



Bishop de Galerrata in his element. His Lordship was met at the entrance of the village of R.N.Kandigai with garlands, fire crackers, drums and oboes. The entire village walked with him to the church.

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Grace like buses often come in threes; you wait for ages and nothing happens, then they all come at once. These last two months have



The holy women of R.N. Kandigai crowd the bishop to kiss his ring.

been particularly busy for the Indian Mission with the visits of His Lordship Bishop de Galarreta, Fr. Couture our District Superior and then Fr. Nély, the Second Assistant to the Superior General.

In the first two weeks of November, Bishop de Galarreta conferred the sacrament of confirmation upon 165 candidates in 6 different Mass Centres. He was astonished to find in Goa a home from home. Gazing to the left and **to the right he declared, "One could be anywhere in the world; the beautiful churches are just the same."** Such was the power of the Church and State when they were united.

Another treasured memory of **His Lordship's visit was the sight** of His Lordship with one arm buried up to his shoulder in the priory washing machine, holding a torch in his free hand, attempting to recover his laundry during a power cut at night. The sound of

his pectoral cross clanking against the side of the machine served to complete the incongruity of the scene.

Fr. Couture's visit was a welcome, one week, routine, check-up full of breathless enthusiasm and encouragement.

Fr. Nély, however, stayed for three whole weeks. One week was spent preaching the annual **priests' retreat upon the incorporation of souls by grace into the Mystical Body of Christ.** Then Fr. Nély dropped easily into his specialist role of Father Christmas; frequent shopping trips, outings and culinary escapades make his visits the most keenly anticipated and fondly remembered by the boys. After the Christmas holiday, Fr. Nély visited the Mass Centres at Bombay, Goa, Chennai and then spent a day at Pondicherry before being carried exhausted on to the plane back to Switzerland.

Unlike the local buses, we did



We rejoiced to welcome Fr. Christophe Beaublat on 3rd October from France. His priestly experience and zeal are a great blessing to the mission.



Orphan Brothers, Dominic and Savio, on the day of Savio's wedding (see below). Savio has set up his own tailoring business and now employs two other orphans from Andhra Pradesh. His house and workshop are five minutes from the orphanage.

not have to wait long for the new year to arrive; it was upon us before we had finished our Christmas goat. Let us pray that we may seize upon the precious gift of time to grow in holiness and to

lead more souls to their rightful place in Christ's Mystical Body.

Thank you to our generous benefactors for your prayers and sacrifices; without you we could

do nothing. May God bless you all.

In Jesu et Maria,
Rev. Fr. Robert Brucciani.



Rev. Fr. Nély, Second Assistant to the Superior General, is a consummate chef. Every time he comes to India, he is easily persuaded to astonish us with his culinary powers; this time he prepared freshly slaughtered goat wrapped in banana leaves and roasted slowly in our oil drum incinerator in the garden. All we lacked was a good bottle of Burgundy – it's tough in the missions.