MISSIONARIES
OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES
SOUTH-WEST INDIA PROVINCE
VINAYALAYA, MSFS Provincial House, P. B. No. 5557, Malleswaram West P. O, Bengaluru 560 055, INDIA
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SWIP Circular TK/29 **March 2026**

My dear confreres,

We stand at the sacred threshold where memory, suffering, and hope converge—from Maundy Thursday through Good Friday into the dawn of Easter. These are not merely events we recall; they are mysteries that illuminate the depth of our human experience.

On Maundy Thursday, Christ reveals a love that kneels. In the washing of feet and the breaking of bread, He redefines power as self-giving service. In a world marked by division, betrayal and loneliness, this gesture speaks clearly: to love is to serve.

Good Friday confronts us with suffering and the silence of God. In the Cross of Christ both human brokenness and divine mercy meet. Christ does not explain pain; He enters it. In our own struggles and uncertainties, the Crucified One offers His presence. Even in betrayal and abandonment, we are not alone.

Then comes Easter. Suffering is not denied but transformed. The stone is rolled away not only from the tomb, but from our hearts. At a time when peace seems far off and hope seems fragile, Easter proclaims 'life prevails, love endures, and meaning is not lost.'

To live this mystery today is to embrace self-giving, trust, and renewal. May this Easter take root within us, shaping how we live and love.

1. EDEN NIVAS

Eden Nivas - The new building for the retired priests was inaugurated by the Provincial and blessed by Rt. Rev. Sebastian Thekethecheril, Bishop of Vijayapuram Diocese on February 14, 2026. All the remaining works are being completed. The following nine confreres will form the first batch at Eden Nivas:

1. Fr. Joseph Pulpara
2. Fr. Mathew Kalathil
3. Fr. Paul Aranjanil
4. Fr. James Mukalel
5. Fr. Mathew Kavithazha
6. Fr. Thomas Puthussery
7. Fr. Jose Thottukadavil
8. Fr. Jose Edasseril
9. Fr. Joseph Vettukattil

They are expected to arrive in Eden Nivas between 12th and 14th of April 2026. The community will be canonically erected with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the 15th of April 2026. Fr. Anil Thondampallil, as announced earlier, will be the Superior of this new community.

2. PROVINCE ANNUAL RETREATS 2026-27

1ST RETREAT	
Date	14-18 September 2026
Place	Charis Bhavan Retreat Centre, Athirampuzha
Preacher	Fr. Joy Painadath

2nd RETREAT	
Date	12-16 October 2026
Place	Vinayalaya, MSFS Provincial House, Bengaluru
Preacher	Fr. Juentius Andrade (CSSR)

I request all of you to enrol your names with the Provincial Secretary for anyone of the retreats and plan your programs accordingly. No last-minute exceptions will be entertained.

3. COORDINATION PLAN OF THE GENERAL CURIA FOR THE YEAR 2026

VISIT OF GENERAL CURIA MEMBERS TO PROVINCES/MISSION UNITS	
June 22-July 05, 2026	General Secretary for FORMATION to Chad and Cameroon Delegation
October 20-30, 2026	Assistant Superior General to Philippines Delegation
FORUM MEETINGS WITH GENERAL SECRETARIES	
August 04-05, 2026	Mission Forum
August 07-08, 2026	Education Forum
REGIONAL FORUM MEETINGS – INDIA	
November 17-18, 2026	Regional (India) STEWARDSHIP Forum with GB in BANGALORE
November 25-26, 2026	Regional (India) EDUCATION Forum with GS in VIZAG
November 27-28, 2026	Regional (India) FORMATION Forum with GS in PUNE
November 30-December 1, 2026	Regional (India) MISSION Forum with GS in TRICHY
December 01-02, 2026	Regional (India) SAIM Forum with GS in NAGPUR
CONGREGATIONAL PROGRAMMES	
May 25-June 15, 2026	DSM Heritage Retreat Annecy (DSMHR)
September 01- October 6, 2026	Salesian Progragmme Annecy (SPA)
October 05-09, 2026	Mermerian Parish Mission Preaching (MPMP) National Gathering & Prayer Days at Rose Hill, Visakhapatnam

4. THE NEW PROVINCIAL CURIA OF THE ENGLISH PROVINCE

- Fr. Thomas Kulandaisamy : Provincial
- Fr. Kasireddy Vijayasatya Prasad : Provincial Councillor and Admonitor
- Fr. Maria Selvan Alexander : Provincial Councillor
- Fr Benjamin Sundar : Provincial Bursar

As Rev. Fr. Thomas Kulandaisamy and his Councillors take up the leadership of the Province, we offer our sincere congratulations and assure them of our prayers and God's blessings.

5. THE NEW PROVINCIAL CURIA OF THE GUWAHATI PROVINCE

- Fr. George Thomas Poovathunkal : Provincial
- Fr. Athnas Kerketta : Provincial Councillor and Admonitor
- Fr. George : Provincial Councillor
- Fr. Marcelinus : Provincial Councillor
- Fr. Joe Varghese : Provincial Councillor
- Fr. Lijeesh : Provincial Bursar

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Rev. Fr. George Thomas Poovathunkal, the Provincial, and his Councillors as they assume the leadership of the Province, assuring them of our prayerful support and invoking God's abundant blessings upon their ministry.

6. THE NEW RECTOR OF SUVIDYA COLLEGE

Fr. Sabu Francis has assumed office as the Rector of Suvidya College, Bangalore on February 15, 2026. As we congratulate him, we also wish him God's abundant blessings in this noble task of forming our young Fransalians.

7. TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS

1) **Fr. A. Jerome** is designated for the pastoral ministry in the diocese of Mysore.
2) **Fr. Abey Thunduparabil** is designated to take up ministry for the differently abled children.
3) **Fr. Anand Ekka** is designated to be appointed to Latapara Minor Seminary of the Nagpur Province for one year.
4) **Fr. Anil Kiran C. Buddini** is appointed as the Administrator of Indian Institute of Spirituality, Rajajinagar.
5) **Fr. Asher Kochuparambil** is appointed to the Charis Bhavan community, Athirampuzha, as a member of the preaching team.
6) **Fr. Bijil Chakkiath** is appointed as the Director of Charis Niketan- Home for the Senior Citizens, in addition to his current responsibility as the director of Charis Bhavan Retreat Centre, Athirampuzha.
7) **Fr. D. Robert** is appointed to 'Sannidhi' – MSFS Minor Seminary Community in Mysore as a full-time Vocation Promoter.
8) **Fr. David Buddini** is appointed as the Administrator of the MSFS Community and SFS School at Antoninagara, Doddakunche. He will also pursue his B.Ed. studies.
9) **Fr. George Choorapuzha** is appointed to the PSI Sevagram Community, Kengeri.

10) **Fr. George Karottukizhakel** is appointed to Vinayakumar Estate, Nilambur, as Assistant Vocation Promoter as well as to assist at the estate.

11) **Fr. Jain Kaniyodickal** is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest of OLS Syro-Malabar Parish, Hebbagodi, Warden of the SFS College hostel. He is also to pursue postgraduate studies at our SFS College.

12) **Fr. Jefin Elivalankil** is appointed to the MSFS Community at Karahalli to assist at the Garment Unit.

13) **Fr. Jerin Ponmalakunnel** is appointed as the Dean of Studies at SFS Minor Seminary, Ettumanoor.

14) **Fr. Jerry Balthasar** is appointed as the Dean and Administrator of 'Sannidhi' – MSFS Minor Seminary, Mysore.

15) **Fr. Jibin Anithottathil** appointed as the Administrator of the MSFS House and SFS PU and Degree College, Tamaka, Kolar.

16) **Fr. Joachim Anthonyswamy** is designated to be appointed as the Assistant Parish Priest of SFS Parish, Hebbagodi.

17) **Fr. John Gannot** is appointed as the Rector and Superior of 'Sannidhi' – MSFS Minor Seminary, Mysore.

18) **Fr. Jose Kokkandathil** is appointed to the Sneha Jyothi Ashram-MSFS Novitiate Community in Makkiyad as Manager of the Farm, Administrator of the Novitiate and Spiritual Director of the novices.

19) **Fr. Jostro Muthipeedika** is appointed to the SFS Minor Seminary Community to be the Vice Principal of SFS Public School and Junior College, Ettumanoor.

20) **Fr. Lalu Thadathilankal** is appointed as the Administrator of Charis Bhavan Retreat Centre, Athirampuzha.

21) **Fr. Nelson Manuvel** is designated to be appointed as the Parish Priest of Holy Spirit Parish, Pallikere or in another parish in the diocese of Kannur.

22) **Fr. R. Bartholomew** is appointed as the Superior of the MSFS Community at Antoninagara, in addition to his current responsibilities as the Principal of SFS School and the Priest-in-Charge of the Mission, Antoninagara.

23) **Fr. Robin Pereira** is designated to be appointed as the Administrator of St. Paul the Hermit Church, Thandagunda.

24) **Fr. Rony Madathiparambil** is appointed as the Warden of Nest Children's Village, Administrator of both the Nest Community and SFS School, Kengeri.

25) **Fr. S. Arockiya Jayaraj** is designated for pastoral ministry in Germany.

26) **Fr. S. Prakash Prashant Raj** is appointed as the Superior of 'Saumya Sadan' – MSFS Community, Mysore.

27) **Fr. Shalbin Marottikudy** is designated for pastoral ministry in the diocese of Kannur.

28) **Fr. Sibichan Panthanmackal** is appointed as the Dean of Studies at Indian Institute of Spirituality, Rajajinagar.

29) **Fr. Sudeep Paul** is appointed as the Principal of SFS PU College, Koppal.

30) **Fr. Sunil Ekka** is appointed to the MSFS Community at Chintamani to be a teaching staff at SFS School.

31) **Fr. Thomas Mekkattu** is appointed to the MSFS Community at Kannur.

32) **Fr. Vijin Kottoor** is appointed as the Administrator of both the SFS Schools and the MSFS Community at Malur.

33) **Fr. Vinod Kanattu** is designated for the pastoral ministry in the USA.

NB. A few more appointments are planned and will be notified in due course of time. All the appointments will take effect between the 1st of May and latest by the 15th of May 2026. If any further adjustments are required, please do so with prior information to the Provincial.

Designated for Higher Studies

1) **Fr. Ajish Cheeramban** is designated to pursue B. Tech in Computer Science and Engineering at Sahrdaya College.
2) **Fr. Cyril Elakodical** is designated to pursue an M.Sc. preferably at St Joseph's University, Bangalore.
3) **Fr. Rakesh Ekka** is designated to pursue B.Ed. studies at Ramaiah institute, Mathikere.
4) **Fr. Somi Illickal** is designated to pursue HRD Psychology at Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University), Bangalore.
5) **Fr. Tony Munduchalil** is designated to pursue Doctoral Studies in Missiology at Urbaniana University, Rome
6) **Fr. S. Innacimuthu** is also designated to pursue Doctoral Studies in Missiology at Urbaniana University Rome depending on the availability of a scholarship.

8. PROMOTION OF THE SCHOLASTICS

Promotion to Priesthood

1) Dn. Anthony Rosario
2) Dn. Albin Kadaparambil

Promoted to Fourth Year Theology and Diaconate Ordination at Tejas Vidya Peetha

1) Bro. Ajo Mookenthottam
2) Bro. Ameer Pottackal
3) Bro. Antony K. J.
4) Bro. Abishek Ekka
5) Bro. Christine Tom Kidangayil
6) Bro. Ranjith Panna
7) Bro. Rechin Deepak
8) Bro. Sebastian Aranjaniyil
9) Bro. Sebastian Kaniyamparambil

9. PRIESTLY ORDINATIONS

1) **Dn. Anthony Rosario** by Rt. Rev. Arokiaraj Satis Kumar, the Auxiliary Bishop of Bangalore Archdiocese on April 11, 2026, at St. Francis Xavier Church, Gokunte.

2) **Dn. Albin Kadaparambil** by Rt. Rev. Mar Thomas Padiyath, the Auxiliary Bishop of Shamshabad Diocese on April 13, 2026, at Charis Bhavan Retreat Centre, Athirampuzha.

10. DIACONATE ORDINATION

Nine of our perpetually professed scholastics -- Bros. Ajo Mookenthottam, Ameer Pottackal, Antony K. J., Abishek Ekka, Christine Tom Kidangayil, Ranjith Panna, Rechin Deepak, Sebastian Aranjaniyil and Sebastian Kaniyamparambil – who are undergoing their theological formation at Tejas Vidya Peetha, will be ordained Deacons on 9 April 2026, at Indian Institute of Spirituality, Rajajinagar. You are all invited to participate in this joyous celebration and bless them with your prayers.

11. HERITAGE RETREAT

Fr. A. Jabamalai has been designated to participate in this year's Heritage Retreat from South-West India Province.

12. DISPENSATION FOR CHRISTOPHER CRASTA

The Dicastery has accepted Christopher Crasta's application for dispensation and has graciously granted him dispensation with effect from March 17, 2026. He has duly signed and accepted the decree of dispensation on March 29, 2026. We wish him all the best!

13. OBITUARY

i) MSFS Confreres



Fr. John Vadakumparambil (73)
Died on: 14 Nov 2025
Visakhapatnam Province



Fr. Jose Bruno (93)
Died on: 20 Nov 2025
Brazil Province



Fr. Jacob Puthiadathuchalil (50)
Died on: 13 Dec 2025
Guwahati Province

ii) Dear and Near Ones of our Confreres

- Mr. Jones (65), the elder brother of Fr. Y. Mathias, passed away on October 22, 2025.
- Mr. K. V Augustine (74), the maternal uncle of Fr. Mijo Kulamkuthiyil, died on November 14, 2025.
- Mrs. Mariam Kurian Puthanapra, the maternal aunt of Fr. Tom Pannalakunnel, passed away on November 15, 2025.

- Mr. Tomy Abraham, the beloved father of Fr. Rony Madathiparambil, passed away on November 15, 2025.
- Mr. Marthinose Agusthy Parakkottil (89), the beloved father of Fr. Timson Parakkottil, passed away on December 03, 2025.
- Mrs. Grace Maria (66), the niece of Fr. Thomas Cherukat, passed away on December 15, 2025.
- Mr. Paul Joseph Mazhuvancherry (63), the paternal uncle of Fr. Sijo Paul, passed away on December 18, 2025.
- Mrs. Mary Pappachan (68), the elder sister of Fr. Joseph Thoppil, passed away on December 23, 2025.
- Mrs. Annamma Varkey (105), the maternal grandmother of Fr. Subin Puzhakkara, passed away on December 30, 2025.
- Mr. Ouseph Valiyaparambil (83), the beloved father of Fr. Antony Valiyaparampil, passed away on January 10, 2026.
- Mr. George Varghese (70), the beloved father of Fr. Joshy Thumpechirayil, passed away on January 21, 2026.
- Rev. Sr. Pius Maria FCC, the beloved sister of Fr Thomas Cherukat, passed away on March 2, 2026.
- Mrs. Eleeswa Joseph (86), Mother of the late Fr. Siby Manickathan and aunt of Fr. Shajan Manikathan, passed away on March 27, 2026

14. MY SCHEDULE

APRIL - JUNE, 2026	
April 9, 2026	**Diaconate Ordination at IIS**
April 11, 2026	**Priestly Ordination of Dn. Anthony Rosario**
April 13, 2026	**Priestly Ordination of Dn. Albin at Charis Bhavan**
April 15, 2026	**Erection of New Community of Eden Nivas**
April 18, 2026	**80th Birthday celebration of Fr. James Manjackal**
April 30 to June 9, 2026	**Visitation to Germany, Austria and Rome**
June 15, 2026	**Meeting of the GB of Suvidya College and PIF**

15. VOICE OF SFS

Our afflictions are so light that they pass in a moment. But they prepare for us the solid, stable weight of glory.

(TLG, Bk XI, Ch. 6)

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas Kalariparambil, MSFS
Provincial Superior