

Although various efforts were made over the years to establish a dedicated media and communication ministry, significant development has taken place, particularly with the rise of digital and social media. Today, Fr. James Jenistan, OMI, is taking initiatives to develop the Oblate mission through digital platforms and social communication.

Through these efforts, the Oblates continue to use literature, publishing, music, and modern media as powerful tools for evangelization, education, communication, and social engagement.

13. Thodarpaham – Provincialate

Established in 1982 under the leadership of Fr. Hillerian Vethanayagam, OMI, *Thodarpaham* was initially intended as a centre for human development, communication, and mass media, with a library established at a significant time in Jaffna's history; in the aftermath of the planned burning of the famous Jaffna Public Library in 1981. Although the planned media ministry did not fully develop, the library continues to serve people today.

Thodarpaham now also functions as the Provincial administrative centre and provides accommodation for the hospital chaplain and other Oblate ministries.

Conclusion

Through these diverse ministries, the Oblates continue Christ's mission of bringing the Good News to the poor. Their service reaches the pastoral, spiritual, educational, psychological, social, and human needs of people, especially the vulnerable and marginalized.

Above all, these ministries express the Oblates' commitment to being “close to the people”, offering accompaniment, dignity, hope, and compassionate service.

Sources

Interviews with Paul Nadchethiram OMI, I. S. Vijendran OMI, S.A. Sebastian Reval OMI, J.R. Sathees Kumar OMI, Fr. Sebamalai Roystan OMI, Raj Claier OMI, and Dilushan Piumal OMI
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The present Hospital Chaplain

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Appendix:

Oblates in Sri Lanka 1847 - 2026

No	NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
01	Fr. Felix F. Leydier	17.05.1821	France	16.06.1851	Jaffna
02	Fr. Joseph A. Ciamin	18.11.1820	Italy	10.11.1853	Jaffna
03	Fr. Victor Lacombe	28.04.1826	France	22.01.1855	Jaffna
04	Bro. Bonaventure R. Byrne	1837	Ireland	22.05.1860	Jaffna
05	Sch. Paul Stephen Poorey	23.01.1824	Colombo	08.05.1861	Jaffna
06	Fr. John Baptist E. Flurin	28.09.1830	France	12.07.1861	Jaffna
07	Fr. Peter F. Crousel	14.12.1828	Belgium	14.12.1861	Jaffna
08	Bro. Roland Dowling	1844	Ireland	21.08.1865	Jaffna
09	Fr. John Le Bescou	29.08.1824	France	17.06.1867	Jaffna
10	Rt. Rev. Bp. Stephen Semeria	07.02.1813	Italy	23.01.1868	France
11	Fr. Jerome Becam	30.09.1831	France	01.05.1868	Colombo
12	Bro. Patrick J. Conway	05.09.1834	Ireland	22.02.1870	Jaffna
13	Fr. Peter Casenave	12.08.1815	France	23.01.1874	Jaffna
14	Fr. Gabriel J. Salaiin	08.11.1834	France	10.05.1874	Jaffna
15	Fr. Gustavus Desforest	01.10.1823	France	16.02.1876	Jaffna
16	Fr. Peter M. Boutin	29.11.1830	France	08.05.1876	Chilaw
17	Fr. Matthew Farelly	13.07.1848	Ireland	06.06.1876	Jaffna
18	Sch. Barnabas Gnanadickam	07.12.1852	Valigamam	29.02.1876	Jaffna
19	Bro. Gaspard De Steffanis	21.12.1821	Italy	18.11.1878	Jaffna
20	Fr. Peter John Perréard	26.10.1826	Savoy	08.05.1879	Kurunegala
21	Fr. Frederick Pompey Mouchel	02.07.1802	France	19.09.1880	Jaffna
22	Fr. Emil-Marie Thirion	02.10.1855	France	15.04.1881	Jaffna
23	Fr. Leo John Baptist Pelissier	08.07.1827	France	13.11.1882	Jaffna
24	Fr. John Joseph Marie Pouzin	10.07.1831	France	09.03.1885	Jaffna
25	Bro. John Joseph Brown	09.06.1832	England	29.03.1885	Jaffna
26	Fr. Michael George Murphy	03.09.1854	Ireland	19.03.1886	Colombo
27	Fr. Joseph Mary Louis Boisseau	29.11.1837	France	07.08.1886	Colombo

28	Fr. Michael Aloysius Murphy	01.06.1850	England	19.01.1887	Jaffna
29	Fr. Adrian Bertrand Duffo	09.04.1827	France	18.04.1887	France
30	Fr. John Rowley Smythe	12.11.1846	Ireland	04.05.1888	Jaffna
31	Fr. Patrick J. O'Flanagan	13.05.1842	Ireland	28.01.1889	Jaffna
32	Fr. John Ovide Vedrenne	25.03.1831	France	07.05.1889	Jaffna
33	Fr. Aristides Saint-Geney	19.09.1855	France	18.09.1889	Mannar
34	Fr. Joseph Vivier	25.10.1825	France	05.01.1891	France
35	Fr. Stephen Maria Ghilini	03.03.1836	France	02.07.1891	Jaffna
36	Fr. Arsenius Aldric Caumont	25.11.1855	France	11.11.1892	Kurunegala
37	Rt. Rev. Arch Bp. E.C. Bonjean	23.09.1823	France	03.08.1892	Colombo
38	Fr. John Felix Roux	06.05.1852	France	18.02.1893	Jaffna
39	Fr. Dominic Pulicani	19.12.1822	France	01.05.1893	Colombo
40	Fr. Augustus Mary Rouffiac	21.01.1826	France	14.04.1895	Jaffna
41	Fr. Claudius Sautin	28.07.1867	France	10.08.1895	Jaffna
42	Fr. Jacob John Chrysostom	04.10.1862	Jaffna	24.03.1896	Colombo
43	Fr. Charles Leo Mauroit	11.06.1826	France	06.10.1896	Jaffna
44	Fr. Henry Arthur Dinaux	29.07.1845	France	11.10.1896	Jaffna
45	Fr. Boniface Gourdon	25.03.1833	France	28.12.1897	Jaffna
46	Fr. Alphonsus C. Henry	14.06.1853	France	20.10.1898	Colombo
47	Fr. Augustus Trouchet	19.06.1847	France	12.10.1899	Colombo
48	Fr. Adrian Saint-Geney	28.07.1828	France	24.04.1901	Jaffna
49	Fr. Francis Gouret	08.09.1827	France	28.11.1901	Jaffna
50	Fr. Julius Joseph Iserbyt	18.04.1851	Belgium	30.06.1903	Colombo
51	Fr. John Mary Le Lons	28.01.1832	France	13.04.1904	Colombo
52	Fr. Camillus Mourier	26.10.1858	France	17.05.1905	Colombo
53	Rt. Rev. Arch Bp. A. Melizan	27.09.1844	France	27.06.1905	France
54	Fr. Gustav Jourdh'euil	07.06.1844	France	08.02.1906	Jaffna
55	Fr. Gaspar Gomez	12.10.1870	India	24.02.1906	Colombo
56	Fr. Julius Rhétoré	24.12.1864	France	23.03.1906	Colombo
57	Fr. Felix Le Texier	20.12.1865	France	19.12.1906	Colombo
58	Fr. Joseph Laclau-Pussacq	24.02.1833	France	04.05.1907	Colombo
59	Fr. John P. Aloysius	01.10.1851	Illavalai,	16.10.1908	Jaffna
60	Fr. John Matthew Lafarge	20.09.1850	France	21.06.1909	Colombo

61	Fr. Joseph Marian	05.09.1860	Puloli,	24.09.1909	Jaffna
62	Fr. Renault Gagneux	31.07.1881	France	10.03.1910	Colombo
63	Fr. Charles Louis Collin	09.03.1840	France	01.05.1910	Colombo
64	Fr. Emil Baudot	20.12.1859	France	02.08.1911	Colombo
65	Fr. J. David Fernando	1872	Negombo	06.08.1911	Chilaw
66	Fr. Nicholas Sandrasagara	01.10.1842	Jaffna	08.02.1912	Jaffna
67	Fr. Michael Dubreuil	1851	France	25.11.1912	USA
68	Fr. Augustin Guillet	17.08.1880	France	27.04.1913	Colombo
69	Fr. Ambrose Francis Oillie	18.09.1861	France	19.05.1913	Colombo
70	Sch. Joseph Aloysius	09.01.1880	Narantanai	23.02.1914	Jaffna
71	Fr. Augustus Roux	11.12.1845	France	22.01.1915	Jaffna
72	Fr. Alphonsus J. Delpech	28.07.1840	France	14.02.1915	Jaffna
73	Bro. Francis Dohren	02.03.1888	Germany	07.08.1915	Australia
74	Sch. Joseph M. Perera	07.10.1889	Ja-Ela	29.07.1916	Negombo
75	Fr. Bernard Farbos	17.01.1858	France	30.08.1916	Colombo
76	Fr. Gabriel Carrier	19.08.1881	France	08.09.1916	Colombo
77	Fr. Yves Le Cam	07.07.1883	France	13.12.1916	Colombo
78	Fr. James Batayron	27.02.1838	France	04.10.1917	Jaffna
79	Fr. Georgius MacDonald	26.04.1870	England	03.02.1918	Colombo
80	Fr. Charles Louis Massiet	25.03.1850	France	03.05.1918	Colombo
81	Fr. John Pahamunay	23.08.1863	Kurunegala	11.08.1918	Ragala
82	Fr. Ambrose Tizon	28.05.1886	France	29.09.1918	France
83	Bro. James Manuel	30.05.1881	Jaffna	11.10.1918	Jaffna
84	Rt. Rev. Bishop Henry Joulain	24.09.1852	France	07.02.1919	Jaffna
85	Fr. Joseph Hippolyte	01.01.1853	Suthumalai	28.06.1919	Mannar
86	Sch. Marcellus Silva	1889	Kalamulla	27.07.1919	Colombo
87	Fr. Joseph Felix Rhode	17.12.1885	Germany	31.01.1920	USA
88	Fr. Marcian Stouter	19.06.1859	Kurunegala	24.09.1920	Kurunegala
89	Fr. William Owen	23.07.1862	England	16.11.1920	Jaffna
90	Fr. Panagius Tarmenude	31.10.1854	France	28.02.1921	France
91	Fr. Michael Blachot	06.09.1852	France	21.04.1921	Jaffna
92	Fr. Theophilus Millot	13.07.1862	France	02.06.1921	Colombo
93	Fr. Edward Vorlander	24.03.1859	France	14.03.1922	Jaffna