



NEWSLETTER

MAY- 2026

DIVINE PROVIDENCE PROVINCE



The month of May, tenderly dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, invites us to draw closer to her heart through prayer, especially the Rosary a devotion cherished across generations. As we enter this sacred time, the words of Our Lady of Fatima echo with renewed urgency: ***“Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world.”*** Pope Paul V reminds us, ***“The rosary is a treasure of graces.”*** For our Founder, St. Louis Guanella, the Rosary was *not merely a prayer* but a ***“Powerful Weapon”*** and a *daily source of strength*. His deep Marian devotion shaped his life and mission, teaching us that prayer must always lead to charity.

Today, this call resounds with a particular force. In a recent message shared through the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, Pope Leo draws our attention to the painful reality of global hunger.

This Marian month is a time of special grace for our Province. On the 26th of May, 15 of our brothers will renew their vows in India and in Rome, reaffirming their commitment to God's mission. Their fidelity stands as a quiet yet powerful testimony that vocations are alive. In a world often marked by uncertainty and discouragement, their generous “yes” becomes a proclamation of hope.

On 31st May Novice **Julian Raj Jenis**, will make his first religious profession, offering his life to the Lord after a year of discernment. Mat his steps echo the courageous “Yes” of Mary, a surrender filled with trust and love.

On 26th May 2026, we also remember with gratitude the 160th anniversary of the priestly ordination of St. Louis Guanella, our beloved Founder. His life remains a guiding light, showing us how deep prayer united with active charity can truly transform the hearts in the world. Through his example, we are reminded that every vocation is a response to God's love and a mission to share that love with others.

As we journey through this month dedicated to Mary, let us unite in praying the Rosary daily in our homes, communities, and parishes. Guided by Mary, the Woman of Assent, may we walk together in faith, transforming prayer into action and devotion into service. In doing so, our lives will become a living proclamation that God's love is still at work in the world, calling, healing, and renewing all things.

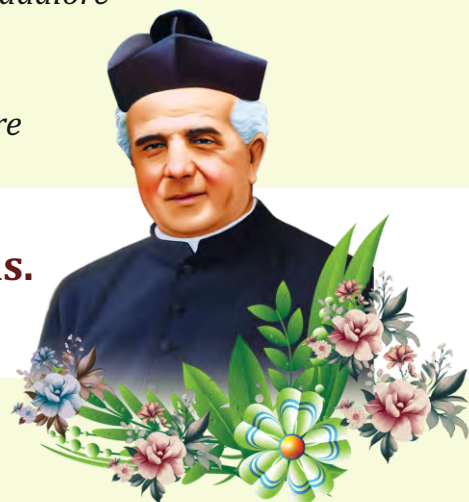


FR. GNANARAJ SDC

Servant of God's Love

PROVINCIAL CALENDAR

- 08/05/26** - First Profession - Bon Secours, *Chennai*
- 12/05/26** - DPP Council Meeting
- 15/05/26** - Meeting with the Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore
- 16/05/26** - GC Annual India Meeting
- 18/05/26** - Retreat and Charism School for the Temporary Professed, *SJS, Cuddalore*
- 25/05/26** - Meeting with the temporary professed
- 26/05/26** - Vows Renewal – Temporary Professed, *Cuddalore*
- 27/05/26** - DGMS Annual Programming
- 31/05/26** - First Religious Profession – *GPN, Bangalore*



The heart of a priest must burn with zeal for souls.

ST. LOUIS GUANELLA



VOCATION CAMP AT ANDHRA PRADESH

A two-day vocation camp was conducted at Don Guanella Bhavan, Koppakka, Andhra Pradesh, from April 15 to 16, 2026. The camp was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Praveen, SdC, Rector of Don Guanella Bhavan, along with Fr. Jayaseelan, the Vocation Promoter. The sessions were conducted by Fr. Christhu Raj, Fr. Jose, and Fr. Joseph Peter, focusing on vocation awareness and discernment. Various games and activities were organised for the participants, fostering enthusiasm and active involvement. A fraternal night was also conducted, promoting a spirit of unity and joy among the students.

As part of the programme, the participants were taken to the “Holy Land,” where the Way of the Cross is set up, providing a meaningful spiritual experience that was greatly appreciated by all. On the second day, the Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Joseph Peter, Provincial Councillor, and was concelebrated by Fr. Jayaseelan and Fr. Jose. Following the Mass, interviews were conducted with 15 students as part of their vocation discernment process.

VOCATION CAMP AT CUDDALORE

A vocation camp was organised by the Divine Providence Province at Cuddalore from April 19 to 21, 2026, with the participation of 41 students. The camp was inaugurated on April 19 by Rev. Fr. Mathiyas, Rector of St. Joseph's Seminary. The sessions were conducted by Fr. Achiriyam, Fr. Antony Samy, Fr. Francis Xavier, Fr. Sachinson, and Fr. Abraham, focusing on themes related to priesthood and vocation.

Various activities and games were organised, ensuring active participation and engagement. The participants were also taken to Silver Beach, where time was spent in recreation and fellowship. A fraternal night was conducted by Fr. Francis Xavier and Fr. Abraham, strengthening unity among the students. On the third day, an interactive session was conducted by Rev. Fr. Gnanaraj, SdC, Provincial Superior,

VOCATION CAMP

SERVANTS OF CHARITY

19TH - 21ST APRIL, ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY, CUDDALORE



during which he engaged in dialogue with the students. Interviews were also conducted by him along with Fr. Jayaseelan, the Vocation Promoter. The camp concluded with a solemn Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Gnanaraj. A vote of thanks was delivered by Fr. Jayaseelan. Following lunch, all the participants returned home with enriched experiences and renewed inspiration.

THE ANNUAL DAY OF EVENING SCHOOL

CHENNAI, DPP: The Annual Day of Don Guanella Evening School was celebrated on 27 April with the participation of around 30 children and their parents, marking the completion of the academic year 2025–2026. The event was observed as both a closing ceremony and a platform for students to showcase their talents. Dances were presented and speeches were delivered by the students with great enthusiasm. Appreciation was expressed by Fr. Abraham to the children for their dedication and regular attendance, and gratitude was extended to the parents for their support.

Plans for the coming year were outlined, including new developmental activities and regular weekend assessments with recognition for good performance.



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Games and activities were organized by Rev. Fr. Jayaseelan and Rev. Fr. William, ensuring active participation. The celebration was concluded with the distribution of food, and the gathering was dispersed with renewed hope for the reopening in June for the academic year 2026–2027



WELCOMING THE VICAR GENERAL

CHENNAI, DGMS : The DGMS community joyfully welcomed the Vicar General, Rev. Fr. Soosairathinam. His visit was received as a moment of grace and a significant milestone, marked by a warm and traditional reception expressing the love and respect of the fathers and brothers. His presence was experienced as both pastoral and spiritual, inspiring a renewed commitment to vocation and mission.

During his two-day stay, personal and community meetings were held, offering opportunities for dialogue, reflection, and discernment. Each member was listened to attentively, and guidance was given to foster personal holiness and strengthen community life in unity and charity. On the same day, Bro. Arockiasamy was formally admitted into the immediate preparation for his final vows. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Rev. Fr. Soosairathinam, with Fr. Gnanaraj, Provincial Superior, and other priestly confreres. The community participated prayerfully, making the celebration solemn and grace-filled. The day stood as a witness to communion, dedication, and divine grace, and remained a spiritually enriching experience for the entire DGMS community.

GK BOYS' PICNIC BLISS

VATLURU : A joyful beach picnic was experienced by the boys of Guanella Karunalaya on March 8, 2026. The day was begun with great excitement and eager anticipation for the one-day journey. The early morning bus ride was made lively and



delightful with songs sung in unrestrained joy. Upon arrival at the golden dunes, the vast grandeur of the ocean was beheld with amazement. A profound reverence for the power of nature was inspired through an engaging explanation of the tides given by Fr. Raja.

Creative expression and pride were found in the construction of intricate sandcastles. Moments of competitive excitement and cheers of victory were witnessed during the volleyball matches. A sense of exhilaration and refreshing joy was experienced in the playful ocean waves. The search for seashells was filled with wonder, and hands were filled with treasured finds. At the end of the day, the boys returned home sun-kissed, sandy, and filled with gratitude, carrying with them many joyful and unforgettable memories.

DON GUANELLA EVENING SCHOOL ANNUAL DAY

VATLURU : The Annual Day of Don Guanella Evening School was celebrated on March 18, 2026, with great joy and enthusiasm. The auditorium was beautifully adorned with colourful decorations, and a vibrant atmosphere was created by the cheerful energy of the students. A powerful message of motivation to excel in the upcoming examinations was delivered by the chief guest. Disciplined study habits and focused preparation were strongly encouraged by the teachers. Academic



excellence was recognised through the distribution of certificates of merit to top performers, and special gifts were joyfully presented.

The cultural programme was marked by dazzling performances, including traditional dances, melodious songs, and creative skits. Gratitude for the holistic education received was expressed through student speeches. Moral growth, alongside academic achievement, was emphasised in the blessing imparted by Fr. Assisi. Strong bonds of camaraderie were fostered through interactive games and group activities. Joyful fellowship among teachers and students was enhanced through refreshments. The evening was concluded with patriotic songs and hopeful dreams for a bright future.

REVERED VISITATION AND PALM SUNDAY JOY



VATLURU : A spirit of joy and reverence was experienced at GKBH during the fatherly visit of the Vicar General, Fr. Soosai Rathinam. He was graciously accompanied by Fr. Gnanaraj, Provincial Superior, and Fr. Francis Selvaraj. A grand traditional welcome was accorded with garlands and heartfelt cheers. The rhythmic beating of drums and the waving of palms added to the festive and devotional atmosphere. The Palm Sunday liturgy at Sacred Heart Parish was celebrated with deep spiritual fervour.

Palms were blessed reverently by Fr. Soosai Rathinam inspiring devotion among the faithful. The solemn procession brought the community together in unity and prayer. A sense of pride and sacred purpose was experienced by the boys as they actively participated in the celebrations. An opportunity for interaction with the Vicar General was appreciated by the boys. Words of appreciation for the formation work were expressed by Fr. Gnanaraj with fatherly encouragement. The kind words of Fr. Francis Selvaraj were warmly received and cherished by all.

A VATLURU TRIDUUM 2026



VATLURU : A profound experience of the Passion of Christ was offered during the Good Friday liturgy at Vatluru Church, presided over by Fr. Assisi. The celebration was marked by a meaningful integration of formal liturgy and deeply rooted local customs. The carrying of the wooden cross through the village streets transformed the entire community into a living Way of the Cross. This sacred act served as a powerful reminder of Christ's suffering and the enduring connection between divine sacrifice and human perseverance. Deep devotion was witnessed among the faithful, as the procession was regarded not merely as a re-enactment but as a living encounter with Christ. Acts of tender veneration were offered by families, including the washing of the feet of the one carrying the cross with milk and water. In humility and reverence, palms were placed on the ground to cushion the path. The sorrow of Good Friday was transformed into the joy of the Resurrection during the Easter Vigil. The liturgy progressed from the blessing of the new fire to the solemn proclamation of the Exulted, following the traditions of the Church. This “mother of all vigils” united the faithful in the hope of the Risen Christ, affirming the promise of eternal life through the Cross.

SCHOOL ANNUAL DAY 2026



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MADURAI: The Annual Day of St. Joseph's Special School was celebrated on April 8, 2026, under the theme "Uravil Sangamam." The occasion was marked by joy, unity, and a spirit of celebration. The chief guests for the event were Rev. Sr. Josephine Mary Cleatus, SAT, and Mr. Wilson, Managing Director of Chrisilgem Infra Pvt. Ltd., Kovai. The celebration was further graced by the presence of special invitees, including Rev. Fr. Joseph Antony, Parish Priest of Nagamalai; Rev. Fr. Martin, Parish Priest of Samayanallur; Mr. Swaminathan, DDAWO of Madurai; Mrs. Bernarda Paulraj of Kadachanenthal; and Mr. Kulandai Samy of Gnanaolivapuram.

The chief guests were formally welcomed to the stage through a traditional procession, accompanied by the vibrant rhythms of Tamil cultural Parai music and dance. The programme was enriched by dance and mime performances presented by the children, through which their talents and abilities were beautifully showcased before the gathering. The audience, comprising parents, zonal religious leaders, and members of the general public, expressed great satisfaction and appreciation for the performances. As part of the celebration, sponsors were honoured with shawls and commemorative mementoes in recognition of their support. Gifts were distributed to the children at the conclusion of the cultural programme, bringing joy to all participants. Words of appreciation and encouragement for this noble mission were shared by the special invitees during their addresses. The celebration concluded with a shared meal, after which all participants departed with hearts filled with joy and gratitude.

STAFF TOUR

MADURAI: A staff tour was organised for the dedicated members of the special school on March 30, 2026, as a gesture of appreciation for their committed service to children with disabilities. The outing was planned to provide relaxation, encouragement, and an opportunity for fellowship.

The tour was conducted in Munnar, where various scenic locations were visited, including Mattupatti Forest, the flower garden, the Elephant Safari, the dam,



boating at Gundala Lake, the elephant arrival point, and the Eco Park, along with stretches of natural beauty and lush green meadows. Moments of peace and aesthetic enjoyment were experienced by the staff in these tranquil surroundings. The serene environment provided much-needed respite and refreshment from their daily responsibilities. This initiative was intended not only as a token of gratitude but also as a means of renewal, inspiring the staff to continue their noble mission with renewed energy and dedication. After a time of fellowship and relaxation, the staff returned home in high spirits, enriched by the experience and strengthened in unity.

LIVE WAY OF THE CROSS



Kunamalai : On Good Friday, a Live Way of the Cross was meaningfully enacted by the Kunamalai Parish. The event was organized and directed by the Assistant Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. John Peter. With great dedication, he mobilized the youth and altar boys, guiding and training them to perform the Way of the Cross. A total of 19 members actively participated in the enactment. The presentation was deeply moving and spiritually powerful. Faithful from all the substations participated with great devotion. Many were visibly touched, and the emotional impact was profound, with several moved to tears as they journeyed with Christ in His suffering.

This meaningful event was the result of sincere effort and dedicated hard work by the Assistant Parish Priest and the participants. At the conclusion of the Good Friday service, simple kanji (porridge) was distributed to all, symbolizing humility and sharing in the suffering of Christ.

EASTER CELEBRATION WITH FR. VICAR GENERAL

CUDDALORE: Easter was joyfully celebrated on April 5, 2026, at Sagaya Madha Parish, Cuddalore. The Easter Vigil Mass was presided over by Rev. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC, Vicar General, and an inspiring homily was delivered. In his message,



it was emphasised that the Risen Christ brings new light and hope, calling the faithful to overcome despair and the “power of death” manifested in injustice and war. The Pascha Pugaluri was beautifully rendered by Fr. Arun David, adding to the solemnity of the celebration. A creative presentation on the Resurrection of the Lord was performed by the youth of the parish, and the congregation was deeply moved. Active participation was witnessed among the faithful throughout the liturgical celebrations. At the conclusion of the Holy Mass, cake and tea were distributed to all. Heartfelt thanks were expressed by the Parish Priest to everyone for their involvement and dedication during the Holy Week celebrations.

CELEBRATION OF EVENING SCHOOL

DINDIGUL: The significance and success of the evening school at Guanella Karunai Illam were joyfully celebrated by the Dindigul community. A warm and inclusive atmosphere was created as Rev. Fr. Chandra Navis, the Superior, extended a cordial welcome to the children and staff. Around thirty-five children actively participated in the programme. Vibrant dances and meaningful speeches were presented, highlighting the importance of education in their lives. Their performances were appreciated for being both colourful and inspiring, reflecting their talents and



growing confidence. An encouraging and thoughtful message was delivered by Fr. Navis, motivating the children to pursue their studies with dedication and perseverance. Gifts were graciously distributed to the staff and children by Rev. Fr. Benson in recognition of their efforts and involvement. The celebration was brought to a joyful conclusion with the distribution of sweets and a shared meal, fostering a strong sense of community and togetherness among all present.

MISSION EXPERIENCE



DINDIGUL: A month of meaningful mission experience was undertaken at Guanella Karunai Illam by Bro. Lawrence of the Holy Cross Congregation, brother of Rev. Fr. A. Anthony Samy, SdC. A warm welcome was extended to him by Rev. Fr. Chandra Navis, the Superior, and Rev. Fr. Benson, the Director, and he was honoured with a shawl. During his stay, compassionate service was rendered to the residents with great enthusiasm. Joy and liveliness were brought into the community through action songs, dances, and engaging games. A cheerful and vibrant atmosphere was thus created within the Illam. The experience was described by Bro. Lawrence as deeply enriching, offering valuable insights into ministry and service. At the conclusion of his visit, heartfelt appreciation was expressed by the fathers for his generous contribution. As a token of gratitude, small gifts were presented, and prayers for his continued success were offered.

CELEBRATING 27 GLORIOUS YEARS

CHENNAI, DGSS: The 27th Annual Day of Don Guanella Special School was celebrated with great enthusiasm under the theme “Journeys – Humanity and Nature.” The occasion was marked by joy, creativity, and a spirit of togetherness. A variety of artistic performances, including vibrant dances, were presented by the children, through which their talents were beautifully showcased, bringing delight to all present. The celebration was further enriched by the gracious presence of distinguished guests, including Rev. Fr. Soosai Rathinam, Vicar General, Servants of



Charity, Rome; Dr. Cyril Emmanuel, M.Phil., Cardiac Sciences, Gleneagles Hospital; Rev. Fr. Gnanaraj, Provincial Superior; and Mr. D.R.R. Senguttuvan. Words of appreciation and encouragement were offered as they applauded the remarkable talents displayed by the children. As part of the celebration, school bags were distributed to all participating children. The event was made vibrant and meaningful through the active support and involvement of parents and teachers. This year's Annual Day was remembered as a joyful and inspiring occasion, as hidden talents were brought to light and the confidence and happiness of the children were greatly enhanced.

AWARENESS PROGRAM

BENGALURU: A Legal Awareness Assistance Program was organised at Preethi Nivas Trust by Nightingale Medical Trust (NMT), an organisation well known for its dedicated service in elder care and dementia support. The initiative was aimed at helping senior citizens and vulnerable individuals understand their legal rights and protections. Expert sessions were conducted on various important topics, including laws safeguarding senior citizens, the significance of wills, gift deeds, and power of attorney, as well as human rights and methods for reporting elder abuse. Personalized guidance was also provided through interactive question-and-answer sessions with legal experts. Through this initiative, the commitment of NMT to

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support individuals not only through healthcare but also through social and legal awareness was clearly reflected. The programme further highlighted the importance of collaboration between organisations in building a more informed and inclusive society.

EXPANDING LIFESAVING SERVICES



BENGALURU: The outreach and emergency response services of Preethi Nivas Trust have been significantly strengthened with the addition of two new vehicles, made possible through the generous support of corporate partners. A multipurpose vehicle was donated by Redroad to assist in daily operations and outreach activities for the elderly. In addition, an ambulance was provided by EisnerAmper to ensure timely medical assistance and emergency transport for those in need. These new additions are expected to enhance the Trust's ability to serve vulnerable senior citizens, improve access to healthcare, and respond effectively during emergencies. It was expressed by a representative of the Trust that the generous support received will enable the organisation to reach more individuals and continue its mission of caring for elderly destitute persons.

VITAL WELLNESS: DIABETES AWARENESS SEMINAR

THALAVADI: A diabetes awareness seminar was conducted at Nazareth Illam on April 17, 2026, by the dedicated staff nurses, with the aim of promoting the long-term health and physical well-being of the residents. Valuable information on diabetes management was provided, with particular emphasis placed on balanced nutrition, regular monitoring, and early detection. This educational initiative reflected the institution's strong commitment to preventive healthcare as an essential part of its comprehensive care model. Through such health-focused



programmes, a safe, protective, and nurturing environment is ensured, where the physical well-being of every resident is carefully attended to. The seminar served as a meaningful step in strengthening awareness and encouraging healthier lifestyles among the residents.

DEMOCRACY IN PRACTICE



THALAVADI: The democratic right to vote was exercised by the residents of Nazareth Illam on April 23, 2026, marking a significant milestone in social inclusion during the Tamil Nadu State General Election. Careful assistance and transportation were provided by the institution to ensure that every resident was able to participate in the voting process comfortably and safely. Special arrangements were made so that the residents could exercise their franchise with dignity and ease. This meaningful initiative reflected the Illam's continued commitment to upholding the dignity of its residents by empowering them as active and responsible citizens of the nation.

INAUGURATION OF INCINERATOR FACILITY

THALAVADI: A significant step towards enhanced institutional hygiene was marked at Nazareth Illam on April 25, 2026, with the inauguration of a new



BROKENNESS TO RESURRECTION

GRASS LAKE: To help the faithful enter more deeply into Holy Week, Fr. Leo Joseph, SdC, led a Lenten Retreat on March 28th at the Shrine centered on the powerful theme, From Brokenness to Resurrection. Forty men and women gathered for a day of prayer, reflection, and renewal, seeking to better understand where brokenness exists in their lives and how God can transform it into something beautiful.

Through his inspiring presentation, Fr. Leo reminded retreatants that their story is not finished, their wounds are not wasted, and their sins and struggles are not the final chapter. He spoke of Christ's deep and personal love for each of us, offering hope that mercy, healing, and forgiveness are always possible for those who seek the Lord and trust in His timing. The retreat also included time for personal prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, confession, and Mass, giving participants the opportunity to encounter Christ in a profound and meaningful way. Following Mass, retreatants gathered in the Pastoral Center for lunch and fellowship, continuing the spirit of community and reflection. It was a grace-filled day that prepared hearts to walk more closely with Christ through Holy Week and toward the joy of the Resurrection.



NEW FRIENDS AT THE FARM



CHELSEA : On Wednesday, April 1st, four residents from St. Louis Center enjoyed a special trip to nearby Barn Sanctuary for an unforgettable hands-on farm experience. Accompanied by Haylie Gottschalk, Skills-Building Program Coordinator and Direct Care Worker, the group was welcomed by Tom and Chase, who provided an engaging tour of the sanctuary and shared the inspiring mission behind their work rescuing and rehabilitating abused and neglected farm animals.

Residents had the chance to meet, interact with, and learn about many of the animals living at the sanctuary, creating meaningful connections and plenty of smiles along the way. From gentle greetings to curious encounters, the experience was both fun and educational for everyone involved. The visit also opened the door to an exciting new partnership. With the sanctuary located just seven minutes from the Center, plans are already underway for residents to return once or twice a month to assist with light volunteer work. These visits will provide valuable opportunities to build skills, gain confidence, and form lasting community connections. Sometimes the best lessons, and the best friendships, are found out on the farm.

A JOY-FILLED EASTER CELEBRATION

CHELSEA : Easter Sunday at St. Louis Center was filled with faith, fellowship, and plenty of springtime fun. The celebration began on Sunday, April 5th, with Mass in the chapel, where residents gathered together to celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection. They listened eagerly as Scripture proclaimed the Good News of Easter, filling the morning with hope and reflection. Following Mass, everyone enjoyed a delicious community brunch in the main building, sharing food, laughter, and the spirit of the holiday with friends and staff. The excitement continued as residents made their way to the Special Needs Playground for the much-anticipated Easter egg hunt. Although the spring air was a little chilly, that didn't slow anyone down! With



baskets in hand and smiles all around, residents searched high and low until every hidden egg had been found. From prayerful moments in the chapel to joyful laughter on the playground, Easter at St. Louis Center was a beautiful celebration of faith, community, and the happiness of being together.

GROWING VOCATIONS

GRASS LAKE: On Saturday, April 11th, a dozen girls attended the Prayer and Pizza Girls' Retreat at the Pious Union. This month the guest speaker was Sr. Mary Ann Foggin, SGL, Campus Minister for St. Catherine of Siena Academy. She engaged the attendees in a presentation about the Servants of God's Love, the community to which she belongs. There was plenty of time for questions so that the young ladies could understand what a vocation to that congregation could look like. There was plenty of time for fellowship and hands-on activities along with Adoration, confession, and Mass. The retreat ended with a pizza lunch.





SPREADING THE MESSAGE OF MERCY

Grass Lake : On the Feast of Divine Mercy, April 12th, Fr. Leo welcomed Shrine visitors to a special afternoon of prayer, reflection, and deeper understanding of Saint Faustina and the message of Divine Mercy. The gathering began with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, creating a peaceful and prayerful atmosphere for all who attended. Participants were then invited to reflect on excerpts from St. Faustina's diary, offering powerful insight into her devotion and the message of Christ's mercy for the world. The afternoon continued with the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Rosary, and periods of silent prayer and reflection, allowing everyone present time to draw closer to the Lord in a meaningful way. Many also took advantage of the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation through confession. As the Octave of Easter came to a close, the celebration provided a beautiful reminder of God's endless mercy and love. It was a peaceful, grace-filled way to conclude the Easter season and renew hearts in faith.

FRUITS OF SACRIFICE

GRASS LAKE: During the Lenten season, the Pious Union Women's Guild at the Shrine turned prayer, fasting, and almsgiving into meaningful action by organizing a canned goods drive to support local families in need.

As Lent calls the faithful to sacrifice and generosity, the women quietly encouraged visitors to the Shrine to share with those less fortunate in the surrounding community. Their simple invitation inspired an outpouring of kindness and compassion. By April 16th, the donations had been carefully sorted, organized, and delivered to St. Vincent de Paul in nearby Jackson. More than 40 packages of food



were collected, helping to provide relief and nourishment for neighbors facing difficult times. This beautiful act of charity served as a reminder that even small sacrifices, offered with love, can bear great fruit for those in need.

REMEMBERING FR. JOE

CHELSEA - The Servants of Charity gathered in faith and fraternity for the Memorial Mass honoring Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC, celebrating a life devoted to service, compassion, and priestly ministry on April 17th. Most Rev. Bishop Earl Boyea celebrated the Mass, joined by fourteen priests, many of whom serve alongside the Servants of Charity in their shared mission. Fr. Fortunato Turati, SdC, delivered a heartfelt homily, reflecting on the vocation of the priesthood and reminding those in attendance that the mission of every priest is to be Jesus for the people they serve. His words echoed the life Fr. Joseph lived so faithfully — one of presence, humility, and love for those entrusted to his care.

The gathering was a powerful testament to the brotherhood of the Servants of Charity and the lasting impact of Fr. Joseph's ministry. His fellow priests stood together in prayer, honoring a man who dedicated his life to the charism of St. Luigi Guanella and to the residents and families of St. Louis Center. Following Mass, the



priests warmly welcomed all attendees to continue the fellowship over lunch, catered by Sylvia's Catering. The shared meal provided an opportunity for stories, memories, and gratitude to be exchanged — a fitting conclusion to a meaningful celebration of Fr. Joseph's life and legacy.

SPIRITS-A-GLOW



CHELSEA: It's no secret that the residents of St. Louis Center love to dance. They also enjoy games, crafts, and any chance to celebrate together, so all of these favorite activities came together for the annual Glow Dance Party on April 23rd. Organized by Robin Smith, Training Coordinator, this lively event featured dinner, dancing, games, and plenty of prizes. In the days leading up to the party, each resident had the chance to paint their own T-shirt using glow-in-the-dark paint, adding a personal and creative touch that lit up the evening. Tracy Peters, Kitchen Manager, prepared a classic hot dog dinner for residents and community members who attended, making sure everyone was fueled for a night of fun. Robin transformed the gym into a glowing celebration space, complete with bright decorations and exciting activities like limbo, hula hoop contests, and other skill-based games. Guests also had the chance to win glowing and flashing prizes by trying their luck at glow-in-the-dark bowling. Fresh popcorn with a variety of favorite seasonings added an extra treat to the festivities. The Glow Dance Party was a wonderful evening filled with laughter, music, and bright memories for everyone who attended.

A SIGN OF WELCOME

RASS LAKE: Since its dedication in September 2025, the Rosary Walk has welcomed countless visitors, offering a peaceful place to pray, reflect, and contemplate the life of Christ through the Mysteries of the Rosary. Now, thanks to a newly installed welcome sign placed on Friday, April 24th, first-time visitors and non-Catholics have an even easier way to understand and experience the beauty of the Rosary Walk. The



sign provides helpful guidance about the purpose of the walk, explains the meaning behind the prayer journey, and introduces guests to the mission of the Shrine. Visitors can also use the sign to access audio reflections available in multiple languages, making the experience more accessible and meaningful for pilgrims from many different backgrounds. This thoughtful addition helps ensure that every guest, whether lifelong Catholic or simply curious, feels invited to pause, pray, and encounter the peace and beauty of the Shrine.

A VISIT FROM THE KING

CHELSEA – Elvis was in the house on Saturday night, April 25th, and excitement filled St. Louis Center from the moment he arrived! Residents, staff, and guests enjoyed an unforgettable evening of music, dancing, and plenty of special attention from the King of Rock and Roll himself. The energy in the room was contagious as everyone sang along to favorite hits and took to the dance floor to celebrate. A special thank-you goes to musician Jim Duprey, who provided live music and played keyboard throughout the evening, helping create the perfect concert atmosphere.



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Another heartfelt thank-you goes to Jim Laurain, better known for the night as Elvis, for bringing so much joy, laughter, and entertainment to the Center. Members of the Family Association who attended joined right in on the fun, dancing alongside residents, staff members, and even Fr. Franklin, SdC. One of the highlights of the evening was Lee's excitement as he proudly took on the important role of bodyguard for the famous King during his visit. It was a night full of smiles, music, and wonderful memories, proof that a visit from Elvis can still leave a building all shook up!

A RADIO STAR IS BORN

GRASS LAKE: Over the past two months, Fr. Leo Joseph, SdC, has been interviewed nearly a dozen times for various Catholic radio programs. The purpose of these interviews is to help spread the word about the Pious Union and St. Joseph as Patron of the Suffering and Dying. One of the interviews has been played over 1.5 million times. The goal of spreading the Good News is being realized through these endeavours.

BIRTHDAY

- 01 - Fr. M. John Peter
- 04 - Fr. I. Vinnarasan
- 05 - Fr. A. Jayasoosai
- 06 Bro. Gopal
- 08 - Fr. M. Rajesh Kumar
- 13 - Fr. A. Antonysamy
Fr. L. Mathias
Fr. Stalin Savarimuthu
- 15 - Bro. Deepak Kumar Beberia
- 16 - Fr. A. Vanathaiyan
- 21 - Fr. M. Felicks Michael
Fr.s. Melvin Raj
- 22 - Fr. J. Edal |
- 24 - Fr. Umberto
Fr. Piero Lippoli
Fr. S. Johndass
- 26 - Fr. Dennis Weber
- 28 - Fr.v. Maria Antony Rajan
- 30 - Fr.a. John Kennedy (Junior)

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

- 04 - Fr. A. Arul Raj
Fr. M. Felicks
Fr. Gnanaraj
Fr. Durai Raj
- 15 - Fr. David Stawasz
- 19 - Fr. C. Ligory
Fr. P. Visuvasam
- 21 - Fr. Enzo Addari

