



FRANCIS VINEETH VADAKETHALA CMI

Footprints of a Philosopher-Theologian Mystic

wisdom from these green woods had led me to the path of green school projects. The way he explained the church history and the theological talks from his mouth were so impressive to remember till today. The icons in the chapel had been explained to me more the twenty times. Each time he was expressing different spiritual and philosophical meanings to those icons. Looking at his enthusiasm in explaining, I experienced a living presence or a life in those holy icons.

Today, when I reflect on him, I consider him as a Holy River which was flowing calmly among the people by giving spiritual energy and smile to each and every one whom he met in his journey of life. The wis-

dom had flowed from him like a spring. There was a soothing feeling in our mind when we were immersed in his meditations. He never hurt anyone's feelings; instead, he respected everyone: he respected nature, religions, people, nations, cultures, and languages. He had given equal importance to all those who associated with him. He expressed his 'real'. Purity in mind and thought, innocence, and sincerity were his hallmarks. There was a uniqueness in himself and his thoughts. He was an open-minded person who was accepting everyone without any discrimination – men or women, poor or rich. *Pranaamam* to my *Dharma Acharya*, my *Guruji*, my beloved father, and, above all, 'the life-giving stream that is flowing through my heart'.

Murali Krishnan, Coimbatore

(Yoga Teacher and Former Youth Member of Divyodaya)

Peace with Oneself and Harmony



Only once I met Fr. Vineeth in Divyodaya. It was in 1993 when Fr. Thomas Cheeran was the director. Fr. Vineeth spoke on happiness and harmony. Inner harmony within oneself can be possible through various means. Meditation shifts the brain waves from beta level to alpha level and thereby calms the mind. Harmony in individuals evolves to social harmony. One cannot work for peace when he is not happy within himself. This was the essence of Fr. Vineeth's speech which inspired me a lot. Though 28 years have already passed, still the thought he triggered lingers in my memory. Thanks, Divyodaya!