

**NAVA JEEVAN ILLAM, ST. ANN'S CONVENT,  
MELMIDALAM, KANNIYAKUMARI, TAMILNADU -  
14th JULY 2006.**



Nava Jeevan Illam was opened for the Tsunami affected people of Melmidalam in diocese of kottar. Melmidalam is one of the most underdeveloped villages in Kottar Diocese. It is situated on the coast of Arabian Sea about 20 km, towards West from Kannyakumari. St. Francis Xavier has come to this village in the year A. D. 1544 and has converted the people into Christianity. Rt. Rev. Leon A. Dharmaraj, Bishop of Kottar blessed and inaugurated the Convent. He extended his warm welcome to us by his fervent prayers and imploring God's blessings. The pioneers were Srs. Jebamalai, Princy, and Shyra.

Rev. Fr. Anto Vijan who was Parish Priest brought this happy event to its successful completion. It was the great vision of then the superior General Mother Franceschina Millanesio to give new life to the Tsunami affected people. Sr. Mildred then the Provincial superior was a great strength to bring Mother General's vision into Mission. We the sisters assist the people in every way possible. Especially we take care of the children and youth, the mission entrusted to us by our Founders Carlo and Giulia. Nava Jeevan Illam established to GIVE NEW LIFE to the Tsunami victims to see the new face in their spiritual, psychological and mental growth. We have chosen to be with them and to be for

them by involving ourselves fully in the parish activities, visiting families, teaching Catechism and guiding pious associations like Franciscan Third Order, Liturgy group, Christian life Community, B.C.C., Kolping Association, Vincent De Paul, Little Way Association, Legion of Mary and Sacred Heart group etc., We are also launching out with the Educational Mission from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm., giving them coaching classes from 1 to 10 standard students daily. 40 students are sponsored by St. Veronica Welfare Committee, Australia through the Kottar diocese.

On 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011, it was a great and splendid day for people of Melmidalam to have new Church in their place. On 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2007 the inauguration of the Needle work center gave hope for many young widows and women. On 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013 Sr. Fatima Selvi took up the mission as Animator of the community. On 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013 Sr. Fatima Selvi started the First Aid Center to help the sick people in this locality. The canonical visit of Rev.Mother Francesca Sarcia has given boost for the sisters and she appreciated them for their hard work and for their dedication. On 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 was the great day for our Community, we started LASA group in our place in Melmidalam. LASA group members were very happy and delighted to join as co-workers of St. Ann of Providence. At present the Community consists of four sisters namely, Srs. Helan Mary the Superior and in charge of the First Aid Center, Sr.Nambikai Rayappan, Sr.Vinitha and Sr.Sasirehka.

# NAVA JEEVAN ILLAM - MELMIDALAM

