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LET US ALSO GO, THAT WE MAY DIE WITH HIM *John 11:16*

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# APOSTLE

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Newsletter of the Society of Saint Pius X, 1 Marcel Lefebvre Place, Annie Nagar, Seevalaperi Road, Palayamkottai, TN 627 002, India

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Dear Friends and Benefactors,

A few years ago an elderly lady returned home from a shopping trip with tears in her eyes. When a member of the family asked her why she was upset, she answered, "Little Joseph, he doesn't know who Jesus is... I said to him, 'Say thank you to Jesus,' and he looked at me inquisitively and said, 'Who's Jesus?'" She paused for a few moments; the tears now coursing down her cheeks. "My own great-grandchild. What a relief your grandfather is not here, it would have broken his heart."

This is a true story and probably not a very original one either. It highlights the sad reality that the majority of Catholic parents do not know or have not bothered to pass on the truths of Catholic doctrine to their children. The children born since the Second Vatican Council are a lost generation and now they are parents in their turn. The chain of knowledge that has stretched from the Apostles across two millennia has been broken. Who will repair it?

My dear brethren, the whole world is mission territory now and we are all called to be missionaries. May God grant us the grace to be faithful to our calling.

In Jesu et Maria,  
Rev. Robert Brucciani.



*Michaelammal of Singamparai at Sunday Catechism.*

# Veritas Academy



*Veritas Academy 2008-9*

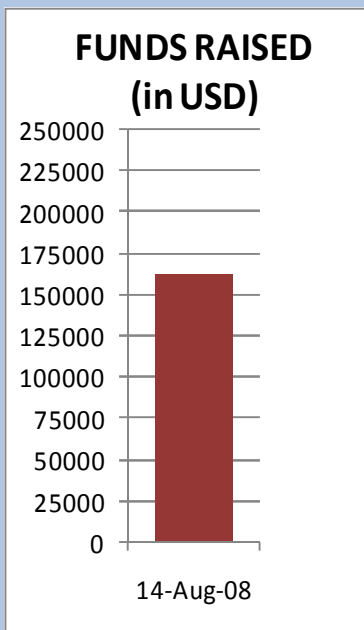
## NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The 2008-9 Academic Year began on 11th June with great gusto. The number of pupils has increased from 27 to 38 compared to the previous year which represents a statistically impressive growth rate of 40.7%. The increase is due partly to a larger number of local faithful

choosing to send their children to the school and partly due the strategy of accepting as many boys as possible from our village Mass Centres.

The fact that more local children attend the school is a welcome vote of confidence from our parents. In theory, all Catholic parents should automatically

choose a school based on its ability to give their children a firm grounding in the faith and to develop virtue. In practice, however, the desire for worldly success usually makes the decision unnecessarily complicated, but if we do our job properly, our Catholic children will be both holy and successful. Indeed, it is not an



*65% complete.*



*Mischievous sisters, Mary Rose and Mary Magdalene have recruited our youngest pupil Sarah (also known as 'Trouble') to their gang.*

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# Veritas Academy

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*Volunteer Miss Bridget Bevan of the U.K. Miss Bevan was a pupil of the Dominican school, Notre Dames des Victoires in France and has recently completed a Licence in Classics at the Institute Saint-Pie X in Paris. Here she is teaching religion to Standard 3. It's not just anyone who can teach at Veritas Academy.*

exaggeration to say that, against the background of a lamentable educational system, our children will be the new aristocracy in a few years' time. The decision to encourage the attendance of children from our village Mass Centres has been made precisely for this reason. We want to return the children to their villages (those who have no vocation) as an elite, to form



*Mary Rita on cleaning duty after the exams. The academic year is made up of 4 quarters. At the end of each quarter are exams.*



*Mr. Theresian Babu of Palayamkottai has completed his third year of seminary at Winona. It was four years ago since he last came home and, as soon as he arrived, our Tamil teacher came down with chickenpox. He is now the Tamil teacher at the school. Someone is praying for us somewhere.*

good Catholic families. Sunday Mass alone is not enough, even if it is followed by catechism. At the moment, we can only accept village boys but maybe next year the Consoling Sisters will be able to accept some girls too...

## NEW BUILDING PROJECT

We are assured that we are within a whisker of obtaining planning permission. Please pray for this intention.  $\Omega$



*Mr. Yannick Suhard of Sweden has completed his third of seminary at Econe. The photograph gives a deceptively ordered view of a Standard 3 spelling class.*

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## Catechism : Foundations for Eternal Life

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*Sunday Catechism at St. Anthony's Chapel Singamparai under the Magister Magisterii, Mr. Xavier.*

### THE CATECHISM

The word *catechism* comes from the Greek word *katechizein* which means 'to teach orally or instruct by word of mouth.' The common meaning of the word is 'an instruction in the principles of Christianity using set questions and answers.' Many hundreds of different catechisms have been published since the first one (accredited to John Gerson 1363-1429), but the most influential in the English language is the *The Doway Catechism. An Abridgement of Christian Doctrine with proofs of Scripture for points controverted.*

*Catechistically explained by way of question and answer*, first printed at Douai in 1649. Both the *Penny Catechism* and the *Baltimore Catechism* have their roots in this catechism.

The question and (mostly) memorable answer format of these catechisms have proved so successful that they have long been the chosen primary means of imparting the Catholic faith to souls.

### PRIMARY TOOL

Not all people, however, agree on the catechism's value as a teaching tool. "It's

boring," some might say. "To turn our beautiful faith into a telephone directory of dogma does it a great disservice." Indeed, it can be dry when taught badly. St. Augustine, in his treatise *De Catechizandis Rudibus* deals with both the theory and the practice of catechizing and devotes no less than five chapters to weariness! He does conclude, however, that it is usually the fault of the teacher!

What people fail to understand is that the catechism, with its structured format, gives us the building blocks from which we can construct the edifice of our faith.

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## Catechism : Foundations for Eternal Life

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*Weariness in class can happen.*

It is the *grammar* of the *trivium*, giving us facts and definitions by which we can judge and reason. How many of us have deepened the understanding of our faith, or answered doubts that sometimes arise spontaneously in our minds, by returning to the treasure trove of the catechism? How many of us have been forced to defend the faith and have been able to pluck, from our childhood memories, an answer that delivers the *coup de grace*? We probably did not understand many of the answers we learnt by heart as children, but the fruits of that learning manifest themselves throughout our lives.

For those whose duty it is to instruct children in the faith, it is important that same catechism is used throughout a child's education in order to avoid confusion. Notes should be appended to answers which should increase in depth and detail as a child matures, but the basic answers should always stay the same; the success of the catechism lies in its ability to be memorised.

In Victor Hugo's classic, *Notre Dame de Paris*, there is a scene where the spiritually tortured and ultimately doomed Archdea-

con Claude Frolo holds a book in his hand and says, pointing to the book, "This will destroy that", pointing then upwards to the Cathedral. He prophesied the destruction of the Church by the dissemination of error through the printed word. The protestant errors did indeed spread by means of the printed word launched on a population that were becoming increas-

ingly literate. The catechism was Church's response to this threat and the catechism that we teach the children today is the Church's continued response to an attack that has spread beyond the printed word to a dimension that Dom Claude Frolo could never have imagined.

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*So Antoniarajam, what are the Twelve Fruits of the Holy Ghost?.*

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## Orphanage

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*Sr. Maria Immaculata cuts the Welcome Home sign.*

### AUNTIE RETURNS

On the 3rd July at the motherhouse of the Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Vigne, Italy, Sr. Maria Immaculata pronounced her first public vows at the end of her 12 month novitiate. The event was marked at the orphanage in Palayamkottai by prayers of thanksgiving and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament .

With almost indecent haste, Sister packed her bags, made her farewells and jumped on a plane to return to her precious charges at the orphanage .

For months before, the children were counting down the days with growing excitement. If any of the classes at school seemed a bit dull of an afternoon, one simply had to ask the question, “How many days until Auntie comes?” and the sleepy mob would be transformed instantly into a bright eyed, chattering m  l  e.

Cards were designed, plays were practised, songs were rehearsed, fireworks purchased. Miss Marie-Blanche managed to persuade the cold-hearted Fr.Brucciani to let the children have a day off school so that, when the flight arrived at the nearby Tuticorin airport on the 10th July, all would be prepared.



*Happiness. Jyothi and Auntie.*

If only it were possible to convey the overflowing joy of the boys and girls on that day. Sister, however, being of a very phlegmatic temperament, betrayed little more than a placid smile. Fr.Couture came especially for the event, for it marked the close of another chapter in the continuing story of what can only be described as a beautiful work of Divine Providence.

### MISS MARIE-BLANCHE DEPARTS

The arrival of Sr. Maria Immaculata was anticipated with mixed emotions by Miss Marie-Blanche. She had held the whole operation together while Sr.Maria Immaculata was in Italy: not only looking after the orphanage but acting as headmistress of Veritas Academy too. There was much midnight oil burnt during the 16



*And tears. Anu finds it all too much.*

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# Orphanage

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months that she was in charge.

On 20th July, sad to leave the children, but happy to return home, Miss Marie-Blanche left India to return to the mother house and commence her novitiate. May the Lord reward her richly for the many sacrifices she made during her time here and may He grant her a year of repose in His Sacred Heart.

## THE FUTURE

The Consoling Sisters plan to keep sending postulants to the mother house for their novitiate until there are enough professed and experienced sisters to establish a novitiate here in India. Two more postulants, Miss Rosaline and Miss Rosilda, will shortly follow Miss Marie-Blanche and another postulant has recently been accepted into the orphanage.

There is also a grandiose plan on the drawing board for a new orphanage, novitiate and church to be built on land which has already been purchased. The land is in the countryside about 5 miles (8 km) to the north east of Palyamkottai. As soon as the first phase of the building is complete, Sr. Maria Immaculata hopes to accept more orphans into the orphanage. The ones we have now are growing up very quickly. Ω



*My girls.*



*Miss Marie-Blanche Herault, packed and ready to return to the haven of the novitiate of the Consoling Sisters in Vigne, Italy.*



*Lucy looks on in silent reflection.*

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## Priory of the Most Holy Trinity

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*“Did you hear that?” says Father Valan, “Mr. Cadagan says he wants to stop for a cup of tea!”*

▪ 18th May. Mr. Liam Cadagan arrived from Sydney, Australia to give the Mission four months of his time. He has changed the old laundry room into a workshop and begged and bought tools from all corners of India and even the globe. He is now working through a long wish list of furniture. So far one large

cupboard has been rebuilt, eight new school desks have been made, the library has been expanded, the sacristy has new hangers, our chapel at Nagercoil has a new cupboard for vestments and it will soon have a new vesting table. We have hidden his passport.

▪ 4th June. A bounty was set on the



*Mr. Joseph Rajan applying varnish to some new school desks.*

head of Danny the priory dog. For the last few weeks he had spent long periods outside the priory grounds. One day he returned with somebody else's collar around his neck. A few days later he never returned. His health was in terminal decline and the boys had even gone to the



*Mr. & Mrs. Sumantri visit the school to check-up on things.*



*Volunteers, Mr. Chris Sudlow and Mr. Rupert Bevan of the U.K., staying cool in India.*



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## Priory of the Most Holy Trinity

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*Abel and Dominic are the first enrolments into the Archconfraternity of St. Stephen for altar servers.*

trouble of digging his grave. The ungrateful dog.

▪ 26th June. Therasian Babu, our seminarian in Winona, arrived after four years away from home. He was the hero of the hour. His father, Mr. Xavier, and his sister Josephine are teachers at Veritas Academy. His other sister, Maria, has just joined the Consoling Sisters of as a postulant. We are very blessed to have families like this among our faithful.



*Anthonyraj pays the price of long hair.*



*The boys dig a grave for Danny. Danny ran away before he could use it.*



*Bernard, Albert and young Joyson of Christurajapuram proudly hold aloft their hunting trophies: two dead squirrels and a live one caught in the trap. Animal rights groups are not very big in India.*



*New boy, Savari, makes a splash.*

## Priory of the Most Holy Trinity



*Some of the boys examine the new books that have arrived from our devoted faithful in Melbourne, Australia. Reading is the bread and butter (or rice) of education.*

▪ 2nd July: Mr. Christopher Sudlow, a former pupil of St. Michael's School in the U.K. arrived as a volunteer. He has done

sterling work as an English teacher and supervisor. Before coming to India he worked for Father Summers at St. Mi-



*Mr. Cadagan shows off his new router to Sesu. The router was a donation.*



*Mr. Innocent, one of our faithful, runs our car fleet. He has learnt to shrug his shoulders resignedly when told of yet another dent.*

chael's for a year too.

▪ 8th July. Father Couture arrived to welcome Sr. Mary Immaculata back to India and to visit a orphanage in Vasai (north of Bombay) with Fr. Francis (see below).

▪ 9th July. Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sumantri and their three eldest children arrived to visit the priory, the orphanage and the school. It was not really a holiday; they were soon roped in to help at the school.



*"Is that you Dad? It's Sesu. I've decided I want to be a carpenter."*

## Festival of St. Anthony at Singamparai



*The band warms up for the big night.*



*The houses of the faithful are blessed every year in the village of Singamparai as part of the festival.*



*The statues of the Madonna & Child, St. Anthony & the Infant Jesus and The Guardian Angel on the decorated carriage.*



*The illuminated Chapel of St. Anthony.*



*There were ten First Holy Communion on the last night of the festival.*

■ 22nd July—3rd August. Many chapels in Tamil Nadu honour their patron saints by a festival lasting 13 days. The start of the festival is marked by the raising of a flag on a decorated flag pole. The

climax is the procession of the Blessed Sacrament followed by the pulling of a decorated carriage through all the streets of the village. The festival is closed by lowering the flag and endless fireworks.



*Ave Verum Corpus Natum de Maria Virgine.*

*The procession of the Blessed Sacrament paused at three altars of repose in the village.*

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## New Priory For The North

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*The best mass venue in the north, the Church of St. Gonsalo Garcia just two minutes' walk from the St. Gonsala Garcia Orphanage. It is within the huge Bassein Fort and is surrounded by grass and woodland. The church was built by the Jesuits as part of the Jesuit College. It is currently owned by the state.*

### NEW PRIORY FOR THE NORTH

On 16th July, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Fr. Daniel Couture made a surprise visit to Bombay and announced his desire to establish a new priory there to serve the apostolate in the north of India.

The new prior will be Father Francis Chazal and he will be assisted by Fr. Joseph Pfeiffer. They will be responsible for the larger Mass Centres of Bassein Fort (Vasai), St. Anthony's School in Chennai and R.N.Khandigai (2 hours south of Chennai), and the smaller Mass Centres of



*The facade of St. Gonsalo Garcia.*

Malad (Bombay), Bandra (Bombay), Goa, Bangalore, Delhi and Dubai. These Mass Centres represent some 800 faithful in total. Father Francis will concentrate his apostolic efforts around Bombay while Fr. Pfeiffer will evangelise the masses in the environs of Chennai.

The new priory will enable the priests to develop the existing Mass Centres by offering Mass and catechism more frequently and it will open up the possibility of establishing new Mass Centres in hitherto uncharted territory.

Please pray that this new venture be blessed



*Tamil orphans all the way up north too.*

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## New Priory For The North

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*Horse drawn rickshaws on the peninsula of Gorai, where some of our faithful live.*



*Outside the walls of Bassein Fort is a fishing village. This picture was taken at 6:30am.*



*Fishermen bring their catch ashore to be sorted and gutted by their wives and daughters. Note the Portuguese style of dress. The old Portuguese culture is still very evident in Vasai even though the Portuguese left in 1739 after a 3 year seige.*



*The orphans of the St. Gonsalo Garcia Orphanage in the Bassein Fort of Vasai. One ugly duckling shall find his uniform in a few weeks time.*

### NATURE



*Ultimate recycling. When it rains, the rice paste glue turns a poster into a meal. Is this the future of advertising?*

## New Priory For The North



*Baptism at the Pioneer Hall in Bandra, Bombay.*



*The undaunted man on a mission, Fr. Pfeiffer, uses planes, trains, automobiles and rickshaws to spread the word... by cellphone.*



*Outside of 'crush hour', Fr. Couture finds some concentration to satisfy to his breviary obligations.*



*A touching St. Anthony & Child in Goa. Throughout India there is a great devotion to the saint.*



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **MENS' RETREAT**

A 5 day retreat in Tamil will be preached at Palayamkottai (near the priory) from 29th to 3rd October to avoid the noisy Hindu festival at that time. Please contact Fr. Valan.

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# Mass Centres

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## SOUTHERN CIRCUIT

### **ASARIPALAM (TN)**

Saint Anthony's Church, Nr. parish church  
Melasaripalam, Kanyakumari Dist.  
Contact: Priory of the Most Holy Trinity.  
Mass: Every Sunday at 10:00 am

### **CHRISTURAJAPURAM (TN)**

Christ the King Church  
Christurajapuram, Irenipuram Post,  
Kanyakumari Dist., 629 197  
Contact: Priory of the Most Holy Trinity.  
Mass: Daily

### **NAGERCOIL (TN)**

Saint Thomas the Apostle Church  
Near SP Camp Office  
Thalavaipuram  
Contact: Priory of the Most Holy Trinity  
Mass: Saturday at 6:00pm, Sunday at 6:30am

### **PALAYAMKOTTAI (TN)**

Priory of the Most Holy Trinity  
8A/3 Seevalaperi Rd,  
Annie Nagar, Palayamkottai, 627 002  
Tel: (91) (462) 257 2389 (priory)  
Mass: Daily at 7:15am, Sunday at 7:30 am

### **PALAYAMKOTTAI (TN)**

Society of Servi Domini,  
No.10 The Bungalow, High Grounds,  
Palayamkottai, TN 627011  
Tel: (91) (462) 257 3940  
Mass: Most weekdays at 7:25 am

### **SINGAMPARAI (TN)**

St Anthony's Church  
Contact: Priory of the Most Holy Trinity.  
Mass: Every Sunday at 11:00 am

### **TRICHY (TN)**

North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Srienvasanagar 627 017  
Tel: (91) (0) 431 277 0042  
Mass: Daily

### **TUTICORIN**

St. Francis Xavier Chapel  
88B Vettivelapuram  
Near Murugan Theatre  
Contact: Mr. Francis Kumar  
Tel: (91) (0) 9486 471 966  
Mass: Every Sunday 7:15am



*Northern Circuit*



*Southern Circuit*



*St. Thomas Mount, where St. Thomas the Apostle completed his martyrdom, Chennai.*

## NORTHERN CIRCUIT

### **BANGALORE (KN)**

Contact: Mr. Benny Joseph  
Tel: (91) (80) 2573 2662  
Mass: Bimonthly

### **BOMBAY/BANDRA (MH)**

Pioneer Hall, #9 St John Baptist Rd  
Contact: (91) 9244 889940.  
Mass: Most Sundays at 10:00am

### **BOMBAY/MALAD (MH)**

2nd floor, Gratias Mariae building  
Tank Road, Orlem ,  
Contact: (91) 9244 889940  
Mass: Most Sundays at 7am, many weekdays,  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday, Saturday at 6:00pm

### **BOMBAY/VASAI (MH)**

St Gonsalo Garcia Orphanage, Bassein Fort  
Contact: (91) 9244 889940  
Mass: Most Sundays at 6:00pm

### **GOA - SALVADOR DO MUNDO**

opposite bus stand,  
Contact: Mr. Carvalho  
Tel: (91) (83) 222 9033,  
Mass: Monthly

### **CHENNAI (TN)**

St Anthony's School, Little Mount 600015  
Contact: Mr Pothiraj  
Tel: (91) 984 112 7416 ,  
Mass: Most Sundays 6:30pm

### **KANCHPURAM DISTRICT (TN)**

R.N.Kandigai Village  
Contact: Mr Pothiraj  
Tel: (91) 984 112 7416 ,  
Mass: Most Sundays 6:30am

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## Calling All Generous Souls

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### TEACHERS & SUPERVISORS

If you have six months or a year to give to charity, are in good health and an upstanding traditional Catholic, why not consider coming to India?. We need at least four volunteers at all times to teach at Veritas Academy and to help at the priory (men) or at the orphanage (ladies). All enquiries are welcome (email is best).

### AMERICAN FUNDRAISING

Fr. Joseph Pfeiffer spent much of his holidays in June and July fundraising for the Indian Mission. He preached and showed slides in 10 chapels in the U.S. and 2 in Canada, driving 5500 miles and flying another 10,000. The total amount

raised was an astonishing USD 43,000. This money will be earmarked for the new school building. May God bless our benefactors and Fr.Pfeiffer.



*New girls: Sisters Belina and Bibiana.*

### SPONSOR A PUPIL

Thanks to the generosity of our benefactors, all the children and ladies of Servi Domini Orphanage now have sponsors. In fact, there are more sponsors than children! For those who wish to help the Mission on a regular basis we are now looking for sponsors for our children at Veritas Academy. In the west, private school fees are commonly in excess of USD 1000 per month. At Veritas Academy it costs us only USD 18 (GBP 10, EUR 15) per child per month. Half of the 38 pupils are now sponsored by benefactors in Australia (they are quick off the mark down under). If you would like to sponsor a child, please contact Fr.Brucciani at the address below (email is easiest).

### Children's Book Depot

We would be very grateful for lives of the saints, fiction, glossy picture books (history and nature) and educational games for ages ranging from 3 years to 16 years. Please send them to the following addresses with a note "for the Indian Mission" or send them direct:

- **Australia** : Corpus Christi Church, 2470 Princes Highway, Tynong, VIC 3813, Australia.  
Our Lady & St.Andrew's Church, 40 Ludstone Street, Hampton VIC 3188, Australia.
- **Europe** : St. Michael's School, Harts Lane, Burghclere, Hampshire RG20 9JW, United Kingdom.
- **U.S.A.** : Indian Missions Depot, 1223 Pawnee Drive, St.Mary's, KS 66536. U.S.A.

### Free Subscription to the Apostle

Please send your name and address to the Priory of the Most Holy Trinity by email, fax or letter.

### Contact Information

To send donations (please do not send cash, it will be stolen):

- **Australia**: please make cheques payable to "The Society of St. Pius X" in AUD with a note, "for the Indian Mission" and send to:  
*The Indian Mission, c/o 20 Robin Crescent WOY WOY, NSW 2256, Australia.*
- **Europe** : please make cheques payable to "SSPX" in any currency with a note, "for the Indian Mission" and send to:  
*Priesterbruderschaft St. Pius X; Menzingen, 6313, Switzerland.*
- **USA** : please make cheques payable to "SSPX" in USD with a note, "for the Indian Mission" and send to:  
*Regina Coeli House; 11485 N. Farley Road, Platte City, MO 64079, USA.*
- **UK** : please make cheques payable to "Cardinal Merry del Val" in GBP and send to:  
*The Indian Mission, c/o 5 Fox Lane, Leicester LE1 1WT, United Kingdom.*  
By standing order: Acct : 03112903 Sort Code: 30-94-97. Bank: LloydsTSB, 7 High Street, Leicester LE1 9FS.
- **India** : for cheques of value more than USD 30 in any currency, please make payable to "Bright Social Service Society".

*Priory of the Most Holy Trinity; 8A/3 Seevalaperi Road, Annie Nagar,  
Palayamkottai; Tamil Nadu 627002, India.*

*Email: [sspxindia@gmail.com](mailto:sspxindia@gmail.com) Fax: +44 208 082 5052 (UK based fax service) NB. NEW FAX NUMBER*