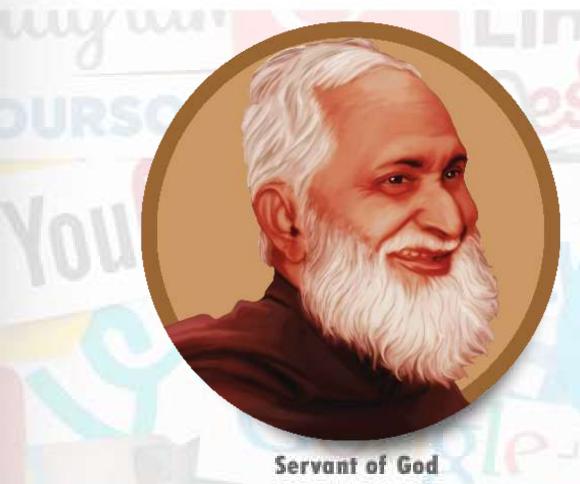
## Canisian



Fr. Canisius Thekkekara CMI

Volume 2 | Issue 2 2021





Fr Dr Davis Panakkal CMI Provincial, Devamatha Province

### SG Fr Canisius: A True Devotee of Mother Mary

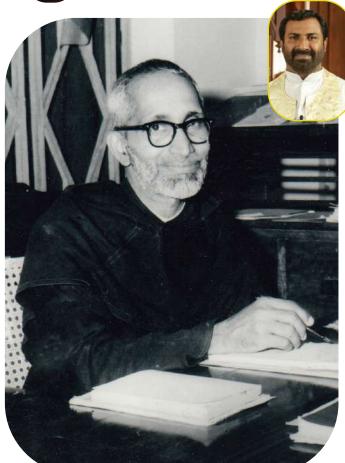
SG Fr Canisius is an ardent devotee of Mother Mary. He is a true child of Mother Mary and asked always the protection of his heavenly Mother. When he was decided to join in a religious congregation in his younger age, he chose to join a congregation which bears the name of Mother Mary i.e. Carmelites of Mary Immaculate.

Out of his devotion towards his heavenly Mother he composed three faceted Rosary to recite everyday for those who participate in his retreats. Fr Canisius had written volumes of treaties in honor of Mother Mary. He says "Blessed Virgin Mary, our forerunner and example on the pilgrimage of faith and religious consecration, we wish to spiritually follow you through the different phases of your pilgrimage".

Fr Canisius always makes pilgrimage with Blessed Virgin Mary in his earthly life. He meditated the divine mysteries of Jesus with Mother Mary. He himself followed the model of Mother Mary in his trials and tribulations. In his prayer towards Mother Mary he writes "you encountered several experience that spread darkness ever these facts and eclipse them utterly encountered you. In all those moments the firm words, 'Behold, Your handmaid' reached the father through your heart beats by means of soft waves".

He received soothing experiences from his heavenly mother. From his various experiences he wrote "To the suffering heart of Jesus the steadfast faith of the mother became a consoling and cooling ointment". He imitated in his life the same dictum of Mother Mary "Thy will be done" and he followed this motto of Mother Mary up to his death. So SG Fr Canisius is an ardent devotee of Mother Mary as well as a close follower of his Heavenly Mother.





### Message

Once you seek the will of God, then you will find the truth and divine providence. By being an agent of God's Good News, we need to seek the will of God and seek only and always the will of God. Servant of God Fr Canisius was such a beautiful soul who was always seeking the will of God and only the will of God and always the will of God. Through the intercession of SG Fr Canisius, many are receiving the graces and blessings from God to seek the will of God in their life. Let us try to abide with God and try to seek the divine plan and divine providence in our life and let us try to live a life where there is abundance of life. Let SG Fr Canisius intercede for all of us.

Fr Sunny Punneliparambil CMI Vice Postulator

### Editorial

"We are not priests to live a comfortable life, but to work very hard and die of exhaustion." Says Pope Pius X. Now every nook and corner of this world is so disturbed of a tiny virus. All man of every cast and creed, beyond richness and poverty all are in the darkest valley of fear of death that this world ever faced. To this situation teaching of that saintly Pope sounds very relevant. This is a quart which inspired SG Fr Canisius as well. For, he had noted down this in his diary (1982, July 24). Our divine master left his life's comfort to save us all. Then why can't we do the same at least to save the few? St. Joseph and Mother Mary left their comforts to gift the savior to this world. If then why not we do something?

SG Fr Canisius says, "Jesus wouldn't forget anything you do. He doesn't even leave out a cup of plain water as uncounted. So, he will return it all in hundred folds." He also said about something all of us can do and must do as follows, "Why can't you do it, which has been accomplished by Him and Her! Let us help each other through prayer". He is advising one easy way to achieve success in all our endeavors, "The Holy Master will enable us to bring about a total success in our life under the loving care of The Holy Queen of Rosary". Now when the whole world is praying for the good health of all along with Pope Francis let us join the world by staying away from the worldliness.

Let this issue of Canisian Voice may help you all to know more about SG Fr Canisius and the plat forms which introduce this man of God.

Bro. Remi Vadakkan CMI Editor



# Servant of God Fr. Canisius: A Listener of His Conscience

"You must not follow the crowd in doing wrong." (Exodus 23:2) Servant of God Fr. Canisius has been a wonderful leader to the congregation and above all a person who listened to his conscience and tuned the community conscience towards it. Being in a community one is not only connected with his own conscience but also to a second "community conscience." The formation of the latter has a major influence from the part of the leader or in religious language a shepherd. Fr. Canisius was able to become a good shepherd in this regard who was not ready to close his eyes against the things to be changed.

However, to do this is never an easy job in a large community. Fr. Canisius was not the shepherd of a mere community but a large congregation. So to be aware of the community conscience and to correct it needs real courage and faith in God. One of the reasons why many feel to do this is the loss of support which would follow. And the saintly general was ready to dare this loss and listen to the voice of the community conscience-the Voice of God- the Will of God. This can be better explained using an old adage which says: "How the leader, thus the people." The former Prime Minister of UK Margret Thatcher too believed in the same: "Don't follow the crowd, let

the crowd follow you."

But what made it possible for him to do so? Well a quote by John Maxwell the famous American author may help us to decode the reason behind this. According to him "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." Fr. Canisius was first of all a saintly religious who abided by the laws of his individual conscience which he was able to blend with that of the community. How can someone who constantly listens to the Voice of God act blind towards the truth? It would buy dislikes as St. Paul tells: "Have I now become your enemy because I am telling you the truth?" (Gal: 4:16) Fr. Canisius was not a faithful servant of the congregation but of God. His biographers portray him as a faithful religious who used punitive methods for wrongdoings. Being supported by the above mentioned biblical verses we can say that they were truly from God and Fr. Canisius was a living prophet for the congregation. Like Elijah, he was able to listen to the Living God and manifest the Will of Yahweh in his decisions. In other words his conscience constantly reminded him: "I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on Your laws." (Psalm 119: 30)

The life of this saintly CMI reminds us that the negligence towards the voice of one's conscience is a mistake. Laxity towards the community conscience is the greatest crime towards God.



Thomas Puthusseril CMI Philosophy, Dharmaram College, Bengaluru



### An Apostle of Prayer



Bro. Gladwin Alappat CMI Philosophy, Dharmaram College, Bengaluru

At the outset of a lovely day or before any special event of our life we hope for the best, expect for the best and pray for the best. Yes, most of our beginnings are with an invocation. At this juncture, a pious man reflects his life as a symphony of prayer. He is Servant of God, Fr. Canisius Thekkekara CMI, an obeisance to the will of God.

Prayer freezes an individual's physique and leads him into a world of extreme bliss where the individual's soul co celebrates his joy with God. It was the prayer of Mary that made her sit immobile at the feet of Jesus (Lk 10:38). Through his intense love, St. John reclined in prayer at the Last Supper (Jn 13:23). The two passers-by experienced the zeal of Jesus' teaching which made the m pronounce the prayer, "Stay with us O Lord" (Lk 24:29). After all these happenings, at the closure of the second millennium, a man of God makes his rest as prayer, by uttering "Prayer is my rest". For Fr. Canisius, prayer was truly an internal exercise and experience of the Divine providence.

Human beings have full stamina for a certain amount of time. Later, this mortal body appeals for some revival to regain its lost energy. But when we journey through the tiresome and busy life of Fr. Canisius, he is often revived by prayer rather than

taking rest. He finds utmost joy in celebrating his life in prayer. The Canisian prayer style was sincere, informative, inspiring and deeply rooted in the Word of God. The Rosary scripted by Fr. Canisius to the Blessed Virgin Mary reflects his deep sentiments and creativity of prayer which remains as a heart touching piece of work.

The holy Church teaches numerous methods of prayer to be in touch with God frequently. The passionate desire of Fr. Canisius who spent solitary time before the Bread of Life is a remarkable epitome of his exemplary life in prayer. That is why people consider him as an angel of prayer. This is certainly agreeable as these people are living witnesses who could make out the halo around him while he was deeply immersed in prayer.

At the dusk of his life, he was very satisfied with his life and he proudly exclaimed, "I have been able to lead a lifestyle which I desired..." Fr. Canisius' life puts light to a harmonious blend of humility and spirituality. Through his austere life on earth, he surrendered to the Will of God and found great joy and satisfaction. May this blessed soul remain an eternal lamp, who intercedes for mankind by his miraculous words of prayer.



23rd death anniversary of SG. Fr Canisius was commemorated at Kottakkal, Ambazhakad on 29 January, 2021. The entire program began with Holy Eucharistic adoration and prayer service led by Rev. Fr Jain Thanickal CMI, Novice Master and the Novices. Dr. Mar Pauly Thazhath, Bishop of Irinjalakuda Diocese was the main celebrant of the Eucharistic Banquet. Dr. Davis Panackal CMI, the Provincial, Rev. Fr Jose Payyappilly, Prior, Rev. Fr Sunny Punneliparambil, the vice postulator, and Rev. Fr Jain Thanickal CMI, Novice Master were the co celebrants. The Holy Eucharist was followed by the prayers at the tomb, releasing of books and agape. The entire program was conducted by keeping all COVID protocols and the entry was restricted.

### **Books Released**

During the auspicious occasion of Canisius 23<sup>rd</sup> Death Anniversary three new books were released.

### 1. Canisius Enchanting Mantras

Selected sayings of SG. Fr. Canisius were compiled and were published as a book titled "Canisius Mozhikal". This book was translated in to English and was published in the title "Canisius Enchanting Mantras". A great salute for the all efforts taken for the translation, proof reading and giving corrections by late Rev. Fr. Antony Kuttikatt CMI (Sr).





### 2. Canisius Dairy - 2

Canisius Dairy is a Book Series of Canisius' writings. This is a humble attempt to bring out the original works of this sage. This is a second volume of Canisius' Diary. It includes spiritual visions, thoughts, reflections, prayers, etc written by SG. Fr Canisius in his own handwritings and its printed version to corresponding of the same.



### 3. Divyakarunyathintte Koottukkaran

It is a book which includes many articles, life experiences, interviews, etc of various persons from different walks of life. This book was edited and compiled by Rev. Fr Antony Mannummel CMI. We cordially congratulate Fr. Antony for his tireless work and enthusiasm he showed to make this dream successful.



### **New Songs Released**

In collaboration with many creative minds and many generous hearts from inside and outside of our province and congregation we could bring out three new beautiful and wonderful songs on SG Fr Canisius on the occasion of his 23rd death anniversary. Congratulations and heartfelt gratitude to all minds worked behind.

### 1. Vachanopasagane

Song "Vachanopasakane" was initiated and scripted by Rev. Fr. Baby Shepherd CMI. Music / arrangement and lead vocal were done by Amal Antony Agustin and in choir Aparna James, Jobitha Jose, Angel Anto, Austin Shymon, Gineesh KM and Mejosh Joshy were joined. On instruments Baiju N Rajeeth, Roshben and Ajayghosh were also joined to add more beauty and to make the song more divine. Rev. Fr Linto Kanjuthara CMI also deserves a special appreciation for his beautiful presentation of the song through the video.





### 2. Karmayogi Canisiusachan

The lovely song 'Karmayogi Canisiusachan' was written by sweetest lyrist Rev. Fr. Dr. George Nereparambil CMI and was composed by the Deivagayakan Rev. Fr. Dr. Paul Poovathingal CMI. This song has got more life and divine vibrancy in the melodious voice of Rev. Fr. Dr. Paul Poovathingal CMI and Aldriya Sabu. Pauly M.D. did the orchestration for this song and Sanvi Jenil and Balamurali were on instruments. Recording and mixing was done by Athul and Saji R. Nair and camera and editing was done by Arun Kuriyakose, Afthad Ashraf, and Rev. Fr. Linto Kanjuthara CMI.





### 3. Deivathinte Swantham Canisiuse

Deivathinte Swantham Canisiuse was written by our young lyricist Bro. Iwin Veliyan CMI and our trained musician Bro. Linston Olakkengil CMI gave music for the lyrics. Rev. Fr. Naveen Chalissery CMI recorded the song in Rev. Fr. Anjo Puthoor CMI's voice. Mr. Ranji Jose helped for the orchestration and mixing. Congratulations to all for their great effort and team work to bring out their best for this cause.







### **Canisius Quiz**

To make known the saintly personality of SG Fr. Canisius to the public more we had conducted a one day online quiz for all on the eve of 23rd death anniversary of SG Fr. Canisius. There was good response from people of all walks of life. The all winners were awarded with wonderful prizes during the public meeting conducted just after the Eucharistic celebration on 29th of January, 2021. Ann Treasa Xavier, Axilin Xavier and Sandra K.F. were the winners of the Canisius Quiz. Congratulations to the winners and to the quiz master Dn. Jerin Tharayil CMI.



### **Promo Videos**

Understanding the collective responsibility of our province many young minds came forward with their own interest and initiatives to make the event "23rd Death Anniversary", more known among the public. Rev. Fr. Naveen Chalissery CMI, Bros. Linston Olakkengil, Justin Ukken, Jerin Alappat, Bibin Thekkyanath, John Ukken and Christo Eluvatgingal were contributed their best with making promotion videos of one minutes and was published in different digital platforms like face book, WhatsApp, instagram, etc. congratulations to all for their great efforts.

### Click Here to Watch Now!

### Prasanga Malsaram

In the month of February we had conducted a speech competition for the public and for the religious as well. The competition was conducted in different four categories and each group was given each topic to present. Three minutes speeches on the given topics were collected within the due date in online format and were evaluated and winners were declared. Under UP section Jana Maria Babu, Axilin Xavier and Nivya Cleetus were secured first, second and their places respectively. Under HS section Helen Mary Saju, Anjel Tony, and Rosemol Geo and Sana Elizabeth were secured first, second and their places respectively. Under college section Sr. Akhila CHF and Justeena Thomas were secured first and second places respectively. Bro. Alwin Arackkal CMI was awarded under scholastic section. Congratulations to the all winners and participants and at the same time we appreciate Rev. Fr. Sunny Punneliparambil CMI, Bro. Jostin Pallai CMI and Bro. Terence Cheerakathil CMI for their wonderful coordination of the entire event. St. Xavier's Church, Pullur also came up with similar initiative of Canisius Speech. They uploaded one Canisius speech by Axilin Xavier in their YouTube channel. Congratulations to Fr. Don Edattukaran CMI for his initiative.







### **Canisius Letters**

Rev. Fr. Canisius was very particular in writing letters to his dear and near ones and to the members of the congregation and to the clergy as well. The good numbers of his letters are being made in audio format by Rev. Fr Jose Payyappilly CMI and Rev. Fr. Naveen Challissery CMI and which is made available now almost around 16 digital media platforms like anchor, Google podcast, spotify, etc.



### "Canisiusachan" – Drama Audio

An audio of a drama titled "Canisiusachan" is uploaded on you tube now and it is available for any one. This will help the public to know more about this saintly personality. This was a drama staged in the year 2015 at St. Berchumans Aspirants' House, Elthuruth. The script was written by Bro. John Ukken CMI and the other guidance was given by Rev. Frs. Jose Payyappilly CMI, Jose Kodiyan CMI and Sony Thottian CMI and other than these minds there were other good number of people who helped in this venture.





### Canisius Mozhikal – Animated Versions

A new and creative initiative of "Canisius Mozhikal you tube version" has been put up by the theologians of our province from Dharmaram. It is a one to two minutes animated video with title chant which gives every day Canisius Mozhikal for our reflection. This was initiated by Dn. Gifin Neelankavil and was supported by Dn. Vigil Pengiparampil, Dn. Ditto



Supreth, Dn. Suraj Kakkassery, Bro. Lins Melepuram and Bro. Melfin Chakkalakkal by vocal. Congratulations to all the brothers for their team work for the good cause and for their effort.

Bro. Shijo Tharayill also deserve a special appreciation for his own unique presentation of Canisius Mozhikal through the face book platform. An animated Canisius Mozhikal will follow a related video clip which conveys the same meaning in this presentation. Fr. Jijo Theethaye also contributed to this by preparing the animation part. Congratulations to both.





*Devamatha Province*Patturaikkal, Thiruvambadi P.O.
Thrissur - 680 022, Kerala, India

Dn. Linston Olakkengil CMI, Secretary to Canisius Meeting