

Dear Patricians,

It is my great joy to greet all of you on the occasion of the Patrician Christmas get-together. This is the season of joy and celebrations and I am pleased that Patricians everywhere both young and the elderly gather with their families and enjoy the evening with nostalgic memories of their school days.



The real meaning of Christmas is Immanuel, God with us. God coming down to us, seeking us out, bringing forgiveness, healing, comfort, moral strength, guidance. Each one of us has deep down in our souls – an incredible longing for purpose and meaning in life, to feel and to celebrate the redeeming, forgiving, sustaining love of God, and to be in the presence of God.

This is why Christmas is so special to us, because it reminds us that God is indeed with us. He cares for us at all times and we are also called to be a sign of God's presence to others around us. By our good deeds of charity, we can be worthy witness to his abiding presence to those around us.

Here in Jaffna, we were able to progress to a certain extent in 2014

- At the Grade 5 Scholarship Examination, 35 students out of 103 obtained above 150 marks out of 200 and become eligible for Government Bursary as they proceed to Grade 6 and up to Grade 13. This is the biggest number in the last 25 Years. 97 students passed the exam and obtained the Ministry certificates.
- At the Ordinary Level exam held in December 2013, 81% of students were qualified for Advanced Level. In Bilingual Stream 95% passed, 3 students obtained 9A (Distinctions) and 11 students obtained 5 or more Distinctions.
- At the Advanced Level Examination, August 2013, 50% of candidates were qualified for University Admission.

- ❖ A new Turf Pitch was opened in October at St. Patrick's College grounds.
- ❖ The Under 19 Cricket Team became the Runner up Team in the Northern Province.
- ❖ The Under 14 Football Team got the Third Place at Divisional Level.
- ❖ The Under 15 Football Team went up to the quarter final of the All Island School Football Tournament.
- ❖ The Under 16 Football Team became Divisional Champions.
- ❖ The Under 18 Football Team is qualified for Zonal Level Tournament.
- ❖ The Under 19 Football team became 2nd Runner up at the JSSA Tournament.
- ❖ The Under 10 Mini Tennis Group went up to the quarter finals at the All Island Mini Tennis Competition.
- ❖ In Athletics, Patricians secured 2 First places, 2 second places and 3 Third places at Provincial Level Sports competition.
- ❖ Three New ground records were established at Inter-House Athletic Meet in High Jump(two) and 400 metres Race(one) at School Level

The Primary Building Project is nearing completion. We are deeply grateful to those Patricians who are contributing to this great need. In January 2015 we will start using the ground floor for Grade One Classes.

I wish you all the Compliments of the Season.

May the New Year 2015 be an year of Many Blessings to you all.

Rev. Fr. M. Jero Selvanayagam
Rector