

MISSIONARIES OF ST.FRANCIS DE SALES – MSFS SOUTH WEST INDIA PROVINCE



Tel. 080 23340379 Mob: 91 9448853187, Fax: 080 23341329

Website: www.msfsouthwest.org e-mail: provincialsouthwestmsfs@gmail.com

VINAYALAYA, MSFS Provincial House

P.B.No.5557, Malleswaram West P.O

Bangalore 560 055, INDIA

Circular JK/14

March 16, 2015

My dear Confreres,

Season of Lent invites us for a deeper spiritual renewal and revamping of our spiritual energies. Christian life is rooted in our relationship with the Risen Lord. Lent invites us to participate in the transforming experience of the Risen Christ. We can always draw a parallelism between Religion and Politics. Both are noble paths to serve God and humanity. Both are also means for exploitation, attainment of egoistic ends and corruption. God in his goodness places before us these means to use them for the original purpose of bringing glory to him. In the Book of Deuteronomy Moses tells the people of the choice God places before them: "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants" (Dt. 30:19). In this year dedicated for Consecrated Life for Mission, we strive to better our lives and re-opt to choose to do well and live for God. I wish you a fruitful season of Lent and in anticipation the Joy of Easter!

Visitation to the Confreres in the English Province



My Canonical visitation of the SW Confreres working in the English Province was done from 23rd to 28th of October 2014. I had mentioned in the previous circular that due to my hectic schedule, I could not complete the report. Here I am presenting it to the Province. Fr. Terry McGrath had meticulously prepared my visitation to the SW members in the English Province and he had also arranged a meeting with the Bishop of Northampton Diocese. SW Province has four confreres working in the English Province and a permanent member who joined the English Province.



Fr. Benny Valiyaveetil is the parish priest at St. Patrick's Church, Duston, in the Diocese of Northampton. This parish was previously managed by other religious. The parishioners are very cooperative and supportive to Fr. Benny and he is very much loved and appreciated by the Bishop of the Diocese. After his surgery and treatment he is steady in his health, but he has problem with the vocal cord

and he loses the voice quite often. He is very enthusiastic with his pastoral work and he does all the possible help to support our missions with his contributions. During my visitation I personally spoke to him regarding the need of supporting our Chad-Cameroon Mission and he has agreed to motivate his parish community regarding the same. Fr. Manoj Arackal, the Mission Superior of Chad-Cameroon will be visiting this parish and other parishes managed by our SW confreres to thank the people who support our Mission in Africa. I thank Fr. Benny, on behalf of the province, for his dedicated works and love for the mission.



Fr. Roji Kuttivayalil is the parish priest at St. Teresa of the Child Jesus Parish at Princes Risborough in the Diocese of Northampton. This is an important parish in the Diocese of Northampton and it has a parish school. Fr. Roji enjoys the confidence of the Bishop and he was supported for his Doctoral studies by the Diocese. Study in U.K is very expensive and it is difficult to get scholarship for outside students. Fr. Roji is organizing support for our Chad-Cameroon Mission in his parish and he also contributes for

the formation of seminarians. The administration is preparing his personal plan for return to India in consultation with the English Province and the General Administration. In the name of the Province I thank him sincerely for his committed work. I also thank him for all the arrangement he made along with Fr. Benny and Fr. Sunny Paul for my visitation of the confreres in U.K.



Fr. Saji Neendoor is the parish priest of St. Aldhelm's Parish in Malmesbury, which is one of the oldest parishes managed by the MSFS in the Diocese of Clifton. This parish was started by the MSFS in 1867 and is still with us. Fr. Saji is well appreciated by the Bishop and the people of Malmesbury and he puts his heart and soul to the pastoral care of the people. There is also a school in the parish run by the St. Joseph's Sisters of Anney. Fr. Saji is completing his term of services in the English Province and he is due to return to India by April 2015. I thank Fr. Saji for his services to the English Province and for the help he

renders to the MSFS mission from his parish.



Fr. Prince Cheriyaakavil is assistant pastor in the Parish of St. Thomas Aquinas in Bletchley, in the Northampton diocese. Fr. Prince has started his post-graduate studies in English Literature and he regularly attends the classes at the University of Northampton. Fr. Prince has daily mass in the one of the Churches under the parish and he is well appreciated by his Pastor and the people of the parish. I thank him for the

services he renders for the English Province and wish him all the best in his studies.



Fr. Sunny Paul is the parish priest at Our Lady, Star of the Sea Parish in Brixham, in the Diocese of Plymouth. The parish is situated very close to the sea and the surroundings are beautiful. Fr. Sunny Paul is a permanent member of the English Province and he is the Admonitor to the English Provincial. He is well appreciated in the parish and in the Diocese of Plymouth. He continues to support the formation of

our seminarians and raises funds for our Missions in Africa. I express sincere thanks and gratitude to Fr. Sunny Paul for his love and concern for the SW Province.

Meeting with Fr. Terry McGrath, Provincial of English Province: Fr. Tony McGrath welcomed me into the English Province and facilitated a well organized visitation of the confreres. He accompanied me to most of the places and also got an appointment for the meeting with the Bishop of Northampton. In my formal meeting with him I discussed about the further collaboration of SW Province with the English Province and spoke about the possibilities of replacement for some of our fathers returning to India. We also agreed upon beginning a new ministry of preaching and spiritual counselling in the English Province with the collaboration of SW Province. We will be sending one more priest to the English Province by the end of this academic year for strengthening this Province. Fr. Terry also promised all the possible help and support for our Missions. I thank Fr. Terry and the administration of English Province for all the collaborative ventures and assure the continued support of SW Province to the English Province by way of personnel and strengthening of pastoral ministry.



Meeting with the Bishop of Northampton: Fr. Terry McGrath, the Provincial of English Province, had arranged a meeting for me with the Bishop of Northampton. Fr. Benny Valiyaveettil, Fr. Roji Kuttivayalil and Fr. Terry were with me during the meeting. The bishop welcomed us very cordially into his residence and the Vicar General of the Diocese too was

invited for the meeting. The bishop spoke very positively of the work and ministry rendered by our fathers in his diocese and thanked the MSFS congregation for the support given to his diocese. We briefly discussed about the possibility of new members going to work in the Diocese of Northampton and the bishop was very positive and welcoming. I thank the Bishop and the Diocese of Northampton for the financial support given for the studies of Fr. Benny, Fr. Roji and now for Fr. Prince.

General Observation: SW Province fathers are engaged in meaningful ministry in the English Province. Their presence and ministry have strengthened the English Province. There is need for exploring new possibilities of greater collaboration with the English Province and strengthening the Province. Those who work in the English Province need certain years of experience and maturity for becoming parish priests and so their personal plan has to be considered accordingly in view of supporting and stabilizing the English Province. The need for organizing local communities and regularizing the religious life of the confreres working there is an immediate need. We need to work out a system of financial accountability of the members too.

Visitation of Fr. Thomas Thekkekarotte and Bro. Felipe in Spain: Fr. Thomas



has successfully completed his Masters in Dogmatic Theology and he has registered for his PhD studies in the Faculty of Theology of Burgos. Since he does not have the possibility of getting scholarship from the Faculty, the Diocese has proposed to appoint him as parish priest in one of the parishes close to the Theology Faculty and with the remuneration from the parish he will be able to do his studies as

well. So from last September he is appointed as the parish priest of Palacios de Benaver, which consists of three churches clubbed together. Fr. Thomas is staying in the presbytery adjacent to the Benedictine sisters' Monastery in Palacios de Benaver. The Archdiocese of Burgos supported him for taking the driving license and gave him a second hand car for his use. He is now getting used to the new situation and is beginning his doctoral studies. Fr. Jesús María Álvarez, friend of the MSFS and collaborator of NEST Project in Kengeri, gives Fr. Thomas all the support and help. I thank Fr. Jesús María for all the initiatives he has taken in arranging the parish for Fr. Thomas and his keen interest for the MSFS mission in India.

Bro. Bautista Araneda Felipe: He belongs to the Chile Mission and since last two years he is completing his theological studies in the Faculty of Theology of Burgos. Bro. Felipe is a late-vocation; he has been working previously with the Mercedes company before he joined the MSFS in Chile. He is very studious and committed. He goes for his vacation duty to the Franco-Swiss Province and his studies are supported by the Franco-Swiss Province. Together with Fr. Thomas, Bro. Felipe too collaborates for the support of the mission in India. After the suppression of the Mission of Chile, Bro. Felipe now is incorporated into the Franco Swiss Province and he is financially supported for his

studies by the Franco Swiss Province. I thank Bro. Felipe for his collaboration and wish him all the best for the completion of his Theological studies.

Meeting with the Archbishop of Burgos: Fr. Jesús María Álvarez had arranged a meeting with the Archbishop of Burgos. The Archdiocese of Burgos is very familiar with the works of the MSFS in India as it has 8 years of collaboration with NEST and the MSFS in SW Province. The Archbishop was very happy to receive me and we had detailed discussion regarding the future collaboration. There is possibility for priest-students to do Licentiate in Theology with scholarship from the Faculty and for Doctorate he proposed pastoral work in the Archdiocese as means of financial support. If the MSFS are willing, the Archbishop is willing to give a permanent community and parish for the MSFS in the future. I thank the Archbishop and the Archdiocese of Burgos for the continued collaboration with the MSFS.

Efforts of Fr. Jesús María Álvarez: Fr. Jesús María is a priest belonging to the Archdiocese of Burgos and he was the Delegate for pastoral work with the University Youth in the University of Burgos. He is at present parish priest of St. Lazaro Church in Burgos and also professor of Religion in the University of Burgos. Since last 8 years he is closely associated with the NEST Project in Kengeri and he had been bringing groups of University youth for collaborating with NEST Project in Kengeri. They organize a march



through the city of Burgos for NEST and during the entire year they have activities in the University, in the schools and in parishes for collecting fund for the NEST. Lately they have formed a Registered Society - LIMES - for the support of NEST Project and he brings more and more people as associates of this venture. From last year another priest - Fr. Carlos Izquierdo Yusta, who is the present Delegate of the Pastoral Ministry to the University students, also visits India and supports the collaboration for NEST. Over these last 8 years more than 75 students from the Burgos University have visited and stayed in the NEST and they, together with their family, too support the NEST project through whatever means they can. I place on record the sincere efforts of Fr. Jesús María, Fr. Carlos and the team for the support of our missionary work in India.

Visitation of SW Confreres in the Delegation of GAH



I did the canonical visitation of our confreres of the SW Delegation of GAH from 11th to 20th November, 2014. The Delegate Superior, Fr. Binod Puthenpurackal, together with his advisory council had meticulously prepared my visitation to every confrere of the GAH Delegation. Under this Delegation we have three local communities – Local Community of Munich-

Augsburg with Fr. Joseph Pazhayattil as the local superior; Local community of Muenster with Fr. Joshy Mangalath as the local superior; Local Community of Klosterneuburg with Fr. Sibichen Kochuveedu as the local superior. First I visited the members of the local community of Klosterneuburg. We have now four of our confreres working and studying in Austria.



Fr. Sibichen Kochuveedu is the local superior and the parish priest of Neustift am Walde in Vienna, which is under the Stift of Klosterneuburg. This is a small parish in the outskirts of Vienna. Along with the pastoral ministry, Fr. Sibichen has been doing his doctoral studies in Theology in the Vienna University. Fr. Sibichen coordinates the religious life of our confreres working in in Klosterneuburg as the local superior and he also administers the

finance of the local community in Austria. Fr. Sibichen will complete his pastoral services and his studies in the University of Vienna and will return to India by the end of April 2017. I thank Fr. Sibichen for his dedicated services to the province and for his love and concern for the missions.



Fr. Bobby Puthenparambil is the parish priest of Reinprechtspölla Hl. Pankratius at Harmannsdorf in Austria. This parish too is under the Stift of Klosterneuburg and Fr. Sibichen manages also another small parish which is directly under the diocese of Vienna. The parish he manages is under the Stift and it has got a beautiful presbytery, which was the summer house of the Augustinian Canons Regular of Klosterneuburg. This area is very cold in winter and it is one of the rural parishes in the Vienna Diocese. Fr. Bobby is loved by the people and committed to the ministry entrusted to him. Fr. Bobby will complete his

pastoral ministry in Austria and will return to India by the end of April 2017. I thank Fr. Bobby for his love for the congregation and the mission of the province.



Fr. Joe Cherolickal is the Assistant Parish priest at Klosterneuburg St. Martin, where Dr. Leopold Streit is the parish priest. This parish has supported many of the projects of our Province in the past. The first contact of the MSFS with the Stift of Klosterneuburg came through the instrumentality of Fr. Mathew Kozhupakalam. He served in this parish of St. Martin and we received help from this parish for the building up of SFS Church in Hebbagodi, Library at Suvidya College and also for the first Boys' Home in Hebbagodi. Fr. Joe is completing his doctoral studies in Theology from the University of Vienna and he will complete his studies and pastoral work

in Austria by end of April 2016 and return to India. I thank Fr. Joemon for his love and commitment in the task entrusted to him and also for his love for the mission of the Congregation.



Fr. Sen Vellakada is engaged his PhD studies in Theology from the University of Vienna and he resides at the Augustinian Cannons Regular Stift at Klosterneuburg. He helps out during the week and at the week-end in different parishes managed by the Stift and also attends classes in the University of Vienna. He is a member of the community of the Augustinian Cannons Regular at Kloster and participates in all the daily spiritual activities of the community. Fr. Sen also finds time to contact benefactors and sponsors for our mission projects and he is in contact with Fr. Thomas Cherukat in organizing the Friends of the Fransalians in Austria. Fr. Sen will

complete his studies and pastoral ministry in Austria by the end of April 2016 and will take up the new assignment in the Province. I thank Fr. Sen for his commitment, love for the mission and the support he organizes for the mission projects.

Meeting with Abtprimas Propst Bernhard H. Backovsky, Dr. Leopold Streit, Dr. Walter Simek and Mag. Adreas Garleitner at Stift – Klosterneuburg:

Fr. Sibichen had arranged for a meeting for me with the Aptprimas Propst Bernhard, the Abbot General of the Augustinian Cannons Regular and Dr. Leopold Streit. Fr. Sibichen also was present for the meeting. The personal plan of the confreres working and studying under the Stift was discussed in the meeting. I thanked the Abtprimas for the financial support given to our province in the building up of the new Boys' Home in Hebbagodi, Tejas Seminary and the NEST Project in Kengeri. I had also another meeting with Dr. Walter Simek, the Procurator of the Stift who shows keen interest in the mission projects of the MSFS and also Mag. Adreas Garleitner, the Director of Projects of the Stift, who also supports and encourages our mission projects. I thank Fr. Mathew Kozhuppakalam who introduced the MSFS to the Stift and brought about this wonderful collaboration in many ventures of the Province. I thank Dr. Leopold Streit for his great love for the MSFS missions and for the support he gives to Fr. Joe. I thank Abtprimas Propst Bernhard H. Backovsky for his love and concern and for favouring our collaboration in pastoral work and in the mission projects.

Visitation of our Confreres in Germany:



From Austria I went to make the visitation of our confreres working in Germany. **Fr. Joshy Mangalath** is the local superior in Muenster and he is the Asst. parish priest at Sts. Bonifatius and St. Lambertus in Frechenhorst in the Diocese of Muenster. Fr. Joshy is well appreciated for his availability and for the pastoral care he renders in the Diocese. As local superior he animates the local

community with his visits and calls to the confreres. I thank Fr. Joshy for his loving and dedicated services and care for the confreres.



Fr. S. Rajkumar is the Asst. parish priest at Rees in the Diocese of Münster. This was my second visit to him after he had moved to this new parish. Fr. Rajkumar is well appreciated for his pastoral commitment in the parish and the Diocese is very happy with his works. He also finds time to support small mission projects of the Province through his contacts with the parishioners. I thank Fr. Rajkumar for his dedicated works and for his love for the mission of the Congregation.



Fr. Arockiya Jayaraj is Asst. Parish Priest at St. Marien Church Oldenburg, **Fr. Louis Parappuram** is Asst. Parish Priest at St. Willehad at Oldenburg **Fr. Joseph Mannukuzhumpil** is Asst. Parish Priest at St. Joseph's Church Oldenburg in the Diocese of Münster. All three have taken their driving license and have moved to their new houses from where they serve as Asst. parish priests. All these three fathers are getting used to the German culture and gaining mastery over the German language. I thank all these three fathers for their committed work and love for the mission of the Congregation.



Fr. Binod Puthenpurackal, who is the present Delegation Superior of SW Delegation in GAH, lives and works at Abenberg. He resides in one of the houses provided by the Congregation of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, Third Order of St. Francis Assisi in Abenberg in the Diocese of Eichstätt. He is working as Asst. parish priest at St. Jakobus Parish Abenberg and also helps the sisters in their spiritual needs. Fr. Binod is very

much committed and dedicated to the work entrusted to him as the Delegation Superior and he does a very good job of coordinating the confreres of the SW Province in GAH. He

also finds mass intentions and other support for the mission of the Province. I thank him on behalf of the Province for the love and care for the congregation and for all the services he renders to the confreres in the Delegation.



Fr. Thomas Mekkattu also is working as the Asst. Parish Priest of Maria Himmelfahrt at Berching in the Diocese of Eichstätt. He is one of the councillors of the GAH Delegation and serves the delegation also as the Delegation Bursar. Fr. Thomas is very much liked by his parish priest and the people of his parish and he does all possible help in finding mass intentions and other helps for the mission of the Province. On behalf of the Province I thank him for his committed work and love for the mission.



Fr. James Panikerveettil is one of the Delegation Councillor and the Administrator Priest at St. Peter and Paul Parish at Ascheim in the Diocese of Munich. This parish was bifurcated from another and in the transition time Fr. James is appointed as the Administrator parish priest. He renders a very difficult job and he is getting used to the new situation. He was well appreciated in the previous parish where he served in the same diocese. Fr.

James is committed and he also finds all possible support for the mission of the province. I thank him for his committed services and love for the mission of the Congregation.



Fr. James Mukalel is the parish priest at St. Martin Church at Breitenbrunn. This is a parish in the Diocese of Augsburg where SW Province has a long time presence. Fr. James is well appreciated in the parish and he serves the Congregation, Province and the Delegation as the Secretary of the St. Francis de Sales Society in GAH. He renders this difficult job with a lot of dedication and commitment. Fr. James has been a big support for

the mission of the province through various helps he found through his friends. He continues to support the specific needs of the province by finding more resources. I thank Fr. James on behalf of the Province, for his dedicated services and love for the mission.

Fr. Joseph Pazhayattil is the local superior of the Munich-Eichstätt-Augsburg community and he works as the Parish Priest at Bibertal-Buhl in the Diocese of Augsburg. Fr. Joseph has served the Delegation of GAH previously as the Mission Superior and he continues to animate the local community with love and dedication. He finds all possible help for the mission of the province and is well appreciated by the Diocese. I thank Fr. Joseph for his dedicated works and love for the mission.



Fr. Y Mathias is the Asst. Parish Priest at St. Johannis Parish at Amorbach in the Diocese of Wuerzburg. He is very much loved by the parish priest and the people of the parish. I had the joy of participating in the memorial mass for the martyrs of war from this parish and to have meal with the parish priest. Fr. Mathias finds all possible help to support the

mission of the province. He is due to come back to India by April 2015 and for his future ministry in the province. On behalf of the province, I thank Fr. Mathias for the services rendered and for the support of the mission of the Congregation.

Fr. Jose Kannanaikal is doing his PhD studies in Theology at the University of Munich and he helps out at one of the parishes of the Diocese of Munich during the week-end. He does not have a scholarship now and he is supported by the Diocese for his studies. He resides at the Diocesan Seminary Hostel in Munich and goes to the University. He is making steady progress in his studies and in my meeting with him we discussed about the time duration he needs for the completion of his studies. I wish Fr. Jose all the success in his studies and the province expects him back for service at the earliest after the completion of his studies.



Fr. Joseph Pattarakalayil and Fr. M. Periyamayagam were completing their German course in preparation for pastoral ministry at the Diocesan Centre of Muenster away from the city. I visited them and spent time with them. They both are improving in the German language proficiency and after December 2014 they will be assigned to the new parishes. Both the fathers were present for the Delegation Colloquium and on behalf of the

Province I wish them success in their studies and future ministry.



Fr. D. Jeevan Prasad is doing his Licentiate studies in Biblical Theology at the University of Leuven in Belgium. I visited him and stayed with him in the Seminary two days. During my visit I met his Rector, Dean of Studies and his thesis guide and enquired about the state of his studies. Fr. Jeevan is doing his best and he is well appreciated for his studiousness and hard work. I spoke with the Dean of Studies and the rector for the extension of his scholarship and they assured us that they would do all that is possible to support Fr. Jeevan. The life in Leuven is

very simple and the students themselves cook their food and take care of all their needs. They live very frugally and are focused on their studies. I had an opportunity to meet the fathers from India who are studying there and celebrate Holy Mass with them. I wish Fr. Jeevan all the best and success in the completion of his studies.



Fr. James Manjackal: I visited Fr. James Manjackal before I returned to India. This time I could not stay with him but only could visit him and spend time with him. He was regular with his physiotherapy and walking training. I witnessed some of the sessions and we spent time together and had a meal together which was prepared at the House of Richy and Gaby for us. Fr. James shared with me his activities and also his desire to visit India and participate

in the Charis Bhavan Jubilee celebrations. I assured him the continued prayers and support of the Province family and communicated the get-well wish of all the confreres. Fr. James is very much concerned with the needs of the province and in spite of his sickness continues to find support for the formation of seminarians and also by finding mass intentions for the confreres in the Mission. He also supported in a big way the Philippines Delegation for the construction of the Novitiate and the Chad Cameroon Mission too. I thank him on behalf of the province for all his love and support of the Mission of the Province. I was staying at St. Ursula Convent in Salzburg and Fr. Naidu of Vizag Province had arranged for my stay there. I thank Fr. Naidu for his love, care and concern and wish him all the best for the successful completion of his studies.

Fr. Paul Raj and Fr. Sunil Ekka

Both these fathers have reached Eichstätt and are completing their German language proficiency program. I met both of them and soon they will be assigned to new parishes. They are well appreciated in their batch for their studiousness and for efficiency. On behalf of the province I wish you dear fathers, God's blessings and success in your ministry!

Delegation Colloquium of GAH at Abenberg

The Delegation Colloquium of GAH Delegation of SW Province was held at Abenberg at the place of Fr. Binod, the Delegation Superior. All the members except some student members of the delegation who could not be present due to their commitment participated in the Delegation Colloquium. We all arrived at Abenberg on 16th November in the evening and had the common sharing and dinner. The following day, after prayer and break-fast we began the formal session of our colloquium. All the aspects of our religious life, personal concerns of the confreres and common interest of the Delegation and the Province were discussed in detail. The members all shared their ministerial activity and Fr. Provincial shared with the Delegation-members news and activities from the Province. There was detailed discussion regarding the pocket money, regulation regarding the purchase of new car, allowance to new-comers, arrangement for the return of the members upon completion of their ministry in GAH and also

regarding the annual holidays. Since all of these matters were to be discussed in the PIF Meeting on 27th and 28th November 2014 at Bangalore, it was decided that the clear directives arrived in that meeting would be communicated to the Delegation members. The colloquium was concluded at 1.00 pm with the concelebrated Eucharist at the St Peter and Paul chapel of the Sisters convent.

General Evaluation of the Visitation to GAH

All the SW Province members who are engaged in pastoral ministry are very committed and are focused in their responsibility. After the new administrative structure of Delegation in GAH took place there is greater coordination, facility in communication with members and reorganization of religious life through local communities. All the members show some concern towards the needs of the missions and are eager to help the Province in various needs. The confreres who are studying too are doing their best and are in communication with the rest of the members. The unanimous decision of the PIF with the General curia was to implement the General chapter mandate of calling back confreres who have completed 10 years of services in the Western World. According to the guidelines of the PIF Meeting, SW Province is finalizing the personal plan of all the confreres in GAH and it will be commonly published by the PIF chairman. Once again, I thank the Delegation Superior and his Advisory council who organized the visitation meticulously, arranged for my travel and planned the colloquium well.

General Chapter Retreat

A common retreat for all the members of the Indian provinces who did not attend the General Chapter Retreat will be arranged at Vinayalaya, Bangalore from 12 -17 May, 2015. All the confreres who have not participated yet in the General Chapter Retreat conducted at province level are expected to attend this retreat. Once again I remind all the confreres that no one is exempted from this retreat and kindly ensure your participation by registering your name to the Provincial Secretary at the earliest.

Changed dates of the Visitation of Superior General to SW Province

The canonical visitation of the Superior General to South West India Province is rescheduled as per the intimation given by the Superior general. The changed dates are the following:

September 04th -12th, 2015 – Visitation of communities and confreres in Kerala

October 19th to – 10th November 2015 - Visitation of communities and confreres in Karnataka, including 3 full days of visitation to Suvidya College.

The Asst. General will meet with the members of the Apostolic Communities from **6th – 12th November, 2015** as follow up of the visitation of Superior General. I will send a detailed schedule of the visitation of the Superior General after the next council meetings.

Animation Team for the Celebration of Year of Mission

In response to the proposal of the General Administration to set up an “Animation Team” comprising of representatives from four forums (Mission, Education, Formation, and Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries), the Provincial Administration of South West India Province has already set up an “Animation Team” of the Province. The following members constitute the Animation Team: Fr. Tomy Mullasseril (Mission Forum), Fr. Mecheril Jais (Education Forum), Fr. Joby Mattathil (Formation Forum) and Fr. Jijo Chemplany (Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries). Fr. Antony Sathiya Seelan is appointed as person in-charge of collecting materials on Fr. Mermier. All Animation Teams of Indian Provinces had their first plan-meeting in Visakhapatnam from February 27th evening to March 1st afternoon, 2015.

Change of Address

1. Pater Joseph George Pattarkalayil
Ascheberg St. Lambertus
Lambertus-Kirchplatz 4
59387 Ascheberg
Tel: 0259392998811
Cel: 015171669698

2. Fr. Mariaraj George
St. Antony’s Church
Antoninagara
Doddakunche
Holenasipura Tk
Hassan Dt. Karnataka.

The Local Superiors’ Forum Meeting

A gathering of the Local Superiors’ Forum was held on 15th January 2015 at Vinayalaya, Bangalore from 9. 00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. The meeting was well attended by 27 local superiors of the province. The morning session was animated by Fr. Ronnie Prabhu SJ. He gave a very insightful input session on the animation of the community by the Superior by understanding the “need” of every member and taking into consideration one’s own need. The interactive session with the resource person was very lively. Fr. Johny Kanjiramparambil proposed the vote of thanks to the resource person. In the afternoon session the participants shared the concerns of their particular responsibilities. The Provincial addressed the members and shared the mind of the General Chapter regarding the animation of the local communities. After a very meaningful session of future plan for animation the meeting came to an end at 4.00 pm.

Reported by Fr. Joshy Thazhathukunnel

The Young Priests’ On-going Formation Program

A few days were set apart specially for the young priests’ of South-West India province, doing ministries in different places, in different capacities with vibrant spirit to come together at Vinayalaya to relax, to refresh, to update, to share and to go back with renewed spirit and energy. It was a long awaited day for all the young confreres of the South-West India Province. The young MSFS priests on-going Formation Program 2015, was held from 28-30 January, with the theme “innovation in Mission and Consecrated



life. 34 participants were present for the gathering. The inaugural mass was presided over by Rev. Fr. Jose Kumbloickal, the Provincial and in his sermon he exhorted the young confreres to be committed to the mission as Jesus was. Rev. Fr. Henry Jose Kodikuthiyil happily welcomed the confreres present to the 'young priests gathering' of the Province. At the outset he thanked all present for the positive response given to the

invitation. He clearly enunciated the goals and objectives of the gathering. Fr. Provincial also spoke on the occasion and invited the members present there to make the best use of the time, in achieving the desired result. Fr. Ronald Cardoza and Fr. George Kannanthanam CMF were the resource persons, who through their inspiring talks and workshop enlightened the participants regarding the duty of every Christian priest in taking up the Mission of Christ. They also narrated the challenges involved in this noble task. The talks were challenging as it was borne out of their experience calling each of the participant to be committed. The gathering also involved personal sharing of their ministries and an informal evaluation of Tejas life-style, as most of the participants were part of Tejas formation. Finally an evaluation of the gathering was made. All of the participants were highly appreciative of the program and suggested measures to improve upon the drawbacks. The gathering came to a close with the exhortation by Fr. Provincial, at 4:30pm.

Reported by Fr. Sujith Pallassery

The Order of Diaconate at Tejas Vidya Peetha



“If we count the goodness of God in our life it would be more than the grains of sand in the seashore”. The goodness of God was well manifested on 17th February 2015 as Bros. Josemon John Kochuputhanpurayil, Joseph Ouseparambil, Nirmal Jose Pulikkalath, S.

Innacimuthu and Jose Thottukadavil received the Order of Diaconate. Most Rev. Bishop

Lawrance Pius, the Bishop of Dharmapuri, presided over the Eucharistic celebration which began at 6.00 P.M, and ordained five of us as Deacons for the service of the church. The brothers took the theme, "Called to love and serve" for the Eucharistic celebration and for our further reflection. The day was blessed with the presence of Rev.Fr. Jose Kumbloickal, the Provincial and our confreres from different communities. The presence of fathers and sisters from various religious congregations and parishes made the day more colourful. The campus was decorated with lights and flowers. We sincerely thank all those who participated in the celebration and supported us through their prayers.

Reported by Dn. Nirmal Jose Pulikkalath

Prayerful Wishes and Hearty Congratulations in anticipation

Fr. Amougu Amougu Emile Paulin defended successfully on 12th March 2015 his Licentiate dissertation on *Friendship in Salesian Spirituality*, with special focus on the Chad Cameroon Mission. Hearty congratulations, dear Fr. Emile. You made us all proud by your efficient presentation and defence!

Fr. Sibichen Panathamcakel will defend his Doctoral thesis in Biblical Theology at the Pontifical University of Urbanianum, Rome on 26th March 2015. His Doctoral dissertation is titled: *Jesus in the Wilderness: Meaning and Function of Mark 1, 12-13*. On behalf of the SW Province, I wish you dear Fr. Sibichen, God's blessings and success in the Defence and in anticipation the congratulations too. Fr. Sibichen will return to India by end of April 2015 to take up his assignment in the Province.

Transfers and Appointments

Fr. E. Erudaya Raja is designated as the new Rector of Sannidhi Minor Seminary, at Mysore.

Fr. Amougu Amougu Emile Paulin is designated to be appointed as the Rector of the SFS Minor Seminary, Ngoya, Yaoundé, Cameroon. He will also be appointed as the Vocation Promoter of the Chad-Cameroon Mission and the Contact person for the Sponsors of the Seminarians in the Mission.

Fr. Joby Mattathil is designated as the new Rector of SFS Seminary Ettumanoor.

Fr. Shinto Parayankunnel is designated as the Vocation Promoter at SFS Seminary Ettumanoor.

Fr. Abey Thunduparambil is appointed as the Vice Rector and House Procurator of MSFS Formation House, Silang, Cavite, Philippines.

Fr. Jundie Sumagaysay is appointed as the Assistant Priest of Immaculate Conception Parish, Malvar, Batangas in the Archdiocese of Lipa with effect from February 2, 2015.

Fr. Mariaraj George is appointed at Antoninagara in the Diocese of Chikmagalur with effect from 17th February, 2015.

Fr. Joseph Pattarakalayil is appointed by the Bishop as the Asst. Parish Priest of St. Lambertus parish in Ascheberg with effect from March 2, 2015.

Fr. Jose Maliekal is designated for pastoral ministry in the English Province.

Fr. Jose Puthukari is designated as the Procurator at SFS Seminary Ettumanoor.

Fr. Santhosh Pereira is designated as Vocation Promoter and staff at Sannidhi Minor Seminary, Mysore.

Fr. Charles Periyamayagam is designated as Vice Rector and Disciplinarian at Sannidhi Minor Seminary, Mysore.

Fr. Sebastian Vellaramkunnel is designated as the parish priest of St. Ignatius Church, Kannadiparamba.

Fr. Mijo Kulamkuthiyil is designated as Procurator at Atmajyothi Ashram, Pattikad.

Fr. Nelson Padikara is designated for pastoral ministry in the Delegation of Philippines for a term of five years.

Fr. Sujith Pallasserry is designated for pastoral ministry in the Chad-Cameroon Mission for a term of five years.

Fr. R. Bartholomew is designated for pastoral ministry in the Chad Cameroon Mission for a period of five years.

Fr. Francis Ekka is designated as the Vice Rector and Disciplinarian at SFS Seminary Ettumanoor.

Fr. Joseph Kannedom is designated as the new Priest-in-charge of the Syro-Malabar parish in Yelahanka.

Fr. A. Jerome is appointed on the permanent Faculty of St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, in the Department of Canon Law and he continues to be the Archdiocesan Tribunal member. He will take up his residence in Vinayalaya from 17th March 2015.

Fr. J. Perianayagam is designated for pastoral ministry in the Diocese of Gulbarga for one year.

Fr. Anand Ekka will continue to render pastoral service in the Diocese of Gulbarga for one more year and complete his LLB studies.

Fr. Balavendra Jacob is designated to be the Parish Priest at St. Xavier's Church Sedem, Gulbarga and as the Mission Superior and Neighbourhood Local Community Superior of Gulbarga Mission.

Fr. Joseph Pulpara will enter into his sabbatical year from May 2015 and will take up his residence at MSFS House Bathery for one year.

Fr. Justin Chirackal is designated as the Parish Priest of St. Joseph's Parish, Chuvannamannu, in the Archdiocese of Trichur.

Fr. George Chirayil is designated as the Superior and Principal of SFS School at Thazhechovva, Kannur.

Fr. Jose Vechuvettickal is designated to Mattanoor to begin new ministry and build the community house at Mattanoor.

Fr. Johny Puthiyaparambil is designated for beginning new ministry at Irupathekkar, Kattappana and to supervise the construction of the new community house.

Fr. A. Satya Seelan is designated for pastoral ministry and studies at Klosterneuburg, Austria.

Fr. Regi Muthukattil is designated for pastoral ministry at Klosterneuburg, Austria.

Fr. Devasia Koottarappally is designated for Pastoral ministry in the Diocese of Osnabruck in Germany.

Fr. Jose Kokkandanthil is designated as the Superior and Priest-in-charge of the Pastoral ministry at PSI House, Kengeri.

Fr. Biju Palamkunnel is designated for Pastoral ministry in the U.S.

Fr. Lalu Thadathilankal is designated as the parish priest of OLS Church in Hebbagodi, designated Pre-Novice Master for April-May 2015.

Fr. A. Mathias is designated for Educational/Pastoral Ministry in the Diocese of Shimoga.

Fr. Y. Mathias is designated as the Principal of SFS School ,Savanur.

Fr. Sibichen Panthenmackal is designated as the Dean of Studies and on the teaching Faculty of Tejas Vidya Peetha in Kengeri.

Fr. Pangi Raj is designated as the Procurator and on the teaching Faculty of Tejas Vidya Peetha.

Fr. Jojo Kolarickal is designated to be the Procurator and Financial Administrator of SFS Parish and School Community, Koppal.

The list of other transfers and appointments will be published in the next Circular.

Bon Voyage

Fr. Devasia Koottarappallil left for pastoral ministry in the diocese of Osnabruck, Germany on March 12, 2015. He is the first MSFS going to work in this Diocese. I thank Fr. Joy Vazhappillil for his instrumentality in getting this opening in this Diocese. We

wish you, Fr. Devasia, God's abundant blessing in the new ministry and assure you our prayers and support.

On Home Visit and Vacation

We extend a hearty welcome to our confreres who are abroad and will be visiting India in March and April: Fr. Jimmy Parayankuzhy, Fr. Jiji Manjackal, Bro. Rony Fernandis and Bro. Noel Tatoy from the Philippines, Fr. Louis Parappuram from Germany and Fr. Xess Bipin Kishore from Cameroon. We wish you a safe journey and warm welcome to India.

Let us pray for the Departed

Let us pray for **Mariyakutty**, aged 86 years, eldest sister of Fr. George Chirayil, who passed away on 02.03.2015.

Confreres and persons who need our Prayers

Fr. Paul Aranjanil underwent angiogram recently at Holy Cross Hospital Kottiyam. He had a few blocks and they were treated. He is recovering and let us pray for his complete recovery and good health.

Fr. D. Doraiswamy had skin-grafting surgery for his hand where the wound was and he is almost healed. He undergoes physiotherapy now. Let us pray for his complete recovery.

Fr. Subin Puzhakkara had a knee injury and he is to undergo a surgery to rectify the damage. We pray for his complete recovery.

Fr. Thomas Illikkattil is to undergo cataract surgery on one of his eyes at St. Marthas Hospital on 16th March 2015. We wish him speedy recovery and assure him of our prayers.

Fr. Shinto Parayankunnel is admitted in the hospital due to typhoid and chest infection. Let us pray for his speedy recovery.

The father of Fr. George Valliamthadathil is diagnosed with kidney cancer in an advanced stage. His condition is very serious. Let us earnestly pray for him and for the family of Fr. George.

My Programme

March 2015

- 9 Return from Chad-Cameroon
- 10 SFS College, NAAC Accreditation Inspection, meeting with Officials
- 13-14 Council Meeting Vinayalaya
- 17 Meeting with Innovative Forum members on CSC discussion, Vinayalaya
- 26 Convocation – Suvidya College
- 27 KRRCR Executive Meeting, Ashirvad, Bangalore
- 28-31 Visitation of confreres in Kerala

April 2015

- 4 Easter Vigil Mass, OLS Church, Hebbagodi
- 6-7 Council Meeting, Vinayalaya
- 18 Jubilee celebrations of Fr. Thomas Illikattil, Marika, Kerala
- 20-30 Visitation of Confreres in Australia, meeting with the Bishop of Adelaide

In the Footsteps of our Patron, St. Francis de Sales:

The magnet, as everyone knows, Theotimus, naturally attracts iron to itself by a hidden and very amazing power. All the same, five things hinder its activity: 1) A great distance between the magnet and the iron; 2) if there is a diamond between them; 3) if the iron is greased; 4) if it is rubbed with garlic; 5) if the iron is too heavy. Our heart is made for God. He attracts it constantly and does not cease to pour into it the delights of his heavenly love. Five things however, prevent the activity of this holy attraction: 1) sin which creates a distance between us and God; 2) attachment to riches; 3) sensual pleasures 4) pride and vanity 5) self love with its numerous disorderly passions which it produces. (SFS, Treatise on the Love of God, Bk VII, Ch. 14).

Fraternally in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fr. Jose Kumblokal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'F'.

Rev. Fr. Jose Kumblokal MSFS
Provincial Superior