

Reaching The Unreached

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625 203

Happenings in March 2024

Dear Well-wishers,

Greetings from RTU. We have had a busy month with lots going on at RTU as usual.

International Women's Day celebration



We celebrated International Women's Day on 8th March in our schools to recognise our remarkable women staff members. The event featured a thought-provoking speech by Fr Antony on the 2024 theme, "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress," followed by a heartfelt recognition of our 182 female staff members by giving them gifts.



On 11th March, 61 members of RTU's Self-Help Groups participated in an International Women's Day celebration organised by the Theni Women's Movement and Arogya Agam. The event included a valuable legal workshop on combating violence against women, presented by esteemed guest speakers, Judges Adhi Lakshmi and Mr Loga Moorthi from the Chennai High Court.

Case study

New arrival of a orphan girl in David Girls' Hostel



This month, Ragavi, aged 16, came to RTU. Both her parents died due to ill health in 2020 and her elder brother, Muvendhiran, stepped in as her guardian, ensuring she had food and could continue her schooling. However, last year, Muvendhiran suffered a leg fracture, rendering him unable to work. To support her brother during this challenging time, Ragavi made the selfless decision to discontinue her own education so she could work. Fortunately, during a visit to Ragavi's school, the Theni District Collector, discovered her situation and arranged for us to admit her. She now has a safe and secure environment in our David Girls' Hostel and has resumed her education in the 11th standard at our St Peter's Higher Secondary School.

Wedding bells!



We're delighted that one of our alumni, Saranya, recently got married to Maheswaran. Saranya's childhood was marked with difficulty as her mother died in 2006, and her father struggled with alcoholism. This left her grandmother facing a tremendous challenge raising both Saranya and her younger brother, Ranjith. It was during this hardship that, in 2009, Saranya found a haven at RTU. Our schools provided her with a strong foundation for her future and, after completing school, Saranya went on to earn a qualification in auxiliary nursing at the Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Dindigul. Her new husband, a holder of an MCA degree, is currently employed in a private company in Chennai. Fr Antony and the staff attended their wedding and presented them with gifts. Through her determination and with the unwavering support of RTU, Saranya has overcome significant challenges and built a fulfilling life for herself.

Celebrating together at Nirmala Children's Village

On 13th March, Nirmala Children's Village over in Bodi celebrated their annual day with great merriment. The chief guests, Fr Antony and Mrs Sheeba, delivered inspiring messages. The event was made even more special, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, Mr Ramesh (Dry Air Private Ltd, Bodi) who provided a delightful feast for all, and Mr Sudan (alumnus) and Mrs Deepa (Bodi) who donated prizes for the children.



11th and 12th public exam

A total of 171 students (91 from Year 11 and 80 from Year 12) sat their state board public exams on 26th March. We're pleased to announce that 15 students from Year 12 who aspire to take the NEET exam to gain a place at medical school have begun coaching classes.



Free physiotherapy camp



On 2nd March, in collaboration with the GRD Trust and Dr Shyam Sundar, our Pushparani Clinic hosted a free physiotherapy camp in our main campus. The camp provided much-needed treatment to 82 patients suffering from conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and cervical spondylitis. Additionally, 25 patients with more severe conditions were identified and referred for ongoing physiotherapy care.

A world of stories opened

In a heartening initiative, a book fair was recently organised at Menaka Private Mills in Theni. 35 children from our Children's Villages took part. This exposure to a wide selection of books undoubtedly fuelled their imaginations and equipped them with valuable knowledge.



Final house to be built at Sirumalar Children's Village

We are raising funds for the final new home for orphaned children in our Sirumalar Children's Village. Our recent UK supporters have started an appeal called 'Build a House for Lent' to raise the £12,000 needed. If you would like more information or to make a donation, please see here: <https://www.rtu.org.uk/fundraisers/build-a-house-for-lent>



Our commitment to helping our children receive a good education at our schools and loving care in our Children's Villages means they can have the happy childhood they deserve. Your donations make a tremendous difference in the work we do for children in rural areas. We're lucky to have you as a supporter. Thank you for investing in our organisation, RTU, and in the children and the less fortunate we serve. The generous people like you makes it possible for RTU to create a thriving and safe community for abandoned and orphaned children. We're hugely grateful for your generous support and want you to know how much we appreciate your help. Thank you once again for your compassionate and love towards our children.

Yours fraternally,

Fr J Antony Paulsamy, OFM Cap.
President.