

# **Reaching The Unreached**

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625203

## **Happenings of June 2020**

**Dear Well-wishers,**

**Greetings from RTU.**

### **Celebration of the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Brother James Kimpton**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May, we celebrated Brother James's birthday by his grave in the JK meditation hall. All assembled with masks and practiced social distancing. We organized a short prayer for half an hour followed by tea. Our student counsellor, MsMeena, prepared three short videos on Brother which were shown.

Prior to that, we organised some art competitions and the winners received the prizes on that day. We are also busy preparing a book titled 'Lockdown 3' which is a collection of 50 short stories that can be used by the teachers and students. 25 of these are already on YUGAN YouTube channel. This has given us some experience to have our own channel to telecast our stories in the near future. Ms Meena is spearheading the initiative with some help from Brother Doss.

### **News of our work in the community to support those affected by the lockdown**

We continue to provide two meals a day to sanitary staff in G. Kallupatti village for which they are very thankful. Normally outcast by everyone and living on the margins of society because of their caste, they are the watch gods of our villages. Our central kitchens are also open to the elderly and those struggling to provide for their daily meals.

The penury continues to haunt the poor of our area because they are unable to work. This month we have continued to provide emergency grocery rations to 300 families in our target areas.

The following are the people from our target group during these Corona virus relief works. They are from Vellimalai (Tribal area), Andipatti, Theni, Bodi, Palaiyam, Periyakulam, S. Thummalapatti and Old Batlagundu areas:

Aadhivasi people-71 (tribal), HIV+ -25, widows-21, chronically ill persons ( TB, coronary heart disease, diabetes and asthma, etc) -11, transgender-44, differently abled and mentally challenged-14, elderly people -24, deserted families-20, women Self Help Group members-70. All together we supported 1800 families with dry ration.

### **News from RTU's campus and Children's Villages**

#### **Safely returned to our Children's Villages**

Some of our children and foster mothers, who went home during the lockdown have come back to RTU and they have been allowed back by the Government authorities. All of them underwent medical check-ups by our medical team. For this we have purchased 6 Infrared thermometers for measuring the temperature. We also asked them about how they had been able to protect themselves in their native places. Luckily, all of them are very safe and healthy as of now. As per

the Government rules, they are under compulsory quarantine in our Children's Villages/hostels for 14 days away from the other children. We only pray and hope that they are not asymptomatic patients. Once this isolation period is over, they will join the other children. At present there are 138 children are under our care in our Children's Villages and Hostels.

### **Some classes for our children through play-way methods.**

The children, who could not go home due to lockdown, are with us. The older children continue to take some classes through play-way methods. They have a lot of fun during the class hours and work out the puzzles in Maths, Tamil, and English. It is wonderful to watch them playing and learning happily.

### **Schools and Education**

Some regular maintenance works like whitewashing, notebooks and writing materials is taking place in our school campus. We have purchased the uniform items and started stitching work for our Primary Schools' children. Our tailoring teachers are stitching school bags for all our children. We have completed cartoon drawings works in all our Balwadi centres and Day Care Centres. When the students come, we will be ready to receive them. We have also been preparing educational videos that are being published online to be used during this coming academic year.

### **Establishing a new basket ball court for St. Peter's Higher Secondary School**

We have established a new basket ball court for our St. Peter's Higher Secondary with the support of generous donors Mary Matha Matriculation School, Theni and Yoga Verinigung Rajagopalan, Germany. We are sincerely grateful to them for their generous contribution. Our students will practice this game well and participate in the competitions.

### **Teacher learning for students' achievement:**

We have organised an In-service training for the staff of Educational departments. 57 teachers take part in this program. Modern society demands high-quality teaching and learning from teachers. It is a continuous and important process. This training promotes teachers' skills, master new knowledge, develop new proficiency, which in turn will help the students' learning and make the class more interesting too. We help them to find out their craft, pushing the boundaries of their learning and teaching, looking for the new topics and ways to teach. They are provided with proper training on up to date information and new research on classroom management, on emerging technology tools for the classroom and new curriculum resources.

### **New cycle equipment for physiotherapy unit**

This month we have purchased new cycle equipment for our physiotherapy unit. This will be helpful to heart patients, different stroke patients and high pressure patients. This exercise strengthens the heart and lungs. This helps to boost immune system, manage weight and keep body check. This will provide a cardio workout and less stress on the heart. This will also regulate high blood pressure and improve respiratory function.

May God bless you all!

Yours fraternally

Fr J Antony Paulsamy, OFM Cap  
Secretary and Director