



WAVES

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Director's Message

One of the most important events of the month of August was the Onam celebration. Onam at FCDP this year was a combined celebration of children, youth, board, staff and Visappinu vida. The highlight of the celebration was the presence of over 60 beneficiaries of the daily free food programme who were specially invited to the function. The honoring of the aged and disadvantaged of the society served as an eye opener to all especially the children and youth. It is unfortunate that many parents who sweated their blood for their families have ended up unwanted and excluded. My sincere thanks and appreciation to the various benefactors who were present on the occasion and the support of the visappinu vida executive committee who have been playing a central role in the success of this endeavor. "Let's Say NO to hunger" is the tagline of visappinu vida. It means having a watchful eye to make sure that no one around us goes hungry and that we need to avoid excesses in food when hunger is still a reality in the world. Let's say no to hunger!

**-Fr. Joby Sebastian
(Director, FCDP-TMS)**

WORKSHOP FOR ORGANIC FARMING ORGANIZED

A workshop on organic farming was organized on 01 August 2023, at FCDP hall. Around 50 women from different self-help groups participated in the workshop. The workshop is part of FCDP's efforts to promote sustainable agriculture. Mrs. Edna Freddy led the sessions. She emphasized the importance of seed selection and land preparation. The interactive workshop was part of the WE-LivE project.



AN AWARENESS SEMINAR ON ORGANIC FARMING CONDUCTED

FCDP in collaboration with Krishi Bhavan Kollam organized an awareness seminar on organic farming on 4th August, 2023. In the function held at FCDP hall over 50 women participated. The inaugural function presided over by Fr. Jithin Mattamundayil, (Assistant Director of FCDP), was inaugurated by Shri. Tomy Napoleon (Ward Councillor, Pallithottam). The sessions were handled by Agriculture Officer Mr. Prakashan T and Assistant Agriculture Officer Mr. Sajeevan. During the seminar saplings were distributed to all the participants.



FREE MEDICAL CAMP HELD

The Lifeline Fertility and Well Women Center, in collaboration with FCDP and TMS, organized a free medical camp on 5 August, 2023, at FCDP Hall, focusing on gynecological issues. Mr. Tomy N. (Ward Councillor) inaugurated the camp. The camp provided gynecological consultations, medicines, routine tests, and valuable health information. Over 100 women became part of the free medical camp.



MEMBERSHIP DAY AND THE DON BOSCO YOUTH FORUM ANNIVERSARY ORGANIZED

Don Bosco Youth Forum (DBYF) celebrated its anniversary and membership day on 12 August, 2023 at the function held at FCDP Hall. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Rajesh Kumar (SI Pallithottam) and Mr. Samson Mathew (General Secretary, YMCA) delivered the keynote address. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP), Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TMS), Smt. Veronica Antony (President, TMS), Mr. Milton Stephen (Board Member, FCDP) and other dignitaries facilitated on the occasion. Miss Jincy Jams shared her experience as a youth member. Sabu (DB Sperenza) led the junior and Senior members in the pledge. The official function was followed by a cultural program presented by various groups under the Don Bosco Youth Forum and Don Bosco Children's Forum.

Don Bosco Youth Forum (DBYF) is a youth organization officially registered under the 12th Travancore-Kochi Literary Scientific Dharma Sanghas of 1950 and affiliated to the Nehru Yuva Kendra, and the Kerala State Youth Welfare Committee. DBYF under the patronage of Don Bosco, the friend of youth, is an effort by FCDP to unite the youth spanning across the coastal areas of Kollam and to ensure their development and promote their commitment to the society.



TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN CATERING SERVICE

As part of the WE-LivE project, on 17th August, 2023, a unique venture was initiated in view of providing catering training to promote women-led startups in the catering industry. The program was led by Project Coordinator Anna Saju. In his talk, Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TMS) provided more details about the initiative. Sr. Mary (Assistant Director, TMS) and Mrs. Mrs. Gretta Raju (Coordinator, FCDP) also addressed the participants.



ONAM WITH VISAPPINU VIDA

The 'Visappinu Vida' program, which has been providing free mid-day meals and nursing care to over 120 elderly parents in coastal areas for the past six years, celebrated Onam on 26th August, 2023. It was a combined celebration of Visappinu vida with its beneficiaries and benefactors, along with the board members, staff, youth and children of the FCDP family. The celebration took place at St. Peter's Community Hall in Moothakkara and was attended by over 400 people. Mr. Jayachandran Elankath (Malayala Manorama Special Correspondent and Bureau in Chief) inaugurated the function that was presided over by Rev. Fr Stephen Mukkattil sdb (Rector, Don Bosco, Kollam). Rev. Fr Detto Fernandez (Parish Priest, St. Peter's Church, Muthakkara) gave the keynote address. Mr. N.K. Premachandran (honorable M.P, Kollam) and Mr. Fayas (C I, Pallithottam) addressed the meeting. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP), Rev. Fr Joby Sebastian sdb (Director, FCDP-TMS), Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) and Rev. Sr Mary K (Ast Director, TMS) felicitated. Mrs. Mini Mary (Co-ordinator, TMS) presented the report on the Visappinu vida and Mrs Mary Rocky one of the beneficiary shared her experience. The public function was followed by the cultural program staged by the members of Don Bosco Youth and Children's Forum after which everyone participated in the Onasadya. Onam games included lemon and spoon race, pillow fight, tug-of-war, pot breaking, etc. During the last six and half years Visappinu vida has provided more than 2,00,000 mid-day meals given, nursing care and medical assistance to over 300 needy and deserving people. The Visappinu Vida program owes much to Visappinu Vida executive committee and the group of generous benefactors and well-wishers.



FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (Reg. No. Q.771/84)
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