Eramma | 14 | Deodurga, India

She may only be 14, but Eramma commands respect: a living example for other girls and young women in her small rural village, where gender-based inequality and violence regularly trample the rights, and spirits, of her peers.

As president of her school’s Child Rights Club – a project of the Salesian-run, statewide Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM) – Eramma regularly advocates on behalf of exploited children, and works to secure their ability to attend school. And, thanks to the confidence and leadership skills she has developed under CREAM’s guidance, she is firm in her convictions, even when that means confronting powerful adults.

Recently, Eramma rescued a 9-year-old girl who had been forced into domestic servitude by a prominent government employee. That girl is now in school. Eramma also collaborates with administrators and police on issues such as bullying, inadequate school infrastructure, child malnourishment and more. No wonder, walking the halls in her school uniform, she is called the “Angel in Blue!”

Learn more at: www.salesianmissions.org/cream
Dear Friend,

Young John learned from his family.

It's a long list; but in reviewing it, myself recently, one in particular.

Nearby house as many as 70 former.

Vidomegon, they are ready, they may attend the.

Train in the culinary arts.

By day, they toil in private homes and

Desperately impoverished families.

Learn more at: www.salesianmissions.org/bulgaria

Father Thomas Uzhunnalil, the Salesian priest kidnapped in 2016 during a deadly attack on the Missionaries of Charity in Aden, Yemen, has earned the Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice.

It is presented annually by the Harmony Foundation, a Mumbai-based organization dedicated to spreading peace, dialog and social harmony, regardless of religion, caste, gender or ethnicity.

Father Thomas Uzhunnalil

Missionary of the Month: Fr. Thomas Uzhunnalil

Father Thomas Uzhunnalil, the Salesian priest kidnapped in 2016 during a deadly attack on the Missionaries of Charity in Aden, Yemen, has earned the Mother Theresa Memorial Award for Social Justice.

It is presented annually by the Harmony Foundation, a Mumbai-based organization dedicated to spreading peace, dialog and community support regardless of religion, caste, gender or ethnicity. The 2017 award recognizes “compassion across borders,” specifically within the context of the worldwide refugee crisis. At the time of his abduction, the Indian-born Fr. Tom had been serving in Yemen for four years, having vowed to remain despite the region’s escalating civil strife.

The award cites Fr. Tom’s “bravery and resilience in the face of adversity; his dedication and commitment to a place of great danger; and his inspiring example of compassionate humanity.”

Released without harm this past September, Fr. Tom joins a distinguished cohort of past recipients, including the Dalai Lama, Malala Yousafzai, and Doctors Without Borders.

I am deeply grateful for your support and wish you and your family health, prosperity and happiness in this new year.

May God Bless You!

Fr. Mark Aygel, S.M.