

KECSH VIBEZ

'Grow and Help Others Grow'

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2K23-24

Newsletter of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara Study House, Bengaluru- 29.



St. Chavara
Our Patron

Gloria 2K23

Gloria 2K23, the Carol Singing Competition was held at the Dharmaram Auditorium on December 15, 2023. This event was organized by the LCA (Literary and Cultural Academy) of Dharmaram College. In this competition, the KECSH Brothers once again bagged the second prize, continuing their streak of success and marking another moment of great joy for the KECSH family.

Monthly Recollection & Family Gathering

The monthly recollection serves as a time to reaffirm the commitment we have towards our Lord. In the close-knit community of KECSH, the brothers had their monthly recollections guided by Rev. Dr. Antony Puthenangady CMI, Rev. Dr. Joy Philip Kakkanattu CMI, Rev. Fr. Sebastian Cheeramvelil SDS and Rev. Fr. Manu Mathew MST in the months of November, December, January and February respectively. On the adjacent day of each monthly recollection, there were family gatherings headed by Fr. Master. In the gatherings, they discussed the achievements of the past months, areas to be improved and the activities for the upcoming months. Thus, they ensure a smooth flow of life at KECSH. There is also a special conference convened by Fr. Master once every semester. It happened this time on November 28 2023 on the topic of integral formation with reference to the official Church document of "The Gift of Priestly Vocation."



Mysore Trip

This year, we took our one-day trip to Kushal Nagar to explore beyond the usual. The trip held on November 11, 2023 unfolded as a captivating journey into cultural richness and spiritual enlightenment. Our journey began at Sera Jey Tibetan University, where we received a warm welcome from the dean who shared insights into the institution's history and program. Subsequently we visited various Buddhist monasteries in the region. Exploring the monastery and lifestyle, we gained insights into 6000 resident Buddhists' lives. The soulful visit to the Golden Temple, the serene Bamboo forest, Bharatmatha CMI Educational Institutions, Mysore Palace, Dasara exhibition, and a delightful visit to CMI Provincial House completed our itinerary on the day. It was an unforgettable experience of togetherness.



Inter-Sem Matches

Inter-seminary sports matches for 2023-24 were held in December 2023 and January 2024 at Dharmaram Courts. KECSH has participated in the inter-sem football, volleyball, cricket, and badminton competitions. Brothers have shown their full energy and sportsmanship in matches.



Meet the Great

In November 2023, another episode of the frequent "Meet the Great" took place in KECSH. Fr. Alangaram SJ, the President of Indian Theological Association was received with enthusiasm. He is a professor of theology in the Asian context. He graced us with an inspiring talk and some meditation techniques.



Community Day at DVK

Community Day at DVK was a celebration aimed at fostering the spirit of togetherness and appreciating diversity. The event honored each community by providing them with the opportunity to showcase their cultural heritage and contributions. Both the Malankara and Tanzanian communities actively participated from KECSH in the exhibition, presenting their unique cultures and traditions in a profound manner.

Chavara Quiz

The Chavara quiz was conducted by Dharmaram College on January 15, 2024. Br. Joseph C. Robert and Br. Jebin Reji represented KECSH. It was an opportunity to explore the life and legacy of St. Chavara.

Sports Day

In a spectacular display of strength and friendship, the seminarians at KECSH showcased their excellence during the much-awaited Sports Day, which took place on November 1, 2023. The event was a true celebration of sportsmanship and unity as all the brothers participated actively, bringing forth their passion for sports. Br. Jijo hailed as the Sports Champion, standing out for his exceptional talent. Team Avengers emerged victorious in this event organised by LCA & Sports Department.



One Day Outing

On January 27, all of the KECSH brothers together had their Semestral one day outing and visited six different places including Avala Betta, Dandiganahalli Dam, Poshettihalli Falls, Bhoganandishwara Temple, Isha Foundation and Devanahalli Fort. This shows their togetherness as one community. This one-day outing was a very good day to them as they enjoyed being together as brothers and explored different things about nature, religions and history.

Begur Trip



Our Half-day trip to Christ Academy in Begur was a delightful experience filled with togetherness and enjoyment. Upon our arrival, the CMI fathers extended a warm welcome to us. Engaging in various sports activities such as football, swimming, volleyball, and badminton, we shared wonderful moments of fun and bonding. Graciously, the fathers of the community provided us with snacks and dinner. It was a memorable occasion that strengthened our bonds and created lasting memories.

KECSH Alumni Meet

For the first time, we conducted a KECSH alumni meet on January 21, 2024. Six priests (KECSH alumni) participated in the



reunion program. The event included felicitation gathering, holy Mass, and festal dinner. It was a time for sharing experiences and nostalgia. They departed to their mission areas with grateful hearts. Fr. Joy Philip Kakkanattu, the former master, also joined us.

Christmas Crib & Epiphany

The Christmas crib was constructed in the front garden of KECSH under the leadership of Br. Joseph. The creativity and discipline of KECSH brothers resulted in an amazing crib being set up with minimal disturbance to seminary life. The brothers were keen to put in their efforts and time for the same. The crib was widely appreciated for its naturality and aesthetics. It was inaugurated on December 17, 2023 evening. Following a brief prayer service at the chapel, the brothers, in a carol procession carried the figures and placed them in the crib. Br. Benny, the Benjamin of the community, carried the figure of Baby Jesus. The crib was showcased till the feast of Epiphany on January 6, 2024 on which following the Solemn Mass, the figures were removed from the crib.

Christmas Star

Under the leadership of Br. Anst and Br. Tiju, the Brothers of KECSH created a beautiful Christmas star that was inaugurated on the eve of the beginning of Advent. It was highly praised for its natural and moderate use of materials.

Personal Crib

To enhance the personal spiritual preparation for Christmas, Fr. Master distributed a figurine of baby Jesus to each brother to be displayed in their rooms. Those who kept it aesthetically were rewarded with gifts. The figurines were returned to the chapel on Epiphany day. This wonderful tradition fostered a sense of Christmas spirit even within their individual living spaces.

Magnificat

The Magnificat 2023 Carol Singing Competition, organized by Christ University, took place on December 17, 2023. Four of our KECSH Brothers, August, Benny, Mario, and Ciril, got a wonderful opportunity to participate along with the DVK choir. The KECSH fraternity was truly overjoyed by the recognition received, as it reflects the dedication and talent of the members.

Advent Reflections

Brothers made meaningful advent reflections on various Christmas themes and uploaded them in the KECSH YouTube channel @ KECSH DVK. It helped them to enter in the mystery of Incarnation in a profound way.



Carol Singing competition (Yuletide 2023)

KECSH brothers participated in a Carol singing competition, which was conducted by Syro-Malabar parish community at Sulthanpalya, Bangalore. We were appreciated for our energetic performance.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Common Christmas Celebration Gala 2023

On December 19th, 2023, under the auspices of DVK, we had a joint Christmas celebrations of the KEC SH Brothers, Research Centre Fathers and Adhyayana Sisters. Filled with reflection and joy, the evening was marked by unity and camaraderie. Br. Joseph skillfully led the event as the Master of Ceremony, and KEC SH Brothers

delighted the audience with a lively dance performance and Christmas carols, which created an atmosphere of joy and harmony. Br. Mario, in the role of Santa Claus, captivated the audience with his rhythmic dance moves. Concluding with a generous agape, the day left us with a deep sense of fulfillment and togetherness.

Community day - A Journey from Meraki to Maitri

KECSH celebrated its Community Day and LCA Valedictory on 4 February 2024, centered on the theme of 'Maitri' under the motto "Together We Thrive, Bound by Discipleship's Drive." The prayer service on the 3rd followed an Indian tradition, incorporating Christian bhajans and songs. The subsequent day commenced with a Solemn Divine Liturgy presided over by Fr. Wilson Chakkyath CMI, the first Master of KECSH. The cultural evening commenced at 6:00 p.m., graced by Fr. Joy Philip Kakkanattu CMI, the President of DVK, as the chief guest. The presence of fathers from Dharmaram and the Research Centre added to the jubilation of the occasion. The evening commenced with a thematic presentation reflecting on the significance of discipleship. Various programs, including prayer dance, traditional dance, fusion songs, and a Tanzanian dance, enriched the festivities. The LCA report was delivered by Br. Jebin and presented to Fr. Master. Prizes were awarded to individual winners across all events, with Bros. Jijo and Jebin receiving accolades as the best individual sports player and best individual cultural performer respectively. The LCA groups Avengers and Pegasus were crowned as winners and runners up for this year LCA events respectively. The evening concluded with a sumptuous meal, where Fr. Rector, DC, joined the community for the Agape, expressing appreciation for everyone's efforts. It was truly a journey down the lane from Meraki, the LCA inauguration, to Maitri, the LCA valedictory, capturing every moment of togetherness and discipleship within the KECSH community.



CBCI Conference on Ecology

During the National Conference on Ecology organized by CBCI at DVK on November 22-23, 2023, the KECSH brothers actively participated and made significant contributions. We helped with the Holy Mass and participated in the liturgical choir. Furthermore, we performed a mime centered around the conference theme of Ecology, which was well-received by all participants, especially Cardinal Oswald Gracias and Cardinal George Alencherry during an evening session of the conference.

Merenda

In our religious tradition, there is a practice where the Benjamin of the community requests three wishes from the head of the community on Epiphany day. The typical requests include celebrating a Special Holy Mass, enjoying a snack, and going on a half-day trip. These wishes were granted on various days throughout the month of February. The high tea, known as Merenda, was served on February 7, 2024. Congratulations to the Refectorians for their efforts in organizing the event.

World Philosophy Day

DVK hosted an inter-institute seminar on November 16, 2023 for World Philosophy Day on the theme, "Faces of Indigenous Life and Philosophies." Notable contributions of KECSH brothers, including the Master of Ceremony, Br. Joseph, and Prayer song led by Br. Ciril and his team were highly appreciated.

Thesis Presentation



Building on the momentum from previous semesters, the final year Brothers have sustained the practice of presenting their theses. Engaging in brainstorming sessions focused on topics such as the philosophies of Plato and Aristotle, virtue ethics, friendship, ecological concerns, and more has prompted the Brothers to think deeply and engage in reflection. This approach not only encourages them to explore their subjects in depth but also enhances their skills in presenting and moderating sessions.



On the eve of Rector's Day, the KECSH brothers attended the dinner with Fr. Rector and DVK community. Br. Niljo felicitated Fr. Rector and the brothers gifted a portrait picture of Fr. Rector to him, which was drawn by Br. Jebin. We sang a greeting song composed by ourselves. It was a wonderful time for all of us.

Rector's day



KECSH FRATERNITY

Social Outreach Programs

KECSH Brothers extended their joy beyond themselves through various social outreach initiatives. On December 8, 2023, they visited Snehalaya, an opportunity school, sharing Christmas cheer with the children and witnessing their doubled happiness. The brothers delighted the students with games, action songs and carols. We offered small gifts, creating a truly festive Christmas atmosphere. The school authorities (Jacobite Parish committee) expressed gratitude and shared candles crafted by the special children.

Another social endeavor involved organizing an awareness camp in a colony near Anepalaya, on Indian Republic Day. Around 60 students participated in the camp where our Brothers conveyed the message of Republic Day through Mime, action songs, games, and messages in both Tamil and English. Led by Bro Robin and guided by Fr. Varghese Puthuparampil CMI, the director of ASWAS, our social department transformed the day into one of social dedication and fulfillment. Utilizing funds from the social department, sourced

from contributions by the brothers and their manual labor, we provided snacks and gifts to the children. Kudos to the Social Department team! Every Saturday, the brothers visit and volunteer at ASWAS, a social project affiliated with Dharmaram College that serves free meals to approximately 500 individuals daily. Additionally, they offer their services at Kripalaya, assisting the elderly with tasks such as haircuts and other necessities. These consistent activities reflect the brothers' strong social dedication.

