

MISSIONARIES OF SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES VISA KHAPATNAM PROVINCE



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PC Lr. No 19

APRIL 2018

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

BRO. JACOB VATTACHIRA (1934-2018)

IT IS A MARK OF PIETY TO NARRATE THE GOOD
QUALITIES OF THE DEPARTED, IT LEADS US TO IMITATE THEM-SFS



25-4-34

9-4-18



Dear Conferers,

Bro. Jacob Vattachira was born on 25th January 1934 to Mr. Thomas and Mary at Kakamangalam, Kerala. After completing his high School studies he joined the MSFS Congregation and made his First Religious profession on 26th April 1962. He made his final Profession on 25th April 1965 at Stella Maris, Vizag.

From 1962 to 1964 he was in St. Aloysius' High School, Vizag as In-charge of construction. In 1964 he was transferred to the Bishop's House to look after the construction at Aruku. In 1966 he served the people of God at Peddaboddipalli. In 1967 he was at Palakonda. In 1972 he was at Madugula. From 1972 - 1983 he was at Bishop's House, Vizag, and from 1983 to till date he is at Stella Maris, Vizag, designing and supervising the construction of Churches, presbyteries, schools, convents in and around Vizag diocese, Vizag Province - all over Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and North Eastern States, where ever MSFS confreres are rendering religious and pastoral services. He has built 84 parish churches, 195 chapels, 107 presbyteries, 35 convents, 128 schools, 31 boardings, 39 grottos, 6 hospitals, 9 formation houses, 31 other buildings. Of the total 665 buildings constructed 232 buildings belong to Visakhapatnam Archdioce, 72 belong to Srikakulam Diocese, 206 buildings belong to MSFS Province of Visakhapatnam, 19 buildings belong to MSFS North East Province, 52 buildings belong to South East Province, 3 buildings belong to South West Province, 69 buildings belong to other congregations, 12 buildings belong to Orissa. Along with the construction works Bro. Jacob was serving the province as provincial councilor for four terms.

Just yesterday he felt uneasy and complaint of breathlessness and he was admitted in St. Joseph's Hospital, Vizag. We received a call from St. Joseph Hospital at 2 a.m. saying that his health condition is serious. He had a massive cardiac arrest and passed away at 2.20 a.m. on 9th April, 2018. Today the mortal remains of Rev. Brother Jacob Vattachira is here that we may pay our homage and respect to our dear confrere.

We have a lot to learn from Bro. Jacob Vattachira's life, as a person of prayer, humility, simplicity, joyful optimism, cheerfulness, hospitality and humanness. He was dedicated and committed to the responsibilities given to him. My experience with Brother Jacob Vattachira is that he was true to his vocation as religious, obedient, trustworthy and God fearing. In his death we miss a veteran missionary who served the people of God, Congregation and the Church at large.

As it is said of death " in my beginning there is an end and in my end there is a beginning", Bro. Jacob Vattachira has begun his new beginning, that is to belong to God, and be united in God's love and presence. May his soul rest in peace. May Almighty God grant him eternal bliss.

Yours fraternally in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy MSFS

Provincial Superior