# **India** Cultural Outreach Project



Each year the parish identifies a need in a country where many in our community have roots. The 2015 Cultural **Outreach Project celebrated** the culture of India.

In addition to learning about the people, history, and traditions of India, the parish collaborated with St. Alphonsa Syro-**Malabar Catholic Church in San Fernando** to support Dilasa Bhavan, a care, rehabilitation, and education center for **HIV-infected orphans and widows and for** homeless psychiatric patients.

Located in midwest India, **Dilasa Bhavan is sponsored by** the Missionary Society of St. **Thomas the Apostle. The** current facility opened in December 2008.

The word Dilasa Bhavan in the Marathi language expresses the vision of this home – Divine Invitation to Love and Serve the Abandoned.

In addition to providing care and rehabilitation to HIV-infected women and children, Dilasa Bhavan also dedicates resources to controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS and to eradicating the stigma often associated with the illness.

**Other program priorities include** proper nutrition; education at various grade levels for the children; rehabilitation, vocational training, and counseling for adult residents; extracurricular activities; and time for prayer and spiritual teaching.



#### **Dilasa Bhavan**



# Boys with HIV/AIDS at Dilasa Bhavan



Girls with HIV/AIDS at Dilasa Bhavan Children Enjoying Their Meal







# **Study Room**



# Children Playing Cricket

**GALA FUNDRAISER DINNER** The parish collaborated with St. **Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Catholic Church in San Fernando to sponsor** an elegant fundraiser dinner on Saturday, April 25, 2015. Guests enjoyed a wonderful Indian dinner and entertainment.



Fr. Kevin Rettig, Pastor, welcoming remarks and opening prayer



#### Fr. Kevin Rettig and guest, Fr. Martin Joseph

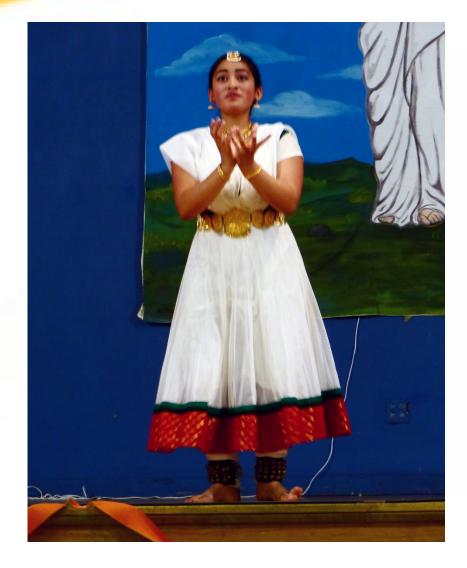


Chenda Melam, percussion with cylindrical wooden drum

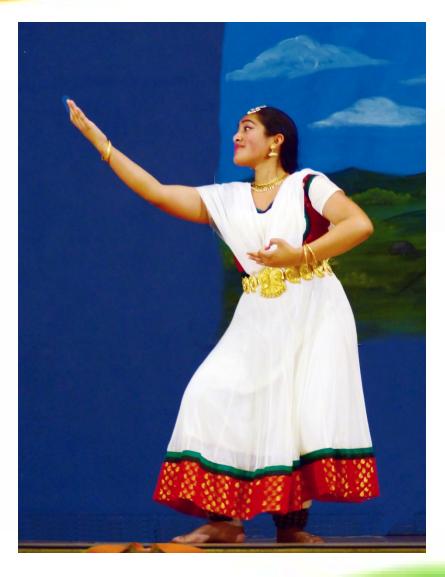




Chenda Melam, percussion with cylindrical wooden drum



# Semi-classical devotional dance



# Semi-classical devotional dance



## **Choir performance**



## **Indian Classical Dance**

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## **Caterer** Royal Delhi Palace, Canoga Park

### **Emcee** Mike Tupaz, SJW parishioner

SJW Parish SJW School Filipino Community Hispanic Community Vietnamese Community English and Spanish Charismatic Prayer Groups Confirmation Students Religious Education Program

#### St. Alphosa Syro-Malabar Catholic Church Community, San Fernando

#### St. Vincente de Paul Society

## Trustees

George Chacko and Robert Chellakudam

#### **Special Thanks** to the Performers and their instructors

## **Event Photography** Ron Pauckert