## **Editorial**

I am indeed delighted to share with you the E- Newsletter for the month of May 2024. The month of May marked most importantly the transfer of Fr. Joby Sebastian who had been the Executive Director for nearly a decade. Under Fr. Stewardship, **FCDP-TMS** has experienced significant success and growth in its mission to empower the fisher folk, especially the women and children. During his tenure, FCDP-TMS has reached new heights of effectiveness and impact. His leadership has been instrumental in advancing our mission and strengthening our position as a catalyst in the coastal areas of Kollam. The fishermen community of Kollam remembers with gratitude, the selfless service Fr. Joby has rendered in the area and wishes him all success in the new endeavors he is about to undertake in his future mission.

Various events took place as part of children and youth development, entrepreneurship training and community organization. Final round of Don Bosco summer camp, picnic for youth and children, training classes in food processing and exhibition are some of them.

I thank Fr. Joby my predecessor, all the board and staff members, our benefactors and well-wishers for their continual support and encouragement to carry on the work effectively.

-Fr. Jithin Sebastian SDB (Director, FCDP-TMS)

#### DON BOSCO SUMMER CAMP THIRD PHASE COMPLETED.

FCDP hosted a summer camp for students of classes 7-9 from May 14-21. Over 50 children attended the camp, which helped them to discover their strengths, build confidence, and develop important social skills. The Camp led by Deacon Abin Abraham included, Career guidance sessions, Fun competitions, Training programs to develop their talents, interactive group activities and life skills sessions. Students were awarded with certificate and prize at a valedictory function organized at the end of the camp. Special guests Mrs. Susan Lal (Teacher) and Fr. Stephy Francis ( Director, DREAM) attended the ceremony





#### HONOURING OF DR. RONAK R

Dr. Ronak. R (Managing Director Dev Snacks; an international brand based in Kollam), visited Don Bosco Boys Home, Mundakkal On June 17 2024. FCDP, TMS and Don Bosco Youth Forum jointly honoured him for his excellence and achievements in the field of food processing., Fr. Stephen Mukkatil Rector of Don Bosco Institutions honored him and Mrs Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) handed over the memento. Dr.Ronak R received an honorary doctorate from Azteca University. Ronak has won several awards in the field of entrepreneurship. Fr. Joby Sebastian ( Director FCDP-TMS) Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Asst.Director), Fr. P. O Varghese ( Vicar, St. Stephen's Thope) Sr. Mary K (Asst Director, TMS) Mrs. Veronica Antony (President TMS) Board & FCDP and TMS Staff graced the occasion.





#### FAREWELL TO DEAR FR JOBY SEBASTIAN SDB

FCDP Family bade farewell to Fr. Joby Sebastian SDB, who had been Executing the activities of FCDP by serving as Director of FCDP for the last 8 years . Fr. Joby Sebastian is a person who changed the face of Kollam coastal society and ensured women empowerment by envisioning various schemes for women. Fr Joby Sebastian was the stalwart of FCDP's Vishappinu Vida, Ujjivani and Santhavanam which symbolize its social commitment towards the society. Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Asst Director, FCDP) Welcomed the gathering. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) presided over the event. Fr. Vincent Machado delivered the keynote address and paid tribute to Fr. Joby Sebastian for his selfless service. Fr. Stephen Mukkattil presented the Plaque of Fame. At the event, Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS), Mr. Milton (Board Member FCDP), Mr. Sajeev Soman (Councillor, Udaya Marthandapuram Division), Mr. Tomy Napoleon (Councillor, Pallithottam), Mr. Ashiq (Manager, Piaggio), Dr. Paul and Mrs. Gretta Raju (Coordinator, FCDP), Smt. Mini Mary (Coordinator, TMS), Mr. Joe Louis (Manager, FCDS), Smt. Sindhu Gerald (Supervisor, Vishappinu Vida), Smt. Bindhu Harrison (Coordinator, DBCF) and Mr. Sabu Stalin (Member DBYF) felicitated. Various programs were performed by members of Coastal Melodies, DBYF, DBCF, FCDS and FCDP staff members. Sr. Mary K (Assistant Director, TMS) delivered vote of thanks.







#### WORLD TOBACCO DAY AWARENESS PROGRAM HELD

Fishermen Community Development Programme and DREAM Kollam join to organize a flashmob at Chinnakkada clock tower to raise awareness about the dangers of tobacco. Mr. Sanal Vellimon (CWC Chairperson, Kollam) spoke on the occasion. The theme of World No-Tobacco Day 2024 is 'Protecting Children from Tobacco Industry Interference'. The event aimed to educate people about the harmful effects of tobacco on children and young people, and to encourage everyone to join the fight against tobacco addiction.







### **EXCURSION TO DREAM WORLD WITH YOUTH FORUM**

Don Bosco Youth Forum members went on a one-day picnic to Dream world. Chalakudy on May 30, 2024. Deacon Abin Abraham accompanied ten Youth members along with three animators. This trip to Dream World provided the members with valuable opportunities for their personal growth and team-building. Engaging in various group activities and rides, they learned the importance of trust, cooperation, and communication. This experience helped them to develop resilience and problem-solving skills as they navigated challenges and supported one another throughout The day had made memories as they enjoyed the thrilling rides and games and everyone went home with unforgettable nostalgia.





#### ONE-DAY OUTING FOR CHILDREN'S FORUM

"A fun-filled trip to Happy Land, Trivandrum, was held for Children's Forum members on May 22, 2024. Forty-eight children, accompanied by their animators, enjoyed a day filled with excitement and joy. The trip provided an opportunity for the children to have bond with each other and create unforgettable memories. They indulged in thrilling rides, games, and activities, which helped develop their teamwork and problem-solving skills. The trip also taught them the value of taking breaks and having fun, recognizing the importance of balance in life. The children returned home with an eagerness to share their experiences with others.





## A TWO-DAY TRAINING SESSION ON MAKING SNACKS WAS HELD

A training programme on making snacks was held at FCDP Hall with the goal of empowering women. The programme ended with the distribution of certificates. This kind of programme gives women the skills and know-how to launch their own snack businesses, allowing them to make money and provide for their families. It also encourages women to be independent and enterprising, which makes society more diverse and powerful. By teaching these skills, the programme contributes to the broader growth of society by improving the women's financial security as well as their position and confidence in their communities. Certificate distribution ceremony was started with prayer. Mrs. Jayalakshmi .C. Pillai welcomed the gathering. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TMS) delivered the introductory speech and Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Assistant Director, FCDP), and Mr. Ajayshankar (Trainer) felicitated. Miss. Anna Saju (Project Coordinator, WE-LivE) proposed the vote of thanks







## 3RD PHASE FOOD PROCESSING TRAINING CLASS HELD

Six days fish and Food Processing Training class was held at FCDP Hall from may 2nd to May 8th. which was part of the WYEP project. The concluding ceremony began with a warm welcome by Mrs. Rossamma Mothis, (trainee, food processing) Fr. Joby Sebastian, (Director, FCDP-TMS) led the ceremony and presided over the function. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Anselm BV, (Retired joint Development Commissioner) who also awarded certificates to the participants. Mr. Ajay Shankar, (trainer) Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Asst Director, FCDP) and Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) joined the program and shared the dais with the other dignitaries.

The event was attended by a number of benefactors and supporters, as well as FCDP-TMS staff members. The trainees showcased their culinary skills by preparing varieties of delicious food items, which was the highlight of the food fest. The dishes includes beef and Chicken cutlets, Samoosa, Chicken soup, Chocolate cake, Chicken Vada, Beef Biriyani, Elayappam, Kappa, Fish Curry, German ball, Kesari, Chicken Fingers, Kappa puttu, Shawarma, Unniyappam and variety of squash such as Iron Tiger squash, Hibiscus squash, Basil leaf squash and Raw Mango squash and so on. which were prepared by the trainees themselves. This event was a wonderful opportunity for the trainees to share their talents and creativity with everyone present.













# **CELEBRATIONS**

We wish Mrs. Rinisha Nithin, Mrs. Maya Ajith, Miss. Anna Saju & Mr. Nikhil Joy and Mrs. Shinny Vijayan good health and prosperity as they celebrated their birthdays in the month of May. We also thank them for their dedicated service and support towards the activities of FCDP.













#### FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (Reg. No. Q.771/84) THEERADESA MAHILA SOCIETY (Reg. No. Q.1039/95)

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