

ST.ANN'S ANIMATION CENTRE, MELAMIYUR, CHENGALPATTU, TAMILNADU – 8th SEPTEMBER 2000.



On 8th September 2000, the birthday of our Blessed Mother, our Juniorate community, Animation Centre, stood like an adorned bride, was blessed and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Tony Devotta in the presence of our hallowed gathering of Fathers, Sisters, Brothers and well-wishers. After the division of the Indian Provinces from two into three in 1997, it was the need of the Province to have a seat of Juniorate besides the novitiate in Eluru. Mother Franceschina- Superior General gave the approval to have a formation house and Sr. Mildred the Provincial Superior in spite of difficulties of various kinds depending totally on the Divine Providence saw the birth and completion of “Sneha Deepalaya” –St. Ann’s Animation Centre in the village of Melamiyur.

The area where the house is situated is the beautiful place nestled in the middle of hills and green fields. It is an ideal place for prayer and contemplation, especially during the time of retreats; it is far from the noise and the pollution of the town. For the juniors this house will be a fertile where the love of God and neighbor has to be cultivated for God’s honour and glory.

On the 26th of September, the Chapel was consecrated by Rt. Rev. Amalanathan, Bishop of Tuticorin. Sr. Angelica was the first superior of this community and also the Head-Mistress of St. Mary’s English Medium Primary

School, Chengalpattu. The School was attached to the Community. Sr. Leesamma was the Junior Mistress. In 2001 the Juniorate was shifted to Mangadu, now this building was accommodated by the Postulants, Sr. Teresa Rodrigues became the Postulant Mistress and Sr. Zita remained to teach English to the Postulants.

On Jan. 10th to 21st 2002 the First Provincial Chapter was held in the building. It was a great privilege for the sisters in the community. As this house is built for retreat etc., so many celebrations are taking place here, like Final Commitment, Ruby, Silver Golden Jubilees.

On 27th Dec. 2007 to 5th Jan 2008 the second Provincial Chapter was conducted. On 29th May 2009 the community had a grand celebration for outgoing Provincial superior Sr. Mildred Thambusamy and her councilors Sr. Marietta D' Mello, Sr. Marietta Pudhota, Sr. Florance and Sr. Colleen and in coming Provincial Sr. Marietta D' Mello and her Councilors Sr. Marietta Pudhota, Sr. Lourds Mallavarapu, Sr. Joyce James and Sr. Leesamma.

On Oct. 24th 2009, we celebrated 175th Anniversary of our Congregation with a seminar. The Apostolate of our community is Formation, counseling, family apostolate, preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation and Matrimony. From June 2010 St. Mary's Matriculation School is handed over to St. Mary's Chengalpattu and then to the Provincialate Community.

In 2015 there was a need for the seat of Aspirancy in the Province, so from then on with the consult of Mother General the house is used for the Aspirants, also the Province retreats and seminars are being continued here.