to encourage faithful observance of the rules and Constitutions. Mission activities of the Brothers were intensified in the respective territories. With close collaboration of the local ordinaries concerned, a revised system of apostolate was introduced with mission Orphanages, wherever necessary and adequate dispensaries attached to the missions which was the need of the hour.

Bro. Leonard was noted for his spirit of piety and observance which only increased with age, particularly after he was relieved from his high

and heavy responsibilities. After his office as General, he once more rendered valuable services to Mount Poincur Orphanage as Manager for a short duration. Thereafter, as Editor he gave a firm footing to the Congregation's communication organ, "The Sower". In spite of his failing health, he worked at it till he was down with a stroke of paralysis on 12th December 1970. Throughout his illness, his outstanding resignation to the Divine will was very conspicuous as well as inspiring. However, the medical specialists in the hospital gave no assurance of his further recovery as his condition worsened after a relapse. Therefore, he was duly anointed and was brought back to Mount Poincur where, he calmly passed away on 4th January 1971 to his Heavenly Home. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur, after the solemn funeral service, attended by a large crowd of his confreres and admirers. His service to the Congregation as leader and guide should be written in Golden letters.

JANUARY 05
BRO. PAUL CHUCKANANICKAL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Paul Chuckananickal CMSF was born on 24th June 1935 to pious parents Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Mariyam of St. Sebastian's Church, Sankarappally in Palai Diocese. He has three brothers and a sister in his family.

After his initial studies, he joined the Congregation of Franciscan Missionary Brothers in the year 1963, and made his First profession on 19th March 1966 and the final commitment on 19th March 1972. He did his graduation and post graduation in Bangalore, Mysore University. He worked at many places like Pacode, Lourdes Mount School, Vattappara, Mt. Poinzur, Mumbai, St. Francis D'Assisi School, Aluva and Jayamatha. In all these places he had won the hearts of people by his sociability and hard work. His style of mingling with staff, students and parents in the schools was so noteworthy. He was the founder principal of two schools of the province, like Lourdes Mount School, Vattappara and St. Francis D'Assisi School, Aluva. During his tenure, the school underwent greater progress in all spheres of their activities and later these schools emerged as leading schools.

He worked as Secretary General of the Congregation in Mumbai in the year 1969, Provincial Bursar of the Province in the year 1987 and Local Superior of Jayamatha in the year 1989. He was very simple and approachable. Even though most of his life was spent in the schools, he had a great love for the poor and downtrodden.

Bro. Paul suffered a respiratory problem for a short time. So he was taken to the KIMS hospital, Trivandrum. After a few days of treatment, he was shifted to Nirmala Hospital on 5th of January 2013. Despite the best medical care rendered to him, he breathed his last on the same day. His funeral obsequies were held in the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Baselios Cleemis Catholicos on 7th Monday at 15.30 hrs at Jayamatha Cemetery, Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram. A large gathering of his Co-religious, Relatives and Friends participated in the funeral liturgy.

JANUARY 08
FR. ANTONIUS MARIA BODEWIG (GERMANY)



Inspirer and mentor of Bro. Paulus Moritz –the founder of CMSF

Antonius Maria Paul Hubert Bodewig was born on 2nd November 1839 in Bonn, near the city of Cologne, Germany, to Constantine and Elisabeth Bodewig. At the age of 17, he completed the gymnasia studies. He then joined the German province of the Society of Jesus in Muenster on 21st August, 1856. He began his novitiate formation on 14th October, 1856. After two years of training in the province's novitiate, in 1858 this young novice pronounced his religious vows. This was also the year when the German province took charge of the twin-Vicariate of Bombay-Pune Mission in India.

After the novitiate formation, the young religious, Bodewig did his philosophical studies at Aachen and later on, his three years language courses at Bonn. Bodewig received the diaconate on 11th October 1868. From 1869-1872, he did his Regency, an apprenticeship in modern equivalence, and taught.

On May 3rd, 1871, he was ordained a priest in Maria Laach by Bishop Eberhard of Trier. He completed his theological studies in 1872 in Maria Laach, at the theological Institute of the Jesuit society. In the same year, Bodewig received the mandate to go to the mission field of the German province, Bombay-Pune Mission. In the beginning of the year 1873, we meet the young missionary, Bodewig "doing his tertianship along with 10 other fellow Jesuits in Byculla, Bombay. It is said of him that he knew 17 languages and obtained 4 doctorates. In India he studied Indian Philosophy, Mythology, and the Indian languages Sanskrit and Marathi.

The Bishop placed his hope in Bodewig, a young and zealous missionary, who shared his vision and optimism. On 23rd January 1874, Fr. Bodewig came to Igatpuri. Bishop Meurin advised Bodewig to lead an orthodox life of an Indian Brahmin. He lived there as a Christian

Sannyasi for 9 months and completed the construction of the parish Church. Thereafter he was called back to Bombay to teach in St. Xavier's College of the Jesuits. Knowing the situations of the poor and marginalized specially the illiterate women, widows and children, he was moved with compassion and wanted to render his services to them. He sought ways and means of liberating them but his superiors needed him as lecturer in the Colleges and persuaded him to teach in their institutions.

The Break with the Jesuits

Between 1876 and 1888 Bodewig was transferred from one country to another. Frustrated by his experiences in India, he determined to initiate a concrete plan for the conversion of India via the ideas of Robert De Nobili. The Jesuits, however, wanted him to teach in their schools and an impasse was reached. Bodewig was sent to North America and told to forget all ideas about India. Finally, in frustration, Bodewig left the Society of Jesus and moved to the Archdiocese of Cologne as a Diocesan priest.

Working as an assistant priest, Fr. Bodewig began to formulate ideas about a new missionary society for the conversion of India. He published *Indien und Seine Heiden Missionen* ("India and its Pagan Missions") in which he laid down his ideas for evangelizing India. A gifted speaker, he began to lecture and publish widely, and soon gained a dedicated group of followers. At the time of his break with the Society of Jesus, Fr. Bodewig had a spiritual experience while saying Mass. It seemed to him that the sky was covered by thick black clouds obscuring everything from sight. He took this to mean that his path would henceforth be difficult and full of personal pain. This was to be the price for his vision of an Indian mission, and so Fr. Bodewig accepted it.

In life, he was capable of stirring very different feelings in people. Extremely intelligent and a born-communicator, Antonius Bodewig was single-minded, passionate and energetic in everything he did. There was undoubtedly a streak of stubbornness which prevented him from handling authority well, though towards the end of his life, Sr. Xaveria Blas, an associate, was able to smooth his relations with authority, and also, perhaps, to encourage his religious superiors to appreciate his value. Bodewig attracted devoted followers even at the time when he was out of favour with Church authorities, and his appealing and inspirational personality is still felt today.

As a motivator he was able to use his gifts of speaking to powerful effect and it is not hard to see why the Jesuits wanted him to remain teaching in their schools. Fr. Paul Sonntag, in his memoirs, tells that as a young man, considering a vocation he attended a fascinating lecture about India which caused him to decide then and there to become a missionary. From other information, it is almost certain that the speaker was Fr. Bodewig, who, in his haste to continue his lecture tour, left before the younger man could speak to him. Fr. Sonntag would later edit the journal *Licht und Liebe* ('Light and Life') which promulgated Fr. Bodewig's ideals and he was eventually able to fulfil Fr. Bodewig's dream of founding a missionary order dedicated to being "Indian to Indians".

He had a particular vision of this new missionary project. He did not want to found a religious community in line with the traditional monastic or semi-monastic styles of living. He wanted to establish an entirely new Congregation, which would specialize itself in a totally new mode of life. He wanted its apostolate uniquely culture-specific and responding to the specific needs of his time. He planned something that was intrinsically revolutionary in the Church in the given historical context, namely, the Sisters being trained as nurses, midwives and doctors to work as Zanana Missionaries. His main motif was that his members to identify themselves with the people for whom they worked. In contemplating such a vision, Bodewig was so many decades ahead of his time; and so, naturally, he met severe opposition and hindrances on the road to the realization of this master plan. In spite of crucial suffering, many humiliations and setbacks in his life, with unshakable faith in God's providential care, he placed his unique plan in the hearts of men and women.

Pope Benedict XV had agreed to meet Fr. Bodewig in January 1915, accordingly he travelled to Rome, but the journey was too much for the increasingly frail Fr. Bodewig, and he died in Rome on 8th January 1915, on the eve of the scheduled audience with the Pope.

If Fr. Bodewig's vision had not realized quite in the way he would have wished, he is nevertheless regarded as the spiritual founder of two religious organizations: **The Congregation of the Missionary Brothers of St. Francis of Assisi – CMSF (founded by co-worker Paulus Moritz)** and the **Missionary Sisters of Queen of Apostles (SRA)**.

JANUARY 9
BRO. CYRIL BERNDES, CMSF (GERMANY)



Born and brought up in Iserlohn, Germany, Brother Cyril came to India in the year 1912 and he spent 64 years in this country working among the poor and downtrodden. He made his Final Vows at Mount Poincur on 4th October 1927. He had worked at Khandwa, Agra, Allahabad, Bengal, Zaroli and Talassari, but the main field of his apostolate was Bombay where for 40 long years, under all situations torrential rain or sweltering heat, he moved from office to office begging for alms in order to see to the education of the less fortunate boys of our orphanage.

He was an inspiring model to the young Brothers and numerous orphanage inhabitants, who made it a point to be around him. He kept a serious face as he was a bodyguard to the Kaizer of Germany as a young man. Bro. Cyril was also an Artist and the annual Christmas Crib, which he used to arrange inspired many at Mount Poincur and around.

Many miss his smiling presence at the entrance to the Mount Poincur Chapel sitting with the little ones with his flowing beard and angelic charm. He reminded children to be prayerful looking at the Blessed Sacrament and Our Mother's statue placed prominently in the Chapel.

Bro. Cyril had a fall on 27th December 1975, and sustained some head injury. Although the wound got healed up, he had developed evidence of V.D. Thrombosis and the doctors attending on him began to give up all hopes for his survival. The door of life shut, and heaven was opened for him at the dusk of 9th January 1976. With due solemnity his body is laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur. Whenever we sing 'Maria we thee Implore' especially on our journies, we shall specially remember Bro. Cyril who composed this beautiful Marian Hymn.

JANUARY 10
BRO. STEPHEN THAZHATHEDATHU, CMSF (INDIA)

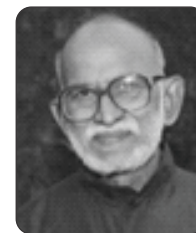


Bro. Stephen Thazhathedathu (SFXP), was born on 5th May 1932 to Mr. Mathew and Elizabeth of Thazhathedathu family of St. George's Forane Church Vazhakulam in the Diocese of Kothamangalam. He joined the congregation on 10th August 1950 at our illichira community, Alapuzha, Kerala; made his first profession on 04th October 1953 and final vows on 04th October 1959. After the first profession Bro. Stephen served in the missions at Pacode, Tamil Nadu and later at Kanjirampara, Kerala. As a zealous missionary he was very effective in the missions. He served also as Secretary General for a term. He was elected General councilor for two consecutive terms from 1967 to 1979. The dynamism and vivacity coupled with cheerfulness and vitality in him made him an efficient administrator where ever he was placed.

He was appointed Novice Master at Kotagiri in 1970 and was known for his order and discipline in religious matters. For several chapters and assemblies both Provincial and General, Bro. Stephen was a source of inspiration and brought about a lot of needed changes and newness in discussions and draft of matters. In revising our Constitutions his contributions are praise-worthy. His timely contributions to "The Sower", the communication organ of the Congregation as well as updating the Necrology of the deceased Brothers are admirable. His service as the Superior of our communities at Mount Poincur, Mumbai, St. Anthony's Institute, Duler, Goa, Assisi Nivas, Vempally, Kerala and as Principal of our schools at various centres are noteworthy. Bro. Stephen was instrumental in building and establishing Assisi Bhavan, the common formation house at Aluva. The Last years of his life were at Sevesadan as the Director of Postulants. In spite of his ill health he was very active in the field of religious formation of Postulants and candidates. Bro. Stephen made use of his talents and gifts for imparting sound knowledge to the young, and for the welfare of the congregation and the missions. On 10th January 2006, Bro. Stephen passed away from

this world to his heavenly abode due to heart related complications. His funeral obsequies took place at Sevasadan on 12th January 2006 in the presence of several Brothers, religious, relatives and friends and staff and students of Sevasadan institutions. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord in our cemetery at Sevasadan Bangalore. In Bro. Stephen we have a shining example of a life intelligently and faithfully spent in service of the Lord and his People in various capacities.

JANUARY 12
BRO. IGNATIUS NANDIGAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Ignatius Nandigam was born on 11th August 1923 to Mr. Gnanaiah and Mrs. Santamma of the St. Xavier Parish, Muthur, in the Diocese of Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. He joined the congregation on 15th June 1946 and made his first profession on 4th October 1948 and final profession on 4th October 1954 at Mount Poincur. Bro. Ignatius served at Mount Poincur in various capacities: as Secretary General from 1952 to 1961, as Director of Aspirants, as teacher at D'Assisi School, and as superior of St. Francis Monastery, Mount Poincur and director of orphanage etc. He also worked at St. Patrick's Orphanage-Bangalore, Sevasadan Institute, Assisi Bhavan, Begur and Bassein fort as director of boys home and at our communities in Deudingen Switzerland, Haseluenne-Germany, and Kotagiri, Talegaon etc., he served almost 26 years in the Generalate.

Bro. Ignatius was instrumental in starting the mission centers in Andhra Pradesh at Vegavaram in the Diocese of Eluru, Ramapuram in the Diocese of Cuddapah, Chillakallu in Vijayawada, at P. Yaleru in the Diocese of Kurnool. He served a number of years as Superior of these communities. As a true Franciscan and missionary his life and activities were fruitful and exemplary. He was quiet in nature, prayerful, and led a witnessing life. Many people embraced the catholic faith by the missionary activities of Bro. Ignatius.

Even at his advanced age he was very active in the missions of Andhra Pradesh, visiting people, parishes, and extending a helping hand to the poor villagers. He was under treatment for a long time due to diabetes related complications. During the first week of January 2006 he was taken to a hospital at Vijayawada, but on 12th January 2006 he surrendered his soul into the hands of the heavenly Father after being duly anointed and fortified by the Sacraments. On the following day his funeral obsequies took place at St. Francis Monastery, Vijayawada in the presence of many Brothers, religious, priests, relatives, neighbors and well-wishers. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery at Eluru where he served the Lord and his people for many years.

JANUARY 16
BRO. PIO KOTTACKAL, CMSF (INDIA)



Jacob, in religion Bro. Pio, was born on 22nd September 1946 to Mr. K.A. Varkey and Thandamma of St. Mary's Parish, Maikad in the Arch Diocese of Ernakulam, Kerala. After the completion of his High School studies he joined the Congregation on 3rd October 1966 and made his first profession on 4th October 1970 and the final profession on 4th October 1976. Thereafter he mostly served at the various centers in South India. Bro. Pio worked in all these places with utmost sincerity, unflagging zeal, and total dedication to his given assignment. He was a man of vision and could compute and assess the existing realities from a missionary perspective, and quite in tune with the needs of the people.

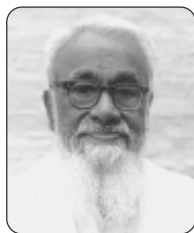
In his search for new missions and relevant ministries, he founded many organizations such as: Amarvani Communication Center, an Institute for Communication and Direct Evangelization; and Franciscan Youth Federation (FYF), wherein many young people got engaged in Evangelical activities. Bro. Pio was also a member of the World Catholic Federation for the Biblical Apostolate; member of the International Catholic Film and Audio-visual Organization and member of the International Catholic Association for Radio and Television. He has produced a number of religious cassettes, slides and distributed thousands of Bibles all over Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Thus he proclaimed the Word of God everywhere. His book "Origin and Development of Religious Brotherhood" serves as a ready reference on consecrated life and Religious Brotherhood. He was a Scholar, a visionary, a thinker, a philanthropist, a humanitarian and above all a real Franciscan Missionary Brother. He had ventured into many humanitarian projects for the good of the people and initiated many activities to spread the Kingdom of God.

Even as a young man Bro. Pio suffered prolonged illness due to heavy diabetes. He was treated for this in different hospitals. But the

complications of his sickness increased and he expired on 16th January 1998 at Assisi Bhavan, Aluva. The body was taken to Nalanchira and a solemn funeral service was organized on 17th January 1998. His mortal remains were laid to rest at our Cemetery, Nalanchira. The funeral service was well attended by his relatives, Brothers from all communities, friends and well wishers.

JANUARY 16

BRO. LAWRENCE NAIPURADATHIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Lawrence was born on 6th September 1914 at Mevada, of St. Augustine's Parish in the Archdiocese of Changanasserry. After the completion of the Inter-mediate in S.B. College, Changanasserry, Kerala, he joined the Congregation in 1941, entered the Novitiate on 30th November 1941 and made his first profession on 2nd January 1943 in Jhansi.

Bro. Lawrence worked hard in the Northern Missions with an undivided heart to build up the communities and to spread the Good News of Christ. He was a zealous missionary with unparalleled qualities of gentleness, simplicity, amiability and straightforwardness.

He was a leader with a great vision and missionary dynamism. He founded schools in Jhansi and saw to the up-gradation of these. As a member of the then Franciscan Brothers of Jhansi, he headed the Congregation as Superior General and as General Councilor. He was a strict disciplinarian and did not tolerate indiscipline in the institutions.

Towards the end of his life he suffered various ailments and was hospitalized many times. He peacefully breathed his last on the 16th January 2000, at a hospital in Jhansi. The solemn funeral service of Bro. Lawrence on 17th January 2000 was attended by many Brothers, Priests and religious from Jhansi and elsewhere. After the solemn requiem mass, he is laid to rest in the Lord at the Cemetery in Jhansi. We miss a patriarchal, fatherly figure in his passing away!

JANUARY 19

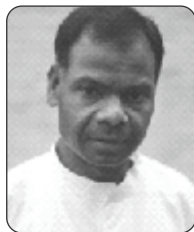
BRO. CELESTINE RODRIGUES, CMSF (INDIA)

Damascene, in religion Bro. Celestine, was the son of Lawrence and Maria Santan Rodrigues of Benaulim, Goa. He was born on 8th May, 1902 and was admitted to the congregation on 11th September 1928, one of the first vocations from Goa. He made his first vows on 4th October 1931 and his final profession after six years. He was a zealous missionary with a special concern for the poor and sick, and was often found to dispense medicines out of his own composition with good results. He served at Mount Poincur, Bangalore, Goa, Zaroli, Dabcheri, Khandwa, Hartmanpur, Mariabad, Narianpur and Mathura. He served as Superior of our Talegaon mission and built up agricultural and cattle farms. He was a man of the soil and loved the mother earth very much.

He was a man of prayer and knew most of his prayers by-heart which he made good use of even on his sick bed. Due to his prolonged diabetes and related illness he suffered a great deal. Yet he bore his ailments with exemplary patience. He spent long hours in prayer and was well prepared to meet his Creator. Fortified by the Sacrament of the anointing he calmly breathed his last on 19th January 1982 at Mount Poincur.

His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur on 20th January 1982, in the presence of a large gathering of Brothers, Priests, Sisters and boys of the Institute.

JANUARY 19
BRO. PAULUS KERKETTA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Paulus Kerketta (SJP), was born on 11th October 1950 to Mr. Jonas Kerketta and Mrs. Magdali Kiro of the Catholic Parish of Singharmunda, Kusumdegi, in the diocese of Sambalpur, Odisha. He has five brothers and three sisters.

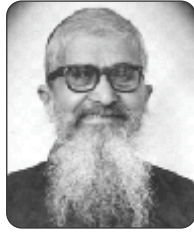
After the completion of his high school studies in Kusumdegi boys' high school, he joined the Congregation on 22 June 1974, entered the Novitiate on 03 October 1975, made his first profession on 04th October 1977, and the final profession on 04th October 1983. In course of time he completed graduation and was selected to do his Licentiate in Franciscan Spirituality in the Antonianum University, Rome.

His missionary and teaching career took him to various centers of our Congregation. some of them being: Ranchi, Civil Lines-Jhansi, Khera Khurd as boarding Incharge, Jyothisadan Scholasticate as a staff – member, Novitiate house-Kotahall as assistant Novice - Master, Mt. Poinzur, Mumbai as Trade-Test Center in-charge, Missions Haus-Bug, Germany, Rome as student, Duedingen-Switzerland as house superior. He loved teaching as well as Music, and was willing to do any type of work given to him by the superiors. He taught Franciscan Spirituality at various formation houses of ours. He was simple in his life and lived an exemplary life by being punctual for every activity. The young Brothers at the Scholasticate, Bangalore, Novitiate, Kotagiri speak of his qualities of head and heart. Bro. Paulus Kerketta was a sincere and obedient brother. He was a man of few words. His spiritual life and hard work was exemplary. He mastered some of the European languages, was proficient in German.

Bro. Paulus Kerketta was very active and healthy. He had no complaints or health problems. As usual he was doing his duties and going about. But suddenly he suffered a massive heart attack on 19th January 2016 at

21:30 hrs. at our community in Duedingen/Switzerland. Doctors were called immediately, and in spite of the best efforts by a team of doctors, for an hour, they could not save his life. He surrendered his soul to the Lord peacefully. The funeral services of Bro. Paulus Kerketta took place on 23rd January – Saturday at 10:00 hrs. at Duedingen/Switzerland parish cemetery. May his soul rest in peace!

JANUARY 21
BRO. HYACINTH PINTO, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Hyacinth was one of the first from among those who joined the Franciscan Brotherhood from the Mangalore diocese. He was born at Hampungathim on 7th July 1896 of devout parents Lawrence Pinto and Piedade Sequeira. On completion of his studies at his home town, he came to work in the Bombay Docks. He was noted for his regular Church attendance and exact performance of spiritual duties and he was elected to preside over various parish associations in Fort-Bombay, where he proved to be a dynamic figure for Catholic activities. However, he left all his voluntary works, abandoned his future prospects as a technician and joined the Franciscan Brothers at Mount Poincur, Borivli, on 6th August 1923.

After his religious formation he made his first profession on 4th October 1926, and he was sent to the mission at Broach in Surat District, Gujarat. There he took much pains to master the Gujarathi language and through his self-sacrificing labours he propagated the Catholic faith in a number of villages which, before long, became as a parish. As needs arose, Bro. Hyacinth moved on most willingly to different mission places to announce the message of salvation. At Zaroli he conducted a small residential school for the warli mission boys, the aboriginals of the area.

At Bassein Fort Orphanage, he shouldered well the household responsibilities and also devoted himself to the children's studies and well-being and labored in the improvement of the farm land. Everywhere he shared wholeheartedly the burdens, hardships and labours of an active mission life; and rejoiced greatly when souls in large numbers were brought to the True Faith. Though much impaired by his persistent sufferings from catalepsy, multiple organic disorders and complications, diabetes, high blood pressure and other chronic ailments, he was strenuous till the last. He was brought to Mount Poincur, where he managed the old printing press for a short time and

then confined himself only to his stamp work in aid of Mount Poincur Orphanage.

He patiently bore the pains and sufferings in a spirit of resignation. He was taken to the Holy Spirit Hospital, Andheri, as his condition became extremely precarious. He was fortified with the last Sacraments and on the 21st January 1971 he peacefully surrendered his soul into God's hands. After a solemn funeral service, attended by a large crowd, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur cemetery.

JANUARY 22
BRO. OTTO KOENIG, CMSF (GERMANY)



Baptist Koenig, in religion Bro. Otto, son of Baptist and Franceska Koenig was born on 23rd May 1907 in the parish of Leopolds bei Wangen in the Diocese of Rottenberg in Germany. His great longing to dedicate himself to the service of the poor made him join the Franciscan Brothers in November 1931. He was admitted to the Novitiate on 4th May 1932. He made his first vows on 04th October, 1934 and the final vows in 1940 at Ahmadnagar, Maharastra, India.

He wholeheartedly worked at various mission centres like, Sirpur, Bandana, Mathura, Secebal, Meerut and Indara. He was elected General Councillor once, and Regional Superior of North India from 1961 to 1967. During this period, the Congregation in general and the Northern Region in particular, made remarkable progress. At Indara he was instrumental to bring up the Social Welfare Hospital for the Leprosy patients. He raised funds from abroad to establish a colony for their rehabilitation. He was a father figure to the most neglected sections of the Society. Through his hard work, many were led to the faith; He educated many in the missions and helped them find a better place in the society. As a tribute to his missionary endeavours a village at Indara is called "Ottopur" – Bro. Otto village.

Affected by virulent asthma, he was compelled to leave India and spend his last days at Bamberg-Bug, Germany. Even in his retired life, his heart and soul was for the poor in the missions, so earnestly he nourished. He spent long hours corresponding to the benefactors to raise funds for the poor in the missions. Because of his hard work, and advancing age, his health gradually declined. Strengthened by the Sacraments, he breathed his last on 22nd January 1982. His body was solemnly laid to rest in the parish cemetery in Bug-Bamberg, Germany where our veterans of yore are resting in the peace of the Lord.

JANUARY 23
BRO. IGNATIUS CROOS, FBM (SRI LANKA)

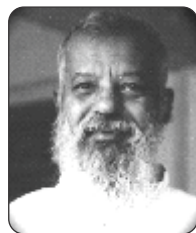


Bro. Ignatius (IHMP) was born on 12th February 1893, to Mr. Mariyan Croos and Mrs. Mariya Soza, at Karukkupanai of Our Lady of Carmel parish, Chilaw, North Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, Sri Lanka on 06th September 1909 at Maggona and entered the novitiate on 02nd October 1909. He made his first profession on 04th October 1910 and the final profession on 12th December 1917.

After his accademic training, he was appointed vice principal and later as principal of a reformatory school in Maggona in 1910 and continued to work there for several years. As a trained teacher he was appointed in government service in 1926, and rendered his services in many schools as teacher and vice principal. He was appointed as Principal of Don Bosco School, Maggona in 1943, and after his retirement he was sent to teach at St. Patrick School in Talawakkele. He was also appointed as, Director of St. Louis Orphanage, Maggona and St. Vincent's orphanage. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (F.B.M.). He was elected General councilor of the FBM in 1949 and in 1952. He was a reformer of youth and a model to them. He had also served as novice master for sometime.

He was admitted at the general hospital in Colombo, in 1958 due to ill health and old age; He breathed his last at the same hospital on 23rd January 1958, at the age of 65. A solemn funeral service was arranged at Our Lady of Carmel Church, in the presence of a large number of Brothers, Priests, religious, teachers, students, villagers, children from our boys' homes and his relations. After the solemn funeral Mass at 04 P.M. on 24th January 1958, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the common cemetery, in Chilaw.

JANUARY 25
BRO. MANUEL TAURO, CMSF (INDIA)



Born to Manuel and Ellen Tauro on 28th July, 1910 and a parishioner of Milagres Church, Mangalore. Bro. Manuel joined the congregation on 2nd July 1934; made his final vows on 9th March 1943 at Mount Poincur. He worked in the missions at Zaroli, Talasari, Ghazipur, Talwadi, Kollegal, Jhansi, Mahoba, Lalitpur, Faizabad and Dostpur. In Mount Poincur he was entrusted with the collection of alms for the welfare of the boys. He was well-known in the Catholic circles in Bombay as his work necessitated daily visits to the Catholic families. He would be seen day in and day out at work. Visiting churches and families, requesting funds for the Mt. Poincur orphanage. He had often suffered attack of breathlessness. But he was a smiling presence in the community though not very outspoken.

Bro. Manuel was only 66 when he passed away on 25th January 1976 at the Holy Spirit Hospital, Andheri where he was under medical observation. The immediate cause of his death was stated to be myocardial infraction. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur after the funeral services. Bro. Manuel leaves behind a rich inheritance of meekness and affability, and will be remembered for his cheerfulness in giving generously to the poor and down trodden!

JANUARY 26
BRO. PIUS PUTHENPURACKAL, CMSF (INDIA)

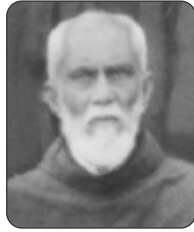


Bro. Pius Puthenpurackal was born on 12th December 1920 in the Puthenpurackal family of St. Michael's Parish Neendoor in the Diocese of Kottayam, Kerala. On completion of his schooling he rendered a helping hand to his family in their day-to-day affairs. However, deep within himself, he experienced a spiritual quest to be dedicated to the Lord as a Religious. Jesus drew him to our Congregation while he was in his mid twenties, being a man of prayer. He joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament on 26th November 1946 and made his first profession on 14th April 1948. He did excel in all spheres of religious life throughout his formation and was very intelligent to grasp things fast.

Bro. Pius worked as an enthusiastic missionary and gave his very best towards evangelization in Jhansi, Manikpur, Lalitpur, Malnafa, Solan, Simla, Premnagar, Judepur and Khera Khurd. He marched faithfully in the way of the Lord, and remained as a source of inspiration to the rest of the members. He was a scholar in Hindi and was affectionately called "Pundit" (Master). He was a humorous person, and made others happy by his wit.

Having completed his earthly pilgrimage, the Lord called him for his eternal reward on 26th January 1999. A solemn funeral service was arranged on the following day at our chapel in Jhansi and his mortal remains were laid to rest at our cemetery at Franciscan Ashram Premnagar, Jhansi, where he laboured most of his years, as a missionary and witness to the Lord!

JANUARY 28
BRO. VINCENT GABRIEL, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Vincent, in baptism Warunakulasooriya Vincentius Fernando (IHMP) was born on 05th of April, 1881, to Mr. Warunakulasooriya David Fernando and Anna Pereies, of St. Sebastian parish, Negumbo in the Western Province, Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FBM) on 23.01.1904 at Maggona. He entered novitiate on 20.02.1904, and made his first profession on 19.03.1905 and the final profession on 19.03.1909. He was very fluent in Tamil and Sinhala languages. He was a government-employed teacher and vice principal at Sinhala School, Wennappuwa, in the year 1925. Later he was appointed as teacher and Vice principal at Tamil School in Chilaw, in 1926. Some of the responsibilities he held are: Director of various centres, Superior, Director of Postulants and Novice Master. He selflessly served at Maggona, Chilaw, Wannappuwa, Katuwapitiya, and Matale.

As Assistant Superior General of the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FBM) in Sri Lanka in the year 1939, he played a vital role in establishing and stabilizing the congregation in Sri Lanka. He was hard working and was a lover of orphan children and was a good administrator. He was a man of prayer and charity and was willing to extend his love and support to the poor and the marginalized. Due to old age and ill health, he was confined to bed for a long time and breathed his last on 28th January 1956, at the age of 75, at Don Bosco Boys' Home, Maggona. Several Priests, religious, relatives, children from all the boys' homes and a large crowd were assembled to give him the last respect. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at St. Vincent's cemetery, Maggona at 4.00 p.m. on 29th January 1956. He will be remembered as pioneer a evangelizer.

JANUARY 29
BRO. BAPTIST GOMES, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Baptist, in baptism Marian Gomes, was born to Mr. George and Kitha Gomes at Kumbalam, diocese of Quilon, Kerala on 15th January 1898. He joined our Congregation in 1925, made his First Vows on 17th October 1930, and his Final vows on 4th October 1936 at Mount Poincur. As a veteran and zealous missionary, his work extended to several remote places, covering Bassein Fort, Bombay, Mylapore, Nilgiris, Tirupur, Kalavoor, Thottappally, Pondur, Tanjore, Anchalpetty, Ampoikonam, Kotagiri, Mount Poincur and Talegaon. Everywhere, Bro. Baptist has sown the seed of hard work and untiring missionary zeal.

Bro. Baptist used to go about his daily task in the most simple and unassuming way, a replica of the life style of St. Joseph. His simplicity of heart and his close association with the Lord before the Blessed Sacrament mirrored in him the love, the wisdom and understanding from on high. True to his Franciscan calling, he lived a life of extreme frugality which only gained for him the love and admiration of the people whom he approached day after day and year after year seeking alms for the poor and destitute housed at Mount Poincur. At the famous Bandra fare, lasting over a week, he was a familiar figure collecting the coins that would pour down from many a generous soul. Love surmounts all difficulties and this could readily be visualised in the life of Bro. Baptist.

He had magical fingers for Agricultural endeavours. Be it fertile or non-fertile soil, there was no crop or vegetation that failed to sprout in full bloom. He unflinchingly kept his appointment, as he was a time keeper for the brothers. When visited by sister death whom he readily welcomed sister death into his life to enter into the timeless realm beyond. In the early hours on 29 January, 1980 Bro. Baptist peacefully breathed his last at the Holy Spirit Hospital, Bombay, at the age of 82. With due solemnity his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur. The Mount Poincur garden and greenery owe much to the green – fingers of Bro. Baptist, a Franciscan, an ecologist and environmentalist!

JANUARY 29

BRO. DAVID KOCHUKANJIRATHINKAL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. David Kochukanjirathinkal (SFXP) was born on 26th October 1942 to Mr. Mathew and Thresia Kochukanjirathinkal of St. George Church, Chittoor in the Diocese of Kothamangalam, Kerala. On completion of his High School studies from NSS High School, Manakad, he joined the Congregation in the year 1966 and made his first profession on 04th October 1969, and the final profession on 04th October 1975.

Bro. David underwent special training in Printing Technology in St. Francis ITI, Mount Poinzur, and was appointed as In-charge of the Printing section of the ITI. He carried out this responsibility with enthusiasm and total commitment for several years. In the year 1991 he was sent to Mount Alverno Estate, Kotagiri as assistant in-charge of the estate. As a man of dreams and vision he executed new ideas /plans for the development of the tea estate by introducing an irrigation system all over the estate, thereby increasing the production of leaves substantially. Even the neighbouring estate owners followed this model of irrigation. He was a man of few words, yet hard working and fast in action; selfless and unassuming by nature, he was not concerned about himself but the growth of the department he was involved in. He has left behind a legacy, a tradition of sincere and authentic commitment rooted in simplicity, poverty and detachment.

During the two decades of committed service at Mount Alverno, Kotagiri Bro. David suffered heart related ailments several times and had undergone a bypass surgery in Bangalore. He continued to work even more zealously after recovering from the operation. Towards the end of 2010 he was not able to move freely due to the severity of his sufferings and was admitted to Holy Family Hospital, kotagiri, for medical care and treatment and later on to St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore. After the prolonged illness and hospitalization the Lord called him on 29th January 2011 to be with Him in heaven forever. His funeral obsequies were held at Sevasadan, Koramangala on 31st January 2011. After the service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Sevasadan cemetery.

JANUARY 31

BRO. SERAPHIM ARULANAND, CMSF (SRI LANKA)



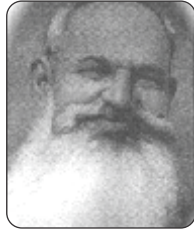
Bro. Seraphim Arulanand was born on 22nd August 1919 to Mr. Sinnappan and Antony Ammal of St. Mary's parish, Ampitiya, in the diocese of Kandy, Srilanka. He joined the Franciscan Brothers of Jhansi on 11th February 1941 and made his first profession on 2nd January 1943 and the final profession in 1949. Thereafter his apostolate was at St. Jude's Shrine office for many years. Later he was appointed novice master and as teacher in Xavier's school there, of the Franciscans of Jhansi.

Immediately after the amalgamation of the Blessed Sacrament Congregation of Brothers with CMSF, Bro. Seraphim was appointed in our novitiate at Kotagiri as a staff member in 1988. In 1989 he was transferred to St. Francis Technical Institute, Mount Poinzur to assist at the Trade Test Centre. In 1992 he was transferred to St. John's institute, Khara Khurd to work in the provincialate office, and then to Ranchi as a member of the formation house.

As a teacher and formator his work was very effective. His sanctity of life, his concern for the poor, his ardent prayer life, his dedication and responsibility etc., helped him to live like an angel. His life of simplicity and sincerity kept him to be active and enthusiastic inspite of all his ailments and other disturbances. Though he was afflicted with diabetes, hearing problem and other health complications he was able to withstand all those infirmities with a Franciscan smile.

His last appointment was to be at our community at Indara-to spend his time in prayer and reflection. On 31st January 2007 after receiving the sacraments he embraced sister death joyfully. His funeral obsequies were held at Indara on 01st February 2007; Many Brothers, religious, priests and people from the mission, participated in the funeral ceremony. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery at Indara. May this simple sincere Franciscan enlighten our mission efforts in the North of India!

FEBRUARY 5
BRO. MATHEW PEREIRA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Mathew, in Baptism Stephen Pereira, was born on 26th January 1891, at Bandra, Bombay Archdiocese. It was considered a great grace as he was one of the first Indians to join our Congregation at Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh, on 3rd June 1911. He had to leave the Damaun Seminary where he was a seminarian due to a virulent attack of Typhoid which had temporarily rendered his speech somewhat faltering and difficult. He was admitted to the novitiate on 8th October, 1911, and pronounced his first vows on 4th October 1913.

During World War 1, when the German Brothers were interned from Khandwa, young as he was, Bro. Mathew kept up the Congregation with scarcely a handful of Indian Brothers, and maintained the Orphanage at Mount Poincur through his ingenious ways of raising funds from friends and benefactors from India and outside. Likewise he was mainly instrumental in the reorganisation of the Congregation after the war; and a highly trusted adviser and councillor of Bro. Paulus, the Superior General and Founder of the Congregation. He managed most efficiently the Congregational affairs with the Ecclesiastical Authorities as well as with the government Authorities. Heavy responsibilities rested on his shoulders during most of his life, but they were particularly replete with adverse events and severe trials for well nigh eight years, during which he acted for the Superior General after the resignation and death of Bro. Paulus Moritz till the new elections took place, which was unavoidably delayed owing to the war conditions.

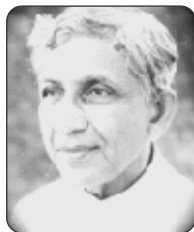
Nearly all the Houses and Institutions of the Congregation witnessed his untiring labours but especially those at Mount Poincur, Mylapore, Sonapur, Dadra, Bangalore and Goa. For the benefit of poor orphans, he organised public functions, held religious stall at churches, collected alms, appealed to friends far and near, and even undertook an arduous journey to East Africa for contributions. He was generally subject to

heart trouble, and was often hospitalized. On being very ill he was taken to St. Elizabeth's Nursing Home, Bombay, where cheerful and jovial to the end, he expired on 5th February 1963. The auxiliary Bishop William Gomes of Bombay, who providentially happened to be there before he breathed his last, administered the Sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

His Eminence Valerian Cardinal Gracias of Bombay, in the funeral oration said among other things: "Bro. Mathew was an admired and popular figure everywhere, not so much because he belonged to the respectable and well known family, not because Dr. Longinus Pereira the Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay and Mgr. Peter Pereira, another dignitary of the Archdiocese, were both his own brothers, but because his affable and pleasant manners in dealing with others, showed that he was everybody's friend, and his life's labours showed that he loved the poor". A huge crowd attended the funeral service. His body is laid to rest in the lord at Mount Poincur. His memories are ever fresh even after many years after his death, as a pioneer of Mumbai Brothers and the famous Orphanage of the Congregation.

FEBRUARY 07

BRO. ATHANASIVS PEREIRA, CMSF (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Athanasius, in baptism Augustian Aliahaz Alfred was born on 01st January, 1914, to Mr. Warunakulasooriya Manual Pereiar and Mrs. Simoniya Fernando of St. Francis Xavier parish, Kattuwaat Palakanthurai, Negumbo, in the Western Province Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation of FBM, at Maggona on 31.05.1933 and made his first profession on 19.12.1935 and the final profession on 19.12.1941. He was appointed vice principal at reformatory school, Maggona, in 1940. He passed the teacher's training examination in 1938, thereafter worked at Boys' School, Sea Street, Negumbo as teacher, as boarding in-charge at St. Thomas Collage, Matale, as principal and director of Don Bosco School and boys' home, Maggona, also taught at St. Anthony's College. He served the congregation in various capacities as Superior, Director, principal, Director of postulants and novices. He was elected as general councillor and secretary in the year 1961, 1965, and 1967, and was elected superior general in the year 1976 and 1983. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M.) in 1949 after the congregation saw a division.

He built the main chapel of the Monastery at Matale and was instrumental for the amalgamation of FBM (Franciscan Brothers of Mary) with C.M.S.F. in 1984. He was fluent in English, Tamil and Sinhala. He spent most of his life as formator in the congregation. He was a man of prayer and a lover of nature. He embraced and encouraged his followers as a kind father. Towards the end he had a fall from a motorcycle and suffered because of the injury for a long time. He breathed his last on 07th February 1986, at the Brothers Monastery, Matale. His funeral rites were held at the Brothers' residence Matale 09th February 1986; Brothers, Priests, religious, Boys' from St. Francis, Matale and relatives, benefactors, and a large crowd were assembled to give him the last respect. After the solemn Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the Brothers cemetery, Matale. Bro. Athanasius will inspire generation of younger ones because of his Franciscan simplicity and mission enthusiasm which kept the Sri Lankan Foundation thriving.

FEBRUARY 10

BRO. VINCENT VAGEL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Vincent was born at Amod, Kaira in the diocese of Ahmedabad, on 6th February 1903. He had his early education and training with the Jesuits, who were the pioneers in Gujarat missions. He entered religious life on 26th June 1925 at Mount Poincur. After the novitiate and temporary vows on 19th March, 1934, he served in the missions and was a good administrator as he was a recipient of the Jesuit formation some times. he made his Final commitment in 1940.

As a teacher Bro. Vincent did very well and was known for his qualities of head and heart. Most of his labour was confined to our schools and Orphanages in Goa, Bangalore and Mount Poincur. He was a very strict disciplinarian, who spared no pains in taking care of the boys with readiness to do any service to them.

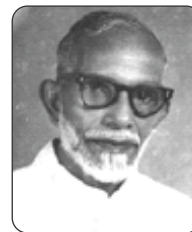
Bro. Vincent was elected a General Councillor, Bursar General, and was a Local Superior at Mount Poincur, and at the same time served at the school and orphanage. His charitable disposition found no bounds and he was always known for his generosity. He was in Goa for many years and carried on the work of looking after the boys with great dedication. It was during his tenure as Superior there, that plans were approved by the Superior General Bro. Modestus for some new buildings to be constructed at Mapusa, one of the first Franciscan centres after the liberation of Goa by the Indian government.

Owing to old age and ill-health, Brother Vincent resigned from his Councillorship and was sent to Europe for sometime. On his return he retired from active life and was appointed at Vattappara, Trivandrum. Even during his retirement he helped a lot to bring out the first Necrology of the Congregation. He was a regular contributor to "The Sower" with his lucid and weighty articles. Many were the ones, especially the youngsters who found in him a wise "Guru" and would

find solace in his fatherly advices and the warmth of his charming personality.

In February 1976, Bro. Vincent was taken to Kottiyam, Holy Cross hospital for check up. He was found to have low blood pressure. Hence he was admitted in the hospital and on 10th morning he suffered a heart attack. The doctors tried their very best for his survival, but he passed away peacefully fortified by the sacraments. After the usual solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the lord at Vattappara, Trivandrum, Kerala. As one of the first vocations to our congregation from Gujarat, Bro. Vincent sowed the seed of future vocations from there!.

FEBRUARY 10
BRO. DONATUS D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)



Born to Mr. Deogo and Mrs. Anna Maria D'souza of Pelerne, Volvado, Bardez, Goa on 04th August 1907, Bro. Donatus, in baptism Dominic D'Souza embraced religious life on 28th May 1930 and made his final profession on 20th March 1939 at Mount Poincur. He was all things to all men a humble simple soul, a zealous missionary, motor mechanic, warden, teacher, pump operator, electrician, watch repairer, and above all a loving Brother to all. His apostolate of service to anyone and everyone, at any time, was so remarkable that his name will remain in golden letters not only in the pages of the Franciscan Brothers' history but also in places like Navasari, Damangaon, Uplat, Talassari, and Mount Poincur, where he spent most of the years of his apostolic life.

Bro. Donatus was a man who shunned publicity, but went about his round of daily duties doing the ordinary duties in an extraordinary way following the example of Christ. His commitment to the responsibilities entrusted, was so remarkable; He was a man of God, and a genuine follower of St. Francis. He not only imbibed the Franciscan spirit but lived it till the end. He was a fervent loyal devotee of Our Lady and he derived strength from the Eucharist directly from the master for his round of daily duties and that helped him in his in-depth spirituality. Bro. Donatus passed away on the eve of the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the solemn funeral took place on 11th February 1981. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur.

Bro. Donatus was a special gift to the Franciscan Brothers as an unassuming but serious Brother in his activities. He shows that the Kingdom of god belongs to people of simplicity and child-like innocence.

FEBRUARY 11
BRO. JORDAN BRECHMANN, CMSF (GERMANY)

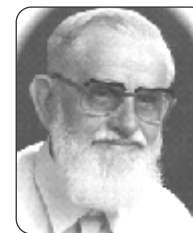


Bro. Jordan Brechmann, in baptism Gerhard Wilhem Brechmann, was born on 10th December 1906 to Gerhard Brechmann and Maria of St. Vincent Parish, Manden in the Archdiocese of Paderborn, Germany. He joined the Congregation on 4th November 1930 and made his first profession on 4th October 1933, at Mount Poincur and the final vows on 4th October 1939 at Ahmednagar. His apostolate was mainly in places like Phandhana, Khandra, Bhikampur, Sival, Mahawel, Khurja, Jundla, Muthra, Bhirabhanti, Rath, Bisuwan, Bangaon, Mount Poincur, Dumri, Kotagiri in India, and Coronel Oviedo and Benjamin Aceval in South America after leaving India for the south American foundation as a pioneer there.

He was a missionary with extra ordinary skills to attract people and convince them of the new way of life and taught them that Gospel values are the ways to salvation. He laboured zealously in the Indian Missions keeping alive the zeal and Charism of the Congregation and worked untiringly for the good of the people. He patiently bore the inconvenience of the mission life with the only aim of spreading the Good News of Christ and brought many people under the sheepfold of Christ. With tremendous courage he endured all privations hardships and persecutions. He might have been misunderstood as a very serious person, but behind this was a man of simplicity. He is remembered as a pioneer of our South American mission.

Towards the end of his life he was at our house in Bamberg, Germany. After years of retirement he fell ill and breathed his last on 11th February 1999. A solemn funeral was arranged on the next day, and his body was laid to rest at our cemetery in Bamberg. A good number of people including his dear and near ones, Brothers, benefactors, well-wishers and friends attended the funeral Services.

FEBRUARY 12
BRO. FLORIAN RUTTINGER, CMSF (GERMANY)



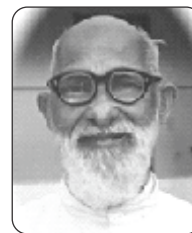
Bro. Florian left his home land, Germany to join the Franciscan Brothers at Massalianico, Italy at the young age of 27. Bro. Florian joined the CMSF On 19th March, 1933, he made his first profession and was sent to India in the same year. Until the outbreak of the world war in 1939, he was stationed in South Indian Missions, where he easily adapted himself to the local culture, customs and language, which made his apostolate very fruitful. He did not mind travelling any distance for contacting the poor and needy. Despite his daily missionary activities, he was always noted for his regularity and punctuality in his religious and spiritual observances. He had a certain discipline of mind, which made him look serious at times.

During the of Internment Camp where foreigners were kept, he acquired new skills as an Architect. After the release from the camp, in 1947 he was at Mount Poincur for many years engaged in planning, designing and supervising building works. Most of the buildings of the congregation in India are the results of his personal talents and painstaking approach. He was always ready to help others in this regard. He has rendered his personal services to many Bishops, Priests religious and laity in construction works. In 1963, late Cardinal Valerian Gracias of Bombay requested his help to plan and build the Seminary at Goregaon. For his excellent work, he was awarded with the order of "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice." By the Vatican.

In 1982, after almost 50 years of hard work in India, because of new government regulations, Bro. Florian had to return to Germany much against his own will. There he fell sick and had to be brought back to Bamberg-Bug for better care. After his 80th birthday in November 1983, his brains seleroted, his legs became weak and he was confined to bed. On Sunday 9th February, he became weaker and could no more speak or move. On Ash Wednesday he suffered from fever, his pulse was

irregular and he breathed his last. On Monday, 17th February 1986. His funeral service was held in the house chapel and his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord in the parish cemetery at Bamberg-Bug, Germany, where many of our veterans are lying in the peace of the Lord. We shall remember Bro. Florian not only for his Architectural excellence, but the simplicity of his designs, a Franciscan tract.

FEBRUARY 13
BRO. AQUINO KADAVIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Aquino Kadavil was born on 5th November, 1899, at Punnathura, Kottayam, Kerala. He did his elementary schooling at Kidangoor and his High School studies in Trichy with the Jesuits. In 1928 he was received into the Congregation, by our Founder, at Mount Poincur. He had his formation and Novitiate at Dadra, under the able guidance of Bro. Nicholas Hohn, the Co-founder of the Congregation. On 4th October, 1931, he made his first profession and was sent to Pondur, in the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore. In 1937 he made his Perpetual profession.

Thereafter he was transferred to the Malabar Mission of the Congregation at Thottappally in the Diocese of Cochin. In 1933, Archbishop Mar Ivanios, the Archbishop of the Malankara church happened to meet him in the same mission. Impressed by the good works the Franciscan Brothers were doing among the poor, the illustrious Archbishop wanted to enlist the co-operation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers. He asked Bro. Aquino's help, who in turn directed His Grace to the then Mission Superior, Bro. Clement Krieg of Germany. Through him Archbishop Mar Ivanios established contact with Bro. Paulus Moritz, the Superior General and by 1935 Bros. Aquino and Ephrem were at Pandalam mission beginning their service among the newly reunited Malankara Syrian Christians. More Brothers joined them soon. Archbishop Mar Ivanios wanted their services in the South-Travancore Mission of his sprouting Archdiocese. From Pandalam almost all the Brothers shifted their field of work to other areas like Nellikakuzhy, Balarampuram, Ampilikonam, Mundela, Mariagiri, Kanjirampara, Nalanchira etc. In all those places Bro Aquino worked either as a Superior, or as a confriar. He preached by word and example to thousands of people and won them over to the Catholic faith.

From 1962-1973 he was appointed as Local Superior of our Novitiate

House, Kota-Hall, Kotagiri. Almost all the members of the Congregation who have their formation during this period were influenced by his deep spirituality, deep knowledge of Theology and Franciscan Missionary values. From 1973 onwards, for nearly twenty years, he had been leading a retired life at Vattappara and Nalanchira communities. He had been a great edification to all who came in contact with him. His deep spirituality, his Franciscan frugality, his joyfulness, his smiling countenance, his approachability, his joviality, and all these qualities made him dear to everyone. In the last week of January, 1993, he had a fall from which he never recovered; he was bedridden and suffered a minor heart attack. Immediately he was hospitalized. On 13th February his condition deteriorated and around 9.00.pm he breathed his soul into the hands of his Creator. The funeral services were attended by many relatives, friends, Brothers, Priests, Sisters and the faithful. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

Bro. Aquino was an intellectual teacher and a wise guru to the newly admitted candidates and Novices. His long services shall be cherished by thousands.

FEBRUARY 22
BRO. ANGELO REDDY, CMSF (INDIA)



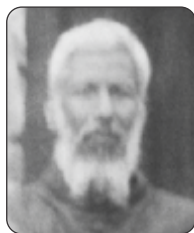
Bro. Angelo (SJBR), in baptism D.Paul was born on 03rd October 1918 to Mr. David and Mrs. Pappammal of Samayanallur parish in the Archdiocese of Madurai, Tamil Nadu. He joined the congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of Jhansi in September 1944, and made his first profession on 19th March 1946, and the final profession on 19th March 1953. As a trained high school teacher he worked at our centres at Jhansi, Manickpur, Agra, Allahabad, Judepur in North India. After several years of missionary work in north India he opted to work in the South Indian missions where he worked for 15 years in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. He was a proficient accountant and a good disciplinarian.

His last years were spent at Pacode, teaching and guiding the candidates and postulants of St. John De Britto Region and St. Thomas Province, Kerala. Bro. Angelo Reddy used to spend long hours in prayer. Brothers used to see him always in the chapel, praying and singing in Latin. Till his last days he was very exemplary and edifying to the younger brothers as well as formees. He suffered his maladies of old age with utmost patience and magnanimity.

His earthly pilgrimage came to an end on 22nd February 2004 as he breathed his last at 05.00 AM on that day. His funeral obsequies were held on 23rd February at our house in Pacode, Kanyakumari, and after the solemn funeral Mass his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Pacode. He shall be remembered for his contemplative nature and silent witness, wherever he was sent.

FEBRUARY 23

BRO. FELIX ANTHONY, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Felix was born on 21st December, 1886, to Mr. Pethuru Marthinus and Mrs. Philipa of St. Mary's parish, Karrayuoor, Jaffna in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation, at Maggona on 27th October 1910 and made his first profession on 14th September 1912, and the final profession on 15th September 1918. He was appointed as vice principal at reformatory School in Maggona in 1914 and he served many institutions of the FBM in Sri Lanka, and was known for his humble behaviour. He was trained in weaving at Wenanpuwa, and worked there at St. Vincent's home, Maggona, Weaving centre, and St. Vincent's vocational training centre-Printing press, Maggona, Wannappuwa and at Chilaw, and Matale. He was very spiritual and hard working and rather an expert in agriculture and masonry. He developed many estates in Sri Lanka, especially the estate at Matale. He was prayerful and meditative and worked as a zealous missionary in the estate sectors. He became ill, may be due to his hard labour, and was slow to recover from his illness. He breathed his last at the brothers' monastery, Matale on 23rd February 1975 at the age of 89. His funeral rites were held at the brothers' monastery, Matale on 25th February 1975. Children from St. Francis Boys' home, Brothers from all communities, priests, religious, relatives and a large crowd attended the funeral Mass. His body is laid to rest in the Lord in the parish cemetery, Matale.

He is still cherished by the people for whom he was a source of inspiration as a simple Franciscan.

FEBRUARY 26

BRO. INNOCENT D'MELLO, CMSF (INDIA)



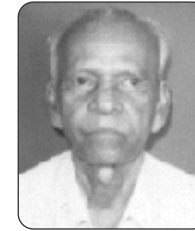
Bro. Innocent, christened as John of Mulgao, was born in Vasai, then District of Thane. After doing his studies at St. Thomas Baptist High School, Pady, he studied for community medicine and tailoring. He was well conversant with English, Hindi, Marathi and Gujarathi. He joined the Congregation on 18th November 1936, and after his initial formation, made his Final profession at Mount Poincur on 19th March 1940. The mission centres he served are: Gangangao, Zaroli, Uplat, Jambori, Masat, Dabcherry, Hartmanpur, Francispur, Birabanthi (started by him), Mount Poincur and Indara. This zealous missionary soon became acquainted with everyone he met. People shared with him their problems, their crises, failures, their frustrations. His magnetic personality, warm heartedness and perennial smile rendered a healing touch to many a patient and consoled thousands.

Meticulous and methodical in his work, he followed the daily time-table rigidly and left no stone unturned when it was a question of administering the sick. The many sick calls he received, in the dead end of the night, met with the same prompt attention as those in broad day light. Because of the very nature of his work at the hospital Indara, he took upon himself the scout's motto 'be prepared' and went out of his way to bring relief and solace especially to those who flocked to him in thousands, affected with leprosy. He underwent Leprosy care training at Fr. Muller's Hospital Mangalore. Where many doctors failed, Bro. Innocent succeeded not so much by his medicine as by his implicit trust and faith in the Divine Healer. 'The fruit is known from the tree' and what fruits his work of love produced, in those in physical and mental pain, cannot be translated in a words. He was affectionately called by all "doctor swamiji" at Indara.

In trying to emulate the life of Christ, St. Francis of Assisi and that of the Founder Bro. Paulus, he left behind him a shining example of what it

means to be a Franciscan and a religious. Bro Innocent was indeed a just man, true to himself and to his beliefs. He passed away after a brief illness on Thursday, 26th February 1981 at Indara, U.P., at the very place where like a burning candle he spent himself in the service of the poor and the sick. We can only bow our heads with respect towards this prince whom God had called into the realms beyond to receive his just reward. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Indara, U.P. Bro. Innocent shall ever shine as an example of compassionate love, especially by the leprosy patients of U.P. and other marginalized ones of our missions!

FEBRUARY 28
BRO. NICHOLAS COLACO, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Nicholas Colaco, CMSF (SFXP), in baptism Celestine Sylvester Anthony Colaco was born on 09th December 1929 to Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Alex Colaco of St. Francis Xavier's parish, Giriz, Bassein, in the Diocese of Vasai. He joined the congregation in the year 1953 and was admitted to the novitiate on 19th March 1955. On completion of his novitiate, he made his first profession on 19th March 1958 and the final profession on 19th March 1964. He laboured zealously and skillfully at various communities in India. Like St. John's Institute-Khera Khurd, Jaffarganj-U.P., Mount Poincur-Mumbai, Sevasadan Institute-Bangalore, Snehagiri Training Institute-Mangalore, Jayamatha Institute-Thiruvananthapuram, St. Anthony's Balbhavan-Gokhivra, Assisi Ashram-Eluru, Fangini mission & St. Francis Technicl School-Anand-Gujarat are some of the centres where he was actively engaged in various ministries. He was one of the first brothers from Mumbai to have mastered south Indian languages like Malayalam.

Bro. Nicholas was a man of few words and a silent worker but did everything perfectly well whether in the technical school or outside, constructing buildings for the expansion of our institutions. As a skillful technician and builder he rendered his services outside the congregation including the National Biblical, Catechetical and Liturgical Centre (NBCLC) Bangalore. He was admired there as an efficient and silent administrator.

His last place of assignment was at St. Antony's Balbhavan, Gokhivra in the diocese of Vasai. From 1998 onwards he was in this community helping and assisting the Brothers to carry out their responsibilities with diligence and care.

On 26th February 2011 Bro. Nicholas was admitted at Karuna Hospital, Borivali due to cardiogenic complications. On the afternoon of 28th February 2011, he breathed his last. Fortified by the sacraments. The requiem Mass took place at St. Francis Monastery Chapel on 01st March 2011, After the solemn funeral service, his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur.

MARCH 1
BRO. DAMIAN FERNANDES, CMSF (INDIA)

In the peaceful island of Uran, near Mumbai Bro. Damian (Antony Fernandes) was born on 8th December 1912. During his youth he had come in contact with the Franciscan Brothers and experienced their simple life, as well as their apostolate among the non-Christians and the poor. The long cherished desire that he had entertained to embrace Religious life, gradually ripened into a determination which led him at last to get himself admitted into the Congregation, on 25th March 1957, at Mt. Poinzur.

On completion of his probation period, he did his postulancy and Novitiate training at Kotagiri where he was found to be scrupulously exact regarding all observances. He pronounced his first Vows on 19th March 1960. Made his perpetual commitment in 1966 at Mt. Poinzur. He was appointed at the Mother House, Mumbai. He was gentle, unassuming and most obliging in his dealing with the old and the young members of the community and was equally respectful to all. With assiduous care and keen interest he fulfilled his daylong duties and even at the silence of the night he did not shrink from it: Without neglecting his accustomed private prayers and devotional practices. Brothers would often speak of his extreme Franciscan hospitality to all.

While serving at Khera Khurd Mission, Delhi, he suddenly felt a severe heart ailment. He was taken to the Holy Family Hospital where all possible medical efforts were made for his recovery. Nevertheless, on 1st March, 1968, after the reception of the Sacrament, God in His mercy called him to his eternal reward. With the usual solemn funeral service, his body is laid to rest in the Lord at Khera Khurd, Delhi. He shall be remembered as a simple Franciscan who went about his mission as a silent and unassuming person in a world where trumpeting about ones achievements is become the fashion.

MARCH 1
BRO. ROMULUS MOLL, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Romulus, in baptism Karl Moll was born on 09th February 1906 to Mr. Karl and Krescenzive Moll of Neubury parish in the Diocese of Rottenburg, Germany. He joined the Congregation in 1922 and made his first profession on 04th October 1924 in Maslianico, Italy, and the final profession on 04th October 1934 at Mount Poinzur, Mumbai.

Bro. Romulus came to India soon after his profession in Italy. He was posted at Santa Maria, Mylapore Diocese, Tamil Nadu, then to the Diocese of Coimbatore where he with Bro. William, (another veteran from Germany) tried to settle the Wallays, a criminal caste, in the hills of Geddesal. It was a hard job roading the jungle, making fields and preparing them for paddy cultivation. In the meantime the Bishop of Coimbatore had tried to start a mission at Talawady and Bro. Romulus showed his willingness to try. He had seen the place and the people before, and so was sure of success. Since the local people were very much oppressed by land-lords, Bro. Romulus became their Lawyer and guide to fight for their rights. He stood and protected his flock against the land-lords, officers, elephants and tigers. When the people saw that Bro. Romulus was becoming one of them, protecting them under all conditions, they took a liking for the Faith he practised as a Franciscan Missionary.

Several times the landlords threatened to kill him, yet that would not frighten him. He continued, as ever to the great astonishment of his would be killers. With great foresight, he organized and instructed the villagers which the Brothers visited regularly. In every village he built a chapel, stationed a catechist and so formed the people into Christian communities. Today many villages have become parishes with a Church and a priest. Talawady and Kollegal are monuments of his great work. (Read the book on our brothers in mysore, kollegal etc.. "Lest we forget" by R. Padinjakkara. CMSF).

At Doddarayapet he had a small Orphanage. He developed his own principle to keep the boys in a village atmosphere way, to make it easier for them later on when they return to their own villages. Yet he would give them a good and thorough training. He saw to it that even the little ones would do some useful work and not be lazy. In the carpentry the boys made all the doors and windows by themselves that were needed for the different new buildings that came up. Finally, Bro. Romulus raised the Middle school to a High School and started to build the new school building in his own unique way with the help of the students.

Due to strenuous work and old age, Bro. Romulus became sick. As he felt that the end was near; on 28th February 1986, he gladly received the Sacrament. On 1st March, he developed some heart problem and by 4.00.p.m. he passed away. His last words were, "Jesus is calling me". In the presence of a huge crowd, after the solemn funeral services, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in our cemetery at Chamarajnagar. He shall be remembered as a pioneer Franciscan Missionary of the Mysore Mission, and a man who cared for the Locals in his unique way!

MARCH 2
BRO. AMBROSE SURIN, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Ambrose Surin, in baptism Boas Surin was born on 03rd September 1953 in the Parish of Catholic Church, Lachragarh in the Archdiocese of Ranchi. He joined the Congregation at a ripe age and completed his religious training at Bangalore and Kotagiri and made his first profession on 4th October 1980; after his further religious formation and mission experiences he made his perpetual vows on 4th October 1980. After the profession he worked at the various missions of North India, and later as a teacher at our Schools in Mount Poincur, Mumbai and Goa. Bro. Ambrose was hard working, soft-spoken and was well qualified and always mild in his dealings with all.

While serving in our mission at Jhansi, he was found unconscious in his room in the morning of March 1999. Immediately he was rushed to the nearby hospital, but the Lord had already called him for his eternal reward. His funeral rites were held at premnagar, Jhansi on 03rd March 1999. After the solemn funeral service which was attended by many Brothers from the North Province, Religious and people from the missions, his mortal remains were laid to rest at the Parish Cemetery in Jhansi. Though he did not live too many years in the congregation he is remembered as a simple missionary with a smile always.

MARCH 4
BRO. JOAQUIM D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)

Bro. Joaquim (Francis Anacleto D'souza) born on 11th July, 1903 in Pune, Maharashtra, was brought up and educated in his home town pune. His bent of mind was on religious life from an early age. Accordingly he divested himself of all his encumbrances and was happy to be admitted in the Congregation, leaving all the attractions of an upcoming city like pune. He was a man of musical qualities and very aesthetic in all that he undertook.

As a violinist and musician he contributed much to the mission activities; for by means of his musical instruments, he not only attracted the people to devotional gatherings and religious practices, but also instilled into the new Christians fundamental singing knowledge of the Church hymns and liturgical chants, which are essential to a worshipping community. With great self-sacrificing spirit and enthusiasm, he helped in various mission centres, chiefly at Khandwa and Zaroli. At the Orphanage at Mount Poincur and Duler, in Goa, he trained and organized Boys' choir which was highly appreciated and admired for its correct and melodious rendering. With his Choir he was sent by Bro. Paulus Moritz, the Superior General, to accord a musical Patronal Greeting to Archbishop Lima of Bombay at that time.

Later he was assigned to the newly acquired property at Talegaon for health reasons. Although in a healthy place, in the midst of the surrounding salubrious hills, Bro. Joaquim gradually began to feel the end drawing near. He was completely resigned to the will of God and was well prepared to meet the Lord, very much close to his childhood land.

With due authorisation, his brother took him to his house in Pune for a last visit. His illness suddenly took a serious turn, and on being administered the Sacraments, he peacefully passed away on the 4th March 1955. After the funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the common catholic cemetery at Pune.

MARCH 5
BRO. JOHN EVANGELIST ARACKAL, CMSF (INDIA)

Chinnappan Arackal was born in the pleasant Artungal Village Parish in the Diocese of Allepey, on 15th January 1910. At the age of 24, drawn by a vehement desire to devote himself to Evangelisation work in a simple way, he joined the Congregation on 12th August 1934 at Mount Poincur, Borivli, Bombay, received by our founder and other elders.

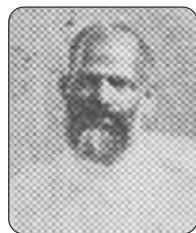
He completed his Novitiate Training in the then Portuguese enclave of Dadra, in Surat District, and made his religious profession on 14th October 1937. In the Novitiate as well as at the community at large, he was a source of edification to his brethren on account of his characteristic suave nature and docile disposition: He was noted also for his prayerful and exemplary behaviour.

As one scrupulously devoted to duty, he rendered unstinted service in the orphanages at Mount Poincur, Bangalore and Pondur, where his labours of charity and zeal were amply fruitful. In various mission stations in the Dioceses of Trivandrum, Alleppey, Mysore and Kottar in South, and in a few places of our mission activities in Northern India he was a real witness. His simple acts of charity together with his gentle exhortations won him the trust and esteem of people, which helped them grow in the catholic faith.

With calm resignation, Bro. Evangelist submitted to all the vicissitudes of the religious life, silently bearing his physical ailments and infirmities. As his maladies gained better of him, he immersed himself all the more into spirituality, spirit of piety, solitude and interior life. Nonetheless, he made no account of personal discomfort or hardships in order to be regular in his missions' errand till the last day of his life;

On his return from his usual apostolate in two villages, he made his customary visit to the Eucharistic Lord and Master, perhaps not knowing that it would be his last visit to the chapel. Proceeding a few steps from the main residence towards the outhouse, he suddenly collapsed on the ground, due to a violent attack of high blood pressure, which instantly caused his death on the 5th March 1969 at Kolvel, in Kottar Diocese, Tamil Nadu. Soon he was administered the sacrament of anointing of the sick. Solemn funeral obsequies were held on the following day at Pacode, after which his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery near the chapel, Where our other veterans lie in the Peace of the Lord!

MARCH 8
BRO. PHILOMEN PULLENTHARA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Philomen was born on 5th December 1914 of devout parents John and Teresa Pullenthara of Changanacherry Arch Diocese, Kerala. He joined the Congregation on 29th August 1938 at Mount Poincur. During his postulancy at the Mother House-Bombay and Bassein Fort Orphanage, he was found to be active, full of good will and exact in the community observances.

After his first profession on 19th March 1941, he helped quite effectively in Chisda Mission in Nagar Haveli, then a Portuguese enclave in Surat District. Likewise, in the missions at Manikpur and Rath in Allahabad Diocese, he took an active part in visiting distant villages, often on foot, to catechise little children and to instruct the catechumens. Shortly after his final profession in 1947, with equal enthusiasm, he laboured at Pacode and Kolvel missions in Kottar Diocese, Tamil Nadu.

When entrusted with the responsibilities of the then St. Philomena's Orphanage in Mysore, he endeared himself to the poor Kanarese boys by his solicitous care and interest in their welfare, to the appreciation of the Diocesan authorities. Similarly at Fatimanagar mission in Allahabad Diocese he willingly exerted himself in the evangelisation work, also at Jafarganj mission. He had also worked with equal enthusiasm and dedication at Mundala and Thonnakel missions in the Trivandrum Archdiocese and at Mount Poincur School and Orphanage for quite some time. He evinced strict religious discipline and decorum.

Bro. Philomen suffered from a malignant type of asthma and an acute chronic abdominal ailment. Repeated medications only gave him temporary respite. In his illness caused by a very severe attack of asthma, he was taken to the Holy spirit Hospital, Andheri, where after a week of painful lingering, he calmly expired on 8th March 1974, being duly fortified by the Sacraments. After the usual solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord, at Mount Poincur, Where he had embraced religious life as a young man of enthusiasm.

MARCH 14
BRO. JUAN THOMAS, (SRI LANKA)



Juan was Born on 12th December 1887 to Mr. Nicholas Joseph and Mrs. Varonika of St. Mary's parish Karrayuoor, Jaffna in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka, Bro. Juan joined the congregation in Maggona on 27th October 1910 and made his first profession on 14th September 1913 and the final profession on 19th September 1918. Besides his many missionary endeavours he was appointed as vice principal of reformatory school, Maggoan, in 1912, 1918, 1923, and was director of St. Louise orphanage. He also worked as executive bursar at St. Vincent's Home, Maggona, as director of St. Vincent's orphanage, Maggona.

He underwent a teachers training program in 1927 and was appointed as vice principal in the year 1936 at Don Bosco School, Maggona and in 1939 at Boys School, Chilaw. He was appointed by the Bishop of Chilaw to look after the boys' of St. Peter's Vocational Training center, Chilaw. He served as local general bursar in the year 1949 and 1952, and was appointed as director of candidates in the year 1967 and served as novice master in 1976. He was elected as local councilor in 1955 and in 1958; was also superior general in 1961 to 1967. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M.) in 1949. He established St. Anthony's Boys' home, Chilaw, in 1952 and a plot of 5 acres of land was donated to him (and the present Novitiate is situated in this plot).

He was very enthusiastic and courageous and gave himself totally to the congregation. His way of life was very simple and modest, and he led a witnessing life all through. He was engaged fully to educate the youth academically and technically. His mission was to develop the fisher folks financially, morally and intellectually. He lived for a long time without any serious health problems. His last days were spent at Brothers monastery, Matale, and he was called to eternal life at the age of 97 on

14th March 1984. Boys from St. Francis, Matale and Don Bosco boys' from Maggona, Priests, religious, relatives, benefactors, people from Chilaw and a large crowd gathered to give him the last respect. The funeral Mass was celebrated on 16th march 1984 thereafter his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the Brothers' cemetery, Matale. Thus a pioneer endowed with many Franciscan virtues of head and head still shines as a beacon to many.

MARCH 15
BRO. MACARIUS LOBO, CMSF (INDIA)

Manuel Peter Lobo, was born at Nachinola, Bardez, Goa, on 27th April, 1902. Disregarding the prospects of a professional career in Bombay, he joined the Congregation in 1927 as an aspirant and willingly underwent a short schooling course at Mount Poincur in order to be sufficiently conversant with English language. He took the Religion name, Macarius.

He was a true Franciscan model even at his formation days and throughout. His life in the Congregation was one of deep piety, observance of rules to the letter, and constant practice of austerities, penance and mortification which were sometimes considered an excess. He loved to remain always hidden and unknown, and it was his delight to perform even humiliating duties of the community; He took delight to teach and catechise poor destitute little children, to mend their old thread-worn clothes and to tend and nurse the sick. In the schools and Orphanages at Mount Poincur, Goa, Bassein, Bangalore and other places where ever he worked, he was a source of great edification to all, young and old, because of his penitential life, his desire of self-abasement and his eagerness to serve the suffering poor.

Towards the end of his life he suffered a serious malady which he bore to the last with patience and cheerful resignation, without diminishing in any way his accustomed austerities. Ailing as he was, he tried to keep up the procura work during the World War II, when our Brothers from Germany were interned in camps.

When his health deteriorated he was taken to Vani Vilas hospital, Miraj where he lingered sometimes. On the 15th March 1947, fortified by the Sacraments, he peacefully surrendered his soul into the hands of his Creator. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Parish cemetery at Miraj, Maharashtra.

MARCH 18
BRO. FAUSTIN ARUL, CMSF (INDIA)



Born to devout Catholic parents, Madali Muthu and Anthoniammal of Pallipalayam in Coimbatore District of Tamil Nadu, on 7th November, 1927, Faustin Arul grew up from his early age in deep religious faith and profound moral foundation. He joined our Congregation, and after the usual formation, made his vows on 19th March 1956 and made his final commitment on 19th March 1962. He laboured with an unparalleled zeal and enthusiasm in our missions at Kolvel, Pacode, Osarathivilae in Kottar Diocese and Amblikonam in the Archdiocese of Trivandrum. In 1960, as a qualified technician, Bro. Faustin was called to Mount Poincur when plans were under way to start an ITI in Bombay.

He was in charge of the ITI from 1973 to 1977, and the institute made rapid strides and was reckoned as one of the best in India. Thanks to the professional touch given by him and his endurance to make good everything entrusted to him.

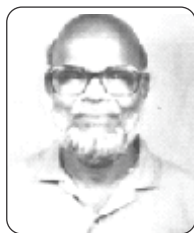
Thereafter he was sent to Sevasadan, Bangalore, where he gave a new thrust and impetus to the ITI which caters primarily to children of less privileged families and school drop-outs. During this tenure, Bro. Faustin was concerned about the ITIs both at Mount Poincur and at Seva Sadan, Bangalore, as a result of which these two institutions have become widely recognized as models for development of skills, and personality with a high sense of discipline. Wherever he worked, Bro. Faustin left an indelible mark of high standard, professionalism, discipline, workmanship and promptness in the execution of jobs.

Bro. Faustin's last assignment was as Superior of Christu Raja Balara Patna at Chamarajnagar. There his cheerfulness, obedience and devotion to duty which turned every opportunity to serve God and his neighbour, showed ample results. He was committed to the poor and marginalized and was generous to their cause.

On the morning of 18th March 1992, he had a mild heart attack, and breathed his last the same night, on the eve of the feast of St. Joseph, patron of a happy death. Coincidentally it was the day before Bro. Faustin made his first religious profession, 36 years ago on March 19th, 1956, and the feast of St. Joseph. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at Chamarajnagar. People remember Bro. Faustin as a Religious with a heart that is compassionate and very disciplined.

MARCH 20

BRO. BERNADINE KEERAMTHADATHIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Bernadine Keeramthadathil was born on 23rd April 1927 in the Keeramthadathil family of St. Joseph's R.C Church Vadakara in the Diocese of Pala, to Mr & Mrs. Kurian and Annamma. On completion of his schooling he rendered a helping hand to his family in their day-to-day affairs. However, deep within himself, he experienced a spiritual quest. Probably he was listening to the words of Jesus, "Come, follow", and this call of Jesus drew him to join a brotherhood congregation.

He joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament on 09th June 1945 and made his first profession on 10th March 1947 and final profession 16 November 1954. He did excel in all spheres of religious life throughout his formation. Bro. Bernadine worked as an enthusiastic missionary and has given his very best towards evangelization in Jhansi, Thiruvananthapuram, Allahabad, Delhi – Khera Khurd, Dumrikhas, Malipur and Indara.

He marched faithfully in the way of the lord, and remained as a source of inspiration to the community members. He was a man of prayer. He always made the community happy and vibrant by his jokes. Once a junior brother asked Bro. Bernadine: what is your qualification brother? His reply was "Common Sense". He was very regular in his community activities. Well versed in agriculture, he was very devotedly doing it in his community at Indara till the last breath.

Having completed his earthly pilgrimage, he was called to his eternal reward by a massive heart attack on 20th March 2016, at 11.00 am. Solemn funeral service was arranged on 21st March 2016 at the Parish Church in Indara at 3.00 pm. His mortal remains were laid to rest at the parish cemetery in Indara. May his Soul rest in peace and may he smile from heaven!

MARCH 23

BRO. MICHAEL BUECKER, CMSF (GERMANY)

Among the additional new group of vocations that arrived at Khandwa Mother House, at the time of the foundation of the CMSF there was a strong, sturdy and serious looking young man, Wilhelm Buecker born on 10th January, 1886, in Germany who was to be Bro. Michael in religion. Hard working, austere, devoted and scrupulous in religious observance, Bro. Michael went through his formative period with utmost earnestness and determined will, and was a model for his confreres.

As soon as he had mastered the local language Hindi, he gave himself, heart and soul, to work zealously among the poor, at different mission centres in the Nimar District, teaching, instructing and bringing the light of the holy faith to those who had not heard of the catholic faith. Besides his indefatigable mission labours he also carried on the printing work of the Hindi messenger "*Farishta*" under the direction of Bro. Paulus Moritz. During the plague, he voluntarily and ceaselessly rendered charitable services to thousands of the sick and the dying in the worst infected places, at the risk of his own life.

His zeal for the mission all the more excelled after his return from the internment camp of the World War I. Nothing would deter or daunt him when there was the question of gaining souls for Christ or of helping the destitute. He was entrusted with the task of founding new mission centres, constructing buildings for village schools, orphanages and mission houses; management of Institutions and supervision of mission activities as a Regional Guardian. He laboured zealously in Broach, Mount Poincur, Pondur, Tamilnadu, Bangalore, and in various mission centres in the Dioceses of Mysore, Mylapore and Southern India with invincible courage. He endured bitter privations, hardships, persecutions and imprisonment during the war, but succeeded at last in founding the procura house in Haselune, in West Germany which he carried on till it was firmly established.

Known for his rigorous religious discipline and genuine piety and zeal, as well as his sound business-judgement, his work was very valuable and praise-worthy as master of Novices and Mission procurator at Maslianico in Italy in the early years of his religious life. On the 23rd March 1960, while performing his usual duties, he collapsed in the house chapel, and breathed his last. After the solemn funeral service attended by many of his co-religious and friends, his body was laid to rest in the parish cemetery in Haselunne, Germany. As this was his parish for many years as a mission – procurator, he still remains an inspiration there.

MARCH 23
BRO. JAMES KOCHUPALLATHUCHERY, CMSF (INDIA)



Brother James, Joseph was born on 10th December 1927 to Mr. Chacko and Mrs. Theresa Kochupallathuchery of St. Mary's Forane parish, Champakulam, in the Archdiocese of Changanchery, Kerala. He entered the Congregation in 1950 at Thottappaly and made his first profession on 04th October 1953, and the final profession on 4th October 1959.

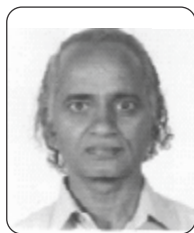
Thereafter, he was stationed at various South Indian Missions of the Congregation before he was assigned the responsibility of mission superiorat mundela in the Syro-Malakara Archdiocese of Trivandrum, after which he worked at Kadakkal of the Quilon Diocese and then as Superior of Jayamatha Institute, Trivandrum. There, during the two consecutive terms of his service as superior, he had been instrumental in changing the face of that Institution leading it to greater expansion, and diversification for a better and greater apostolic effectiveness, in many fields for the marginalized and poor.

He was later appointed as Superior of our house in Bangalore where he put up the Seva Sadan Institute and the multi trades workshop for training. Thereafter he was transferred to C.R.Balarapatana, Chamarajnagar to assist Bro. Romulus Moll who had been ailing. He was known for his gifts of head and heart. He was called for water divining to many places. Upon Bro. Romulus' death he succeeded him as Superior there. In course of time he suffered a stroke from which he never recovered fully. For rest and recuperation, he was transferred to Vattappara, Kerala. Even there he helped the Provincial administration in establishing the Nagercoil Centre, in the Archdiocese of Changanachery. He never spent his time idly, always was very practical in his words and actions.

Finally his health began to deteriorate, and for expert medical attention he was sent to Bangalore, where he remained several months

undergoing treatment at the city's various hospitals. He spent the last days of his life at Sevasadan Institute. Several hospitalizations and expert medical assistance could not improve his health. On 23rd March 1991, he breathed his last peacefully at Sevasadan. His funeral obsequies took place on the following day, attended by many Brothers, a large number of people, priests and religious. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Seva Sadan cemetery. Bro. James shall be remembered as a pioneer of sorts in whatever mission he was entrusted with!

MARCH 24
BRO. LEO VAZHAPARAMPIL, CMSF (SFXP)



Bro. Leo was born on 27th October 1940 to Mr. MP Chacko and Annamma Manakkattu of St. Mary's Parish, Kuravilangad in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. After his high school studies he joined the Congregation on 23rd December 1962 and made his first profession on 19th March 1966 and the final profession on 19th March 1972 at the Mother House, Mount Poinzur, Mumbai. Bro. Leo had worked at various centres of the Congregation, such as: Mount Poinzur as Manager of Printing and Carpentry sections, at different intervals at St. Francis ITI, Mumbai; at Sevasadan Training Institute as In-charge of the Printing and Carpentry sections; as Provincial councilor and Provincial Bursar of St. Francis Xavier Province, also as National Vocation Coordinator and as Vocation Promoter of St. Francis Xavier Province for many years. Bro. Leo had initiated several projects and had been instrumental in acquiring landed properties and assets for the congregation.

He was a man of deep religious convictions and everyone saw him as a man of prayer. He used to spend a lot of time in the chapel in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, praying and conversing with God. He was a man with a lot of energy and enthusiasm and was daring for any venture. The province and the Congregation benefitted a lot from his contact with Government and non-government officials. He was fully committed to whatever he did or offices he held. He did his best, unmindful of success or failure, sometimes unaware of his own limitations. He was quite knowledgeable in many things and showed readiness to help anyone in need of his assistance.

He took a leading part in establishing St. Francis School, Koramangala, Bangalore in 1987, and was the first Principal during the beginning stages. He expressed his views and concerns quite strongly, and sometimes remained adamant. For him everything was possible, may be due to his public relations charisma or the extra ordinary confidence

he had in himself. However, he never compromised his loyalty and faithfulness to the Franciscan Brotherhood for any cause.

As he was ailing for sometime, he was kept under the loving care of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Hosur road, Bangalore. He breathed his soul into the hands of the Lord on 24th March 2014. Bro. Leo's mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Sevasadan cemetery after the solemn funeral mass on 25th March, 2014. May Jesus, whom Bro. Leo served with so much love and enthusiasm all his life, welcome him into eternal glory!

MARCH 25
BRO. FIDELIS EDATTEL, CMSF (INDIA)



John Sebastian, in Religion, Bro. Fidelis, was born on 29th January 1926 to Mr. Chacko and Mrs. Elizabeth Edattel Nellikunel family of St. George's Parish Vazhakulam in Kothamangalam Diocese, Kerala. After the completion of his Schooling he joined the CMSF community on 15th November 1948. Thereafter he completed the initial formation and entered the novitiate on 4th October 1949, and made the first profession on 4th October 1951.

Bro. Fidelis worked tirelessly in various centres of the Congregation, like; Bangalore, Lucknow, Dabchary, Dadra, Malipur, Birabanti, Dumri, Jaffarganj, New Jalpaiguri, Indara, Amboori, Ranchi, Mathura, Khera Khurd, Mount Poinzur, Chitaunakalan, Madharihat, etc. Bro. Fidelis was an unassuming man who went about doing the duties in an extra ordinary way. Any duty assigned to him, was taken with love and great dedication; whether it was in the field, or estate, or in the office administration Bro. Fidelis was committed to accomplish it to the full and lacked no enthusiasm in all his endeavors.

He was the first Provincial of St. Joseph's Province from 1979-80; and from 1980-86 he was the Vice Provincial. The outstanding services Bro. Fidelis rendered to various centres of the Congregation endeared him to all and sundry. Bro. Fidelis was diagnosed for bone – cancer, which made him weak and bedridden for a long time. It was on 25th March 1997, that he succumbed to his illness. A solemn funeral service was arranged at Khera Khurd and a large number of people, religious and priests attended it. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Khera Khurd. Bro. Fidelis is remembered for his down to earth attitude to the missionary apostolate. Always was a man of simple – smile and a serious mind in matters that deserved seriousness and attention.

MARCH 25
BRO. CORNELIUS TUSCANO, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Cornelius (SFXP) was born on 18th July 1940 to Mr. Lazar and Mrs. Domitila Tuscano of St. Gonsalo Garcia Parish, Gass, in the diocese of Vasai. On the completion of his schooling he joined the congregation in May 1961, and after the initial religious formation he made his first profession on 04th October 1965 and the final profession on 04th October 1971. Thereafter he underwent Nursing and Leprosy trainings in Bangalore and Mangalore respectively. He also studied Spiritual Theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas, Rome (Angelicum) in 1978.

Bro. Cornelius had worked with exemplary missionary zeal and enthusiasm among the lepers at our Mission Hospital at Indara, in Varanasi, for nearly 16 years. From 1980 to 1986 he was appointed as Director of the Assisi Boys Home, IC Colony, Borivali, and as the vocation promoter for Maharashtra. In 1987 he was transferred to our community in Rome. From 1992 to 1995 he worked at our South American missions in Paraguay and Bolivia. His life of simplicity and humility won him numerous friends from all walks of life.

Bro. Cornelius was a man who was immensely in love with his missionary life and work. In him one could find a real Franciscan joy, simplicity and humility personified. The spirit of cheerfulness, enthusiasm, genuineness, love and piety were very much visible in whatever he undertook

Towards the end of his life he had been ailing for some time due to diabetes and high blood pressure and was treated in Karuna hospital, Borivali, Mumbai. He was admitted at Karuna hospital on 24th March 2002 due to cardiac complications. He breathed his last at 03.45 PM on 25th March 2002. His body was taken to his native village in a procession as he wished it would be after his death. His funeral obsequies were

held at St. Francis Monastery chapel on 26th March 2002 in the presence of a large number of Brothers, religious, priests and faithful. After the solemn funeral Mass, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Mount Poinzur.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace!

MARCH 27
BRO. MAXIMIN VANCHIPURAKAL, CMSF (INDIA)



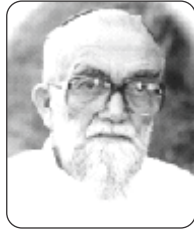
Born on 17th November 1917 to Mr. Mathew and Mrs. Annamma, into the Vanchipurackal family at Kaipuzha, Kerala, the boy was Christened, Luke. The family had a unique place in the Christian circle, of Kottayam. They had contributed their men and wealth for the prosperity of the then newly founded Diocese.

In the spirit of his family as devout catholic, Bro. Maximin was received into the Congregation by Bro. Aquinas, a senior Brother from Kottayam. After joining, he spent time in different missions around Kerala so as to get a better idea of the activities of the Brothers. He was fascinated by the activities of the Brothers, and took his decision to join the Congregation. In due course, he successfully completed his religious formation, and made his first profession on 4th October 1939, and his final commitment on 4th October 1945.

Bro. Maximin served the Congregation as a missionary at several centres like, Kanjirampara, Ambilikonam, and at Mysore St. Patricks' orphanage. In all these places he had won the hearts of the people. Most of his life, he spent in different places like Bombay, Bangalore, Delhi, Kotagiri and Nalanchira. While he was assiduously striving to serve the orphanage at Mysore, he was chosen to be the Provincial at St. Thomas Province. His endurance in facing difficulties was indeed commendable, and he was a father figure and a jovial person in his dealings with all. He never left anything undone that could be done.

On the morning of 27th March 1986, he was found dead in his room. It being Holy Thursday, till Holy Saturday, the body was kept in the mortuary. His funeral obsequies took place on 29th March at Jayamatha, Nalanchira, thereafter his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Jayamatha Cemetery Trivandrum. As the head of the Province he was called to his eternal reward.

MARCH 27
BRO. MODESTUS KERN, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Modestus Kern was born on 21st June 1913 at Hamburg, Germany. After his schoolfinal, he joined our Congregation at Maslianico, Italy on 21st January 1932. His zeal for the missions brought him to India on 5th September 1933, and on completion of his Novitiate at Dadra, he made his first profession on 4th October 1934 at Mount Poincur, Mumbai. His first assignment was to take care of the Orphans at Mount Poincur, afterwhich he was sent to Pondur mission of Mylapore. He devoted his time and energy in the missions mostly in the South of India, Ongoor, Santa Maria and Bangalore till 1939.

At the outbreak of World War II, the German Consulate in Madras asked him to go back to Germany, but he did not oblige. As a zealous missionary, he took care of 22 mission stations in keeping with our charism, and managed 16 village schools in these areas. Yet, the atrocities of war again obstructed his mission activities. He was taken into Internment camp again in February 1942 at Kodaikanal (T.N), and was transferred in September 1942 to Dehra Dun, where he was forced to remain till November 1946. Then he spent a few months in Bassein, before he became a pioneer at Kotagiri in 1948, where he served as the Novice Master from 1949 to 1955. He was elected a general councilor in the General chapter of 1949.

At this time, his services were urgently required in Europe. In 1955-56 he served as Novice Master in Maslianico, Italy. Then for two years he worked in our Procura in Switzerland, until he was appointed Novice Master again at Haselunne, Germany for 3 years. Bro. Modestus was elected Superior General in 1961. During this term as leader he started missions in Paraguay. It was Bro. Modestus, who for the first time visualized the need of getting Brothers qualified in Philosophy and Theology. He played a major role in establishing the C.R.I. Brothers Institute in Banglore. From 1974-79 his able services were rendered to

the Congregation as the Local Superior of Sevasadan, Bangalore. His role as a pioneer in our Technical School apostolate shall be written in golden letters. His vision has brought out many luminaries.

The General Chapter of 1979 elected him again as Superior General for another term. In 1984, when in Mumbai, the President of the Republic of Germany awarded him with a special Merit Certificate. "The Distinguished Service Cross." This was presented to him personally by the Counsul General of Germany in the presence of the President of India and other dignitaries, during the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of St.Francis School Mount Poincur, attended by dignitaries including the President of the Republic of India, Shri Gyani Zail Singh.

From 1985 onwards until his last, he was leading a semi contemplative life, with different ailments, at Mt. Alverno, Kotagiri. Yet he was activiely engaged in the estate matters. Early in the morning of 27th March 1989, he calmly passed away from this world. A solemn funeral service was arranged at 4.30 p.m. on 28th with the Bishop of Ooty as the main Celebrant, attended by a large number of Brothers from various stations, priests, religious and faithful. His body is laid to rest in the Lord in our cemetery at Kotagiri.

His life will be remembered for his visionary approach on all matters. He was a compassionate soul with a firm grip on matters of importance and a disciplined Franciscan to the core.

MARCH 27
BRO. JUDE VATTAMATTOM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Jude (SJP) was born on 02nd July 1933 to Mr. Augustine and Annamma Vattamattom of St. George's parish Moolamattom in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. He joined the congregation on 26th April 1963 and made his first profession on 25th March 1965 and the final profession on 06th August 1968. When the Jhansi Brothers got amalgated with our congregation, Bro. Jude was one of the first one to be enrolled. He had worked as an ardent messenger of peace at Varanasi, Agra, Malipur, Jafferganj, Indara, Khera Khurd, Jhansi and Aloor, Kerala. He was notable for his extraordinary spirit of strength, courage and commitment as a Religious Brother. His life brought joy and delight into the lives of many people and confreres. He was a brother in every sense and a worthy follower of St. Francis of Assisi. Bro. Jude had been a towering figure of unwavering commitment to the Truth and the Gospel. He served as a Sactetary to the Archbishop Agnello Fernandes of Delhi at that time as a Brother of the Franciscans of Jhansi. He also served as administrator of our ITI at Mt. Poinzur.

He had been ailing for a long time due to diabetes and this caused cardiac complications later. While he was superior of our Aloor house, he was admitted at Carmel Hospital, Aluva, for treatment a few days before his passing away. He was well prepared to meet sister death. Fortified by the Sacraments, he breathed his last on 27th March 2007. His funeral obsequies were held at Jayamatha Institute, Nalanchira, on 29th March 2007. After the solemn funeral Mass, which was attended by a good number of Brothers, religious, priests and faithful, his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery at Jayamatha.

Brother Jude is remembered specially for his administrative capacities and disciplinary behavior wherever he served.

MARCH 27
BRO. BENJAMIN MANI, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Benjamin (SJBR) was born on 29th April 1946 to Mr. Arockyam and Arokiammal of St. Anthony's parish, Panjampatty in the Diocese of Dindigal, Tamil Nadu. He joined the Aspirantate at Pacode and completed his schooling there. Thereafter, on completion of his studies, he was admitted to postulancy at Kotagiri, in 1962 and to the novitiate subsequently. He made his first profession on 04th October 1965, and the final profession on 04th October 1971.

As a zealous and enthusiastic missionary, most of his life he spent in our missions in South India, such as, Kanjirampara, Mundela, Kilimanoor, Vattappara, Thonnackal, Vattakarikkom, Chozhiakode, Kartikulam in Kerala and Sivagangai, Padallur, Devarkulam, Mantharamputhur, Pacode in Tamil Nadu. He had also worked at the Mother House, Mount Poinzur Mumbai, and at Malipur in Uttar Pradesh. He cared for the poor and needy and loved them affectionately. To provide employment for them he started cottage industries like: coir, cloth-weaving and mat making etc., product in these industries earned income, which he made use of for the sustenance of the poor in the villages. He also took initiative to build houses for the poor in the missions as the CMSF housing schemes of 1982, to commemorate the 800th birth anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi. He dug wells in the missions to provide drinking water to the villagers, and initiated several other projects for the welfare of the rural poor. He used to master the local languages to be effective as a missionary and communicate better.

His last years were spent at Nagarcoil due to ailments. On March 26, 2006 he had a Cardiac arrest while he was undergoing a treatment at Lourdes Hospital in Nagarcoil. Comforted by the Sacraments he breathed his last on 27th March 2006. His funeral obsequies were held at Assisi Ashram, Pacode, Tamil Nadu on 28th March 2006 in the presence of many Brothers, religious and priests, relatives, friends and well wishers: After the solemn service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Pacaode, at our own burial ground where some of our veterans are resting in the Lord.

MARCH 28
BRO. FABIAN MARUTHUKUNNEL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Fabian was born on 1st September 1915 to Mr. George and Mrs. Elizabeth of St. Mary's Parish, Kadaplamattom in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. After his initial Schooling he joined the CMSF in May 1954 and made his first profession on 19th March 1957 and the final profession on 19th March 1963. As a young and disciplined soldier in the Indian Army he had acquired enough discipline to be a soldier of Jesus. He served at Kanjirampara, Mariagiri, Erumeli, Mundela, Kilimannoor, Peermade, Jayamatha, Kotagiri, Mount Poinsur, and finally Lourdes Mount-Vattappara. Bro. Fabian was an able administrator, an illustrious Manager and a zealous missionary. He was a very successful missionary, down to earth man, unfailing in his religious duties, an unassuming person with love for the poor and downtrodden and even for animals. He was courageous, a man full of zeal and enthusiasm for the missions. People and children of the villages used to flock around him for guidance, advice and tender care. His was a life lived with commitment, loyalty, and love for the Congregation, the people and the Church, and he lived it meaningfully. Towards the end he lived a retired life at Vattappara, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, but was available for any service required of him.

He breathed his last fully prepared with the Sacraments administered on 28th March 2000. The funeral took place on 31st March. After the solemn funeral which was well attended by his relations, Brothers from all communities, and well wishers his body was laid to rest at our cemetery in Nalanchira, where he had served as a humble and able missionary for many years.

MARCH 29
BRO. BASILIUS FRITSCH, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Basilius was born on 2nd September 1911 at Freiburg, Germany. His zeal for the Missions brought him to our Congregation and had his Novitiate at Maslianico, Italy. On 21st December 1932 he joined the Novitiate, and on July 1934. He was sent to our house at Haselune, Germany for his practical training as a would be missionary Brother, to be sent to India.

On 11th August 1934, together with Bro. Michael and Bro. Linus he left Venice and reached India after a strenuous sea navigation. On arrival in September 1934, he was sent to Zaroli-Talsseri missions and completed his Novitiate at Dadra and made his First Profession on 4th October 1935. Thereafter he was assigned to Khandwa mission together with Bro. Chrysostom and Bro. Felix till April 1937, and later to Azamgarh and Rosara, in U.P, which were some of our early missions in North India.

As the clouds of World War were in the air, in September 1939, he received an order to come to Bombay. As he detrained at Dadra station on 5th September, he was met by a police Inspector, who took him to the C.I.D. Head-quarters in Bombay, where he was detained for 2 days. On 7th September 1939, he was transferred to the internment camp at Deolalli. On 7th December he was released on parole. But after the German victory in France, he was again interned in Ballis camp on 25th May 1940 and later transferred to the Camp at Dehra Duhn, where he remained till 1946. In November 1946 he was released from the Central Internment Camp, Dehra Dun, together with Bro. Modestus, another veteran from Germany.

In 1948 Bro. Basilius managed to purchase a land at Indara, near Banares for opening a new Mission, where he worked tirelessly for the poor. On 21st August 1949, he asked for Indian citizenship, but was not

granted. The inclemency of the extreme weather of North India deteriorated his health. On 1st august 1950, he left his favourite Indara mission for Bombay for better treatment. He remained at Mount Poincur, working in the press and Procura till his departure for Europe in 1952.

From May 1952-58, he was stationed at Haselunne, Germany where he worked wholeheartedly in the Procura, thus cultivating further, his love for the mission. Thereafter his assignments were confined to our three houses in Europe. In 1970-73, we find him at the Missionshaus-Bug, Bamberg as Superior and as Regional Councilor of St. Bonifatius Region. Then from 1973-76, he was simultaneously the Superior of the House at Haselunne, Councilor and the Procurator General. Bro. Basilius was elected as General Councilor in 1979 and was again appointed Procurator General from 1985-88. Wherever Bro. Basilius worked, he left his indelible mark as a missionary.

Bro. Basilius Fritsch was called to his eternal reward on 29th March 1989 while serving the community at Bug Bamberg. After the solemn funeral service attended by a large crowd from all over Bamberg, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the Parish Cemetery of Bug, Bamberg, Germany.

APRIL 2
BRO. URBAN KODIAMPURAIKAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Emmanuel was born on 31st November 1903 to Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Anne at Andoor in Palaai Diocese of Kerala. He took the religious name of Urban. He joined the Congregation on 19th March 1932. He made his first profession on 19th March 1934 at Mount Poincur and his final profession on 19th March 1940 at Kalavoor, Alleppy, Kerala, one of our earlier missions.

His life as a Religious Brother and missionary took him to several places like Pondur, Poonamalli, Nellikakuzhy, Ampliconam, Kanjirampara, Thamalam, Melpala, Pacode, Thottapilly, Karuvatta, Mundela, Osasrathuvila, Goa, Bassein, Mount Poincur, Nalanchira, Kalavoor, Bangalore, Vandanam, Mariagiri, Koluvel, Erumely, Talegaon and Vattappara. All these places bear witness to his missionary zeal where he spent himself like a burning candle in the service of his brothers and sisters in Christ. The fluency with which he spoke Malayalam, Tamil and English enabled him to relate himself to them with great ease and good results.

Realizing the need to know about dispensing medicine in his missionary endeavours, he acquired sufficient knowledge in this line, so much so that he was able to treat even the bites of the most venomous snakes. This ingenuity he acquired through his own discoveries as a result of a service of painstaking experiments. His hands were for healing—ministry.

Bro. Urban suffered various illnesses due to the cancer in the kidney for which he had to undergo a major operation much against his wishes. In March 1979, signs of his approaching death were already visible. On 17th March while fully conscious he received the anointing of the sick and on 2nd April 1979, he passed away peacefully. After the usual solemn funeral service, his body is laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum, in the presence of his Co-brothers, relatives and friends. Bro. Urban was stern at times but had the heart of a missionary, always serving others!

APRIL 02
BRO. THEOPHIL LAKRA, CMSF (INDIA)

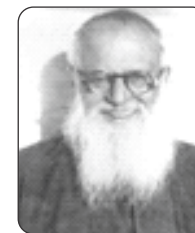


Born in the year 1954 to devout Catholic parents Mr. Lazarus Lakra and Mrs. Basanti of St. Paul Catholic church, Gumla, in the Archdiocese of Ranchi, Jharkhand, Bro. Theophil Lakra was admitted to our congregation in 1977 after the successful completion of his high school studies. He made his first profession on 04th October 1980, and committed himself perpetually at the service of the Lord on 04th October 1986.

After the first profession Bro. Theophil was trained in wood technology from St. Francis ITI, Mount Poincur. Thereafter he extended his service to the communities at Khera Khurd, Dumrikhas, Agra, Malipur, Mathura, Jaffarganj, Jaigaon and Ghaziabad in St. Joseph's Province, North India; he also served as Manager of the Motor Mechanic section of St. Francis ITI, Mount Poincur, Mumbai. Whether in the institutions or in the missions Bro. Theophil did his best for the growth and development of the centres entrusted to him. A man of few words and with lots of enthusiasm to do any kind of work, he won the hearts of many within the congregation and outside wherever he worked.

Bro. Theophil was confined to bed at our community at Ghaziabad due to cancer in his oral cavity. All possible treatments were available to him which could not bring him recovery. Finally on 02nd April 2007 he breathed his last and left for his heavenly reward. His funeral services were held at St. John's Institute, Khera Khurd, Delhi on 04th April 2007, in the presence of many Brothers, religious, priests, relatives and faithful. After the solemn funeral Mass his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our Khera Khurd cemetery, which has been constructed very close to our community there. Unlike in the past where our Brothers were buried in the - cemetery, away from our house.

APRIL 5
BRO. GARCIA PEREIRA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Garcia was born on 3rd November 1889 at Thane, Maharashtra. He was the first Indian candidate to join our then young Congregation, at Mount Poincur. He made his First Profession in 1912. But due to the First World War his final profession could be made only in 1920. Devoted to the Founder Bro. Paulus Moritz, he was influenced by his great missionary spirit and apostolic zeal as a close follower of the original charism.

He had occasions to fulfil his apostolic zeal in Bengal, Dinajpur District in Biniduar, Dhanjuri and Daulighat, where under most primitive conditions he laboured among the poor Santals, instructing a great number of catechumens. Simplicity, kindness and love for the poor made him a great missionary. The outstanding qualities that marked this humble soul were missionary zeal, love for poverty and his love for Christ in the Eucharist.

Bro. Garcia was a missionary to the core. This was visible to everyone who met him. When due to old age he could no more work in the missions, he seized every opportunity to instill his missionary spirit into others. Constantly he admonished his confreres on Evangelization; he spoke about evangelization not only to the brothers but also to the Priests and Bishops who came to Mount Poincur to visit him. Aware of the necessity of the Blessings of God, without which all efforts are in vain, Bro. Garcia showed great love to the Eucharistic Lord. He was fully convinced that without a personal encounter with Christ, especially in the Eucharist, we would be building on sand and not on solid ground.

Bro. Garcia, the first Indian Brother of the congregation is a historical personality. He served long 66 years in the Lord's vineyard as a Franciscan Brother with inimitable fervor and missionary zeal. It is for us now to imitate his spirit, his fervour, his love for Christ, the mission and the poor.

Bro. Garcia breathed his last due to a massive heart attack. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur, very close to the land of his patron St. Gonsalo Garcia of Bassein, the first Indian Franciscan Martyr: one of the Superior Generals called Bro. Garcia, the “Missionary Conscience” of the Congregation.

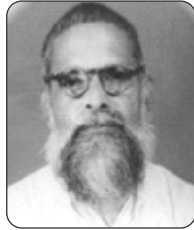
APRIL 08
BRO. IGNATIUS ESTHAKY, CMSF



Bro. Esthaky Ignatius was born on 9th June 1950 to Mr. G. Esthaky and Mrs. M. Agathamma of St. Fatima Parish Padathrippu, Vasavilan in the Diocese of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. After the completion of his high school studies he joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FMB) in the year 1962 and made his first profession on 12th January 1970 and the final profession on 12th January 1976. Thereafter he completed 3 years of Special Teacher Training in the Roman Catholics at Training College, Jaffna. For many years he served as a teacher at St. Agnes' Girls School, Matale. With great distinction.

Bro. E. Ignatius worked at the various centers of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province, beginning with the St. Anthony's Boys' Home at Chilaw as it's Director, as Superior at Assisi Illam, Kurukalmadam, Batticoloa, and at Assisi Nivas, Cheddikulam, Don Bosco Boys Home, Maggona, Brothers House at Matale, St. Francis Boys' Home, Matale, and the Provincial Community at Ekala. He served the province in various capacities: as Novice Master; superior of various communities, and as Provincial councilor for three terms. Towards the end of his life, he was at St. Francis Boys' Home, Matale as assistant Director at the same time undergoing treatment for various ailments. Bro. Esthaky Ignatius passed away on 08th April 2015 at 6.30 p.m. at the Base Hospital Puttalam, Sri Lanka. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at the parish cemetery, Matale on 12th April 2015. Bro. Ignatius was a clear exponent of the missionary charism in all that he undertook!

APRIL 10
BRO. ANTHONINE THONATHU, CMSF (INDIA)



Born on 8th August 1910, at Kulathoor village of the Kumbiluvvely parish of the Changanacherry Archdiocese, Bro. Anthonine was chrstened Philip. He was admitted into the Congregation after his high school studies at the St. Berchman's School, Changanacherry. After his initial formation he pronounced the First Vows on 4th October 1939 and thereafter was sent to Cherupushpavijam, Thottappilli, under late Bro. Sergius where he served until 1943. He also spent a brief period in the Pondur Mission in the Madras-Mylapore Archdiocese. He worked zealously in the Diocese of Kottar, in old Pacode, Meppuram, Midalakkadu, Peermade and Meppalai Missions. In these missions he motivated thousands of Nadar people to embrace the Catholic faith. He built several churches and chapels, schools and dispensaries for the new converts.

Bro. Anthonine was a man of few words. He believed in action than preaching. He belonged to that generation of stalwarts of the Congregation who had literally translated into action the pioneering missionary charism of the Congregation. He led a very frugal and austere life. He never aimed at power and positions in the Congregation. Treading every morning and evening in the village footpaths and dusty roads holding an inseparable umbrella in his hand, he reached thousands of people and conveyed to them the saving message of the Gospel. Sunshine or rain Bro. Anthonathu was on his path of visiting villages and proclaiming the good news.

Bro. Anthonine expired on 10th April, 1993 due to cancer of the intestine. His funeral obsequies were held on 12th April 1993, and after the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

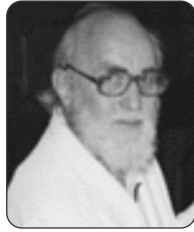
APRIL 12
BRO. EDMUND CHARLES, CMSF (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Edmund Charles was born on 24th February 1960 to Mr. Francis Xavier and Mrs. Mary Agnes of the Catholic Church Parish of Periyapullamalai in the Diocese of Trinco-Batticaloa in Sri Lanka. On completion of his High School studies he joined the Congregation on 14th February 1984, and made his first profession on 4th October 1986, and the final Vows on 4th October 1992. Bro. Charles was an unassuming person, and did his duties with love and responsibility. He had an artistic bend of mind and an aesthetic sense in everything he did. During his leisure times he used to draw pictures and copy anecdotes etc., so artistically to be displayed on notice boards for each day's reflection.

After the first profession, he was called to Bangalore in 1987 at Jyothi Sadan Scholasticate for Theological Studies. After two years he returned to Sri Lanka and worked at different centers. In 1998 he was called to Bombay and worked under the Generalate for more than a year. While being in Bombay his health deteriorated and he had to undergo a medical check-up at KEM Hospital Bombay. Later it was diagnosed that there was a malignant growth in his lungs. He was given advanced medical treatments in India and Sri Lanka. Despite all the medical cares he was called for his eternal reward on 12th April 2001. His funeral obsequies took place at 11. a.m on 14th April 2001 at Matale, Sri Lanka. All the Brothers from the Province, his relations, friends and well wishers attended the funeral services. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest at Matale, Sri Lanka. Thus, a young and enthusiastic missionary left us with lots of things to remember about him.

APRIL 13
BRO. THEODORE NOLD, CMSF (GERMANY)

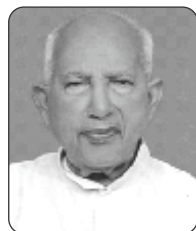


Bro. Theodore Nold (SFSP) in baptism Hermann Nold, was born on 27th August 1912 to Mr. Alois Nold and Mrs. Mary Nold of St. Petro, Ruete at the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart, Germany. He joined the Congregation on 24th May 1934 at our community of Masilianico, Italy. He made his first profession on 04th October 1936 and the final profession on 04th October 1942 at the Internment Camp at Dehra-Dun, India, where he had opted to work as a pioneer. Courage combined with commitment, unfathomable faith in the Lord and the unambiguous humility and simplicity of Bro. Paulus Moritz, our founder were the characteristics of Bro. Theodore. He strove to reach out to the poor, the sick and the needy who inhabited the far-flung and remote villages of north India. He laboured with Indian missionaries from 1936 to 1959. He called India his home and its people his family. He had worked as an enthusiastic messenger of peace at Bikampur, Siwal, Deolali, Amednagar, Mariabad, Khera Khurd, Masigarh, Mathura, Bombay and later in Germany and at Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay. Bro. Theodore had attained mastery over several languages with his own efforts; learned Latin, Spanish, English and Hindi well. He accepted and appreciated the Indian culture and tradition as he stayed and worked in India for several years in spite of being in the internment camp several times during the World War II.

Bro. Theodore, together with a band of German Brothers, set off to South America in 1962 to start new mission centres there. From 1962 onwards he worked at our centre at Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay. He started a school for the education of the children at St. Francis School with 1000 students, at present managed by the Corporation of Coronel Oviedo. The other projects that he initiated at Coronel Oviedo are, a public library for the local youth, a dispensary for the sick and ailing, a retreat cum renewal centre to take care of the spiritual needs of the people. He had also built a church, which now has become a semi-

parish. He was elected as General Councilor in 1979, and once as Provincial councilor of St. Francis Solano's Province, South America. His contributions were commendable for the welfare of the South American missions. In the year 1992 when he was 80, he received an Award as well as citizenship of Paraguay for his 28 years of service in establishing justice and peace in that country. Until his death he was very active in the missions of Paraguay. On 13th April 2007, he suddenly developed some health complications and subsequently was taken to the De Policia Santa Rosa de Lima Hospital where he breathed his last due to a cardiac arrest at 08.35 AM on the same day. His funeral services were held at Coronel Oviedo which was attended by a good number of Brothers from Paraguay and Bolivia, religious and priests and the parishioners of Coronel Oviedo. After the solemn funeral service, his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Coronel Oviedo, where he labored as a pioneer of Sorts especially at the clinic. He was affectionately called "Dr. Barbudos-Bearded Doctor."

APRIL 17
BRO. LOUIS KANICHERIL CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Louis in Baptism Thomas was born on 23rd March 1921 to Mr. Thomman and Mrs. Anna of Kanicheriyil Thundil of Holy Family Parish, Kainakary, in the Archdiocese of Changanassery, Kerala. He joined the Congregation after his high school studies at St. Berchman's high school, Changanassery in the year 1949, and made his first profession on 4th October 1952 and the final profession on 4th October 1958.

Bro. Louis has served the communities at Ampilikonam, Kolvel, Pacode, Jayamatha-Nalanchira, Bangalore, Kotagiri, Kanjirampara, Mundela, Chozhiakode, Vattakarikom, Aluva, Pambanar, Manjauvilakam, Sri Lanka, Chemboor, Kadalukani, HRT centre-Thiruvananthapuram, Kiliyoor etc. He was a gifted preacher, a talented teacher, and an ordained deacon and a graduate from the University of Kathmandu, Nepal. He has been a formator at various stages; Director of Candidates, Postulants, Asst. Novice Master etc. He also served as assistant Provincial of St. Thomas Province for a period of three years.

Bro. Louis was admired and appreciated for his simple, obedient and unassuming life-style as a Franciscan Brother. His loving and affectionate nature has won for him many friends and was appreciated for being true to the Spirit and prompting of his conscience. Bro. Louis was a model for younger brothers to emulate even in his retirement years, he started literary projects for the youth.

For the past few years he led a retired life due to old age and ill health at Jayamatha – Trivandrum. On 17th April at 03.15 PM after having taken a cup of tea with the Brothers he peacefully breathed his last at 03.30 PM. His funeral obsequies were held at 03.00 PM on 18th April 2015 at Jayamatha Institute. After the solemn funeral service his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at the cemetery in Jayamatha, Nalanchira. May his souls rest in peace!

APRIL 18
BRO. REMIGIUS JUNG, CMSF (SWITZERLAND)



Brother Remigius (Richard Jung) was born on 3rd February 1903 in a protestant family of a famous hilly place of Switzerland called Pfyn at Kanton Thurgau. On 25th March 1923, the day of the Anunciation, he was accepted into the Catholic Church in the Cathedral of St. Gallus in the Diocese of St. Gallen. After his initiation in the catholic faith, he entered the Novitiate on 4th October, 1925, taking the name of Remigius. He made his first profession on 4th October 1927 and made the final profession on 19th March 1934 at Mount Poinsur, Bombay, where he opted to work for the Indian Missions with all earnestness.

Bro Remigius was a gifted healer and treated many cases like Malaria, Typhoid and Cholera. He loved to work for the Adivasis and worked for more than 12 years in the Talaseri Missions of Maharashtra. His absolute and undivided commitment to Evangelization was remarkable.

His contribution to the field of Evangelization was indeed outstanding. He never desired popularity or position, but persevered in his missionary endeavour, especially helping the poor. The genuineness of his motivation, the nobility of his character and authenticity of his actions won him accolades. His manifold achievements cannot be easily put into words.

In the year 1949, Bro. Remigius was called back to Europe. He established the First Mission house in Switzerland. Bro. Remigius worked almost 36 years continuously at Duedingen. His aim was to help the poor and the needy. Because of his leadership qualities, he was most of the time the Superior of this community and held many responsibilities in the Congregation. Twice he was elected General Councillor. He remained as a simple missionary without any attachment to power-structures.

Due to old age Bro. Remigius retired in 1985 from all the responsibilities but stayed on in Duedingen still helping in the procura work until his death. Bro. Remigius had a fall and was admitted to the Government Hospital in Friburg. The doctors performed two operations to save his life. He knew that his end was coming close and he was fully prepared to join the company of Angels and saints in Heaven. The Lord called him in the early hours of Sunday 18th April 1993 to join his Easter Lord in Heaven. The funeral ceremonies took place on Tuesday 20th April, and his body was laid to rest in the common cemetery of the parish in Duedingen in the presence of the Brothers, Priests, Religious, relations, benefactors and large gathering of friends and well wishers.

APRIL 18
BRO. STEPHEN NEDIYAKAL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Stephen (SJP) was born on 27th August 1943 to Mr. James and Aley of St. Mary's parish, Kuravilangad in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. He joined the congregation at Jhansi in 1964 and made his first profession on 15th August 1966 and the final profession on 01st January 1970 at the congregation of the Franciscan Brothers of Jhansi before its amalgamation to CMSF. After the profession he was sent to Prem Nagar-Jhansi, and thereafter he worked at Benaras, Jafferganj, Malipur, Agra, Jaigaon and many other centres in St. Joseph's province, north India. He was a source of inspiration by his unassuming and humble nature., he kept a low – profile in his dealings and activities.

Bro. Stephen endured every hardship with patience and great love of God. He accepted everything that came on his way and marched forward, trusting in the Lord who had called him to be His own. His humble nature with true spirit of commitment and care won him many friends and well wishers too. A week prior to his death he had gone home to participate the first death anniversary of his beloved mother and there he developed cardiac complication / respiratory failure, soon he was taken to Caritas Hospital, Kottayam but a few days later, on 18th April 2008, he breathed his last. His funeral obsequies were held at Jayamatha Institute, Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram on 22nd April 2008 in the presence of a good number of Brothers, religious, priests and relatives. Thereafter his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Jayamatha cemetery, Nalanchira, Kerala. His life remains an inspiration to many in the younger generation as he was unassuming and a paradigm of humility and compassion.

APRIL 18
BRO. BERNARDINE D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Bernardine, in Baptism Aniceto Francis Assisi Rozario D'Souza, son of Joseph and Genoroza D'Souza of Bardez, Goa, was born on 28th October 1898. He joined the congregation on 08th June 1926, made his first profession in 1930 and the final profession on 19th March 1936, after being in the missions as simple missionary.

He was mainly engaged in pioneering mission work at Damangaon, Goa, Khandwa, Mathura, Massat, Dadra, Broach and Mount Poincur. Simple and unassuming by nature he went about doing his daily tasks without much noise. Imbued with a great zeal for souls he would spend much of his free time in deep contemplative prayer and in later years he could be found spending several long hours in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the Chapel at Mount Poincur.

He always wore a smiling face and had a kind word for every Brother he would meet. With his great generosity and simplicity of heart he endeared himself to each and everyone and it was not an uncommon sight to find so many clustering around him, even the youngest of the community at Mt. Poincur.

Bro. Bernardine had a fall which made him weak and since then his health began to deteriorate. On 17th, 1979 he was given the anointing of the sick, and on the advice of the family doctor, he was immediately shifted to the Holy Spirit Hospital, Andheri. He failed to respond to the medical treatment and expired on 18th April 1979. The funeral took place on the 19th. His Lordship Longinus Pereira, assisted by other priests, offered Holy Mass and officiated at the funeral service which followed soon after. The Body of Bro. Bernardine is laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur. He remained a source of inspiration and a model of child-like simplicity to all who knew him.

APRIL 20
BRO. SAJI AREYACHALIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Saji Mathew Areyachalil, in baptism Sebastian, was born to Mr. Mathew and Aleykutty Areyachalil of St. Thomas Church, Cheenkallel in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala.

He was admitted to the Congregation on 24th June 1990 and made his first Vows on 4th October 1995 at Kotagiri after his initial formation. Thereafter he completed the Scholasticate studies at Jyothi Sadan, Bangalore. He was studious, sharp, obedient and simple and was interested in teaching and pastoral work. He worked at a few centres in the northern missions. He was of a serious and of a questioning mind as intellectual as he was.

During his holidays in 1998 Bro. Saji died at his home in Kerala. We do not know much about his final days. A solemn funeral was arranged in his parish and many religious and faithful attended the funeral service. He is laid to rest at the Parish cemetery at Cheenkallel Kerala.

APRIL 21
BRO. DAMASUS PLATHOTTAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Damasus, in baptism Joseph Plathottam was born on 5th August 1931, at Mutholy, and belonged to St. George's Parish, in the Diocese of Pala. After the completion of his High School studies in St. Antony's High School, Mutholy, Pala, he joined the Congregation in 1953 and pronounced his first Vows on 19th March 1956 and final Vows on 19th March 1962. After his missionary experiences in the Southern Missions he was found to be an all-rounder.

Bro. Damasus worked at various centers of South, North and Central India in the Dioceses of Vijayapuram, Trivandrum (Latin and Malankara) Alleppey, Kottar, Pune, Bombay, Varanasi, Bangalore, Mysore, Mangalore and Vempally our newly commissioned house of St. Francis Xavier province. Bro. Damasus was a knowledgeable man having a penchant for history and a critique of events and people.

Bro. Damasus indeed lived the life of Brotherhood to the full. As a loving personality he showed courage in difficulties and was helpful to his brethren. He also served as a provincial councilor for a short term. He suffered high diabetes for a long time and many other allied illnesses towards the end of his life and spent almost two weeks at St. Philomena's Hospital, Bangalore. He was cheerful and happy even when he suffered severe pains and welcomed all with a smile. At the early hours of 21st April 1997, he breathed his last peacefully at the Hospital. A solemn funeral service was arranged at Sevasadan on 23rd April and after that his mortal remains were laid to rest at Sevasadan cemetery, Bangalore, where he had worked sometime as an administrator of our Farm and Dairy and as a Provincial Councilor.

APRIL 24
BRO. GILES ESSARAZHATHU, CMSF (INDIA)

Bro. Giles was born in the year 1890 of a devout catholic parents in St. George's Parish, in the Alleppey diocese of Kerala. He was a gifted Cornet player and skilled at carpentry and at machine tools. He left his prosperous trade and joined the Congregation at Mount Poincur. Although he was of a mature age, he did not find the religious observances and the Franciscan way of life very rigorous to him because he had previously lived a quasi religious life at home.

In the mission Bro. Giles made unsparing efforts to gain souls and give relief to the most forsaken poor. In his zealous endeavours to help them, he showed himself unbothered about his hardships and pain. Generally when the people flocked around him in their sorrows and sufferings, he dispensed medicines and medical aids for their health and well-being, but at the same time he imparted to them the knowledge of the eternal truths, necessary for their Christian faith and life.

His carpentry skills at Mount Poincare, and at Goa Orphanage were praise-worthy, as was his success in the various mission centres in South India. Bro. Giles had entertained a lifelong desire why a small device should not be invented to flow water from a bigger source of the same, for the poor cultivators to raise crops by means of irrigation during drought periods, which he succeeded to an extent.

Towards the end of his life, for almost for eight years, Bro. Giles was paralysed due to Diabetes. In a crippled state he patiently lingered on in Jayamatha Orphanage, Trivandrum preparing himself more and more devoutly for the momentous day of his final departure. He expired on 24th April 1967. God was pleased to call him away from this earthly pilgrimage being well prepared and duly fortified by the Sacraments. After the usual solemn service attended by many Brothers, Priests, Religious, relatives, friends and the inmates of the boys' home, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

APRIL 26
BRO. FRUMENTIUS KLEIN, CMSF (GERMANY)

Klein Adam in religion Bro. Frumentius, was born on 14th November, 1899 in Germany. He practised his professional trade for a short duration and had completed his brief term of compulsory military service. He embraced Religious life in the Congregation at Maslianico in Italy before departing for India.

He came to India on the completion of his Novitiate course and training there. As he was physically somewhat delicate, he, at first, had to encounter many difficulties and obstacles in his struggle to be acclimatised to the place and to become conversant with the local language. By his child-like simplicity the people felt themselves drawn to him. He inculcated in them the truths of our holy faith and the rules and maxims of a good Catholic way of life.

With unabating zeal he worked at Khandwa, Bangalore, Jumbury and in the different mission centres in the Dioceses of Bengal, Mysore and Mylapore. His ill health, however, haunted him in every place and he was often obliged to undergo rigid medical treatment for various organic ailments and complications. He was detained during the world war.

As soon as he was released from the internment Camp of the World War II, he again betook himself to his cherished mission activities but soon it was discovered that further organic complications had already set in. On his part, however, he not only bore the pains and sufferings of his disease all the time with calm resignation, but also tried to conceal them under his inherent placid smile and blithe composure.

According to medical advice, he was taken to K.E.M. Hospital, Bombay. Sometime later after a successful operation for kidney maladies, his strength failed him. And on the administration of the Sacraments, his soul left this vale of tears on the 26th April 1948 for the realms above. After the solemn funeral rites his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Painsur.

APRIL 27
BRO. BALTHASAR ALTE, CMSF (GERMANY)



The light of the Holy faith with its profound convictions guided the steps of Bro. Balthasar born on 28th September 1910 in Germany to be received into the fold of the Catholic Church from the Protestant Church, and subsequently the desire to embrace the religious life. Thus he was admitted to the Congregation at Maslianico in Italy. He came to India in the year 1937, after the initial formation. In accordance with the then approved custom he completed the remaining period of his training at Dadra Novitiate and made his profession. He devoted himself zealously to active apostolate among the poor in the Northern missions after his profession.

With tactful ingenuity, he adapted himself to the missionary activities. People flocked around him freely and fearlessly to be instructed in the Catholic faith. In other mission places too, he reaped similar success. Due to his untiring efforts, a new mission house was established at Kasora with prospects for further expansion. As a disciplinarian at St. Peter's college Agra, his management and general supervision was effectively beneficial to the residential Institute, and highly gratifying to the college authorities.

The Congregation's enormous activities in India were financially supported to the greatest extent through Bro. Balthasar's incessant application in the procura at Haseluenne, Germany. Simultaneously he shouldered the responsibilities of the representative of the Superior General for three consecutive terms in spite of his increasing infirmities and failing health.

Though continuously occupied with his multifarious duties, he was always exact in his spiritual exercises and other religious observances. Even to the last, he heroically spent his energies in executing Procura work, because it benefitted the poor in the missions. After attending the

Congregation's General Chapter in Bombay, he went ahead on his return to complete the delayed work in Haseluenne procura, and for its urgently needed materials he made an unusually swift vehicular journey to and from Bamberg, alone and unaided in dire inclement weather.

The consequent extreme exhaustion aggravated his already deteriorating health, with the result he was found almost in a dying state. The instant aids and efforts in the Hospital proved to be of no avail, and on the 27th April 1967, after receiving the Sacraments, he calmly surrendered his soul into God's hands. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the Parish cemetery at Haseluenne, Germany, where he labored for the Lord for the Lord's mission many years.

APRIL 27
BRO. FELIX DIAS, CMSF (INDIA)

Caetan Dias in religion, Bro. Felix, was born on 12th September 1899 to Mr. Gabriel and Mrs. Natalia Dias of Chandor, Goa. He joined the Congregation at Mount Poincur on 2nd June 1918. Being very young he was kept on probation for a short time at Mount Poincur and at Khandwa Mother House and then for a period with Bro. Garcia in Krishnagar Mission, West Bengal. He received his habit in January 1921 at Mount Poincur and made his profession in 1922.

He worked wholeheartedly for thirteen years in the Santal Mission which now forms an important part of the Diocese of Dinajpur, West Bengal. Besides his other zealous activities at Dhamangaon, he worked tirelessly to overcome the difficulty of caste system and introduced an open or public reception of Holy Communion by the new Christians, till then not in practice, in the whole of Zaroli Mission. Likewise in Khandwa, he worked hard to win new souls for Christ in distant villages and by constant exhortations strengthened the faith of the neophytes and revived their Christian customs and practices. He gladly performed duties assigned to him, as need arose at different times and places: in Goa orphanage, Dadra, Talasseri, Bassein, Telegaon, Masigarh and other stations.

Bro. Felix had very early acquired a real relish and tact for mission work and spent the greater part of his life in direct apostolate. Even in his declining years, he was anxious to keep up his missionary spirit. So he used to go round Mount Poincur to do little services to the neighbouring people, especially the poor and needy. He always submitted calmly and cheerfully to the vicissitudes and petty ordeals of religious life particularly to his frequent and spasmodic transfers from place to place, never abating his habitual joviality, good humour and harmless wit, which created an atmosphere of pleasantness wherever he went. Bro. Felix was a linguist and violinist. He would use Latin very easily.

At his own request to prepare for good death, he was brought from Masigarh, Delhi to Mount Poincur where he utilised his time devoutly and prayerfully for that momentous call when his illness took a serious turn he was removed to the Holy Spirit Hospital, Andheri. At first, he appeared to be slowly recovering, however, due to some serious complication of his usual heart trouble, he calmly passed away on 27th April 1973, well prepared and duly fortified by the sacrament. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur.

MAY 11
BRO. PASCAL FERNANDES, CMSF (INDIA)

Johnnie Gonsalves was an admired Catholic gentleman of Andheri, Bombay. As the supervisor of Vihar Lake, he happened one day to meet Archbishop Alban Goodier of Bombay who casually visited that place of interest. The short contact with Archbishop stirred Johnnie's soul to its very depths. He felt an inner call and resigned his lucrative job and embraced the Religious life at the inspiration of the Archbishop and joined CMSF and was named Bro. Pascal in the congregation. During his missionary activities, non-Christians flocked around him, attracted by his jovial and winning ways and the tract he showed them for little industries and handicrafts. He taught them sweet melodious hymns and new Catholic songs mostly composed by him. He instructed and catechised them; and gradually led them to the Master in Catholic faith.

He laboured zealously at Khandwa, Goa, Mount Poincur and at Bassein fort where he improved the Orphanage, developed garden products, brought under cultivation large portions of fallow land for the support and benefit of the poor orphans. He utilised his spare time in making statues, grottos and other objects of religious devotion which he presented to the new Christians to strengthen them in their holy Faith and devotion.

His evening years were spent in the mission stations at Zaroli and Cavel, and it was in the latter place that an incurable abdominal disease rendered his state extremely precarious. He was taken to K.E.M. Hospital in Bombay where on the 11th May, 1939 he breathed his last while being administered the Sacramental unctions. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur cemetery.

MAY 11
BRO. HERIBERT BRUNNER, CMSF (GERMANY)



Joseph Brunner in religion Bro. Heribert was born on 11th January 1901 in the Parish of Obermarchtal in the Diocese of Rottenburg, West Germany. From his childhood he grew up as an exemplary boy. In the year 1927, he came to our house at Maslianico, Italy. After a period of probation he was admitted to the Novitiate there and he proved to be a dedicated youth, full of zeal for the Lord and the Mission. He made his first profession on 25th March 1930 at Maslianico.

He set sail for India in 1932. After a short stay at Mount Poincur he was sent to the Zaroli Missions. Being new to India, the extreme weather, the difficult living conditions and the hard work in the missions affected his health adversely and so he was sent back to Europe to our new house at Haseluenne, where he systematically organised the procura work. For a few years he worked also in our procura at Maslianico. As he was going about his duties he had a fall and broke his hip bone. Later he was transferred to our house at Duedingen, Switzerland. For the rest of his life for more than 30 years he had to suffer intense pain due to the damaged hipbone. He had to use the walking stick and the wheel chair to move about, which he did joyfully.

Though he suffered intensely his love for the missions kept him working enthusiastically throughout his life. Of his 53 years in religious life, 52 years were spent in the procuras. He took the greatest care to be of service to everyone in the house and joyfully joined other Brothers in all the community exercises. He spent most of his time in prayer and work. Through his constant appealing to friends and benefactors, he raised funds for the Orphanages and the institutions to carry on their work and mission.

For the last few months of his life he was rather deeply suffering. But he was well prepared and was expecting to go for his eternal reward anytime. Comforted by the Sacraments, he breathed his last on 11th May 1984. His funeral services were held on 15th May at Duidingen in the presence of a large number of Brothers, religious, friends and benefactors. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Duidingen. A noble soul inspite of intense sufferings, remained a source of joy to everyone who met him is an example to emulate.

MAY 15

BRO. LUCIAN NEUBENDER, CMSF (GERMANY)

Bro. Lucian (John Franz Neuburer) was born on 7th June 1910 in Germany. He left all the bright prospects in the world and joined the Congregation at Maslianico in Italy. After having completed the period of his religious formation there, he came to India with the aim of evangelization. Endowed with child-like simplicity and docility, and filled with enthusiasm and spirit of joy, he got on bountifully with everyone as a messenger of Christ.

He was assigned with teaching mission at Mount Poincur Orphanage and Procura work with Bro. Paulus, the Superior General. In the performance of his duties he was most exact, bold, daring, and made no account of any difficulties or obstacles. It was during this mission on one occasion, he fractured his leg, and another hand, while trying to execute some urgent procura task. He was overjoyed when he was required to be in Canvel mission, a Portuguese enclave, in Surat District, Gujarat.

In an incredible short time he became conversant with the dialect of the people, and taught the Eternal Truths to them in such a lucid and enlightening manner. He laboured ceaselessly in this manner for three years, caring nothing for his health or bodily requirements. As a result he contracted an abdominal Malady, which caused him great inconvenience. Still he carried on with his labour of love during the day and the painful nights he spent in dedicated prayer and contemplation.

Soon it was noticed that he was in a crisis with no hope for survival. Bro. Lucian, however looked calm, composed and fully resigned. A priest was immediately sent for, from the neighbouring mission station for the administration of the Sacraments. Bro. Lucian tranquilly expired on the 15th May 1943, surrounded as he had wished, by his beloved little flock to whom he had taught the truth of the Holy Faith to attain Eternal life. His body was laid to rest in the Lord after the funeral service, at Silvasa near Dadra, a Portugese enclave at that time, his field of mission for the Lord. Which he loved very much.

MAY 15

BRO. CLEMENT CRUZE, CMSF (SRI LANKA)



Stanislaus in religion Bro. Clement was born on 12th November 1924 as one of the six children of Mr. Santhanam Cruze and Mrs. Mariama of St. Mary's Parish, Ampitiya in the Diocese of Kandy, Sri Lanka. He had his early education – “Junior Cambridge” at St. Mary's English School, Ampitiya, Kandy. Thereafter the family migrated to Alangudi, Thanjavoor in Tamil Nadu, from where he was called to join the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament, Jhansi on 6th February 1947. He was admitted to the novitiate on 8th April 1947 and made his first profession on 8th April 1948 and the final profession on 11th February 1954, after some experience in the missions.

Bro. Clement was very submissive and was ready to do any work assigned to him. He had worked at various places in North India, mainly Jhansi, Agra and Delhi. He was also the Novice Master for the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament for two terms from 1979 – 1983 at Jhansi. For five years from 1983 – 1988 he worked as procurator of the congregation, well versed in accountancy. Being specialized in Printing Technology he was entrusted with the task of renewing the printing press cum training center at Agra and he did carry it out very efficiently for several years. He was of a quiet nature, but hardworking and exemplary in his religious observance. He was very humorous in his conversation and would make others happy with his wit.

The evening of his life was spent at Premnagar, Jhansi. He was hospitalized for two weeks before his departure from this world. The expert medical assistance could not improve his health. On 15th May 2000, the Lord called him to His abode. His funeral obsequies took place at Jhansi and his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the Parish cemetery in Jhansi, where he labored as a witness to the Lord and His mission for years.

MAY 16

BRO. EMMANUEL ALBERT, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Emmanuel Albert was born on 02nd February 1936, to Mr. Kurukulasooriya Mannuel Joseph Fernando and Mrs. Mary Avuogina of St. Mary's parish, Main Street, Negumbo. He joined the congregation at Matala on 22nd January 1950 and made his first profession on 02nd August 1954, and the final profession on 22nd August 1960. He passed the teachers Training examination and joined the Jaffna University for Graduation in 1959, and received the master's degree in 1961. He was fluent in Tamil, Sinhala and English. He was appointed as teacher at Thomas college, Matala, and also looked after the boarding there. Later he was appointed as vice principal of St. Mary's College, Chilaw in 1961. He also was a teacher in the Hindu college at Matala in 1975. He was appointed as director of Postulants in 1976, and as novice master in 1977. He was elected as general councilor in the local congregation in 1964 and 1967 consecutively; and he was elected as superior general in 1973. He tried his best to educate the young brothers to make them good religious and hard working to make the congregation stand on its own. It was very sad that Bro. Emmanuel Albert passed away at a young age. He had a sudden heart attack at the Brother's monastery, Matala on 16th May 1977 at 06.45. p.m. when he was just 41 years. His funeral rites were held at Matala. Children from St. Francis Boys' home, and St. Anthonys' boys' home, Chilaw, Brothers from all communities, priests, religious, relatives and a large crowd of faithful were assembled to bid farewell to Bro. Emmanuel. After the solemn funeral service on 19th June, 1977 his body was taken to the Brothers' monastery at Chilaw, and was buried in the common Catholic cemetery there.

MAY 17

BRO. ALOYSIUS SAVARIMUTHU, FBM (SRI LANKA)

Bro. Aloysius (IHMP) was born on 27th July 1889 to Mr. Philip Valthasa and Mrs. Johthan Valthasa, Navanduri, of St. Nichols parish, Navanduri at Jaffna, Northern Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation on 18th March 1914 and made the first profession on 15th September 1915 and the final profession on 15th September 1921.

He established two handloom-weaving centres in Wennappuwa in 1921 and St. Vincent home Maggona, in 1923. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (F.B.M.). His assignments were: Director of St. Louise orphanage in 1915, and in 1923, in charge of reformatory centre at St. Vincent's children home, Maggona in 1920, orphanages at Chilaw in 1941, at Negambo Sea street orphanage in 1946, as in charge of the Don Bosco Boys' home in 1948, at Matale in 1949 and 1953. He was well versed in accounting and a technician too, which made him efficient and contribute to the development of the congregation in its initial stages.

Towards the end of his life he was admitted at the government hospital in Matale for treatment, but he succumbed to his illness on 17th May, 1959 at age the age of 70. His funeral obsequies were held at the Brothers residence, Matale and then the body was taken to the parish church, Matale and buried at the parish cemetery at 05.00 P.M on 18th May 1959. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace!

MAY 18

BRO. JACOB THOTTAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Jacob was born to pious parents Joseph and Anna, Thottam in the Parish of St. Mary's Bharananganam in the Diocese of Palai on 1st January 1902. During his High School days he came in contact with a number of missionaries from the Diocese and this made him think of dedicating his life to the Lord. He was admitted to the Congregation on 19th November 1933 and sent to the Novitiate at Dadra. He made the first profession on 4th October 1936 at Mount Poincur and final profession on 4th October 1942 at Kalavoor. As a dedicated missionary, he travelled far and wide on a small cycle. Till his retirement, his cycle was his only means of moving about in the missions. With his ready and friendly ways he could quickly win the hearts of all. People from every walk of life listened to him with pleasure as to a philosopher and guide.

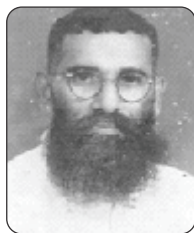
He worked ceaselessly in the service of Christ. He took special interest to train the children for Holy Communion and Confirmation. He spent most of his time without knowing rest or comfort at places like Pandalam, Ampliconam, Nellickakuzhy, Kanjirampara, Mundela, Thottappally, Vandanam, Erumely and Mariagiri. For a short period he was at Tanjore, Tamil Nadu and at Doddrayapett, Mysore Missions.

Later weakened by diabetes and rheumatism, he was forced to lead a retired life at Pacode. From 1979, he was at Jayamatha Institute, Nalanchira for better medical attention. His ability to make others happy and laugh gained him lot of friends and admirers. Till his last moment he kept up his habit of getting up early and spending long hours in deep personal prayer. He looked a patriarchal figure in appearance.

Due to old age and ailments he was taken to the Kottiyam holycross hospital of the Holy Cross Nuns for treatment. Strengthened by the Sacraments he breathed his last on 18th May, 1982. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum, in the presence of a large gathering of Brothers, Priests, religious, boys, friends, neighbours and relatives.

MAY 19

BRO. PACOMIUS VETTIKATTIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Mathew Chacko in religion Bro. Pacomius was born on 1st November 1906 at Anikkadu, Kerala. Soon after his high school studies he joined the Congregation, with an ardent desire to devote himself wholly to the spreading of the Good News of Christ. He was admitted into the Novitiate on 4th October 1931. He took his final vows on 4th October 1937 at Kalavoor, after his initial missionary endeavours.

His subsequent life was one of service to the teeming needy. He was like a burning candle spending himself for the glory of his Divine Master in various mission centres like Anchalpatty, Nalanchira, Mundela, Thamalam, Pacode, Kollegal, Kalavoor, Ampiliconam, Nellikkakuzhi, Mount Poinsur and Kotagiri. Wherever he worked he was well conversant with the customs and languages of the people and this endeared him to them all. He was a dignified conversationist.

Recognising his deep faith in Christ and stable spirituality, he was appointed Asst. Novice Master and later on Novice Master at Kotagiri. He conscientiously served the Congregation as Novice Master, Guardian, General Councillor and Regional Superior. He was the first Director of our Scholasticate in Bangalore. The C.R.I. Brothers Institute at Bangalore also availed of his service as Director of the Institute in its initial stages.

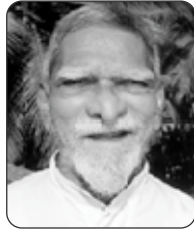
It was in March 1979, however, whilst he was re-assigned as Director of the C.R.I. Brothers Institute, Bangalore that he had a mild but complicated heart attack. In September 1979, he was appointed Spiritual Animator at our Novitiate House at Kotagiri, but weather proving unfavourable to his health, he was brought to Nalanchira and kept under Medical care. On 10th May his condition took a serious turn and on 11th he was administered the anointing of the sick. In his suave conversations he always made it a point to emphasize the importance

of prayer in our daily lives, especially to the young religious.

All through his illness Bro. Pacomius expressed his earnest wish to spend his days with the Community rather than in a hospital. He was a 'father figure' to many, especially the youngsters in their adolescent years, who came to him with their problems of heart and mind. He was a good listener and kept up his religious decorum, a prayerful disposition at all times, and lived his Franciscan life to the full.

On 19th May at 3.00 a.m. Bro. Pacomius (74), very calmly entrusted his soul into the hands of his Lord and Master. The solemn funeral service was attended by a large number of people, relatives, friends, Brothers, sisters and Priests. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum, where he lived his commitment many years as guardian and animator of the Brothers.

MAY 19
BRO. ALPHONSO SEQUEIRA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Alphonso was born at Giriz in Vasai, Mumbai Archdiocese on 2nd November 1915 to Mr. Jerome and Mrs. Angelica Sequeira. On completion of his basic education at St. Michael's High School, Mahim and at the mature age of 25 he felt drawn towards the Lord and decided to walk in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi in the Congregation of Franciscan Missionary Brothers, and was accordingly admitted into our Congregation in May 1937. After completing his initial religious training he made his first profession on 19th March 1946. Thereafter he worked selflessly and tirelessly at various mission centers in North India namely; Hartmanpur, Jhansi, Kotwa, Narainpur, Bangaon, Khera Khurd, Delhi, Ranchi and West Bengal.

Wherever he worked he associated well with the people and was liked and loved by them. His exemplary life of austerity and commitment won many people to Christ's fold. His dedication and missionary zeal did not go unnoticed by the Congregation, and hence he was entrusted with the office of Regional Superior of Northern Missions at the beginning of 1970's. This responsibility he shouldered well and many new mission stations were established during his tenure. As Superior of various communities, his outstanding quality was love and service towards his brothers and the people around him. He was a healer and doctor to many a sick and ailing ones.

Bro. Alphonso also worked with remarkable success at Mount Poincur, as Manager of the School and Orphanage. His other places of apostolate were Dabcheri, Zarsle, Goa, Mangalore, Bangalore and Gujarat. Bro. Alphonso's life inspired and touched many hearts to embrace religious life. As a committed and faithful religious he has set fine example for all of us to be more generous in self giving. Towards end of his life almost three years he lived a retired life at Jyothi Bhavan, Mount Poincur, Mumbai. His deteriorating health and illness affected his

mobility. A few days before his death he fell unconscious and was rushed to the nearby hospital in Borivli, Mumbai; few days later he calmly entrusted his soul to the Lord. On the following day on 20th May 2000, a solemn funeral service was arranged at the Mother House Chapel. After the service his body was laid to rest at our cemetery, Mount Poincur. Many of his relatives, Friends, benefactors, well-wishers attended the funeral service. Bro. Alphonso stands a model of hard work and enthusiasm in whatever he undertook in the mission of the Lord.

MAY 21
BRO. CANDIDUS RITTER, CMSF (GERMANY)



After a brilliant career at school and after completing compulsory and customary practical training in his specific line, Bro. Candidus born on 16th May, 1903 in Uberruhu/bei Essen Rhld, Germany gave up his earthly ambitions and joined the Congregation at Maslianico in Italy, to be an ardent follower of Jesus and his mission.

In due course, he came to India for active and direct mission work among the poor who were not yet in the fold of Christ, which was his earnest and heartfelt desire. He was employed in teaching the orphans at Mount Poinzur, Borivli, and later in the School and Orphanage work in Bangalore, where he tried to raise the standard of the School and made the needed improvements in the Orphanage, which was in the initial stages at St. Patriks.

In the mission at Kollegal in Mysore district and at Pondur in Mylapore Diocese he was most helpful and willingly worked for the cause of the poor and ignorant for whose conversion he was ready to undergo any hardship and sacrifice. With intense application of heart and head, he mastered the language of the place so as to be more serviceable in the Orphanage as well as in the mission at Pondur, Tamil Nadu.

However, in the midst of his hopeful plans and schemes preparatory to his intended apostolate, he was struck down by a malignant attack of Typhoid fever. He struggled against it with all his might to the last. He was taken to Madras hospital, where conscious to the last, on 21st May 1933, he passed away after an operation for an intestinal complication caused during the fever. His body is laid to rest in the Lord in the Parish Cemetery at Madras. After a solemn funeral service, attended by religious and the people of the missions.

MAY 25
BRO. ANTHONY RUND, CMSF (AUSTRIA)

Bro. Anthony (Anton Rund) from Austria was born on 10th August, 1858. According to his own narration, it may be mentioned that, he was cured of a malignant type of eye-disease, through his ardent devotion to St. Joseph. For this special favour, he dedicated himself in due course to join a band of Mission helpers in Punjab, which eventually organised itself into a religious Congregation of St. Francis of Assisi at Nagpur, under the pioneering missionaries from Germany.

As one of its foremost members, Bro. Anthony strove to excel in obedience and was noted for exact performance of teaching and supervision duties in the school and Orphanage. In the newly founded Mother House at Khandwa, he joyfully embraced hardships, privations, toils and difficulties to go far and wide, in Nimar District to catechise and instruct the poor and the ignorant so as to win them for Christ.

After the World War I, he was not repatriated owing to his old age and infirmities. Thus, from the internment camp he returned to Mount Poinzur where he remained the rest of his life, performing humble domestic duties and assisting in the procura work for the running of the mission. Although bed-ridden, and worn out under the painful sufferings of his persistent illness, he went on with vigour for some more time.

His whole life was a daily preparation for death. His silence and recollection were note worthy. It was on his own request that the anointing of the sick was administered to him. Fully conscious on 25th May 1933, at the moment when he was deeply absorbed in devout prayer, he calmly passed away from this land of exile to the promised Land. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poinzur.

MAY 26
BRO. NICHOLAS HOHN, CMSF (GERMANY)



(Co-Founder of CMSF)

Foremost and among the active band of Mission-helpers from Germany that did credible work in the Punjab missions, was a stalwart and enthusiastic Choir Singer of Cologne Cathedral, by the name of Herr Hubert Hohn. He was born on 30th October, 1869 in Germany, was most eager to dedicate his life for the evangelization of India. From the very outset, Bro. Nicholas, as a co-founder of CMSF, rendered utmost assistance to the Superior General, Bro. Paulus Moritz in the administration and the Government of the infant Congregation. He also undertook the formative training of the new recruits from Germany and inculcated in them the Franciscan spirit of the Congregation and stimulated their zeal more by his own example than by precept: He wholeheartedly worked in mission villages and schools and catechetical centres founded at his suggestion, in the allotted territory of Nimar district and surroundings.

However, just when busily engaged in successful evangelization activities, the First World War broke out resulting in the Brothers being interned from Khandwa, which was a stunning blow to the flourishing missions and to the infant Congregation. At the end of the War, Bro. Nicholas was exempted from repatriation owing to his old age and failing health. He stayed at Mount Poincur where he assisted the Superior General as before, performed his good offices and services towards the Brothers and visited the missions on assigned supervision duties and went about on the difficult and humiliating task of collecting alms chiefly at Church doors for the support of the orphans and missionary activities.

As a mission procurator at Maslianico, Italy and Novice Master there as well as at Khandwa and Mount Poincur, his work was systematic and very religiously laid out. By his simplicity, gentleness and affability of manners, he befriended both rich and poor and edified all by his profound commitment. Bro. Nicholas had a heart ailment and died due to this on 26th May 1939. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Mount Poincur, very close to the founder whom he served as a faithful assistant in the Lord's Labour.

MAY 26

BRO. VALENTINE D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)

A promising and devout Catholic youth from Mangalore - Santosh D'Souza, happened to meet Bro. Paulus Moritz in Madras, where he expressed his desire to join the Congregation, as a religious in the Franciscan way. On being accepted as an aspirant, he was sent to the Mission Centre at Zaroli with a view of giving him an insight into the manner and the nature of work of the Brotherhood, especially as missionaries.

A long probation period followed before he was formally admitted into the Congregation with the religious name of Bro. Valentine and had his formation in the missions, and in course of time was sent to Uplatt, one of the sub-stations of Zaroli Mission. There he proved himself very useful in apostolic endeavours as well as in the erection of Mission houses since he was well versed in the arts and tactics of carpentry work, already acquired as a young man in Mangalore.

He was hard working and ever eager to seize opportunities to spread the knowledge of Christ among the ignorant and poor. Thus his self-sacrificing spirit was an instrument of bringing a good harvest of souls in Nagavalli in Mysore Diocese and later in Kollegal, the scene of his last labours. Here while he was busy engaged in the stabilisation work of the newly founded establishment, a serious illness incapacitated him from further activities, both physically and mentally. He was taken to the hospital in Bangalore where he breathed his last, on the 26th May 1940. After the solemn funeral services, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in Bangalore, in the Catholic cemetery reserved for priests and religious at the Sacred Heart Church near St. Philominas' hospital.

MAY 26

BRO. CONRAD KUZHIKATTUCHALIL, CMSF (INDIA)

Bro. Conrad was born on 17th May 1917 at Kadanad, Kerala. He had his early education in St. Mary's High School, Bharananganam. Imbued with a missionary zeal, Bro. Conrad joined the Congregation at Jhansi on 22nd July 1939. In course of time he emerged as a farm manager at Pakdipur and Judepur, practically all his life as religious he spent in the Northern missions. As a councillor and Superior General of the Jhansi Congregation, he was a paragon of service and stability, contributing towards building up of the community. During his tenure as the head of the Congregation, he had also rendered his service as a zealous missionary in the Dioceses of Jhansi, Allahabad, Simla and in the Archdiocese of Bhopal. It was he who initiated the amalgamation process of the Franciscan of Jhansi with the CMSF. He kept regular correspondence with our superiors and pursued the matter till amalgamation took place.

He was a gentle and affable person. He won the hearts of everyone by his amiability and simplicity. A down to earth person, he was devoid of all pretensions. But even more, he was a man of sacrifice. He expired on May 26th 1994 very peacefully and joyously without much ado about his old age maladies. At the requiem Mass celebrated at St. John's Church, Prem Nagar the officiating priest in his introductory message outlined in brief the outstanding human and spiritual characteristics of Bro. Conrad who was a dedicated missionary. "One has to take solace in Jesus who died the most gruesome death, the celebrant emphasized." During the Eucharistic Celebration, Fr. Peter Parapullil, the administrator of the Diocese paid tributes to Bro. Conrad, touching upon his religious life and commendable service rendered to the Diocese of Jhansi. The body of Bro. Conrad was laid to rest in the Lord at Prem Nagar, Jhansi, which had been the recipient of most of his humble services as a Franciscan.

MAY 28
BRO. AUGUSTINE TITUS, CMSF (INDIA)

Augustine Titus was born on 20th July, 1881 in Meerut, U.P. As a young matured man, he joined the Congregation at Khandwa under the religious name of Bro. Augustine. In the Mother House at Khandwa, he received his formative religious training and imbibed the spirit of the Congregation from its original members who were pioneers in Missionary enterprises in the territory of Nimar. With them he laboured unsparingly to spread the Gospel of Christ among the non-Christians in the newly founded centres, aided by his good knowledge of music and soft devotional singing. He was known for his edifying life of simplicity, piety, compassion and charity towards the poor and needy.

During the precarious situation of the Congregation due to the First World- War conditions, he clung to his holy vocation firmly and faithfully. When the reorganisation of the Congregation took place after the War, it was also for him both a happy reunion and resumption of his zealous labours, but this time in the distant Bengal Mission where he worked for the furtherance of the Gospel message to the utmost of his abilities. He was medically warned of an advanced state of an intestinal malady which threatened him during his adventurous mission-journies in the Bengal area.

Still undeterred, he devoted himself to tailor work and other household tasks in Mt. Poincur and lastly in Goa Orphanage till an absolute need of an urgent operation was highly recommended by specialists which was performed at K.E.M. Hospital, Bombay with good success. But other complications soon followed. After duly anointed by the sacraments on 28th May 1944, he peacefully breathed his last after a devout reception of the Holy Viaticum. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Mount Poincur, where many of our veterans rest in the peace of the Lord.

MAY 29
BRO. LEANDER, CMSF (GERMANY)

Bro. Leander left a grad position which had bright and promising prospects in the Government service of his country Germany. He turned deaf ear to the inviting advantages of the world, and enlisted himself among the early enthusiastic young men's group that came to Khandwa and joined the Congregation as a missionary. From the very start, he devoted himself to spirituality, penance, rigorous observance of religious discipline and a life immersed in silent prayer and devotion as was customary to the early followers of our Founder.

Being literary minded he rendered valuable help in the work of the printing press in the Mother house and after having mastered the local languages, he delighted in visiting the neighbouring villages around Pandhana, Aulia, Sirpur and Boifal to deliver the message of truth and salvation to the people who were living in ignorance and misery.

In the internment camp to which he was sent owing to the first global war he continued his penitential life of austerities, constant prayer and practices of mortification. It was there that he was discovered to have contracted tuberculosis of the lungs which he silently tried to endure without any complaints and with gentle serenity.

Allowed to return to Mount Poincur after the cessation of hostilities, he occupied himself with teaching in the Orphanage and in effecting numerous improvements for the benefit of the poor orphans there.

On the 29th of May 1925, after the reception of the Sacraments, and fully conscious to the end, he left this land of earthly exile for his Heavenly Home. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Mount Poincur!

MAY 31

BRO. FERDINAND PEEDIKAPARAMPIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Thomas Peedikaparampil was born on 14th July 1940 to Mr. and Mrs. Geevegees Thomas and Saramma of St. Peter's Parish Pathanamthitta in the Malankara Arch-Diocese of Triruvananthapuram, Kerala. He joined the Congregation on 12th June 1962 and made his first Profession on 19th March 1965, taking the religious name Ferdinand. He pronounced his final vows on 19th March 1971 after the initial mission experience in Southern Missions.

He served very zealously at the centers in South India especially at Mariagiri, Nalanchira, Mundela, Thonnackal, Kartikulam, Panavally, Manjuvilakam, Chemboor, Ala, Mount Alverno, Peermade etc; In all his activities, he worked with unabating zeal, self-sacrificing spirit and with sincerity and loyalty. His tactful skill and prudence in the management of affairs stood in good stead as he shouldered various responsibilities such as Superior at Mount Alverno Estate, Kotagiri and as Provincial Councillor of St. Thomas Province. He was well attuned to the liturgy of the Malankara Church as a son of the same church and was fond of that tradition.

Bro. Ferdinand had a pleasing nature and jovial approach to Brothers, people and situations. He handled the problematic situations amicably and with a sense of charity, especially when things seemed precarious.

He was diagnosed with brain tumor and was hospitalized several times for treatment. However, no expert Medical treatment could lengthen his life as the malignancy had spread fast.

After spending a few months confined to his bed at Jayamatha, Nalanchira he breathed his last on 31st May 1997. A solemn funeral Service was arranged at Jayamatha, Nalanchira at 3 pm on the next day. It was well attended by his dear and near ones, number of Religious and Priests, and Brothers from several Communities. His body is laid to rest at our cemetery in Nalanchira.

JUNE 1

BRO. COLUMBAN KELLER, CMSF (GERMANY)



Karl Keller, in religion Bro. Columban was born on 19th April in Freiburg Diocese, Germany. His zeal to serve people compelled him to join the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers. After his initial formation at Massilianico, Italy, he came to India in 1934 and completed his novitiate at Dadra. He made his first vows at the Mt. Poincur Generalate in 1937.

Thereafter he was sent to North of India to spread the Gospel message. He served in Northern Missions, in places like Bhikampur, Mawhavar, Amedgarh, Tundla, Dehra Dun, Mathura and Khara Khurd. During the Second World War he was taken to the internment Camp, and there he made his Final profession in 1943 at Dehra Dun in 1943.

Apart from some European languages, he could fluently converse in Hindi and Urdu. He used his linguistic efficiency to spread the message of Jesus by all means. Since his services were needed at Duedingen, he was transferred to Switzerland in 1955. Thereafter he served the Congregation as Local Superior at Missionshaus Bamberg, and as Regional Superior of St. Boniface Region, Europe, after the congregational Reorganization as provinces and Regions.

The General Chapter of 1973 and 1985 elected him Superior General of the Congregation. Under his able leadership the Congregation achieved tremendous growth. After the end of his term he was called back to Germany as Regional Superior there. Yet his heart was in India, which he loved as his own motherland, and he took keen interest in the welfare of the missions in India by procuring funds.

On the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of St. Francis D' Assisi School at Mount Poincur, Borivli, Mumbai, the President of India, Sri Zail Singh was the Chief Guest; on that occasion Bro. Columban was presented

with a special medal and a citation from the President of West Germany for his meritorious service for the up-lift of the poor in India. The Consul General of Germany himself conferred this honor on Bro. Columban in the presence of a huge gathering.

A contemporary of the Founder, Bro. Columban came to India in the 1930's and dedicated 50 years in service to the poor in various parts of the country. He founded many Boys Homes, Orphanages, Institutions, and initiated many projects. He built innumerable homes and shelters for the poor in the whole of India wherever he worked. He worked hard for the people, especially for the leprosy patients, in the North and for the missions in Assam and Meghalaya in North East India.

Bro. Columban had dreams and visions till the very end. He functioned with simplicity, practicality and style. He believed in people, he trusted them and above all loved them. He was warm and affectionate, had a tremendous sense of humor and a flair for Indian languages. He was happy and joyous and celebrated life as a Franciscan would.

Bro. Columban has written many books in English and German. "A short History of the Pioneering Brothers" is an inspiring and creative work of Bro. Columban. The Indian Museum in Bamberg, Germany is his masterpiece and is one of the approved Museums of Germany. He was also made a permanent deacon in the service of the mission.

Having completed 82 years of Sojourn in this world he gently breathed his soul to his creator on 1st June 1996. A solemn funeral was arranged on 3rd June 1996 at our house in Bamberg. Brothers, Priests, religious, relatives, friends and well-wishers and benefactors in large number attended the funeral service. He is laid to rest at our cemetery in Bamberg, where many of our veterans rest in the peace of the Lord.

JUNE 01
BRO. ARNOLD PEINE, CMSF (GERMANY)



Elmar Heinrich Peine, in religion, Bro. Arnold, was born on 20th November 1935 to Mr. Franz and Angela Peine of St. Nikolas parish Nieheim in the Diocese of Paderborn, Germany. After the completion of his school studies and professional training he joined the Congregation in 1963 at Haseluenne, Germany and entered Novitiate at Bug, Bamberg on 19th March 1964 and made his first profession on 19th March 1966.

After his first profession, for a year he worked at Missionshaus-Bug, Bamberg. From 1967 to 1978 he worked at Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay, as a missionary in Latin America. From 1973 to 1978 he was the Regional Superior of South American Region. Bro. Arnold became Novice Master at Bug-Bamberg in 1978. Thereafter in 1988 to 1991 he held the office of the Regional Superior of St. Boniface Region, Europe. Holding various offices such as Superior of the community, Novice Master, Mission Procurator etc, he continued to be a member of the community at Missionshaus-Bug, Bamberg till he breathed his last. He went to his heavenly reward in the golden year of his Religious commitment.

Being a disciplinarian himself he demanded punctuality, regular prayers and community life from the members. He was noted for his austerity and frugality; his spiritual attitude and missionary consciousness was noteworthy. He had great love for the Indian missions, although unlike many other German Brothers he could not be part of the Indian missions physically. He had occasion to visit the Indian missions.

Bro. Arnold suffered serious health problems since many years, high BP, kidney failure and many other related illnesses. Hospitalization became part of the routine during these years of his illness. Whenever he was at home, he did attend to all the community programs. Regular dialysis,

often hospitalization etc., were really crippling him down. However he carried the cross smilingly and pleasantly till the last day. He died on 01-06-2014 at the Klinikum in Bamberg. His funeral services were held on Wednesday, 11th June 2014 at Missionshaus-Bug, Bamberg, and his body was laid to rest at the Bug cemetery with our other veterans who rest in the peace of the Lord.

JUNE 3
BRO. BARTHOLOMEW VARKEY, CMSF (INDIA)

At the time when the name of the Missionary Brothers of St. Francis of Assisi was not so widely and prominently known in the tropically picturesque land of Kerala, Varkey Joseph born on 15th June, 1905 in the parish of St. Mary's Church, Aruthyalam, Palai, Kerala. He joined the congregation at Mount Poincur after the initial formation receiving the name of Bro. Bartholomew. Till middle aged, he was held back from embracing the religious life because as a most competent and indispensable member of the family, he was required to settle many an intricate problem pertaining to the administration of properties and patrimonial bequests etc. at home.

During his Novitiate, he was found to be of humble disposition, reserved and sparing in words, discreet and prudent in his judgement and manners. He was polite and considerate in his dealings with others whom he respected as better than him and was always eager to be serviceable. It was with these good qualities that he dealt with little children in the Orphanages at Mount Poincur and Bangalore, as well as in the mission stations of Zaroli, and various similar centres in the Dioceses of Mysore and those in South India.

His painstaking labours were the means of gaining many souls to Christ and his inspiring and persuasive advice of bringing quite a number of vocations from Kerala into the Congregation, noteworthy among them being that of Rev. Bro. Hubert destined to be a Superior General in times to come. An attack of tuberculosis, besides persistent trouble of Diabetes, obliged him for a time to desist from missionary activities; But after recuperation, he again resumed and performed them with equal zeal and to the best of his abilities. Owing to an accident, during the Exposition of St. Francis Xavier's body in Goa in 1964, his right hand was fractured which caused him additional pain and suffering. He bore it all to the end in the most edifying manner.

His health gradually deteriorated and finally when it took a precarious turn he was shifted to Kottiyam Holy Cross Hospital where in spite of utmost medical aid and efforts, he surrendered his soul into God's hands on 3rd May, 1967 after being duly anointed and fortified by the last rites of the Holy Church. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

JUNE 4
BRO. ANASTASIUS, CMSF (SWITZERLAND)

With an ardent longing to devote his life for the praiseworthy cause of bringing the light of our holy Faith to the Indian subcontinent, the Swiss born devout young man who in religion was called Bro. Anastasius, joined the Congregation at Maslianico in Italy. During the term of his novitiate, Bro. Anastasius was very fervent and exact in his duties and in the observance of the religious rules and customs. He was also a real source of edification to the community because of his simplicity, good manners and childlike docility.

It was an utter disappointment to him after his profession that he was not able to go to India on account of that country's newly enacted rule which forbade resident permits to foreigners especially to religious. He saw in this the finger and the holy will of God and cheerfully conformed to it, by readily obeying to do procura work in Duedingen, Switzerland and labouring wholeheartedly there in order to help the missions so as to fulfil indirectly his original cherished intentions of being a missionary.

It was his joy and consolation to devote himself thus for the good of the missions of India. But unfortunately he was struck by a distressing pain of a malignant ailment in his head which rendered him completely incapable of any further activities. He certainly was an example to those who are forced by circumstances to spend a longer or shorter period of their lives in procura work in Europe, despite trying circumstances.

He was shifted to the hospital where the diagnosis showed that he suffered from tumour in the brain. A prompt surgical operation was performed by specialists, but on the 4th of June 1955 he breathed his soul in peace, duly anointed and fortified by the Sacraments. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at the Parish cemetery of Dussannag, Germany.

JUNE 5
BRO. INNOCENT, CMSF (INDIA)

Another early Indian vocation to the Congregation was that of Bro. Innocent who was born on 9th January 1890 in Goa. He came to know that the members of Franciscan Brotherhood, besides striving for religious perfection also undertook the propagation of Catholic Faith among the non-Christians. He joined the Congregation on 24th October 1912 and was gladly accepted as one more fore-runner of the Indians to the congregation.

In those initial days of rigour and spirit of poverty and detachment practiced in the Congregation, Bro. Innocent not only endured bravely and joyfully, the sacrifices, the privations and the difficulties that he had to encounter in order to conform himself to the new form of life, he had embraced but he gradually tried to excel in their practice. He was considered one of the exact and exemplary members. In the Mother House, he was noted for his assiduous spirit of piety, for his humble and unassuming behaviour and the exact performance of duties which were considered at times as menial.

Having completed his religious formation, and having perfected the knowledge of the local language he took a very active part in instructing the people, in visiting the village schools and Catechetical centres. Regardless of his personal health or convenience, he travelled to distant and remote places to exercise his zeal for souls and to afford the benefits of other corporal and spiritual works of charity to the forlorn and forsaken poor.

It was during a fatiguing and toilsome mission tour in the extreme heat of summer that he got a violent attack of the sun. Since in Khandwa there were not enough medical facilities, he was shifted to St. George's Hospital in Bombay. There, under skillful efforts and treatment, he regained temporary consciousness just sufficient for the reception of the consoling and comforting Sacraments and then he tranquilly left this earthly sojourn on 5th June 1916, to receive the reward for his zealous labours for souls. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Painsur cemetery.

JUNE 5
BRO. MARCEL KERKETTA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Marcel Kerketta (SJP), was born on 5th December 1930 to Mr. Aklu Kerketta and Mrs. Philomina of St. Theresa's Parish, Dumberpath, in the Archdiocese of Ranchi now in Gumla Diocese, Jharkhand.

After the completion of his high school studies he joined the Congregation in October 1953, entered novitiate on 04 October 1954, made his first profession on 04th October 1956 and the final profession on 04th October 1962. In course of time he completed graduation and B.Ed., from St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai and served as teacher at St. Francis D'Assisi School, Borivali, Mumbai and later as its Principal in the early seventies and eighties..

His missionary and teaching career took him to various centers of the Congregation. Besides Mumbai, some of them being Indara-UP, Rachi-Jharkhand, Civil Lines-Jhansi, John Paul Institute-Madharihat, St. Francis D'Assisi as Principal, Khera Khurd as teacher, Novitiate, Kotagiri, Jyothisadan Scholasticate as Spiritual Animator and lastly at Gyandeep Formation House (our common postulancy house), Bhopal Madhya Pradesh since August 2013. He loved teaching, and used to take Hindi coaching classes at various formations houses, and to school/college students. He was simple in life style and lived an exemplary life by being punctual for every activity. The young Brothers at the Scholasticate, Bangalore loved him and took care of his every need when he was with them. At Bhopal he was engaged in teaching and instructing the postulants and he extended his services, shared his wisdom and wit to the neighboring religious formation houses too.

While on his mission Bro. Marcel met with a road accident and his legs were fractured; however, he got recuperated after long medication and rest. He was able to move around even without any help. But suddenly on 5th June at 11.30 a.m. he was found dead on his bed. His funeral obsequies were held at the formation house, Bhopal, at 10.00 a.m. on 6th June, 2014. May his soul Rest In Peace!

JUNE 6
BRO. SEBASTIAN MULLER, CMSF (GERMANY)

In response to an appeal in Germany from a small group of young missionaries to the Indian Mission, a young Czech National named Muller Franz Ferdinand, aged 25 was enlisted, who on embracing religious life in 1911 was called Bro. Sebastian. He received his initial training at Massalianico and in his eager longing to do active mission work, he betook to himself to works of zeal and charity among the people to whomever he was sent in the Indian Mission.

With his characteristic spirit of meekness and unfeigned lovable nature combined with compassionate tenderness towards the poverty stricken and the downtrodden, he undertook tent touring to distant villages in the remote parts of the country where he reaped plentiful harvest of souls. He opened more Catechetical centres and erected new mission houses with chapels noted among them was the one on the beautiful hillock of Boifal which, in course of time, the people venerated as our Lady's Shrine in the mission territory of Nimar district.

Thereafter, at the request of the Bishop of Damaun, he opened a new Mission centre at Zaroli Bhilad where his incessant labours and indefatigable zeal were abundantly rewarded. In a territory where the message of the Holy Gospel was never heard, Christianity began to flourish with more than five churches and mission centres for the numerous neophytes before he was commissioned to found at Bassein fort a Horti-cultural Institute for orphan-boys.

Bro. Sebastian played an important role in the administration of the Congregation as a long standing and trusted councillor of the founder, as a Novice Master at Dadra, and Regional Superior of the Mission at Zaroli, Northern India, and Krishnanagar District of Bengal.

Though weighed down with sickness and infirmities, he made efforts to visit mission stations far and wide in order to review the good spirit of the new Christians and to enliven their faith. It was thus, that despite much advice and medical warning, he rushed to Seeval in North India, during the hottest period of the year, on an urgent business of some decisive importance he fell sick by violent sun-stroke. Yet he struggled, almost heroically to complete his drawn up visitation programme, but on the way to Meerut he was found in a sinking state. He was taken to the Hospital where he had just sufficient time to receive the last Sacraments and he breathed his last on 5th June 1947, and completed his earthly pilgrimage. A solemn funeral was arranged and his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Meerut Catholic cemetery.

JUNE 7
BRO. GEORGE KUZIKANDAM, CMSF (INDIA)



(First CMSF martyr for the faith at the hands of the fundamentalists in North India)

Born on 1st August 1957 to Mr. Cherian and Mrs. Mariam into the family of Kuzhikandathil of St. Lawrence Parish Bethangady in Sourth Canara, Karnataka, he was named as Varghese in Baptism.

After his High School studies, he joined the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament, Jhansi in 1981 and remained there for an year. In 1985 he joined the CMSF and underwent the canonical year of the novitiate at Ranchi and the second year at Kotagiri. He made the first Profession on 4th October 1989 thereafter underwent the Scholastic studies in Bangalore. After some missionary experience he made his final profession on 4th October 1995.

The various places of his-assignments were Jaigaon in West Bengal, Koottappu, Kerala, Malipur and Navada- Mathura where he worked till his death on 7th June 2000. At Navada, Mathura, Bro. George was assigned to look after the Boys Home, and to teach in the upcoming School there, which he did with utmost dedication and diligence. His innocence and childlike simplicity, his love and care for the boys were remarkable in all his dealings and activities.

Bro. George was hardworking and always altruistic. His pious, simple, and gentle way of approach was appreciated and accepted by everyone who met him. He worked as teacher and In-charge of the Boys Home at St. Francis School, Navada, Mathura, UP from 1998 onwards. As a musician and versatile singer he contributed much to the mission activities and instilled among the inmates of the Boys' Homes a special love for music, liturgical hymns and songs.

On the night of 6th June, 2000, as he was sleeping alone outside the courtyard of the house at Navada, Mathura, a group of men surrounded him, armed with lathis and iron rods, and beat him cruelly and tortured him to death. His death was the culmination of a chain of attacks that took place in the Archdiocese of Agra within a span of 3 months against Christians.

The gruesome murder evoked restlessness and anxiety among the Christians all over the Country and protest marches, rallies and Inter-religious prayer meetings were organized everywhere. The then Archbishop of Agra Most Rev. Dr. Vincent Concessao, in whose diocese he was working gave all the assistance to the Brothers at that time of grief and loss.

A huge crowd of Brothers, Sisters, Clergy and faithful had gathered at the Cathedral Church of Agra for his funeral on 8th June 2000. After a solemn funeral service his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at the Cathedral Cemetery in Agra, UP.

In his condolence message St. Pope John Paul II said:

“The sad news of the death of Brother George Kuzhikandam, CMSF, at the hands of the extremists was communicated to us in Rome. Brother George, thus continues to lengthen the list of martyrs “who have washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb” (Rev. 7/14) in your county, it is remarkable that his love for Christ has been proclaimed in this manner during this Jubilee Year 2000, when we all over the World, are giving thanks to God for the courageous witness of the Martyrs all these two thousand years, to the greater love of Christ.” It is a great honour to our Brotherhood that our saintly pope has acclaimed Bro. George as a martyr of our faith.

Yes, we too believe that Bro. George is a martyr for his faith and is living with Christ and is interceding for us all.

JUNE 10
BRO. KONRAD DEITERS, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Konrad, Born on 7th August 1922 to Mr. & Mrs. August and Maria Deiters of St. Maximilian Parish, Freiburg in the Diocese of Muenchen, Germany, he was named Bruno Deiters at baptism. After the basic education at Bavaria and Norewege he got himself associated with the Salesians and consequently imbibed from them the dedication and skill to work among the youth and for their all round development. Although he was gifted with the charism of youth apostolate, he was called to serve the German army at the outbreak of World War II. He served there as wireless operator in Norewege and Russia for many years. Later he fled from the war-field and during the flight he lost some of his toes which remained always as remembrance of the World War II casualties.

Inspired by an inner call at the age of 43, in 1965, Bruno Deiters joined the CMSF at Bamberg. He was a man full of enthusiasm and experience and was able to handle any situation in life with cheer and humour. During the novitiate years in 1966-1968, he was an outstanding novice because of his wit and wisdom, his talents in music and dramatics, and his virtues of calmness, patience, peace, love for the youth etc. He made his first profession on 19th March 1968 and took the name Bro. Konrad and made his final profession on 19th March 1974.

After a year of his profession in 1969, he was sent to the South American Missions in Paraguay and Bolivia along with Bros. Amadeus Benz and Clemens Leuze. He got himself engaged in teaching catechism at the College in Chaco and then at Cecilio Baez in Paraguay among the Agricultuists. However, his sole aim was in educating and working for the youth. He took keen interest in the education of the youth and their uplift by conducting camps and organizing them. He captured the minds and hearts of the youth through music, dramatics / theatrics appealing to their culture and practice. All these activities kept his

missionary zeal burning, and at the same time, pondering always how he could make the Gospel a living reality among the Camposinos-the aborigins, and tribals of Paraguay and Bolivia.

As a missionary he served 31 years in South America, of which 30 years were spent in Vallegrande, Bolivia, working among the children and youth of agricultural background. For three years from 1994 to 1997 he served as Provincial Secretary of St. Francis Solano's Province. More than 20 years he taught religious classes in different colleges of the towns in Bolivia. Besides, he was a regular visitor to an old age home for many years where he served breakfast and dinner for sixty old people.

On 25th January 1998 Bro. Konrad was awarded by the Mayor of Vallegrande for his outstanding and long years of service to the youth of Vallegrande. It was a recognition from the Society for his selfless service to the humanity specially to the poor and abandoned.

Bro. Konrad had a special devotion and love towards St. Francis of Assisi, Don Bosco, Rupert Meyer, and other heroes like Carlo Carretto and Bro. Roger Schutz the beginner of TAIZE youth movement. He was a lover of nature and enjoyed the beauty of the mountains. In every sense he was a true follower of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron of Ecology.

Bro. Conrad peacefully breathed his last without a struggle and entered heaven on 10th June 2000. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at the parish cemetery at Vallagrande. He still lives in the hearts and minds of hundreds of young Bolivians whom he taught with genuine love and care.

JUNE 12
BRO. ALEXANDER KERKETTA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Alexander Kerketta (SFXP) was born on 12th April 1950 to Mr. Mathias Kerketta and Mariam Dungdung of Catholic Church parish Kurdeg, in the Archdiocese of Ranchi. He joined the congregation in 1977 after his studies in St. Xavier's College, Ranchi. He made his first profession on 04th October 1981 and after some experience in the missions, the final profession on 04th October 1986. He served at St. Antony's Balbhavan Gokhivera, Duedingen-Switzerland, Missionshaus-Bamberg, Germany, Rome, Mount Poinsur, Jyothibhavan, Anand Gujarat, Sevasadan-Bangalore, Kurnool, Nellore, Vijayawada and Eluru in Andhra Pradesh, Renganahalli in Karnataka and lastly at Assisi Ashram Eluru. Bro. Alexander was a zealous missionary and worked many years in the rural mission centres of St. Francis Xavier Province, mainly in Karnataka, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh by visiting villages, dispensing medicines, teaching catechism and conducting tuition classes to the village children. Bro. Alexander was amiable in nature, but very determined in doing whatever was entrusted to him with full right and enthusiasm.

On 12th June 2011 as usual he participated in the morning Mass at the parish church Vegavaram, Eluru, and on his return he attended to the regular duties in the house. At around 11.30 a.m. he suffered a massive heart attack and was rushed to the hospital at Eluru. The available medical expertise could not save his life. He breathed his last around 1.00 p.m. on 12th June 2011. His funeral obsequies were held at 4.00 p.m. on 13th June 2011 at Assisi Ashram, Eluru and after the solemn funeral services which was attended by a good number of Brothers from our communities, religious and priests and the faithful of the parish, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery at Eluru, our first mission centre in Andhra, and a flourishing centre of Christianity now, thanks to our veteran missionaries and collaborators.

JUNE 12
BRO. COSMOS KODUVAYIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Cosmos Koduvayil (SJP), was born on 17th July 1937 to Mr. Ouseph Eappen and Mrs. Anna of St. Joseph's Church, Chennamkary, in the Archdiocese of Changnacherry, Kerala.

After the completion of his high school studies he joined the Congregation on 19th February 1957, made his first profession on 19th March 1960 and the final profession on 19th March 1966. After the initial formation, he did his short-term courses in Technical studies and Nursing.

His missionary zeal and career took him to various centers of the Congregation; some of them being Kanjirampara, Dumrikhas (as Manager of the School), Vandanam, Dumrikaram, Masigarh, Malipur (to look after the Dispensary work), Mt. Poinsur (in the Printing Press and Motor Mechanic), Jafferganj (Superior and Incharge of the Farm), Indara-UP (as assistant in the Leprosy Hospital), Rachi-Jharkhand, Civil Lines-Jhansi (as Manager of the School), John Paul Institute-Madharihat, Anupnagar-Mathura (Worked in the Model Farm), Langardang, Samelangso missions, in North east, India. His last appointment was in Jafferganj mission U.P.

In the Year 1979, November 28, he had a major Motor Cycle accident from which he was saved miraculously. After that he continued his missionary work in different places. As a zealous missionary Bro. Cosmos Koduvayil was conversant with different regional Languages. He was a great social worker and had a special love for the poor and marginalized. Most of his life he spent in the missions. He shared his wisdom and wit to the neighboring religious and the People. He looked stern at times, but there was a sparkle of compassion in his dealings.

Bro. Cosmos suffered uneasiness and fainted in the evening of 11th June 2015 and was taken to the hospital, in Akbarpur. Despite the medical care rendered to him, due to heart failure he breathed his last on 12th June 2015 at 5 a.m. His funeral obsequies took place at Jafferganj and he was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery there.

JUNE 19

BRO. RAPHAEL NEDUMPARAMPIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Raphael (SFXP), was born on 08th October 1925 to Mr. Peter and Mrs. Elizabeth of St. Raphael's parish, Thykoodam, in the Archdiocese of Varapoly. After his high school studies-Senior Cambridge School at Mt. Abu, Rajasthan he worked as a Non-commissioned Officer in the Store Division, Account Section of Royal Indian Army Service Corps. He joined the congregation on 15th August 1950 and made his first profession on 19th March 1953, and after his mission experiences in the south the final profession on 19th March 1959. Thereafter, he served at Mount Poinzur, Gokhivera, Bangalore, Kanjirampara, Nalanchira, Dumri, Indara, Vattappara, Panavoor, Peermade, Vempally etc. he had been a zealous missionary and served the congregation selflessly for more than 50 years. He was a determined and disciplined Soldier of Christ. He served as Provincial of St. Francis Xavier Province for a term. He also assisted in updating our constitutions as a committee member. He was very meticulous in financial administration and raised funds for the missions. He suffered diabetic disorders over many years, but managed himself with strict dieting.

Towards the end of his life he was bedridden for more than a year at Sevasadan, Bangalore. When his condition further deteriorated he was admitted at St. Philomena's Hospital, Bangalore where he breathed his last on 19th June 2003. His funeral obsequies took place at Sevasadan on 21st June and his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Sevasadan, Bangalore.

JUNE 20

BRO. ALOYSIUS BONLE, CMSF (GERMANY)

After the newly organised Congregation of the Missionary Brothers of St. Francis of Assisi, had established their Mother House at Khandwa, in Central Province, and had taken up whole heartedly the evangelization work in the entire District of Nimar, Bro. Paulus, the Superior General realised that the mission work was indeed great but the personnel for the same was insufficient. He therefore, appealed for more vocations from Germany and in response to it a batch of zealous young men arrived at Khandwa. Among them was an energetic, bright and promising youth who was to be Bro. Aloysius later, in Religion.

Side by side with his religious formation at Khandwa, he made a thorough study of the language, and soon acquainted himself with the customs of the place and the people. He was deeply religious, pious and prayerful, and his exemplary ways were so attractive to the poor who came in contact with him.

Braving all hardships, toils and difficulties of an active missionary life, he took delight in travelling on foot and in country bullock carts to distant villages in order to bring the light of the Holy Faith to the people, especially in the mission places at Pandhana, Aulia, Boifal and Sirpur. He was equally useful in the printing press where under the able editorship of Bro. Paulus Moritz, a Catholic paper in Hindi called "Farishta" (messenger) was published to enlighten the unbelievers and to strengthen the new Christians in their faith.

On that fateful day, after his usual routine of printing work, he rushed to perform a corporal work of charity to a sick and needy person. It was during the scorching heat of the noon in summer, and he was struck down by sun. No medical aid could regain his consciousness, but after receiving the Sacraments on 20th June 1960, he breathed out his soul into the hands of the Lord. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the parish cemetery of Khandwa, M.P, where we had some of our humble missionary activities initiated and first motherhouse of the congregation was set up.

JUNE 22

BRO. CAMILLUS PADINJAREMURIYIL, CMSF (INDIA)

Bro. Camillus was born in the year 1932 in the illustrious family of Padinjaremuriyil, Kozhuvanal, near Palai. After his education at home he joined the Franciscan Missionary Brothers in the year 1957 at a mature age. Soon after his profession he was appointed at Mount Poincur School and after long service there as an efficient Educationist and an erudite teacher he was sent to the missions in South. He worked as a zealous missionary in Mundela, Kanjirampara and Lourdes Mount School-Vattappara. The silver jubilee of his religious profession was celebrated on October 4th 1985 at Vattappara. Wherever he served he had a flair for doing things in a perfect manner. He would not tolerate unjust ways of dealing with the poor and needy.

It was on June 18th 1986, he was found to be unconscious in our Lourdes Mount house, at Vattappara. Immediately he was taken to the cosmopolitan hospital, Trivandrum. On June 22nd 1986, suddenly the pneumonia attack of lungs brought a sudden change in his body, a few hours later his condition became more critical and he passed away at 8.30 a.m. for his heavenly reward. Nobody expected that he would pass away at this rather youthful age, so suddenly.

His body was taken to Jayamatha, Nalanchira on 22nd June, 1986. People from every walk of life came to pay tribute to his mortal remains. His funeral services were held on the next day and after the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Jayamatha, Nalanchira, where many of our southern stalwards rest in the peace of the Lord.

JUNE 25

BRO. JOSEPH GONSAL, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Joseph Savior Michael in religion Joseph Gonsal was born on 06th July, 1880 to Mr. Rosary Neekulan Gonsal and Mrs. Mariya Pawulal Palthana of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Tuttricorin, India. He joined the congregation at Maggona, on 25th April 1904, and entered novitiate on 15th May 1904. He made his first profession on 15th August 1905 and the final profession on 15th August 1909.

He was appointed as Director of St. Vincent's' Home, estate, at Maggona in 1909. He established the first Calvary in Sri Lanka with the generous contributions of Baratha Society (fisher folk community) at St. Vincent's home in Maggona in 1909. He also founded the Baratha Boys' Home in 1914 at Maggona, and later it was converted into Don Bosco Boys' home. This boys' home was managed by the Bishop of Tuttricorin, Tamil Nadu, India. Bro. Joseph Gonsal was appointed as the Director at Baratha boys' home continually for 25 years and he built new structures with material brought from India, and created a better ambience and accommodated more than 100 boys. He also dispensed homoeopathic medicines to the sick and ailing. He purchased several acres of paddy lands (48 acres) to support the orphanage activities there.

For a few years he had to leave Sri Lanka and live in India under the guidance of the Bishop of Tuttricorin, Tamil Nadu. He rejoined the congregation and also became one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M.) in 1949. Due to his ill health and old age he was sent to Matale for treatment and rest. On 25th June 1964, at about 02.30 p.m, he breathed his last at the age of 84 at the Brothers' Monastery, Matale. Several Brothers, priests, religious, his relatives, villagers and children from Don Bosco and St. Francis boys home paid their last respect at the Brothers chapel at Matale. His body was taken to the parish Church, Matale, and the funeral services were held there in the presence of a large crowd. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the parish cemetery, Matale. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

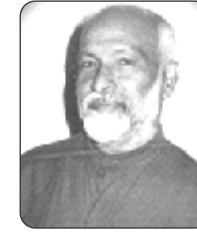
JUNE 27
BRO. MARIA JOSEPH, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Warnakulasooriya Emmanuel Fernando in religion Bro. Mary Joseph was born on 12th of February, 1885 to Mr. Warunakulasooriya Pethrush Fernando and Mrs. Warunakulasooriya Rosamariya Fernando of St. Sebastian's parish, Sea Street, Negumbo in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation at Maggona, in 1904 and after initiation in the missionary Apostolate made his first profession on 19th March 1905 and made his final profession on 19th March 1909. He had received his teacher's training diploma in Tamil, Sinhala and English in the year, 1909, 1914, and 1920. He was appointed as vice principal and principal successively at the reformatory School at St. Vincent's in 1909 and 1914; also served as the director of St. Louise orphanage. He had worked as Principal at Tamil and Sinhala School, at Chilaw, as vice principal at St. Vincent's school in 1919 and as principal in 1923, and other places like, Wennappuwa ,Katuwapitiya etc. He was elected as a local general councilor in 1912, 1914, 1917, 1958, 1961 and 1964, and in 1922 he was elected superior general of the local congregation. He was the first local superior general of (F.B.M.) in 1949, and was reelected for another two terms in 1952 and in 1955.

He was the novice master for many years, in 1912, 1958, 1961, and 1964. He had also worked as Director at Don Bosco Boys' home, Maggona, as superior and director at Chilaw and Matale. He was well qualified and was the key person to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FBM) in 1949. Towards the end of his life he was at Matale for rest and medical care. He breathed his last at the Brothers' monastery, Matale on 27th June, 1973 at the ripe age of 88. His last rites were held at the Parish Church, Matale, Brothers, children from St. Francis, Don Bosco, and St. Anthony Boys' homes, priests, religious, relatives and a large crowd participated in the funeral Mass, and after the solemn service his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the common cemetery, Matale. He shall be remembered as a Franciscan to the core with great administrative and academic credentials and above all the frugality of a religious and humility.

JUNE 27
BRO. JOHN MARY PINTO, CMSF (INDIA)



Paul Lawrence Pinto was born on 04th October 1911 to Mr. Salvadore Pinto and Mrs. Dulcina Vas of St. Rock's parish, Neerude in Dakshina Kannada in the Diocese of Mangalore. In religion he took the name of Bro. John Mary after his formation.

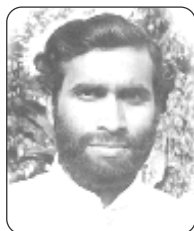
He joined the congregation in 1934, as a young man: Entered the novitiate at Dadra in 1935, and made his first profession on 19th March 1937 and the final profession on 19th March 1943 at Kalavoor, Kerala. He worked hard and proved himself a humble Franciscan with a zest for mission and hard work everywhere.

Bro. John Mary, as a zealous missionary had worked at Francispur in Banares Diocese, Pondur in Madras-Mylapore Archdiocese, and thereafter at Doddarayapet, Gundalpet, Bassein Fort, Gorakhpur, Malipur, Jaffarganj, Talegaon, Umsohlait, Umsiang-Meghalaya, Snehagiri Estate - Nainadu, Kallathipura, Christu Raja Balara Patana, Chamarajnar in Karnataka, and several other centres which are handed over to the respective dioceses after they are developed sufficiently. Wherever Bro. John Mary was sent he proved a veteran and down to earth. As a pioneer in Karnataka and N. Eastern Missions he has left an indelible mark as an evangelizer and ecologist. He is a pioneer of our North Eastern Missions.

Towards the end of his life Bro. John Mary had a fall and fractured his leg and was not able to move freely. He was confined to his room at Sevasadan, Bangalore, until his last day on 27th June 2002. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Sevasadan after the solemn funeral service, which was attended by a huge number of mourners from Mangalore and other Missions. Bro. John Mary shall be remembered for his endurance and Franciscan simplicity and also as an austier religious person.

JUNE 27

BRO. THOMAS AUGUSTINE THADATHIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Thomas Augustine was born on 18th April 1958 at St. Mary's Parish, Nediassala in the Diocese of Kothamangalam. After his high school, he joined the St. Thomas Province at Aluva as a candidate. He completed his religious formation at Bangalore and Kotagiri. He made his first profession on 4th October 1983. After successfully completing his scholasticate in Bangalore he was assigned to our Mission at Kartikulam, in the Diocese of Mananthavady. He was a young, energetic and promising missionary. He pursued his teachers training there, while at the same time helping the Brothers in their missionary activities.

Bro. Thomas also taught in the Primary school and proved himself rather a good teacher. However, unfortunately he was found unconscious in his room on 26th June 1987 in the afternoon. Immediately he was rushed to the hospital, but the doctors could not save his life. The Lord called him on the next day for his eternal reward, rather at a young age.

His body was taken to our institution at Chamarajnar, Mysore, for the funeral rites. A solemn funeral was arranged. It was well participated by his relatives, brothers, the inmates of the Boys' Home and the people from the missions. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Chamarajnar, where the bodies of our veterans of the Mysore missions are lying in state.

JUNE 28

BRO. FRANCIS XAVIER, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Warunakulasooriya Don Francis was born on 02nd October, 1894, to Mr. Warunakulasooriya Don Anthony and Mrs. Warunakulasooriya Therasia Fernando of St. Mary's parish, Main Street, Negombo in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FBM) congregation on 06th June 1909 at Maggona, and entered the novitiate on 02nd October 1909. He made his first profession with the religious name of Francis Xavier on 04th October 1910 and the final profession on 12th March 1917.

Bro. Francis was a qualified teacher as he successfully got through the teachers' training Exams. Thereafter he had worked at Chilaw, as vice Principal of St. Vincent's Sinhala School Maggona, as assistant principal of Tamil boys' School, Chilaw, as Principal of Don Bosco School Maggona, as Director of St. Peter's Vocational Training centre, Chilaw, as Novice master, as General councilor of FBM in 1952, and in 1955, and was elected as Superior General of the FBM in 1958. He held several important posts in the congregation and was instrumental in establishing the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (F.B.M.) in 1949. He dedicated his life to the education apostolate and was concerned about the street children. He worked in the schools and in the orphanages to develop the moral standard of the children and the youth. He was a man of vision and farsightedness in whatever he ventured into.

Brother Francis Xavier suffered much due to his infirmities: At the general hospital Kandy he breathed his last on 28th June 1961 at the age of 67. His body was taken to St. Thomas Parish Church on the next day and the funeral Mass was celebrated by Rt. Rev. Dr. Leo Nanayakara O.S.B. Bishop of Kandy. Many Brothers priests, religious, inmates of Boys Homes, relations and lay people participated in the funeral service. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at the common cemetery at Matala, where many of our early missionaries are laid to rest in the Lord.

JUNE 29

BRO. ROBERT BIHARI GHURMA, CMSF (INDIA)

Stimulated by the inspiring examples of his companions from Bihar who had dedicated their lives to the service of God, the sturdy and robust looking young man Bihari Ghurma, born on 2nd July 1880 in Bihar. He joined the Congregation at Khandwa, M.P. and the religious name given to this promising candidate was Bro. Robert with a complementary name Bihari.

He did not find it very hard the Franciscan observance in the congregation because he was brought up and educated in a religious institution where he had the opportunity of getting acquainted with the demands and obligations of such a life. In his religious formative period, he was unostensible in the performance of various devotional practices, exact in discharging assigned duties, submissive to authorities and agreeable to confreres.

He made use of the fair knowledge of music to introduce in the mission stations singing of sacred hymns and folklore songs. This both attracted and amused the people, and at the same time instruction was well imparted in the faith. During the global war, when the Congregation had to struggle for its survival, Bro. Robert's holy vocation was sorely tried, but he faithfully persevered till the congregation reorganisation when he was happy to be sent to the Bengal Missions to labour there zealously and all the more enthusiastically. As circumstances would require, he also rendered appreciable help in various other mission centres and in the Orphanage at Bassein. He also improved the land cultivation and the garden products.

Bro. Robert, paid no heed to the dreaded severe attack of diabetes which had stealthily undermined his life's vitality. At the mission stations at Indara in U.P. active to the last, he unexpectedly sank into a comma, and before any medical aid could be made available, his soul bade adieu to the world here below on 29th June 1951. The body of Bro. Robert is laid to rest in the Lord at Indara in U.P, where many of our missionary enterprises still remain intact at the service of the people.

JUNE 30

BRO. GABRIEL PADINJAREPEEDIKA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Gabriel Padinjarepeedika (STP), in baptism Thomas, was born on 21st September 1943 to Mr. & Mrs. Ouseph and Aley Padinjarepeedika of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Thalayanadu in the Diocese of Kothamangalam, Kerala. He was admitted to the Congregation after the High School studies in 1963, entered novitiate in 1964, and made his first profession on 04th October 1966 and the final profession on 04th October 1972.

After the profession Bro. Gabriel had worked at various centres of the Congregation and held several responsibilities, such as, Vocation promoter and National Vocation Coordinator in India for many years, in-charge of the missions at Kanjirampara and Kilimanoor, as Director of St. Francis Hostel, Mount Poinzur, as Manager of the Boys Home and as Director of Aspirants at Jayamatha, Nalanchira, as Superior and in-charge of the missions at Vattappara, as formation in-charge at Aluva, then at Thonnackal for a brief period before going for studies to Ontario, Canada. He has also visited several countries like, USA, Canada, Mexico, Israel, England, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Netherlands, France, Sweden, Austria, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Palestine, Jordan and Nepal.

On his return from overseas he was posted at Ala-Chengannur as Superior; and at Mantharamputhur (Tamil Nadu), Mananthavady, Panavoor, Peermade and lastly at Vaikom, where he took ill and was taken to Lourdes Hospital, Ernakulam, Kerala. He had to undergo a surgery at Lourdes for tumour in the brain. Although most of it was removed, his health deteriorated gradually. On 30th June 2014 at 11.45 p.m. he breathed his last in the Lord. His funeral services were held at Jayamatha Institute, Nalanchira at 2.30 p.m. on 2nd July 2014, in the presence of his confreres and near and dear ones!

JULY 6
BRO. ZACHARY MENDONCA, CMSF (INDIA)

Bro. Zachary was born on 17th April 1905 in St. Francis Xavier's parish, Ferar in Mangalore Diocese to the God fearing parents Marian and Regina Maria Mendonca. After his studies in St. Aloysius College, Mangalore, in 1927, he was trained as a teacher. Still, he thought this profession of teaching could be more profitable in the eyes of God if he offered himself in His service to uplift the poor by joining a Religious Congregation. Thus he entered our Novitiate at Dadra and appreciated the life as a Religious Brother and made his profession on 19th March 1937.

Very sturdy and commanding, tall in stature, and a man of knowledge and wisdom, Bro. Zachary worked zealously wherever he was sent. In most of the places where he worked the fruit of his labour has been visible. He always was a strict observer of the community prayer life and a strong disciplinarian. His services were needed everywhere and his records tell us that he was not sticking to any place more than two to three years. To mention a few places of his labour Doddagajanur, Kollegal, St. Philomena's boarding, Doddarayapet and Singanallur in Mysore, Mount Poinur, Gundelpet, Pondur, Kotagiri, Duler, Bassein Fort, Masigarth, Delhi, Khera Khurd, Kallianpur and Nainadu in Mangalore. He assisted in building works of Mount Poinur, and also at the construction of Goregoan Seminary with our Architect Bro. Florian.

As a teacher, building supervisor and missionary in several places he did his best for the development of the Congregation. He followed the spirit of poverty very exactly and his accounts were accurate. He did assist in his last days in constructing the house in Mangalore in 1978 and was taking rest, due to ill health, in the same house at Snehagiri-Nainadu until his death. He was one of the privileged ones who celebrated the Golden Jubilee of profession on 19th March 1985, eighty years after his birth.

Though he was ailing with high diabetes, he would never miss prayer and Mass. His death came all of a sudden when having lunch with the community on 6th July 1986, but was well prepared. He breathed his last in the arms of the Superior Bro. Melchior Tom. He was 81 years old. His burial was on the following day, attended by a large number of people among whom many Priests, sisters and our Brothers from the Province were present. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Snehagiri, Nainadu, Mangalore, a privilege to be buried in his own native diocese after all his labour all over Indian-missions.

JULY 8
BRO. RUFUS D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Rufus D'souza was born on 2nd January 1956 at Moodubelle in the parish of St. Lawrence in the Diocese of Mangalore. He made his first profesion on 4th October 1980. As a promising young missionary he worked in the mission at Chickmanglur and was called to do the Scholasticate in Bangalore. The life of Bro. Rufus was a short but sweet one, clean and angelic. He always displayed keen interest to teach and preach Christ with much fervour and zeal. He was very peaceable and quiet in nature, never blaming or criticising others. He was prompt in obedience and would do any mission cheerfully.

It was while returning to Sevasadan from Dharmaram College after attending theology classes by bicycle that a truck knocked him down unconscious inflicting some head injuries. The accident occurred at 1.00 p.m. on 8th July 1981 and he was rushed to St. John's Medical College hospital nearby immediately, where he was examined by several doctors all of whom considered it a very difficult case. The medical report revealed an injury to the brain stem. Duly fortified with the anointing of the sick he breathed his last within twenty minutes after the accident. Thus, the Lord plucked up a fragrant flower from the garden at a very young tender age of 25.

The solemn funeral service took place at 4.00 p.m. on July 10th with a concelebrated Mass. Many of the relatives and friends of Bro. Rufus were also present for the service. After the Mass, the body of Bro. Rufus was taken to the Dharmaram College Chapel where respects were paid by the President and the Rector of the College. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the Catholic cemetery of Hosur Road, Bangalore, and some remains have been transferred to our own cemetery at Sevasadan. His memory still lingers with us as a young fervent Religious.

JULY 9
BRO. DANIEL PADINJAREDOM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Daniel was born on 15th February, 1930 at Piravithanam in the Diocese of Palai. He joined the Congregation in 1953. He had some initial training with the salesians of which he was very proud of as a disciplinarian. Having completed his Novitiate at Kotagiri, he made his first profession in 1956 and the final commitment in 1962 after some experience in our mission centres especially at Nalanchera and the related missions.

He served the Congregation in our Boys' Homes at Mount Poinzur, Bangalore and Trivandrum. Having completed his theological studies at the CRI Brothers Institute at Bangalore, he was appointed as its Assistant Director and as the NARBI Executive Secretary. He was also Superior and Manager of our institutes at Malipur, Dumrikhas, Madharihat, Jalpaiguri, Jhansi and Mathura.

Bro. Daniel was well known not only for his academic excellence, but also for his knowledge on variety of technical trades especially carpentry. His main interest was Value Education. He was deeply concerned with the character formation of the students of both academic and technical institutes. He was always convinced of the fact that teaching was more of a vocation than a profession he would encourage the young Brothers to do academic studies to do our mission more intelligently.

It was in 1993, that he was diagnosed with advanced diabetes. Already then, he was perfectly resigned and well prepared to meet his Master. He was thankful to the Lord for the life and opportunities he was given to serve. Bro. Daniel peacefully breathed his last on 9th July 1994, in the provincialate at Khera Khurd, Delhi, due to a massive heart attack, resulting from diabetic and hypertension.

His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Khera Khurd Cemetery after the solemn funeral Mass which was attended by a large gathering of Priests, Brothers, Sisters and laity.

JULY 10
BRO. PIUS, CMSF (GERMANY)

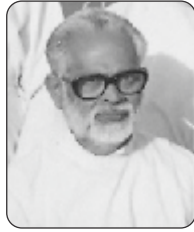
The youthful man, Bro. Pius, a German by birth, had often heard that the Missionary Congregation of the Franciscan Brothers devoted themselves to the works of the propagation of the Catholic Faith among the non-Christians in India. This created in him a longing to share their lives and labours in that distant land. Accordingly, he joined the Congregation at Maslianico, in Italy for the initial formation before launching to active mission.

During his probation period, he was found to be a profound lover of the rules, a scrupulous observer of the community life, and much devoted to prayer, silence and recollection. His fidelity in little things was remarkable and he tried to do the smallest things with the greatest exactness and accuracy.

On completion of his term of canonical Novitiate, at his earnest request, he was sent to India for the customary practical training. Although, not yet quite conversant with the local languages and customs of the place, he proved, by prayerful life, polite manners and cheerful obedience, to be of great help in the ordinary and common daily activities in the Zaroli Missions till he resumed the Novitiate at Dadra to complete his remaining course of canonical training.

He was an able swimmer and well known for his aquatics. Yet as ill fate would have it, about two months before the end of his Novitiate term, while bathing along with the other fellow-novices in a river, a little distance from the Novitiate House, he fell accidentally into the river and was caught up in the treacherous currents and drowned on 10th July 1934. His body was found in Damaun and was buried in the Catholic cemetery after a solemn funeral service bemoaned by many at the loss of such a dynamic young missionary and an earnest religious.

JULY 11
BRO. ROGER AREETHARA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Roger was born on 26th July, 1927 at Kuravilanged in Palai Diocese, Kerala. He was brought up as a pious and obedient child. He joined the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament, Jhansi, made his first profession on 2nd October 1958 and his final profession on 19th March 1962. He always remained as a young missionary committed to the mission of the Lord.

As a religious, he pursued his secular studies and obtained the B.A. and B.Ed degrees. Thereafter he joined the Diocesan School at Solon, Himachal Pradesh. A teacher and disciplinarian in the boarding attached to the school he was loved by all. After ten years of fruitful service he was called to Jhansi to be in charge of the postulants. He was also elected a General Councilor. In 1971 he was appointed as the Director of Novices and, in 1983 as the Superior General of the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament at Jhansi

As the Superior General he consulted with experts and with the full consent of the Brothers, the Congregation was amalgamated with the CMSF. Bro. Roger worked for a while in St. Francis D'Assisi School, Mount Poincur. From there he was appointed Manager of Padua Estate, Kasargod, Kerala, and Superior of the Community. In 1990 he was appointed as Superior of Sevasadan, Bangalore, where he showed himself simple and a model to all the Brothers especially by his disciplined religious observance.

Bro. Roger was admitted to St. Philominas hospital on 6th June 1992 for a general check up. After undergoing several tests it was diagnosed that he was suffering from blood cancer. He was given the best treatment in Kidwai cancer hospital and was discharged. After coming to Seva Sadan he slightly improved his health, but on 7th July 1992 Bro. Roger's condition took a bad turn and was immediately rushed to

St. Philomena's hospital. The Lord called him to his eternal reward on Saturday the 11th July 1992 and assisted by his confreres he received the anointing of the sick very joyfully.

A solemn funeral was arranged on 12th July, Sunday morning and his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Seva Sadan cemetery, where he was instrumental in doing simple things with extraordinary Franciscan Joy.

JULY 11

BRO. ANTHONY GABRIEL MANIAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Anthony Gabriel was born on 28th April 1956 to Mr. Gabriel and Michaelamal of St. Anthony's parish, Pagaielai Nagar in the Diocese of Trichy, Tamil Nadu. After his high school studies at Dindigul, he joined the Congregation on 10th July 1978, and made his first profession on 04th October 1982. Immediately after the first profession he was sent to our mission at Mawlai, Shillong for a brief period. In 1983 he joined the St. Francis ITI, Mount Poincur, Mumbai for technical studies and completed the CTI studies from Mumbai. On completion of the technical studies he served at our Jafferganj, Judepur, Mathura and Agra missions in north India. He made his final commitment on 4th Oct, 1989.

In the year 1992 he opted to be a member of St. Thomas Province, South India. He was sent to Moritz Nagar, Nagarcoil to the Non-formal Technical School as its Principal. Thereafter, he served at our centers of Padalur, Shengkulam, Mantharamputhur, Thomayarapuram and Saram in Tamil Nadu, and at Mary Matha Ashram, Vaikom in Kerala. In all these places he showed his ability as an approachable and efficient Brother. He promoted many youngsters to our Fraternity from Tamilnadu.

His last assignment was to be at Santheimedu-Tindivanam community as Superior as well as full time Vocation Promoter of St. John De Britto Region at the formation of the region at the XI General Chapter in 2003. While being in the community at Santheimedu he met with a motorbike accident and on the way to the hospital in Pondicherry he breathed his last at around 10.00 PM on July 11, 2007. The requiem Mass and funeral took place at Pacode at 10.00 a.m. on 13th July 2007. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery at Pacode, Tamil Nadu. The service witnessed the presence of many Brothers, religious, priests, relatives, friends and the local people.

JULY 12

BRO. PHILIP, CMSF (GERMANY)

Bro. Philip, born and educated in Germany came to India, in all probability, as a Mission helper in the Punjab with several others. Such volunteers from Germany whose assistance in the Missions was highly requested by the then Diocesan Authorities. When the Congregation was thoroughly organised and firmly established at Nagpur by its Local Ordinary, Bro. Phillip became one of its foremost members under Bro. Paulus, the first Superior General and founder.

Bro. Philip was highly talented and was an efficient teacher and it is commonly believed that he was a member of the Christian Brothers in Europe. But his zeal for the mission work had led him to India with a view to join a missionary congregation. He did appreciable work in the mission field in the Nimar District in spreading the light of holy faith among the poor of that area.

He was then commissioned to found an orphanage at Mount Poincur which he did, by first staying in the rickety balcony of the dilapidated church of the Immaculate Conception and then living in a small thatched hut with a handful of orphan boys from the neighbouring villages. For their maintenance he begged alms and collections were made from door to door, which was considered a noble way of helping the poor ever since.

It was about this time that the future Bishop of Ajmer, Most. Rev. L. D'Mello as a boarding boy had a short stay in the primitive Orphanage under Bro. Philip's benign care and protection. After the First World War, Bro. Philip was entrusted with the care and supervision of the Mylapore Diocesan Seminary. He adapted himself so admirably in that new sphere of responsibility that his management was deeply appreciated and highly valued by the Ecclesiastical Authorities.

He held this post till his most edifying death which occurred on 12th July 1938. The young seminarians who had benefitted under his fatherly care and gentle surveillance, had grateful remembrance of his wise guidance and inspiring example. One among them, to mention respectfully is the late Most. Rev. Arulappa, the Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore. Bro. Philip was laid to rest in the Lord at Mylapore, near the Cathedral as a respected missionary and benefactor of the Church in British-India.

JULY 13
BRO. MATHEW, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Mikel Kurara in Religion Bro. Mathew was born on 02nd October, 1899, to Mr. Pethuru Kurara and Mrs. Mariya Miral of St. Sebastian's parish, Sea Street, Ethukala, Negumbo, in the Western Province, Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation in 1916 and was sent to Chilaw for academic studies. He made his first profession on 17th September 1920 and after some experience in the missions the final profession on 17th September 1926. He was sent for weaving training in Wenanpuwa and in Colombo, in 1921. He was appointed as manager of St. Vincent's home, and the Weaving centre at Maggona. He also served as vice principal of the reformatory school at St. Vincent's home, Maggona for several years.

He passed the government teaching examination in the year 1929 and was appointed as vice principal at Tamil boys' school Chilaw in 1930, and 1951; as vice principal of Don Bosco School, Maggona, in 1939 and in 1949, as vice principal of Sea street school, Negumbo. He was appointed as Superior of Don Bosco boys' home in 1961, and at Brothers' Monastery, Matale, in 1964. He was elected as a local general councilors in 1958. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M.) in 1949. He had a great missionary thirst and worked in the tea estate sectors among the poorest of the poor and was totally committed to the development of the poor children by facilitating their education. Due to advanced age and illness he was under treatment for a long time. On 13th July, 1969, at the age of 70 he breathed his last at the Brothers' Monastery, Matale. His body was taken to our house at Chilaw and the funeral services were conducted there on 15th July 1969. After the solemn funeral Mass which was attended by many Brothers, Priests, religious, relatives, boys from Chilaw boys' home and people from the area his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the common catholic cemetery at Chilaw.

JULY 14
BRO. JOHN PAUL PONMELIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. John Paul was born on 12th June 1922 to Mr. Mathai and Mrs. Rachel of St. Albert's Parish, Kattoor in the Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram of the Malankara Catholic Church. After his basic education, he joined the Congregation in 1947 and made his first profession on 4th October 1950 and after the usual mission experience in the south missions the final profession on 4th October 1956. Thereafter he served as a committed missionary at various places in South India such as; Pacode, Ampiliconam, Mariagiri, Mundela, Kilimanoor, Chozhiakode, Vattakarikom, Mantharamputhur etc. His life was marked with a deep piety, observance of the rules to the letter. His simple approaches were very effective in his mission and apostolate. He also looked after our estate of Nedumangad as a Faithful Steward. As a son of the Malankara Church, he was faithful to the liturgical celebrations and spirituality of the church in his simple Franciscan living.

He carried out the missionary activities with all earnestness and complete dedication. He always set a good example and edifying behaviour to his confreres and to the people with whom he had contact. With a sense of humour and great love of God he patiently endured his sufferings as gifts from God. He would seem at times very strict, but always with paternal care and solicitude to all.

He suffered prolonged illnesses towards the end of his life which he endured cheerfully. He was called for his eternal reward on 14th July 1998 when he was 76. His funeral took place on the same day evening and his mortal remains were laid to rest in our cemetery in Nalanchira after a solemn Mass in the Malankara Rite.

JULY 16
BRO. AUGUSTINE CHELLIYIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Augustine was born on 11th February 1930 in an ancient family at Pala, Kerala. He completed his high school studies in the Salesian Juniorate at Tirupathur. Later, he joined the Congregation at Kotagiri, and completed his Postulancy and novitiate there and made his first profession on 19th March 1953. Then he was assigned to various duties in the Mother House at Mount Poinzur. In due course on 19th March 1959 he made his final commitment there.

Thereafter, he served continuously for many years at Mount Poinzur. He was well qualified and experienced in carpentry, and was entrusted with the task of establishing a full-fledged carpentry at Mount Poinzur. Gradually he took great interest in construction work and in course of time, he became skillful in this line.

Practically the whole Mount Poinzur complex, including the Mother House, Chapel, School, Technical School, Hostel, Staff Quarters, Shopping centre, Jyoti Bahvan etc. are constructed by his assistance under the guidance of our Architech like Bros. Florian, Zachary etc..

Later on, his works were extended to Bellary, Khera Khurd, Ghaziabad and Gujarat. From time to time he used to help different Bishops, Priests and Religious in their building work. Many started requesting for his services and he was ever willing to help them out from his vast experience. The last part of his life was spent in Bangalore from January to July 1994 as the local Superior and Principal of the Trade School, besides looking after all the construction works at Sevasadan.

Bro. Augustine was a man of all seasons, shrewd in his dealings, calm, composed and diplomatic in helping to solve problems. He was elected a General Councillor for two terms and as Assistant General for one term. He held the office as the principal of St. Francis Technical School at

Mount Poinzur and was also local Superior in various houses of the Congregation.

As usual Bro. Augustine completed his day's work in the evening of 14th July 1994, when he had a fatal fall from the first floor of the building just in front of his room at Sevasadan, Bangalore. He was rushed to St. Philomana's Hospital immediately. But as it was a very serious injury of the head he had to be taken to NIMHANS hospital nearby, where he was operated by a team of doctors for deep head injury. The doctors did their best to save his life, but was of little avail. Soon he was administered the Sacraments of anointing and breathed his last on 16th July 1994. On Sunday evening the 17th, after the solemn funeral service attended by a large gathering of Brothers, Sisters, Priests, Relatives and others, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Seva Sadan, Bangalore, where he served as an animator to many and a model to Religious Brotherhood..

JULY 19
BRO. FRANCIS D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)

In his longing for a life of perfection, Dominic D' Souza of Bandra, born on 30th March 1893, gave up his worldly prospects and enlisted himself in the Congregation with the religious name of Bro. Francis Solano. The spirit of piety and prayer that he had cultivated from his youth increased by leaps and bounds after his entrance to the congregation, with the genuine love of religious discipline, devotion to duty and exact observance of community norms.

He showed a special affection towards the ignorant and poor whom he visited in the villages to instruct them in the holy faith and to render them assistance and relief in their distress. At the time of dire dearth of personnel, almost unaided and unassisted, he efficiently conducted the Mount Poincur Orphanage, bringing in numerous improvements for the orphans to be well looked after, to be properly educated and their needs to be adequately met. As the Orphans number began to soar high, it brought on him the inevitable laborious task of questor in Bombay, in fulfilment of which duty he struggled tirelessly to raise funds.

At Zaroli Mission Centre he, by his own example of self sacrificing spirit, stimulated the Missionary zeal of his co-workers and colleagues. He won many more to the holy faith by means of tent-touring and friendly contact with the ignorant poor in distant villages and by his winning ways and attractive manners.

Under his able administration, the Orphanages at Bassein Fort and Goa at different times witnessed manifold household improvements. The agricultural yields in Bassein showed definite increase in quality and quantity year by year while the Orphans in both the Institutions, due to his experienced guidance, made all round progress in general, and intellectual development.

As one of the councillors and Bursar General in Mount Poincur, he performed his engrossing unremitting duties with utmost exactness in spite of his failing health. The well-nigh loss of his eye-sight afforded him time and opportunity to satisfy his devotion at Our Lady's Shrine at Bandra and to prepare himself more devoutly for the day of his departure. In his last illness, when his condition became precarious, he was shifted to St. Elizabeth's Nursing Home, much against his wish. There duly anointed and fortified by the Sacraments, he left this vale of tears on 19th July 1966 for the heavenly reward. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur.

JULY 24
BRO. DIONYSIUS PANACHIKAL, CMSF (INDIA)

Bro. Dionysius Panachikal was born on 3rd April, 1919 in the diocese of Palai, Kerala. He joined the Congregation after completing his high school studies. After his religious formation he made his first profession on 4th October 1941, and final profession on 4th October 1947 after his initial years in the missions.

Bro. Dionysius was always very jovial and had a kind word to everyone he met. He was always happy to help anyone. He worked as a good missionary in different Dioceses in India. In the Archdiocese of Trivandrum he worked at Kanjirampura, Mariagiri, Nalanchira and Mundela. He also worked in Vijayapuram Diocese at Peermade and in places like Dumri and Indara in North India. In the Northern Mission he was well known and at Dumri he was called 'Maharafa' because of his courage in doing things and his audacity in standing upto his convictions.

He was very obedient and was always ready to do any work which was entrusted to him. His service to the Congregation and Province was always praiseworthy and ever remembered. Though he became blind, during his last years, he used to go about with the help of a boy to collect funds for the Orphanage at Nalanchira. He could walk into any government office and was respected by all because of his humility and service to the poor orphans inspite of his blindness.

Bro. Dionysius had severe pain in the chest on 24th evening, and, a priest was called, and he was given absolution and was taken to the hospital. He died on 24th July, 1985 at 9.30 p.m. due to heart attack. The funeral ceremony was held on 25th July. Many Brothers, Religious, Priests and people were present for the funeral. After the solemn funeral rites, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Jayamatha cemetery, Trivandrum. His life shows that despite bodily handicaps one can cheerfully do his mission with courage and conviction.

JULY 24

BRO. PAULINUS CHERUPARAMBIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Paulinus Cheruparambil was born on 29th June 1939, at Vazhakulam, Kerala. On completion of his high school studies he joined the Congregation in 1962. He made his first profession on 4th October 1965 thereafter he was sent to Europe for special training in printing technology. He made his final profession on 4th Oct. 1971. He worked many years at our Mumbai ITI sharing his missionary and technical skills in a remarkable way.

He was honoured by the state Government of Maharashtra by conferring on him the post of Executive Magistrate for three years (1989-92). He almost completed 25 years of service in the printing press at Mount Poinzur. Then he was transferred to Bangalore in September 1991. Bro. Paulinus worked in the missions too especially at Kanjirampara, Nalanchira in the Archdiocese of Trivandrum and Ranganahalli in Chikmangalur Diocese. Throughout his life he was a silent worker, but very effective in the field by cheerfully doing his duties.

Bro. Paulinus suffered severe backache often which was later diagnosed as bone cancer. After undergoing a minor surgery at St. Philomena's hospital he was taken to Amala Cancer Hospital, Thrissur, of the CMI's for further treatment. He was given the best treatment available and in the beginning, the medication seemed to have a positive effect and he appeared to be quite normal.

But after some days, his condition deteriorated and on 24th June he was brought back to Ashokpuram, Aluva, where he was given excellent nursing care. Bro. Paulinus had said to the sisters that he wished to go home on Sunday the 24th instant. But alas! He died exactly on the evening of Sunday the 24th July 1994 at 5.30 p.m. as he was speaking to the Rector of Aluva Seminary surrounded by his aged mother and

relatives. He seemed to have a vision of our beloved founder inviting him to join him in heaven.

The next day his body was taken to his parish, Vazakulam, Kothamangalam (Diocese) for some time. The funeral obsequies took place at Trivandrum on 26th July, at 10.00 a.m. in the presence of a large number of Brothers, religious, priests, relatives and faithful. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Nalanchira, Trivandrum, where he had served as a young missionary some time back.

JULY 24

BRO. PETER PAUL THOMMACHERRY, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Peter Paul was born on 10th August 1927 to Mr. Chandy and Mrs. Mary Thommacherry of St. Anthony's Parish Kannamali in the Diocese of Cochin, Kerala. He joined the congregation on 15th November 1951 and made his first profession at the Novitiate at Judepur on 02nd October 1958, and the final profession on 19th March 1962 in the congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers of Jhansi.

Bro. Peter Paul had worked at Judepur mission Jhansi, St. Anthony's Boys Home Jhansi, Premnagar, Bishop's House Jhansi, Don Bosco Boarding Lalitpur, Seoni mission Lalitpur, Panari mission Lalitpur, Jeria mission, Mahoba mission, Pakdilpur mission, Diocesan mission Indore, Azamgarh, Tappa, Jafferganj, Bhopal, Dumrikhas, Aloor, Gorakhpur. As a committed missionary, most of his life he spent in the rural missions of North India. For the past few years he was a member of the community at Prem Nagar, Jhansi and was confined to the house due to old age and poor health. Wherever Bro. Peter Paul was assigned, he was a hardworking and cheerful presence. He had a knack for eco-friendly agricultural apostolate. Bro. Peter Paul passed away at St. Jude's Hospital, Jhansi at 9.30 am on 24th July 2012. He was 85. Well matured as a religious and prepared to meet the Lord.

His funeral obsequies were held at Jhansi at 9.00 a.m. on 26th July 2012. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Jhansi. Where he laboured many years as a devout Franciscan and missionary.

JULY 30

BRO. WILLIAM SCHODORF, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Wilhelm Schodorf was born on 11th September 1902 in Seubrigshausen, Germany. He was one of the foremost, after the First World War, to join the congregation and was a giant of a person. On completion of his religious formation and the first profession on 3rd December 1924, Bro. William came to India in 1926, with the first batch of Brothers from Maslianico, Italy to be pioneers in the mission of the Lord.

After a brief stay at Mount Poincur and Bassein Fort Orphanage, he was commissioned to the South Missions. He took an enthusiastic part in the mission activities at Pondur, and Chengalpet Mylapore Diocese, Salem, Theresapur in Allahabad Diocese, Tirpur, Pennagram and Singanallur in Coimbatore Diocese, and Kotagiri in the Ooty Diocese. He also conducted the Diocesan Industrial Institute at Coimbatore to the utmost satisfaction of all concerned, and thereafter, at the request of the government he undertook the arduous task of forming a settlement for criminals at Geddesal, where while cleaning up the jungle he had often to encounter wild animals and specially rogue elephants. He did everything in order to save the lives of the helpless inhabitants from the attack of the wild elephants.

Bro William was appointed to act as Superior of the missions in which position he evinced extreme concern and solicitude for the welfare, religious observance and perseverance of the interned Brothers in the camp. At the termination of the world war, he resumed his formal duties but before long in 1949, he was entrusted with the heavy responsibilities of the newly acquired tea estate at Kotagiri. To the satisfaction of all he increased its productivity. He also constructed a spacious building for the Brothers' Novitiate. He is a model agriculturist and had wide knowledge of Indian agro-sector, which was a source of help for many religious around.

Bro. William had adopted the Indian Nationality on his own accord, and was remarkably conversant in Tamil, the vernacular of the area. He was noted for his dynamic leadership and judicious counsel, which rendered him popular and highly appreciated by the civil, religious and ecclesiastical authority. Bro. William was revered as a venerable personality by all especially the estate labourers who loved and revered him deeply till his last breath.

His long and patiently borne malady had at last come to a crisis. Hence in a spiritually well-prepared manner, he underwent an urgently needed operation which, though successful, led to heart ailment which caused him his life. On 30th July 1972 he calmly passed away. After the solemn funeral services, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Kotagiri. The devotion all the people around was visible in his funeral services which was officiated by the Bishop of Ooty, Rt. Rev. Pakiam Arokiasamy.

JULY 30
BRO. SYLVESTER NEDUMKALLEL, CMSF (INDIA)

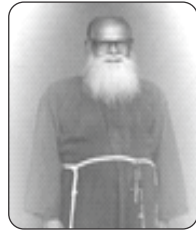


Brother Sylvester was born in the year 1912 of pious Catholic parents. He hail from Nedumkallel family in the parish of Kalloorkad, of the Diocese of Kothamangalam. After his early education, he decided to dedicate his life for the service of God. He joined the Congregation in 1937 and made his final profession in October 1940, after the mission experiences mainly in the South of India.

He worked in various places in North India and later on most of his service was in the Southern Missons like; Thottappilly, Erumeli, Mundela, Panavoor, Ambilikonam, Kanjirampara, Pacode, Mariagiri and finally at Thadikarkonam. In his early mission experience he also worked at Mount Poinzur. His brotherly love and concern for others were remarkable. Wherever he worked he gave a good account of his stewardship and towards the end he retired to Nalanchira. His services at the estate-sector also is note-worthy as a trustworthy Brother.

Bro. Sylvester was ailing due to kidney failure and diabetes. When he was found to be weak, he was admitted in the Cosmopolitan Hospital in Trivandrum. There he was administered every possible medical aid to revive his health, but they did not avail much. At the request of the doctors he was shifted to Jayamatha where he was nursed at home. Even here at his sickness, he showed extraordinary piety as a Religious. On 30th of July he was found to be too weak. Immediately all the members of the community and priests from Bethany Ashram and his relatives were informed. At 7.15 p.m. he passed away to receive his eternal reward. The funeral services began at 3.30. p.m. on the next day. Large number of Brothers, Priests, Sisters and faithful participated in it. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

AUGUST 1
BRO. HILARY CHAMACHERY, CMSF (INDIA)



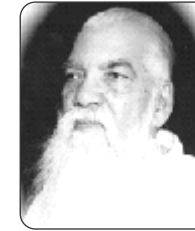
Raphael Chamachery was born at Gottuvatty, of Cochin Diocese Kerala on 22nd August 1908. Out of zeal for the missions, after completing his high school studies, he joined the Congregation. He entered the Novitiate at Dadra on 4th October 1936 and made his first profession on 4th October 1938, taking the religious name of Bro. Helary.

Thereafter, as a young missionary, filled with zeal and enthusiasm he worked hard in many mission stations. In due course he made his final commitment on 4th October 1944 at Kannumelin the Diocese of Cochin. He was an unassuming, but promising missionary. His life of prayer and simplicity attracted many to embrace the Catholic Faith. His dedicated service to the poor and downtrodden was remarkable. Almost daily he used to walk several miles tirelessly to keep in contact with the people entrusted to his care. He rendered himself to the young and old alike with the genuineness of his motivation and the authenticity of his convictions.

Bro. Hilary mastered the Tamil language as he had to work at many places in Tamil Nadu. He never sought personal popularity but worked hard in the mission with perseverance. He served the poor and needy in the mission centres like Anchalpetty, Medalkadu, Pacode, Kolvel, Melpalai, Melpuram, Vandanam, Mundela, Osrathivilai, Chembarathivilai, Mariagiri, Nalanchira, Vattappara, Thadikarakonam and Enchacode. He was of great help to many priests in preparing the people for baptism, First Communion and Confirmation in the different Rites of the Church.

Bro. Hilary breathed his last without any suffering or fore-warning in his sleep in the early hours of 1st August 1979 at Enchacode. His funeral service was attended by many from the missions and his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Pacode, where he had become part and parcel of the Tamil Nadu Mission of the Congregation.

AUGUST 1
BRO. TIMOTHY LOBO, CMSF (INDIA)



Joseph Sebastian Lobo, was born on 11th January 1904 to Mr. Cajetan and Mrs. Rose Mary Lobo of Verem, Bardez, Goa. He was well conversant with English, Konkani, Portuguese, Hindi, Marathi and Gujarati, which came in handy in his work as a missionary.

He made his first profession on 4th October 1932 and took the religious name of Timothy, his final profession on 04th October 1938 was at Mount Poincur. A zealous missionary, he let his imprints on mission centres like; Zaroli, Khandwa, Damangaon, Gangangam, Dapcherry, Talassari, Dadra, Delhi, Pandamna Zambori, Uplat, Massat, Bassein, Mount Poincur and Goa. Wherever he worked he always left a mark at the fag end of the day.

By nature he had a keen sense of humour. He was good at dramatics and loved training youngsters in this line. His simplicity drew him close to the Founder, Bro. Paulus Moritz whom he personally met. Because of his pleasant and pleasing ways his mission work met with great success.

Bro. Timothy laboured in the missions selflessly and with great dedication. In Goa where he worked for about twelve years lending a helping hand in the community in whatever way he could. The last three years of his earthly life was spent in complete retirement suffering patiently several ailments that afflicted him. He was brought to Bombay and was under medical care for about a month prior to his passing away. The medical investigations carried out revealed an ulcer in the stomach needing immediate operation but on account of his advanced age and general debility the doctors were reluctant to perform it. Bro. Timothy expired on 1st August 1980 at St. Elizabeth's Nursing Home, Bombay. The funeral took place the following morning at 11.00 a.m. When his approaching end came he was prepared to meet the Lord, having lived all the days of his life, growing to the ripe age of 76 to the full in His service of love. The body of Bro. Timothy was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur, a place he loved so much as he was associated with the founder in his early mission experience.

AUGUST 6

BRO. PETER KOCHUPARAMBIL, CMSF (INDIA)



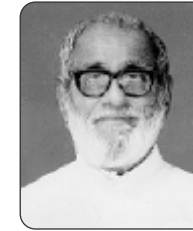
Bro. Peter was born in the Kochuparambil family of Thaikattuchery, Cherthalai in the Archdiocese of Ernakulam in the year 1912, as the son of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Aleyamma. After his early education he joined the Congregation at Mt. Poinzur. After completing his Novitiate at Dadra, made his profession on 4th October 1939. Since then he worked in various places in the North and South such as; Talegaon, Bassein, Kanjirampara, Mariyagiri, Kolvel, Pacode, Enchacode and Nalanchira. Wherever he was, he presented himself as an exemplary religious. He made his Final Profession on 4th Oct. 1945. Bro. Peter was a strict disciplinarian and never tolerated nonsense. In his bodily ailments he found a way to sacrifice for the cause of the mission.

Bro. Peter was admitted in Nirmala Hospital, Trivandrum on 13th July 1988 due to Ulcer foot-gangrene and diabetes. All the efforts to save his foot ended in vain. On 21st July 1988, his right foot was amputated above the knee and he was slightly improving. But on 6th August, he was found to be too weak and at 5.15 p.m. he breathed his last. Despite his bodily ailments Bro. Peter was strict to all religious practices and observances.

His body was brought to Jayamatha, Nalanchira and people from every walk of life came to pay tribute to his mortal remains. On the next day the funeral services began at 3.00 p.m. at Jayamatha. Many religious, priests, relatives and well wishers attended the solemn funeral service after which his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

AUGUST 6

BRO. PAUL PERIES, CMSF (SRI LANKA)

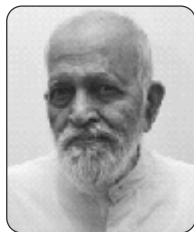


Bro. Paul Peries was born on 9th March 1909 in a pious family in the parish of St. Barnedette Church, Chilaw in the Diocese of Chilaw in Sri Lanka. After the completion of his High School studies he joined the Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FBM), at Maggona Sri Lanka. He was admitted to the novitiate on October 1929, and made his first profession on 8th September 1930 and after the initial mission services made the final profession on 8th September 1936.

He worked zealously at various centers of the congregation in Sri Lanka. He was elected Superior General of the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, Sri Lanka before the amalgamation with the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers (CMSF). As a trained teacher he taught at various Schools and for many years he was Principal of St. Mary's College, Chilaw. As Principal he played a significant role in the formation of the Catholic students of the Institute as well as the lay people around. He organized pious activities, devotion for students and people. He has also brought up the School at the academic level and extended it with new buildings. His tireless efforts did see good results and outcome. During his missionary enterprise he had worked at Maggona, Matale, Chilaw, Batticaloa, Kurukkalmadam etc. He was a popular missionary at Kurukkalmadam and did much for the institution's progress, which is maintained till today. He also went among the people of all religions and castes, especially among the poor, and won many hearts and was dearly called "Pappa" by the people.

Bro. Paul after long years of service led a retired life at Matale before his heavenly call. There he spent his time in personal prayer and quiet at the Lord's presence in the Chapel. Indeed he was a man of prayer and hardwork. On 06th August 1996 he passed away from this world to his heavenly home. He was buried at Matale, Sri Lanka, where most of our veterans rest in the peace of the Lord.

AUGUST 7
BRO. ANSELMO SALDANHA, CMSF (INDIA)



Francis Saldanha was born on 13th October 1913 to Mr. Manoel Saldanha and Mrs. Esperansa Dantas of our Lady of Miracle parish, Milagiris, in the Diocese of Poona. He joined the Congregation on 12th May 1935 and made his first profession on 4th October 1937, and the final profession on the 4th October 1943, after the initial mission experience under the guidance of our veterans..

Bro. Anselmo Saldanha, as a candidate and as a brother had the opportunity to live with our beloved Founder Bro. Paulus Moritz. He, in fact followed the very life of our founder especially his spirit and the vision of pioneering evangelization and caring of the poor in the mission and in the Boarding etc.

Bro. Anselmo Saldanha worked in our missions at Zaroli, Jamboori, Massate, Siwal, Dadra, Bassein, Talegaon in Maharashtra, and later at Jafferganj, Kherakhurd, and Gokhivra in Maharashtra. Bro. Anselmo was a man of prayer and his austerity and simplicity of life was a great model for all the Brothers. His dedication to the entrusted responsibilities brought always joy and success. The authorities were very happy to entrust him any responsibility because of his readiness to take up any hardship. It was at Zaroli mission that he was first initiated to the pioneering evangelization apostolate of our congregation. From 1989 to 1995 he was very active in the affairs of Jyothi Bhavan community at Mount Poincur and at the age of 82 he had celebrated his Diamond Jubilee. There was great joy in associating with Bro. Anselmo Saldanha, as a man of humour even in his sufferings.

Bro. Anselmo was ailing for quite a few years due to his advanced age. His health condition deteriorated further and he was hospitalized on 5th August 2006 at Karuna hospital, Borivali. On August 7th at 8.30 pm in the presence of many of our Brothers in the hospital, he said good bye to

all in silence. On 9th August, 2006, his funeral obsequies took place at the Mother House Chapel at 4 p.m. in the presence of many Brothers, religious, priests, relatives, well wishes and parishioners. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Mount Poincur. Thus comes to a close almost a century of an inspiring presence of a noble soul.

AUGUST 08

BRO. CLEMENT WARNAKULASOORIYA LASARUS, FBM (SRILANKA)



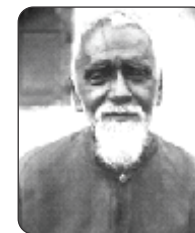
Warnakulasooriya Lasarus Lowu was born on 10th March, 1897 to Mr. Warunakulasooriya Pethuru Francisku Lowu and Mrs. Jusai Anaap Fernando of St. Mary's parish, Chilaw at Sea Street, Chilaw, Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation at Maggona, in 1917, and made his first profession on 28th June 1919, taking the religious name of Bro. Clement. He made his final profession on 28th June 1925. Thereafter he was sent for studies in printing technology at St. Vincent's vocational training centre, Maggona. He was appointed as manager of the printing press at Wennapuuwa in 1931, later as local general bursar in 1958, and superior of St. Francis Monastery, and director of St. Francis Boys' Home, Matale, in 1961. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M.) in 1949. His hard work bore much fruit for the growth of the congregation.

He was a simple and silent worker, loved nature and preached the good news to the people in remote areas. He was admitted at General hospital, Matale for treatment of his illness, related to old age and he breathed his last on 08th August 1969 at the age of 72.

His funeral services were held on 09th August 1969 at the Parish Church Matale. Children from St. Francis Boys' home, priests, religious, relatives and a large crowd attended his last rites. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the common cemetery at Matale.

AUGUST 9

BRO. EPHREM POOPADY, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Ephrem was born on 28th September 1896, at Manaloor in the Diocese of Trichur and joined the Congregation on 19th March 1925. His parents had settled at Konavoo and he grew up under the vigilant care of the Carmelite fathers at Mangalore near the Monastery. Like Abraham of old, he promptly responded to the call of the Lord, breaking through the tradition of adherence to one's own people, and the Diocese. Together with Bro. Elias after taking leave from the Bishop, he proceeded to Bombay where they were warmly received by the Founder himself on September 23rd 1924, as the first vocations from Kerala. His life was a kind of mission-saga althrough.

After his first profession in 1927, Bro. Ephrem was sent to Kalavoor, Kerala. On completion of three months stay at Kalavoor, he was entrusted with the whole mission. From 1927 to 1953 he spent his life exploring new mission centres right from Kochi to Thottappally. In 1928 he opened a new centre at Kunnummel. In 1935 he was transferred to Pandalam in the Archdiocese of Trivandrum. In 1936, he was elected a councillor in the General Chapter. He opened further mission centres, one at Anchalpetty in Thiruvalla Diocese and another at Balaramapuram in the Archdiocese of Trivandrum both in the Malankara Catholic diocese.

In 1937 he moved from the Nellikakuzhy mission to another sub-station Ambiliconam. In 1940, he took charge of Melpuram mission and its sub-stations namely; Melpalai and Medalakadu. In 1948 he was called to Pondur in Mylapore and in 1950 he was transferred to the then new station at Pacode and on to Kolvel, Mariagiri and Vattavilla. He finally retired to Pacode, in 1969, a mission he had much to do with and cherished.

Bro. Ephrem had a fall on 12th July resulting in the fracture of his thigh. When subjected to a major operation, a steel plate was fitted to the thigh bone but owing to his old age many other complications followed. On 6th August, however, he asked for the anointing of the sick which he received fully conscious, and on 9th August at 10.30 p.m, he breathed his last. The funeral took place on the following day at 5.00 p.m. After the funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord, in the cemetery at Pacode, Tamil Nadu. Bro. Ephrem was such a memorable missionary that one of the late Auxilliary Bishops of Trivandrum took his name as MAR Ephrem, whom he had brought to the catholic faith.

AUGUST 10 **BRO. BONAVENTURE, CMSF (GERMANY)**

Bro. Bonaventure, born and educated in Germany, had doubtlessly come to India as a mission helper in Punjab. Reliable sources confirm that he joined the original members of the Congregation at Nagpur when the Congregation was formally established into a religious body by the Bishop of that Diocese, with Bro. Paulus Moritz as the head of the group.

Along with a few other members, he at first did teaching and supervision work in St. Francis De Sales' School and Orphanage at Nagpur, until the Congregation founded its Mother-house in Khandwa, and undertook evangelisation work in the Nimar District. There is no doubt that Bro. Bonaventure, after getting conversant with the languages and customs of the place and the people, full of zeal and enthusiasm for mission activities visited the villages for the purpose of spreading among them the knowledge and love of God.

During the First World War, he with others, had to remain confined in the internment camp. With patience and resignation, he bore the sad trials when ill-health also began to assail him. It was not very long before he became an invalid but his conduct amidst all the painful sufferings was tranquil and edifying as befitting a missionary.

When his sickness bore him down to a dying state and when he understood that efforts were made to get for him a special confessor, he calmly begged not to be uneasy on that score, because throughout his Religious life he had made weekly confession as if it is his last so that he needed no extraordinary confessor then. He himself asked for the anointing of the sick to be administered, and then he peacefully breathed his last on the 10th August 1915. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the Parish cemetery at Nagpur; after the usual funeral service; Nagpur has seen many such heroic souls of yore as a mission territory.

AUGUST 10
BRO. PACIFICUS KARIMATHY, CMSF (INDIA)

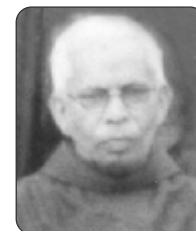


Bro. Pacificus Karimathy was born on 18th May 1923 to pious parents Sebastine K.J. and Mary K.V. in St. Mary's Parish, Kanjoor in the Archdiocese of Ernakulam, Kerala. On completion of his high school studies he remained with household chores for about six years. However his pious upbringing, did not allow him to remain at home long and finally he made up his mind to join the Missionary Congregation of Franciscan Brothers, about whom he had heard as a young man. Accordingly, he joined our fraternity on 15th August 1949. At the end of his three years of initial formation he made his first profession on 4th October 1958. From the time of his first Profession to the very end, he worked with utmost sincerity and dedication. He worked at several places such as Kolvel, Mariagiri, Vattavilai, Talegaon etc. However the longest period of his religious life was spent at Mount Poinсур, both in I.T.I. and School as Treasurer and Manager. He was also the Principal of St. Francis D'Assisi High School & Junior College for a short while. He was a man of few words who believed more in deeds than words. His commitment to the duties assigned to him, and sense of punctuality are really worth emulating. He seemed a serious person, but his commitment to the poor was remarkable, often silently done.

Bro. Pacificus had been suffering from chronic bronchitis and diabetes for quite sometime. However from the month of May 2000, he was feeling very weak and uneasy, and was treated for the same at Karuna Hospital as well as at Dr. K.B. Shah's Clinic at Borivli, Mumbai. He spent almost a month and half in the hospital hoping to recover completely. He was discharged from the hospital on 6th August and was confined to bed at the Monastery. He peacefully passed away at the wee hours of 10th August 2000, due to Cardio-Respiratory disfunctions.

His funeral service was held at St. Francis Monastery Chapel on 11th August 2000, which was well attended by religious, staff, relations, parents and students. His body was laid to rest at our cemetery at Mount Poinсур, Mumbai, where he served the longest as a missionary.

AUGUST 13
BRO. THOMAS HILLARY LAWRENCE, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Thomas Hilary Lawrence (IHMP) was born on 07th January, 1886 to Mr. Thomas Fernando and Mrs. Juckcooba Cross of St. Sebastian's parish, Sea Street, Negombo in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation on 1912 in Maggona. He made his first profession on 25th August 1914 and the final profession on 28th April 1920. Before and after his perpetual profession he worked in different institutes. He had worked at Don Bosco Boys' home, Maggona as director and school teacher, and as superior in 1924, as in charge of reformatory school in Maggona in 1929; as teacher at Chilaw Boys' School as warden at St. Thomas College, Matale, as assistant director at St. Peter's orphanage, Chilaw; as general councilor in the years 1949 to 1952, and in 1964, as manager of St. Peters printing press, Chilaw. He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M.) 1949, with others.

He took keen interest in imparting technical skills to the youth so as to make them useful in society by giving them job oriented training. He was a man of great generosity and led a simple life and was loved by everyone. Due to old age and other health complications he was admitted at the general hospital, Chilaw and there he breathed his last on 13th August 1966, at the age of 80. His body was taken to the Parish Church, Chilaw, and his funeral obsequies were held at the parish church in the presence of a large number of priests, religious, inmates of our boys' homes, relatives and well-wishers. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the common catholic cemetery, Chilaw, where he worked long years as a missionary.

AUGUST 15
BRO. HILARY AREETHARA, CMSF (INDIA)



Born at Kuravilangad, on 13th February 1936, Bro. Hilary entered the Society of Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament on 25th February 1964. The field of his apostolate was mostly in the Dioceses of Jhansi, Allahabad and Varanasi and in the Archdioceses of Agra and Delhi, ever since his profession as a Religious. Wherever Bro. Hilary worked he showed his sincerity and commitment to his mission to the utmost.

Bro. Hilary had a tender devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was not accidental then but a unique privilege for him to die on the Feast of our Lady's Assumption into Heaven. Bro. Hilary died of an accidental electrocution in the afternoon of August 15th 1992 at our ITI in Ghaziabad. After lunch, Bro. Hilary had gone to the new building site to give certain instructions to the workers to get the building ready for the forth coming annual retreat of the province. No one knew how he was electrocuted. One of the workers who saw Bro. Hilary lying face down under the staircase reported the matter to the Brothers, who in turn rushed to the site. They found Bro. Hilary's right shoulder and his right hand and three fingers burnt and an electric wire in his hand.

On the following day of his demise, Bishop Patrick Nair of Meerut Diocese offered a requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Bro. Hilary, in the Chapel of the Medical Sisters of St. Joseph, in the presence of a large gathering. Soon after the Eucharistic celebration, the body was brought to St. John's Institute, Khera Khurd, where the mortal remains were kept in the hall of St. John's Bal Bhavan, for the people to pay their homage to a great missionary whose brother Roger CMSF was also a great missionary in different part of India.

After the solemn funeral service attended by many Brothers, Priests, religious, inmates of the Bal Bhavan and faithful, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Khera Khurd, Delhi at the provincialate cemetery.

AUGUST 15
BRO. ANTHONY PEREIRA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Antony was born on 16th February 1929 to pious and devout Catholic parents, Sebastian and Angelina Pereira of St. Sebastine's Parish, Bendur in the Diocese of Mangalore.

At the mature age of 30, Bro. Anthony heard the call of the Lord and left the promising prospects to follow the Lord in the foot-steps of St. Francis of Assisi and joined our Congregation on 15th November 1959. He made his first profession on 4th October 1962 and after certain mission experiences made the perpetual Profession on 4th October 1968. He worked zealously, with a true commitment in the Northern missions, especially at Khera Khurd after profession. He also served as Local Superior of the Mother House-Mt.Poinsur, Duler in Goa, Nainadu in Mangalore, Sevasadan in Bangalore, and Gokhivera in Vasai. He also served as Bursar General of the Congregation for two terms and as Provincial Councillor of St. Francis Xavier twice. All throughout his religious life, he proved himself a true follower of St. Francis of Assisi by his words and deeds. His extra ordinary care and concern towards the Brothers, inmates and the staff was greatly appreciated by all. His compassion for the poor and downtrodden was really praiseworthy. In him there was a perfect blend of a fine human being, and a truly committed missionary who lived for others, both as an administrator and a village missionary.

In July 1999, Bro. Anthony Pereira, came to Bombay from Goa for his annual medical check up and was admitted at Holy Sprit Hospital, Andheri. After a thorough check up it was found that his health was fast deteriorating due to permanent renal failure and heart disease. Finally he was put on dialysis but in spite of the best Medical care he could not get well. He breathed his last on 15th August 1999 at the Holy Spirit Hospital, Bombay, which used to be his usual medical care-centre.

His funeral service was held on the next day at our Mother House Chapel and was well attended by large a number of Brothers, religious, relations, friends and well-wishers. His body was laid to rest in our Mother House Cemetery, Mumbai, where he was once the leader of the community in his humble service to the Brothers.

AUGUST 18
BRO. EGIDIUS CHEVOOKARAN, CMSF (INDIA)



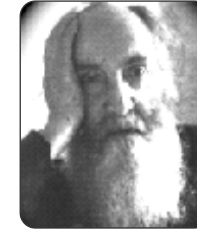
Joseph Chevookaran was born on 05th September 1912 to Mr. C. A. Devassy and P. D. Anna of St. Antony's parish, Puthukad, in the Archdiocese of Trichur, Kerala.

He joined the Congregation on 02nd November 1936 and made his first profession on 04th October 1939 taking the religious name, Egidius. He made his final profession on 4th Oct. 1945. Thereafter Bro. Egidius worked at a number of centres in India. He served as a missionary at Ampilikonam, Nellikkakuzhy, Kalavoor, Kolvel, Thottappally, Kanjirampara, Karuvatta, Pacode, Nalanchira, Vattappara, Mundela, Peermade, Eanchacode, Kilimanoor, Thonnackal, Pambanar, Mount Poincur-Mumbai, Bassein, St. Anthony's Institute-Goa and at Snehagiri Institute-Mangalore.

Bro. Egidius was very active in his ministry, whether in the rural mission among the poor or teaching in the institutions, wherever he was he seized the opportunities to communicate the Gospel to everyone. He was a trained teacher and he taught with diligence, precision and clarity. He was a gentle and an affable person and won the hearts of many by his sweet conversation. He was a gifted speaker, eloquent, witty and humorous with a fine hand in everything even in handwriting.

Towards the end of his life due to lack of mobility and diseases he led a retired life and was bedridden for a long time at Jayamatha Ashram, Nalanchira. Slowly his health deteriorated and the Lord called him for his eternal reward on 18th August 2003. His funeral obsequies were held at Jayamatha, Nalanchira at 09.00 a.m on 19th August 2003 in the presence of a large gathering of Brothers, religious, priests, relatives and faithful. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. He lies in peace with many of the heroes of the southern missions.

AUGUST 19
BRO. ZENO SCHONBROD, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Zeno was born on 29th March 1901 at Colmar, Germany. After his regular studies he joined the arts school at Frankfurt to learn draughtsmanship after which he joined our congregation. Between 1924 and 1925 he underwent the Novitiate course at Maslianico, Italy. He came to India in 1927. He helped in the deliberations and preparation of the General Chapter of 1929. He worked in the procura at Mount Poincur in the early years, and was stationed at Khandwa, Gedesal and at Pondur, Tamil Nadu. He was appointed as the Guardian of the Southern Region. From 1932 to 1935 he worked in the procura at Haseluenne and won numerous benefactors for the missions in India.

In 1935, he became the Novice Master at Maslianico and the Procurator General. During World War II in 1942, he was ascribed as an interpreter to the 'Tod' flying-company at Sardinia. He returned to Maslianico in 1945. He attended the General Chapter and was re-elected as Procurator General. Bro. Zeno came back to Mount Poincur in 1952 and worked in the procura and taught craft in the school. In 1964, he was elected as General Councillor. He helped to establish the technical school at Mount Poincur with Bro. Modestus.

In 1967, he was commissioned to Haseluenne to serve in the procura. He had been suffering from diabetes and had undergone some treatment. In 1974 he visited Bolivia and Paraguay in South America. In 1976, he had to undergo another operation. In spite of his declining health, he continued to work and to teach the students who came to him for advice and guidance.

The Golden Jubilee of his profession and his 75th Birthday was celebrated on the 13th August 1979 in a fitting manner. The next day, he went to see the newly constructed parish Church. On his return he felt very tired and retired to rest; and he complained of weakness: The

Doctor, who attended, advised him hospitalisation. He was given anointing of the sick and on August 19th 1979 he breathed his last. After the funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord, in the parish cemetery of Haseluenne, Germany, where he served as a faithful son of the congregation many years the procura.

AUGUST 19
BRO. LUKE NARICHETTY, CMSF (INDIA) SFXP



Dominic Narichetty was born on 26th February 1927 to Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Catherine of St. Michael's parish, Mullachoor in the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore, Tamil Nadu. He joined the congregation in 1949 at a mature age. After some initial formation he entered the novitiate on 04th October 1950 at Kotagiri, made his first profession on 04th October 1952 and took the Religious name Bro. Luke. After serving as a missionary in our southernmissions he made his final profession on 4th Oct. 1958.

As a Missionary Brother Luke had worked at various mission centres in South India, such as, old and new Pacode, Ambilikonam, Erumeli, Kolvel, Osarathivila, Bellary, Mount Alverno Estate Kotagiri, Cuddappa, Chillakallu, Vijayawada, Khammam, Eluru and Nainadu. His last assignment was at Eluru in Andhra Pradesh, one of the mission centres in St. Francis Xavier Province established some 40 years back, after the great floods of 1977 in which some of our Brothers took active part as flood relief workers.

Bro. Luke's services at our tea estate under the leadership of Rev. Bro. William cannot be minimized. He worked very hard and maintained the finances for our novitiate. Bro. Luke had been suffering from diabetic related illness for a long time. Fifteen days prior to his departure from this valley of tears he was admitted at St. Annes Hospital Vijayawada. On 19th August 2010 around 01.00 a.m. he breathed his soul into the hands of the Master. His funeral services were held at Assisi Ashram, Eluru where he was Superior for a long time, and his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Eluru, where we have erected this new place of rest for our missionaries in Andhra Pradesh.

AUGUST 20

BRO. GERARD THANNIKOT, CMSF (INDIA)



William was the son of Simon and Mary Thannikot of the parish of Koonammavu in the Verapoly Archdiocese. He was born on 28th February 1913. He joined the congregation at a mature age. He made his first vows on 19th March 1940 received the name Gerard, and made the final vows in 1945 at Mount Poinzur. His affability and keen sense of humour were characteristics that made others feel at home in his company. His missionary endeavours spread right through the length and breadth of India touching places like Nellikakuzhy, Chemparathivilla, Melpala, Melpuram, Pondur, Kassora, Delhi, Gorakhpur, Mathura, Bassein, Kothur, Rammasamudra, Pacode and Mount Poinzur.

After his first profession in 1940, he was transferred to Pondur, a mission in Mylapore Diocese. In 1943 and in 1945 he was given charge of Pondur Mission. He was entrusted with the farm work at Bassein Fort, and St. Peter's College, Agra he assisted in the running of the boarding. He was transferred to Kotua Narainpur in 1957 and was later called to Mount Poinzur to supervise the building work of the Redemptorist Fathers seminary at Chembur. In 1963, he was engaged in the construction of the hostel building at Mount Poinzur. In 1968, he was appointed as the Regional Superior of the South at Jayamatha, Trivandrum. In 1974, he supervised the construction of the National Vocation Centre, Poona. People admired his sense of aesthetics and space management in his constructions there.

Bro. Gerard had been afflicted with malignant cancer which left him completely incapacitated crippling his architectural missions. After a prolonged illness, he fell asleep in the Lord on 20th August 1981 at 8.20 a.m. at Mount Poinzur. After the funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poinzur, where he himself spent considerable time in building our institution there and helping others in the construction of seminaries and educational institutions like Mary Immaculate school, Borivali.

AUGUST 20

BRO. CASSIAN KOSHY PULLOMPAMPIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Geevarghese George was born on 20th September 1950 to Mr. P.K. George and Mrs. Thressiamma Pullompampil of St. John the Baptist parish, Nedumkunnam in the Archdiocese of Changanacherry, Kerala. He did his high school from our Aspirantate at Nalanchira after which he joined the Congregation in 1965. He made his first profession on 04th October 1971, and the final profession on 04th October 1977 after some missionary experiences in different missions.

On completion of his Scholasticate formation and academic studies at Christ College, Bangalore he served at St. Anthony's Institute Duler, Goa, Sevasadan Bangalore, St. John's Institute, Khera Khurd, Jayamatha Institute Nalanchira and at mission centres like Vattakarikkam and Peermade, in South India. Being a member of St. Paul's province, Northeast India he was engaged in the formation of the candidates and postulants, ever since the creation of the Northeast region. He worked at Bongaigaon, Shillong, Guwahati, Chekkardom, Jongla, Samelangso in Northeast India and lastly in the formation house of the province, Mysore. By nature, he was a calm and quiet person, always helpful to others and was a reflective intellectual. As a good English teacher he taught at the Bongaigaon Diocesan Seminary (St. Aloysius Seminary) at Chapaguri, Assam for several years. Bro. Cassian has contributed much for the intellectual development of several forms and students with his skills and aptitude. He had served St. Paul's region as councilor for a term of three years from 1986 to 1989. Wherever he was sent he showed his intellectual acumen.

For some time he was not keeping good health because of diabetic complication. God was pleased to call him from this earthly pilgrimage to his heavenly abode on 20th August 2010 while serving at the formation house in Mysore, Jetty Hundi. His funeral services were held at Sevasadan chapel, Bangalore at 03.30 p.m. on 21st August 2010, and after the solemn funeral Mass attended by a large number of Brothers, priests, religious, relatives, friends and well wishers his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Sevasadan cemetery, Bangalore.

AUGUST 25
BRO. CONSTANTINE, CMSF (GERMANY)

Bro. Constantine was born on 20th July 1883 in Germany and was among the first fruits of the vocation-canvassing endeavours undertaken by one of the appointed members of the Congregation in that country. He joined the Congregation in Khandwa, and before long, he was entrusted with the management of the house-hold affairs for which he had a special knack with the added duty of instructing the people in the villages, both of which he performed with great care and alertness of an ardent missionary.

The First Global War having broken out, Bro. Constantine had his full share of the life in the internment camp with all its inimical rigour, privations and hardships followed by his repatriation to Germany after the termination of hostilities. For a time he had to solely depend upon the hospitality and goodwill of his war surviving relations and friends for want of proper Congregational house in Europe. When a house was secured in Maslianico in Italy by Bro. Clement for the repatriated Brothers to join together, Bro. Constantine joyfully went there, to wait patiently for the dawn of a happy day to return to India.

Once in India although preoccupied with many assigned duties, he ingeniously contrived to find time for his regular month's end visit to Zaroli mission, and his usual varied and cherished practices of prayerful devotions accompanied with loud and sonorous singing of joyous hymns and psalms aloft on the old imposing tower of Mount Poinzur.

By his frank child-like simplicity and unassuming gentle behaviour which appealed to all people irrespective of caste and creed, and by his own tireless efforts, he brought in substantial help for the support of the orphans. A malignant and virulent abdominal disease prevented him further to undertake such activities. At first in K.E.M. Hospital, in Bombay, he showed slight signs of recovery but soon his conditions deteriorated and on the 25th August 1945, he calmly passed away from this world to the other, after due anointing and reception of the Sacraments. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord, in the cemetery at Mount Poinzur.

AUGUST 25
BRO. MALCHUS KAKKANATT, CMSF (INDIA)

Kurian Philip, was admitted into our Congregation in the year 1930 as a young and promising man from a traditional catholic family of Kerala. He had shown sign of God's calling right from boyhood, and this he manifested in more ways than one on several occasions. When he felt the time was ripe for this resolute step he entered the CMI Aspirantate but left it discerning that his call was not to priesthood. After sometime he joined our Congregation on completion of his High School studies. In Religion he took the name Malchus and made his Religious profession on 4th December 1939 and perpetual profession after six years..

Right through his novitiate and the succeeding years in religion he was very exemplary. He was of a simple nature and manifested a readiness to help anyone at any time. Often his utter simplicity and meekness made him a victim of much derision but he would always win over the situation with a smile and calm composure. No wonder then that even in the mission field, because of his utter simplicity of life and behaviour he captured the hearts of all whom he served. Among the many mission stations he served at are: Cherupushpavijayam, (Thottappaly), Karuvatta, Ampiliconam, Kanjirampara, Birabandi, Kalavoor and Kollegal. Whilst at St. Philomena's shrine Mysore his services were very much valued and appreciated by Fr. Odio who was the then Rector of the Shrine. Our Institutions at Bassein Fort, Goa and Mount Poinzur were also other centres where Bro. Malchus served for many years. At all these places all those who came in contact with him were very much edified with his approach to people and their varied problems.

He suffered a prolonged illness over a number of years, which he bore with great patience and resignation to the will of God till he was called to his Eternal reward. On 25th August 1977 he commended his soul to God, entering the passage to the Glory of the Father. The mortal remains of Bro. Malchus were laid to rest in the Lord at Pacode, Tamil Nadu with all the Franciscan honours to the departed soul.

AUGUST 26
BRO. XAVIER BRAGANZA, CMSF (INDIA)



Simon Thomas Braganza was born on 17th February 1907 at Acoi, near Mapusa, Goa, of pious parents Mr. J.E. Braganza and Mrs. Maria Piedade Tellis. After his elementary education in Goa, he was carefully apprenticed for professional career in Bombay. He abandoned all his further plans and joined the Congregation at Mount Poincur, on 22nd March 1930 attracted by the life of Brothers in humble service to the poor.

As a probationer, he proved himself useful in the printing Press and catechising little orphans at Mount Poincur. When in the Novitiate at Dadra he was found to be very reliable, submissive, efficient in household duties and full of good will. He made his first profession on 19th March 1932 taking the name Xavier, patron of Goa. He was glad to be on the active apostolate in Zaroli Mission. There as well as at the substations, he endeared himself to all by his gentle persuasive ways, simple manners and charitable disposition, the people felt themselves drawn to him to be instructed in the Catholic Faith. As a violinist and Musician he attracted the young and old to sing and play in the Church in liturgical celebrations.

In the Northern missions too particularly at Sival in Meerut, Jhansi, Mathura, Tundla and Anora in Agra and Birabanti in Benares, he worked with unabating zeal and self-sacrificing spirit. A number of those missions eventually developed into flourishing centres, from where he even encouraged a few vocations to priesthood and to religious life.

His tactful skill and prudence in the management of affairs facilitated the building project at Talegaon and the settlement of its land problems. Similarly, ingenuity led him to utilise his spare time to the meaningful occupation of making religious articles such as statues and Rosaries. By

means of such religious objects he gave a Catholic identity to the Neophytes, and stimulated their devotion to the Holy Rosary and thus lead people to Christ.

Being well known for his missionary enterprises he was appointed to establish two mission places at Kalay and Koasty in Goa. In order to initiate the newly arrived German Brothers in to the mission work he laboured there with great zeal and enthusiasm. Later he managed the Diocesan farm and the property at Masigarh in Delhi, which are big centres of the church today.

While he was thus busy engaged in diverse apostolic activities he had an unexpected heart stroke on 29th June 1971. He was taken to the hospital and he gradually recovered under careful medical treatment. But he had a second attack on 26th August 1971, which appeared rather violent and accordingly, he was administered the Sacraments and he Passed to his eternal reward on 26th August 1971. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the parish cemetery at Masigarh, Delhi, where he had worked for sometime in the Lord's Vineyard.

AUGUST 28
BRO. JOSEPH ALMEIDA, CMSF (INDIA)



Florence Caraceillo Aureliano Almeida was born on 7th November 1901 in the Parish of St. Patrick's Church Mombassa in the East African Province of Kenya. His parents were Jose Maria Almeida and Maria Santana D' Souza. The family later on moved to Karachi where he finished his schooling. After completing his SSC, he worked as a technician in many industries in Bombay, after returning to India from Karachi of the Undivided Bharat.

Having found the attractions of the world very disquieting to his heart, and desiring to live as a true Christian, he resolved to renounce all the pleasures of the world. At the age of 29 he met our beloved founder Bro. Paulus Moritz at Mt. Poinzur and shared his desire to be a good Christian in Religious discipline. Having found him an ardent seeker of truth and dedicated to the cause of Christ, he readily accepted him. He made his first profession on 19th March 1932 after the initial formation. As a great runner, he went about joyfully proclaiming the Gospel message "God loves you dear child of God, respond to that Love". He would say this work he carried out literally till his death. People used to look to him, to be consoled by his sweet musings on life, to be strengthened by his prayers and to be blessed by his graciousness. He has left his marks of dedication and holiness everywhere in India. He worked in Delhi, Moradabad, Gorakhpur, Bangalore, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa and Maharashtra. In all these places he worked zealously and without sparing any pains. He collected funds for the cause of the orphanage on a regular basis and systematically. It is he who bought Peermade property of ours even without knowing the local language of the area.

Towards the evening of his life he was confined to the room at St. Francis Monastery, the Mother House, due to high diabetes and other complicated illnesses. However, to his last days he was quite happy and

was contented. On 28th August 1996 around 6.30 p.m he left this world and joined in the eternal home of his Father in heaven after almost a century of his earthly pilgrimage. After a solemn funeral Mass on 29th August his body was laid to rest at our cemetery at Mount Poinzur in the presence of a large crowd of priests, religious, Brothers, relatives and well wishers.

AUGUST 31
BRO. BONAVENTURE GONSALVES, CMSF (INDIA)



Louis Gracian Gonsalves, was born on 19th August 1906 to Mr. and Mrs. J.M Gonsalves, Monden, in the parish of St. Francis Xavier, Bijai, Mangalore. With good upbringing and Catholic training from his pious parents, young Gracian, cultivated great devotion to our Lady at St. Francis Xavier Church and kept his devotion all through life.

He joined the Congregation on 12th July 1926 after the initial introductions. On 8th December of the following year he was admitted to the Novitiate at Dadra. After completing his Novitiate on pronouncing his first vows, he was given the name Bonaventure in Religion. He was sent to the missions and was very zealous in the faithful discharge of his duties. On 10th October 1936, Bro. Bonaventure made his final profession at Mount Poinzur. Kollegal in Mysore Diocese was one of his early mission fields. Zeal for souls and with advantage of Kannada, his own native language, he could do much for the people under his care, as a missionary knowing the wherewithals of his people.

After his collegial experience he was sent to one of our Northern Missions, Sival in Meerut Diocese and then to Tundla mission in the Archdiocese of Agra. While at Tundla, Bro. Bonaventure was chosen to help administration of our newly acquired tea estate at Kotagiri. During his long stay there, he improved the estate by his devotion to his daily duties and hard work. His simplicity and unassuming manners were great source of edification to the Novices and the labourers.

His next assignment was at Guntapuram, in the Diocese of Mysore assisting Bro. Romulus Moll to run far off rural missions. At Chamarajnagar, Bro. Bonaventure worked untiringly with great enthusiasm to improve the standard of then newly founded school and Orphanage with Bro. Romulus. He had a generous heart which enabled him to make any sacrifice for the cause of Christ whether in the lonely

missions near the forest area in company of the poorest of the poor or in the company of high officials. He was blessed to see the gradual and steady growth of the missions and institutions he served, growing over the years and producing abundant results.

After a joyful recreation and completing his day's account which was a must for him, he went to sleep as usual. He passed away peacefully in the Lord in the early hours of 31th August 1982. The funeral rites took place on the following day in the presence of a large number of friends, admirers, students, priests, religious and Brothers. His body was laid to rest in the Lord at Balarapatana, Chamarajnagar, where some of our veterans like Bros. Romulus, Faustin etc...

AUGUST 31
BRO. SAVIO KIZHANGUVILA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Savio was born on 13th November 1934, in the diocese of Quilon, Kerala. He did his studies at St. Anthony's high school, Kanjiracode. He joined the Congregation in 1958 and made his first profession on 30th June 1963 in the then Franciscan Brothers of Jhansi. Press media was the centre of his apostolate; he understood that the press was one of the most effective means of evangelization. The best means to share the message of Jesus' love, justice, peace, dignity, equality and progress is the communication media, especially the press, he made his confreres understand this mission in various ways, during his apostolate of print media..

True to his vocation, Bro. Savio served his Master responsibly in the world. His dealings with the workers were those of kindness, patience, understanding and sympathy. His employees will remember him for his largeness and generosity of heart. Wherever he was, he showed himself to be a person of fervent prayer, great spirit of poverty, availability and what was more, a strong sense of duty. At the same time he was a strict disciplinarian despite his calm external composure. He should be humorous as well as in trying circumstances.

Bro. Savio passed away in the Holy Family hospital, Delhi, on Monday 31st August 1992. He had earlier desired to be buried in Jhansi where he spent all his religious life. His mortal remains were, therefore, taken to Jhansi in an Ambulance from Agra where the funeral obsequies were performed, and his body is laid to rest at Prem Nagar, near the popular shrine of St. Jude, where he first learned the lessons of Religious Life and devotion to the Lord.

SEPTEMBER 3
BRO. ALEXIUS, CMSF (CZECHOSLOVAKIA)

Bro. Alexius was born in Czechoslovakia and was inspired to dedicate his life for the propagation of the Catholic Faith in India. He petitioned to be admitted into the Congregation at Maslianico, in Italy, and after the preparatory probation he was given the Franciscan garb there.

On completion of the canonical year of Novitiate there, he was overwhelmed with joy when he was sent to India for his practical training and other formalities according to the approved customs of the Congregation before his first profession.

In Mount Poincur, Bro. Alexius was conspicuous for his humble submissive manners with habitual spirit of prayer, and eager willingness to undertake even lowly and arduous duties for the common good. In fact, his exemplary behaviour of unfeigned docility and guileless simplicity were objects of admiration to the orphans and a source of edification to the community.

Physically well built, energetic and enthusiastic as he was, he cared neither difficulty nor fatigue in handling the country cart for the supply of building materials and in rendering various other assistance in the Rosary Shrine Chapels that were then under construction along the newly acquired strip of land at Mt. Poincur. While that work was in progress, his services were urgently required in the orphanage at Bassein Fort. There he made many remarkable improvements especially in the garden for a more fruitful yield which proved to be beneficial to the little Institute, and its dependents, the poor orphans.

When thus busily engaged, he had an attack of typhoid fever which he concealed under the pleasant guise of his usual cheerfulness and daily augmented activities, till his malady reached well-nigh a crisis. On receiving this news in Mt. Poincur Bro. Lucian, under instruction, rushed to Bassein and shifted him immediately to St. George's Hospital in Bombay with utmost care and caution. The medical efforts and treatment for his recovery were rather too late, and of no avail, and the Sacraments were administered to him; On the 3rd September 1936 he breathed his last. After the usual solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur.

SEPTEMBER 3
BRO. ELIAS KANNATH, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Elias was born on 15th April 1900 to pious Catholic parents, Mr. Simon and Mrs. Theresa of Vyrachala, Adoor in the parish of Ambazhakad of Trichur Arch-Diocese. He was fluent in English and Tamil, besides his mother tongue, Malayalam. He joined the Congregation on 24th September 1924 and was received by our dear Founder himself. After his initial training and Novitiate he pronounced his first vows on 2nd February 1927, and his final vows on 19th March 1934. He worked at many places like Kothamangalam, Kalavoor, Vandanam, Erumely, Pallivilakani, Thottapally, Poonamally, Kanjirampara, Jayamatha and Vattapara. He established a good number of village schools at Pondur Missions, in Tamilnadu.

Bro. Elias laboured very hard to open many mission centres. Two of our important and prestigious institutions namely Jayamatha in the Archdiocese of Trivandrum and Lourdes Mount Vattapara were started by Bro. Elias. Often he had to put up with hard struggles against various opponents; yet with unflinching confidence in God, he worked his way and was able to succeed. At Thottapally he got special permission to build the Cherupushpa Vijayam Church in the Alleppey diocese.

Bro. Elias was a unique person in many respects. He was very strict to himself and everyone else, but his love towards the poor was remarkable. His amiable nature helped him win them over to Christ's Kingdom. As a missionary he worked zealously in various missions, which, later on became well-established parishes. Bro. Elias was made the guardian in the South and helped organize the missions systematically. He was one of the General Councillors from 1949-55. He held the post of Bursar General for over 12 long years at the Generalate in Mt. Poincur.

Till his last breath, in spite of his advanced age and sicknesses, he was very observant of all his religious duties. As he was advancing in years, he was sent to rest at the Jayamatha Institute. He longed to be with his Lord and Master and asked for the last rites of the Church before his heavenly journey. He breathed his last on 3rd September 1983 at 9.30.p.m. The solemn funeral services took place on the following day in the presence of a large number of Priests, Brothers, religious, relatives and people from different mission centres. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Jayamatha Trivandrum, which he was instrumental in building up as an orphanage of repute in the whole of Kerala.

SEPTEMBER 7
BRO. GALLUS HARTMANN CMSF (GERMANY)



Norbert Hartmann, in Religion Bro. Gallus Hartmann was born on 09 August 1937 to Mr. Gregor and Mrs. Margarete of St. Heinrich Parish, Hannover in the diocese of Hildesheim, Germany. He joined the Congregation after completing his high school studies at Berufsschule Gottingen and Technical studies, on 01 May 1959. He made his first profession on 4th October 1961 and the final profession on 4th October 1967, in Bug Germany.

Bro. Gallus Hartmann served the communities at Bug- Bamberg, Coronel Oviedo, Cerrito-Benj Aceval, Dudinggen in Switzerland, Haselunne etc. He was a precision – instrument maker (Feinmecanic) by profession and a gifted preacher, and an ordained deacon. He had been a formator at various stages; Director of Novices in Haselunne etc. He also served as Provincial of St. Francis Solano's Province for a period of three years (1979 – 1981) and a General Councilor for a period of three years (1982 – 1985). Bro. Gallus worked about 24 years as a missionary in Paraguay in different capacities. He returned to Bug-Germany from South America and was serving as deacon in STEGAURACH parish under the archdiocese of Bamberg. Bro. Gallus was a linguist and helped Brothers from India to perfect their linguistic skills.

For the past few years he led a retired life due to health problems at Bug – Bamberg. For quite some time he was ill, suffering from various health problems but always cheerful and kept himself busy/occupied until his last breath. Bro. Gallus Hartmann died on 7th September 2015 at the KLINIKUM in Bug-Bamberg. His funeral services were held on 15th September 2015, with a solemn Mass at 09:30 a.m attended by several priests, religious, relatives and others. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at the cemetery in Bug-Bamberg. May his souls rest in peace!

SEPTEMBER 9
BRO. LAZAR PILLAY, CMSF (INDIA)



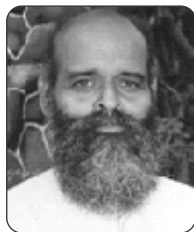
Bro. Lazar Pillay was born on 13th March 1901 of pious parents. He was the first Brother to join our Congregation from Tamil Nadu. After his formative years he worked in our old missions at Tiruppur and Sancta Maria in Coimbatore Diocese, at Pondor and Mylapore in Madras Archdiocese, at Thottapally in Cochin Diocese and Midalakkadu, Chemparathivila, Melpalai, Melpuram and Pacode in the Kottar Diocese. He was affectionately called Father Lazar because of his calm fatherly look.

He was delighted to be in the missions and worked among the very poor. He succeeded to bring the light of faith to many souls. He frequently visited the hospitals and spent much time to console the sick and afflicted and prepare them for a happy death strengthened by the sacraments and other support systems.

He visited various villages and prepared people for baptism, communion, confirmation and marriage. He taught the children to say prayers and recited the Rosary with them. He was very punctual for the community exercise and spent his free time in useful occupations. For the last two years before his death he was bedridden due to partial paralysis. He suffered much, yet he radiated peace and joy to all who visited him. He had always an angelic smile on his face which gave joy to others.

Bro. Lazar Pillay had a very happy and peaceful death on 9th September 1979, at the age of 78, comforted by the Sacraments of the Church and surrounded by the Brothers, Fathers, and Sisters. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Pacode, Tamil Nadu, where he labored for the Lord many years as an inspiring to many.

SEPTEMBER 13
BRO. SILVERIUS KIZAKKUMTHALA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Silverius (SJP) was born on 17th August 1931 to Mr. & Mrs. Cherian and Anna Kizhakkumthala of St. Mary's parish, Chalakudy in the Diocese of Irinjalakuda, Kerala. After his High School studies he joined the congregation on 12th July 1954 and made his first profession on 19th March 1957 and the final profession on 19th March 1963 after some experience in the missions.

After the profession Bro. Silverius had worked at various parts of India- in the north Indian missions at Indara, Dumri, Jafferganj, New Jalpaiguri, Delhi and thereafter at Mount Poinsur, Bassein, Kota Hall Novitiate and Mount Alverno estate in Tamil Nadu, at Vattappara, Mundela and Amboori estate in Kerala; and at Jetty Hundi, Mysore for a short period. Bro. Silverius was the Provincial superior of St. Joseph's Province for a period of three years from 1995-1998. His last assignment was at Mount Alverno estate, Kotagiri where he assisted the community in estate management with his expertise. He would never be idle in his life as a busy bee.

Bro. Silverius appeared hale and hearty always; moved around with zest of life, vigour and enthusiasm. He was an encouragement for all who met him and conversed with him. He was gifted with the charism of divining subterranean waters and many have benefited from this God-given gift which he freely offered to all those who sought his assistance in this regard. He even travelled to Africa to offer life-giving water by divination

He had made a trip to America before his demise. His earthly sojourn came to an end unexpectedly on 13th September 2010 after a sudden brain stroke on the previous night. Immediately he was rushed to the Holy Family Hospital, Kotagiri and thereafter to Kovai Medical Centre, Coimbatore but no expert medical care could save his life. The Lord

called him to be with him forever at 09.30 PM on 13th September 2010. His funeral services were held at Kota Hall chapel at 03.00 p.m on 15th September 2010. After the solemn service his mortal remains were laid to rest at our cemetery at Kotagiri in the presence of a large gathering of Brothers, faithful, religious and priests, relatives and estate employees who were his friends for years there.

SEPTEMBER 14
BRO. GALLUS LIUGI, CMSF (GERMANY)

Neither any human consideration regarding the rank and distinction that he held in the Government Orchestra in Germany, nor the bright hope of a promising future with its lucrative prospects had any deterrent effect on Platzgummer (born on 11. 11. 1898) when he decided to embrace religious life in the Congregation in Maslianico, Italy with the name of Bro. Gallus.

With much enthusiastic fervour and all possible exactness in whatever was required of him in the community observance, he went through his novitiate in Maslianico. He was delighted, after his profession to sail to India to spend the rest of his life in the sublime cause of the missions and in the service of the poor, which was his aim in forsaking other prospects.

After devoting himself to various duties at Mount Poincur Orphanage, he was sent to Zaroli missions, under the direction of Bro. Sebastian to gain practical knowledge and experience in the apostolate. There, by his charitable dealings and compassion, he soon endeared himself to the simple village folks who willingly listened to his Catechetical teachings and instructions.

When he was entrusted with the responsibilities of the Aulia Mission, he spared no pains to announce the message of salvation among the poor in distant and remote places and to strengthen the faith of the neophytes by constant precepts and salutary exhortations. The village schools were improved and his disinterested charity and sympathy to the people irrespective of caste or creed gradually created an atmosphere of good will and favourable attitude towards Christianity among them.

While thus fully engaged in his zealous labours, he had an attack of Typhoid fever, disregarding which he strove to fulfil his planned out activities even up to reaching the state of utter helplessness. Much against his wish, he was taken to Khandwa Hospital by Bro. Callixtus Moll who was urgently sent to Aulia from Mount Poincur. All expert medical efforts proved to be rather too late and ineffective. The Sacraments were administered to him and on the 14th September 1932 Bro. Gallus' soul bade adieu to the mortal companions of his earthly pilgrimage. After the usual solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord, in the parish cemetery at Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh, where we had our foundation in the initial stages of our congregation.

SEPTEMBER 16
BRO. CLEMENT KRIEG, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Clement was born in Germany on 19th December 1879. He was one of the first members of the nucleus who formed the new religious body called the Congregation of the Missionary Brothers of St. Francis of Assisi at Nagpur. In the initial stages of its establishment, he worked in St. Francis de Sales School and Orphanage in Nagpur until a new Mother House was founded at Khandwa and mission apostolate in Nimar District was confided to the Congregation by the Local Ordinary of Nagpur.

During the World War I, he was made an interpreter by the allies in Far East. But after the restoration of peace he ingeniously acquired a house in Maslianico, Italy for CMSF where he nurtured again the repatriated Brothers from India, canvassed successfully for new vocations, organised Procura work for the support of the missions and was instrumental in the establishment of an additional procura house in Haselunne in Germany. He was the first to hold the post of Representative of the Superior General in Europe and as such he transacted wisely and well, all the important Congregational affairs with the Holy See.

At the most critical and decisive time when the Congregation's existence was threatened, Bro. Clement left no stone unturned to procure the Holy See's "Decretum Laudis" through the patronage Cardinal Van Rossum of Propaganda Fide and had the Congregation formally recognised by "Propaganda Fide." As Novice Master of early times he inculcated into the novices sound Franciscan ideals and was remarkable for his austere training and rigid discipline in matters of religious obligations and observances. The missions in the South of India progressed marvellously during his Regional Superiorship due to harmonious concord and co-operation among the Brothers and the Diocesan authorities brought about by his experienced and tactful

dealings. He was a friend of the Founder of the Malankara Catholic Rite Venerable Mar Evanios. It was he who built the structure of the congregation in Kerala and south as a zealous missionary.

He spent a part of his declining years at Mount Poincur, in the memorable old building erected by himself. Towards the end of his life he retired from activities and was taking rest at Nalanchira Kerala. Then on the 16th September 1962, instinctively feeling his departure nigh at hand, he asked for a priest for the Sacrament of Peace and consolation, and without being a burden or a source of embarrassment to anyone, he suddenly collapsed due to heart attack. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira, Trivandrum. It is a grace for the brothers to have a noble soul of his sanctity lying in rest at the cemetery of Nalanchira. May he be declared a blessed one day by the church for his missionary zeal in his adopted country, India!

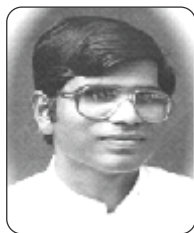
SEPTEMBER 20
BRO. GODFREY SCOTT, CMSF (INDIA)

Mesmin Peter was born on 15th December 1912 at Cochin, Kerala. He was admitted to the congregation in 1939 with the religious name of Bro. Godfrey. After the customary period of postulancy of that time in the Mother House, he completed the novitiate at Dadra. He was a prayerful, gentle and habitually reserved, cheerfully obedient and of a delicate constitution on the whole.

Except for a short duration in one of the substations of the Zaroli mission, he was mostly assigned to teaching at Mount Poincur and in the Orphanage at Goa. Besides the responsibilities of tending to the ailing orphans, he also performed other duties in the most painstaking and edifying manner. Though he worked indefatigably, it soon became apparent that the malady of his chronic tonsillitis with other allied complications had begun to affect the general tone of his health at an early age.

As medically advised, an operation for the same was performed in St. George's Hospital, Bombay, under the assiduous care and attention of his own sister, a fully qualified nurse then on duty there. Quite unaware, however, an internal complication aggravated his already precarious state. He was administered the anointing of the sick which he received with calm resignation, and peacefully breathed his last on the 20th September 1944. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Mount Poincur, with other veterans of our congregation lying in the peace of the Lord there in early pre-Independent India of the British empire where our missions were very active.

SEPTEMBER 20
BRO. FRANCIS MATHEW, CMSF (INDIA)



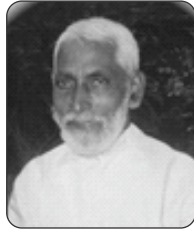
Bro. Francis Mathew was born on 17th September 1954 in the Diocese of Thamassery, Kerala. Having completed his high school, he joined our Congregation finished the novitiate training at Kotagiri and pronounced his first vows on 4th October 1974 at Kotagiri, Nilgiris, and the final vows on 4th October 1980 at Mount Poinzur, Bombay after doing his scholastic training and mission experiences. Drawn to the field of formation, he attended several 'Formators' courses and seminars and guided our young aspirants and postulants at Ranchi, Aluva, Indara and Dumrikhas. In striving to help the young, he moulded them to be better human beings and more Christ oriented.

He worked as a missionary, and in various other capacities in Meghalaya, Dumrikhas, Gorakhpur, Indara and Kootappu. He was popularly known for his extraordinary organising capacity and his unostentatious genius for planning, co-ordination and team work. He set exemplary standards of leadership, discipline and human understanding which won for him a very wide circle of youth, particularly aspirants and postulants. His cheerfulness and his optimistic approach to life are well known to all who met him. He was a person ever ready to help and be of service no matter what the cost was. As a true and loyal son of the 'Poverello,' he loved the poor and the oppressed.

With his efficient administrative skills, Bro. Francis worked for three years in the provincialate office as provincial councillor, secretary and Bursar. He was academically sound, a welcome blend of the mind and heart and a rare combination of the intellect and emotions. He was sent to San Paolo alla Regola of the TOR in Rome, to specialize in Missiology and Franciscan Spirituality.

It was on 20th Sept. 1994 Bro. Francis complained about having nausea and went to his room, which was on the last floor of the house. About 8.00 p.m. after supper Bro. Francis had a fatal fall from the last floor of the house. The news of the most unexpected death of Bro. Francis Mathew on September 20th, 1994, in the eternal city of Rome, came as a traumatic shock to all. In his passing away, the Congregation has lost an inspiring visionary and model for persevering hard work with a strong inner spiritual urge. The mortal remains of Bro. Francis arrived at the International airport in Delhi on Thursday, September 29th and was brought to Khera Khurd, where he spent the last few years of his apostolate. An unprecedented large crowd participated in the funeral service; Priests, Brothers, Sisters, his parents and relations, the inmates of the Boys' Home and the faithful. The body of Bro. Francis Mathew was laid to rest in the Lord at Khera khurd, Delhi, at the provincialate cemetery which was earlier part of the Parish-cemetery.

SEPTEMBER 25
BRO. SIXTUS PAZHANILATH, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Sixtus was born on 28th November 1912 in the Pazhanilam family of the St. Joseph's Parish of Charanallor, Archdiocese of Verapoly. After the customary education he joined the Congregation in 1937. He was welcomed into our Fraternity by our Founder himself. He did his Novitiate at Dadra and made his first profession on 19th March 1939, and thereafter, was sent to the Southern Missions of the Congregation. He worked in all the missions the Congregation had in the Dioceses of Cochin, Kottar and the newly erected Syro-Malankara Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram. In 1953, along with late Rev. Bro. Elias Kannath, he was sent to establish the Jayamatha Orphanage, the nucleus of the present Jayamatha Institutions. He made his final profession in 1945.

Bro. Sixtus spent a good many of his robust years at the service of the Orphans and destitute of Jayamatha. Successive batches of boys benefitted by his tireless labour. He was like a father, mother, brother and to them. Even though he had been a strict disciplinarian, he had a loving heart for his wards who mostly came from our missions. The mission centres which had benefitted by his service, both prior to his assignment to Jayamatha and thereafter had been Ampilikonam, Nellikakuzhy, Kanjirampara, Mundela, Midelekkade etc, in the Archdiocese of Trivandrum and in the Dioceses of Kottar and Cochin.

Worn out with work and old age, he was assigned to Jayamatha Ashram for some rest. The active and unassuming person in him could not reconcile himself with the idea of rest and retirement. He made himself useful wherever possible since two to three years he had been too weak and needed support and care. More than four times in the hospital he encountered death but was lucky to return to his confreres cheerfully.

Bro. Sixtus struggled between life and death in the hospital at Trivandrum for a few weeks prior to his death. He departed from this vale of tears in the morning of 25th September 1994. With the solemn funeral service attended by many, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchara, Trivandrum. He remains a model missionary and an epitome of simplicity and Franciscan Joy.

SEPTEMBER 28

BRO. JOHNY VELIYATHUMALIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Johny (SFXP) was born on 09th January 1963 to Mr. and Mrs. Ulahannan Veliyathumalil of St. Thomas Parish, Arakulam in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. He joined the congregation after his high school studies in 1981, and did his formation at Sevasadan Postulancy and Novitiate at Kotagiri. His first profession was on 04th October 1984 and the final profession on 04th October 1990. He had worked at a few mission centres of St. Francis Xavier province before he was selected for the ITI and then CTI studies in Mumbai. He was studious and did his studies well. As a trained Technician Bro. Johny had worked at Sevasadan Technical Institute, Bangalore, St. Francis Technical School, Anand, for a quite number of years giving training to the young in various trades. He was simple, approachable and friendly with everyone. Anybody could see in him a genuine love for the Brothers and the people in whatever he undertook.

Bro. Johny was a true brother, faithful to his Franciscan calling. He had a great capacity to feel and express his deep sense of belonging to people and to his confreres. Wherever he was placed he could make the place his home and a brother to all. He was always ready to serve, and to do it humbly. His willingness to do the least of services at any time is an inspiration to all those who had lived with him. He tried to live the spirit of a Franciscan Brother in his words and deeds. He was generous, loving and warm towards everyone. He joyfully lived the life of commitment to the full, though he was called to his eternal reward rather young.

Bro. Johny was diagnosed with cancer at a very early age of 38 and was treated for it nearly six months at St. Philomena's Hospital, Bangalore. The long medication could not be effective, as the malignancy had spread out. Bro. Johny passed to eternity on 28th September 2002. His funeral obsequies were held at Sevasadan chapel on 30th September 2002 and his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Sevasadan in the presence of a large crowd of Brothers, religious, priests, relatives, friends and well-wishers.

OCTOBER 4

BRO. LINUS HENSLE, CMSF (GERMANY)



Otto Stephan in religion Bro. Linus was born in Germany on a Christmas day, in the year 1913, to devout parents, Theodre and Maria Wilmann. He was received into the fraternity by Bro. Paulus Moritz, the founder in the year 1932, in Maslianico, Italy. After the completion of the Novitiate formation, he made his first vows on 4th October 1935, at the Mother house of the Congregation in Bombay in the presence of our dear Founder. He made his perpetual profession on 4th October, 1941. He worked at places like Mt. Poinzur, Zaroli, Pondur, Bangalore, Kollegal, Singanallore, Allahabad, Mathura, Maslianico, Paraguay, Bug and finally at Duedingen.

Besides being a pioneering Missionary in India for about 20 years, he also contributed his mite as a teacher at Mt. Poinzur School, Novice Master in Europe and as General Councillor. He also was in Paraguay as a missionary and was very much involved in the establishment and running of the agricultural school at Benjamin Aceval. He also was in Sri Lanka to animate the Junior Brothers in theology and Religious Life. He was a linguist who knew many languages such as English, Urdu, Kanaris, Hindi, Italian, and German. His dynamism attracted many youth to himself. He was strict to himself and expected discipline from his confreres. He was a good organizer and a man of great wisdom.

On 4th October on the feast of St. Francis, he insisted upon the members of his community joining the other Brothers at Bug, which was to be followed by the Regional Assembly, though the mind of the Regional Superior was not to leave him alone in the house because of his ill health. But God had His own plans for him and He called him to Himself to celebrate the feast in heaven on the same day. On the return of Bro. Bernard, the Superior and Bro. George, on 6th October, 1993, they found their companion, Bro. Linus lying dead may be due to a massive heart attack. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord in the Parish cemetery at Duedingen, a living presence to our mission in Duedingen, for dedication and devotion to the church and her mission.

OCTOBER 11
BRO. MATHEW AVANAPURATH, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Mathew (STP) was born on 02nd July 1958 to Mr. Devasia and Mrs. Mariam of St. Thomas Parish, Kurichithanam in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. He joined the congregation on 03rd July 1975 after completing high School studies at Our Lady of Lourdes High School, Uzhavoor, Kerala. He made his first profession on 04th October 1978 and the final profession on 04th October 1985, after a few experiential years in the south missions.

At the initial days of his religious life itself he was a zealous and vibrant missionary. He rendered his services at Thadikarakonam, Enchacode, Pacode missions and at Jayamatha Institute Nalanchira. As a well-trained technician, Bro. Mathew wholeheartedly contributed his best to develop our Industrial Training Institute in Thiruvananthapuram, and that Jayamatha ITI was accredited as one of the best ITIs in the state of Kerala during his term as Principal. Seeing in him the great prospects and dynamism, the Congregation chose him to join for higher studies abroad. After completing his specialization in electronics and computer engineering from Cardiff Institute of Higher Education in UK, he was appointed as the Principal of St. Francis ITI, Mumbai. There too he made great efforts in brining about effectiveness in the fields of training and service.

In establishing St. Francis Institute of Technology at Mount Poincur Bro. Mathew spared no efforts, worked tirelessly for the fulfillment of the dream-project. The dream he cherished was to make it one of the prominent institutes in Mumbai, has become a reality now. Bro. Mathew was appointed as its first Director from 1998 to 2004. While he was working as the Director of St. Francis Institute of Technology (SFIT), he was elected as one of the General Councilors in the XII General Council of the Congregation in 2003. It was during this time, that he was diagnosed with blood cancer. Soon his health condition deteriorated

and he was taken to CMC Vellore for necessary treatment, where several courses of medications were administered. Later he was taken to our house at Vattappara for rest and palliative care and treatment from Regional Cancer Center at Thiruvananthapuram. On 11th October 2004 his health completely deteriorated and he was rushed to RCC hospital immediately and at 5.55 a.m he breathed his last and left for his heavenly abode. His funeral obsequies were held at Jayamatha Ashram, Thiruvananthapuram at 03.00 p.m on 13th October 2004 and after the solemn service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery at Nalanchira in the presence of a large gathering of Brothers from all the provinces, religious, priests, relatives, friends, well-wishers and benefactors from all walks of life. He remains a smiling presence even though sister death embraced him at an early age.

OCTOBER 12
BRO. MAGNUS HAFNER, CMSF (GERMANY)

Bro. Magnus Hafner was born on 14th August 1909. He had heard much about the mission activities of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers in India from their vocation propaganda and periodical publication in Germany. It served him as a ray of light to guide his steps to embrace a life of dedication in the Congregation. With due formalities he was admitted in Maslianico, Italy at the very initial stages of our foundation.

In the Novitiate, he was a pleasant and cheerful companion for his fellow novices and a dutiful and observant member of the community. On completion of his novitiate he embarked for India to work for the good of souls according to his long cherished desire. No sooner had he picked up the local language than he threw himself wholeheartedly into the labour for souls, making no account of hardships, privations and fatigues he had to undergo for their benefit. He loved obscurity and suffering in silence, thus he went through his annual retreat in Mt. Poinzur, very piously and exactly with typhoid fever in its initial stages, without any fuss.

It became evident that the fever had developed to an alarming degree, and when he could no longer conceal it, even after his return journey to his mission station. Even after reaching his destination, he struggled hard to resume his labour of love but was medically forbidden and advised hospitalisation at Mathura (U.P). Till the last vestige of strength and consciousness, he made efforts to speak about his beloved mission. When the hope of recovery was not entertained, he was given the anointing of the sick on the 12th October 1937, after his annual retreat. He commended his spirit into the hands of the Lord. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord, in the Parish cemetery at Mathura, U.P, very few had the priviledge of being buried at the same place of activities for the Lord and his people.

OCTOBER 12
BRO. PHILIP NERI PINTO, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Philip Neri was born in Mangalore on 15th March 1923. Having completed his studies in the Parochial school run by the Bethany Sisters, he joined the Congregation in Bombay on 21st February 1948. Two years later he took his first vows and pronounced his final vows on 4th October 1956. Before his final vows, he worked in the Northern Missions and showed his fervor for the mission of the Lord everywhere.

Bro. Philip Neri began his apostolate as a zealous missionary, and as a healer in Agra, Tundla, Mathura, Okhla, Chamaraj Nagar, Mysore, Jafferganj, Indara, Dumrikhas and lastly at Khera Khurd, Delhi. Evangelization was his main apostolate as that of the congregation. Treading every morning and evening, village footpath and dusty bylanes, he reached many villages far and near, and conveyed to the villagers the saving message of the Gospel. He was a well known figure among the clergy and religious. He had also a wide circle of friends and benefactors from whom he collected funds for the support of our Orphans at Khera Khurd. He made himself useful wherever and whatever manner possible, even selling pickles hand-made by him for the benefit of the orphans.

A few weeks before his death, Bro. Philip Neri brought to the notice of the provincial that he felt an acute pain in his chest and expressed his desires to consult a heart specialist. He was, therefore, rushed to St. Stephan's hospital, Delhi, where he underwent an arterial bypass surgery. Since then, he had been struggling between life and death, even though medications were supplied regularly.

He departed from this vale of tears on Wednesday, October 12th 1994 at 8 p.m. His was a peaceful and happy death. He was well prepared to meet the Lord and see Him face to face. He was a man of prayer and spent several hours daily in the chapel with the Lord in silence.

The funeral obsequies took place on 13th October 1994. A large number of our Brothers from St. Joseph's Province with many Religious and people of Delhi attended the funeral service. The mortal remains of Bro. Philip Neri were laid to rest in the Lord at Khera Khurd, at our provincialate cemetery.

OCTOBER 15
BRO. ANDREAS SCHARPF, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Andreas Scharpf (SFSP), was born on 25th June 1934 to Mr. Karl Scharpf and Mrs. Kunigunde Ruedel of St. Martin's Parish in the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart, Germany. He joined the congregation on 15th June 1962 and entered novitiate on 04th October 1962. He made his first profession on 04th October 1964, and after the profession he moved on to Paraguay missions as his zeal for missions was immense. After many arduous adventures, he made his perpetual commitment as a fully matured Brother on 4th Oct. 1970.

He lent his services to the Communities at Coronel Oviedo, St. Francis' Agricultural School-Benjamin Aceval, (Vallegrande in Bolivia), Asuncion, Guyabi and Cerrito. A major part of his life was spent among the indigenous people called the INDIOS in Cerrito Chaco.

The 44 years of his ministry in the country of his adoption, gave rich dividends for the future; and his brief ministry in the neighbouring country Bolivia did not disappoint these expectations. A rapidly increasing Ministry at large and prosperous Sunday school, to the increasing piety and growth of which, with indomitable resolve, he devoted every energy of his soul, time and talents, and strength. Among the results of his ministry, was winning the hearts and affections of his people. His great simplicity and the earnest piety of a saint, were conspicuous traits of his character. He was sincerity itself. He, with a noble self-emptying promoted the eternal well-being of his beloved people. He cast himself into the breach-one mighty sacrifice; that others, those who follow him see the advantage of the "prodigal oblation." He served the Province of San Francis Solano in various capacities: Master of Postulants, Novices, Vice Provincial and as Provincial from 1997-2000.

A few weeks before his death he was brought to the community at Coronel Oviedo for rest and recuperation after the treatment for heart ailments. Bro. Andreas Scharpf returned to the scene of his arduous and self-denying labors, with apparently improved health. But alas! For the uncertainty of life in two short weeks his Master's summons came- the Lord called him to his eternal rest on 15th October 2008. Fray Andreas was well prepared and fortified by the Sacraments while he was under treatment at CENTRO MEDICA BAUTISTA in Asuncion, Paraguay.

His mortal remains were brought to Coronel Oviedo. The funeral Mass was presided over by the Bishop of Benjamin Aceval his Lordship Cardenen. He was buried with honour in our private cemetery after the solemn funeral services which was attended by a large gathering of people, brothers, religious and priests. Two bus full of people from Chaco honoured him at his last rites by coming to Coronel Oviedo.

OCTOBER 17
BRO. PRAKASH EKKA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Prakash Ekka hailed from the village of Jhargaon in Ranchi Archdiocese. His love for the Mission attracted him to join our Congregation and made his first procession after the Novitiate at Kotagiri on 4th October 1982. He worked at St. John's Boys' Home, Khera Khurd, Delhi, from 1984- 87 and Alverno Abri Jongla, East Garo Hills, Meghalaya in 1987. He made his final profession on 4th Oct. 1988. After a few months of service at Jongla, Bro. Prakash was transferred to Prabhat Tara School at Jaigaon of Jalpaiguri District in West Bengal. He taught in Prabhat Tara School from 1987-89. His last assignment was at St. Joseph's School, Jafarganj from where he was called to God's garden at an early age.

Bro. Prakash was a quiet, unassuming, diligent and hard working young man, pious and punctual in his religious duties. His short and well lived life never offered him a chance of any so-called spectacular achievement. Yet for those who knew him, his life is really worth an emulation. On 16th October 1989, Bro. Prakash went to School as usual. During the interval he expressed a bit of uneasiness to the staff, and hoped that he would be alright the following day. On the same day by evening Bro. Prakash was in good health and had even helped the Superior of the House in giving out wages to the workers at Jafarganj farm.

On 17th morning, Bro. Prakash who used to be always punctual, was found missing for morning prayers. After the prayers, when the Brothers went to call him they found him lying slumped on the floor. Immediately he was taken out of his room and given the last anointing and he breathed his last at 6.30 a.m. on 17th October 1989. His funeral rites were held on 18th October at 9.30 a.m. Many Brothers, Sisters, Priests, lay people and children of the school participated in the solemn Mass and after the service his body was laid to rest in the Lord in our cemetery at Jafarganj mission where he spent his last assignment in the Lord's mission.

OCTOBER 19
BRO. IRENAEUS THONAKARA, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Irenaeus, (in baptism Thomas) was born on 13th May 1934 to Mr & Mrs. Paulose and Rosa of Thonakara family of St. Mary's Parish, Nazarethkundu in the Archdiocese of Thalasserry. After completing his High School studies from Moothedath High School, Thaliparampa, he joined the Congregation on 06th October 1960, and made his first profession on 04th October 1963 and the final profession on 04th October 1969.

After the profession Bro. Irenaeus has worked at various centres in South India, as Superior and Manager of communities and Estates namely, Vandanam, Panavoor, Vattappara, Kartikulam, Mount Alverno Kotagiri, Panavally, Peermade, and finally at Assisi Bhavan-Aluva. As a missionary he rendered commendable services at Pattumala Matha Shrine, Peermade for many years. A zealous missionary, a compassionate and loving Franciscan that he was, Bro. Irenaeus was always available to every person who approached him. He was very kind and generous especially towards the poor, sick and needy. Any time he would take to the wheel to render assistance to anyone.

A patient of diabetes for many years, he was under treatment and strict diet. He was admitted at Carmel Hospital, Ashokapuram, Aluva due to high blood sugar and later was shifted to Lissy Hospital Ernakulam for Dialysis in October 2012. In spite of all the medical care his condition worsened and he succumbed to his illness at 04.30 p.m on 19th October 2012. His memory will always be cherished by all who knew him, especially the Franciscan fraternity and his dear and near ones.

His funeral obsequies, took place at 09.30. a.m on 22nd October 2012 at Nalanchira; it was attended by several Brothers from various communities, priests and religious and many of his relatives. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Nalanchira. May the merciful Lord grant this dedicated missionary the reward of eternal peace and joy! For serving him faithfully in whatever he was called to!

OCTOBER 23
BRO. SEBASTIAN MIRANADA, CMSF (SRI LANKA)



Bro. Sebastian was born on 13th of May, 1924 to Mr. Manual Miranada, and Mrs. Mariya Rakkeliya Vas of St. Sebastian parish, Sea Street, Negumbo in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation on 29.11.1949 as a member of the Franciscan Fraternity there and made his first profession on 09.09.1975 and the final profession on 08.09.1981. He served at Don Bosco Boys Home, Maggona, Matale, Chilaw, and Batticaloa. He was a man of prayer and lived a simple life. In his short life he showed his commitment as a humble Brother in the service of the poor orphans and marginalized. He breathed his last, due to heart attack at Assisi boys' home on 23.10.1991, at the age of 57. His body was brought to the monastery at Matale and the Brothers, Priests, religious, Boys from St. Francis, Matale and relatives, benefactors, and faithful were assembled to give him the last respects. After the solemn funeral Mass on 25.10.1991, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the Brothers cemetery, at Matale. May his dedication and zeal inspire many to join us at the service of the Lord and his people!

OCTOBER 25
BRO. GILBERT REBELLO, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Gilbert Rebello was born on 13th May 1914 to Mr. Peter Dominic and Mary Theresa Rebello in the parish of Our Lady of Remedy, Poisur, Kandivli. Having finished his studies at Antonio D' Silva High School, Dadar, he joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers at Mount Poinsur and pronounced his first vows in 1938 in the presence of our beloved founder, and his final vows in 1944. He was a Pioneering Missionary in many of the missions which are now handed over to various Dioceses. He worked as a missionary in the Dioceses of Varanasi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Shillong, etc. He served the Congregation in various capacities; as Novice Master in Kotagiri for 9 years, General Councillor, Regional Superior of North and North East Regions, Assistant Provincial, Provincial of St. Francis Xavier Province Bangalore, Local Superior at the Mother House-Mount Poinsur and at Sevasadan, Bangalore.

To all the assignments entrusted to him he brought his unfailing good humor and cheerfulness which made him immensely popular and liked by all. In his own inimitable way he was deeply attached to the Lord, our Blessed Mother, to his vocation, his confreres and the people.

During the six decades of his life in the Congregation, Bro. Gilbert proved to be a zealous missionary deeply committed to evangelization and the welfare of the people. His exemplary life was a great inspiration to all who came in contact with him even when he was physical ailments. On the evening of 25th October 1996 Bro. Gilbert was found gasping for breath. Finding he was in serious condition the Chaplain anointed him and gave him the Viaticum. He breathed his last in peace at 05.55 p.m.

A solemn funeral service was arranged on 26th October after which his body is laid to rest in our cemetery at Mount Poinsur. A good number of Franciscan Brothers, other religious, priests, lay people, relatives and friends of Bro. Gilbert attended the funeral Service. Bro. Gilbert edified generation of younger brothers by his simple ways and innocent behaviour and down to earth manners.

OCTOBER 30
BRO. FELICIANUS KODIMARAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Francis in religion Bro. Felicianus was born on 02nd November 1929 to Mr. Antony and Mrs. Theresa Kodimarathummootil of St. Anthony's parish, Anackal in the Diocese of Kanjirappally, Kerala. After his high school studies at St. Dominic's HS, Kanjirappally he joined the congregation on 15th June 1955, entered the Novitiate at Kotagiri on 19th March 1956, made his first profession on 19th March 1958 and after initial mission experience in our south mission he made the final profession on 19th March 1964 at the Mumbai Generalate.

Bro. Felicianus worked after his profession as a zealous missionary at places like; Kolvel, Melpuram, Pacode, Mount Poinsur (as superior), Talegaon, Enchacode, Sivagangai, Bandadukka, Panavally, Nalanchira, and as Manager and Superior of several houses and institutions in the congregation. Wherever Bro. Felicianus was placed he would make his mark by simple hardwork and missionary zeal. People of Pacode (T.N) even today speak of his Spartan missionary endeavours. He attracted many vocations to Religious Life and priesthood by his exemplary life. He was a good administrator and true to his convictions in whatever he undertook.

Bro. Felicianus suffered a massive heart attack on 30th October 1996. He breathed his last at Jayamatha Institute, Nalanchira. His funeral services were held at Jayamatha at 03.00 p.m on 02nd November 1996 and after the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Nalanchira.

OCTOBER 30
BRO. ANACLETUS MANALAYIL, CMSF (INDIA)



Varkey Mathew Manalayil in Religion Anacletus was born on 3rd September 1934 to Mr. Ouseph Varkey and Mrs. Maria of St. Mary's Parish, Pulincunnu in the Changanacherry Arch-Diocese, Kerala. After his High School studies at St. Joseph's, Pulincunnu, he joined the Congregation on 19th March 1956 and made his first profession on 19th March 1959 and the final profession on 19th March 1965, after some years of mission training in North and South of India.

Bro. Anacletus served the Congregation in various capacities at various centres in South India and North. Some of the places of his assignments were; Kolvel, Mount Poincur, Ampilikonam, Birabanti, Malipur, Jafferganj, Indara, Ranchi, etc. He was elected Provincial of St. Joseph's Province in 1980 and served the Province for three years with pastoral and administrative excellence. He was a great and enthusiastic missionary and worked with zeal and arduor in spreading the message of Christ to the people around. His mission services Jafferganj and Malipur etc. are remarkable. He is a well known figure even today. He attracted some vocations to our Brotherhood from the mission there: He undertook village development programme for the poor and disadvantaged Christians in the missions.

In the evening of his life he was afflicted with various illnesses and had a patient and prolonged suffering. He was hospitalized on many occasions, and on 30th October 1998 he left this world to join the Lord in eternal bliss. A solemn funeral was arranged at Khera Khurd, Delhi on the 31st Saturday, October 1998, and after the solemn Mass which was well attended by the Brothers from various centres, priests religious and relatives, his mortal remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Khera Khurd, Delhi.

NOVEMBER 2
BRO. IGNATIUS, CMSF (GERMANY)

Sparing in silence, unassuming in manners, reserved and serious looking, Bro. Ignatius was born in Germany and had a bright and promising future, which he abandoned to respond to the divine call and embraced religious life in the Congregation of the Missionary Brothers of St. Francis of Assisi as one of its early members. Simultaneously with his preparatory training in the Franciscan mode of life, at Khandwa, he got into the spirit of the missionary congregation. He also picked up the local language so as to be able to assist in the printing press where Bro. Paulus edited a Hindi Periodical called "*Farishta*" the messenger.

Thereafter, he laboured very fruitfully in the newly established mission stations, successively at Pandhana, Aulia and Boifal. The people felt themselves drawn to him by his exemplary piety and Christian teaching, sympathetic charity and unflinching goodwill towards them. Endowed, as he was, with a special aptitude for and skill in agricultural methods, he was entrusted with a large estate at Sirpur mission in Nimar District. Through his whole-hearted interest, and by dint of indefatigable labours the project developed into a large Catholic settlement or colony for neophytes who were given plots of land for individual cultivation and were taught farming, weaving, cattle-rearing and other industries to enable them to be self-reliant.

During the World War I, he was subjected to the hardships of the internment camp at Ahmednagar, and later repatriated to Germany where wholly and solely he had to depend upon his kinsfolk and acquaintances for his subsistence till Bro. Clement arranged for the repatriated Brothers to reassemble in the newly acquired house at Maslianico, Italy.

When he was allowed to return to India, he once more, struggled to revive the old Catholic settlement at Sirpur and to improve the estates, utterly abandoned during his absence. Incessant labours and excessive strains, however affected him physically and mentally in course of time.

He was given enough medical assistance both at Bassein Orphanage as well as at Mt. Poincur. As he was slow in he was sent to Germany for further on medical aid. As he was re-cuparating anatorium there, he showed definite signs towards recovery. However, the Second Global

War, having broken out, with its dreadful ravages, he was one of the unfortunate victims of a tragic disaster and was heard no more. We do not have much knowledge about his last rites. We pray specially that the Lord grant him eternal reward as one of our beloved brothers!

NOVEMBER 2
BRO. MARTIN PAMPOORICKAL, CMSF (INDIA)



Joseph in Religion Bro. Martin was born on 8th January 1925 in the Pampoorickal family of pious Catholic parents. He hails from the parish of St. Michaels' Pazhayidom of the Diocese of Kanjirappally. Young Joseph did his elementary and High School studies at St. Berchman's High School Changanassery and Higher Secondary from S.H. College Thevara, a great achievement for a youngster of those days. Out of his zeal for the mission, young Joseph joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers in the year 1953. He underwent the usual formation and pronounced his first vows on 19th March 1955; On 19th March 1961 he pronounced his final vows at the Mother House, Mount Poinsur, after finishing his initial assignments in the Congregation.

After his first profession, he did his graduation from Mar Ivanios College and B.Ed from Mar Theophilus College Nalanchira, and his Post graduation from St. Xavier's College Mumbai. He rendered his untiring services as the Principal of St. Francis D' Assisi High School Borivli for many years and as Superior of the Novitiate house at Kotagiri, and as General Councillor of the Congregation for a term. Earlier in 1989 he was elected as Provincial of St. Thomas Province. For a short term he was appointed as the Regional Superior of Sri Lanka soon after the amalgamation of the Brothers there to our congregation. At all places he worked as a simple Brother without fear or favor, to any believing in the Gospel values.

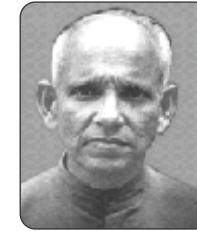
Bro. Martin was a great scholar, a prolific writer, a man of deep knowledge, an efficient administrator and an interpreter of Indian Culture, cult and traditions. This made him study and research the Indian Scriptures in comparison to the Bible. As a result he has written several books such as Bhagvad Gita and Bible, Sree Rama and Jesus Christ, Srimad Bhagavatham for Greater Unity, Mahabharatha in the

Light of the Bible etc. He also rendered his services as the editor of our communication organs, The **Sower** and **Thomasite** for many years. Bro. Martin was a silent worker, an accepted person and humble Brother to all. He always encouraged every Brother to pursue some studies as each one could.

Bro. Martin spent the last years of his life at Lourdes Mount Ashram, Vattappara using the time mostly in reading and writing. On August 1997 he had a fall in his room due to high pressure and diabetes. The Brothers shifted him to the well-known S.U.T. hospital at Pattom, Trivandrum. Later he was brought back to Jayamatha for rest as per his wish but after a few days his condition worsened. On 2nd November he breathed his last at 3.30 p.m, a day dedicated to remember all the faithful departed.

His funeral obsequies were held at Jayamatha on 3rd November 1997 at 3.00 p.m. After the Solemn Mass his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Jayamatha, Nalanchira, where he started his career as a missionary.

NOVEMBER 05
BRO. STANISLAUS OPPANTHADAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Stanislaus was born on 06th October 1929 to Mr. Thomas & Eliamma Oppanthadam of St. Francis Assisi Parish, Marangattupally in Pala diocese, Kerala. He joined the Congregation in 1953 and made his first profession on 19th March 1956 and the final profession on 19th March 1962. As a young religious he showed signs of a promising Religious person with a penchant for deep perfection in whatever he did with an aesthetic sense. Therefore he was selected to undergo various training programs at J.J. School of Arts, Mumbai and Teacher's Training program in St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. He served the institution in Mount Poincur, Mumbai from 1956 to 1980 in various capacities, especially, as Director of the orphanage. He was appointed Director of Postulants at Sevasadan in 1980 and as Director of St. Francis Boys Home, Mumbai from 1983 to 1985; thereafter as Superior at Kota Hall Novitiate, Kotagiri, as Novice Master at Chamarajnagar for the Novices of St. Francis Xavier Province, as National Vocation Coordinator and Superior at Assisi Bhavan, Ashokapuram, Aluva also as manager of the Schools at C.R. Balarapatana, Chamarajnagar, Karnataka, as Superior at Assisi Nivas, Vempally, Kerala, as Spiritual Animator at Novitiate, Kotagiri, as Assistant Director of Postulants at Sevasadan, Bangalore etc.

Bro. Stanislaus was a cheerful and contented Brother and he lived his vocation as a Religious Brother to the finishing point in loving and serving his community and the people around. Unassuming in nature, he was a silent doer of things and as a man of prayer and deep affection for others he went out of his way to help Brothers and everyone who sought his assistance. In truth he was an altruist-a man for others. He leaves behind a rich legacy of service, loyalty and genuine commitment. His last assignment was to be a member of the community at Sevasadan, Bangalore, from 2004 onwards. He was an Ecologist as a Franciscan, loved and nurtured nature wherever he was assigned.

Bro. Stanislaus Oppanthadom, CMSF (SFXP) left for his heavenly abode on 05th November 2011 at St. Philomena's Hospital Bangalore where he was admitted for treatment a few days prior to his demise. His funeral services were held at Sevasadan chapel and his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Sevasadan cemetery, Koramangala, Bangalore in the presence of a large crowd of people, Brothers, ex-students, relatives, friends and well wishers. He leaves behind an aura of holiness for all of us to emulate.

NOVEMBER 11
BRO. JEROME KOTTARAM, CMSF (SFXP)

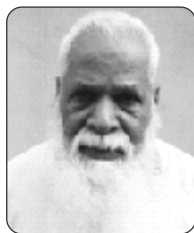


Bro. Jerome was born on 31st May 1933 to late Mr. John and Mrs. Mariam Kottarathil of St. Mary's Parish, Kudamaloor in the Archdiocese of Changanacherry, Kerala. After his High School studies he joined the Congregation in 1959 and made his first profession on 04th October 1962 after the customary formation program and the final profession on 04th October 1968 after the completion of Scholastic studies in our newly established Theologate in Bangalore soon after the Vatican II.

His missionary journey took him almost all over India, beginning with Vandanam Kerala, thereafter to Alleppey, Mundela, Kolvel, Peermade, Indara, Malipur, Dumri, Chitaunakalam, Goa, At Mount Poincur he collected funds for the Boys Home and in-charge of the Technical School Hostel, at Gokhivare, Mangalore, Chickmagalur, Kasargodu, Kallathipura, Chamarajnar, Vijayawada, Ananthapur, Vempally, Begur, and at Sevasadan Institute Koramangala. He spend his time being of assistance to other brothers, than take up on himself big responsibilities.

Bro. Jerome was a man of prayer and led a very simple and exemplary life wherever he was placed in. He welcomed everyone with a genuine smile and affection and shared the joys and sorrows of those approached him. Having served the congregation in various capacities at many centers Bro. Jerome had been resting at Sevasadan, Bangalore due to ill health for some time. Bro. Jerome breathed his last in the Lord at 1.30 p.m on 11th November 2014. His funeral obsequies were held at Sevasadan chapel on 12th November 2014. May God grant him life Eternal in heaven as he served him as a simple and humble servant!

NOVEMBER 12
Bro. Hubert Kumpuckal, CMSF (INDIA)

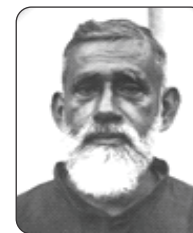


Bro. Hubert, in baptism Michael, was born on 25th March 1917 to Mr. Ittiavirah and Mrs. Anna Kumpuckal of St. Joseph's parish, Anthinadu, in the Diocese of Pala, Kerala. After his high school studies he joined the Congregation on 20th September 1938, entered the novitiate at Dadra on 19th March 1939, made his first profession on 19th March 1941 and the final profession on 19th March 1947. From then onwards Bro. Hubert worked at various centres of the Congregation mainly in north India, such as Dapara, Chisda, Mathura, Agra, Manikpur, Rath, Khera Khurd, Maslianico-Italy, St. Joseph Garmiswil-Switzerland, Kotagiri, Malipur, Haselunne-Germany, Anupnagar, Mount Poinzur, Panari mission, Siwal, Assisi Ashram-Ranchi, Indara, and for the past several years he has been under medical care and rest at the Provincial House Khera Khurd, which he made use as an avid reader and an edifying presence as a humble missionary to the tilt.

Bro. Hubert has held several important offices in the Congregation, such as: Assistant Novice master and later as Novice Master at Kotagiri, as Superior General of the Congregation from 1967 to 1973 and as Assistant General from 1973 to 1979. He was appointed as Provincial of St. Joseph's Province in 1990; as Assistant Bursar General in 1992, and as Bursar General in 1994. He initiated the process of amalgamation of the Franciscan Brothers of Mary-Sri Lanka (FBM) and the Franciscan Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament (Jhansi) with the CMSF. Bro. Hubert has laboured 71 long years in the Lord's vineyard as a committed and dedicated Franciscan Missionary Brother at various capacities. As he has left the world to join the Lord in heaven, we pray that the good Lord in his mercy grant him life eternal with all the Angels and Saints.

Bro. Hubert is remembered for his Spartan missionary conviction without diluting the values of which he was convinced!

NOVEMBER 14
BRO. ULRIC CHILAMBATH, CMSF (INDIA)



Thomas Chilambath, in Religion Bro. Ulric was born on 5th April, 1913 in the Diocese of Kottayam Kerala. As a young boy he had exhibited a spirit stirring interest and enthusiasm in his religious practices. He took active participation in all pious catholic associations. As a student, his energetic nature, wit and humour made a ring of friends around him. After completing his studies, he joined the Congregation in 1933. After a few months of mission experience in south he was called to Bombay. After the successful completion of his Novitiate, he made his profession on 19th March 1937 and the perpetual profession on 19th March, 1943 at Mt. Poinzur.

North Indian Missions were the first centres of his activity. He was sent to Malipur mission, and, he extended working among the poor and non-believers; After a few years of service there he was called to Mysore. He worked at Kollegal and Doddarayapet. Later in Kerala, he engaged himself in catechising, preparing the children for first communion and giving every possible help to them, both temporal and spiritual. He worked in the South at various places like; Thottappally, Anchalpet, Vandanam, Karuvatta, Ambilikonam, Kanjirampara, Vattavila, Enchacode and Thonnakal, wherever he served he showed a serious mind and was practical in approach.

Kilimanoor was his last place of ministry. Though he was very hardworking and enthusiastic, he found himself attacked by diabetes and heart disease. In spite of all these his spirit and love for souls impelled him to be with God's people. He worked with new enthusiasm and zeal till the end of his earthly pilgrimage.

On 13th November 1982 he was admitted to hospital in Trivandrum and on 14th morning he passed away to be with his Master. On 15th morning the solemn funeral rites took place in the presence of a large gathering of Priests, Brothers, Sisters and relatives. His body was laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Nalanchira, Trivandrum.

NOVEMBER 16
BRO. SERGIUS KOTTARAM, CMSF (INDIA)



Chacko Kottaram, in Religion Bro. Sergius was born on 22nd November 1910 to Mr. Thomas and Philomina, in the Parish of St. John's, Theckekara in the Arch-Diocese of Changanacherry. He was admitted as a candidate at Kalavoor in July 1932. He arrived at Mt. Poinсур on 25th November 1932, and received the Holy Habit on 7th December 1932 from the hands of our beloved founder. He joined the Novitiate at Dadra on 19th March 1933, and later he was sent to the Ongoor mission in March 1934. He made his final profession on 19th March 1941.

He worked at several mission stations like; Kalavoor, Cherupushapavijayam in Cochin Diocese, Anchelpetty in Thiruvalla Diocese, Uriurkuppam, Periankuppam in Madras Diocese, Nellikakuzhy, Karuvatta, Kanjirampara, Mundela and Nalanchira in Trivandrum Archdiocese, Midalkadu, Kolvel, Pacode and Osarathivila in Kottar Diocese, Erumely and Peermade in Vijayapiran Diocese. He also served as a director of Aspirants at Nalanchira. He was an inspiring Religious to the trainees and young there.

Bro. Sergius was a religious deeply imbued with a Franciscan spirit, simple and unassuming in his ways, prayerful and submissive to his Superiors. When the superiorship was laid upon his shoulders, his community radiated peace and joy in large measure. His fatherly ways won the hearts of both the old and young.

While preparations were in full swing for the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Mundela Mission on 16th November 1975, Bro. Sergius accompanied by Bro. Benedict on a motorcycle were making their way to the Mundela Mission from Pacode. Unfortunately their journey turned tragic when about 10.30 a.m. a car turning at a diversion of a side road near Kalliekavila dashed against the motorcycle and Bro. Sergius sustained serious injuries which ultimately robbed him of his life after some struggle. He passed away at 2.30 p.m. after receiving the anointing of the sick. After the solemn funeral service, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Pacode, Tamil Nadu, where many of our veterans sleep in the peace of the Lord as faithful servant of our mission.

NOVEMBER 17
BRO. CAJETAN VANIAPURACKAL, CMSF (INDIA)

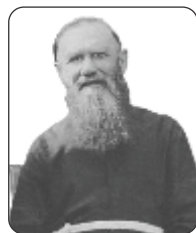


Bro. Cajetan (SJP) was born on 03rd May 1914 as the only son of Mr. Varkey and Mrs. Elizabeth Vaniapurackal of St. George's parish, Edathua in the Archdiocese of Changanacherry in Kerala. He joined the Congregation on 14th February 1938 and made his first profession on 04th October 1940 and the final profession on 4th October 1946. After the profession he commenced his missionary activities at our South Indian missions in the Diocese of Kottar, Tamil Nadu and later at Mundela, Nalanchira, of the Malankara Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Later most of his services would be in the Northern Missions, at various places.

After gaining sufficient experience in pioneering missionary apostolate he was asked to take up mission work in North India. More than fifty years he toiled at various mission centres in all kinds of circumstances bringing Catholic faith to the interior villages of the North especially at Allahabad, Lucknow, Agra, Gorakhpur, Delhi, Barsen, Goratpuram, Birakhanti, Indara, Dumri, Malipur, Ranchi, Jafferganj, etc. As a zealous and committed missionary, his life and services in the missions were very effective and gratifying. He led a very simple and prayerful life all throughout his earthly journey. His life and example remains as a source of inspiration for all the Franciscan Brothers.

He was an oracious reader in Hindi, and was interested in photography as well. He would occasionally contribute to the SOWER on various missionary topics. The last days of his life he spent in prayer and reflection in spite of being affected by severe rheumatism. On 17th November 2005, the Lord called him for his eternal reward after long years of service to the Lord in his Vineyard as a true Franciscan Brother. His funeral obsequies were held on 19th November, on our founder's day at Indara, in the presence of a large gathering of Brothers, religious, priests, well-wishers, relatives and faithful. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Indara after the solemn funeral Mass. His long life was a reward given to him for his missionary zeal and enthusiasm for the Lord and his people, especially the poor.

NOVEMBER 19
BRO. PAULUS MORITZ, CMSF (GERMANY)



(Founder and First Superior General)

Brother Paulus was born in Koenigsburg, Germany on 29th June, 1869. He had his early education at Cologne and Bonn. Even before becoming a missionary, he used to help the Missions in India. His great longing to see the missions was fulfilled when he came for the first time to India with a group of young men in 1895.

By the year 1901 Brother Paulus founded the Religious Community of the then Franciscan Missionary Brothers, with the strong support and help of Brother Nicholas Hohn, one of his companions. For some time they worked at Lahore now in Pakistan and later on moved to Nagpur, from where he extended his missionary activities to many other places. The zeal for the salvation of souls and spirit of sacrifice made him successful in all his endeavours and soon he became a popular missionary of the time.

In 1908 he was invited to Bombay to start an Orphanage and missions. He found Mount Poincur as the most suitable place. Brothers Clement Krieg and Philip were asked to start the work and soon the establishments made rapid progress. From 1930 Mount Poincur was made the Mother House of the Congregation. As the Superior General, Brother Paulus governed his community with paternal care, zeal and solicitude for each and every individual. His love for the poor was very remarkable. In spite of many difficulties from various sources, with courage and determination, he spearheaded the missionary activities of the budding Congregation he founded. The congregation spread further to the Ecclesiastical units of Nagpur, Bombay, Damaun, Krishangar, Agra, Indore, Dinajpur, Allahabad, Mysore, Jhansi, Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Mylapore, Madras, Delhi, Alleppey, Trivandrum, Quilon, Cochin, Pondicherry, Tiruvalla, Kottar, Salem, and Bangalore, to almost every important diocese of India of that time.

Overburdened with activities, old age and illness. Bro. Paulus spent some days in the hospital before the Lord called him to eternal Life. But one or two days before his death he returned to Mount Poincur. Calmly and peacefully Brother Paulus breathed out his soul into the hands of his Creator on 19th November 1942. Mourning bells were tolled to announce the Brother's Paulus departure from this valley of tears and the whole of Mount Poincur was plunged into deep sorrow and gloom. Looking calm and serene in death the body of Brother Paulus was laid out in the coffin and Requiem High Mass was offered in the morning for the peaceful repose of his soul.

In the evening the Archbishop Thomas Robert of Bombay officiated at the solemn funeral service, in the presence of many priests, religious from Bombay city, from the suburbs and Bassein with crowds of people, friends, benefactors, well-wishers and boys of the Orphanage. The Archbishop in his funeral speech dwelt on the life history of Brother Paulus and his hard struggles in the cause of evangelization. He praised the spirit of self-sacrifice and his love for the poor and his zeal for the conversion of souls. The Archbishop exhorted the Franciscan Missionary Brothers to continue the laudable work begun by their Founder. He pointed out to the orphans how Brother Paulus came from a distant land and laid down his life for the poor. He advised them to pray for him and in their gratitude to remember him always as their great benefactor and Brother. After the sermon with the usual blessings and prayers his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord in the cemetery at Mount Poincur. Thus a saga of zeal and missionary pioneerism was laid to rest to shine as a light from heaven.

One can almost visualize the entry of Brother Paulus into the portals of the Heavenly City and hear the words of our Heavenly Father "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord". A long life, wherein was fused a healthy mixture of contemplation and action, had come at last to a holy termination: a life, that had translated into action the prayerful words of our Father St. Francis, "to spread joy where there was sadness, to diffuse light where there was darkness and to create love where there was hatred": a life that had sought to give more than to receive, to love more than to be loved and to welcome sister death in order to enter into eternal life.

THE LAST LETTER OF OUR FOUNDER

Mount Poinsur
22.10.1942.

Beloved Brothers in Christ,

Our Lord Jesus Christ has given me the grace that He calls me to eternal life not by a sudden, unexpected death, but I had time by a long wearing sickness to prepare for eternity and the surgical operation, which may end my earthly life, may be the gate for a better life with all the Angels and Saints whom we have venerated, as our heavenly patrons and friends. So let us hope God Almighty will pardon me, through the blood of Jesus Christ, all my sins and failing, and Jesus, our Saviour, having cleansed my soul will come to fulfil the promise He has given to those who believe in Him and trust in His mercy.

Like a family-father bids farewell to his children when dying, so will I also be, parting from you, who for so many years have been my children, my helpers and co-labourers in the vineyard of God, in the Missions. I ask pardon from all and each, if I have wronged or offended you and have not always given a good example and ask your prayers for my poor soul if kept in purgatory. I thank you for all the good works you have done with me and for our Holy Church, and I am sure many of you will have merited higher place in heavenly glory than I have attained by your greater generosity and love of God with which you have served God in the Religious Community and in the mission work.

All I have to do now is to recommend you to remain in fraternal love and charity until the end of your life. Whatever may happen after my death, consider that I wish you to live in unity and in submission to your new superiors, and not let the devil triumph, when tempting you to give up your holy intentions and vows and vocation.

As we hope that Almighty God allows His Elect in eternal life to pray, to plead and protect those they have left on earth, so may I hope, I can also be useful in eternity to get you more graces for the glorious work in the Mission field. Up to now you have unselfishly sacrificed your comfort, ease and inclinations in the service of the missions, so I trust you will continue to sacrifice your health and your life for the spreading of the holy Catholic Faith among the ignorant in our Missions and endeavour to extend your activity year by year to further villages and territories until all India is converted to our Holy Church.

May our dear Lord Jesus hear this my last prayer to make you useful members of the militant Church on earth and bring us later altogether at His heavenly banquet. Goodbye to all of you.

Yours ever affectionately in Christ,

Bro. Paulus, C.M.S.F.

NOVEMBER 20

BRO. ANTHONY CYPRIAN COLAMBEL, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Cyprian was born on 28th March 1934 to pious parents, Mr.Varghese and Mrs. Mary of St.George Parish Vazhakulam in the Kothamangalam Diocese, Kerala He was the eldest in the family of four brothers and a sister.

After his initial studies, he joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers in the year 1951, and made his first commitment on 19th March 1955, and after the initiation of the congregation in the mission; he made the final Profession on 19th March 1961. He worked at many places like Indara, Masigarh, Dumrikhas, Jhansi, Khera Khurd, Goa, Mt. Poinsur, Chamaraj Nagar and Gokhivra. In all these places he had won the hearts of people by his sociability and hard work. His rare sense of humour and melodious voice coupled with musical talents made him very popular among staff, students and the parents. He was the Principal of St. Francis D'Assisi High School, Mumbai for 13 long years and during his tenure the school underwent great transformation in all spheres of its activities and emerged as one of the leading schools in the whole of Mumbai. In due recognition of his selfless dedication to the teaching vocation, he was given the Best Teacher Award and a Citation by the Government of Maharashtra and India. He was the only Brother to receive this coveted and prestigious state and National awards. Again he was honoured by the state Government of Maharashtra by conferring on him the post of Executive Magistrate of Bombay. He was instrumental in Bringing the President of India Shri. Shani Zail Sigh for our jubilee at Mt. Poinsur.

Despite all his success in life, he was very simple and approachable. His jovial nature had won him numerous friends from all communities and walks of life. Even though most of his life was spent in the institutions, he had a great love for the missions and the poor, which can be witnessed from his work among the poor in the city of Mumbai.

Bro. Cyprian suffered a heart attack on 17th November 1997 and was immediately rushed to the Hospital. Despite the best efforts of the doctors, he breathed his last on Thursday, 20th November 1997 at Lilavati Hospital, Bandra. His funeral obsequies were held at our Mother House, Mt. Painsur on 22nd November 1997. A large crowd of Brothers, his relatives and friends, teachers and students, benefactors and well wishers had gathered for the funeral service. After the solemn funeral service his body was laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Mt. Painsur. Even a Road at Borivali is named as "Bro. Cyprian Chowk", a rare honour to one of our Brothers. May his missionary enthusiasm remind us to be for the poor and needy in the field of Education.

NOVEMBER 26
BRO. ALOIS MAECHLER, CMSF (SWITZERLAND)



Bro. Alois (SFSP) was born on 10th December 1920 to Mr. Meinrad Maechler and Mrs. Anna Holdener of Saints Peter & Paul Parish, Vorderthal in the Diocese of Chur in Switzerland. His vocation to our congregation came when he was working as Post Master in his hometown in Switzerland. He joined the congregation on 20th October 1955 as a mature man leaving all worldly prospects. He was admitted to the novitiate at Masilianico, Italy in 1956. He made his first profession on 19th March 1958 and the final profession on 19th March 1964 at Missionshaus- Bug, Bamberg, Germany. As a young missionary he had worked at our communities at Haselunne, Germany, Duedingen-Switzerland, Duler-Goa, Mount Painsur-Mumbai, mission centres in Paraguay and Bolivia and Bamberg.

As a zealous missionary he was compassionate and kind and had concern for everyone. He did his best to spread the message of Christ through his life and action wherever he was placed. He was the last surviving Brother from Switzerland in the congregation.

On coming to India he was ever active in the mission as well as in the printing sections. He used to keep the archives of the congregation bound and in good shape. He abhorred ostentatious living and was very just in his transactions. He was bedridden for a few years due to age and illness at a nursing home in Bamberg, Germany. The Lord called him for his eternal reward and he breathed his last in the morning hours of 26th November 2004. His funeral obsequies were held at our house in Bamberg and his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Bamberg. He reminds us of our duty to be active whatever assignment is entrusted to us as missionaries in simple and humble ways.

NOVEMBER 29

BRO. WOLFGANG STROMER, CMSF (GERMANY)



Bro. Wolfgang was born on 22nd March 1944 at Frensdorf, Germany to Mr. Georg Stromer and Irma Meisel of St. Mauritius, Sassanfahrt parish in the Archdiocese of Bamberg. He joined the CMSF on 1st July 1970 in Bamberg and made his novitiate there and made the first profession on 04th October 1972 and the final profession on 04th October 1979. He worked at our mission centres at Bomberg-Germany, Vallegrande, Bolivia and did praiseworthy pastoral services in the local parish. He was appointed Regional Superior of St. Boniface Region in 1985-1988, before its amalgamation to St. Francis Solano's Province, South America. His places of apostolate were mainly at Haselunne and Missionshaus-Bug, Bamberg (Germany) and Vallagrande-Bolivia. He was elected General Councilor for overseas during the X General Chapter in 1991, and again in the XIII General Chapter in 2009. For several years he was in charge of publishing the Congregational news bulletin 'Herz Voran' from Germany. His last assignment was at Vallagrande, Bolivia, the place he liked most. He used to move around the villages near and far to meet people, to catechize and re-evangelize them, even in the most inclement situation he would drive through the villages of Bolivia on rough terrain.

On 28 November 2011 after returning from Pastoral Work at Mataralcito around 2.00 p.m, he complained of severe pain on the lower parts of his legs. On his request the parish priest was called along with a doctor, who diagnosed him to be suffering from high blood pressure. The Doctor advised him to be shifted to NIÑO JESUS HOSPITAL at Santa Cruz, Bolivia. On the way to the hospital at ANGOSTURA he breathed his last and entrusted his spirit to the Lord as a robust missionary. His body was brought to Vallegrande (Bolivia) community by the same ambulance. The last rites were held at Vallegrande Parish Church at 04.00 p.m on 30th November 2011. Thereafter his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord beside Late Bro. Conrad Deiters at the parish cemetery, where he used to be a popular figure and a regular participant in the pastoral activities of the local church.

NOVEMBER 30

BRO. THOMAS FERNANDO, CMSF (INDIA)

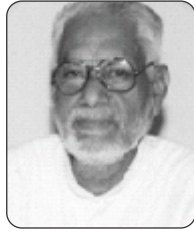


Bro. Warnakulasooriya Edmond Thomas Fernando was born on 5th January 1944 to Late Mr. W. Peduru Augustine Fernando and Mrs. W. Augustine Victoria Fernando of St. Bernadette's Parish Chilaw in the Diocese of Chilaw, Sri Lanka. He joined the Congregation of Franciscan Brothers of Mary (FMB) in the year 1962 and made his first profession on 22nd August 1963 and the final profession on 22nd August 1969. Thereafter he completed 2 years of course in Printing from Colombo, 2 years of course in Wiring and Welding from Trincomalee, one year Automobile course from St. Francis ITI, Mumbai, and one year training in OFFSET Printing from Mumbai. (Completed these courses before the amalgamation of FMB with CMSF in 1984).

Bro. Thomas Fernando has worked at the various centres of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province, beginning with the Boys Home at Maggona as Assistant Director, later he became the Director of the Institute, then he served with dedication and commitment at Matale, Talawakele, Ukuwela, Ekala, Chettikulam, communities of the province. He was appointed Regional councilor by the General Council in 1986. For the last few years he was manager of the estate at Ukuwela and worked very hard to make the estate economically viable and be of service to the poor. Bro. Fernando had a Cardiac arrest as a result of his diabetes and hyper tension and breathed his last on 30th December 2014.

His funeral obsequies took place at Matale on 06th December 2014. May the Lord in His mercy grant him life eternal in heaven.

DECEMBER 01
BRO. JULIAN ALOOKARAN, CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Julian was born on 02nd October 1930 to Mr. Ouseph and Mrs. Mariam Alookaran of St. Mary's parish, Thripunithura in the Major Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Angamaly. After his high school studies the young man Alookaran joined the congregation in the year 1959 and made his first profession on 04th October 1961 and the final profession on 04th October 1967. He had zealously worked for several years as a pioneering evangelizer at our mission centres in South India, namely; Vandanam, Mundela, Mariagiri, Kotagiri, Padallur, Saram, Panavoor, Vattappara, Pambanar, Panavally and Nalanchira. He served as Provincial bursar for fifteen years and later as Mission Procurator of the Province going from house to house to collect resources for the sustenance of the Boys Home at Nalanchira. He joyfully did this service for sixteen years, until his last day. Bro. Julian had an extraordinary knack to get people collaborate with our mission, especially the officials of the government departments. He also served our Novitiate for some time.

The Lord called him from his earthly pilgrimage to heaven on 01st December 2008 as he was moving around to collect arms for the poor boys at Jayamatha Boys Home, Nalanchira. He had finished upto date his accounts of the day as a faithful steward, when the Lord called him unexpectedly on 1st December 2008. His funeral obsequies were held at Jayamatha Chapel, Nalanchira on 03rd December 2008 officiated by Moran Mor Baselius cleemis Catholicose, the Archbishop of Thiruvananthapuram. After the solemn funeral service which was attended by Brothers from all communities, religious, priests, benefactors, well wishers and relatives of Bro. Julian his mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery in Jayamatha, Nalanchira. The Arch-bishop praised Bro. Julian's missionary zeal, liturgical awareness of the local church. He said that it is hard to find a substitute for him in the Arch-diocese for such financial stewardship in the Lord's mission and services to the poor.

DECEMBER 2
BRO. ERNEST REBELLO, CMSF (INDIA)



Maximian Rebello was born at Poisur, in the vicinity of Borivli, Bombay on 14th April 1918, of pious parents, John Baptist and Mary Rebello. He joined the Congregation on 26th May 1938 and received the religious name of Bro. Ernest. A sturdy, good natured youth of 19 years, somewhat short in structure was, serviceable, exact, and frank in manners, and wit. He spent his probation and postulancy periods of two years at Mount Poincur, completed his novitiate at Dadra, and pronounced his first vows on 19th March 1942, before the Indian Independence of India.

Thereafter, he worked with fresh enthusiasm in the schools and Orphanages at Mt. Poincur and Bassein Fort, where he also helped the orphans remarkably in their studies and physical wellbeing. Likewise, he labored in the missions at Dapchari in Bombay Archdiocese, at Hartmanapur and Francispur and then at Bangon in the Diocese of Banaras and Lucknow respectively. He was known for his zealous efforts to bring the light of faith to the ignorant poor and instructing little children, catechumens and neophytes according to the needs of the people with genuine missionary enthusiasm.

When the responsibilities of Mount Poincur printing press were entrusted to him, shortly after his final vows on 19th March 1948, he underwent a training course in Calcutta. He then introduced a new vigorous system of work in the press, and raised it to a high pitch of efficiency. Being a local, or one from the neighbouring parish, he had large acquaintance with persons and places all around, which combined with knowledge of a number of vernaculars, made him very handy in the Mother House affairs and in dealing with men and matters. For the same reason his services were often made use of by the authorities in Mount Mary's Basilica, Bandra, especially during the

annual feast on 8th September. After 18 years of efficient press management, an urgent need obliged him to take up the weighty task of collecting alms in Bombay. His arduous efforts, no doubt, had a very tangible success. But in the middle of the second year he had an unexpected violent stroke of hypertension which left him an invalid in spite of all possible medical attention. He was thereafter, assigned occupation with occasional opportunities for medical treatment, and recuperation at Bangalore and elsewhere. God's conquering grace; however enabled him to bear his sufferings with patience and resignation. He breathed his soul into the hands of the Lord on 2nd December 1971, at a tender age. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur after a solemn funeral service attended by a large crowd of mourners from near and far.

DECEMBER 4
BRO. GABRIEL SPIELMANN, CMSF (GERMANY)

Bro. Gabriel joined the Congregation in Maslianico, Italy with the aim of serving the people and to work for the cause of evangelisation in India. From the start, he strove for deep spirituality combined with practices of austerities and scrupulous observance of the rule and community life. Having completed his novitiate, in Mallalianico, Italy with such pious and genuine disposition, he came to India. He soon adapted himself to the mission life and got conversant with the dialect and customs of the people in North Indian missions.

Paying no heed to the scorching heat and travelling difficulties, he joined the distant villages on his missionary enterprise, often content with the available food and water, which were not quite hygienic, proved detrimental to his feeble health. Thus it was that he began to feel symptoms of Typhoid which he ignored because of his endurance, availing himself of the local medical treatment at Sewal, very rarely.

However, the critical time of the crisis soon ensued and the sacrament of Extreme Unction had to be administered. Then on 4th December, 1937, God was pleased to call him for the promised rewards. His body is laid to rest in the Lord in Delhi after the usual solemn funeral service. (We do not have very clear details about his life and activities as these were hard times and documentation were rare).

DECEMBER 04
BRO. JOHN PETER, FBM (SRI LANKA)



Warunakulasooriya Juan Fernando was born on 23rd May 1889, to Mr. Warunakulasooriya Phillip Fernando and Rosa Mariya of St. Sebastian's parish, Sea Street, Nugombuat, in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. He joined the congregation in 1908 and made his first profession on 19th December 1909 taking the name of Bro. John Peter, and the final profession on 02nd February 1916 after the initial mission experience. He was appointed at the reformatory school in the year 1913, and was appointed as principal in 1929 simultaneously. He was the director of St. Louise orphanage at Maggona. He passed the teachers training examination in the year 1913, and was appointed as principal at Tamil school, Chiaw in the year 1919 and in 1924 he was at Don Bosco School, and later at Sea street school in 1949. He also held other responsibilities like Director of Postulants, Novices, superior, bursar and councilor in the congregation of Franciscan Brothers of Mary - IFBM

He was one of the pioneers to establish the Franciscan Brothers of Mary, (F.B.M) in 1949. He was elected local general councilor in the year in 1923, 1949, 1952, 1955, and in 1964 and as assistant superior general. His vision was mainly to develop the congregation to stand on its own, and to make the youth good citizen of the country. He lived a life worthy of his call as a Franciscan Brother. On 24th November 1967, he had a fall in the garden and was admitted to the general hospital, Matale. He breathed his last peacefully on 04th december 1967 at the age of 78. His body was taken to the Parish Church, Matale. His last rites were held at the parish church, Matale on 05th December 1967 in the presence of many Brothers, children from St. Francis Boys' home, priests, religious, relatives and faithful from the parish. After the solemn funeral Mass his body was laid to rest in the Lord at the common cemetery, Matale, rest with the other pioneers in the hope of the resurrection.

DECEMBER 9
BRO. AMBROSE D'SOUZA, CMSF (INDIA)

Everyone who knew Gervis D'souza was astonished to hear that he, after, long deliberation and spiritual consultation, had decided to embrace religious life in our Congregation. He was born on 6th May 1890. He belonged to a respectable and affluent family which allotted him a share in their patrimonial legacy, and he had a lucrative post in the Government Telegraph - service in Bombay. All these he sacrificed to be a missionary in the Lord's Vineyard.

In March 1921 he was received into the Congregation at Mount Poincur, by or Founder Borivali and was given the name Bro. Ambrose. He was admitted to the Novitiate in 1922 and pronounced his first vows on 4th October 1924. In the beginning, he had to do much violence to himself to live up to the Franciscan spirit of poverty, simplicity and self abnegation. The combat was all the harder and more arduous to him because he was already overaged when he joined, and till then he had lived at will, in comforts, and had tasted delicacies and luxuries of the world. By persevering efforts, he overcame all difficulties and was soon noted for his spirit of penance and mortification, for the observance of the rules and common life. He loved seclusion, obscurity and silence which helped him to acquire the habit of deep piety and contemplative prayer. With due permission he distributed the revenues and income of his patrimony to help the poor. The mission stations at Zaroli, Chizada, Dadra, Dabcherri, Goa and Bassein were scenes of his zealous labours and recipients of his generous charity.

He assisted the Brothers' activities in various places, and while at Dadra, he had suffered heart attack, Much against his wishes, he was taken to St. Elizabeth's nursing home, where after receiving the last anointing without any struggle of the last agony, on 9th December 1964 he calmly passed away to receive the "Promised Reward" of eternal life. After the solemn funeral services, his body was laid to rest in the Lord at Mount Poincur, attended by numerous people, Religious and clergy including.

DECEMBER 10
BRO. THOMAS D'SOUZA CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. Thomas D'Souza CMSF, in Baptism Diogo Marshal D'Souza was born on 11th May 1926 to pious parents Mr. Marshal D'Souza and Mrs. Helen of St. Sebastian's Church, Marowlli-Chembur, in the Arch Diocese of Mumbai. He has a brother and five Sisters.

After his initial studies, he joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers on 6th November 1961 at Mt. Poinsur and made his First profession on 4th October 1963 and the final commitment on 4th October 1969. He served at many places like Jaferganj, Dumri, Ranchi, Telegaon, Malipur, Gokhivare, Nainadu-Mangalore, Cudappa, Chamrajnagar, Anand, Sevasadan and Mt. Poinsur, Mumbai. In all these places he worked in different capacities. Wherever he was assigned he did his best with his simplicity and honesty.

Bro. Thomas D'Souza was a fascinated farmer. He always liked and did well in taking care of the farms wherever he was sent. His craftsmanship and expertise can be noticed in our agricultural establishments, like Dumri, Gokhivare, Jafferganj etc. He was very austere and down to earth in his approach to people and situations.

The Lord had given Bro. Thomas D'Souza sufficient time to prepare himself to embrace sister death. He was suffering from high diabetics. In the first week of December 2015 he fell sick and was admitted to the Karuna hospital, Borivali a few days of treatment, he was shifted to our Gokhivare community and was given the best medical care whenever needed. He breathed his last on 10th December 2015 due to cardiac Respiratory failure at 6.38 pm. Fortified by the sacraments of the Church. His funeral obsequies were held in the presence of Priests, Religious, relatives and laity on 12th Saturday, at 11.00 a.m. at Mt. Poinsur Chapel and his body was laid to rest at our cemetery, in Mt. Poinsur, Mumbai.

DECEMBER 18
BRO. IRUDAYANATHAN MARIADAS, CMSF (INDIA)



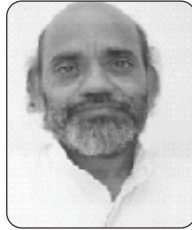
Bro. Nathan was born as the third child of pious and devout parents, Mr. Mariadas and Mrs. Anthoniamma, on 17th December 1947 in the Chikmagalur diocese, Karnataka. The family belonged to St. Joseph's Cathedral parish, Chikmagalur, Karnataka. His father functioned as choir master of the Catholic Church there.

He completed his High School studies in Chikmagalur and his ITI studies in Madras at the Salesian Institute. He joined the CMSF in October 1971 and made his first profession on 4th October 1974 at Kotagiri Novitiate, and final profession on 4th October 1982. After his profession Bro. Nathan (as he was popularly known) worked at various places like Bombay, Bangalore, Mangalore, Goa, Gujarat, and Ranganahalli. He was a born musician, who could play any instrument and this was one the attractions during his missionary days in Chikmagalur / Ranganahalli. He would conduct choir in two or three local languages.

More than a technician he excelled as a missionary in the rural villages of Karnataka. As a hard working Brother and missionary to the core he reached out to the interior villages and communicated Christ and his good news to the people. He brought life in its fullness to the mission center at Ranganahalli which otherwise was dormant for a long period. He also actively participated in all the programs of the neighboring parishes, especially by training the youth in liturgical chants.

His vibrant life came to a sudden end on 18th December 1999 after returning from Christmas Carol programs of the Birur Parish in Chikmagalur Diocese. He suffered a massive heart attack and breathed his last instantly. The community members were with him. His body was brought to Sevasadan, Bangalore and after a solemn funeral Mass he was laid to rest at Sevasadan cemetery on 19th December 1999. Sevasadan Technical Institute was field of his zealous work for the poorer boys of the mission villages for many years.

DECEMBER 24
BRO. JOHN BOSCO.K CMSF (INDIA)



Bro. John Bosco Kalathanal CMSF, in Baptism Thomas Varghese, was born on 08th November 1941 to pious parents Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Anna Kalathanal of St. Mary's Church, Paingulam in the diocese of Palai. He is survived by two brothers and a sister.

After his initial studies, he joined the Congregation of Franciscan Missionary Brothers in the year 1963, and made his First profession on 19th March 1966 and the final commitment on 19th March 1973 at Mt. Poinsur. He did his graduation and post graduation in Bangalore and Bhopal Universities. He served at many places like Kaliakavilai, Lourdes Mount School, Vattappara, Mt. Poinsur, Mumbai, St. Francis D' Assisi School-Ranchi, Khera Khurd-Delhi, Jafferganj, Dumuri, Malipur, Indara etc... In all these places he won the hearts of people by his sociability and hard work. His style of mingling with the staff, students and parents in the schools was so jovial. Most of the time his ministry was in the schools as an experienced and able teacher: He was a good orator as well.

He was hard working and daring in nature. After the retirement from the teaching post he spent most of his time in Jafferganj community under going treatment for his diabetics and Cancer. Despite the best medical care rendered to him, he breathed his last on 24th December at 11.30 am and his funeral obsequies were held in the presence of a large number of Priest, Religious and Laity on 26th Saturday at 11.30 a.m at Jafferganj community. His mortal remains were laid to rest at our cemetery in Jafferganj, U.P. May his Soul rest in Peace.

DECEMBER 26
BRO. EDWARD LOBO, CMSF (INDIA)



Lawrence Bernard Lobo was born on 26th March 1945 to Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lobo and Piedade Lobo of Gloria Church Parish, Byculla in the Archdiocese of Bombay.

For several years he was a student and boarder at St. Francis D'Assisi High School and St. Francis Boys Home, Mount Poinsur viz in the late 1950's and early 1960's. He became attracted to the congregation imbibing the mission-spirit of our elderly and devout Brothers at Mt. Poinsur he became a member of CMSF on 19th March 1968 by pronouncing the three vows to embark his missionary journey as a true and ardent follower of St. Francis of Assisi. His final profession on 19th March 1974 was a reconfirmation of his vocation to labour zealously for the Lord.

The graced journey of Bro. Edward as a young Franciscan in the early seventies did bring much appreciation and admiration by all, for the quality of love and compassion. The various responsibilities he held in the Congregation prove that he was matchless and unique in carrying out the entrusted duties with diligence and utmost care. As Superior and Manager of St. Anthony's Institute, Duler, Goa; Superior and Manager of St. Anthony's Balbhavan, Gokhivare, Vasai, Superior of Assisi Ashram, Eluru-Andhra Pradesh, Rector of Jyothisadan Scholasticate, Bangalore, Vice-Provincial and later as Provincial of St. Francis Xavier Province Bangalore, General Councillor for two terms; Local Superior of St. Francis Monastery, the Mother House of the CMSE, Assistant Novice Master at Kotagiri, etc.

He proved his commitment to his confreres and community and encouraged the members with genuine affection, wisdom and wit. As a man of good-humour he could get along with the people of all strata of life, young and old. For the inmates of our Boys Homes he was a good

friend, a good father and mother, a wise adviser, a philosopher and guide and a generous and cheerful giver.

His last assignment was at St. Antony's Balbhavan, Gokhivare in the diocese of Vasai to look after the inmates of the Boys Home. He was admitted at Karuna Hospital, Borivali on 25th December 2010 due to Cardio-respiratory problems. All the expert medical care could not save him. He breathed his last at 09.30. a.m on 26th December 2010. The solemn funeral service was held at 04.00 p.m on 27th December at St. Francis Monastery Chapel which was attended by a large number of ex-students, staff, relations and well wishers. After the service his body is laid to rest in the Lord at our cemetery, Mount Poincur, a place which witnessed his growth as a simple committed Franciscan.

DECEMBER 30
BRO. CALLIXTUS ROEHL, CMSF (GERMANY)



Franz Roehl, in religion Bro. Callixtus, was born on 1st September 1903 to pious Catholic parents Wilhelm and Martha Roehl at Essen Saele in West Germany. After his early education young Franz qualified as a mechanic there. He felt that his place was not among the craftsmen but serve the poor and joined the novitiate of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers on 4th October at Maslianico, Italy. He completed his two years of Novitiate on 4th October 1928 and pronounced his first vows. His long cherished dream of coming to the missions in India was fulfilled when he took his first assignment at Mount Poincur as a young missionary.

As a trained mechanic he was very helpful in the institute in training the orphans and poor boys. Unassuming as he was, always he went about his duties cheerfully. His next posting was at Khandwa mission in Madhya Pradesh. Bro. Callixtus made his final vows in 1934. Bikampur mission in Utter Pradesh was his next field of apostolate. Theresapur in Allahabad, Indara and Gorakhpur in Banaras Diocese were his successive places of mission activities. After the devastating cyclone at Mount Poincur in 1948 when almost all the structures were flattened to the ground, Bro. Callixtus's help was brought into raise up the new structure. After the completion of the new school building he was transferred to Khera Khurd, Delhi mission and later on to Mathura in Agra Diocese. He was back in Masigarh, Delhi where he did a lot to improve the farm. Then he was posted at Talvadi mission in the interior of Mysore district. Later on he was assigned to help Bro. Romulus in building the house at Talegaon. He was the right hand of late Bro. William in constructing the new Novitiate building at Kotagiri.

From 1966 to 1967 Bro. Callixtus was the manager of our newly founded Technical School at Mount Poincur. Thereafter he was transferred to South, Vattapara, Trivandrum. After a short duration he

was posted at Ramasamudra in Mysore. He loved the poor orphans and did his best to improve their lot there. From the long list of places where Bro. Callixtus worked, we can imagine the difficulties he must have undergone with various languages, climatic conditions, varieties of food and customs etc; yet we see him always smiling and willing to take any orders of transfer within a short notice.

He retired to our house at Mt. Alverno, Kotagiri where in spite of his advanced age and ailments he was a helping hand wherever needed. On 28th December 1983, Bro. Callixtus was admitted to in the hospital at Kotagiri for treatment. In the same evening he took serious ill and the Sacraments of anointing of the sick was administered to him. On 30th December 1983 he breathed his last. On the following day a solemn funeral service was arranged in which a large number of Priests, Brothers, Sisters and Christians from the neighbourhood attended. His body is laid to rest in the Lord at Kotagiri, where some of his early companions from Germany lie in the peace of the Lord.

SEPTEMBER 06

BRO. MATHEW PERUNILAM , CMSF (S.F.X.P), INDIA



Bro. Mathew was born on 7th June, 1947 to the devote parents, Mr. Devasia and Mrs. Rosa of Perunilam family of St. Mathew's Parish in the diocese Changanacherry, Kerala. He has three Sisters and five Brothers, among them three brothers have gone to their heavenly abode to receive him.

After the completion of his High School studies he received the call to be a Missionary. He entered the Congregation of the CMSF on 7th August, 1968. He did his Novitiate in the year 1969 in Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu at the common novitiate of the Franciscan Missionary Brothers. He made his first profession on 4th October, 1971 and the Final profession on 4th October, 1977.

Bro. Mathew possessed a number of good qualities. He was an affectionate and charming person who discharged his ministries readily, lovingly and joyfully. He was a versatile Franciscan, a good football player in his young age, a green-fingered gardener, an expert administrator, a man who had special gift to deal with officials to get his work done, always approachable, he was a straight forward person. He had the capability to get along with any sort of a person, young or old, poor or rich. It was a unique character that he nurtured. He was fluent in many languages, like English, Hindi, Marathi, Konkani, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu etc. This unique talents made his mission successful, and won the hearts of people. He was zealous for the good of others.

He was outgoing and sociable. He was generous in his personal and apostolic life; all these and many other positive human qualities flowed from his deep faith in God, his love for the Church and the Fraternity of the Brothers, it gives no doubt that, Bro. Mathew was a multifaceted person. He was a good youth animator, had a special talent in dealing with the youth very effectively – he loved them, cared for them and was

always striving to build their lives on strong faith and sound economic foundations. He was a great promoter of vocations.

He served the Congregation in various capacities, especially as the Director at St. Francis Orphanage, Mumbai for a long time; As the Superior and Manger at Vidya Vikasini School, Gokhivera Director and Superior of School and Boys' Home in Goa, Superior of our mission in Khammam Superior and manger in Kasaragod, Superior at Sevasadan etc.

He served the Province as the Province Leader and Provincial Councilor for few years. He had an ardent love and devotion to our Blessed Mother, so much so he used to promote Marian devotion wherever he was assigned.

Bro. Mathew's unexpected demise is a great loss. He suffered a low blood pressure which caused him to collapse. He was rushed to the hospital but in vain. The Lord called him to His abode at 8.30 p.m, on 6th September, 2016. May Jesus, for whom Bro. Mathew served with so much love all his life, welcome him into Eternal Glory.

His funeral obsequies took place at Sevasadan Chapel on 8th September 2016 at 3.30 p.m. A large number of Brothers, priests, religious, relatives, friends and well-wishers were present to pay their last tribute. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the Lord at Sevasadan cemetery, Bangalore.