

FOOTPRINTS



Bro. MICHAEL S

BORN 16.04.1942 | NEW LIFE 22.04.2026

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Foreword



It is with deep gratitude to God and with affectionate remembrance that I write this foreword to FOOTPRINTS, a tribute booklet dedicated to the life and memory of our beloved Rev. Bro. Michael. His passing has left a silence among us, but it is a silence filled with memories, lessons, gratitude and faith. Bro. Michael has completed his earthly journey, but the footprints he has left behind continue to speak gently yet powerfully to the hearts of those who knew him.

Bro. Michael's life was not one of noise, display or self-promotion. His was a life lived quietly, faithfully and fruitfully. He belonged to that generation of Brothers who believed that fidelity was shown, not through many words, but through daily commitment, personal discipline, simplicity of life, prayerful presence and generous service. In him, we saw a Brother who understood the beauty of religious life and lived it with seriousness, grace and joy.

The many tributes gathered in this booklet reveal a common thread. Whether written by Brothers, family members, former students, teachers, collaborators or friends, they all speak of a man deeply rooted in God, committed to duty, simple in lifestyle, clear in thought and firm in values. Some remember him as a disciplined religious. Some remember him as an able administrator and educator. Some remember him as a prayerful man. Some remember his humour, kindness and fatherly concern. Some remember the lessons he taught through small incidents. Together, these memories form a beautiful portrait of a Brother whose life became a blessing to many.



Bro. Michael was an educator in the truest sense. He knew that education was not merely the transmission of knowledge, but the formation of character. As a Headmaster, Principal, Correspondent and guide, he shaped institutions with clarity, vision and responsibility. He expected seriousness, punctuality and commitment, but his discipline was never meant to break persons; it was meant to form them. He believed in doing things properly, in respecting systems, in being faithful to one's responsibility and in giving one's best to the mission entrusted by God.

What made Bro. Michael's leadership memorable was the harmony between firmness and goodness. He could be firm, but he was not harsh. He could correct, but he did not humiliate. He could demand discipline, but he himself lived it first. His authority came not from position alone, but from personal credibility. People trusted him because they saw in him a man who lived what he expected from others.

His simplicity was another striking feature of his life. He lived with little and was content with little. He valued time, respected resources and avoided unnecessary comforts. His simplicity was not external poverty alone; it was an inner freedom. He was free from the need to impress. He was free from attachment to praise. He was free to serve. In this way, his life became a quiet but strong witness to the vow of poverty and to the Montfortian spirit of humility and availability.

Many have also remembered Bro. Michael as a man of prayer. Prayer was not an occasional practice for him; it was the foundation of his life. His fidelity to community prayer, personal prayer and spiritual exercises revealed where his strength came from. He did not separate mission from spirituality. For him, work flowed from prayer and prayer gave meaning to work. In a world that often measures life by achievements, Bro. Michael reminds us that the deepest fruitfulness comes from a heart united with God.

Another beautiful aspect of his life was his hidden goodness. He helped quietly, encouraged silently and supported many without seeking recognition. His concern extended to Brothers, students, teachers, staff, workers and the poor. He had a special ability to make people feel respected and valued. His care was often simple, practical and discreet, but those who received it carried it in their hearts for years.

The title FOOTPRINTS is therefore very fitting. Footprints are not loud. They do not speak for themselves. Yet they show that someone has walked before us. They show a direction. They invite others to continue the journey. Bro. Michael's footprints are found in the communities where he lived, the schools where he served, the students he formed, the teachers he guided, the Brothers he inspired and the values he quietly planted in many hearts.

As we bring together these tributes, we are not merely preserving memories of the past. We are receiving a message for the present and the future. Bro. Michael's life tells us that religious life is beautiful when it is lived with fidelity. Leadership is meaningful when it is rooted in service. Education becomes transformative when it forms conscience and character. Simplicity becomes powerful when it is lived with joy. Prayer becomes fruitful when it shapes daily conduct.

On behalf of the Province of Bengaluru, I express my sincere gratitude to all those who have contributed their reflections, memories and tributes to this booklet. Each article is a flower of gratitude placed before the memory of Bro. Michael. Together, they become a garland of love, respect and thanksgiving. May this booklet help us remember Bro. Michael not only with affection, but also with renewed commitment to the values he lived! May his life continue to inspire us to walk humbly, serve faithfully, pray deeply and live simply.

We thank God for the gift of Bro. Michael to our Congregation, to our Province, to the Church and to the mission of education. May the Lord, whom he served with fidelity, grant him eternal rest! May his noble soul rest in peace!

BRO. JENNY KURIAKOSE
Provincial Superior



Messages of Condolence



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23 April 2026

Dear Bro. Jenny Kuriakose, Provincial Superior,
Dear Brothers of the Province of Bengaluru,
Beloved family members, teachers, and dear old students,

At the very start, let me with deep sorrow and sincere gratitude, offer my heartfelt condolences to you all on the passing of our beloved Bro. Michael S, who has returned to the Father after 84 blessed years of earthly life. Today, we grieve. But we also firmly stand in faith and hope. For us, death is not the end—it's a return home back to God.

Personally, I may not have known Bro. Michael closely. Yet, from what I have heard from those who lived with him and worked alongside him, it's clear to me that he lived a deeply meaningful life in our midst. As a religious Brother for 63 years, Bro. Michael lived his vocation with fidelity and quiet dedication. He was a simple and contented man, satisfied with having little, and free from all unnecessary attachments. His life was indeed a witness to the vow of poverty.

He was disciplined and committed in all he did. As an educator and Principal of schools, he guided institutions with integrity, and the right motivation. As a leader, he was straightforward—honest, courageous, kind, yet firm. People trusted him because he lived what he believed in. As bursar of communities, he was a faithful steward, known for his transparency and accountability. In every responsibility entrusted to him, he remained faithful, responsible, and rooted in God.

Through such a life, he touched many hearts—students, teachers, and Brothers alike. His influence was quiet, but deep and strong. Today, we thank God for the gift of Bro. Michael. We thank God for his life, his witness, and the Montfortian legacy he leaves behind.

Today, we do not mourn just a loss; we celebrate a life well lived.

We thank God for the gift of Bro. Michael to our Congregation and especially to the Province of Bengaluru. We thank God for his witness, his dedication, and his silent yet powerful contribution to the mission entrusted to him.

In this moment of farewell, we unite ourselves with you, dear Brothers and family members of Bro. Michael, in your grief and sorrow. Yet, we also lift our hearts in prayerful hope.

We commend Bro. Michael's mortal remains and his beautiful soul into the hands of the Risen Lord—He who conquered death and opened for us the gates of eternal life.

"Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Master." (Matthew 25:23)

May the Lord, whom he served faithfully in simplicity and love, now welcome him into eternal peace. And may his soul rest forever in the Lord.

United in prayers,

Bro. Dionigi Taffarello
Superior General - Rome





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Rome, 03/06/2026

Walking Humbly with God: A Tribute to Bro. Michael S

It is with gratitude and affection that I pay tribute to Bro. Michael, a devoted Brother whose long and committed life was a blessing to our Congregation, the Church, and the countless people whose lives he touched. As an educator, administrator, and faithful servant of the mission, he dedicated himself wholeheartedly to the service of God and His people, through the many institutions and communities where he lived and worked. Bro. Michael left behind a legacy of faith, commitment, and loving service.

My personal memories of Bro. Michael is filled with admiration and gratitude. He was always a joyful presence in the community. His warm smile, gentle nature, and positive outlook brought encouragement to those around him. All through, he remained remarkably simple and humble. There was never any trace of self-importance in him. He related to everyone with respect, kindness, and genuine interest, whether they were Brothers, staff members, students, old students, or visitors.

Conversations with him were always enlightening because they reflected not only his knowledge and experience but also his deep faith and trust in God's providence. Through simple stories and personal anecdotes, he often conveyed valuable lessons about religious life, community living, perseverance, and commitment to mission.

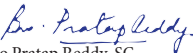
Bro. Michael was a deeply spiritual person. His relationship with God was evident in the way he lived, prayed, and interacted with others. He was faithful to prayer and drew strength from his union with the Lord. His spirituality was not expressed in grand words but in a quiet, consistent witness of faith. He inspired others with the serenity, peace, and trust that characterised his life.

His kindness and gentleness touched many hearts. He was approachable, compassionate, and attentive to others' needs. He had a special ability to make people feel valued and respected. Whether offering advice, listening patiently, or simply being present, he radiated Christ's love and care.

Bro. Michael's life was a testimony to the Montfortian spirit of dedication, simplicity, and service. He faithfully lived his vocation and generously shared his gifts for the good of others. His influence continues to live on in the lives of the many people he formed, guided, taught, and inspired over the years.

As we remember Bro. Michael, we give thanks to God for the gift of his life and vocation. His example of joyful service, humility, spirituality, and fraternity remains an inspiration to us all. May the Lord reward him abundantly for his faithful service, and may his memory continue to encourage us to live our own vocation with the same generosity, faith, and love that he exemplified throughout his life.

May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord whom he served so faithfully.


 Bro. Pratap Reddy, SG
 Vicar General



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A Smile, A Lesson, A Legacy Make Bro. Michael a Living Memory!

Dear Brothers, Well-wishers of Bro. Michael, and Readers of FOOTPRINTS,

At the very outset, I wish to offer my prayerful homage to the departed soul of our beloved Bro. Michael S. May the Risen Lord, whom he served faithfully throughout his life, grant him eternal peace and joy.

I am certain that Bro. Michael has touched countless lives through his inspiring simplicity, gentle humanity, and authentic religious spirit. Many who knew him closely would surely write about his goodness, dedication, and edifying life. Rather than repeating what many may already have said about him, I thought of sharing a simple yet unforgettable personal experience from my student days — an incident that has remained vividly alive in my heart even after fifty-four years.

It was the year 1972. I was studying in Class X at St. James Higher Secondary School, Palakurichy, Trichy district, while inmate at the Montfort Juniorate there. Bro. Crescentius was our Director and Bro. Michael served as the Socius (Assistant Director). Those were beautiful years of youthful innocence, discipline, and fraternity.

One afternoon during the short holidays, Bro. Director had gone to Manaparai on some important work. After the common study hour, as usual, we boys rushed out joyfully— some to play, while a few of us gathered around Bro. Michael, who was seated on a chair evaluating the examination papers. We chatted about all sorts of inconsequential things, laughing heartily, and immensely enjoying his company. Bro. Michael on his part, in his characteristically calm and cheerful way, listened to us with a smiling face, occasionally bursting into a hearty laughter himself that made us feel completely at ease with him. In the midst of that joyful atmosphere, as though out of the blue, we heard the ringing of a bicycle bell. It was the village postman bringing the day's letters, most of them addressed to the Juniors. Eager as always, I quickly ran to the gate, collected the bundle of letters from the postman, and proudly brought them to Bro. Michael. To my dismay, he did not take the bundle from my hands. Quite innocently, I thought he was too busy with his paper evaluation work, and hence did not want to be disturbed. So, I kept the letters with me, planning to hand them over to him later.

After some more conversation and laughter, the whistle blew announcing the next study hour. Everyone rushed silently towards the study hall. Before leaving, I once again stretched out the letters to Bro. Michael. But this time, to my shock, he slightly frowned with disapproval and refused to take the bundle from me. Then came the question that pierced my young heart:

“Are you the postman? I wanted the letters from the postman.”

As a young teenager trying to appear brave before the others, I quietly walked away to the study hall, though deep within I was very hurt and confused. I safely locked the letters inside my study desk and spent the rest of the morning in fear and anxiety. By lunchtime, Bro. Director had returned. During the meal, I noticed Bro. Michael saying something to him in whispers, while both of them glanced at me smilingly. My anxiety only increased! As I was leaving the dining hall, one of the boys called out loudly, “Dhanaraj, Bro. Director is calling you!”

With trembling hands and a pounding heart, I stood before him, nervously twisting the buttons of my shirt. “Hei Dhanaraj, where are the letters?” he asked gently.

“In my desk, Brother,” I replied almost instantly.

“Go and bring them,” he said with a smile. I ran, brought the letters, and handed them over. That very moment, I felt completely liberated from the prison of fear and anxiety that had closed me in, the whole day.

Years passed, and that frightened teenager had eventually become a finally professed Brother. One day, I gathered the courage to ask Bro. Michael why he had behaved that way on that particular occasion. True to himself, he first smiled warmly, and then gently explained that I should have first sought permission before collecting the letters from the postman. He added that the postman too had a responsibility to personally hand over the letters to the concerned superior. Otherwise, it could become a careless habit of passing responsibilities onto others.

That day, I finally understood the profound lesson hidden behind that seemingly small incident. Bro. Michael was not trying to humiliate me in public; he was quietly teaching both the postman and me an important principle for life: every person must faithfully fulfill his responsibility without taking shortcuts or neglecting his duty.

That lesson remained with me throughout my life.

Bro. Michael may no longer walk among us physically, but his quiet wisdom, gentle firmness, and lessons for life continue to guide many hearts even today. Such lives never truly die; they continue to breathe through the values they have passed on to others.

He walked this earth with quiet grace, lighting many in the weary race;
And though he rests in heaven's peace, his lessons in our hearts will never cease.

— Dhana Brother
Rome

MONTFORT BROTHERS
OF
ST. GABRIEL



PROVINCE OF BENGALURU

A Eulogy for Bro. Michael S

"If we live, it is for the Lord that we live, and if we die, it is for the Lord that we die. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord." - Romans 14:7-8



ev. Bro. Dominic Savio, the National Chairman & Provincial Superior of Yercaud, Rev. Bro. John Britto, the Provincial Superior of Trichy, beloved relatives of Bro. Michael, Rev. Fr. James, SJ, the younger brother of our beloved Bro. Michael, Members of the Provincial Administration, Parish Priest, Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, teachers, students, friends and well-wishers,

We are gathered here today with hearts weighed down by sorrow, yet lifted by faith, to bid farewell to our beloved Bro. Michael S., who has now gone back to the Father on 22 April 2026, after a long life of fidelity, service and dedication. Though grief fills our hearts, faith gives us the courage to stand before this mystery of death with hope.

When one who has walked with us for many years quietly crosses the threshold into eternity, we call it death. But for the believer, death is not defeat; it is fulfilment. It is not the extinguishing of life, but its completion in God. The latest and the valiant one among us, who has overtaken us and gone ahead in time, is our beloved Bro. Michael S. In the words of St. Paul: *"Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 3:13-14). That is exactly what our dear Bro. Michael has done. He has run his race with steadfastness; he has fought the good fight; he has kept the faith.

The invisible chords that bind us as relatives, friends, colleagues, former students, and members of our great religious family make this hour deeply painful. The heart does not easily accept separation. And yet, even in our sorrow, we are invited to see reality with the eyes of faith. As Sacred Scripture reminds us: *"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; let them rest from their labours, for their good deeds go with them"* (Revelation 14:13). Today, we commend to the Lord a man whose life was rich in good deeds, sincere in religious commitment and generous in service.

Bro. Michael S. was born on 16 April 1942 at Michaelpatnam, Sivagangai. From his early youth, the hand of God was upon him. He entered the Juniorate at Coonoor in

1958, began his novitiate formation at Eachinkadu, Yercaud, made his First Profession on 7 April 1963, and his Final Profession on 31 May 1969 at Coonoor. From those early years onward, his life took on a clear direction: to belong totally to God and serve HIM through the mission of education and formation.

After his Teachers' Training at St. Gabriel's, Kazipet, he began what would become a long and fruitful apostolate in education. He served as teacher, headmaster, superior, bursar, principal and guide in various institutions of the Province. His apostolate took him from Kazipet to Pondur, from Palakurichi to Royapuram, from Coonoor to A.N. Mangalam, from Kolathur to Kalugumalai, from Trichy to Mylapore, from Adyar to the Philippines, and finally to Chengalpattu, where he spent many years in dedicated service.

What stands out in this long journey is not merely the number of appointments he held, but the spirit with which he fulfilled them. He was entrusted repeatedly with positions of responsibility: Superior, Headmaster, Principal, and Bursar. Such repeated appointments do not happen by chance. They are signs of the confidence, trust and recognition his Superiors accredited to him. He was a man on whom the Congregation could rely. Whether in school administration, community animation, finance management or educational service, he gave himself fully and conscientiously.

Bro. Michael belonged to that generation of Brothers who built institutions with sacrifice, consistency, and quiet perseverance. They did not seek attention; they sought to fulfil the duties assigned to them to the best of their ability. They served with conviction, discipline, and love for the mission. Bro. Michael was very much one among them. He invested his life in shaping young minds, guiding institutions, and strengthening communities. Many who passed through his hands as students, teachers, or collaborators would have experienced in him not merely an administrator, but an educator with a strong sense of purpose and commitment.

His personal pursuit of learning was equally remarkable. After his initial professional training, he completed his B.A., M.A., and M.Ed. He also undertook theological studies in Pune for a year, though he had to discontinue, when obedience called him to assume the responsibilities of Superior and Headmaster of St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor. He never permitted his apostolate to become routine or stagnant; rather, he constantly sought to grow, to deepen himself, and to equip himself more fully for the mission entrusted to him. Such dedication to self-improvement reflects both humility and a life lived with purpose.

One of the highlights of his long and distinguished career came in 2001, when he received the State Best Teacher Award. This honour was not merely a personal distinction; it was the recognition of many years of devoted educational service and

a public testimony to the excellence, commitment and influence of Bro. Michael as an educator.

Even after his official retirement in 2002, he did not withdraw into solitude. His life remained fruitful. He continued to serve as Bursar in institutions such as San Thome Higher Secondary School, Mylapore, St. Louis Institute, Adyar, and later as Mission Superior and Principal in Aklan, Philippines. There too, far from home, he gave himself to the mission with missionary zeal. Returning thereafter, he continued for many years at St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Chengalpattu, rendering valuable service well into the later years of his life. Retirement, for him, was never an escape from service; it was simply another form of service.

Today, as we look back on his journey, we thank God for his 84 years of life, for his 63 years of religious profession, for the countless years he spent in classrooms, offices, communities, missions, and institutions. We thank God for the young people he formed, the schools he guided, the communities he strengthened, and the witness he gave as a Montfort Brother.

We also remember that no life is free from struggle. Every long journey carries its own burdens, hidden crosses, and silent sacrifices. Religious life, especially when lived over decades, demands generosity, patience, endurance, and surrender. Bro. Michael accepted that call and remained faithful to it. The Lord, who sees in secret, knows the full beauty of that offering.

For the past few months, Bro. Michael had not been keeping that well. From time to time, he had to be taken to St. Thomas Hospital, Chennai, and on each occasion he was admitted for a few days for treatment. Later, he suffered a fall in the toilet and sustained a hairline fracture on his right thigh, after which he became increasingly dependent on a wheelchair, especially to move around the community and to join the Brothers for meals. During this period, he was tenderly cared for in the community by our staff, who took turns looking after him under the watchful care of the Community Brothers. During my recent visit, I had the grace of meeting him and spending some time with him. In spite of his frailty and suffering, he appeared peaceful and inwardly content. Usually a man of many words, this time he spoke very little; yet his silence itself seemed eloquent. I was deeply consoled to witness the loving care and thoughtful arrangements made by the community for his well-being.

My personal acquaintance with Bro. Michael was relatively brief, especially during the last seven years following the formation of the Bengaluru Province. Yet, even within that limited experience, he always struck me as a simple, committed, and deeply religious Brother. He could never tolerate anything contrary to the values and spirit of religious life. Whenever I met him in my capacity as Provincial, he spoke with genuine concern

about various matters affecting the Congregation, and this revealed his profound sense of belonging and love for our religious family. In many ways, he stood before us as a model religious—simple in life, firm in conviction, and inspiring in witness.

On 7 April 2026, he was once again admitted to St. Thomas Hospital with cold, chest congestion and fatigue. Bro. Joseph Antony Balan, with the support of the Sisters of St. Thomas Hospital, arranged for a male nurse to attend to him personally in the Hospital as a special arrangement. For some days, there were signs of recovery, and it seemed that his health was improving. However, on 22 April 2026, around noon, I received a call from Bro. Joseph Antony Balan, informing me that Bro. Michael had suddenly developed breathing difficulty, along with low blood pressure and low sugar levels, and had to be shifted to the ICU for intensive care. His family, especially his brother, was also informed about it. Bro. Stephen Xavier and Bro. Vijay Sebastian were by his side, ensuring that he received the best possible care during those critical hours.

Yet, by around 10:30 PM, his oxygen level began to fall drastically, and soon his vital organs started failing one after another. Then, at 11:26 PM, calm and peaceful, Bro. Michael surrendered his soul into the hands of the Lord, returning to the Heavenly Father whom he had served faithfully throughout his life.

At this solemn moment, our sorrow is real. We shall miss his presence. The Province has lost a Model Brother; the institutions where he served remember a dedicated educator; his family has lost a beloved member; and many friends and former students have lost someone who touched their lives. Yet our grief is not without hope. For us, death is not the final word. Christ is he who says, *“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”*

On behalf of the Province, I extend my sincere condolences to all his beloved family members and relatives, Brothers and friends whom he loved so dearly. We are consoled by the thought that we now have one more intercessor in heaven. I also thank you all for your condolence messages, presence, prayer and support.

My sincere appreciation goes to Bro. Joseph Antony Balan, Local Superior, and Bro. Vijay Sebastian of St. Joseph’s Higher Secondary School, Chengalpattu, for taking care of all the needs of Bro. Michael and for making the arrangements for his final journey. My special thanks also to the Sisters, Doctors, and Staff of St. Thomas Hospital, Chennai, for the medical assistance and nursing care they offered Bro. Michael over many years, especially during the last year of his life. I would also like to acknowledge with gratitude the devoted attenders of St. Joseph’s Higher Secondary School, Chengalpattu, namely: Mr. Victor, Mr. Arockiam, Mr. David, Mr. Shekar, Mr. Peter, Mr. Paulraj and Mrs. Mala for caring him faithfully during the past four months.

I also express my heartfelt thanks to Bro. Dominic Savio, Provincial Superior of Yercaud Province; Bro. George Irudayaraj, Superior here at Tindi; Bro. Maria Joseph, Bursar; Bro. Antony Chezian, Bro. Amalanathan, the staff of the institutions; Students, the choir; the St. Joseph's ITI Community were a great support, going out of their way in making the arrangements for Bro. Michael's last journey.

My sincere thanks also to Fr. James, SJ, the beloved brother of Bro. Michael, for presiding over the Eucharistic celebration; to the Parish Priest and the other Priests present here; to Bro. John Britto, Provincial Superior of Trichy; and to my Provincial Administration— Bro. Paul Raj, Bro. Sebastian Antony Samy, Bro. Stephen Xavier, Bro. Thomas K. K., and Bro. Dominic Yeo Koh for their support and guidance.

Finally, I thank all the Brothers, relatives and friends who are gathered here, especially those who have come from other Provinces, to pray for Bro. Michael and to express their solidarity with us and with Bro. Michael's family members.

And so, dear Bro. Michael, today we commend you lovingly into the loving hands of God. You have gone from the land of the dying to the land of the living. A life spent in fidelity, a heart formed in faith, and hands dedicated to service now rest in the peace of the Lord. The good you have done, the lives you have influenced, the institutions you have served, and the witness you have borne will continue to speak after you.

You have answered the Master's call. The classrooms are behind you now; your material responsibilities here below are over; the labour has ended. The bell of earthly duty has fallen silent, and the eternal call has been heard. May the Lord whom you served so long and so faithfully now receive you into His kingdom of everlasting joy!

Let us not say merely that Bro. Michael has passed away. Let us rather say in faith that he has gone ahead of us. He has completed his pilgrimage. He has returned home to the Father.

*May the angels lead him into Paradise!
May the saints receive him in Glory!
May the Lord grant him Eternal Rest!
And may perpetual light shine upon him!
May the soul of Bro. Michael rest in peace! Amen!*


BRO. JENNY KURIAKOSE
Provincial Superior

In Loving Memory of Rev. Bro. Michael



Bro. Michael was a man of unwavering discipline, deep faith, and quiet dedication—a pillar of any mission the superiors gave him, whose presence brought order, grace, and purpose to all he touched. Those who knew him will remember a life guided by principle, humility, and an abiding love for God, and community and congregation.

As an educator and longtime Head Master, Bro. Michael carried himself with a sense of responsibility and clarity that inspired both teachers and students. He was deeply knowledgeable about educational rules and regulations, and he upheld them not merely as guidelines, but as instruments of fairness and growth. Under his leadership, schools did not just function—they functioned with integrity, structure, and a commitment to some values.

His personal life reflected the same thoughtful order. Bro. Michael was a model of punctuality; he respected time as a gift not to be wasted. Whether for Sunday mass in the parish, community prayers, community meetings, or personal commitments, he was always present—prepared, focused, and fully engaged. His frugality was not borne of lack, but of wisdom: he believed in living simply, valuing resources, and avoiding excess. This mindful approach allowed him to contribute meaningfully, without display, to the needs of others and of the Province. Whenever the superiors asked him for extra financial contribution, he used to do it cheerfully and obediently.

Above all, Bro. Michael was a man of prayer. His faith was the quiet engine of his life—a constant, grounding force that shaped his actions, his decisions, and his character. He didn't just follow rules; he lived by values. He didn't just attend prayers and common programs; he embodied reverence for the system and for peace.

Though he has left our midst, the example he set remains: a life of order, devotion, and gentle strength. We remember him with gratitude, and we carry forward the lessons of his steadfast spirit. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

BRO. PAUL RAJ,

Novice Master

Eachinkadu



My Elder Brother, My Inspiration



As I sit down to pen my reflections, personal memories and lived experiences about Bro. Michael, my elder brother, my heart is filled with innumerable feelings/emotions of brotherly love, deep affection, reverence, respect, awe and humility. The first time I saw him in my life was when I was studying in 4th class in 1964. The first impression at the first sight has turned out to be truly a lasting impression. He was just 22 years old, in his prime age looking very solemn, impressive and captivating. I should confess, in that very moment, I decided to imitate him and follow his footsteps as a religious. I can honestly and very boldly proclaim to the whole world that Bro. Michael, my elder brother, has been the prime mover and source of my Priestly vocation. Then, just one more time I met him at home in 1967 after which I joined the Boarding at St. Mary's High School, Madurai.

Eventually, I left home in 1972 to join Jamshedpur Jesuit Society. The next meeting between us took place in 1976 when I came home as a Jesuit Scholastic and from then on, I used to meet him once in 3 years as per the rules of our Jesuit Order in places like St. Peter's Higher Secondary School, Royapuram, Chennai, St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor, St. Luis Institue for the deaf and blind, Adyar, Santhome Higher Secondary School, Chennai and Campion Anglo-Indian Higher Secondary School, Tiruchirappalli. On such occasions, my lived experiences with him made me realize that the building of his religious life was built on the foundation of unshakable/ unwavering faith in the Lord Jesus who had called him and was supported by four strong and enduring pillars that could be described as 4Ds, i.e., 1) Discernment, 2) Discipline, 3) Dedication and 4) Direction. Yes, he realized through discernment that God was calling him to a religious life in general and to Montfort Gabriel Brothers Congregation in particular.

He also understood clearly that to live out this religious life faithfully and to succeed, he needed another pillar (D) that is Discipline. I should say, he was a personification and embodiment of discipline. One could find out the time of the day or night just by observing his actions. If one saw light in his room in the early morning, then one could very rightly predict that the time was 4 am and Bro. Michael has got up from his sleep. If one saw light in the Community Chapel early in the morning, then it could be predicted that the time was 5am and Bro. Michael has come to pray. If one saw light in the School Headmaster's office before the School had started, then it could be predicted that the time was 8.30am and Bro. Michael has already started his school work. Thus, he made discipline his second nature.

The 3rd pillar (D) was Dedication. He believed that the religious life he had chosen demanded total dedication; not 50% or 60% and not even 99.99%. He was convinced that the dedication had to be 100%. So, he was never satisfied with half measures. No wonder, wherever he went and whichever Institution he served, he manifested his 100% dedication in all that he did.

The 4th pillar (D) is Direction. He had displayed the right sense of direction in all that he did day after day. He had singleness of purpose and single-mindedness which gifted him with this right sense of direction. No wonder, he has directed thousands of students, hundreds of Teachers and his Brother companions in the right direction all through his life. In short, one and all those who had come in contact with Bro. Michael, my elder brother, would vouch that he lived a holy and fruitful life rendering yeoman service to humanity. Indeed, he had lived his life in all its fullness. As St. Paul in his 2nd letter to Timothy says, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith, from now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but to all who have loved his appearing,” (2 Timothy 2:4-7). Bro. Michael too could rightly say these same words, for in life and in death he belonged to the Lord Jesus.

May the soul of Bro. Michael, through the mercy of God, rest in peace!

FR. JAMES SANTHANAM, S.J.

(Younger brother of Bro. Michael)

Jamshedpur Jesuit Province



RO. MICHAEL WAS A PERSONIFICATION AND EMBODIMENT OF
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Late Bro. S. Michael



ro. Michael was my batch-mate; only six of us are still alive from a batch of 27 that took the first vows at Eachinkadu novitiate on 7 April 1963. Some have subsequently left the Congregation and a few have died. The six still remaining are spread across four Provinces: Bengaluru, Pune, Ranchi and Thailand. There are two in Bengaluru (Bro. Thomas Montfort and Bro. M. P. Antony), two in Pune (Bro. Thomas Reddy and Bro. Chacko Thattayath), one in Ranchi (Bro. Edmond Toppo), and one in Thailand (Bro. Amnuay Yoonprayong).

Bro. Michael and I were in the Coonoor Juniorate as students during 1958-61; I had joined there one year earlier in 1957. I do not remember exactly how many of us Juniors wrote the SSLC public exams that year (1961). Practically all of us left for the Novitiate in Eachinkadu a few days after the exams. Bro. Charles Garnier, our Juniorate Director, accompanied us to the Novitiate (few years later he adopted the name Charlie Darling; it's more or less a literal translation of his French name *La Douceur*; more a free translation). I remember we travelled the whole night and reached the lake at Yercaud early in the morning and had our wash on the shore in the open. In effect, we had travelled up to Salem by train from Coonoor - with a change of train at the foothills in Mettupalayam - and were subsequently picked up at Salem Junction in Montfort School bus. The novitiate at Eachinkadu was not able to receive us immediately as it was too early in the morning!

As we entered the novitiate gate, a whole crowd of novices rushed towards us in a spontaneous and outright gesture of welcome, accompanied by loud cheers and greetings. The Novice Master was Bro. Stephen – much later in life he came to be known as Sadhu Stephen due to the saffron he wore and the itinerant sanyasi life he adopted. He was a strict disciplinarian, but very kind at heart. He was a sincere religious and we had much to learn from him beside what he taught us in the class.

I remember Bro. Michael as an honest and, may I add, earnest novice. He was very faithful to his duties, both material and spiritual. May be, he was rather quiet and did not shine as a frontline star, but in the quiet of solitude and humility he shone brighter than many others. At one stage we could see him become very scrupulous of his spiritual commitments and visibly enough had problem while approaching the confessional. But he came out of this impasse with brilliance and became a shining star in the Gabrielite sky. He was a model novice, faithful to all his duties and interacting with everyone with sincere concern and affection.

I had the chance of living and working with Bro. Michael in the same Community at St. James' School, Palakurichi, 1972-75. He was an excellent teacher and a strict and friendly warden for the boarders. He would prepare his classes with meticulous attention. I do not exactly remember his favourite outdoor game, but he certainly had his interest in all games, and particularly, maybe, foot-ball.

In those days Brothers used to spend all the time with the students, either in the classes with so many periods of teaching and then from evening onwards with the boarders. Life in the students' hostel was quite homely for both the students and the Brothers, and it was well organised, too: study supervision, refectory, participation in outdoor games, recreation after dinner and outings at week-ends by way of walks and picnics. Happily there were no electronic gadgets in those days to distract either the students or the Brothers.

I visited Chengalpattu some two weeks before Bro. Michael was called out of his life on earth. I would meet him especially in the refectory. As he had become somewhat hard of hearing, it was not easy talking to him. Nevertheless, he showed that he really cared and took great interest in enquiring about my wellbeing. Already he was confined to a wheelchair, but Brothers had placed him in a room close to the refectory and so his passage from room to refectory was made easy and smooth. I could see that he was a lot contented, with no complaints or grudges whatever, eager to see that others were comfortable with regard to everything.

As we pray for the repose of his noble soul, let us remember that strictness with oneself always pays in terms of observance, especially when it comes to one's religious commitments and other duties entailed in the exercise of one's day-to-day obligations, both at the very personal level and at the mission. Some may think that prayer is not that very important and tend to neglect it in preference to sheer activism. We see in Bro. Michael a different model. For him prayer was first, for he knew that God would not let anyone down who trusted in him and spent enough time – following what is prescribed in our Rule – to be united to him in prayer.

“Eternal peace grand unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him!”

BRO. M. P. ANTONY

LS & Provincial Bursar

Montfort Nilaya, Bengaluru



Tribute to Bro. Michael



With deep respect and gratitude, we remember **Bro. Michael**, a devoted religious of the **Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel** and a former Principal of **Campion School**.

Bro. Michael dedicated his life to the noble mission of Christian education, guided by the values of faith, service, discipline, and compassion. As Principal, he worked tirelessly for the holistic development of students, encouraging not only academic excellence but also moral integrity and social responsibility. His leadership was marked by humility, wisdom, and a genuine concern for every member of the school community.

A true son of the Montfortian tradition, Bro. Michael inspired students and staff through his simplicity of life, dedication to duty, and unwavering commitment to the educational apostolate entrusted to him. He believed that education should form not only capable minds but also compassionate hearts, and he constantly encouraged young people to become responsible citizens and persons of character.

Those who had the privilege of working with him remember his gentle demeanour, approachable nature, and steadfast faith. His presence brought encouragement, his words offered guidance, and his actions reflected the Gospel values he cherished.

Though he is no longer with us, Bro. Michael's legacy continues to live on in the countless students he guided, the teachers he supported, and the institutions he served with devotion. His life remains a source of inspiration to all who knew him.

As we remember him with affection and gratitude, we pray that the Lord may grant him eternal rest and reward him abundantly for his years of faithful service in the mission of education.

"Well done, good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:23)

May Bro. Michael rest in peace!

BRO. DAVID M S

Principal & Correspondent

Campion Anglo-Indian Hr. Sec. School, Trichy



Bro. Michael: A Life of Discipline, Devotion and Selfless Service



With deep sorrow and heartfelt remembrance, I pay my tribute to Bro. Michael who left us for his eternal reward a month ago at the age of 84. His passing marks the end of a remarkable journey of dedication, discipline, faith and selfless service.

Bro. Michael was a man known for punctuality and unwavering commitment to discipline. He believed that time was precious and that discipline was the foundation of success. As a strict disciplinarian he guided countless students, teachers and colleagues toward excellence, shaping not only institutions, but also lives.

His love and commitment to the Congregation were extraordinary. He devoted himself whole heartedly to its mission and values, serving with dedication and sincerity. Above all, he was a fervent devotee of our blessed Mother Mary: he recited the Rosary and prayed, interceding with her for everyone. His faith was not expressed in mere words: it reflected through his humble life, prayerful spirit and steadfast devotion.

Bro. Michael was also an exceptional administrator. As Principal in many schools, he brought order, vision and growth, wherever he served. He was highly knowledgeable and well-versed in Government Orders (G.O.) and his wisdom became a source of guidance for many. His leadership and administrative abilities earned him a lot of admiration and he received the prestigious “**Best Teacher Award**” from the **Tamil Nadu Government**.

Yet, beyond all achievements and positions, Bro. Michael’s greatest quality was his humanity. More than anything else, he was a man for others. He cared deeply for people, reached out with compassion and lived a life centred on service and concern for his fellow human beings.

Though Bro. Michael is no longer with us physically, his legacy remains alive in the hearts of those he touched. His life continues to inspire us to live with discipline, devotion, dedication and love.

“May his Noble Soul rest in Peace!”

BRO. M. JOSEPH ANTONY BALAN,

*St. Antony’s Hr. Sec. School,
Coonoor*

In Remembrance of Brother Michael S

“The life of the dead is placed in the memory of the living.” - St. Augustine.



As we remember our beloved Brother Michael S, our hearts are filled with gratitude to God for the beautiful gift of his life, vocation and presence among us. Though he has left this earthly world, the memories he created and the inspiration he gave continue to remain alive in our hearts.

I first met Brother Michael in 2019 at St. Joseph's Hr. Sec. School, Chengalpatu. Thereafter, whenever I met him, he always reminded me that he was the batch-mate of Brother Thomas Reddy of Pune Province. From the very first interaction, I experienced him as a deeply committed and gentle religious Brother. Over the next five years, I had many opportunities to interact with him in the Community.

Whenever I travelled home, Chengalpattu became a place where I invariably stopped because of the warmth and fraternity of the Brothers there. During meals and Community gatherings, Brother Michael S would often share his experiences of religious life, his mission and his years of service as a Principal and Bursar. He spoke with wisdom and clarity, and always to the point, never using unnecessary words. Yet his words carried depth, experience and meaning. Interaction with him often reminded me of the words in Proverbs 10:14.

Brother Michael S was also a very jovial person. He enjoyed sharing simple moments with the Brothers; he spoke about his experiences with his batch-mates and about Community life in general. What touched me most was the gentle way in which he expressed his thoughts. There was kindness, patience and maturity in his way of speaking.

Like many senior Brothers, he carried the wisdom of experience. Some of the challenges and realities he shared from his years of administration and mission later helped me in my own journey. His words often helped me to foresee situations, understand people better and respond with greater prudence and patience. Sitting with senior Brothers and listening to their experiences is always a blessing because their life itself becomes a lesson.

Brother Michael lived faithfully what he was called for. Through the joys and struggles of religious life, he remained committed to his vocation and mission. His life was simple, disciplined, prayerful and inspiring. In his later years, even his simple and sattvic food habits reflected his peaceful and disciplined spirit.

Today, Brother Michael may no longer be physically present among us, but his life continues to inspire students, Brothers, staff and many other people in society. His legacy consists, not merely in institutions or responsibilities held or in the works he accomplished, but in the hearts transformed through his goodness, wisdom and presence.

As children of one God in Christ, we believe that life does not end with death. We believe that he now rests in the loving presence of God and intercedes for us from his heavenly abode.

As we prepare to remember him, let us prayerfully thank God for the gift of Brother Michael's life. May his soul rest in eternal peace! May the Lord continue to bless our Congregation, the Church, and all of us, so that we carry forward the legacy of faith, dedication, fraternity and love that he left behind.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul rest in peace! Amen.

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." - John 11:25

BRO. RAJA DURAI SELVAN S

Provincial Bursar

Province of Pune



**RO. MICHAEL'S LEGACY CONSISTS, NOT MERELY IN INSTITUTIONS
OR RESPONSIBILITIES HELD OR IN THE WORKS HE ACCOMPLISHED,
BUT IN THE HEARTS TRANSFORMED THROUGH HIS GOODNESS,
WISDOM AND PRESENCE.**



Bro. Michael: A Life of Humble Service and Unwavering Faith

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” - Galatians 5:22-23



hen I reflect on the life of Brother Michael at Champion School, one word that resonates in my mind above all others is **witness**, and a true one at that! For nearly five decades, he embodied the Gospel message with a quiet dignity that inspired all who knew him. His life was a living witness to the transformative power of simplicity, service and steadfast faith, virtues that define the very heart of our religious commitment.

☛ A LIFE DEDICATED TO SERVICE:

Brother Michael exemplified the profound truth: “The greatest among you will be your servant.” His position as superior at Champion School was not marked by authority or prestige, but by an extraordinary commitment to serving the community with unwavering dedication. Every task, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, was approached with the same thoroughness and devotion. Those who worked alongside him observed him to be a man of principle. He kept up his daily routine and involved in his Community activities with remarkable discipline, understanding that spiritual growth. Effective service requires persistence. Brother Michael treated all members of the community - Brothers, teachers and staff alike - with equal respect and dignity, reflecting a deep belief in the inherent worth of every person.

☛ THE BEAUTY OF SIMPLICITY:

In a world constantly seeking *more*, Brother Michael chose the path of *less*. He fully embraced the radical lifestyle of the gospel, where the vow of poverty became, not a burden, but a liberating force. He **owned little, gave freely and found profound joy in simplicity**. His material possessions were few, but his spiritual riches were immeasurable. He did not seek perfection in work, either for himself or for others. Instead, he focused on completion and integrity. This gentle approach reflected a profound understanding that true excellence lies, not in flawless execution, but in faithful commitment and continuous improvement. Brother Michael taught by his exemplary life that faithfulness often matters more than brilliance.

☛ **A FAITHFUL PRAYER WARRIOR:**

Spirituality was no doubt a significant part of Brother Michael's life, but at the same time, it was also the very foundation upon which all else rested. His attendance at spiritual exercises was visible and consistent. He understood that **"prayer is the breath of the soul,"** and he lived according to it, ensuring that regular prayer and communal meals on time were non-negotiable pillars of his daily existence. Brother Michael had a deep pastoral concern towards his Brothers, particularly regarding their conduct and observance. He was vigilant and caring in pointing out mistakes directly and honestly, not with condemnation, but with a desire for the growth of his Brothers. This protective concern was rooted, not in judgments, but in genuine love and desire for their spiritual welfare.

☛ **LIGHT-HEARTED SPIRIT:**

Bro. Michael possessed gentleness and a quiet sense of humour that brought joy to community gatherings. His subtle jokes would lighten the atmosphere, reminding everyone that spirituality and solemnity need to yield laughter and warmth as well. The community came alive in his presence, as his quiet wit and genuine kindness created spaces where people could simply be themselves. As the saying goes, **"a joyful heart is good medicine;"** Brother Michael was indeed a healer of spirits.

☛ **A MISSIONARY AT HEART:**

Throughout his religious life, Brother Michael demonstrated remarkable flexibility and generosity. When the Province took up challenging missions, he did not hesitate to respond with a resounding 'Yes.' Thus, his assignments took him far from his native land, including an extended mission in the Philippines, where he brought the same dedication and simplicity to serve unfamiliar communities having unfamiliar needs. Christ instructed His apostles, **"Go into the whole world;"** Brother Michael went faithfully, with his faith and readiness to serve, wherever the Church beckoned.

☛ **A LIVING LEGACY:**

Brother Michael lived very many active and meaningful years at Chengalpattu and elsewhere. Those who knew him will remember, not merely an administrator or a religious Brother, but a **living witness to Gospel values.** He moved through the campuses and communities with sincere purpose, availing himself for conversation and counsel, always ready with a kind word or a small gesture of care and concern.

In an age of restlessness and constant flux, Brother Michael embodied a timeless truth: **a life lived in service, simplicity and prayer is a life well-lived.** His example challenges us to reconsider our own values and priorities. What legacy will we leave behind? What witness would our lives bear for those who would like to emulate us?

As we honour Brother Michael's memory, we do so with gratitude and inspiration. We are grateful for his faithful presence, his quiet example and his willingness to serve without seeking recognition. We are inspired by his commitment to simplicity, his consistency in faith and his gentle wisdom. May we all strive to live as he did **with humility, compassion, and an unwavering trust in Providence!** He was a true Montfortian!

BRO. MARIA JOSEPH,

Manager & Bursar

St. Joseph's ITI, Tindivanam



IN AN AGE OF RESTLESSNESS AND CONSTANT FLUX, BROTHER MICHAEL EMBODIED A TIMELESS TRUTH: A LIFE LIVED IN SERVICE, SIMPLICITY AND PRAYER IS A LIFE WELL-LIVED. HIS EXAMPLE CHALLENGES US TO RECONSIDER OUR OWN VALUES AND PRIORITIES.



Tribute to My First Headmaster, Rev. Bro. Michael S. at Kalugumalai in 1992



In Kalugumalai's famed student halls,
Where learning's gentle sunlight falls,
I met a guide: a guide of noble grace,
With pure kindness shining in his face.

Soft Spoken words so calm and wise,
Made hope to shine in youthful eyes;
His humble ways devoid of all pride,
Taught students take life in its stride.

Yet, when day seemed tiredly long,
His cheery humour made us strong;
Witty words with laughter bright,
Made our burdens seem so light.

Outspoken when the truth was due,
He taught us values pure and true;
Given with wisdom and good will,
His fine lessons in us resonate still.

Headmaster, mentor, and friend,
Whose influence will never end;
In gratitude, my heart still stays
With musings of those shiny days.

Though years pass and seasons flee,
His noble image ever stays with me;
A humble soul both kind and wise,
A guiding star in life's blurry skies.

BRO. ARULANANDAM G.

*Bursar & Administrator
Montfort College, Bengaluru*



His Simplicity Made Him Great



With deep sorrow, profound gratitude and loving memories, we remember our beloved Bro. Michael S., who returned to the Father on 22 April 2026. Though he has completed his earthly sojourn, the footprints he engraved in the hearts of countless people remain fresh, inspiring and unforgettable.

Bro. Michael was a Brother, educator, administrator and formator for many people, but for me, he was much more — a silent inspiration, a guiding light and a living example of simplicity blended with greatness. My encounters with him have enhanced my vision of religious life, leadership and mission.

Bro. Michael never sought attention or applause. He believed in simple acts of love, honesty and responsibility; his greatness lay in these. He lived a disciplined life with extraordinary humility. His simplicity was not weakness; it was strength clothed in gentleness.

One of the most touching qualities I admired in him was his hidden generosity. He helped many people silently — students, staff, workers, Brothers and poor families — without ever expecting recognition. Many received support from him without even knowing where it came from. His left hand truly did not know what his right hand was doing. In a world that often seeks publicity for every act of charity, Bro. Michael taught us the beauty of silent goodness.

He was very simple in appearance and lifestyle, yet deeply dignified in character. His words were few, but substantial. His presence itself commanded respect. He was strict when it came to discipline, sincerity and responsibility, yet his strictness always emanated from love and concern.

I still remember his unique approach during examinations. If a child was caught copying, he would not immediately punish him/her. Instead, he would question the teacher or invigilator responsible for the examination hall. He believed that children committed mistakes because adults failed in guidance and vigilance. He would say in action, if not always in words, that correction by an educator is not about humiliating the children, but about putting systems right and forming consciences.

This extraordinary attitude revealed the greatness of his heart. He never wanted students to lose confidence because of one mistake. Rather than condemning, he corrected with wisdom. Rather than breaking spirits, he helped to build character.

Bro. Michael possessed rare leadership qualities:

- simplicity without conceit,
- discipline without harshness,
- authority without arrogance,
- kindness without weakness,
- service without expectation of praise.

He respected every person irrespective of status or position. He listened patiently, worked systematically and expected perfection through dedication and responsibility. Time management, punctuality and commitment were natural to him. He believed that every small task carried out in the right way becomes a prayer to God.

As an educator, he inspired minds.

As a formator, he shaped lives.

As an administrator, he upheld values.

As a Brother, he radiated fraternity.

As a human being, he reflected the love of Christ.

St. Louis Marie de Montfort once reminded us: *“True wisdom is found in humility, sacrifice and love.”* Bro. Michael lived these values every day.

Today, as we cherish his memory, we realize that greatness does not always come through extraordinary achievements visible to the world. Sometimes greatness walks quietly through corridors, smiles gently at children, corrects lovingly, helps behind closed doors, and trails footprints of goodness in human hearts.

His life shines as a lesson to educators, religious and young people alike:

- live simply,
- serve sincerely,
- discipline lovingly,
- help silently.

He has gone to his eternal reward, but his legacy continues to inspire generations of Montfortians.

May the loving soul of Bro. Michael rest in the eternal peace of the Father whom he served so faithfully! “The fragrance of a good life never fades.” Dear Bro. Michael, your simplicity made you truly great.

BRO. DR. JESU RAJA

Principal, Montfort School(CBSE), Mannapparai



Noble Traits of a Selfless Man

“A truly great person is one who lives not for himself but for God and the welfare of humanity.”



rutselvar Bro. S. Michael was a man who dedicated his life to the service of God and humanity. Even today, his life stands as a source of inspiration. His belief was that a person's greatness is measured not by personal gain but by the good he does for others.

Bro. S. Michael served as an educational leader and guide to countless students. During his many years of service, he worked tirelessly for the advancement of education and the welfare of society. Those who knew him closely admired his noble character, discipline, and unwavering commitment to duty.

“A life devoted to God shines through acts of kindness, compassion and service to fellow beings.”

☛ COMPASSION AND SERVICE

Bro. S. Michael always showed deep concern for people around him. He considered education not merely as a means of acquiring knowledge but as a process of shaping character and values. He encouraged students to develop good conduct, discipline, and a sense of responsibility.

Many students benefited from his guidance and encouragement. He treated everyone with respect and kindness. His words and actions reflected his genuine concern for the well-being of others. Helping those in need and guiding the younger generation were among his great priorities.

☛ SIMPLICITY AND HARD WORK

One of the most admirable qualities of Bro. S. Michael was his simplicity. Despite holding positions of responsibility, he lived a humble and disciplined life. He began his day early and followed a strict routine.

He greatly valued time and believed that every moment should be used productively. He carried out his duties sincerely and expected the same dedication from his students and colleagues. Through his own example, he taught the importance of hard work and perseverance.

His life demonstrated that success is achieved not through privilege or comfort but through consistent effort and dedication.

“A simple and humble life filled with honest work brings lasting happiness and peace.”

☛ **HUMILITY**

Humility was one of the defining features of Bro. S. Michael's character. Although he possessed great knowledge and leadership qualities, he never displayed pride or arrogance. He remained approachable and treated everyone equally.

He encouraged students to pursue knowledge with enthusiasm. Yet he never sought recognition for himself. Instead, he inspired others to develop their talents and use them for the benefit of society.

☛ **LOVE FOR SPIRITUALITY**

Bro. S. Michael's life was deeply rooted in spirituality. His faith in God guided his actions and decisions. Prayer was an important part of his daily routine, and he encouraged others to develop a strong moral and spiritual foundation.

He believed that spiritual values such as honesty, compassion, self-discipline, and service should form the basis of one's life. His spirituality was not confined to words but was evident in his daily conduct.

☛ **HIS LEGACY**

Bro. S. Michael taught that true greatness lies in selfless service, faith in God, hard work, humility, discipline, honesty, compassion, and concern for others. These qualities made him not only an outstanding educator but also a remarkable human being.

"He who offers his life to God and his hands to society leaves behind a legacy that cannot be erased."

Because of these noble qualities, Bro. S. Michael has left an indelible mark on the hearts of all who knew him. His life continues to inspire students, teachers, and future generations.

May his soul rest in peace!

"The fragrance of a selfless life devoted to God and society continues to inspire generations."

I. RAJA

Retired P. G. Asst. (English) & Asst. Headmaster
St. Antony's Hr. Sec. School, Coonoor



The Virtues I Admired in Bro. Michael's Life



t's my great privilege and honour to write these few lines about Bro. S. Michael. Here I would like to express some of the virtues of his life that inspired me.

Bro. S. Michael was very magnanimous in his dealings and in the way he administered the institution. He was very kind, helpful and respectful to all who were under his able leadership, irrespective of their status.

He was masterly in having all the Government orders at his fingertips; his skill in this aspect was incomparable. His knowledge in administration guided many others of his cadre to solve various issues and smoothly run their institutions.

Brother Michael was a majestic man - one may think of his heavenly patron St. Michael the Archangel. His regal appearance in the school premises made everyone to perform their duties in all seriousness and even without uttering a single word.

He was a good motivator for people in maintaining their physical health. He was a habitual walker, consulting doctors when required and without any hesitation, and very prompt in having his food on time. He could give sound medical advice to any one in need.

Brother was a mighty man in his approach and would achieve his objectives at all costs. He was very ambitious in his efforts to uplift the student community. He was very obedient to his superiors. Wherever he was posted, he willingly went there to serve that community and worked for its development.

He was a sort of magician in successfully executing even the apparently unimaginable tasks. He completed the various projects entrusted to him, as if with supernatural power. He was always successful in his undertakings with God's blessing.

Brother Michael was a kind of minimalist in everything. He lived very happily with what only was strictly necessary. In the early days, he was rather laconic and would only speak the minimum. For him, 'Yes' meant 'yes' and 'No' meant 'no'. But before he spoke, he would think many times.

I have mused here on some of Bro. Michael's virtues - some I have witnessed myself and some I have heard from others. These virtues show his selfless life as a Montfort Brother, and they still pulsate within my heart, though Brother has already left us to start afresh a new life, somewhere in God's own vicinity. May He grant him eternal rest!

A.M.T. MADHAN PRABHU

P.G. Asst. (History), St. Antony's Hr. Sec. School, Coonoor

A Tribute to Rev. Bro. Michael



relationship that is 38 years old needs to be expressed in words and print because: Memories May fade but this tribute will go down in the annals of the Antonite and keep his memory alive.

Bro. Michael gave me my Appointment Order 38 years ago, when I was appointed as a teacher in Antony's Hr. Sec. School, Coonoor, where I was a student some years earlier. To him I will be ever grateful! As a young teacher candidate, his welcome handshake and his good wishes took me forward a long period of time until the day of my retirement from the same school many years later.

I have known Bro. Michael to be very sincere, dedicated, and a Man of God. I served under him two tenures when he was Headmaster and Correspondent. And I can also say for sure that he was a good administrator who encouraged the staff to work with diligence. He led by example.

"Still waters run deep."

So it was with Bro. Michael.

A person of quiet demeanour, with a profound calibre, that promoted the school's standard and infrastructure. He accompanied by foot the hostel students to St. Antony's church every day for Mass and thus strengthened their faith.

His death is a great loss to the Community of Montfort Brothers as well as to the School Family of St. Antony's, Coonoor.

I feel grateful for this opportunity to express myself in memory of Bro. Michael to whom I owe a lot, my well being and the good qualities I have imbibed.

Thank you very much, Bro. Michael, may God grant you eternal rest!

S. J. MARTIN, RETD. AHM

St. Antony's Hr. Sec. School, Coonoor



A Sea of Calm Amidst Tempest and Turbulence



Principal whose footsteps crossed every inch of Campion even before the early bird twittered its melodious song! A fitness ‘fan’, we could see him walking on the corridors of the school at least twice a day. Bro. S. Michael’s daily walks seemed to show that wholesome exercise is the best medicine for body and spirit. His clock-like regularity reflected the thought, “Fitness is not about being better than someone else; it’s about being better than you used to be.” That’s what took him past his 80’s and made him cross into the ‘eternal’ victory finishing line of 84 years in the service of God and man. Thus, Bro. Michael departed from this earthly life, after having fought the good fight, finishing the race, and passing on the baton to other selfless Montfortian-Gabrielite Brothers.

Bro. Michael was admired for his teacher-family outlook. He used to say, “We are Sanyasis. We will continue to minister to the school and students even after working hours. You go home and take care of your family.” Thus, he won the love and trust of the teaching and non-teaching staff. Everyone served in a synchronized rhythm, making Campion a literal beehive. No tension, duty accomplished, and results successful! Bro. S. Michael’s contention was to work joyfully and peacefully, knowing that right thoughts and right efforts would inevitably bring about the right results. “Love what you are doing,” he would say, “and you will be successful.”

There were times when Bro. S. Michael didn’t mince words. While giving a pep talk he said, “When the policemen request the crowd to disperse, they won’t. As soon as they take their lathis, everyone runs helter-skelter and the area is cleared.” This veiled ultimatum was enough to get everyone on the right track!

One of the best pieces of advice he gave was: “Place all your home and family problems in an imaginary bag and hang it outside Campion’s gate. Don’t let your problems cross the gates of Campion. When you leave, you can pick it up again at the gate, but only if you want! On casual Leave and other leaves, he would say, “CL, EL, etc. are your privileges. Use your discretion.” Many of our staff members were honoured for full attendance during his tenure!

A truly great Principal is hard to find, difficult to part with, and impossible to forget. Bro. S. Michael was the very heart of Campion! We do miss him, a lot. May his light shine like the brightest gem in the divine land of the Lord!

MR. AROKIASAMY SINGARAJ

Retd. P.G. Assistant (English)

Campion Anglo-Indian Hr. Sec. School, Trichy



Remembering Bro. Michael of Campion



Bro. Michael came into Campion as a tall and graceful Principal. He was virtuous, and compassionate towards all fellow human beings.

He was kind hearted to all the Staff and Students. Brother even loved the deer that used to run towards him whenever he stood in front of Mariagam. He gave the animals the freedom to roam inside our Campus and some of them would even attend his class by sitting in the corridor and listening to his lessons; or so it seemed!

He was very keen to see that no member of staff remained back after school hours and he used to tell them, “Go Home Sir, your family is waiting for you.”

During the school assemblies, the boys used to be rather anxious: though he would utter a few lines, “Saturday Holiday” among them used to be received with much applause.

He was very jovial at Staff Meetings and he seemed to be a bright and breezy person by nature.

Dear Bro. Michael, we do miss you; may your soul rest in peace!

MR. T. SETHURAMAN

Retd. B.T. Assistant

Campion Anglo-Indian Hr. Sec. School, Trichy



Bro. Michael: A Life of Discipline, Care and Faithful Witness



Bro. Michael synonyms with time. He who kills time commits suicide. Brother had respected time always. He believed that time is the greatest investment one can. There is a saying that time deals gently with those who take it gently. When you see him we need not to look into the watch for the time. My memory goes back to the year 1992. After my prenovitiate training I was sent to R C Susai high school, kalugumalai for one year of community experience. For fifteen days no conversation with him other than wishing him good morning or evening or good night during the meals time. On the first day of the school he gave me the time table. Trusting me he gave four sections, handling sixth and seventh, and a class teacher for sixth. I found a great challenge as I had no other training of teaching. With my little background of teaching of my father, grandfather and my uncles. Meanwhile he instructed me about the punctuality and regularity, not only for the classes, it is applicable to community programmes too. He insisted that I must be present on time for the meals and prayer.



Many Brothers, for fun, would encourage me saying that if I could live happily with him in the community, I may remain as a Brother forever. I didn't understand there but later understood.

A Few days later I met him personally and confessed that it was boring and hard to live as I felt lonely because of the generation gap between the community brothers and me. He advised me to feel free, offered his pocket radio which was like our mobile, those days, to listen songs. He permitted me to visit the neighbouring communities sattu and Muttom where my companions doing their community experiences. He was concerned about the Brothers in the community. His encouragement and instructions lead me to be joyful and contented in my religious life. He was a strict disciplinarian in the school with everyone, never showed partiality to anyone. He was very particular that all the staffs get their benefits without fail, at the same time demanded work from them. His relationship with children was cordial and affection. He was known for his wit and fun.

He was very much worried about my health when I fell sick. In fact once he expressed it to me stating that at the young age I was suffering and how I would go about my journey

as a religious with this health, he would never allowed me to ride bike. Once in the absence of the superior I rode the bike to visit a student's house, when he noticed it, he informed the superior about it. He observed me during the meals time, if found dull and gloomy he brought it to the superior's notice. I came to know this when the superior enquired about it. I had the opportunity of living with him in four communities. His humorous conversation had kept the community alive and active. He corrected the Brothers firmly and gently. His trust in me made a trustworthy person wherever I am. I had experienced his care and concern when I visited him now and then.

When I was appointed as the local superior for the first time, wished me all the best, he would guide me how to run the school smoothly and joyfully. As a bursar he was committed to his duty so much so that he would do the accounting by himself even after the tally accounting. He learnt it and did perfectly. Any doubt he would approach the brothers or the staff who know it well. After the advent of the smart phone he asked for it and started using. He called me to teach him about the use of Facebook, e mail and whatsapp and other features. I admired about his thirst for learning at that age. He gave a lot of importance to his spiritual exercises and his physical exercises. He was regular for both. He loved nature and animals. His personal sharing, enriched my life. Whenever I called him over the phone or met him in person, as a friend he shared a lot that had nurtured me.

On Easter Sunday, called him to wish. The conversation went on enquiring about the health of each other. When asked him about his health he was happy to share about himself with contentment. He replied that he was unable to eat and no interest to eat. I advised him to take in the form of liquid. He responded that he had lived enough and the lord is waiting for me. His usual saying was the death is awaiting for him and dwelling place is ready to bid farewell. I remembered the following lines which read somewhere,

“If I have said goodbye to stream and wood
To the wide ocean and the green clad hill,
I know that He who made this world so good
Has somewhere made a heaven better still.
This I bear witness with my latest breath
Knowing the love of god,
I fear not death.”

Dear Bro. Michael you were a lesson to me. Intercede for me to HIM. You will be remembered forever. You have played a major role in my life to be a good religious and a good administrator. Thank you dear Brother. May you rest in peace in the company of Montfort and the brothers who have gone before.

BRO. CHRISTY RAJ A

St. Joseph Hr. Sec. School, Susaigiri

சகோ. S. மைக்கேல், M.A., M.Ed.

தலைமையாசிரியர் மற்றும் தாளாளர் அவர்கள்

1978-1979ஆம் கல்வியாண்டு முதல் 1995-1996ஆம் கல்வியாண்டு வரை புனித அந்தோணியார் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளியில் இறைபணி மற்றும் கல்விப்பணி ஆகியவற்றில் மாபெரும் வெற்றி பெற்ற நிகழ்வுகள்

1. பள்ளி கட்டிட வடிவமைப்பு, வகுப்பறைகள், வளாகம் ஆகியவற்றை உருவாக்கிய பெருமை இவருக்கு உண்டு.
2. மேல்நிலைக் கல்வி 1978-1979ஆம் கல்வியாண்டின் முதல் தலைமையாசிரியர் மற்றும் தாளாளர்; மாபெரும் தேர்ச்சி அனைத்திலும் வெற்றி கண்டவர் எனக் கூறலாம்.
3. மாணவர்கள், பெற்றோர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள், பொதுமக்கள் அனைவரிடத்திலும் அன்பாகவும் பொறுமையாகவும் பேசக்கூடிய குணநலன்களைப் பெற்றவர்.
4. ஏழை மாணவர்களின் கல்விக் கட்டணம், தமிழ் வழியில் பயிலும் அனைவருக்கும் சலுகைகளை வழங்கினார்.
5. குன்னூர் நகர மக்கள் பாராட்டும் அளவிற்கு, தமிழ் வழியில் பயின்ற மாணவர்கள் தனியார் துறை மற்றும் அரசுத் துறைகளில் உயர் பதவிகளில் பணியாற்றி வருகிறார்கள்.
6. மாணவர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள் அனைவரிடத்திலும் கடுமையாக இருந்தாலும், கனிவோடும் பொறுமையோடும் நடந்து கொள்வார்.
7. திரு. க. இராஜேந்திரன் ஆகிய நான், கபிரியேல் சபை நிர்மலா மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளியில் பயின்று, 37 ஆண்டுகளாக நமது சபைக்கு உட்பட்ட பள்ளிகளில் பணியாற்றியுள்ளேன். சகோ. மைக்கேல் அவர்களிடம் ஏழு ஆண்டுகள் குன்னூர் புனித அந்தோணியார் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளியில் பணிபுரிந்துள்ளேன்.
8. ஆசிரியர் பணி அறப்பணி. அதை நாள்தோறும் பள்ளி வேலை நேரங்களில் மட்டும் மாணவச் செல்வங்களுக்கு வழங்கினால் போதும்; மற்ற நேரங்களில் குடும்பப் பணிகளைச் சிறப்பாகச் செய்யுங்கள் என்று ஆசிரியர்கள் பொதுக் கூட்டத்திலே கூறியதை நான் பலமுறை கேட்டறிந்தேன். இளமையில் கல்வி மாணவர்களுக்கு தேவை என்பதை வலியுறுத்தினார். இந்த செய்தியைக் கண்டதும் என் கண்களில் ஆனந்தக் கண்ணீர் ததும்பியது.
9. குறிப்பாக ஆசிரியர்கள், அலுவலர்கள், பணியாளர்கள் ஆகியோரை தகுதியின் அடிப்படையில் சாதி, மதம், இன வேறுபாடுகள் இல்லாமல் நியமனம் செய்த பெருமை இவருக்கு உண்டு.

10. பள்ளித் தோட்டம், பள்ளி வளாகம் எந்த நேரமும் தூய்மையாக இருக்கச் சிறப்பாக வழிநடத்தியவர் எனக் கூறலாம்.
11. ஆசிரிய அலுவலர் பெருமக்களின் கோரிக்கைகளை உடனுக்குடன் செயல்படுத்துவார். தனது பணிக்காலத்தில் எந்த ஆசிரியரிடமும் விரோதமாக இருந்ததே இல்லை.
12. கல்வி, விளையாட்டு இரண்டும் இரு கண்கள் என்பதை மாணவர்களிடத்தில் வலியுறுத்தி வந்தார். நல்லொழுக்கப் பாடத்திற்கு முன்னுரிமை தந்து மாணவர்களை அன்பாக வழிநடத்துவார்.
13. பொதுமக்கள், பெற்றோர்கள், முன்னாள் மாணவர்கள் என யார் வந்தாலும், அவர்களது தேவையை அறிந்து மரியாதையுடன் வழிநடத்திய பெருமை இவருக்கு உண்டு.
14. அரசு அதிகாரிகளின் கோரிக்கைகளை உடனடியாக நிவர்த்தி செய்வார். இவரது பணிக்காலத்தில் சுமுகமான உறவு இருந்தது.
15. கபிரியேல் சபையின் உயர்ந்த கல்விச் சிந்தனையாளர்; கடமை, கண்ணியம், கட்டுப்பாட்டுடன் தன் துறவற வாழ்க்கையில் இனிமை கண்டு இறைவனடி சேர்ந்தார் என்பதில் ஐயமில்லை.

நன்றி

க. இராஜேந்திரன், M.A., M.A., B.Ed.

ஓய்வுபெற்ற முதுகலை ஆசிரியர் (அரசியல் அறிவியல்)

புனித அந்தோணியார் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி

குன்னூர், நீலகிரி மாவட்டம்



சகோ. S. மைக்கேல், M.A., M.Ed.

தலைமையாசிரியர் மற்றும் தாளாளர் அவர்கள் குன்னூர் புனித அந்தோணியார் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளியில் பணிபுரிந்த ஒன்பது ஆண்டுகளில் சகோதரர் அவர்களின் சிறப்பான சேவைகள்.

ஜோசப் செங்கோல்நாதன், ஓய்வுபெற்ற முதுகலை ஆசிரியர் (வேதியியல்) மற்றும் உதவி தலைமையாசிரியராகிய நான் சகோதரர் உடன் ஆறு ஆண்டுகள் பணிபுரிந்துள்ளேன். அன்னாரின் ஆளுமை, அன்பு, அர்ப்பணிப்பு ஆகியவற்றை நான் பார்த்த, அனுபவித்தவற்றை இங்கு உங்களுடன் பகிர்ந்து கொள்கிறேன்.

ஆளுமை

- சிரித்த முகத்துடன் ஆசிரியர்கள், மாணவர்கள் மற்றும் பெற்றோர்களிடம் பழகுவார். அவர் யாரிடமும் கோபமாகப் பேசி நான் பார்த்ததில்லை.
- எந்தவொரு காரியத்திலும் முடியாது என்று ஒரு விஷயத்தில் முடிவு செய்துவிட்டால், யார் சொல்லியும் அவர் முடிவில் இருந்து மாற மாட்டார்.
- இரண்டு நாட்கள் விடுமுறை வந்தால், அதற்கு முந்திய நாள் அல்லது பிந்திய நாள் விடுமுறை எடுக்க ஆசிரியர்களை அனுமதிக்க மாட்டார். தகுந்த காரணம் இருந்தால் விடுமுறை தருவார். அதில் கண்டிப்பும், அன்பும் இருக்கும்.
- காலை எழுந்தவுடன் அவர் இறைவழிபாடுகளை முடித்தபின், பள்ளி வளாகத்தை ஒரு முறை சுற்றிப்பார்ப்பதை நான் பார்த்திருக்கிறேன். இந்த பண்பு அவரிடம் கொடுக்கப்பட்ட பொறுப்பை, பாதுகாக்க அவர் எடுத்த நடவடிக்கை. அவர் காலத்தில் பள்ளியின் வேலிகளை அளந்து சீர்படுத்தி ஆவணப்படுத்தினார்.
- நேரம் தவறாமை அவரது மிகச்சிறந்த பண்பு. குறித்த நேரத்தில் குறித்த வேலையை செய்ய நினைப்பவர். (எ.கா.) விளையாட்டு விழாவிற்கு அழைக்கப்பட்ட விருந்தினர் குறித்த நேரத்தில் வரவில்லை என்றாலும் விழாவை ஆரம்பித்துவிடுவார். நேரம் தவறாமை அவரிடமிருந்து நாம் கற்கும் பாடம்.
- அவருக்கு வகுப்பு இருந்தால், பாடவேளை மாற மணி அடிக்க ஐந்து நிமிடங்களுக்கு முன் அவரது அறைக்கு வெளியே, வகுப்பிற்குச் செல்ல ஆயத்தமாய் புத்தகத்துடன் நிற்பார். இது ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு முன் மாதிரியாக இருந்தது.
- பள்ளி முடிந்ததும் குடை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு நடைப்பயிற்சிக்கு சென்று விடுவார். ஆசிரியர்களையும் உரிய நேரத்தில் வீட்டிற்குச் செல்லுங்கள் என்று கூறுவார். அதன்பின் பள்ளி வேலைகள் செய்யமாட்டார்.
- ஆசிரியர்களின் கல்விச்சான்றிதழ்களில் ஏதேனும் குறைகள் இருப்பின், அதை சரி செய்ய அறிவுரை வழங்குவதுடன், உரிய உதவிகளும் செய்வார். இதனால் பல ஆசிரியர்கள் பயனடைந்துள்ளார்கள்.

அன்பு

- அனைவரையும் அன்புடன் நேசிப்பவர்; யாரையும் எதிரியாக நினைக்க மாட்டார். அவருடன் பணியாற்றிய அனைவரின் வீட்டிற்கும், அவர்களின் இல்ல நிகழ்வுகளில் கலந்து கொள்வார். ஏற்றத் தாழ்வுடன் யாரையும் நடத்தமாட்டார்.
- என் மனைவி ஆசிரியர் பயிற்சிப் பள்ளியில் சேர எனக்கு உதவிகள் செய்தார். என் மனைவி படித்து முடித்து அரசு பள்ளியில் ஆசிரியர் பணியில் சேர்ந்த போது, மிகவும் மகிழ்ந்து மனமார வாழ்த்தினார்.
- இது போன்று பலருக்கும் உதவிகளை செய்துள்ளார். அவற்றை யாரிடமும் சொல்லிக் காட்டியதில்லை.

அர்ப்பணிப்பு

- புனித மாண்ட் போர்ட் வழியில் எளிமையின் உருவமாக இருந்தார். அவர் அறையில் ஆடம்பரப் பொருட்கள் இருக்கவில்லை.
 - தனக்கு கொடுக்கப்பட்ட பணியில் மிகவும் கண்ணும் கருத்துமாக இருந்தார்.
 - மாணவர்களின் ஒழுக்கம், கல்வி ஆகியவற்றில் மிகவும் கவனமுடன் கண்டிப்புடன் இருந்தார்.
 - கடவுளை அறிவதே ஞானம் என்று மறைக்கல்வி மற்றும் நல்லொழுக்கக் கல்விக்கு முக்கியத்துவம் கொடுத்தார்.
 - பள்ளி வழிபாட்டுக் கூடத்தில் மாணவர்களுக்கு பயன்படும் வகையில் தார்தளம் அமைத்து கொடுத்துள்ளார்.
 - மாணவர்கள் மற்றும் ஆசிரியர்கள் பயன்படும்படி பல பயனுள்ள நற்காரியங்களைச் செய்தார்.
 - அவர் பணியாற்றிய ஒன்பது ஆண்டுகளில், புனித மாண்ட் போர்ட் வழியில், ஏழைகள் நலம்பெற, கல்வி பெற பல மாற்றங்களைச் செய்து, சீரும் சிறப்புமாக பள்ளி நடைபெற வழிவகை செய்தார்.
- ஆண்டவர் தேர்ந்தெடுத்து அவருக்கு கொடுத்த துறவற மற்றும் கல்விப்பணியில் அவர் ஆற்றிய சேவை சொல்லற்கரியது. சகோதரர் அவர்களை என்றும் பெருமையுடன் நினைத்து அவர் பாதம் பணிகிறேன்.

நன்றி.

எஸ். ஜோசப் செங்கோல்நாதன்,

ஓய்வுபெற்ற முதுகலை ஆசிரியர் (வேதியியல்)
மற்றும் உதவி தலைமையாசிரியர்
புனித அந்தோணியார் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி
குன்னூர். நீலகிரி மாவட்டம்

அருட் சகோதரர் S. மைக்கேல் (1942-2026)

“நீங்கள் உலகமெல்லாம் சென்று நற்செய்தியைப் பறைசாற்றுங்கள்”

என்ற இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் வார்த்தையை வாழ்வாக்கி, முடிவில்லா வாகன வீட்டில் குடிகொண்ட அருட்சகோதரர் S. மைக்கேல் அவர்கள் நம் வாழ்விற்கு விட்டுச்சென்ற விழுமியங்கள் பற்பல. வீரம் விளைந்த சிவகங்கை மண்ணில் மலர்ந்த அர்ப்பண மலர். இறைபணியில், கல்வி சேவையில், துறவற வாழ்வில், மண்ணில் உதிரும் காலம் வரை நறுமணம் வீசி சென்றது. தான் அவதரித்த மைக்கேல் பட்டினம் ஊரின் பெயரை தன் திருநாமமாகக் கொண்டு அதிதூதர் மைக்கேல் போன்ற கடவுளுக்கு நிகர் ஒன்றுமில்லை. அவரே அனைத்தும் என்று தன் இறுதி மூச்சுவரை வாழ்ந்து சென்றவர்.

அருள் புனிதர் மாண்போர்டின் மகனாய், அவர் காட்டிய நெறியில் அவர் சென்ற வழியில் அரை நூற்றாண்டுக்கும் மேலாய் ஆற்றலுடன் பணியாற்றினார். தான் செய்த பணிகள், பெற்ற பதவிகள், வகித்த பொறுப்புகள் அனைத்தும் தன் புகழ் பேச அன்று என்பதை தன் இதயத்தில் எழுதிய அருட் சகோதரர் S. மைக்கேல் அவர்கள், அதனை மாணவர்களுக்கும், ஏழைகளுக்கும், தேவையில் உள்ளோருக்கும், பணியாற்ற, சேவையற்ற கிடைத்த வாய்ப்பாகவே கண்டார்.

ஆழமான பக்தி, ஆற்றலான பணி, இன்சொல் மொழி, கனிவான கண்டிப்பு, கடமை உணர்வு இவையெல்லாம் அருட்சகோதரர் அழகிய அடையாளங்கள். நேர்மையும், உண்மையும் அவரது உடமைகளாகும்.

2009 ஆம் ஆண்டு முதல் தன் இறுதி மூச்சு உள்ளவரை செங்கை மண்ணில் அமைதி புறாவாய் வலம் வந்தார். கொள்ளை கொள்ளும் அவரின் புன்னகை மாணவர்களிடமும், ஆசிரியர்களிடமும் அவருக்கான இடத்தினைப் பெற்றுத்தந்தது. கணக்கு வழக்கில் கருத்தாய் செயலாற்றிய அருட்சகோதரர் நேர்மையின் இலக்கணமாய் விளங்கினார். செங்கல்பட்டு புனித சூசையப்பர் பள்ளியை மிகவும் அன்பு செய்த அருட்சகோதரரின் இறுதி காலமும் இறைவனின் திட்டப்படி அமைந்தது. “நல்லதொரு ஓட்டத்தை ஓடினேன். விசுவாசத்தைக் காத்துக் கொண்டேன்” என்ற பவுலடியாரின் கூற்றின்படி, நன் வாழ்க்கைப் பாதையில் அர்ப்பண வாழ்வில் அடுத்தவர் நலனில் அக்கறையோடு வாழ்ந்து மறைந்துள்ளார் நம் அன்பு அருட்சகோதரர் S. மைக்கேல் அவர்கள். அன்னார் காட்டிய நெறியில், புனித மாண்போர்டின் வழியில் நடப்பது நம் வாழ்வை அர்த்தப்படுத்தும், ஆழப்படுத்தும், அருட்சகோதரர் மைக்கேல் அவர்களின் துறவற வாழ்விற்காய் எல்லாம் வல்ல இறைவனுக்கு நன்றி கூறுவோம்.!!

முனைவர். S. பிரின்ஸ்

தமிழ் பட்டதாரி ஆசிரியர்

புனித ஜோசப் மேல்நிலைப் பள்ளி,, செங்கல்பட்டு

அருட் சகோதரர் மைக்கில் சந்தனம் (1944-2026)

உயர்ந்த மனிதனே... உயரங்கள் அளக்கப்படுவது உருவத்தின் வளர்ச்சியை வைத்து
அல்ல.... உள்ளத்தின் வளர்ச்சியை வைத்து..... உயர்ந்த மனிதன் நீ....

தன் செயல்களால் யாரையும் புண்படுத்தாமல், எல்லோரையும் பண்பட செய்தது உன்
வாழ்வு....

நீ எழுதும் வரவு செலவு கணக்கில், அன்பை வரவு செய்து....பாசத்தை செலவு செய்தாய்....

உன்னைப் பார்த்தே நாங்கள் காலங்களை கணித்தோம், நேரம் தவறா நேர்மை நீ....

அன்பால் அரவணைப்பதில் அன்னை நீ....

நீ கற்றுக் கொடுத்த ஒழுக்கம், எல்லோர் மனதிலும் ஓங்கி ஒளி வீசிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது
தீயாய்....

இயற்கையை நேசித்த உன் குணங்களில் கண்டோம் இறைவனை....

உன் பக்தி, பரிசுத்தத்தையும் தாண்டி பகுத்தறிவை புகட்டியது....

உன்னிடம் பயின்றவர்கள் இன்று உலகம் முழுவதும், உரக்கச் சொல்கிறார்கள் நீ ஒரு
ஓய்வறியா உழைப்பு என்று....

உன் முதுமையிலும் நாங்கள் கண்டோம் குழந்தையின் சுறுசுறுப்பு....

நீ விதைத்து சென்ற விதைகள் இன்று வேராய், மரங்களாய், பூக்களாய், கனியாய்,
வளர்ந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றன உன் நினைவுகளின் நன்மையில்...

உன் நினைவுகள் புகைப்படத்தையும் தாண்டி, புதைந்திருக்கிறது எங்கள் மனதில்....

எங்கள் பயணங்களில் நினைவு நீ...பணிவு நீ...பாசம் நீ... ஒழுக்கம் நீ.... உணர்வு நீ... ஒரு
துளி கண்ணீரும் நீ....

எங்கள் எல்லோர் மனதிலும் வாழ்ந்து கொண்டிருக்கும், முடிவில்ல ஆரம்பம் நீ....

அன்புடன்,

அருளானந்தம். கு,

முதுகலை ஆசிரியர் (வணிகவியல்)

செயின்ட் ஜோசப் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி, செங்கல்பட்டு 2

‘தோன்றின் புகழோடு தோன்றுக அஃதிலார் தோன்றலின் தோன்றாமை நன்று’

என்ற வள்ளுவனின் குரளுக்கு ஏற்ப எங்கள் மத்தியில் வாழ்ந்தவர் அருட் சகோதரர்
மைக்கில் அவர்கள்....

கலங்கரை விளக்கங்கள் அவற்றின் அமைதியான சேவைக்கு பெயர் பெற்றவை
அதைப்போல எங்கள் பள்ளியில் அமைதியாக தமது சேவையை செய்தவர்.....

நடையில் பொறுமை, பேச்சில் தெளிவு, பணியில் ஆர்வம் முதலான உயரிய பண்பு
நலனுடன் வாழ்ந்தவர். பள்ளியில் இருக்கும் தலைமை ஆசிரியரின் மீது அளவு கடந்த
அன்பு, மரியாதை கீழ்ப்படிதலுடன் நடக்கும் மனப்பக்குவம் கொண்டவர்.....

எளிய மனம் கொண்டவர் பழகுவதற்கு இனிமையானவர் தனக்கு கொடுக்கப்பட்ட
பணியை ஈடுபாட்டுடன் ஆர்வத்துடன் செய்யும் நல்ல உள்ளம் கொண்டவர்.
நாள்தோறும் பள்ளி அலுவலகம் வந்து தன் பணியை செவ்வனே செய்யக்கூடியவர்.

தம் இறைபணியிலும் கல்விப் பணியிலும் எளிமையை ஆழமாக பின்பற்றியவர்.
முடிந்தவரை பிறருக்கு உதவ வேண்டும் என்ற எண்ணம் கொண்டவர். எந்த ஒரு அதிக
ஆடம்பரத்தை விரும்பாத குழந்தை மனம் படைத்தவர் எந்த ஒரு பழைய பொருளையும்
வீண் செய்யாமல் மீண்டும் பயன்படுத்த வேண்டும் என்ற அவா கொண்டவர்..... ஏழை
மாணவர்கள் மீது அக்கறை கொண்டு அவர்களுக்கு உதவும் நல்ல மனம் பெற்ற மாமனிதர்.

மாலை நேரங்களில் அதிக நடை பயிற்சி மேற்கொள்வார், அச்சமயம் மாணவர்கள்
விளையாடும் விளையாட்டுக்களை அதிக ஆர்வத்தோடு கண்டு ரசிக்கும்
இயல்புடையவர். செய்தித்தாள்களை தினந்தோறும் படித்து புதிய மற்றும் அரிய
தகவல்களை எங்களிடம் காண்பித்து மாணவர்களுக்கு இதைப் பற்றி கூறுங்கள் என்று
எங்களை ஊக்கப்படுத்துபவர்...

அன்னை மரியாள் மீதும் இறைமகன் இயேசு மீதும் அதிக பக்தி கொண்டவர்
நாள்தோறும் திருப்பலிக்கு தவறாமல் சென்று எப்பொழுதும் இறை வார்த்தையை
வாசிக்கும் ஆர்வலர்.

வீரம், கனிவு, கருணை, நேர்மை, மன்னிப்பு, கண்டிப்பு என பல நல்ல குணங்களையும்
தக்க நேரத்தில் அவர் பயன்படுத்தி அவர் வாழ்ந்த நாட்கள் அனைவரும் பேசும்படி
வாழ்ந்தவர் கோடி, மறைந்தவர் கோடி, மக்கள் மனதில் நின்றவர் யார் என்ற உயர்
வார்த்தைகளுக்கு இணங்க எங்கள் மத்தியில் வாழ்ந்து இறைவனடி சென்றவர் எம் பள்ளி
அருட் சகோதரர் மைக்கேல் அவர்கள்....

S. குமார்

புனித ஜோசப் மேல்நிலைப்பள்ளி, செங்கல்பட்டு

Bro. Michael—A Saintly Man

St. Michael triumphs because in him it is God who acts.



Michael - which means “Who is like God?” - is the champion of the primacy of God, of his transcendence and power. - Pope Francis.

True to the portrayal of St. Michael by Pope Francis, in Campion School, we remember Bro. Michael as a Saintly Man, primarily as a champion of ‘God Alone’.

Some life stories are difficult to read. Bro. Michael’s life story is one such story. So let me confine myself to the story of his tenure in Campion.

In June 1999, at the first Staff Meeting, when Bro. Michael spoke, softly and in measured words, we understood a profound truth - his life had been forged in adversity and his success was the outcome of his deep and unfailing faith in ‘God Alone’.

Bro. Michael’s opening words, “I have come to serve, not to be served...” (Matthew 20:28 / Mark 10:45), gave us a glimpse of the greatness of his character.

He testified that it was God’s guidance that had always led him thus far and that only His Grace continued to help him fulfil his mission.

Bro. Michael staunchly believed that Prayer not only reminded, but also helped one to grow in God’s immense love. This made him proclaim that everyone was called to become a blessing! Incidentally, Bro. Michael prayed the Holy Rosary every day, during his morning and evening walks, to fortify the campus.

As the Principal, he prevailed upon the teachers to be compassionate, for a teacher’s real legacy was not just in the results, but more in the lives the teacher shaped. Besides this, he held the view that ‘discipline’ was not a punishment, but rather it was a preparation for life.

On one occasion, soon after the Quarterly Examination, at a review Staff Meeting, these perspectives came into play when he declared that every subject teacher would be held responsible for the failure of his or her students. His solution was a proactive measure. He urged us to add 10% or more marks, at our discretion, after counselling the erring student – it was to help the student pass and consequently stay motivated to work for further progress. A little improvement in each successive test added up to big results. Thus the initial scepticism would give way to disbelief as the student made rapid progress.

Indeed some lessons are not taught in the classroom by adhering to the Teacher's Manual prescribed by the Directorate of School Education. They are taught by life itself. Truly, setbacks as such are temporary, but growth is continuous and lasting!

Gratitude was Bro. Michael's forte. Gratitude changes perspective before circumstances do. By appreciating everyone and everything that he associated with, Bro. Michael's grateful heart became a magnet for miracles. Campion School was blessed that year with a 'double centum' - 100% passes in both the 10th and 12th Government Examinations. Bro. Michael was also honoured with the Tamilnadu Government's Best Teacher Award. In his characteristic style, Bro. Michael celebrated this by presenting, as a token of thanksgiving and appreciation, a wrist watch to every member of the Staff - from the Cleanliness Workers to the P.G. Teachers.

Things end but memories last forever. Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. One such iconic moment was that of his ushering us into the new millennium. At the first assembly of the new millennium, Bro. Michael spoke from his heart, as was his usual practice. He was not one to readily read from a prepared text.

Bro. Michael asked us to spend a few moments in silence, thanking God for the privilege of celebrating the advent of the New Millennium. He solemnly reflected that the gift of the New Millennium brought with it two things that we get everyday - A chance and a choice. He asked us to use the chance everyday to make a positive choice. According to him, Positive Thinking wasn't about expecting the best to happen every time, but accepting that whatever happened was the best for that moment, for every moment was a blessing. He requested us to accept life positively to facilitate understanding and peace, thereby ensuring the natural growth of inner harmony. Also thoughts that made one happy were the thoughts that kept one healthy. He added that Negative Thinking was injurious to life, and one who had negative thoughts forfeited his future. Bro. Michael reiterated that life's greatest blessings were often found in simple, everyday moments. When one recognised the love, care and guidance revealed in life's smallest experience, one became overwhelmed with gratitude for these blessings and invariably stayed connected to 'God Alone'.

Bro. Michael's reflections that morning had a profound impact on all concerned and seemed to electrify and charge even the air and the buildings in the campus. I believe positive vibes still keep emanating in Campion School. Perhaps that's the reason why he is considered to have built a legacy, not of buildings, but of the minds and characters of the people under his care.

A remarkable attribute of his Saintly character was his kind and forgiving nature. Quite a few Staff members who benefitted will definitely vouch for this fact.

Bro. Michael had a heart for everybody - good or bad, lost or least! This aspect ensured that his thoughts were oriented towards the well-being and growth of everyone in the Champion Family. A positive outcome of this was the renaming of the 'Teachers Retiring Fund' to 'The Staff Retiring Fund' to include the Support Staff too.

When Bro. Michael took leave of us in May 2002, on his retirement, he said he looked forward to becoming a better person, everyday of his retired life, as 'God Alone' was his strength. He backed up his words with the biblical quote: "As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you." - Joshua 1:5.

As we honour and celebrate the extraordinary life of Bro. Michael, let us remember that he was a champion of integrity and compassion, a pillar of wisdom, and a man who exemplified charity and goodness, and who always placed 'God Alone' at the centre of his life.

Dear Brother, we will always remember you for teaching us how to live a life of service, dignity and love. You taught us that true self-respect comes from knowing the real self. We salute and thank you for the innumerable lessons of life.

Above all, thank you, Brother, for being so exemplary. The Champion Family remains indebted to you, forever. Verily, it has been an authentic privilege to have known you, dear Brother.

Rest in peace, Brother!

You will be dearly missed at Champion, but your legacy will live on forever in the hearts of the countless lives you touched.

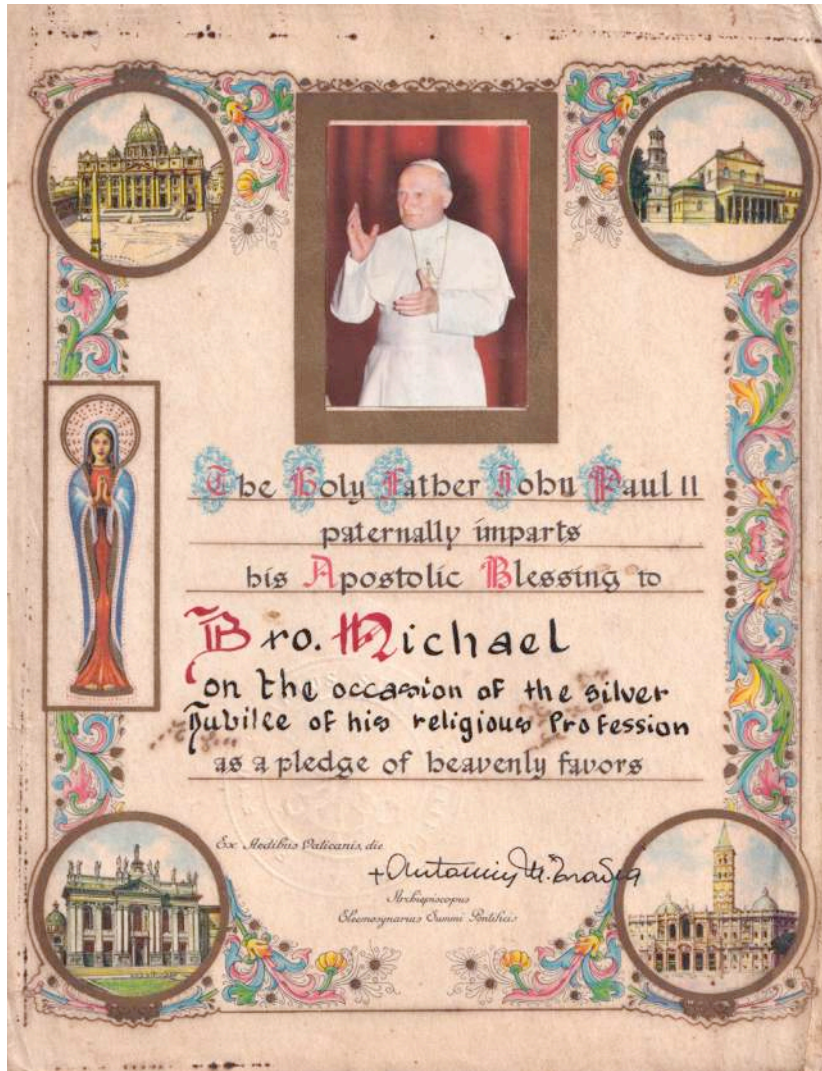
Adieu Brother, till we meet again.

M. NAGARAJ EDWARD

Teacher (Retired)

Champion Anglo-Indian Hr. Sec. School, Trichy





Bro. Michael's Life Journey



Bro. Michael in the freshness of his younger years



A life steadily shaped by service, responsibility and fidelity



Brother & Educator: quiet, composed and committed



Among family and loved ones



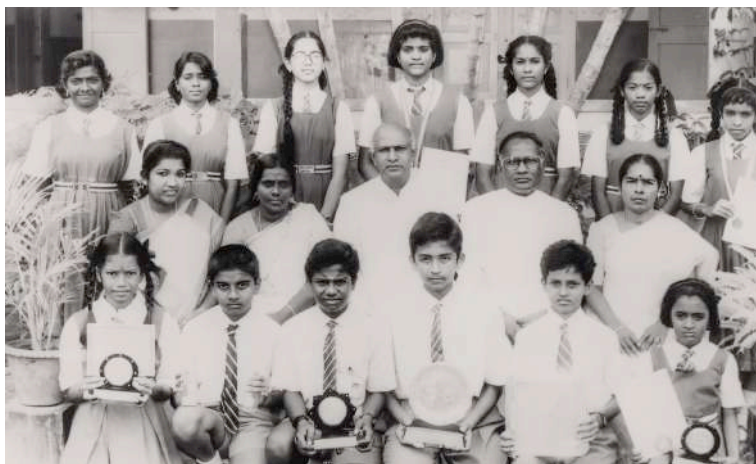
Young Bro. Michael - ready to go wherever the mission called him



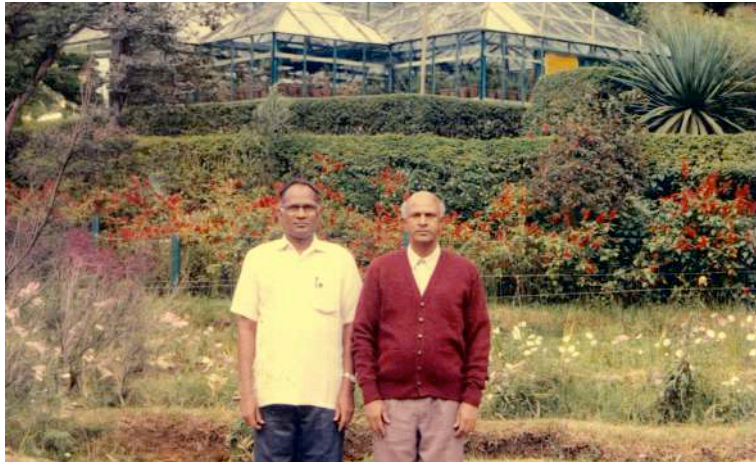
A relaxed moment of companionship and youthful simplicity



*A moment of quiet joy beside the temple bell—
a traveller attentive to the sacred wherever he went*



Forming young minds and shaping lives



A familiar smile that accompanied a life of dedicated service



Among the young entrusted to his care—an educator in their midst



With fellow Brothers in the shared mission of the Congregation



Celebrating a joyful moment in community



At his desk—administration for him was another form of service



Cherishing the moments of honour and pride



A man fully committed to the service of God



He never sought recognition or honour, but they came to him naturally



I have a point to make – enjoying the company of the Brothers



Why not have a community photograph to treasure?



*A true missionary who dedicated himself wholeheartedly
to serving the people of the Philippines*



Feeling at home in the company of friends and well-wishers



A life that crossed many horizons



Silver Jubilee – celebrating another significant milestone in life and service



Silver Jubilee message – “My life itself has been my message”



Moments of joy, gratitude and fulfilment



His presence was always felt and cherished



What made Bro. Michael's leadership memorable was the beautiful harmony between firmness and goodness

Glimpses from his Birthday Celebrations











Memorable Missionary Days





With Rev. Bro. Rene Delorme, former Superior General











With Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, former Superior General

Journeys and Memories





















Glimpses from his Jubilee Celebrations

















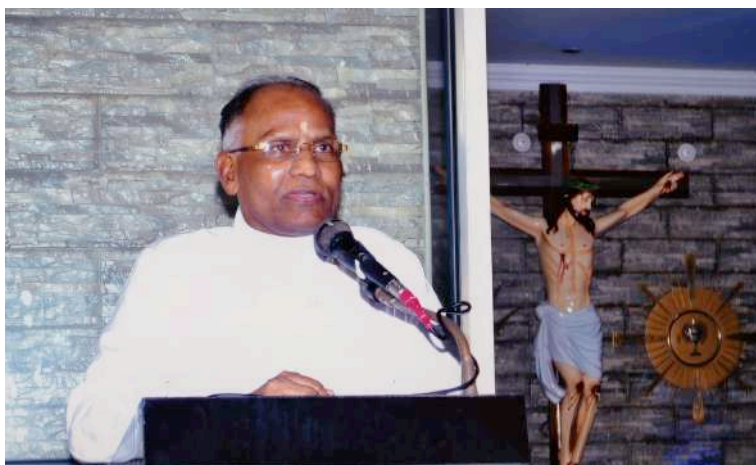




































» *Diamond Jubilee* «

60 YEARS OF RELIGIOUS COMMITMENT

(1963 - 2023)



BRO. MICHAEL S

(“Truth Triumphs”)

(“வாய்மையே வெல்லும்”)

YEARS OF MY PILGRIMAGE WITH THE LORD

Date of Birth : 16.04.1942

Place of Birth : Michaelpatnam, Sivagangai, Tamil Nadu

1958 - 1961 : Junior at Coonoor

1961 - 1963 : Novitiate at Eachinkadu, Yercaud

07.04.1963 : First Profession at Yercaud

1963 - 1965 : Teachers' Training, St. Gabriel's, Kazipet

1965 - 1967 : Teacher, St. Gabriel's High School, Kazipet

31.05.1969 : Final Profession at Coonoor

1967 - 1971 : Teacher, Little Flower Middle School, Pondur

1971 - 1972 : B.Ed. Course, Meston Training College, Chennai

1972 - 1975 : B.T. Asst., St. James High School, Palakurichi

1975 - 1978 : LS & B.T. Asst, St. Peter's High School,

Royapuram, Chennai

1978 - 1981 : LS & HM, St. Antony's Hr. Secondary School,

Coonoor

1981 - 1982 : HM, St. Antony's Hr. Secondary School, Coonoor

1982 - 1984 : LS & HM, St. Mary's High School, A.N. Mangalam

1984 - 1986 : LS & HM, Nirmala Hr. Secondary School, Kolathur

1986 - 1987 : Religious Studies in Pune,

1987 - 1991 : LS & HM, St. Antony's Hr. Secondary School,

Coonoor

1991 - 1993 : LS & HM, R.C. Susai High School, Kalugumalai

1993 - 1996 : LS & HM, St. Antony's Hr. Secondary School,

Coonoor

1996 - 1997 : Sabbatical Year, attached to St. Peter's School,

Royapuram. Chennai

1997 - 1999 : Bursar & HM, RSK Junior School, Kailasapuram,

Trichy

1999 - 2002 : LS & HM, Campion Hr. Secondary School, Trichy

2001 : Received the State Best Teacher Award

2002 : Official Retirement

2002 - 2003 : Bursar, San Thome Hr. Secondary School,

Mylapore, Chennai

2003 - Oct. 2005 : Bursar, St. Louis Institute, Adyar, Chennai

Nov. 2005 - May 2009 : Mission Superior & Principal,

Montfort High School & Technical Institute,

New Washington, Aklan, Philippines

2009 - : Bursar, St. Joseph's Hr. Sec. School, Chengalpattu

Best Teacher Award

**கேம்பியன் பள்ளி
முதல்வருக்கு
நல்லாசிரியர்
விருது**

திருச்சி, செப். 8—
திருச்சி கேம்பியன் பள்ளி
முதல்வராக பணி புரிந்து வரு



பவர், மைக்கிள் இவருக்கு
சென்னையில் நடந்த ஆசிரியர்
இனவிழாவில் அமைச்சர்
தம்பித்துரை நல்லாசிரியர்
விருது வழங்கினார்.

பள்ளி முதல்வர் மைக்கிள்
1964-ம் ஆண்டு தனது ஆசிரி
யர் பணியை தொடங்கினார்.
தமிழகம், ஆந்திரா ஆகிய
மாநிலங்களில் பல்வேறு பள்ளி
களில் ஆசிரியராக பணியாற்றி
உள்ளார்.

கடந்த 2 ஆண்டுகளாக
கேம்பியன் பள்ளியின் முதல்
வராக பணியாற்றி வருகிறார்
நல்லாசிரியர் விருது பெற்ற
பள்ளி முதல்வர் மைக்கிளை
பள்ளி ஆசிரியர்கள் நகரின்
முக்கிய பிரமுகர்கள் வாழ்த்து
னார்கள்.



தமிழ்நாடு அரசு பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை

டாக்டர் இராதாகிருஷ்ணன் விருது
2000 - 2001

சகோதரர். மைக்கேல்
தலைமை ஆசிரியர், கேம்பியன் பள்ளி, இந்தியன் மெட்ரிக்ஸ் பள்ளி,
திருச்சிபள்ளி.

அவர்கள் தம்முடைய சிறிய கல்விப்பணி மூலம் சமுதாயத்திற்கு மிகச்
சிறந்த தொண்டு புரிந்ததைப் போற்றும் வகையில் தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

டாக்டர் இராதாகிருஷ்ணன் விருது
வழங்கிப் பாராட்டுகின்றது.

சென்னை-500 006,
பே.நா. 5-9-2001

மன்னிம், கல்வி இயக்குநர்
தமிழ்நாடு

A true teacher whose life and example spoke louder than words...

Bro. Michael on his way to his Father









































*"If we live it is for the Lord we live,
and if we die, it is for the Lord that we die.
So whether we live or die,
we belong to the Lord."*

(ROMANS 14/7-8)



BRO. MICHAEL S.

BIRTH 16.04.1942 NEW LIFE 22.04.2026

D † S

*You have gone
from the land of the dying
to the land of the living.*

*A life spent in fidelity,
a heart formed in faith,
and hands dedicated to service
now rest in the peace of the Lord.*

*The goodness you shared
and the devotion you lived
will remain beyond your passing.*

*May the Lord welcome you
into the joy of eternal life.*

- 16.04.1942 Birth
Place of Birth Michaelpatnam, Sivagangai
1958-1961 Junior at Coonoor
1961-1963 Novitiate at Eachinkadu, Yercaud
07.04.1963 First Profession at Yercaud
31.05.1969 Final Profession at Coonoor
- 1963-1965 Teachers' Training, St. Gabriel's, Kazipet
1965-1967 Teacher, St. Gabriel's High School, Kazipet
1967-1971 Teacher, Little Flower Middle School, Pondur
Passed B.A., later passed M.A., M.Ed.
- 1971-1972 B.Ed. course, Meston Training College, Chennai
1972-1975 B.T. Asst., St. James High School, Palakurichi
1975-1978 Superior & Teacher, St. Peter's High School, Royapuram, Chennai
1978-1981 Superior & Headmaster, St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor
1981-1982 Headmaster, St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor
1982-1984 Superior & Headmaster, St. Mary's High School, A.N. Mangalam
1984-1986 Superior & Headmaster, Nirmala Higher Secondary School, Kolathur
1986-1987 Theological Studies, Pune
1987-1991 Superior & Headmaster, St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor
1991-1993 Superior & Headmaster, R.C. Susai High School, Kalugumalai
1993-1996 Superior & Headmaster, St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Coonoor
1996-1997 Sabbatical Year, attached to St. Peter's School, Royapuram, Chennai
1997-1999 Bursar & Headmaster, RSK Junior School, Kailasapuram, Trichy
1999-2002 Superior & Principal, Campion Higher Secondary School, Trichy
2001 Received the State Best Teacher Award
2002 Official Retirement
2002-2003 Bursar, San Thome Higher Secondary School, Mylapore, Chennai
2003-2005 Bursar, St. Louis Institute, Adyar, Chennai
2005-2009 Mission Superior & Principal, Montfort High School & Technical Institute, New Washington, Aklan, Philippines
2009-2025 Bursar, St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Chengalput
2025-2026 St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Chengalput
22.04.2026 Back home to his Father



Epitaph

He walked among us quietly,
but his life spoke deeply.
A Brother of prayer, simplicity and discipline,
he gave himself wholly to God
and generously to the mission entrusted to him.
In the classroom, he formed minds.
In leadership, he upheld values.
In community, he witnessed fidelity.
In silence, he taught wisdom.
In service, he revealed the heart of a true Montfortian.
He did not seek praise,
yet he earned trust.
He did not speak much,
yet his example continues to guide.
He did not leave monuments of stone,
but footprints of faith, service and goodness
in countless hearts.
Having fought the good fight
and kept the faith,
he now rests in the peace of the Lord.
May the Lord whom he served so faithfully
receive him into eternal joy.
Rest in peace, dear Bro. Michael.



Bro. Michael's footprints are found in the communities where he lived, the schools where he served, the students he formed, the teachers he guided, the Brothers he inspired and the values he quietly planted in many hearts.