

Léveil Memorial Day – Sarugani

21 March 2022

“A Western Sun set down in the East”. Yes, the Servant of God Louis Marie Léveil who was born in France departed from this world in India on 21 March 1973. Although he passed away 49 years back yet he lives in the hearts of the people. His 49th death anniversary was celebrated at Sarugani on 21 March in a fabulous way.

Most Rev. A. Stephen, Apostolic Administrator of Sivagangai Diocese presided over the Eucharist concelebrated by 50 priests. Many Jesuit priests including some of the members of St. Xavier’s Community from Palayamkottai participated in the Eucharistic celebration. Bishop Stephen preached on the theme ‘Revelation of God’s Love’. He illustrated the theological virtues of the Servant of God Léveil by describing some of the incidents from his life. In particular he explained about his staunch faith, benevolent charity towards the people and his untiring ministry. His homily on the virtuous life of the Servant of God inspired the thousands of the faithful who participated in the mass. More than 5000 Catholics from all over Tamilnadu attended the Eucharist.

A book ‘*Ippadikku Léveil – Part II*’ written by Fr. Y. S. Yagoo S.J., altar boy of Fr. Léveil, was released by the Apostolic Administrator. Fr. Thomas S.J., Superior of St. Xavier’s Community, Palayamkottai, introduced the book to the public. The new book contains the translated letters of the Servant of God which he wrote in French from St. Xavier’s Hr. Sec. School, Palayamkottai, where he did his regency with the hostel boys for four years.

After the solemn celebration of the Eucharist a procession of the portrait of the Servant of God Léveil was conducted on the streets of Sarugani where he did his pastoral ministry for 17 years. From the first death anniversary of Fr. Léveil in 1974 a common meal (*Annathanam*) has been served for the past 48 years prepared by the people of Sarugani in memory of his charity towards the poor. On the occasion of the 49th death anniversary of the Servant of God *annathanam* was served to the devotees of Fr. Léveil. Almost 7000 people of Christians, Hindus and Muslims participated in the common meal.

The entire celebration was well planned and organised by Rev. Fr. C. A. James, parish priest of Sarugani. The parishioners and the villagers of Sarugani were fully involved in the celebration and fully cooperated with the parish priest. The commemoration of the Servant of God Louis Marie Léveil has strengthened the hope of his devotees that soon he will be beatified and elevated to the altar of God by the Holy Church.

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Cause of Léveil