

# MISSIONARIES OF ST.FRANCIS DE SALES – MSFS

## SOUTH WEST PROVINCE - INDIA



VINAYALAYA, MSFS Provincial House

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Circular MK/16

24 OCT 2008

### Foundation Day



“To know the History of our religious society”, writes Fr. Moget in his book ‘The Missionaries of Sts. Francis de Sales of Annecy’, “makes us realize that we belong to a community sharing a particular past and makes us aware of our spiritual roots and gives us elements to assess the present through the experience of the past.” **On the 24<sup>th</sup> October 1838, feast of the Archangel St. Raphael, the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales was founded in Annecy, Savoy.** The new Religious family had a Superior, Father Peter Marie Mermier, and six members. Five Priests: Fathers Jacques Martin, Philippe Gaidon, Joseph Lavorel, Joseph Cheminal, Claude Petitjean. One Brother: Pierre Carton. A Mother House: La Feuillette, in Annecy. A rule all permeated with Salesian Spirit.

#### The history of a Congregation to a great extent shapes:

- Where it is?
- Why it is there?
- What its options are for the future?

We need a vision for our Province and Congregation. A vision grows out of the history of a Congregation. While history should not determine vision, if history is ignored, the vision will not be adequately understood and fully shared by all. A strong God-given vision drove all the worthwhile accomplishments recorded in the bible.

#### A powerful vision is:

- A mental picture of the preferred and meaningful future we seek to create
- An answer to the question, “What do we really want”
- An image of how we see our mission unfolding and how it fits with our highest values.

- A compass that serves as a guide when all other indicators of direction may cease to operate.

**To develop a vision for our Province we could ask the following questions:**

- What is our Congregation like?
- What activities are members involved in and what are their work areas?
- Who are the people whom we serve? What do they say about us?
- In what way is the envisioned future different from today? What improvements or change do we see?

We need a passion to fulfill our God-driven mission. Passion draws passion. Paul was a person who possessed passion. He felt consumed with his mission. Paul because of his passion remained fixed on his mission and flexible in his method (1 Cor. 9: 23). Paul stayed on mission even in prison (Phil. 1:12-18). Are we passionate about what we do? You can't start a fire in your Congregation unless it first burns in you.

**New MSFS Governance**

The constitutions and the General Directory speak of a New MSFS Governance. “For a good beginning of the functioning of the new way of administering the Congregation,” so writes Fr. Superior General, “it is necessary for the entire Congregation to undergo a change of mind-set.” The constitution speaks of effective delegated authority along with accountability and subsidiarity. Fr. Superior General in his explanation on the new governance further writes: The purpose of the new form of Governance is to foster team work and team spirit ... The new system will demand systematic planning, coordination and collaboration and certain amount of professional approach ... Effective functioning of the forum, commissions and councilors and secretariats will demand careful study of the role as outlined in the paper. Although there is sharing of responsibility the Provincial at the province level will serve as constant reference point. “The new system will demand close monitoring of the implementation of the decisions taken.”

By now you may have all received a copy of the “New MSFS Governance”. Accordingly at the province level we have constituted the following forum. No special intimation will be sent to you about your membership in a specific forum except through this information in the circular. When the convener calls for meetings please make sure of your regular attendance.

**Mission Forum**

- |                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Chairman</b>          | Mathew Kozhuppakalam                 |
| <b>Vice chairman</b>     | Johny Kanjiramparambil               |
| <b>Secretaries</b>       | A. Jabamalai and Vechuvettickal Jose |
| <br><b>Members</b>       |                                      |
| Anchanickal Thomas       | Chirackal Justin                     |
| Aranjanilyil Paul        | Crasta Christopher                   |
| C. Joseph                | D. Doraiswamy                        |
| Chennakattukunnel Thomas |                                      |

Illikkattil Thomas  
James Thomas  
Kalathungal Mathew  
Kannadom Joseph  
Karickal Kurian  
Kavithazha Mathew  
Kodikuthiyil Henry Jose  
Koikkara Dijo  
Kokkandathil Jose  
Kulangarathottiyil Sebastián  
Kumblolickal Jose  
Kuzhuppil Devasia  
Kuzhuppillil Aloysius  
L. Selva Raj  
Manickathan Shajan,

Mattakarathundiyil Thomas  
Ottalankal Chaco  
Parappillil Jose  
Pendanam Abraham  
Plathottathil Jino  
Pulinthanam Tomy  
Pulpara Joseph  
Puthiapampil Jose  
Puthuparambil Varghese  
Puthussery Thomas  
Salvador Fernandes  
Thazhathukunnel Joshy  
Thoppil Joseph  
Valiyapampil Anthony  
Vettukattil Joseph

### **Education Forum**

**Chairman**

**Vice Chairman**

**Secretaries**

**Members**

A. Anthony Swamy  
A. Jabamalai  
A. Johnson  
Chirackal Justin  
Choorapuzha George  
Ekka Francis  
J. Pangi Raj  
James Thomas  
Kalappura Devasia  
Kanat Vinod  
Kolarickal Jojo  
Kulangarathottiyil Sebastian  
Kumbidiamakkal Manu  
Kurakalayil Binoy

Mathew Kozhuppakalam  
E.Erudaya Raj  
Thazhathukunnel Joshy,  
Vilachirayil Saju

Kuzhuppillil Aloysius  
Mamala Mathew  
Mannukuzhumbil Joseph  
Maroor Soby  
Melukunnel John  
Narikunnel Regi  
Palamkunnel Biju  
Plathottathil Roy  
Plathottathil Jino  
S. Rajkumar  
Salvador Fernandes  
Thayil Joseph  
Thoppil Joseph

### **Formation Forum**

3.

**Chairman**

**Vice chairman**

**Convener cum Secretary**

**Members**

Crasta Christopher  
Eanthanamkuzhiyil Saji,  
Edasseril Jose,

Mathew Kozhuppakalam  
Henry Kodikuthiyil  
Panthanmackal Sibichen

Ekka Sunil Kumar  
Kalariparambil Thomas,  
Kannanaickal Jose

Mookenthottam Antony  
Mullenkuzhy Joseph  
Onayathumkuzhy Zacharias  
Panthanmackal Sibichen,  
Parappally Jacob  
Puthussery Shino

R. Santhosh Kumar,  
Thayil Joseph,  
Thekkekarottu Thomas,  
Valachathinakathu Vinoy  
Valliyamthadathil George  
Vellaramkunnel Sebastian

### **Innovative Ministries Forum**

**Chairman**

Mathew Kozhuppakalam

**Vice chairman**

Benny Koottanal

**Secretaries**

Karekatt Jose and Thundathil Shibu

**Members**

C. Joseph  
James Thomas  
Kanat Tom  
Kolarckal Jojo  
Kottam Wilson  
Kumbidiamakkal Manu  
Marangolil Benny  
Palamkunnel Biju

Pezhathinal Jaison  
S. Arokiasamy  
S. Rajkumar  
Salvador Fernandes  
Thondapallil Anil  
Thudipara Jacob  
Vadakkedath Saji

### **Stewardship Forum**

**Chairman**

Mathew Kozhuppakalam

**Vice chairman**

Benny Marangolil

**Convener cum Secretary**

Chennakattukunnel Thomas

**Members**

A. Jabamalai  
Chirackal Justin  
Choorapuzha George  
Edasseril Jose,  
Elanjimattathil Baby  
Kaduvakuzhickal Raison  
Kalathil Mathew  
Kalathungal Mathew  
Kanat Vinod  
Kavithazha Mathew  
Kokkandathil Jose  
Kulangerathottiyil Sebastian

Kuzhuppil Binoy  
Manjackal Jiji  
Mamala Mathew  
Melukunnel John  
Parappuram Louis  
Puthussery Shino  
S. Rajkumar  
Thazhathukunnel Joshy  
Thudipara Jacob  
Vadakkedath Saji  
Vettukattil Joseph

### **Justice and Peace Commission**

**Chairman**

Mathew Kozhuppakalam

**Convener**

Benny Koottanal

**Members**

Kokkandathil Jose  
Pulinthanam Tomy  
Pezhathinal Jaison

A. Johnson  
Thekkekarottu Thomas

## **Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Fr. Kurian Aranjanil**

The Golden Jubilee of the Priestly Ordination of Fr. Kurian Aranjanil will be celebrated at Province level on **23 November 2008 in the Provincial House, Vinayalaya at 6.00 p.m.** I like to invite all our confreres for the celebrations. On 29 November 2008 he will celebrate the same in his home parish in Kerala.

## **Provincial Congress of Pune**

The Provincial Congress of Pune will take place **from 20-25 October 2008** with the theme “Revitalize Community for a Community Based Apostolate and Collective Witness of our Life as Fransalians”. We shall pray for the success of the Congress I shall take personally your wishes to the Pune Province and its members as I am participating in the Congress.

## **New Provincial Administration in Pune**

There is now a new Provincial Administration in Pune. They are: Fr. Jerson D’Souza, Provincial Councilor and Admonitor, Fr. Terrie Pinto, Provincial Councillor, Fr. Daiy Sebastian, Provincial Councillor and Fr. Daniel Alphonso, Provincial councilor and Fr. Sunny Kulangarath, Provincial Bursar. Fr. Mario has a wonderful and committed team and we wish them all the best and God’s Blessing

## **Provincial Congress of Nagpur**

The Provincial Congress of Nagpur will take place **from 27-31 October 2008** in Nagpur with the theme “Towards a Rediscovery of the Province Community and Revitalizing of our Community Life for the Renewed Expression our Fransalian Charism.” We assure the Nagpur Province and its members of our prayers and wish them all the best and God’s Blessings.

## **Meeting of the Indian Provincials with the General Curia**

The Indian Provincials will meet with the General Administration from 11-13 October 2008 at Ross Hill in Visakhapatnam. Please pray for the success of the meeting.

## **Growth Retreat on MSFS Constitutions**

The Provincials and General Curia are expected to attend the Experimental First Growth Retreat on the MSFS Constitutions organized by the Committee for the same from 14th November to 18th November 2008 at Ross Hill.

## **Hearty Welcome**

Rev.Fr. Noel Rebello, the General Councillor in charge of Formation has taken his residence in Vinayalaya, MSFS Provincialate. We wish him all the best and a fruitful stay in Vinayalaya. His contact number is 91 9739888898.

## Appointments

1. **Fr. George Rosario** is appointed to the MSFS Community at Kuvempunagar. He has been to the Divine Retreat Centre for the last months and has been very much inspired to dedicate his life for the works of the Lord. He will assist Fr. Christopher Crasta in the Parish and will take classes at Saumya Sadan and Sannidhi. He will assist also Fr. Shino Puthussery and make his service available for the ministry to the migrants and Jesus Youth. We wish him all the best.
2. **Fr. Sunil Ekka**, who also had inspiring months of service in Divine Retreat Centre, is now designated to be appointed by the Provincial of Nagpur for services in the minor Seminary at Latapara. We are having five students for the orientation program in this seminary.
3. **Fr. Periyannayagam** is appointed to our community at Bero/Chad to take part in the initiation course for missionary work in Africa offered by the diocese of Doba in Chad. He will make his service available to the community at Bero.
4. **Fr. Gijo Panamattathil** is appointed to our community at Bero/Chad to take part in the initiation course for missionary work in Africa, offered by the diocese of Doba in Chad. He will make his service available to the community at Bero.
5. **Fr. Sathish Vellaramkunnel** is appointed to the community at Gada Mabanga and is designated to be appointed by the Bishop of N'Gaoundere as Parish Priest of Mbe-Karna. He will assist Fr. Payattukandam in the new Postulant's House.

## "Go and Preach to all Nations:" World Wide Preaching Ministry of Fr. James Manjackal

Fr. James Manjackal as all of us know is on world wide evangelization tour, preaching the Word of God in different countries. A lot of people have come to know that MSFS congregation exists due to the person of Fr. James. To appreciate the tremendous work he is doing I just would like to give you glance of the packed program in various countries he had from February to September 2008.

February 1-9	Fatima, <b>Portugal</b>	February 15-17	Godlow, <b>Poland</b>
Feb.28 – March 2	La Roche, <b>France</b>	March 7-9	Fatima, <b>Portugal</b>
April 3- 5	Cessy, <b>France</b>	April 11-13	Gosheim, <b>Germany</b>
April 20	Munich, <b>Germany</b>	April 25-27	Linz, <b>Austria</b>
April 25-27	Linz, <b>Austria</b>	May 2-4	Venna, <b>Austria</b>
May 9-11	Esterol, <b>Portugal</b>	May 13	Fatima, <b>Portugal</b>
May 16-18	Dietikon, <b>Switzerland</b>	May 23-25	Lamedgo <b>Spain</b>
May 30 – June 1	Vienna <b>Austria</b>	June 14-16	Stari Trg, <b>Slovenia</b>
June 20 -22	Kuriscek, <b>Slovenia</b>	June 27-29	Vipava, <b>Slovenia</b>
July 11-13	Gevora, <b>Spain</b>	July 14	Hamburg, <b>Germany</b>
July 17-20	Retreat for Couples	July 24-27	Mourao, <b>Brazil</b>

August 9	B.Kissingen, <b>Germany</b>	July 31-Aug. 3	Rocamadour, <b>France</b>
Aug.15-17	Retreat for Youth	Aug 20-23	Marienfeld, <b>Germany</b>
Aug. 24	Piding, <b>Germany</b>	Aug. 28-31	Svitav, <b>Czech Republic</b>
Sep. 5-7	Gdansk, <b>Poland</b>	Sep.8	One day Program
Sep 11-14	University, <b>Poland</b>	Sep. 15	Assumption, <b>Poland</b>
Sep. 18-21	Gorzow, <b>Poland</b>	Sep. 26-28	Braga, <b>Portugal</b>

Besides the above mentioned countries Fr. James takes up retreat also in **Canada, Russia, South Africa, Croatia and in Gulf countries.** I would like to personally and in the name of the Province appreciate the wonderful work that Fr. James is doing to bring Jesus to people around the globe.

## **“My soul glorifies the Lord” ... Into the Vineyard of the Lord**

### **Fr. M. Periyamayagam msfs**



**Periyamayagam** was born of Mr. M. Madalaimuthu and Mrs. Santhana Mary on 19.12.1976 in Otterthotty, Karnataka. After his schooling he joined for the orientation course at Sudhirvana in 1996. He continued his minor seminary training at SFS Seminary, Ettumanoor. He made his First Religious Profession on 11.06.2000 at Sannidhi, Mysore. After completing his Philosophical Studies in Suvidya College he opted to go to our missions in Chad and Cameroon in Africa. He reached in Yaounde/Cameroon in 2004 and had a short period of regency in our community at Bero/Chad. He completed his theological studies from “Ecole Saint Cyprian” in Ngoya, Cameroon. He was ordained a priest on **09. 08. 2008** at St. Antony’s Church, Cowdally in Mysore Diocese by His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Vazhapilly. He will join for the initiation course for pastoral activities which is arranged by the Bishop of Doba in Chad.

### **Fr. Panamattathil Gijo**



Gijo Panamattathil was born of Mr. Varkey and Mary on 15.10.1981 in Pottenplavu, Kerala. After the Schooling in 1996 he joined our orientation program in Sudhirvana. He continued his Minor Seminary studies and formation in Ettumanoor. He did his one year Canonical Novitiate in Sannidhi, Mysore where he made his First Religious Profession on 11.06.2000. After completing his philosophical studies in Suvidya College he opted for our Chad-Cameroon Mission in Africa. He reached in Yaounde in 2004 and had a short period of regency in our community at Bero/Chad. He completed his theological studies from “Ecole Saint Cyprian” in Ngoya, Cameroon. He was ordained a Priest on 1 September 2008 at St. Joseph’s Church, Pottemplave in the Archdiocese of Tellicherry by His Grace Mar George Valiyamattam. He will join for the initiation course for pastoral activities which is arranged by the Bishop of Doba in Chad.

## **Please note:**

### **“You are a Priest for Ever”: The Upcoming Ordinations 2008-09**

<b>Dn. Xess Bipin Kishore</b>	09/11/08 Sun 06.30AM	<b>Kusumdegi</b> , Rourkela, Orissa
<b>Dn. Jeevan Prasad</b>	27/11/08 Thu 10.00AM	<b>Gangavathi</b> , Bellary, Karnataka
<b>Dn. Shjaju Arackal</b>	26/12/08 Fri 02.30 PM	<b>Peechi</b> , Thrissur, Kerala
<b>Dn. Riju Vazhaparambil</b>	29/12/08 Mon 02.00 PM	<b>Kulappuram</b> , Kothamangalam
<b>Dn. Majish Vallisserikettil</b>	30/12/08 Tues 09.30 AM	<b>Kurmullor</b> , Kottayam, Kerala
<b>Dn. Prince Cheriyaakavil</b>	31/12/08 Wed 09.30 AM	<b>Philgiri</b> , Changanassery, Kerala
<b>Dn. Joby Mattathil</b>	03/01/09 Sat 09.15 AM	<b>Koluvally</b> , Thalassery, Kerala
<b>Dn. Jaison Kollarayath</b>	05/01/09 Mon 09.15 AM	<b>Karuvanchal</b> , Thalassery, Kerala
<b>Dn. Balavendra Jacob</b>	08/01/09 Thu 10.00 AM	<b>Gogunte</b> , Bangalore, Karnataka

### **Perpetual profession 2008**

The perpetual Profession for the year 2008 will take place in the **Provincial House, Vinayalaya on 30 November 2008.**

### **“The Lord is our refuge and strength” ...Let us pray for our sick.**

*Fr. Devasia Kalappura*, who is regularly undergoing dialysis in St. John’s Medical College Hospital. He is time and again admitted as he gets fever and he gets infection in the place where the needle is inserted for dialysis.

*Fr. Mathew Thudianplackal* had a fall and broke his thigh bone. He was operated in Sparsha, the orthopedic Hospital in Medicity near Hebbagodi. He is back home in Mermier Bhavan but has to be confined to bed for a month.

*Fr. Abraham Puthussery* is admitted in S.H. Hospital Paynkulam for treatment.

### **“Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord”... Let us pray for the departed**

*Fr. Chacko Varapadavil msfs* of North East Province died on 12 August 2008. Please fulfill the suffrages prescribed in the General Directory.

*Mrs. Pappamma*, 82 years the mother of Fr. A.Anthony Swamy expired on 08 June 2008.

*Mr. Chacko Mattakarathundiyl*, the father of Fr. Thomas Mattakarathundiyl and Bro. Antony, expired on 25 August 2008.

*Mr. Augustine Joseph (Johny, 58)*, the nephew of Fr Antony Mookenthottam , expired on on 15 august 2008.

*Mrs. Guanet Carmeline Miranda*, the maternal aunt of Fr.Christopher Crasta, expired on 22 August 2008

*Mr. Francis, 52*, the maternal uncle of Fr. Selvaraj, expired d on 14 September 2008.

*Mr. P.A, Antony*, the paternal uncle of Bro. Sujith (I year Philosophy in Vinayalaya) died on 15 September 2008.



*Mr. Lawrence Tigga*, 78 years, the paternal uncle of Bro. Praful Tigga died on October 6, 2008

*Mr. James*, 80, the father of Fr. Justin Chirackal, died on 21 October 2008

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

### **Inauguration and blessing of “Max Blank-De Sales Boys’ Home”**

“Max Blank - De Sales Boys’ Home” was blessed on 13 August 2008 at 4 P.M by Rt. Rev. Dr. Varghese Chakkalakal, the Bishop of the Diocese of Kannur and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, the Provincial. About 350 people attended the function including confreres, religious and priests from the neighboring parishes. After the inauguration, there was a public meeting which was presided over by Rev. Fr. Provincial. Rev. Fr. Provincial in his presidential address highlighted the different services being rendered by the MSFS confreres in Kannur diocese. He made use of the occasion to thank Fr. Tomy Mullasseril and his friend Mr. Max Blank and family. Together with the employees of his firm which produces heating ovens organized a great part of the finances needed for the construction. Bishop Varghese in his inaugural address praised services done by the MSFS and wished that the children at Boys’ home have a bright future. There were variety entertainments by the children of Boys’ home. Fr. Anil Thondampallil proposed the vote of thanks and the function came to an end at 6.30p.m.

*Fr. Anil Thondampallil msfs*

### **Blessing of the facilities of Tejas Vidya Peetha at Kumbalgodu**

A long cherished dream came true on 17 August 2008. The new buildings in the permanent campus were blessed by Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, the Provincial in a modest and small function. The formal inauguration and blessing is fixed for a later date. The program began at about 6.30 pm with the blessing of the new building. Fr. Jacob Parappally, the Rector, welcomed all the guests present for the function at the beginning of the Holy Eucharist. He also mentioned the initial struggles that the community faced and still facing in reaching the campus. Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam presided over the Holy Eucharistic and shared the message for the day. He emphasized once again the original vision of Tejas and exhorted the staff and student to make themselves relevant to the fast changing world through a new way of theologizing and as new way of being. The members from Bangalore and Kolar apostolic communities were present for the function besides the staff and children of NEST, our children’s village.

*Bro. Subin Puzhakkara msfs*

### **Creche in Gokunte inaugurated**

The newly constructed crèche cum tuition centre was blessed and inaugurated in a simple ceremony by Fr. Provincial on 24 August 2008. Together with Judy and Sunshine Australia Fr. Joseph was able to make this dream come true for the people and especially for the children at Gokunte. The building is used both as a creche for the children and a tuition centre, where children from the village come and have supervised and assisted learning in the morning and evening hours. Congratulations to Fr. C. Joseph for the accomplishment of this project for the welfare of the people of Gokunte.

### **S.F.S. Church, Hebbagodi**

The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary which was celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2008. As the preparation for the Feast there was Novena, rosary, procession and Holy Mass for nine days, starting from 29<sup>th</sup> Aug to Sep 6<sup>th</sup>. This was well preached by different preachers comprising of MSFS, OCD, SJ and Diocesans, And On 7<sup>th</sup> the anticipated Feast day Mass was presided by Rev. Fr. Joseph Abraham. It was well participated with devotion in a prayerful atmosphere by nearly two thousand people. Later an agape meal was served to all.

### **Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Hebbagodi**

The Annual Feast of the Our Lady of Sorrows Parish was celebrated on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2008. The Feast was preceded by tridum from 18 to 20 September 2008. The whole of the Tridum and Feast Day Mass was preached and presided over by the preaching team from the Renewal Retreat Centre, Bangalore. Before the Mass there was 'theru' procession with lighted candle for which the response of the faithful was overwhelming. The celebration was concluded with the sharing of meal.

### **St. Teresa of Child Jesus Church, Singasandra (Substation)**

The Annual Feast of St. Teresa of Child Jesus church was celebrated on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2008. The feast day was preceded by tridum on 16 to 18 Oct, 2008. This was well preached by MSFS confreres, namely Frs. Anthony Samy, Santhosh Kumar and Japamalai. During these days of novena we had Rosary, Procession followed by Holy Eucharistic Celebration. On Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup>, Oct, 2008, the Feast day Mass was presided over by Rev. Fr. Santhosh Kumar msfs and preached by Rev. Fr. Japamalai msfs. In the evening the special Mass at 5.30 was celebrated by Rev. Fr. James Thomas msfs followed by 'Theru' Procession with Band set and Mobile Orchestra. The Procession ended at 11.30 with Benediction. Indeed it was a witnessing Feast and Profession of our faith well attended by hundreds of people.

*Fr. Aloysius msfs, Parish Priest and Team*

### **Annual Retreat 2008**

The annual retreat of South West province for the year 2008 was conducted in Charis Bhavan from 15 to 19 of September and later in Indian Institute of Spirituality from 6 to 10 of October. The retreat in Charis Bhavan was attended by 52 confreres and 42 confreres attended the retreat in IIS. The retreat was an opportunity for many of the confreres to come together as a family and be rejuvenated spiritually and interpersonally. Rev. Dr. John Kurichianil OSB, a Benedictine Monk and a scripture scholar, preached a wonderful retreat grounding the participants on the word of God. Uniqueness of the retreat was that it created an appetite for God's Word in the hearts of the participants, in this special Year of the Word of God. The preacher inspired the participants to develop a deep love for the word of God. All the participants were extremely happy about the way the preacher tried to reflect with the Sacred Scripture. Fr Mathew Kozhupakalam, the

Provincial inaugurated the retreat with mass of Our Lady of Compassion, the patroness of the Congregation.

In the last day of the retreat in each place, a meeting of the Southwest Confreres was called under the leadership of Rev.Fr.Provincial and discussed the vital issues of the province. Fr Benny Marangolil, the Bursar painted a picture of the financial situation of the province through a Power Point presentation.

*Fr. Shajan Manickathan msfs*

### **Diaconate**

Bros. Giridhari Lakra and Boban Elanjimattathil were ordained deacons on 13 September 2008. The liturgical celebrations began at 9 a.m. There were 25 deacons belonging to five religious congregations to be ordained that day by Mgr. Jerome Owono Mimboe, Bishop of Obala. Bishop Athanas Bala, Bishop emeritus of Bafia and a great number of priests and religious belonging to various congregations participated in the Eucharistic celebrations. After the liturgical ceremonies the La Feuillette community organized a great feast for the special invitees that consisted of priests and religious, the friends of the Fransalians, and parishioners from our two parishes in Yaoundé and Obala.. We also had the honour of receiving Mgr Jerome and the Vicar Episcopal of the diocese of Obala in our community to felicitate our new deacons.

*Fr. Georgekutty Puthiyidom msfs*

### **Perpetual Profession**

Brothers Maria Lawrence and Sandeep Tirkey, presently doing their theological studies in La Feuillette, Ngoya Cameroon, made their Final Religious Profession on 13 September 2008 in St Francis De Sales Church, Hebbagodi in the presence of Rev. Fr Mathew Kozhuppakalam, the Provincial. The occasion of the celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows by the Mermier Bhavan Community provided the best opportunity for our confreres to pronounce their final vows. Many Confreres, Priests and Religious from neighboring communities and places graced the occasion by their presence. The brothers were on their holidays in India and have gone back to Cameroon on 19 September 2008.

*Fr. Jais Mecheril msfs*

### **Our Lady of Velankanni Church, New Town**

Annual Feast of Our Lady of Velankanni Church was celebrated on 21 September 2008. The Tridum preached by Fr. Patrick Jayaraj msfs preceded the feast. Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam, Provincial celebrated the Holy Eucharist. There was a Light and sound show titled “Fatima Apparition and the message to three children”. Due to the tension prevailing at that time the procession was restricted to the church premise. Later with the Agape meal the celebrations came to an end.

*Fr. Joseph Kannedom*

### **Retreat in Chad - Cameroun Mission**

Rev Fr.François Mercier from the Franco-Swiss province preached the Annual retreat for **our** missionaries in Chad And Cameroun from 22 to 26 September 2008. The retreat took place in La Feuillette, the Scolasticate. Thirteen members from the mission could participate in the retreat. Since Fr.François Mercier has deep knowledge on the salesian spirituality, the annual retreat was very much coloured with the thoughts from salesian

literature and spirituality. It was an occasion for us to root ourselves in Fransalian way of life and along with it was also an occasion for all of us to come together as one family. At the end of the retreat, we said farewell to Frs. Martin Richard and Johny Cheruvil. We also were joined by the newly professed brother Christophe Bertrand Abessougie and the perpetually professed brothers Lawrence and Sandeep. La Feuillette wished all the best to Fr. Sathish who is appointed in our new community in Ngaoundere.

*Fr. Joshy Nellimalamattam*

### **Charis Bhavan Bible Convention 2008**

The Eighteenth Charis Bhavan Bible Convention was held from October 7-11, 2008 under the title “*Vachanabhishekha Convention*” in honor of year of the Word of God. The Convention Nagar was packed to its capacity for five days. Rt. Rev. Dr. Sebastian Thekkethecheril bishop of Vijayapuram blessed the convention with his inaugural address, inviting thousands gathered to journey through life with the power of the Word. Everyday of the convention witnessed powerful breaking of the Word, celebration and adoration of the Eucharist, Healings, and Praise and Worship, by gifted and anointed preachers. It was an experience to see people - irrespective of caste creed and denominations – flocking to listen to the Divine Word and be transformed and healed. Special arrangements were made for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and counseling that benefited a huge population. Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam msfs, our Provincial blessed the convention with the celebration of the Eucharist and his inspiring message. The convention was a great success touching the lives of thousands of people, and bringing them blessings. The lively Eucharistic Procession amidst showering of flowers and deep cry of faith from the hearts of 15000 people gathered marked the finale of the convention. The weather was so favorable that it was amazing to witness the thundershower immediately after the benediction on the last day. Charis Bhavan Team organized the event with the support of hundreds of lay ministers actively involved in Charis Bhavan Ministry.

*Fr. Shajan Manickathan msfs*

### **Africa: “Sur les pas du salut” – On the Path of Salvation**

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” (Mt 28: 18-20)

From the very beginning of her existence, the Church gave more importance to the proclamation of the Word of God through catechism. This task is very important in Africa where the Christian faith is just deepening. In order to respond to this great necessity of the Church Fr. Joshy Nellimalamattam, the Parish Priest of St. Joséphine Bhakita d’Ekoumdoum began to publish a series of a books named “sur les pas du salut” which means on the “on the path of salvation”. The first two books, “Dieu le Créateur (God the Creator) and “Dieu le Sauveur” (God the Saviour), are already published for the use of little children. Through these books Fr. Joshy wants to inculcate in the hearts of children God as the Creator and Saviour of the world through biblical stories and colourful pictures. Congratulations to Fr. Joshy and his team for this wonderful venture.

### **New Class rooms blessed for ICSE School Hebbagodi**

In a simple ceremony Fr. Provincial blessed few class rooms in the new ICSE School at Hebbagodi. The formal inauguration will be done at a later date when the construction is fully completed.

### **Kannada Medium Shifted**

The Kannada Medium School at Hebbagodi is shifted from the old building where it has been for over 25 years to the new facilities in the campus, which has hitherto been used by the ICSE School. The Kannada Medium children are now happy to have spacious and good building.

### **The Success Saga of SFS Degree College Continues**

SFS Degree College organized a basketball tournament under the title RIM-REAPERS, on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2008 at the SFS sports complex. The tournament was inaugurated by Olympian Sabu Varkey. It was a unique venture to facilitate an inter-face between industry and curriculum. The tournament attracted the participation of twenty one teams from the industry and the colleges. Some of the big names from the industry include Infosys, Wipro and Patni. The tournament was well appreciated by all the participating teams. Rev. Fr Jino Plathottathil proved yet for another time to be an excellent coordinator with his meticulous planning and excellent organizational skills with a touch of professionalism. To a great extent, it has helped to carry the name of the 'Desalite family' beyond the limits of Electronics city. In the final match, an edge of the seat thriller, Baldwin Methodist Degree College defeated Wipro India for six points to be the winners of RIM-REAPERS 2008. The print media was too enthusiastic to carry the story about the final match on the following day, as it marked the clash of titans. Rev. Fr. Roy Plathottam distributed the cash prize and the trophies for the winners of the tournament. The success of the tournament is a combined effort made by all the staff and the students of SFS Degree College, under the inspirational guidance of Rev. Fr. Anthony Swamy, the principal.

*Organizers*

### **St. Alphonsa's Church, Rajarajeshwari Nagar Parish, Mysore**

On 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 The Parish celebrated the Canonization of Blessed Alphonsa, the patroness of the parish. This is the first church in the diocese of Mysore that bears the name of St. Alphonsa. Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Anthony, the Bishop of Mysore was happy to preside over the Eucharistic Celebration and spoke of the great deeds of the Saint at an early age through her suffering and sacrifice as well as strong determination in her vocation. He also brought to the notice of the parishioners the urgent need to purchase a plot and build the Church. Few of our confreres doing ministries in Mysore were present for the celebration besides some of the women religious who voluntarily came to be part of the same. The breakfast that was supposed to be served after the mass was sacrificed for the Orissa cause and Rs. 11.000 was donated to Caritas India which is working for the

same. After the mass all sipped a cup of Badam milk and cherished a piece of cake. With this austere festivity the grand event of the day came to an end.

*Fr. Christopher Crasta msfs*

### **Holy Rosary Church, Venketala**

Annual Feast of Holy Rosary Church Venkatala was celebrated on 12 October 2008. Three days of spiritual preparation animated by Fr. Lawrence and Fr. Antony Raj, from St. Peters pontifical institute Bangalore, preceded the Feast day celebrations. The feast day Eucharist was presided over by Rev. Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam, Provincial. In the sermon he highlighted the need and benefit of praying rosary everyday. During the Eucharist Seventeen Children received the lord for the first time. Towards the end of the celebration the prizes for the catechism students were distributed.

*Fr. Jose Puthiaparampil msfs*

### **One Minute with St. Francis de Sales**

**Have the right intention to act for the love of God and for His honor and glory! Keep strictly to His resolution; never desire to do anything that is not for God or which could be viewed with displeasure by Him.**

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Yours Sincerely,

**Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam MSFS**  
Provincial