

# MISSIONARIES OF ST.FRANCIS DE SALES – MSFS

## SOUTH WEST PROVINCE – INDIA

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**Circular MK/14**

**30<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

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*“Place my weak heart in your own divine Heart, continually under Your protection and guidance, so that I may persevere in doing good and in fleeing evil until my last breath”*

### **My dear Confreres,**

The month of June, is the month of the Sacred Heart. During this time the Church urges the faithful to participate with special zeal in the worship of the Heart of our Savior, considered as a part of His sacred Humanity and as the emblem of His infinite love. A humble and holy French nun, the saintly Margaret Mary Alacoque, a member of the visitation order, within the space of a religious life of only nineteen years, instituted a devotion which bids fair to last forever. She became the apostle of the beautiful and now universal worship of the loving Heart of our Blessed Savior.



But why is the Heart of Jesus selected as the object of this special adoration? Because His real and physical Heart is a natural symbol of the infinite charity of the Savior and of His interior and spiritual life. The heart is a vital organ which, as it throbs within us, is part of our existence. It has always been looked upon as an emblem, sometimes of courage, sometimes of one's whole interior nature, but oftener of love. Our Lord Jesus, in asking our love, makes the request in these words, "Son, give me thy heart." We see, then the reasonableness of taking the Sacred Heart of our Savior as an object of our worship, not only because it is a part of Him, but because it symbolizes His love for all mankind.

### **My Visit to Europe**

I was in Europe in the month of April. My main concern was the Chad-Cameroon mission, which I feel is very much growing. The confreres work in hard situations. **Fr. Thomas Cherukat**, our pioneer missionary and the father figure for the young confreres has left for Rome. There are a number of projects and programs that we have initiated: We need funds for that and the maintenance costs in African Countries are almost four

times than in India. We have planned for a School, a Boys' Town, a dispensary and a cultural centre in Bero, Chad. We intend to start a school in Ekkoundoum, Yaounde in view of self-reliance for the mission. We have to build a postulant's house in Gada Mabanga. Therefore my main interest was to visit some of the donor agencies and see possibilities for mobilizing some funds towards this purpose. To a certain extent my trip was successful.

As the main concentration was on visiting donor agencies, I could spare only little time to be with the confreres. It was not possible for me to visit and spend time with each of them personally. But I had the opportunity to meet all of them and we also had a common meeting of all the South West Confreres in Habsburg, the Parish centre of **Fr. Sibi Manickathan**. All confreres attended the meeting except **Fr. Joy** who was away on holidays to India. It was a wonderful occasion to be with each other and to share our concerns and express our solidarity with each other.

All our confreres in Germany and Austria are fully involved in the ministry. They do their ministries according to the pastoral plan of each diocese. They enjoy good rapport with the people of their respective parishes. The Bishop and the local priests have high regard for them. All of them exhibited their deep interests in the mission and concerns of the Province and feel themselves one with us. All do their best to mobilize one way or other some finances for the province. I make use of this opportunity to thank all of them personally for their deep commitment.

Some of them like **Frs. Sibichan, Bobby, Binod, Mekkattu and Mathias** are new to the mission in Austria/Germany. Others like **Fr. Joseph Pazhayattil, James Mukalel and Thomas Moongamackal** are veterans. They have a circle of friends who support our mission. **Frs. George Chirayil, Tomy Mullassery, Sibi Manickathan and Joy Vazhapillil** help the missionary activities through the friends whom they have gained through their personal contacts. Besides, the confreres in Germany and Austria set apart a greater part of their salary for our mission work in India. This is only possible because all of them cook their own food, wash their own clothes and clean their house. Thank you my dear confreres for what you are and what you do.

**Fr. James Manjackal** is ever active in his ministry. As I had the opportunity to be with him for his birth day celebration I could meet some of his team members and very close friends. We prayed and sang and celebrated the mass together. It was a wonderful experience. Fr. Manjackal would like to see his preaching ministry in Europe not as a personal venture of his own but as a part of the mission and apostolate of the Province. He feels himself very much part of the Province and its activities and is genuinely concerned about us. I am sure it was a good opportunity for me to thank Fr. Manjackal for his commitment for the mission, for all his support and love and his friends for what they are to our Province and Congregation. Thanks to Fr. Manjackal many lay people today know the MSFS Congregation in Germany.

### **Visit to Fr. Fournier and our confreres in the Franco-Swiss Province**

During my visit I took some time also to visit our confreres in France and **Fr. Fournier**, the Provincial of Franco-Swiss and **Fr. Mayoraz**, our former Superior General, long time friend and well wisher. **Frs. Viju Kunnathottel, Jose Puthiyaparambil and Fr. Binoy**

**Kidanganthkarot** are doing very well. They are very much appreciated for their expertise in the French language and their commitment to pastoral activities of their respective parishes. They also make the concerns of our missions, especially in Chad and Cameroon known to the people and try to mobilize some funds for the same. I thank them for their wonderful services.

The meeting with **Fr. Jean-Paul Fournier** was very cordial. With the foreseen arrival of Fr. Martin Richard and Fr. Johnny Cheruvil in Annecy probably in the month of September 2008 there will be five of our confreres rendering their service to the Franco-Swiss Province. Therefore it was necessary to have some basic understanding about the terms of our service there. Fr. Fournier also supports a rotation system, where some of our confreres could work in the Franco-Swiss Province for a term of five to six years, before others from Chad-Cameroon Mission can take their place. It is an opportunity for many confreres to have the hospitable climate and European environment to recuperate from the aftermath of Malaria and other sicknesses before they either return to the Chad Cameroon Mission for a term of further service which they decide or return to India. The Franco Swiss Province supports our mission in Chad-Cameroon and I thank them very much for this wonderful gesture.

The visit to **Fr. Mayoraz** was also wonderful. It was his initiative which led us to take up the Cameroon and Chad mission. And he has a very special love for this Francophone Mission. I feel confident that if we work really hard within 15-20 years we will have a blooming province in that part of the world. I would like to thank Fr. Mayoraz for the help he renders to our Mission in Chad-Cameroon and the Philippines.

### **Visit to our houses in Rome**

It is the first time that I visited the Generalate after it has been shifted to via delle Testuggini. The dialogue with **Very Rev. Fr. Agnelo Fernandes, our Superior General and Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Cherukat, or Assistant General** about the Province and our Missions were very fruitful. It was good to see that they are in full support of our ventures and above all our concerns and projects. I thank them wholeheartedly for their care and love for the Congregation.

**Fr. Kurian Aranjanil** will continue for one more year in Rome as Procurator General and then terminate his services to the Generalate. Fr. Thomas Cherukat, the Assistant General will take over the office. Fr. Kurian has done yeomen service for the Congregation by getting the house in Via Del Mascherino, the first Generalate in Rome. I thank Fr. Kurian for his love and concern for the welfare of the Congregation.

**Fr. Jerome** continues his Doctoral Studies in Canon Law and **Fr. Philip** besides continuing to be Secretary to Very Rev. Fr. Superior General pursues his doctoral studies in Consecrated Life. Fr. Philip will lay down his office in the beginning of 2009 and firmly hopes to complete his studies by the end of 2009. Fr. Jerome will require two to three years more for his studies. We wish both of them all the best.

### **Delegated Powers of Assistant General**

Very Rev. Fr. Superior General has delegated certain powers to Assistant Superior General Fr. Thomas Cherukat after he took up his residence in Rome:

- He will be the Procurator General to the Holy See after Fr. Kurian lays down his office next year.
- He will be the Convener and Chairman of the Joint Forum of Mission Superiors of Africa Forum and General Council and also monitor, guide and take decisions following due process, concerning MSAF, Lumen Christi, Extension work of missions in Africa;
- He will undertake visitations of the Provinces/Regions/Missions as per the schedule approved by the General Council and take part in all the Joint Meetings of the General Curia and Provincial Curias, of Regional Forums of Provincials and General Curia, and give direction and orientations to the Provinces that he will visit after the visitation;
- He will monitor the work of the Constitution Commentary Committee
- He will interact with the Fransalians in Germany-Austria and Holland and their Provincials to initiate the process of finding structures for more effective organization of the members there, if necessary and propose the same to the General Council for its decision;
- He will co-ordinate with the General Bursar and the General Secretary for Resource Mobilization to establish a network of NGO's for the Congregation in different parts of the world;

### **Rev. Fr. Kurian Aranjaniiyl – Our Golden Jubilarian**



Fr. Kurian was born on 5 April 1931 at Paingottoor in the Diocese of Kothamangalam, Kerala. After the High School studies, responding to the call of God he joined the Minor Seminary at Mission Home, Kottayam in 1950. He did his Philosophical studies in Poonemalle Sacred Heart Seminary. He took his First Vows on 27 May 1956. From 1956 to 1960 he continued his theological studies in Pune and was ordained Priest on 1 June 1959.

He has served the Congregation in Various capacities. He was in the field of formation as a Professor in Mount Mary Minor Seminary, Arumanoor from 1960 to 1965 and later as the Director of the Savio Apostolic School, Athirampuzha. From 1967 to 1979 he was away from India for his studies and ministry. He did his studies in Italy (Rome) and USA. He holds M.A in Sociology from Catholic University, Washington DC, USA and Ph.D in Social Sciences from the University of Angelicum, Rome. During his stay in USA he served as a Pastor, Professor and Chaplain. He also was a Professor of Sociology in NVSC Pune.

He had his personal vision of serving the marginalized of our society and to fulfill his dreams he established the Pastoral Sociology Institute, (the PSI). This has substantially influenced the thinking in our Congregation and we began to shift our focus to serving the needy and the poor in an organized and systematic way. He served as the Director of the PSI from 1980 to 1985 in Secunderabad. 1986 to 1987 he continued his social work in Parachur. 1987 to 1990 he was the Rector of the SFS Seminary Ettumanoor. But his social

commitment brought him back to the real life of the people. He expanded the activities of the PSI to Malur where he was the Director of the same from 1990 to 1996. Today PSI has branches in Kolar, Mundargi, Kuknoor and now in Chennarayapatna. His qualities like hard work, commitment and love for the Congregation and ability to be a good administrator guided the Chapter Fathers to elect him as the Procurator General of the Congregation in 1996. One of his first concerns was to have a house for MSFS in Rome and he succeeded in acquiring one in the heart of Rome, only walking distance to Vatican City. He became the Superior of the house, which has housed many of our confreres pursuing their studies in Rome. All his energy, his time and his resources he put at the service of this house of the Congregation. His unflinching faith in God and indomitable Spirit keeps him fit and enables him to make his services further available for the Congregation.

Dear Father Kurian, I make use of this opportunity to say that “we love you” that we appreciate and acknowledge your wonderful love for Jesus and the Congregation you have freely chosen to serve. May God bless you in all you do and give you good health to continue His work. Ad Multos Annos.

### **Congrats to Fr. Jacob Parapally**

Fr. Jacob Parapally was reelected as the **President of the Indian Theological Association**, the prestigious theological body of India. We congratulate Fr. Jacob for the acceptance and acknowledgement he finds in the Indian Theological Circle.

### **Finance Advisory Council**

The Provincial Council which met on 14 May 2008, proposed to set up a Finance Advisory Council. The Provincial Council also proposed **Frs. Thomas Chennakattukunnel and Vinod Kanat** to be members of it. The Provincial Bursar, **Fr. Benny Marangolil** is the convener of the same.

The finance Advisory Council will have the following responsibilities

1. Overall Financial Planning
2. Studying the budget proposals of the units and making concrete suggestions to the Provincial Council
3. Making concrete proposals to the Provincial Council for efficient administration of the temporal goods of the Province: Land, Property, Building etc.
4. Assessment of Income and Expenditure of each unit
5. Studying the needs of the units and making proposals for efficient dispersal of funds to the units and effective management of the same.
6. Proposals for making individual units of the societies self-reliant within a period of five years
7. Making proposals for the target of self-reliance of the province within a period of seven years. Proposals for monthly regular income for the province
8. Planning for efficient and effective administration of the schools and effective ways of paying off the loans.
9. Efficient Administration of the Societies and Trusts of the Province

10. Proposals for effective administration of the Boys' Homes, children's village and hostels of the Province...Proposals for Resource Mobilization for social commitments of the Province.

11. Internal Auditing

## **Transfers and Appointments**

**Fr. Paul Aranjanil** is appointed to Kattapana. We will take up the pastoral service in one or two of the substations of Vijayapuram diocese.

**Fr. Devasia Kalappura** is appointed as Superior and Correspondent of SFS School Srinivaspur

**Fr. Shino Puthussery** is appointed as Socius to the Novitiate and in charge of the ministry to Migrants in Mysore

**Fr. Prashanth Kumar** will continue to render his service to the diocese of Chickmagalur

**Fr. Jino Plathottathil** is appointed to St. Francis de Sales College, Hebbagodi and as Assistant Parish Priest of St. Francis de Sales Church in Hebbagodi. He will reside in Prateeksha, SFS Boys' Home.

## **Vinayalaya**

Brothers Rijo, Sujith and R. Bartholomew, who have completed their Bachelor's degree from our College staying in Suvidya will now do their philosophical studies in St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Malleswaram and will reside in Vinayalaya. They will be joined by two students from Nagpur Province and one from Visakhapatnam Province. Five students from Tejas who will do their free semester also will reside in Vinayalaya. There will be seven MSFS Fathers who will do either their MTh. or other secular studies will also be residing in Vinayalaya.

## **On holidays**

Fr. Binu Edathumpampil is on holidays in India and is returning to the US on 01.06.2008. Fr. Joy Vazhapillil was on holidays. Deacons Gijo Panamattathil and Periyanyagom will come from Cameroon in the month of July. Bros. Lawrence and Sandeep will come in June. They are due to make their Perpetual Profession in September 2008.

## **Promotion to the Sacred Order of Priesthood**

**Deacon Shalbin** is due to be ordained on **28 June 2008** in St. Sebastian's Church, Sebipuram (Manjapra) at 2.00 pm by His Grace Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath, the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Ernakulam – Angamaly.

**Deacon Gijo Panamattam and Deacon Periyanyagom** are also due to be ordained this year. The dates of their ordinations will be made known later.

## **Renewal of Vows 2008–09**

### **Third Year Theologians**

01. Ekka Anand

02. Eranyakulathil Tony

03. Chakiath Bijil

04. Lakra Thadeus

05. Mariaraj George

06. Palathadathil Aneesh

07. Puthuckary Jose

08. Thundupampil Abey

09. Tigga Praful
10. Philip Maria

### **Second Year Theologians**

01. Elayadathumadathil Martin
02. D. J. Francis Xavier
03. Mundiyanickal Anish
04. Puzhakkara Subin
05. Thadathilankal Lalu

### **First Year Theologians**

01. Chemplanickal Jijo
02. Cheravelil Jikson
03. D. Robert
04. Dung Dung Marcel
05. Kazhukanolickal Joji

### **Regents**

01. A. Antony Sathiya Seelan
02. Chirackalpurayidathil Anish
03. J. Marcellin Raj
04. Jeevan Prashant

### **Third Year Philosophers**

1. Illickal Dinu
2. Jabamalai Perianayagam
3. Joseph Charles Perianayagam
4. Manjackal Jijo (to regency)

### **Second Year Philosophers**

1. B. Joseph Frank
2. Enthunkal Aneesh
3. Fernandes Roni

### **First Year Philosophers in Vinayalaya**

- Kuzhuveliparambil Rijo  
Pallassery Sujith

11. Lawrence (Cameroun)
12. Tirkey Sandeep (Cameroun)

06. Thonikuzhiyil Robin (Cameroun)
07. Kujur Kuldeep (Cameroun)
08. Emile Paulin Amougou Amougou (Cameroun)

06. Kujur Nirdosh
07. Kulamkuthiyil Mijo
08. Prabhu Prakash
09. Solapura Mathias

05. Kannala Dipu
06. Olickal Sijo
07. Paikattu Jinu
08. Onomo Ayissi Innocent Parfait (Cameroun)

5. Padikara Nelson
6. Parayankunnel Shinto
7. Periera Santosh
8. Prasanna Balavendra Anthony

4. Thurthippallil Jose
5. Varambathu Bivin

R. Bartholomew

### **First Profession**

The following novices will make their first profession on **11 June 2008 in Sannidhi**. Christophe Bertrand Abessouguie will make his Profession in the Novitiate in Tanzania. Please keep them in your prayers. They are also promoted to First Year Philosophy and Christophe will do his regency.

1. A.K. Balan Bruno
2. Dias Joel Xaviour
3. J. Abhishek
4. Kamukumthottathil Anishmon
5. Kochuputhenpurayil Josemon
6. Kottuppallil Noby Varghese
7. Minz Baldhir
8. Ouseparambil Joseph

9. Pulikkalath Nirmal Jose
10. Theruvapuzha Sojan Sebastian

11. Christophe Bertrand Abessouguie  
(Tanzania)

## **Novices**

We have seventeen novices entering the novitiate this year from our Province. Three are in Philippines and fourteen of them in Sannidhi. The Province of Pune has requested us to admit six of their novices to our Novitiate in the current year. Besides there will be one novice for the Province of Tanzania. We welcome them to Sannidhi. The novices are:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. A. Avinash Abhishek           | 8. Nettananikal Robin Jose       |
| 2. K. Sudeep Andrews             | 9. Othalaparambil Jithin Joseph  |
| 3. Karackattu Jince Joseph       | 10. Parayil Leo Joseph           |
| 4. Karamala Arun James           | 11. Pulichamackal Joby James     |
| 5. Karuvelil Simil Devasia       | 12. S. Prakash Prashanth Raj     |
| 6. Kunnummel Jibin Thomas        | 13. Thekkethottiyil Jijith James |
| 7. Madathiparambil Justin Antony | 14. S. Innacimuthu               |

### **Novices from Pune Province**

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Winston Barboza  | 5. A. Arockiaraj    |
| 2. Solomon Raja     | 6. George Fernandes |
| 3. A. Savarimuthu   |                     |
| 4. Anil Kumar Nayak |                     |

### **Novice for East Africa Province**

1. Edwin T. George

## **Novitiate in Philippines**

The Superior General has given us the permission to start the Novitiate in Philippines. Fr. Joy Kochupoovathummootil is appointed as the Novice Master. This year there are three novices. It is the first time since the beginning of the mission that we are having the novices. This is definitely a step nearer to our goal of implanting the Congregation in the Philippine soil. Please pray for them. The novices are:

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Sumagaysay Jundi    | 3. Revilla Jess |
| 2. Filemon Torreon Jr. |                 |

## **Postulancy Course in Indian Institute of Spirituality**

A number of postgraduate students were requesting about the possibility of joining our Province. Sending them to our traditional minor Seminaries may not bring about the desired results for them. They are well-versed in the English language. What they need is a thorough spiritual year to get themselves strengthened in their resolve to be a Religious and Priest. Together with the Indian Institute of Spirituality we want to provide this opportunity for them. Although 4 have applied for this year, we are definite that two will come. One of them is Justin who has been in England with his parents for a number of years. The other is Felix who hails from Nanjangud and has completed his MBA. Making a concerted effort to recruit vocations from professionals and students doing advanced studies can pave way for getting more people to live the spirit and spirituality of St. Francis de Sales in MSFS mission.



## **Postulant's House in N'Gaoundere**

With a view to organizing vocation promotion in N'gaoundere and constructing a Postulant's house in N'gaoundere, Frs. Tomas Payattukandathil and Johnny Cheruvil are moving to a rented house near to the land (10 hectares) that has been donated to us by the Lamido (the erstwhile ruler of this area). We intend to construct a postulant's house in this land big enough to accommodate at least six postulants and two fathers this year.

## **Regency Appointment**

Antony Sathya Seelan	Saumya Sadan, Mysore
Chirackalpurayidathil Anish	Charis Bhavan, Athirampuzha
J. Marcelin Raj	Pratheeksha, Hebbagodi
Jeevan Prashanth	MSFS House, Mundargi
Kannala Dipu	Vinayakumar Ashram, Chokkad
Manjackal Jijo	SFS Seminary, Ettumanoor
Olickal Sijo	MSFS Community, Kannur
Paikattu Jinu	MSFS Community, Srinivasapur

## **Students of Tejas on Free Semester**

### **To SFS Vidyashram....St. Joseph's Pontifical Institute, Aluva**

Aneesh Palathadathil, George Mariaraj, Tomy Ernyakulathil

### **To Guajrat Vidya Deep**

Bijil Chakkiath, Abe Thunduparambil, Jose Puthukary

### **To Vinayalaya ... St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Bangalore**

Sudeep Paul, Thadeus Lakra, Timson Parakottil, Anand Ekka, Praful Tigga

## **Provincial Chapter of North East India Province**

The Provincial Chapter of North East India Province took place from May 26-29, 2008 at MSFS Provincialate Guwahati with the theme "A Revitalized Community for an Integral Missionary Involvement: A Fransalian Approach". I had the privilege of taking part in the Chapter and to take your wishes to the confreres of the North East Province. The Chapter was wonderfully organized and well-conducted. Frs. Francis Poovelil, Jacob Mattathil, Tomichan Moonnanapallil and Simon Thaikho were elected as councilors. Fr. Thomas Nirappel is the Provincial Bursar. We congratulate the Provincial and his team.

## **Praying for the departed**

**Mr. Gregoriose**, Father of Reverend Benny Kootanal expired on 16 April 2008.

**Fr. John Manthadam**, Uncle of Reverend Jose Parappallil expired on 27 April 2008

## **Praying for the sick**

**Fr. James Mukalel** had a blood clot in his brain and has undergone a successful operation. He is recovering. Please pray for him

## **Celebration of Mass for the Departed Confreres**

The General Directory (# 98) gives guidelines on suffrages for the departed confreres. Kindly check your Mass Diary to verify that you have celebrated mass for the following confrere who has gone away from us.

Rev. Bro. Antony Nedungatt, Expired on 25 January 2008

### **Sacred Heart of Jesus – The Salesian Connection**

The Sacred Heart of Jesus was loved by Francis de Sales. His writings focus deeply on the Divine Love of God for humanity. Salesian spirituality utilizes the heart aflame as a motif for the love shared between God and all Creation. It is not an image of judgment, but of unconditional love: the unconditional, communal love shared by the Triune God and the unconditional, compassionate love of God for humankind.

*From the depth of my nothingness, I prostrate myself before Thee, O Most Sacred, Divine and Adorable Heart of Jesus, to pay Thee all the homage of love, praise and adoration in my power." Amen. - St. Margaret Mary Alacoque*

Yours Sincerely,



Fr. Mathew Kozhupakkalam msfs  
Provincial

### **Glimpses from the Life of the Province**

#### **Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee Celebration of Fr. Johny Kanjiramparambil**

17 April 2008 was a day of immense joy for Fr. Johny and all those who were associated with him as he was celebrating the Silver Jubilee of his Ordination. The celebration hosted in Charis Bhavan was a coming together of his confreres, family, relatives and well-wishers. The celebration began with the Solemn Holy Eucharist at 10.30 am, presided over by the Jubilarian. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil, the General Councilor and Director of Charis Bhavan introduced and welcomed Fr. Johny, describing him as a simple and committed priest and a man of God. Fr. Jose Parappillil, the Former Provincial, gave Jubilee message focusing on all missionary services he has rendered to the Congregation and to the Church at large. He specially spoke about Fr. Johny's love and concern towards all those who are in need, his availability and his enthusiasm in carrying out the work of God as a Fransalian. He convinced the audience of Fr. Johny's commitment, simplicity and effectiveness. His admiration for Fr. Johny came out of his own experience with him. He concluded his message by inviting the Congregation to thank God for the gift of Fr. Johny.

After the Eucharistic Celebration all invited guests gathered in the Charis Bhavan Pandal to congratulate the Jubilarian. Fr. Dijo Koikkara, the master of ceremony, took the

audience through the various stages of Fr. Johny's life. Priests from neighboring parishes, confreres from different communities, priests and religious from other congregations, relatives and friends of Charis Bhavan made the gathering an event. The program was concluded with the thanksgiving by the Jubilarian. And the celebration came to an end with the sumptuous meal for all.

*Bro. Aneesh Mundiyanickal msfs*

## **Salesian Seminar 2008**

Indian Institute of Spirituality organized the **Salesian Seminar 2008** from 4 May 2008 – 9 May 2008. We had a record number of 150 participants this year which included religious and laity. The year 2008 marks the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> Centenary of the publication of the spiritual classic of St. Francis de Sales, **Introduction to the Devout Life**, as well as, **the Silver Jubilee Year of the Salesian Seminar**. Both these events were highlighted during the course of the seminar. The seminar began with the inaugural mass by Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, the Provincial Superior of the South West India Province of the MSFS. During the inaugural ceremony the architects and founding fathers of the Salesian Seminar, Frs. Antony Mookenthottam, Armind Nazareth and Devasia Manalel were felicitated and appreciated. Fr. Antony Kolencherry, the co-founder of the Salesian Seminar was specially remembered on this occasion. Fr. Antony Mookenthottam delivered the key-note address on the history, importance and the relevance of *Introduction to the Devout Life for our times*.

The first phase of the seminar was dedicated for the sharing of the experience of the Spirit of St. Francis de Sales in the charism and ministry of eight different Congregations in the world which follow the spirituality of St. Francis de Sales. This was a great opportunity for the audience to come to know the diverse manner in which the Spirit of Francis de Sales is lived in the world today. The second phase of the seminar was dedicated to study the *Introduction to the Devout Life* based on two very relevant topics viz. Psycho-Spiritual Integration and Psycho-Sexual Integration. The topics were dealt by Rev. Dr. Abraham Vettuvellil, msfs and Rev. Sr. Dr. Mary Marcellus, svm, respectively. The resource persons helped the audience to see the modern world through these Salesian perspectives. The third phase of the Salesian Seminar dealt with two relevant topics: "Religious Life: A Way to Perfection. A Salesian Perspective" and "Morality & Spirituality: A Salesian Perspective", presented by Rev. Dr. Thomas Perumalil, msfs and Rev. Dr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, msfs respectively. The seminar itself was a profound spiritual experience for the participants through the daily Eucharistic Celebrations, Adoration, Rosary, conducted meditations and melodious choir. The well-prepared "Salesian Evenings", from different religious congregations demonstrated their experience of the spirit of St. Francis de Sales through dances, skits, songs and power point presentations. The Seminar was concluded with the solemn Eucharistic Celebration by **Most Rev. Dr. Thomasappa Anthony Swamy**, the Bishop of Chikmagalur and the former National President of the *Association of the Priests of St. Francis de Sales*.

*Fr. Benny Koottanal msfs*

## **Orientation Program for the Pre-novices at Sudhirvana**

Twenty novices reached Sudhirvana on 5 May 2008 for their pre-novitiate program. Among the twenty, fourteen brothers were from the South-West Province and six from the Pune Province. The program coordinator, Fr. Raison gave the orientation talk and welcomed the novices Fr. Tito inspired them with his experiences in Philippines on the first day and Brothers Timson and Thadeus stressed on the different values we need to imbibe through the role plays and songs.

Mr. Paul Balaganapathy, a convert and a deeply convinced Catholic exhorted us to be holy priests. His experience of Jesus which he shared with us was touching and very inspiring. Most of us who were strangers to the Kannada language were initiated in to the art of learning this new language by Sr.Reji. It was also felt how important it is to work with the women religious as Sr. Alice from Cluny Convent shared her views with us. Fr. Jose Kannanaikkal emphasized the need for a psycho-spiritual dimension of formation. Novices were made aware of the challenges as a seminarian by Bro. Sudeep. He also initiated us to the importance of time management in our life.

Then we had an important session by Rev. Fr. Provincial. He introduced us to the reality of Novitiate Life. Besides that his presence and talk was inspiring and enriching for us. There were many more inspirational talks and classes given to us by our dear fathers like Fr. Jacob Parappally, Fr. Sibichen Pnathenmakkal, Fr. Thomas Payattukandathil and friends and well wishers of our Congregation like Mr. Ben, Mr. Steven Lobo and Mr.Cherian Ramapuram along with Mr. Alex. Later we had an opportunity to visit all the centers in Bangalore. This Program not only initiated us to the Novitiate Life but also gave a chance to know more about the life of the Province.

*Bro. Jabin Thomas*

### **Congratulations to the Principals and Staff of our Schools**

I thank and congratulate the Principals and the Staff of our schools in Kerala and Karnataka for discharging their duties well and helping the students to perform well in the annual examinations.

#### **Board Exam Results**

School	Students Appeared	Distinctions	First Class	Percentage
SFS Public School(CBSE) and Junior College, Ettumanoor	35	32	03	100%
SFS School, Koppal	50	20	26	100%
SFS School, Srinivaspur	33	10	16	100%
SFS School Kannada Medium, Chintamani	56	03	42	99%
SFS School English Medium, Chintamani	64	08	50	98%
SFS School, Malur	48	07	36	98%
SFS School Kannada Medium, Hebbagodi	35	00	10	95%
SFS School English Medium, Hebbagodi	105	11	68	97.5%
SFS PU College, Hebbagodi	102	02	39	74%

*Fr. Erudayaraj msf*