

Massive Rally Shows Children's Trust

Children as it is the heartbeat of our ministry



Rev. G. Nadarajah reporting from Vaddukodai

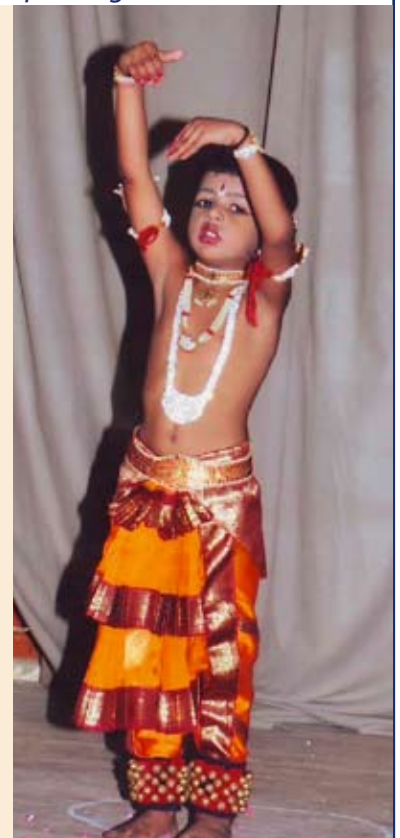
Jaffna Diocese

Greetings



Jane Jothini Joe Inparaj
(Jesupalan's garnd daughter)

Friday November 5 Vaddukodai celebrated the Annual JDCSI Children's Rally marked by banners-bearing children and young people in a procession that wound its way to the Cathedral Church testifying its outreach as a truly national church of the land. And for the first time a historical landmark was created with children from the Wannu and the surrounding regions attending the rally. It was quite a moving testimony to what the church could do to a war-torn community.



A child from Cathedral Nursery

Season's



Wanni Region Adappankulam (near Cheddikulam) children 'kolladdam'

More than 2000 children participated in the Annual Children's Rally held at Vaddukoddai Friday November 5. A remarkable landmark this year was the participation especially of children from the Wanni from such parishes as Visuvamadhu, Suthanthirapuram, Kilinochchi, Murippu, Konavil, Bharatipuram, Murugandy, Mankulam, Veerapuram, Adampankulam and Cheddikulam.



Uduvil Girls' College children



Wanni Region Adappankulam evening class children

Children also came from Pilana, Galle down South and many from the East , from Omadoyamadhu, Thiraimadhu, Periya Nilavanai, Kalmunai, Kaluwanchikudi, and Onthatchimadam

The Children's Rally started with a Witnessing Procession around the Vaddukoddai area. A colorful welcome dance was performed by the kiddies of the Cathedral Church Nursery.

Rev. G. Nadarajah, the Senior Vice Principal of Jaffna College offered the opening prayer in the Ottley Hall



**horse dance
by Jaffna College students**



Veerapuram children



**A.C. Francis (Chandran)
Director of JDCSI Board for
Christian Education**

Group singing competitions were conducted first. with the churches divided into two groups viz., Group A and Group B. Pandateruppu Church was adjudged first while Uduvil became runner-up and Vaddukoddai obtained third place in Group A. In Group B emerged as champions while a Wannai combined team came second and Erlalai North became third.

In the Bible Quiz, Uduvil became the winners in both competitions (Under 16 and Under 13) while Chankanai were runners-up in the Senior team and Pandateruppu in the Junior team



**Drama: children of JDCSI
'Harriet Winslow memorial'
Hostel children**



**Thank you Rev Lucky Kanagasabai
from Christian Life Assembly Melbourne Australia**

Jaffna Diocese



Bible Quiz: Bishop Thiagarajah Cup for Under 16 was awarded to Uduvil Church while the cup for under 13 was given to Chankanai Church.

A.C. Francis coordinated these competitions with the help of Mrs. Christella Thamari Inparaj and Rev. V. Pathmathayalan and others.

Certificates for winners were given away by Mrs. Shiranee Mills, Principal of Uduvil Girls College, the Rev. Dr S.C. Arnold, Treasurer, JDCSI/ACM, Mr S.R. Jesupalan, Hospital Secretary and Dr Nithi Kanagaratnam, Missionary from Australia.

**Ordinand: Rev. Christopher Premkumar,
Nuwera Eliya Church**





Final ceremony was chaired by the Director, BCE Mr Chandran Francis where Bishop spoke and said he was overjoyed by the enthusiasm shown by people, especially children from the Wannu despite all hardships. He was assured by participants from the Hill Country that a good number of children will participate in the next year's rally. The Diocesan Secretary the Rev. I. Rajkumar proposed the vote of thanks and the day's events came to a close with the pronouncement of benediction by the Bishop. The diocese was happy to have served lunch for all participants while few well-wishers took charge of all expenses for morning and evening tea.

Thanks be to God.



Diocesan Choir, trained by Mrs. Gneswary Athisayathan

Prize Day Function, Uduvil Girls College



School Principal Shiranee Mills distributing prizes to winners to Individual singing

Students up to Grade Five who have excelled in their academic work, sports and discipline for the years 2008 and 2009 were the recipients of honours and prizes at the Prize Day function held on 6th of December. Dr Mrs Selvi Senthuran, a research scholar and lecturer at the University of Peredeniya graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.



உடுவில் மகளிர் கல்லூரியின் வருடாந்த பரிசளிப்பு விழா நேற்று பிற்பகல் 2.30 மணியளவில் தென்னிந்திய திருச்சபையின் மேற்ரானியார் டானியல் தியாகராசா

தலைமையில் கல்லூரி மண்டபத்தில் இடம் பெற்றது.

இந் நிகழ்வில் பிரதம விருந்தினராக இலங்கை பெண்கள் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி மற்றும் ஆராய்சி நிலையத்தின் பணிப்பாளரும் பேராதனைப் பல் கலைக்கழக சமூகவியல்துறை விரிவுரையாளருமான திருமதி செல்வி திருச்செந்தூரன் கலந்து கொண்டார்.

Thanks Virakesari

A few pages from my old diary & few thoughts on Luther's life

a scholar and a gentleman an educationalist with a vision

மரணத்தால் மனிதர்கள்
மறையலாம்
ஆனால்
அவர்களின் மாண்புகள்
மறைவதில்லை

By the Rt Rev Dr Daniel Thiagarajah

A man of immense drive and determination, Dr W Luther Jeyasingam, the first national to become the President of Jaffna College when he succeeded the Rev Dr Sidney K Bunker, had a dream for the people of the North. It was a dream that had great potential; Dr Jeyasingam believed it would spark up an economic revolution from the grass roots for the whole country, not just the North and East alone.

Head of the Undergraduate Department and founder of the Jaffna College Institute of Technology and the Institute of Agriculture, Dr Jeyasingam believed firmly in a multidimensional educational approach for the entire community incorporating academic, formal and non-formal systems widely spread in the community. It was education for all for all times; lifelong education.



Jaffna Diocese

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He would often speak about a dream he had, said The dream was about a highly productive farming society in Jaffna that he had as a university student with dairy cows and fruit orchards all over the peninsula. He pursued that dream relentlessly and it was unfortunate his term of office was cut short rather suddenly.

Dr Jeyasingam was the first scholar to warn about the threat of water scarcity in the region blaming it on two major aspects. The first one was by overuse on opting for cultivation water-intensive plants that are not natural to us and secondly, the neglect of tanks that conserve rainwater and large amounts of valuable rainwater becoming emptied as a result into the sea instead of being enabled to seep into the underground caverns unique to the North.

Dr Jeyasingam founded the Jaffna College Agricultural Club in the mid-1950s and it was this organization that demonstrated the Japanese System of rice transplantation and the use of the Merry Tiller, a versatile min-tractor that could perform many tasks. This club also had a chicken hatchery service in the surrounds of Jaffna College.

Dr Jeyasingam chaired the first ever-national Early Childhood Education Seminar in Colombo at which some leading educational personalities participated. It was a 3-day residential programme.

The 1970s was a particularly testing time for the people of Jaffna in the field of education having been contending for some years for a university of their own in the North. Finally it was Prime Minister Srimavo Bandaranaike who took the strong decision that Jaffna must have a university. The question of premises became a major factor especially when it was considered that Parameshwara College was considered hardly sufficient to meet the needs of a good university.



The help of Jaffna College especially with its famous library was sought. Meeting members of the Board of Directors as well as the Jaffna College Alumni at the residence of the President of Jaffna College, the Minister in charge of setting up of the university in Jaffna, Mr Peter Keuneman asked for the support of Jaffna College for a period of time to help with the plans.

For Jaffna College it was a challenge. There were fears that Jaffna College could be taken over completely and there was also an option to support the cause in pursuit of higher education to which the universities in Sri Lanka were committed.

Dr Jeyasingam recognized the two-fold possibility of supporting the university cause while at the same time keeping the long tradition of Jaffna College being the seat of higher education in its own right.

Unfortunately, the Jaffna College Board of Directors did not recognize the long-term vision of Dr Jeyasingam and the spirit of independence of Jaffna College as a higher seat of education and rather preferred being a secondary school.

Such a stand denied the Jaffna College the services, wisdom and dream of Dr Luther Jeyasingam, one of the finest sons of Jaffna.

A quarter century or so later we have come to realize that the visions Dr Jeyasingam had for Jaffna, provides the greatest hope for building up the community towards socio-economic stability and his concept of extension education bears the dimensions to achieve it.

Dr W Luther Jeyasingam served the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India in various capacities especially as its treasurer for many years.

Jaffna College students excel at GCE AL exams



JAFFNA COLLEGE
BEST A/L RESULTS
2010

																															
DARSHAN AHEERATHA MATHS	ANUYA RASANAYAKUM ARTS	THILAKSHANA PARAMANATHAN ARTS	THUSHYAN RAYUNATH ARTS																												
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info: Thanks John Vimalendran

Congratulations

As we go to press we learn about the excellent results of students of Jaffna College in the GCE AL examinations. This is a matter of great pride and joy.

David Chinnakone – Memorial Service

A memorial service of testimony and gratitude to the life and service of Mr David Chinnakone will be held Sunday December 12 at 5 30 PM at the Colombo Church of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India, 17 Francis Road, Wellawatte. Hailing from the parish of Sandilipay, Mr Chinnakone has been a stalwart member of the JDCSI who has served it in various capacities and more particularly the Colombo Church.



Missionary Corner

A commitment most appreciated



We are pleased to report that the services of Dr Nithi Kanagaratnam, a missionary from the Uniting Church of Australia and no stranger to Jaffna, is off to a great start with his dedicated commitment fired by his immense energy and enthusiasm.

Ever since he touched soil in the north having arrived here with a container load of medical goods, a gift to our people from the Friends of the JDCSI in Melbourne, Dr Kanagaratnam has been actively involved with children especially the Eliyathamby Home in Uduvil, the two hospitals working along with S R Yesupalan, the Hospital Secretary and the Institute of Agriculture at Maruthanamadam, The Deputy principal Mr A Kandasamy described Dr Nithi Kanagaratnam as an early Christ Gift to the community well ahead of the season.



Thanks Rev Kathy Pereira and Rev Dr Kerry Enright from the UnitingWorld Australia

Already a popular invitee from many parishes in the north to preach at their churches, Dr Kanagaratnam made a remarkable difference to this year's Annual Combined Schools Carol Service. His musical talents have many dimensions from the popular to the sacred.

When one is committed to a calling of this nature, avenues open, for that is God's ways and Dr Kanagaratnam, we appreciate has returned to his homeland to serve our people when our needs are greatest at this moment of time.

Bishop Daniel Thiagarajah observed that Dr Nithi Kanagaratnam will be a source of tremendous inspiration to all our workers in their

Jaffna Diocese

First batch of bicycles for the handicapped

Following the consultations Dr Thaya Thiagarajah had with the Partnership Committee of the Creative Ministries of the Uniting Church of Australia during her recent visit to Australia, the first batch of bicycles for the handicapped was gifted to needy people especially students on 8th of December at Kilinochchi.



Sivaneswaran Gopinath student at Kilinochchi/Vaddakachchi maha Vidyalaya from Vaddakachchi 5 in the family older brother died in the war



Krishnan Premila of CSI Church, Viswamadhu



Nelu Nixon of 48, Periya paranthan Kilinochchi 5 in the family student at Kilinochchi Maha Vidyalaya

in the war: older brother was killed; mother and younger brother were injured



Sathianantham Sobana from Thenyankulam, Thunukai Husband: Sathianantham lost his arm in the war

Their mobility is an essential aspect to the grass roots development of this war-torn community in which the JDCSI is fully involved. The project will be coordinated by Mr Christy Thiagarajah. The cost of each bicycle in Sri Lanka today is reckoned as SLRs.10, 000 (Aus\$100.00).

Another batch of bicycles will be gifted during the next few days.



Dr Thayalini Thiagarajah and Rev. John Devasagayam

Jaffna Diocese

Fulfillment of prophecy and command of assurance

Editorial:

The heavenly tidings that came to the lowly shepherds who were watching their flocks by night were clear and categorical. Little did the shepherds, shocked and marveled by the sight of angels know it was a fulfillment of a prophecy of the birth of a redeemer Prince of Glory.

“Fear not, they said to them; “we bring to you glad tidings of great joy.” Such was the spectacle of the night and the assurance of the heavenly messengers and there was so much music around, the shepherds soon realized that they were the chosen people to have first visitation to the child that was born and quite significantly in a manger.

While “Fear not” is a command of assurance and trust, these words relate to our determination and faith too. We see stated in the Bible in numerous instances that prophets and people have been commanded to do God’s will and such have come to them in various forms not necessarily from angels as in the case of the shepherds.

Circumstances, situations and at times even unique causes demand that we pursue certain paths that are the will of God and often urged, aided and or supported by people who appear in our lives as angels. They certainly will not have wings and appear in the heavens and be a whole host of them; nevertheless they come as messengers of God often as an answer to our prayers.

As we prepare ourselves to celebrate Christmas we look back at the last five years of the JDCSI with a great deal of awe and wonderment how God has guided and blessed us in need situations and challenges and shown the way towards our commitment in faith. The

Editorial:

angels have come in various forms and from far and wide; equally from diverse backgrounds often out of the blues. It is an incredible expression of God’s ways.

Naturally we have to guard ourselves from those who are bent on gathering brownie points taking advantage of the opportunity certain situations offer to propagate their greed and power that leads to a great deal of problems. Maybe it is necessary for us to understand the work of the devil to appreciate God’s loving kindness that is steadfast. We should not be dazzled by the pettiness of what evil ways could obtain for us. Even Jesus was tempted by the devil in the desert.

Brownie points canvassers are many around us. They will not even hesitate to grab what is due to babies and children for their own well being. They engage in misleading our people to the abyss of despair preaching messages with meanings that hardly borders on what the heavenly hosts told the shepherds. “For unto you is born a savior,” encompasses the faith that is precious to us. Such faith cannot be polluted by selfish yearnings.

As we celebrate Christmas let us be thankful for all the angels that have appeared in our lives and how we have been blessed and guided through so many challenges because we have kept our faith strong and steadfast. The merriment of Christmas must reflect the glad tidings of great joy that inspired the shepherds to seek the newly born babe. This is a gift to all of us.

We wish all our subscribers a meaningful Christmas of joy and glad tidings and a New Year of commitment in faith for the well being of our community.

Editorial:

Jaffna Diocese