

**MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES**

**South-East India Province**



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**KIM/2**

**March**

**2017**

**My Dear Confreres,**

Fraternal greetings to each one of you in the name of the Lord!

We are in the season of Lent. What does it mean to us as priests and religious? Lent is a great gift of the Church to us. It's a time to re-set our lives from our way to God's way.

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



It is good to ask ourselves if we improve our life as a result of Lenten practices. We might do some penance and observances during the lent and forget about it during the rest of the year or we might pray more during the lent and give up during the rest of the year. If this is the case, then it will

not have any real change in us. With each Lent, we must grow in holiness. This holiness must reflect in our life. With each lent, we must become better priests and religious. This must reflect in our daily life in whatever apostolate we do.

**Let this Lent be a source of God's grace and blessings!**

## **REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOURTH ORDINARY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS**

This is to inform you that the Confreres mentioned below will be representing confreres working in their respective overseas regions in the forthcoming Fourth Ordinary Provincial Congress. As representatives, they will present a short report to the Provincial Congress:

- **GAH** : **Fr. A. Joseph Amalraj**
- **USA** : **Fr. S. Alphonse**
- **West Indies** : **Fr. F. Immanuel**

*Representatives of the Scholastics:*

- Theology** : **Bro. D. Immanuel Sathish**
- Philosophy & Regency** : **Bro. S. Pradeep Jerald**

### **PARTICIPANTS FOR THE FOURTH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS – 2017**

#### **Confreres from India**

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Fr. Kootinal George     | 26. Fr. A. Jeya Kumar      |
| 2. Fr. A. Dharmaraj        | 27. Fr. I. S. Jesu Raj     |
| 3. Fr. S. Alexander        | 28. Fr. S. A. Christu Raj  |
| 4. Fr. A. Lawrence         | 29. Fr. A. Jeyaseelan      |
| 5. Fr. C. Sebastin Raj     | 30. Fr. P. Felix           |
| 6. Fr. D. Robert           | 31. Fr. S. Wilson Fernando |
| 7. Fr. S. Antony (Tony)    | 32. Fr. S. Soosai Raj      |
| 8. Fr. K. Ignaci Muthu     | 33. Fr. V. Ferdinand       |
| 9. Fr. A. Santhiyagu       | 34. Fr. S. Sahaya Wilson   |
| 10. Fr. J. B. John Thadews | 35. Fr. V. Vedharaj        |
| 11. Fr. P. Johnson Jeyabal | 36. Fr. S. Selvaraj        |
| 12. Fr. X. Vincent         | 37. Fr. K. Joseph Xavier   |
| 13. Fr. A. Michael         | 38. Fr. D. Tharcus         |
| 14. Fr. J. Stephen         | 39. Fr. A. Innaci Muthu    |
| 15. Fr. M. Sahaya Raj      | 40. Fr. A. Maria Selvan    |
| 16. Fr. S. Amirthanathan   | 41. Fr. D. Johnson         |
| 17. Fr. A. Christu Raj     | 42. Fr. J. Savarimuthu     |
| 18. Fr. D. Kanikkai        | 43. Fr. S. Britto          |
| 19. Fr. N. Arokiaselvam    | 44. Fr. D. Amirtha Rajan   |
| 20. Fr. S. Deivasakayaraj  | 45. Fr. L. Arul Sundaram   |
| 21. Fr. A. Edward          | 46. Fr. A. Christopher     |
| 22. Fr. M. John De Britto  | 47. Fr. K. Rajasekar       |
| 23. Fr. A. Arul Francis    | 48. Fr. S. Stephen Xavier  |
| 24. Fr. M. Nicholas        | 49. Fr. S. Antony Raj      |
| 25. Fr. S. Pilavendran     | 50. Fr. P. Aloysius        |
|                            | 51. Fr. M. Maria F. Britto |
|                            | 52. Fr. A. Charles         |

53. Fr. A. Doss  
54. Fr. D. Sheen  
55. Fr. G. David  
56. Fr. L. Sahaya Basker  
57. Fr. M. Benjamin  
58. Fr. P. Rex  
59. Fr. S. David Vincent  
60. Fr. S. Prem Kumar  
61. Fr. V. Yesuraja  
62. Fr. P. Anantha Raj  
63. Fr. X. George Navin  
64. Fr. A. Edmand  
65. Fr. M. Simon Prabhu  
66. Fr. I. Jone Gragori  
67. Fr. K. Martin Anand  
68. Fr. A. Nayaga Seelan  
69. Fr. S. Santhanam  
70. Fr. A. Chinnasamy Yesuraj  
71. Fr. A. William Joe Xavier  
72. Fr. C. Martin Kumar  
73. Fr. K. Dominic Savio  
74. Fr. L. Jaya Raj  
75. Fr. M. Anish Kumar  
76. Fr. S. Arockiam  
  
77. Dn. D. Jaya Kumar  
78. Dn. A. Jerome  
79. Dn. S. Ashir Johnson

80. Dn. L. John Peter  
81. Dn. S. Antony Raj  
82. Dn. C. Berin  
83. Dn. D. Britto  
84. Dn. J. P Sathish Kumar  
85. Dn. M. John Fernandez

#### **Confreres from Abroad**

86. Fr. S. Antony (Jr)-  
Germany

#### **Representatives**

87. Fr. A. Joseph Amalraj  
(Representative- GAH)  
88. Fr. S. Alphonse  
(Representative- USA)  
89. Fr. F. Immanuel  
(Representative- West  
Indies)  
90. Bro. D. Emmanuel Sathish  
(Representative- Theology)  
91. Bro. S. Pradeep Jerald  
(Representative-  
Philosophy)

### **CONVOCATION OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER XX**

Rev. Fr Abraham Vettuvellil, our beloved Superior General, convoked the 20th Ordinary General Chapter of our Congregation on January 24, 2017, with the theme, "MSFS, WAKE UP TO THE BASICS", to be held at MSFS Provincialate, Satgaon-Narengi, Udayan Vihar, Guwahati – 781171, Assam, India, from February 1 to 13, 2019. In his Circular he has invited every confrere to look forward to the 20th General Chapter as a spiritual event in the Congregation, as the principal sign of unity in diversity of the Congregation, and as a special moment of grace, offered by the Divine Providence to the Congregation.

My Dear Confreres,

Benedictus Deus!

In this year of the 450th birth anniversary of St Francis de Sales and on this feast day of our heavenly Patron, so dear to us, I come to you with this very important letter of CONVOCAATION OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER XX. With the consent of the General Council at its Meeting held at MSFS House Hyderabad, India from October 11 – 18, 2016, and in accordance with Article 194 of our MSFS Constitutions, I CONVOKE THE 20<sup>th</sup> ORDINARY GENERAL CHAPTER OF OUR CONGREGATION. The General Chapter will take place in our MSFS Northeast India Provincial House, Guwahati, INDIA, from February 01 – 13, 2019 On the theme “MSFS, WAKE UP TO THE BASICS”.

### **THE SPIRIT OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER**

“The General Chapter is the supreme legislative and teaching authority in the Congregation” (Art. 191). “The General Chapter invites individuals and communities to a serious reflection on and evaluation of their life and mission, in the light of our religious commitment and apostolate” (Art. 196/2).

I invite all my confreres to look forward to the 20 General Chapter:

- as a spiritual event in the Congregation,
- as the principal sign of unity in diversity of the Congregation, and
- as a special moment of grace, offered by the Divine Providence to the Congregation, so that we may focus on the following objectives

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER XX**

- To review the implementation of the directives and decisions of the General Chapter 2013 in the areas of Consecrated Life in the Community, Mission, MSFS – ness, and Salesian Spirituality
- To evaluate thoroughly the basics of consecrated life as lived in Local Communities and apostolates in the Congregation
- To reflect on the current challenges in religious life and apostolate of the different units in the Congregation
- To draw up necessary measures/solutions for the appropriate renewal of religious life of the members, and
- To give specific orientations and guidelines for the future

### **INTERCESSION OF MOTHER OF SORROWS, ST FRANCIS DE SALES, AND FATHER MERMIER**

I entrust our General Chapter 2019 into the hands of Mary, Mother of Sorrows, and to the intercession of St Francis de Sales and Father Peter Mermier. We pray that they may, through their intercession, obtain for every MSFS an interior renewal of his consecrated and missionary life for the mission to the poor. Kindly recite the prayer in preparation for the General Chapter 2019 in every community and by every confrere.

## **OUR ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT**

We have reached the 20th General Chapter at this time in the history of our Congregation. Each General Chapter is 'God's work' It gives guidelines and takes decisions, which influence the life, structure and future of the Congregation. I want to highlight that a General Chapter is not simply the business of a group of elected Delegates and ex officio members who are called Capitulants. Although the Capitulants exercise their function and role in the name of all the members in the Congregation, the Chapter is a community exercise of every confrere in the Congregation.

## **ORGANIZATION AND CALENDAR**

The success of the General Chapter depends on the measure of clarity and the strength of determination we have, to make things happen by God's grace. This community exercise of General Chapter demands detailed and in-depth preparation. I do not refer to the technical and managerial preparation – which obviously is important – but to a long preparation of hearts and minds by every confrere. Hence, this 2 year period of preparation to prepare the hearts and minds of us all.

## **INITIAL PREPARATION OF GENERAL CHAPTER 2019**

The Superior General, Assistant General, and the Four General Councilors will do the initial preparation of the General Chapter. The PRE-CAPITULAR commission will be constituted after the next General Council Meeting in May 2017.

## **ELECTION OF THE DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL CHAPTER**

The election of the DELEGATES to the General Chapter will take place from June 15, 2018 to September 15, 2018 and the names of the Delegates are to be submitted to the Superior General on or before September 25, 2018. The Provincials will initiate the process of election of DELEGATES based on the appropriate articles of the Constitutions and the General Directory and as per the further guidance given to them by the Superior General on the advice of the General Council.

## **IMPORTANT DATES TO BE NOTED**

- Election of the Delegates: June 15 2018 to September 15, 2018.
- Names of the Delegates submitted to the Superior General: latest by September 25, 2018.
- Capitulants report to the Venue: February 01, 2019.
- Opening Day of General Chapter XX: February 02, 2019.
- Free Day for the Capitulants: February 07, 2019.
- Closing day of General Chapter XX: February 12, 2019.
- Departure: Any time on and from February 13, 2019.

## **EXPLANATION OF THE THEME: 'MSFS, WAKE UP TO THE BASICS'**

The theme, “MSFS, WAKE UP TO THE BASICS”, expresses our resolve to reinforce our missionary and religious identity as MSFS. Basics/Essentials of MSFS life are the four pillars of Consecrated Life in Community, Mission, MSFSness, and Salesian Spirituality that define our identity and purpose. These pillars should enhance the entire structure/system of our MSFS family in the spirit of our charism handed over to us by Father Peter Mermier. This is a journey we have already started with General Chapter 2013 (which clarified these basics to us) and we must now continue this journey and bring it to completion.

Hence, there is a 'Wake Up' call through General Chapter 2019 to look at the present system/structure of our Congregation and ask tough questions that will help us to bring a systemic change. The focus here is on Consecrated Life in Community, Mission, MSFSness and Salesian Spirituality rather than on any specific issue. The focus is on the bigger picture of the Congregation that should alter structures and support mechanisms, which will make the system operate in a particular way, with thrust on the 4 pillars. The focus is on inter-personal relationship and collaboration within the different units in the system. Congregation is a living system composed of members and Provinces who do not function independently of one another but as a unified whole.

My experience of the Congregation in the past 4 years tells me that in the midst of fast growth and expansion of our Congregation all over the world with almost 1500 professed members in 28 countries, 10 Provinces, 1 Vice Province, 2 Regions, 2 Delegations, 2 missions in Africa, and confreres scattered in different units, we face challenges from within and without. We thank God for all what we have accomplished by God's grace and by our committed service to the People of God. However, in our Congregational system, we have developed certain patterns of functioning, without thrust on the 4 pillars that seem to produce serious challenges today.

### **THE CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED ARE:**

- Increasing number of exlaustration, departures, allegations and scandals.
- 'Heightened individualism, crisis of identity, and cooling of fervor'.
- Addictions and addictive behaviors.
- Technology taking over theology.
- Lack of integration of prayer and spirituality with apostolate.
- Lack of animation of religious life and more of administration and business tendencies.
- Campaigning on the basis of Caste, Region, and Language at the time of election of Provincial and Provincial Councillors.
- Growing number of dysfunctional members and communities.
- Deteriorating spirit of religious life and missionary spirit.
- Family and needs of family taking over community life and needs of the community.

- Money laundering, stealing, and embezzlements.
- Personal preference only for institutions and institutionalized ministries.
- Craze for ministries in developed countries and less interest in the poor and mission countries and frontier missions.
- Reluctance to honor the personal plan and directive of the Major Superior after serving in the developed countries.
- Driven by personal projects and interests rather than sharing the vision, charisma, and mission of the Congregation/Province.

To address these challenges and to bring in a renewal of consecrated life in the Congregation through the General Chapter 2019, nothing less than a systemic change - with focus on commitment to Consecrated Life in Community, Mission, MSFS-ness, and Salesian Spirituality - is necessary. A renewal will only happen when we engage in a tough and important conversation about what we visualize for the Congregation for the next 6 years and next 25 years. A renewal of religious life that leads to renewal of apostolate will definitely contribute to the renewal of the Church.

### **REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS:**

- How can we purposefully intervene to bring in a systemic and paradigmatic change instead of a piecemeal change? (Our paradigm is Consecrated Life in Community, Mission, MSFSness, and Salesian Spirituality)
- How can we use all our available human and material resources in the Congregation to strengthen these FOUR thrusts of the Congregation?
- How can we bring in PARADIGM SHIFT that will help the Congregation and our confreres reach their potential for the mission of the Church?
- How can we bring in a systemic change that will take into account and address the serious challenges (listed above) we face today?

### **PREPARATION BY THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION**

Further preparation of our hearts and minds for the General Chapter 2019 will be done with the help of Three Reflection Papers on the theme, prepared by competent members, mandated by the General Council. These Reflection Papers with questions will be studied personally and collectively by confreres.

1. Understanding the 4 Basics of MSFS life (focusing on the essentials or the new paradigm – consecrated life in community, mission, MSFSness, and Salesian spirituality to address the current challenges in the Congregation)
2. Outstanding Contradictions of our MSFS Life today that negate our basics and are to be uprooted, in order to return to the basics (mention predominant ones)
3. A New Paradigm: MSFS, wake up to the basics: Visible expressions for commitment in view of addressing the challenges (A few will be prioritized in importance)

A three-to-four-page reflection material, with pointed questions, will be sent to you for your study and reflection.

**Live Jesus!**

**Fraternally in Christ,**

**Father Abraham Vettuvilil, MSFS**

**Superior General**

**January 24, 2017**

### **S.F.S SCHOOL ANNUAL DAY 2017, VIRUDHUNAGAR**



11<sup>th</sup> February 2017, was the annual day celebration of our SFS School, Virudhunagar. The grand and marvellous school annual day celebration was presided over and graced by Rev. Fr. K. Ignacimuthu MSFS, Provincial of South East India Province. He called on the parents to respect the interest of their children; to allow them grow in their talents; to go forward and thus facilitate them to realize their plans and purposes.



The chief guest Mr. M. Rajarajan, Superintendent of Police, Virudhunagar encouraged the students to save the environment and care and value their parents. The Guest of Honour Mr. D. Kumar impressed by the performance of our students encouraged the students. The colourful cultural events enthralled the entire audience and guests. The school administration thanked all our MSFS fathers, the religious priests and sisters who had attended and graced the occasion with their personal presence.

*Fr. S. Britto*

## DEVOTION TO FR. PETER MARIE MERMIER, THE SERVANT OF GOD



12<sup>th</sup> February 2017 Sunday was a great day for MSFS Virudhunagar Community. Our Provincial Very Rev Fr Ignacimuthu made his first visit after assuming the charge as Provincial of South East India Province. It was on this day the statue of our dear Founder Fr Peter Marie Mermier was established and unveiled in the Church premises of St Xavier's Church Pandian Nagar, Virudhunagar. After the grand Holy Eucharistic celebration the people of God gathered in front of Fr. Mermier's statue and a prayer service was conducted by Fr. Arokiaselvam the Parish Priest and our Provincial solemnly unveiled the statue of our Founder Fr Peter Marie Mermier.

The statue of Fr. Mermier Servant of God was established on account of a couple of reasons. Firstly to join along with all the MSFS throughout the world to mark the occasion of reviving the cause of our Founder's Canonization, which was initiated on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017 along with the Feast of our Patron St Francis De Sales. Secondly in grateful remembrance of God's blessing of good water source for the Church, that on the bore well the Statue of Fr Mermier is raised. We the fathers of MSFS Virudhunagar community are pleased to promote the devotion to our Founder. People in good number come and pray daily to our Founder Fr. Peter Mary Mermier. Let us pray also joining the community for the Canonization of Fr Peter Marie Mermier.

Fr. A. Michael, MSFS

## *S.F.S SCHOOL ANNUAL DAY 2017, VANIYAMBADI*



The S.F.S school family at Vaniyambadi was delighted to celebrate its Annual day in a remarkable manner on 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2017. The day's celebration was centered on the theme "Learn to Light". On this theme a documentary film with our children was directed

by our dear **Rev. Fr. Principal**. The event began at 18:00 pm with our beloved former provincial Rev.Fr. Antony Dharmaraj, MSFS, as Chief Guest and with our beloved Provincial Rev. Fr. Ignacimuthu, MSFS, the present provincial of South East Indian Province, as the Guest of Honour. The Annual day programme opened itself with a SFS School Theme Song sung by our school children and composed by Fr. Nayaga Seelan, MSFS. The days programme was two dimensional; on the one side the documentary film on the theme Learn to Light was visualized on LED, meanwhile the dances and singing were performed live on the stage. It was amazing. The children were trained by Mr. Manoj (The Choreographer).



Motivating and encouraging messages were given by both of our Guests. Annual School report was vividly presented by Rev. Fr. Principal. The event was well colored by the hard work of our teachers, students, non – teaching staff and parents. The presence of many of our confreres from different places, diocesan priests and religious sisters, added color to the celebration. More than 2700 parents witnessed and enjoyed the celebration. The school stage, ground, trees and campus were decorated by our teachers and others. The celebration came to an end at 21:15pm. It was just fantastic... and it left an unforgettable memory in the mind of many.

*Fr. J. B. John Thadews*

## **DIACONATE ORDINATION AT SFS STUDY HOUSE, ELURU**

Greetings of joy and peace from our lord Jesus Christ we the community of Janampet MSFS study house were delighted greatly as eight of our members of our congregation were ordained deacons by His grace Most Rev. Bishop Jaya Rao Polimera, Eluru diocese. It was a splendid and double joy for us as we commemorated the feast of St. Francis de sales our patron and celebration of diaconate ordination His grace Bishop Jaya Rao made the event colorful as this year marks his silver jubilee. Rev.Fr. K.V.S Prasad the master of ceremony gave a short biography of each candidate. The holy rite of diaconate ordination began in the evening at 5:30 pm with a procession. His Grace Bishop Jaya Rao Polimera presided over the Eucharistic Celebration along with rev. Fr. Chinnapa Reddy the Provincial Superior, Rev. Fr. Sundar Rao the Councilor in Charge of Formation, Fr. Jolly Chakkalakkal the Rector and other con celebrants numbering around fifty priests. Sisters numbering forty, brothers from

various houses around thirty, parents of the brothers, and the relatives, and other lay faithful from our own mission stations were present for the celebration.



The Holy Eucharistic celebration came to an end around 8:00 pm followed by felicitation to Rev. Bishop Jaya Rao Polimera, Rev. Fr. Chinnapa Reddy the Provincial Superior, and to the Eight Deacons namely Dn. C. Berin (south east India province) Boilla Ravi, Boilla Vijay Kumar, Kandi Vijay Kiran, pazhayapurackal Tom Jose, Swarna Anil Kumar, Talakala Ratna Raju, and Thondickkal Praveen Mathew. There was a cake cutting and the group photo followed by dinner.

Bro. Michael Raja

### **DIACONATE ORDINATION AT FRANSALIAN SEMINARY, PUNE**



The degree of happiness has been increased in the hearts of MSFS family, over the blossoming South East India Province by the diaconate ordination of two of our brothers namely, Bro. Arockia Doss and Bro. Merry Benzer along with six of our MSFS brothers and five of Capuchin brothers on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2017 at Christ the King Church, Pune. “At your word, I shall cast my net,” was the theme of the diaconate celebration around which the whole liturgy marched through with creative planning and successful execution. The Eucharistic celebration began with the procession consisting of Rt. Rev. Ambrose Rebello, the Bishop of Aurangabad, Rev.Fr. Lourdusamy, the Provincial of Pune Province, Rev. Fr. Joseph D’souza,

the provincial of Mumbai Province of the Capuchin Order, Fr. Soosai Raj, the representative of South East India Province and other fathers along with the candidates to the diaconate order and their parents.

Most Rev. Ambrose Rebello presided over the Eucharist celebration and ordained all thirteen brothers as deacons. The Eucharistic celebration was followed by the felicitation to the Bishop and the provincials, distribution of the memento to the newly ordained deacons, cutting of the cake, releasing of the house journal and fellowship meal. This has recorded itself as the mega event in the history of Fransalian Seminary. A good number of priests, religious and well wishers gathered along with the parents of newly ordained deacons to pray for them and wish them. The day runs through our mind as a successful, memorable and joyful event even to this day.

Bro. Emmanuel Sathish

### **DIACONATE ORDINATION AT TEJAS VIDYA PEETHA, BANGALORE**



18<sup>th</sup> February 2017 was marked as a special day at Tejas Vidya Peetha, Bangalore, as nine of our Brothers were ordained Deacons by His Grace Rev. Dr Bernard Moras, the Archbishop of Bangalore. Among nine brothers, six belong to South West India Province and three Brothers, namely, D. Britto, J. Packia Sathish Kumar and M. John Fernandez, belong to South East India province. The Holy Mass in which the Archbishop Bernard Moras was the main celebrant began at 6:00 pm with the procession. Fr. Benny Koottanal, the provincial, Fr. Henry Jose the Rector, Fr. Joy Vazhappally the Councilor in-charge of Social Innovative Ministry and Fr. Jayakumar the Councilor in-charge of Social Innovative Ministry and the delegate of South East India Province were the co-celebrants of the Eucharist. His Grace preached on Shepherd's mercy and compassion to the lost sheep. The Holy Mass came to an end at 8:15pm followed by a short felicitation and dinner. We thank wholeheartedly Rev. Fr. Ignacimuthu the Provincial, the Councilors and all the fathers for their valuable prayers and support.

*Bro. J. Jeni Vimal Naveen*

## **THE INNOVATIVE FORUM MEETING**

The innovative ministry forum meet was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at the Provincialate House to review and discuss about the past Action Plan of the Provincial Congress. The meet was begun at 3.00 pm with the invocatory prayer lead by Fr. Alexander. Fr. Jeyaseelan, the secretary welcomed all to the meet. Fr. Jeyakumar, the convener guided the discussions. The points of the Action plan was discussed in detail enumerating the achievements, the progressive developments and the proposals yet to be realized. Some of the achievements are narrated as following; the de-addiction center in Dharmapuri, the support given to the Kalai Ulagam, the printing in Chatram etc. Some of the proposals shared are A center under one umbrella, Infrastructure for Kalai Ulagam, Prayer center, Spirituality center in minor seminary, media and communication center, sending persons for chartered accountant studies, province -project coordinator, old age home for people at Vayalagam, home for differently abled children. The meeting concluded at 5.30pm with the thanksgiving by Fr. Jeyakumar and final prayer by Fr. Belevendiran.

*Fr. A. Jeyaseelan*

## **EDUCATION FORUM MEETING**

The education and stewardship forum meeting was held in the Provincialate on 18<sup>th</sup> February at 10 am. The meeting began with the song and prayer led by Fr. Martin. Fr. C. Sebastin Raj the councilor in charge of formation welcomed the members of the education forum. He honored Fr. Dharmaraj the former provincial and Fr. K. Ignacimuthu the New provincial with shawls. Fr. Basker in place of the secretary read out the minutes of last forum meeting. Fr. C. Sebastin Raj, the councilor in charge of education congratulated the schools which received the minority certificate and encouraged other schools to receive the certificate. Fr. Amir thanked Jose Abraham the lawyer who was instrument for receiving the minority certificate. There were effective discussions on the improvement in the function of all our schools such as to have a unified system in our dealing and administration according to the localities. The forum also spend quite lot of time on the action plan of the previous congress of its achievements and failures. The forum also came up with lot of proposals for the upcoming fourth provincial congress. The meeting came to end with the prayer lead by Fr. Vincent at 12:30pm.

*Fr. A. Nayaga Seelan*

## **THE MISSION FORUM MEETING**

The Mission forum meeting started with a prayer said by Fr. Arockia Selvam. First we took up the action plan of the last provincial congress for our discussion. Self-reliance becomes the point of discussion in all the meetings, though the administration aspires to achieve this goal, due to the uniqueness of each parish, we are not able to realize this goal fully. It is a process. We have not only to fulfill the spiritual needs, but also other aspects of the parish to be given importance. Each individual parish priest has to take up new projects

with the help of the project coordinator. The provincial administration has to support the poor parishes through other means like shopping complex etc. both parish and school communities have to collaborate with each other by becoming part of each other ministries. Concession to the catholic students should be given according to the guidelines of the TNBC Conference. Formulate guidelines for the frontier pioneering missions. In this regard, the scholastics are to be encouraged to work in frontier missions. The administration has to extend our ministries to other dioceses by proper agreement.

QUESTIONNAIRE: Community life is a great witness value, so we have to build up community in all our parishes. It is appreciable about Corpus fund, but terms and conditions are to be brought out properly. Prayer for canonization of Fr. Mermier has to be encouraged. We have to promote an Apostolate for MSFS i.e. Family apostolate in all the parishes. We have to pool together all our ministries in one centre. Friends of Fransalians and Fransalians Sunday are to be initiated in all our parishes so as to grow in our Fransalian spirituality. Spiritual renewal especially for confreres has to be given importance in all the working places.

*Fr. S. Soosai Raj*

## **THE FORMATION FORUM MEETING**

“You did not choose me but I chose You...@” (Jn 15:16)

In order to make our formation more transformative and to set the hearts of the formees with a fire to grow more in the holiness of God and be transforming we convoked the formation forum meeting on 27<sup>th</sup>, February, at 09:30 pm, at the Provincialate with a prayer, said by Rev. Fr. Maria Selvam. Rev. Fr. Deivasakayaraj, the councillor in charge for formation set the tune of the meeting with his welcoming and introductory words. He, in his welcoming words thanked and appreciated Rev. Fr. Antony Dharmaraj,, the outgoing provincial for his committed and inspiring journey with us and welcomed Rev. Fr. K. Ignacimuthu, the new provincial of South East India Province. Good many members of the formation forum participated in the meeting.

The topics for discussion were:

- ❖ An analysis was done on the action plan of the provincial congress – 2014 which was aimed at having a “Transformative Formation”.
- ❖ A discussion was done on the Questionnaire, prepared regarding the Fransalian formation.
- ❖ The ongoing Postulants Programme in our Minor Seminary.
- ❖ Giving a platform for On Going formation courses for our conferrers.

Rev. Fr. Deivasakayaraj, the councillor in charge for formation thanked all the participants. We concluded the meeting with a Hymn to Our Lady.

"You shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation." (Exodus 19:6)

*Fr. D. Sheen*

## **ON HOME HOLIDAYS FROM ABROAD**

Fr. S. Antony (Jr) (Germany) - From 2<sup>nd</sup> March to 3<sup>rd</sup> April

*We wish him a good time with his dear and near ones.*

## **LET US PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED**

- **Mrs. Madhalai Mary** aged 90, the Grandmother of Fr. A. Nayaga Seelan expired on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.

*May her souls rest in peace!*

## **MY PROGRAMME**

### **March 2017**

19<sup>th</sup> - Blessing of parish office  
25<sup>th</sup> - SFS School Annual day at Sendurai  
27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Provincial Congress

**Yours Fraternally in Christ,**  
**Rev. Fr. K. Ignacimuthu, Msfs**  
Provincial Superior

### **SALESIAN THOUGHT**

Don't get upset with your imperfections. It's a great mistake because it leads nowhere - to get angry because you are angry, upset at being upset, depressed at being depressed, disappointed because you are disappointed. So don't fool yourself. Simply surrender to the Power of God's Love, which is always greater than our weakness.

- Saint Francis de Sales