

Rev Fr T A J Mathuranayagam

Former Rector of St Patricks College Jaffna Sri Lanka

Born 06-04-1916 Called to Eternal Rest 27-07-2010



Passed away peacefully in Colombo Sri Lanka.

He was the brother of Late Thomas Savundranayagam, Late Ariyanayagam, Paul Rajanayagam (Canada) Mrs Stella Paulpillai(Wales), Late Mrs Gunam Paul & Late Aloy Vethanayagam. & Uncle of Fr Michael Savundranayagam & Fr R H Sahayanayagam.

Fondly remembered by his nephews & nieces as Fr Uncle/Swami Uncle he inspired all who passed through him by his guidance & affection. He will be missed by all & mostly by the needy of Killinochchi with whom he shared whatever he had.

Funeral arrangements for Fr.T.A.J. Maturanayagam

Viewing of the body on Thursday 29th July 2010 at 3.00pm in Archbishop's House, Borella, Colombo 8, followed by mass at 5.30pm.

Viewing of the body on Saturday 31st July 2010 during the morning at Bishops house Jaffna. Mass followed by burial at St Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna at 4.00pm on Saturday 31st July 2010.

From the College...



Tribute to late Fr T A J Mathuranayagam

(Former Rector 1966 - 1976)

Dear Patricians around the Globe,

Together with the Staff and Students, I express my deep tribute to late Fr. T. A. J. Mathuranayagam who passed away on 27th July 2010 at the age of 94.

Creating a great legacy at St. Patrick's during his tenure of office as Rector of St. Patrick's College from 1966 to 1976, he is ranked among the best of his illustrious predecessors. As the head of a private school of our stature and at a time of severe financial stress he had so long laboured to maintain the College in all its efficiency. This is a unique achievement of late Fr. Mathuranayagam.

He had a flair for thinking out an uncommon but effective approach to problems that made him a very successful administrator. He made St. Patrick's Day celebrations more meaningful for the Patrician Family by introducing fellowship meal for the Staff, Students and Old Boys. He founded the Social Service League and fostered social concern among the students. Through many pious associations and devotions, he enriched the Catholic atmosphere prevailing at the College.

He realized that mere intellectual ability wouldn't help our youth to find employment. Hence he opened the Long's Institute of Technology as another segment of Greater St. Patrick's. His initiative and farsightedness opened new avenues of employment for many young men.

The game of Soccer was his forte. The Patrician Soccer teams were invincible during his time. This created a great image for St. Patrick's, in the National and International Soccer arena.

Even in retirement his enthusiasm for the welfare of the youth had not flagged. He continued to work at the Long's Institute of Kilinochchi and the Boys Town and rendered long years of fruitful service.

The Patrician Family pays its homage and gratitude to a great Stalwart and Architect in the long history of its Alma Mater.

Farewell, - God be with you till we meet again.

Rev. Fr. M. Jero Selvanayagam - Rector

St. Patrick's College - Jaffna





b) Sports: (recent reference to Fr Mathuranayagam)

<http://www.island.lk/2003/05/14//sports06.html>

Some messages came through.....

I am very sorry to hear the sad news of Fr. Mathuranayagam. I still remember him vividly that he gave me admission into St.Patrick's College in 1972. It wasn't easy even though my father knew him. He was very fond of everyone and hard working. I hope that he would get a very good send off.

May his soul rest in peace. Best Regard - Charles Louis

It is very sad to learn that one of our time most successful Rectors Rev Fr T Mathuranayagam's passing away after attaining a full life and contributing immensely to our community and the diocese of Jaffna.

I can remember vividly during Fr Mathuram's time when my father was the football coach, St Patrick's achieving the record status of 'Invincible First Eleven' in Jaffna with players of Francis, Gonzalus, Arulanandam, Sathianathan and many more..

Our deepest sympathies to all his close family members and May his soul Rest In Peace.

Prabha Swampillai



We were very fortunate to have studied under Fr Mathuranayagam an eminent Rector of St Patrick's. He brought life to St Patrick's with Sankilian Koothu, St Patrick's Day celebrations etc.. His name will live for ever. Fr was a very strict disciplinarian and at the same time down to earth outside school. Our batch boys cannot forget how he entertained us with Kool during our visits to Muhamalai. He had always helped the needy & chose to care for many orphans in Killinochi.

Please accept our heart felt condolences. May his soul rest in peace.

Vetha, Shiranee & Gerard.

It is very sad to learn that one of our time most successful Rectors Rev Fr

On behalf of SPC AA UK, I convey my heartfelt condolences to our ex Rector Fr. Mathuram's family, specially his nephews & nieces, and of course all the Patricians who had the great privilege of studying under his stewardship. I am also one of that fortunate one and he had made such an impact on each and every one of us. Though we miss him physically among us, his Spirit will ever live within us.

May his soul Rest in Peace.

Rubakumar - President SPC AA UK



Very sad to hear the news. Father was one and only and the best ever rector of our time. He led a very simple life and helped the poor during his time in Vanni. May his soul rest in peace.

Emmo, please accept our deepest sympathies. Please extend our sympathies to your siblings and relatives.

Saba & family

Very sad news indeed.

I used visit him every time when I am in Vanni or in Colombo.

I met him last time in March this year. Father was still alert and mentally sharp wanting to go back to Vanni although he was suffering from bone problems and back pain. He had always preferred to serve among the needy people. His passing is a great loss to all of us and also to the people affected by the war. Personally I am going to miss the father a lot because he was such a wonderful and encouraging person.

Joseph Soosai and family
(siluvai `s brother) Oslo,Norway

Very sad news indeed. He was one of the most eminent Rectors of our time. May his soul rest in rest in peace.

Please, accept our heart felt condolence. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and all the dear-ones at this sorrowful period.

God bless - Dilip, Suri & family



Loss of another Patrician - A legend with vision

Dear Emmo/ Amir/ Raymond

Thank you for the telephone call yesterday. It was a sudden and sad news to hear the demise of your uncle Rev.Fr. Mathuranayagam. He was an exemplary character and had visions in every way possible to help young people to find their true potential and exploit the same to the full.

He was the first rector not to scold students for academic non-achievement and instead encouraged them to find their true vocation by developing their natural skills. It is for this he started the 'Longs Institute' at the time I left st

Patricks. Through this initiative he helped a large number of young patricians most of whom are working abroad now to lead a prosperous life.

I am in no doubt that God will reward him with the right place in his kingdom. We will pray for the repose of his soul.

**Our heartfelt condolences to all of you and your family,
Best Regards - Hubert & Joyce Ferdinand**

Arul is in Jaffna Sri Lanka will be attending the funeral on the 31st. He will represent our Alumni Association UK to lay a wreath on behalf of the Association.

May his Soul rest in peace He was a very Fond of my Daddy he always called him edday xxxxxx :(Sent from my Verizon Wireless Phone)

It is one of the saddest days of my life to hear of the death of one of my closest and admired priests - Great Rev Fr Mathuranayagam. I started my teaching career under Rev Fr Mathuranayagam at St Joseph's College, Anuradhapura. It was my first appointment as a teacher, fresh from the University of Ceylon. I was fortunate to have started my teaching career under a superb Rector Rev Fr Mathurnayagam - a really understanding priest who treated the staff members as friends. Then I moved to St Patrick's College, Jaffna as a teacher and God blessed me again by sending Rev Fr Mathurnayagam as my Rector- Rector of St Patrick's College, Jaffna, on his return from the United Kingdom. He has helped me personally on a number of occasions.

I was also fortunate to have taught most of his nephews and nieces- some were sent to me by Fr Mathuranayagam.

Kindly convey my heartfelt condolences to Rev Michael, Rev Fr Sahanayagam, Anton Savundaranayagam, Dr Edmund, Raymond, Mary, Immacula, Soma, Amirthanayagam and anyone I may have missed.

May his soul rest in peace.

God bless.

Christy - Former teacher - St Patrick's College, Jaffna

Please accept our sympathies. His passing is a great loss but his life was surely a great blessing.

We are so saddened by the loss of Fr. Mathuranayagam. Those who were fortunate enough to study under his leadership recognized his dedication to the end. There was always something of inspiration and he had a way of making us relate to whatever his subject matter was. He was as down to earth as any priest we have ever known and will be greatly missed. His Spirit will always be a part of St. Patrick's College for the difference he made in our college.

Rev. Mathuranayagam was a very kind, gentle soul. We were blessed to have him as our Rector for many years.

God Bless you. -Bernardshaw
President SPC-OBA Bergen, Norway
GLOBAL RE-UNION: <http://spcoba.webs.com>

Please accept our deepest sympathies on your irreparable loss. He was not only an administrator par excellence but a straight shooter as well. I had the honour not only of being a student during his early days as Rector in our esteemed college, but also captained the college cricket and soccer teams during his period.

He was an ardent soccer person and as memories come flooding back to me from various towns in Sri -Lanka where he always accompanied us during our games. I had the privilege of meeting him in Toronto and talk about the old times. There are a lot of very amusing stories I can tell, but presently with a heavy heart I just can't. Even today as I was working out in my basement my 1965 soccer photo with our great Rector with his majestic look was starring at me. I felt he was saying to me "Just remember son what I taught you and you will be alright". A legend has left us and we can only cherish his memories.

Raymond and Maureen Santiago, Toronto, Canada.

Deepest sympathy. I was one of the very lucky Patrician to talk to him & see the orphanage he was running in Vanni few years ago. He worked for the poor. May his soul rest in peace - Anton



Previous Message:

Rev Fr T Mathuranayagam passed away.

With deep regret we inform you the passing away of Rev Fr T Mathuranayagam former Rector of St Patrick's College, Jaffna. He passed away peacefully 27 July in Apollo Hospital at 9.30 pm SriLankan time.

He is an uncle of late Deacon Savundaranayagam, Rev Fr Micheal

Saundranayagm and Rev Fr Sahanayagam, Anton, Emmo & Tommy and others.

He had always preferred to serve among the needy people.

Many of us were fortunate to study during his time. He had made such an impact on each and every one of us. Though we miss him physically among us, his Spirit will ever live within us.

contact: Emmo Savundranayagm: emmoshanthi@hotmail.com

Our deepest sympathy. May his soul rest in peace.