



# The Archangel

Newsletter of  
The St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, Alumni Association (Colombo Branch)  
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2012

No. 56

## Rev. Fr. E.J. Herbert Memorial Basketball Tournament 2012

The above Tournament, a brainchild of Vice President, J.C. Daniel, organized by the Colombo Branch in association with the SMC, AA, Batticaloa and held at the Eugene Herbert Indoor Stadium at SMC on Apr.27,28,29 to pay tribute to Basketball Legend Fr Herbert and to perpetuate his memory, to re surface the court damaged while weatherproofing same, to revive interest in the game and in a small way contribute to national integration by inviting teams representative of all parts of the country, was a resounding success.

A moving moment was the presentation of Basketballs and Kits, a donation by Fr Herbert's sister in New Orleans and brought by Desmond Nadarajah, to Principal Ms C.S.Masilamanie by Organizing Committee Chairman I.T. Canagaretnam.

Bishop Kingsley Swampillai, Patron, declared open the Tournament on Apr.27<sup>th</sup> and Bishop Joseph Ponniah, awarded the Challenge Trophy to Captain Harshadeva de Silva of the victorious team Colombo Cagers on the closing day. The runners-up were Police SC.

The participating teams were, Colombo Cagers, Batticaloa Blues, Batticaloa Reds, Jaffna BC, Police SC, Carlton BC, Otters Aquatic Club and SMC.

The Tournament was meticulously planned and professionally executed by the organizing committee from Colombo and Batticaloa comprising respectively, I.T. Canagaretnam (Chairman), J.C. Daniel (Vice chairman), S. Shanker (Secretary), S. Selvaruban (Treasurer)

Rev. Fr Paul Satkunanayagam SJ (Co chairman), I.J. Sylvester (Coordinating Secretary), Aloysius Robert (Treasurer)

The Archangel congratulates all concerned on a job well done. The last Basketball gala organized by the Colombo Branch was the Peace Basketball Tournament in 2004.

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## Batticaloa declared a New Diocese First Bishop Joseph Ponniah

The Diocese of Trincomalee – Batticaloa was separated and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Ponniah appointed First Bishop of the new Diocese of Batticaloa on July 03, 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI, Head of the Roman Catholic Church.

This new Diocese comprising the Districts of Batticaloa and Amparai will be a suffragan of the Metropolitan Church in Colombo.

The ceremonial installation of the Bishop of Batticaloa will take place in September 2012.

The Archangel congratulates and welcomes His Lordship Joseph Ponniah, our new Bishop and Patron.

The Diocese of Trincomalee was created in 1893 by carving out the Metropolitan and Jaffna Dioceses. In 1967 it was renamed the Diocese of Trincomalee – Batticaloa. In 2012 the Diocese has been split into the Dioceses of Trincomalee and Batticaloa.

Previous Bishops of the Diocese were  
1898-1913 Charles Lavigne SJ  
1917-1946 Gaston Robichez SJ  
1947-1974 Ignatius T Glennie SJ  
1974-1983 Leo Rajendram Antony  
1983-2012 Joseph Kingsley Swampillai

We record with regret the passing away of Past pupil **Rev. Fr Joseph Rex Ockersz SJ**, brother of Pps late Fr Norbert and Sonny, on June 22, 2012 at the Home for the Aged, Batticaloa. His mortal remains were brought to College before burial on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

**Central-Michael Cricket Match**- Aug 26,2012  
Cooray Park, Colombo-6  
**AGM 2012** – October 06, 2012  
Hotel Sapphire, Colombo 06  
**Christmas Get – together** December 08, 2012  
Sindhi Club, Colombo 03

## Alumni News

**John Jegasothy M. Th.**, Minister of Religion, The Uniting Church in Australia was conferred the Doctor of Ministry (honoris causa) recently in recognition of his voluntary humanitarian service. Congratulations.

**Ms Soundarie**, daughter of Ranjith and Louisa David, Deputy Director, SAARC Regional Office, Colombo, has been chosen as an International Judge for the Choir Olympics to be held in July 2012 in Cincinnati, USA. We are proud.

**Angelo Petrick** was honoured with an award for Excellence in Business Management by the Certified Management Accountants (CMA) at the South Asian Federation of Accountants International Conference at the Taj Hotel, Colombo, on June 21, 2012.

Ten years ago Angelo was awarded the CIMA International Medal for Meritorious Service to the Management Accounting Profession.

He will shortly be away on the Canadian Rockies reliving his youth. Our good wishes to him.

**Dr Walter Patrick**, elder brother of Angelo who lives in Hawaii was in Sri Lanka in May 2012.

During his last visit to Sri Lanka in May 2012, **Dr. Ruthraj Edwards** called on his old, old Chemistry teacher who now edits the Archangel. Though the meeting was brief, it was memorable as it was the first since the SMC Chemistry lab. days of the late 1950's – the lab which was ahead of the times then and close to the hearts of generations of teachers and students has since given way to more class rooms.

Ruthraj who took with him past copies of the Archangel e-mailed the next day.

"I was delighted to catch up with you for a few minutes last evening. I read the issues 51, 52 and 53 of the Archangel with great interest. You are doing a great service in producing this newsletter about those we have known and also of old friends and new from far and wide".

Ruthraj Edwards MD(Cey), FRCP(Lond), FRACP was Senior Consultant Physician and Head of the Department of Medicine in a hospital in the Bay of Plenty in the North Island of New Zealand from 1987 until his retirement in 2010. He now does locums in New Zealand and Australia. *Au revoir*.

**Gunam Philips** and wife Premala returned home after a six month holiday with their son and daughter in the USA. Gunam called on the Editor on May 20, 2012 with a bottle of California wine which he had carried all the way from California to Colombo. The Editor was touched.

**President T. Mahenthiran** underwent Heart (Cardiac Arterial Bypass Graft) Surgery on June 28, 2012 at a private hospital in Colombo. We wish him a speedy recovery. He is now an FBS, Fellow of the Bypass Society, the other members being Dr. S.Sivasubramaniam, K.Thurairajaratnam and RC Perumal, all past presidents.

*Continued next column...*

## Committee Meeting 05

This dinner meeting was held April 20, 2012 at the residence of N. Sivanandarajah, Colombo 13.

Desmond Nadarajah of the USA was a welcome guest. A group photograph of the Committee Members was taken. The main item of discussion was the finalization of all arrangements for the Father Herbert Invitation Basketball Tournament to be held at SMC, Batticaloa on April 27, 28 and 29.

Fellowship and dinner was hosted by N. Sivanandarajah and Judixon Mariadasan.

## Committee Meeting 06

This meeting chaired by President Mahendran and hosted by Ranjit David was held on May 25, 2012, at 23 Charlemont Road, Colombo 06 after observing two minutes silence in remembrance of former SMC Principal Vidwan S.E.

Kamalanathan. 20 members attended.

The main menu was a favourable post mortem on the just concluded Basketball Tournament at Batticaloa.

## Committee Meeting 07

This Dinner meeting was held at the Old Wesleyite's Spots club, Borella on June 29, 2012. In the absence of the President, Vice President Winston Ockersz chaired the meeting and was attended by 21 other members. Past pupil Ravi Senathiraja was a guest.

The meeting commenced with the observance of two minutes silence as a mark of respect to Past pupil late Rev. Fr. Rex Ockersz SJ.

As the Ambassador bus which was donated for the use of the SMC students in 2005 was beyond repairs, the logistics for the disposal of the same was discussed.

M. Suthaharan was appointed Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Annual Central-Michael cricket match in Colombo in August 2012.

R.C. Perumal informed that Past President Dr. S. Sivasubramaniam was desirous of funding a scholarship scheme to perpetuate the memory of T. Albert Sabapathy, who was responsible for reviving the then dormant Colombo Branch in 1971, by depositing Rs. 100,000 into a bank account and using the accruing interest to award scholarships to deserving SMC students, subject to Colombo Branch agreeing to implement the proposed scheme. The Committee gratefully agreed.

The AGM 2012 was to be held at Hotel Sapphire on October 06 and the Christmas Party on December 08.

The dinner and fellowship was hosted by Kumar David, P. Julian, S. Vithiyananthan and Bernard Edward.

*Continued from Column one...*

Eric Rajapakse Opticians opened a new branch at the Colombo Pharmacy at Union Place recently.

Chief Guest at the opening ceremony was **Mr T.**

**Dineshkanthan**, Sri Lanka's number one Tennis player and member of the victorious Davis Cup team of this year.

SUNDAY TIMES 24.06.2012

சமர்ப்பணம்  
அமரர் சா. இ. கமலநாதன்  
(27.04.1925 – 25.04.2012)



மட்டுமாநகர் மண்ணின் மைந்தனாய் உயிர்த்து நம் கல்லூரி ஆசானாய், அதன் பின் அதன் அதிபராய் 14 வருடம் (1973-1988) பிரபல்யமாகி, சமூகத்துக்கும், பிராந்தியத்திற்கும் தொண்டாற்றி அரசியலிலும் பங்கு கொண்டு, தமிழ் நாடகக் கலையிலும் களைகட்டி, சமயப் பணிகளிலும் ஈடுபட்ட, வித்துவான் இப்போது நம் மத்தியில் இல்லை. இவரிடம் நம்

கல்லூரியில் தமிழ் இலக்கணமும், இலக்கியமும் கற்றுத் தேர்ந்த மாணவர் என்னைப்போல் எத்தனை எத்தனையோ. என்னைப் பொறுத்தமட்டில் “வித்துவான்” என்பதற்கு வியாக்கியானம் என்ன வென்றால், நல்ல எண்ணங்களையும், கருத்துக்களையும் “வித்து” இருவதில் “வான்” என்பதுதான். இதற்கு அமைந்தவாறு சிறிதும் பிரமாத நம் சமுதாயத்தில் வித்துவானகவே ஜோலித்தார் இலக்கிய கலாநிதி சாமுவேல் இமானுவேல் கமலநாதன். இவரின் முன் எழுத்துக்களுக்கு (சா.இ) சாவு இல்லாத கமலநாதன் என்று எங்கள் வகுப்பறையில் சொல்வது சகஜம்.

இந்த இலக்கண, இலக்கிய ஆண்டகையின் வாழ்க்கையில் சில மைல்கற்கள் இவை:

- 1956 – வித்துவான் டிப்ளோமா-பேராதனைப்பல்கலைக்கழகம்.
- 1976 – B.A. கலைமாணி- பேராதனைப்பல்கலைக்கழகம்.
- 1986 – SLEAS.
- 1999 – கௌரவ இலக்கிய கலாநிதி கிழக்குப் பல்கலைக் கழகம்.
- 1993 – தேசிய சாகித்திய விழா-“தமிழ் ஒளி” விருது.
- 1998 – வடக்கு கிழக்கு மாகண சபை ஆளுநர் விருது.
- 2010 – மண்முனை வடக்கு பிரதேச கலாசாரப் பேரவை “சிறந்த சிரேஷ்ட பிரஜைகள்” விருது.
- 2010 – மட்டக்களப்பு எழுத்தாளர் ஊக்குவிப்பு மையம் - “தமிழியல் வித்தகர்” விருது.

இந்த இலக்கியச் செம்மலானவர், முத்தமிழ் வித்தகர் சுவாமி விபுலானந்தரின் ஆக்கங்களை நான்கு தொகுப்புகளாக (1995,1995,1997,1998) இணைப்பதிப்பாசிரியராக கடமையாற்றி பதிப்பித்தார். “மட்டக்களப்பு மாண்பியம்”(வித்துவான் FXC நடராஜா) பிரசுரிக்கப்பட்ட காலகட்டங்களின் பின் 2002ல் “பாரத அம்மாணை”, 2005ல் “மட்டக்களப்பு பூர்வ சரித்திரம்” ஆகிய ஏட்டுச் சுவடிகளை ஏடு பெயர்த்து ஒப்பிட்டாய்வும் செய்து, முறையே பதிப்பாசிரியராகவும் பின்பு தன் துணைவியாருடன் இணை ஆசிரியராகவும் இருந்து வெளியிட்ட பெருமை இவருக்கே உருத்தது.

1946 – 2003 வரை ஏறக்குறைய எழுநூற்றுக்கும் மேற்பட்ட அமரரின் மேடைப்பேச்சுக்கள், தமிழியல், விமர்சனம், தத்துவம், சமயம், அரசியல்துறை சார்ந்தவையாகும். இலங்கை தமிழரசுக் கட்சி மினித் தெழுந்த காலங்களில் இவருடைய மேடைப்பேச்சுக்களுக்கு கரகோஷங்களுக்கு குறைவேயில்லை. சொல்லின் செல்வர் அண்ணன் ராஜதுரை அவர்களின் உரை கடைசியில் இருக்கும் அதற்கு முன்பாக பேச அருகதையுள்ள ஒருவர் என்றால் சா.இ.கமலநாதன் அவர்களே. இந்த இரண்டு நிகழ்வுகளுக்கு மாத்திரம் மக்கள் கூட்டம் நிரம்பி வழியும்.

எமது கல்லூரி நாடகங்களை உருவாக்கி மேடையேற்றியதுமல்லாமல், பத்துக்கும் மேற்பட்ட வரலாறு, இலக்கிய, இசை, தாளைய, சமூக நாடகங்களில் கருவாகவும், கர்த்தாவாகவும் இருந்துள்ளார்.

கல்லூரி அரசமயமாகிய பின்னரான காலங்களுள், இவர் அதிபராய் இருந்த காலங்களில் அமரரின் இடையற்ற உத்வேகத்தால் நமது கல்லூரி கல்வி, மெய்வலு, விளையாட்டு, சங்கீதம், நாடகம், நாட்டியம் ஆகியவற்றில் பிராந்திய மட்டத்திலும், தேசிய மட்டத்திலும் பல மாணவர்களை சாதனையாளராகக் கண்டது.

Continued next column.....



## BATTI- TRINCO SUPER HIGHWAY

Road travel from Batticaloa to Trincomalee has always been long and arduous due to ill maintained roads and several hazardous crossings by ferry over rivers.

Five bridges built over the five tributaries of the Mahaweli Ganga on the Batticaloa – Trincomalee upgraded A15 Highway in 2011 at a cost of Rs.995 million not only eliminates the ancient transport system but makes the journey swift, safe and smooth with travel time reduced to about two and a half hours.

The longest of the five at Upparu (seen above) is 315 meters and the others are 245,175,105 and 85.

Input: SUNDAY TIMES, Oct 23, 2011

Earlier two new road bridges were built at Mannampitiya and Ottamawadi to eliminate delays at rail crossings; several all weather roads replacing causeways had come up on the Pottuvil Road and an alternate wider bridge is under construction at Kallady. All roads have been widened and laid with premix.

Needless to say that the people of the east are gratefully enjoying the benefits of the above ‘Development of the Century’. All praise to the Mahinda administration.

There remains however, one bridge which is yet to be built – this bridge needs no funds only will, but will make all of us partners in progress on the fast track to prosperity and our goal, ‘Miracle/Wonder of Asia’ and even ‘Paradise on Earth Plus’ – the bridge between communities, between hearts and minds.

For this bridge to be built sooner than later, we pray. Amen.

*When one limb suffers the whole body suffers.*

*From column one....*

பிறவிக் கத்தோலிக்கரான இவர் பிற மதங்களிலும், சமுதாயங்களிலும் உள்ளவர்களிடம் நன் மதிப்பை வைத்திருந்தார், அதேபோல் மீள் அமோக மதிப்பையும் பெற்றிருந்தார்.

அமரரின் ஈடுபாடுகளும், செயல்களும் இலங்கை சாகித்திய மண்டலம், கிழக்கு பல்கலைக்கழக கலாசாரத்துறை, மட்/பொது வைத்தியசாலை, மட்/பொது நூலகம் உள்ளிட்ட ஆலோசனைச் சபைகளால் மகிழ்ந்து உணரக் கூடியதாக இருந்தன.

எமது தந்தையார் கூறுவார், “ஒருவன் உயிருடன் இருக்கும்போதே அவனுக்குரித்தான கௌரவத்தையும் மரியாதையையும் கொடு” என்று. இதற்கு அமைய மட்டு மண் மக்கள் தங்கள் செயலில் இம்மியளவும் பின்னிற்காமல் அமரருக்கு தக்க நேரங்களில் நன்றியையும், கௌரவத்தையும் கொடுத்துள்ளார்கள் என்பது தெட்டத் தெளிவு.

உன் நிழல் பட்ட இடமெல்லாம் தமிழ் மணம் கமழ – கற்பித்த கல்லூரி கருவுருவே – கலாநிதியே கமல(ா) நாதனே உனக்கிது சமர்ப்பணம்.

இரா.மயில்வாகனம் சுதாகரன்.

# SMC, AA, North America

## Office Bearers

The following office bearers were elected at the AGM held on March 31, 2012.

Patron	: Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Kingsley Swampillai, Bishop of Batticaloa - Trincomalee
Vice Patrons	: Pon. Subendira Renu Daniels Suresh Ganeshamoorthy
President	: Suraj Paiva Surajpaiva@hotmail.com
Vice President	: Gerard Sashan Rajendra gerard_cricket@hotmail.com
Secretary	: Sanjeevan Rasathurai Sanjee.rasathurai@gmail.com
Asst. Secy	: Tommy Ganeshamoorthy tommyg@rogers.com
Treasurer	: Roshan Wignarajah rwignarajah@tmacc.com
Asst. Treasurer	: Prasath Subramaniam
Committee	: Jude Kingston Ferdinandz, Shikan Canagasuriam, Mathungan Thangavadivel, Nishendran Jeyasingam, Ragushankar Ramanathan
Auditor	: Charles Nimalaranjan
Editor	: Stanley Chellapillai

## SMC, AA, Australia

At the AGM held on April 29, 2012 the following office bearers were elected for 2012/13

President	: Linga Lingaratnam linga.lingaratnam@gmail.com
Vice President	: John Ananthan
Secretary	: Thillainayagam Santhaseelan thillai.s@optusnet.com.au
Treasurer	: Winton Anton
Asst. Secy/ Treasurer	: Sujeevan Earnest Jeyarajah
Editor	: Benedict Amirtharajah
Committee	: Dr. T. Sivaseelan, Lukshan Rajakumar, Indra Ponnudurai
Auditor	: Thambirajah Shivakumar

*Question from student: If one teacher cannot teach all the subjects, how can one student learn all the subjects?*

<b>Edited by</b>	<b>:R.C.Perumal</b>
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*From page 1*

The Tournament got off to a good start with the venue surroundings tastefully painted and colourfully illuminated and DJ tempo creating a carnival atmosphere.

However the festivities had to be kept low key as the funeral of Past Principal Vidwan S.E.Kamalanathan was also that same evening. All the Colombo Branch members who were in Batticaloa for the Tournament made use of the opportunity to call over and pay their last respects to former Principal S.E.Kamalanathan.

Bishop Kingsley Swampillai was the Chief Guest and SMC Principal Ms C.S.Masilamanie and Sri Lanka Basketball Federation Senior Vice President I.T.Canagaretnam the Guests of Honour on the opening day.

The second day saw Principal Ms Masilamanie representing the Chief Guest, the Zonal Director of Education and Rev. Fr. Paul Satkunanayagam S.J, President SMC, AA and T. Mahenthiran, President SMC, AA Colombo Branch as Guests of Honour.

There was a colourful cultural pageant on the final day before the finals were worked out. Chief Guest Bishop Joseph Ponniah gave away the trophies.

A fitting finale to the three day event was a grand fellowship dinner at the Town Hall, Batticaloa for 150 guests – players, officials and invitees – who sang and danced away the night.

The main sponsor was Ram Brothers (Pvt) Ltd and Co-sponsors EUROSTAR, Colombo and Sun Shine Bakers and Caterers, Batticaloa.

The foreign Michaelite benefactors were Fatta Tissaveerasinghe (USA), Desmond Nadarajah (USA), S.P.Selvarajah (UK), Gnanaraj Vaz (Oman) and Godwin Joseph (Canada)

*Excerpted from a report by the Tournament Secretary S.Shanker.*

### Escape routes

If you are caught taking a nap in the office, slowly raise your head and say 'Amen'. They'll think you have been praying.

If your wife catches you admiring another woman, tell her that 'She is not as nice as you are'.

If someone asks you a question you don't wish to answer, smile and ask 'Why do you want to know?'

If someone asks you for a loan you do not wish to give say 'I have no money to give you'

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Research Statistics show that one in every four persons has mental illness. Take three of your friends. If they are OK, you are not OK.

**Please pass/forward this Newsletter to another Michaelite.**



# Editor's Mail

Dear Mr. Perumal,

Recently I received the online version of Archangel through a friend of mine. Mr. Perumal needs to be commended for this effort, not only in connecting but allowing multitudes of Michaelites around the Globe to relive the best of human spirit that we all came to experience through St. Michael's, Batticaloa.

I cannot simply put in words the very first long walk that I undertook with my father along the stretched high columns of the majestic inner hallway to join the grade 3 class; the fascination over the varieties of cutters (pencil sharpeners) in animal shapes available at the College book-shop; the passionate lunch hour soccer duels between opposing classes by the Chapel under the Neem trees – notoriously led by 2 Thangavelus (Balu & Uthaya); being part of the unanimous curse by the young spectators from the upper levels, witnessing the nail-biting one point advantage by the Air-force basketball team over Michaelmen; experiencing the gentle evening lake breeze while seated behind Fr. Weber's noisy Lambretta scooter, balancing as many soccer balls – the memories are endless.

Every Michaelite has a story to share – what a privilege to have a common stage of connectivity across the seas and beyond the boundaries. Thanks Mr. Perumal for this great service.

The strength from the humongous glucose packets that you have brought to us during the basketball matches is still mounting energy of memories.

Please keep me in your distribution list.

Nimal Veerasingham. May 9, 2012. Canada

Thank you very much for the compliments. I am happy to be an instrument in connecting Michaelites of yesteryear.

Please let me know something more about your good self, to revive my memory which fails at 80! I will send you the previous editions ASAP

Thanks and regards

R.C. Perumal May 10, 2010, Sri Lanka

I studied at College from late 60's to the late 70's and during that time was engaged in practically all extra-curricular activities St. Mikes is famous for. Myself and my brother captained the school basketball teams for some years while actively engaged in Athletics, Soccer and cricket.

My brother Wesley Sugirtharaj Veerasingham, popularly known as 'Veera' during his school and university days is now in the UK and was once active in the AA there.

Briefly I played for Bank of Ceylon 'B' Division at the Mercantile Basketball tournaments while my brother played for Maharajas.

Currently I live in Toronto, Canada with my family and employed in the financial sector. I keep in touch with the old boys here, though not actively engaged as before. The late Mr. Ratnajothe from UK, is a far relative of my wife and had an extensive friendship with the family which continues today. I have met Mr. I.T. Canagaratnam few times both here

and in Sri Lanka and exchanged goodwill and activities between the North American chapter when I was active with the association.

One of the things that profoundly changed my character is the association that I had with Fr. Herbert - both as a coach and a mentor. I was in the team coached by him that won the First Senior Championship at Depot Courts Bambalapitiya beating St. Peter's after a long drought, which also started the beginning of a basketball revolution at St. Michael's. I always wanted to write about my experience with Fr. Herbert and the gain the people of Batticaloa received in terms of Character and the results of hard work and determination. Though writing is one of my passions, contributing to various magazines here, somehow this attempt about Fr. Herbert somehow got interrupted partially due to a Degree that I pursued at the University of Toronto.

Never the less the opportunity I did get early this year to visit Louisiana - the birthplace of Fr. Herbert and the time I spent at Loyola University in New-Orleans did shape up my writing which I thought of sending to one of the Sri Lankan Newspapers for publication before August. I thought of sending the article to you for your comments and advise before such attempt. I do strongly feel that Fr. Herbert's life and contribution should not be forgotten but constantly be reminded to everyone, for not only to become productive and successful citizens in a borderless world - but most of all to understand the riddles of human life and the path to the common journey we all have to undertake in our lives.

It's indeed a privilege to have come in contact with you. I am sure your journal will become a common bridge in connecting Michaelites all over the world.

Nimal Veerasingham. May 10, 2012. USA

Dear Mr. Perumal,

Thank You for those previous issues - I know both the highlighted individuals - Dhilo Canagasabay (Bishop) and Dr. Shantharaj very well. It's nice for all Michaelites to know how their compatriots are doing in various stages of their lives.

I also notice in the summary of your OBA meetings - that a museum at Batticaloa is proposed by Mr. I.T. Canagaratnam. Do you have any further details on that project? I personally think a Museum around the history of College and Batticaloa in general is a worthwhile project to consider - especially when so many of our people have moved to various parts of the world and we all have a duty towards the future generations.

Hope you are in the best of health, and your service to College is tremendously appreciated. In my view without the prominence of the Colombo OBA, and especially people of your calibre, the school and its glory would have been very much forgotten in the rudderless seas.

Nimal Veerasingham. May 29, 2012. Canada

Our Magazine has become very popular under your editorship. Now, old boys of St. Michael's eagerly await the arrival of the Archangel. You are doing a great job.

God bless you.

Ranjit David

Commenting on Angelo Patrick's comment in the last issue of the Archangel about Perumal editing at eighty, former SMC teacher Ms Rajes Kandiah wrote to Angelo, "Your comment on it was superb. It's the Archangel that keeps us informed about the old boys and the school. Perumal's editorship is not only excellent but priceless".

Thereafter she moves with ease, her poetical prowess standing in good stead, to produce the composition titled

### **The Dialogue**

"You are old, Mr. Perumal", Young Angelo said

"And your looks are no longer a boon,  
And yet you manage to keep well ahead  
Of your students who may catch you up soon"

"In my Youth" Mr. Perumal said to the man,  
"I learnt at St Michael's like you  
There I joked and I played and did what I can  
To serve the School, which I certainly do"

"An Editor so perfect where shall we find?"

Asked Angelo, expressing his woe,  
The Archangel answered, "I have Perumal in mind  
For another nine years or more."

இது கொஞ்சம் ஓவர் இல்ல?

This maiden has gone overboard and bowled me over!  
Rajes, I am humbled by your bouquet, a maiden one in verse  
so perfect and again a maiden one from a maiden. Its  
fragrance will linger for nine years and more. Many thanks  
and thanks for the extension of nine or more years.  
எல்லா புகழும் இறைவனுக்கே.

Angelo adds:

Teachers of that era are priceless too. Teaching in those days was a Vocation and a not a Profession with a price tag. They went beyond the call of duty and did not desert the school. This is the reason that the students who ate off those palms still remember the gravy that flowed from it. That is why we still reach out to them, at least in thought. I do not reach out for my University lecturers or the Professional lecturers who taught me after I left St Michael's. With the passage of time the ties of Commercial bonds disintegrate but the ties of Social bonds grow in fragrance.

Thank you Sir for the latest Archangel

Very sorry to hear about the death of Ragel Master whom I knew well. I am sorry about Fr. Siri's untimely death. I wish I knew him while I was there. In Trinco I was very much involved with Bishop Anthony and the 8 Parish Priests, and then with Bishop Kingsley till I left Chenkaladi. Very sorry to hear the death of Kamalanathan master. Philip is here and I met him again when Ravi Iyakutti and his wife Thamayanthi visited us in March/April. Dr. Kamalanathan had done a great deal for St. Michael's.

John Jegasothy – May 08, 2012, Australia

Time to time I come across old boys of St. Michael's who still enquire about their classmates and college-mates. Now most of them have migrated to countries overseas for obvious reasons. The Archangel is a creative idea to keep the old-boys of SMC scattered globally to keep them posted of the current news. I left SMC in 1971, I was in the first guineapig group of 15 students who did Technical Science. I graduated in Automotive Engineering and Management at Kandy Institute of Technology. I was initially a Technical instructor at the Eastern Technical Institute a venture of Fr. Lloyd Lorio SJ (Founder/Director). In the 80s I was a Deputy Service Manager at Fiat, Alfa Romeo, Land Rover dealership in the capital of Sri Lanka. Mid 80s emigrated and worked as a Fleet Controller in the Shell Oil fields in the middle east. Subsequently became a Technical Trainer at the Shell Training Centre. Migrated to Melbourne Australia in 1995 and currently leading and senior teacher.

Morris Keiser, May 10, 2012, Australia  
Morris is the brother of J.C.Daniel - Editor

Uncle, we are in the process of re-modelling our website [www.battistmichaels.com](http://www.battistmichaels.com)

and once it is done, it will be a one of a kind website and help Michaelites around the globe to know what's happening in Batticaloa and St.Michael's College.

Our immediate Past President and current Editor, Stanley Chellapillai has put lots of effort to complete this task. We would like to upload your Archangel editions on our website and kindly request your permission to do that.

If you agree, can you please send all the past editions of Archangel to us at your earliest convenience. We look forward for a favourable reply and thank you in advance for that.

Tommy Ganeshamoorthy. Canada

I was in college from 1966 to 1969. Rev. Fr. Peiris was the principal. We live in California, a young man of 61years I have mailed the Archangel to all the Michaelite contacts I have. I have heard about you when I was at College. Guess you are the one who taught at College and then joined the private sector and became director in a short time\*.

Mahen Manuel, USA, 2012.

\*no it took 20 years – Ed

It is a very sad news. In our generation Ragel master touched us in some way. I remember him as my English teacher and also took some History classes. In my formative years he is one of the teachers who guided us in the right way and respected the students and was friendly with us.

Ragel sir had a very good life. He did some very productive work during his teaching and after retirement for our alma mater.

His family his friends and the Association will miss him very much.

My heartfelt sympathies for his family and friends.

Mylvaganam Inparajah, Canada.