

SION INDIA

UPDATES ►

AMIGO 2010 - SCHOENSTATT FOREST CAMP

Amigo, the Schoenstatt Boy's Camp featured a fantastic forest and outdoor experience. This was the first outdoor camp ever organized by the Schoenstatt Fathers in India! The site called Mahaganithottam, is approximately three kilometers from the local parish, Illithode, where we conducted our over night stay. The participants of the camp included 40 boys from different parishes. We conducted various activities during the camp in relation to the main theme of the camp- Amigo. A long and brisk walk from the parish to the forest and a bath in the river were some of the activities offered at the camp. (Fr Raymond Parakada and Bro Xavier Manickathan)



FR JOY K. BECOMES RECTOR OF FATHERS

Fr Joy K. has been appointed as Rector of the Fathers' Community of the Aloor- Aluva Filiation. He succeeds Fr Roy. (Fr Pushparaj)

MALAYATOOR PILGRIMAGE OF THE YOUTH

Malayatoor is an international pilgrimage site, tens of thousands of people flock during the Lenten season to climb the mountain while praying the Way of the Cross. The Schoenstatt Youth went on a pilgrimage to Malayatoor on Good Friday. (Fr Raymond Parakada and Bro Xavier Manickathan)

COUPLES COME TOGETHER

Fr Paul and his team seek ways to form a family movement in Kerala. Fr Paul writes: We had a day for couples who know a little about Schoenstatt at the Sion Centre. Five couples were invited for this over night program. It was an enjoyable day; and, we are hopeful that a family group can slowly be formed with them and with the care of our Blessed Mother. (Fr Paul Panamkulam)



FR JOHNSON P. MAKES HISTORY

Fr Johnson Panthappillil has been appointed as the parish priest in Frankfurt, Germany. This is the first time that an Indian has been appointed parish priest in the diocese. Congratulations! (Fr Pushparaj)

YOUNG FAMILIES' PILGRIMAGE

A small group of pilgrims guided by the Schoenstatt Fathers marched to Kanakamala. Kanakamala is becoming a popular pilgrimage site. The pilgrims consisted of members who have already made the Covenant of Love. (Fr Raymond Parakada and Bro Xavier Manickathan)

WELCOMING SHRINE – A NEW EXPERIENCE

Now we can see the fruit of the Welcoming Shrine in Madurai. Pilgrims who open our campus gate are greeted and welcomed by our Mother. The pilgrims go to our Welcoming Shrine recite a small prayer before they visit the Shrine. This makes us feel as real instruments in the hands of our Lady. We wish to thank you for your financial support, prayers, and well wishes. Many have made this possible with sacrifices, donations, and physical work. The Shrine was blessed on 12th December 2009 in the presence of priests, donors, pilgrim mother coordinators and friends. (Fr Anbuthurai)



SCHOENSTATT DIOCESAN PRIESTS TO START IN INDIA

Fr Rajasekaran of the Archdiocese of Trivandrum, who was a former candidate of the Schoenstatt Fathers, organizes a conference for the diocesan priests who are interested in knowing more about Schoenstatt. He writes: As the

Schoenstatt Movement grows in India there is an urgent need for a branch of Schoenstatt Diocesan Priests to develop. We had our first meeting with this intention from 5th to 7th January in the Schoenstatt Seminary in Bangalore. About 10 priests including me attended this meeting. It proved to be very fruitful. We are now planning a second meeting from 16th evening to 18th evening May 2010 in the Schoenstatt Seminary in Madurai. (Fr Rajasekaran)

SUMMER INTENSIVE CATECHISM

It is the custom in the parishes in Kerala to give intensive catechism to the children of the parishes during their vacation. This time, the Schoenstatt Fathers were asked by two parishes in the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Ankamali to prepare and conduct these classes. With the help of theology students and technical advancement, the classes were conducted. They were very much appreciated. (Fr Raymond Parakada)



CHILDREN RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

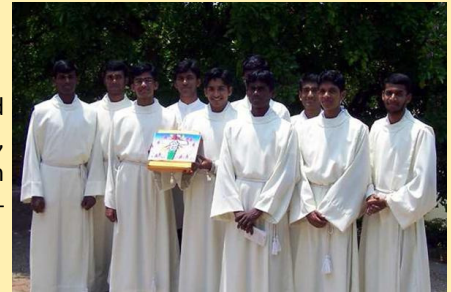
The Schoenstatt Movement in Kerala has helped about 20 children with their studies and with financial assistance. Funds are collected for this purpose. A few leaders of the Pilgrim Mother are involved. Just before their exams were over and the summer vacation began, the director of the Schoenstatt Movement visited the children in their homes. (Fr Paul Panamkulam)

FATHER CONFERENCE IN BANGALORE ENDED

Fr. Duncan from England led us in the study of our Founder's Vision of Marriage and Family Life - and its application today. (Fr Andrew Pastor)

MARIAN UNIFIERS

The novices at Bangalore found their course ideal and they wish to be called the *Marian Unifiers*. These are the novices: Allwin Nezhungan, Moses Anand, Arun Selvaraj, Cyril. J, Leon Alphones Dharmaraj, Meril Antony Aricatt, Shan Mon, Shelbin Manickathan, Siyon Thomas Vettiyadan, Tinu Philip Plathotathil (Sion Info)



SION INDIA IS IN NEW HANDS

Fr George and Fr Raymond will be in charge of Sion India. We wish to thank Fr Johnson Nellissery for his distinguished service. (Fr Pushparaj)

Please accept my deepest appreciation to all who contributed to this edition of Sion India. Wishing you all the joy and dynamism of the Pentecost,

✍ Fr Johnson Nellissery, 16.5.2010