

**MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES**

**South-East India Province**



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**KIM/ 15**

**July**

**2018**

**My Dear Confreres,**

Greetings of peace and love! We are in the midst of a process to elect Delegates to represent us in the 20<sup>th</sup> General Chapter of our Congregation. The General Chapter is central to our life and ministry, as propounded by our venerable Founder based on his mystical experience of our Lord Jesus Christ. As such, the upcoming 20<sup>th</sup> General Chapter of our Congregation is vital to our continued religious life and charism. It presents a challenge and an opportunity. It is an occasion for critical assessment of the life of its members and its ministry. It calls for going back to our basics to renew our original spirit and spirituality, to live a more exemplary and edifying religious life in the present and pass on to the future a legacy which will be faithful to its basics and is relevant to signs of the times.

As such, let us continue our reflection that we had in the past few months. Let us continue to pray for its success. Being inspired by the Holy Spirit, let us also exercise our right to choose our Delegates by voting consciously and after deep reflection.

**Congregation Matters**

**General Chapter XX – Delegate Election from South-East India Province**

**Results of the First Round voting**

The first round of voting process is over. The counting of votes took place during the Provincial Council meeting held on 13.07.2019 in the presence of Fr. George Kootinal and Fr. C. Sebastin Raj, the witness. The Following are the details of voting, the name list of confreres and the number of votes received by them.

Number of Votes received	:	82
Number of Valid votes	:	82
Absolute majority required	:	42

<u>Names</u>	-	<u>Votes</u>
<b>1. Fr. J. Stephen</b>	-	<b>34</b>
<b>2. Fr. M. Rayappan</b>	-	<b>31</b>
<b>3. Fr. A. Luckas</b>	-	<b>28</b>
<b>4. Fr. A. Arul Francis</b>	-	<b>25</b>
<b>5. Fr. D. Kanikkai</b>	-	<b>21</b>
<b>6. Fr. S. Joseph Henry</b>	-	<b>18</b>
<b>7. Fr. A. Santhiyagu</b>	-	<b>11</b>
<b>8. Fr. A. Patrick</b>	-	<b>06</b>
9. Fr. C. Sebastin Raj	-	05
10. Fr. H. Ebin Christopher	-	04
11. Fr. M. John De Britto	-	04
12. Fr. S. Alexander	-	03
13. Fr. A. Lawrence	-	03
14. Fr. A. Jeya Kumar	-	03
15. Fr. S. Rajesh	-	03
16. Fr. A. Dharmaraj	-	02
17. Fr. A. Arockiam	-	02
18. Fr. F. Emmanuel	-	02
19. Fr. C. John Britto	-	02
20. Fr. G. Viswasam	-	02
21. Fr. P. Stephan	-	02
22. Fr. A. Selvaraj	-	02
23. Fr. M. Rajkumar	-	02
24. Fr. K. Joseph Xavier	-	02
25. Fr. S. Simon Raja	-	02
26. Fr. Kootinal George	-	01
27. Fr. Jerry Louis	-	01
28. Fr. D. Robert	-	01
29. Fr. S. Antony (Tony)	-	01
30. Fr. M. Victor	-	01
31. Fr. P. Maria Pushpam	-	01
32. Fr. A. Jayaseela Rajan	-	01
33. Fr. A. John Peter (Sr)	-	01
34. Fr. J. B. John Thadews	-	01
35. Fr. P. Johnson Jeyabal	-	01
36. Fr. A. Michael	-	01
37. Fr. A. Christu Raj	-	01
38. Fr. S. Deivasakayaraj	-	01
39. Fr. S. Antony (Jr)	-	01
40. Fr. P. S. Joseph	-	01
41. Fr. S. Joseph	-	01
42. Fr. M. Nicholas	-	01
43. Fr. P. Felix	-	01
44. Fr. V. Ferdinand	-	01

45. Fr. S. Sahaya Wilson	-	01
46. Fr. A. Maria Selvan	-	01
47. Fr. S. Antony Raj	-	01
48. Fr. A. Jayaraj	-	01
49. Fr. P. Aloysius	-	01
50. Fr. M. Maria F. Britto	-	01
51. Fr. S. Prem Kumar	-	01
52. Fr. M. Simon Prabhu	-	01

It is hereby declared that no one is elected as Delegate in the first round of voting, as no one secured the required absolute majority. Therefore as per the provisions of the Constitutions and the General Directory of our Congregation, second round of voting is to be held.

### **Second Round of Voting**

The following is the list of those, who can be voted for in the second round of voting. You can vote for three among the following confreres only, who secured more votes. You are not allowed to vote for any other confrere other than this. If your ballot paper contains any other name than from the following list, such vote will be considered as invalid. Kindly take note of this. The last date for the ballot papers to reach Provincial house is on or before 15.08.2018.

1. Fr. J. Stephen
2. Fr. M. Rayappan
3. Fr. A. Luckas
4. Fr. A. Arul Francis
5. Fr. D. Kanikkai
6. Fr. S. Joseph Henry
7. Fr. A. Santhiyagu
8. Fr. A. Patrick

### **Counting of Votes of Second Round**

Counting of votes of the Second Round will take place on 16.08.2018, during the Provincial Council meeting and in the presence of the two confreres, who will witness and assist in the counting of votes. As per Sec.221 (ii) and Sec.273 of the General Directory, relative majority is sufficient to be elected.

### **Province Matters**

#### **Initiation to the Novitiate at Salesianum**

Eleven candidates were initiated into the novitiate at Salesianum after the pre-novitiate programs in Eluru. The ceremony was presided over by Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy, the Provincial of Vizag Province in the presence of Rev. Fr. A. Santhiyagu, the Councilor in-charge of formation of the South East India Province on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Eight novices belong to our South East India Province and three to Vizag province among the eleven new novices.

## First Profession at Salesianum



The First Religious Profession Ceremony was held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 in Salesianum. The solemn Holy Eucharistic celebration began at 10.30 a.m. Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy presided over the Eucharist and Fr. A. Santhiyagu, the delegate of the Provincial Superior of South East India Province concelebrated along with other priests. The vows of the two novices, who are for Visakhapatnam Province, were received by the provincial Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy and Fr. A. Santhiyagu received the vows of six of our novices. Fr. A. Santhiyagu broke the Word of God. Several priests, religious and well-wishers were present for the function. The newly professed were congratulated and they then cut the cake and then had a delicious meal. Thanks to all those who were present. Continue to pray for the newly professed members. May God bless and accept their sacrifice.

*Fr. S. Antony Raj (Jr)*

## Perpetual Profession at Tejas Vidya Peetha, Bangalore

28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 was a grace filled and joyous day for Tejas Vidya Peetha as it witnessed the final profession of the five of our confreres at Tejas Vidya Peetha, Bangalore. The Southeast India province is delighted that two of our confreres namely Bro. Jeni Vimal Naveen and Bro. Arul Justin, made their final commitment to the lord on that day.



The ceremony started with the procession at 6 pm and Rev. Fr. Benny Kootanal, the Provincial Superior of south west India province presided over the Holy Mass. It was also a joy for Tejas family that Rev. Fr. Santhiyagu, the Admonitor and councilor in-charge of formation of Southeast India Province and Rev Fr. Santhosh Kumar, the Admonitor cum councilor in-charge of formation of south west India province were also present. The brothers made their final

commitment in the presence of many of our confreres and the faithful. And the whole event came to an end with the dinner.

*Bro. Nirmal Kumar*

### **Perpetual Profession at SFS Study House, Eluru**

On 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018, seven of our brothers made their final commitment to the Lord. Of the seven, five brothers belong to Vizag Province and two brothers Namely Bros. J. Michael Raja and S. Desas belong to our province.



The Most Holy Eucharistic Celebration began with a procession presided over by Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy, the Provincial Superior of Visakhapatnam Province, along with Rev. Fr. Santhiyagu, the Admonitor and the Councilor in-charge of formation of Southeast India Province, Rev. Fr. Jolly, the Rector and many other religious from various houses. Fr. Santhiyagu broke the Word of God and He advised the newly Perpetually Professed Brothers, "To be united with Jesus always and forever". The Eucharistic Celebration was immediately followed by a felicitation of the newly perpetually professed members and a fellowship meal. The whole program was meticulously planned and organized by Fr. Jolly, the Rector and the community. Finally the perpetually professed members in turn, expressed their deep sense of gratitude to all those who guided them at different stages of formation.

*Bro. C. Britto Clindon*

### **Diaconate Ordination at Msfs Study House, Shillong**



A total of 33 Scholastics from Oriens Theological College were ordained to this ministry of Diaconate by His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Aind Joseph SDB, out of which, seven scholastics

were from MSFS Study house. It was held in the Oriens Theological College, at Mawlai, on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2018. Among the thirty three scholastics two scholastics, namely, Bros. Richard and Prabu belong to our South- East Province, two belong to Nagpur Province and the other three belong to North East Province. They were ordained deacons by His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Aind Joseph SDB, the Bishop of Dibrugarh. The diaconate ordination was enriched by the inspiring and encouraging message given by his Lordship. A good number of priests and religious were present to make this spiritual event more solemn. After the Holy Eucharist, we all came back to our study house, and then we had the felicitation for the newly ordained Deacons, which was followed by a delicious dinner.

*Dn. Motcha Richard*

### **New Priests' Day at Msfs Provincialate, Trichy**



Another day was added to the history of the Provincialate on 09<sup>th</sup> June 2018. It was a remarkable day for the province as all our new priest celebrated the holy mass and expressed their love towards the province. The celebration began with the procession towards the Alter of the Lord and then Fr. Provincial welcomed everyone cheerfully. The holy mass was celebrated by Fr. S. Arockia Doss and Fr. Packia Sathish Kumar broke the word of God and shared his thoughts and reflections on the Gospel of the day. At the end, Fr. Merry Benzer expressed his heartfelt thanks to the province and to the community members. With that the holy mass came to an end and celebration continued to the refectory, as all the new priest cut the cake and shared their love with each other. The day was a colour full and a memorable one.

*Bro. S. Jerald*

### **Animation Programme by Rev. Fr. Angelo Fernandez, MSFS**

On 10th June 2018, the Provincial administration arranged an animation program conducted by Rev. Fr. Agnelo Fernandez MSFS, especially for the Malawi mission. The program began at 9.00 am and concluded by 1.00 pm. The orientation was about mission in general with a social focus on mission Malawi. During the sessions, Fr. Angelo gave a general outline of missions, the demands and requirements of African mission. He gave a detailed description of the diocese of Karonga, the geographical picture, the economical status and the cultural and religious practices. According to the desire of our Founder Fr. Mermier, the participants were encouraged to venture into new missions with faith in God and love for the people. In the final session, Fr. Provincial addressed everyone about planting the Church in Malawi. With discussion and clarification, the animation program was concluded.

*Fr. S. Arockia Doss*

## **Education Forum**

After the fraternal greetings at 9 am, we the members of Education Forum went to the chapel for half an hour of adoration. It was a wonderful experience with the Eucharistic lord. When the meeting started, few hand outs were distributed to the members on the agenda of the day.

Fr. Thadews the counselor in charge of Education welcomed and thanked Rev. Fr. Ignacimuthu, the provincial for his guidance and support. He also thanked all the fathers working in our schools for bringing forth hundred percent results in 10, 11, and 12<sup>th</sup> Board exams during 2017-2018. The following were the points discussed:

- common logo for all our schools in Tamil Nadu
- Common school anthem for all our SFS Schools in the country
- Common software managed by our own confreres
- Venue for the Inter school competitions: it were decided to hold it every alternative year and the next inter school competition would be held in SFS School, Pudukkottai

Fr. Nicholas the Bursar thanked all the confreres working in the schools for the wholehearted support and cooperation during 2017-18. He also emphasized the importance of accounting and budgeting system. Any new projects, he said, is to be submitted either in the month of July or December.

Fr. Provincial addressed the Forum and he insisted few significant Points:

1. To go through collective decisions and witness.
2. To follow the rules and regulations laid down by the government pertaining to Educational and Training Institutions and its functions.
3. To work in support of widening and animating the charism of our congregation and actualizing the mission and vision of our founder.
4. To be conscious of ourselves as religious and not as corporate agents, etc

After the final prayers, we concluded our meeting.

*Fr. M. Simon Prabu*

## **Innovative Forum**

The yearly forum meeting of the social and innovative ministry took place on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at the Provincialate, Trichy. The meeting was graced and animated by Rev.Fr. Agnelo Fernandes (General Councilor in charge of Mission & SAIM). The meeting was attended by the provincial along with the Provincial Bursar. A few members absented themselves due to other appointments. The meeting was well co-ordinated by Fr. Amirtha Rajan the councilor in charge for social and innovative ministry, who welcomed the members and set the tone for the meeting. At first Fr. Agnelo Fernandes animated the session with a motivational talk. After that every member shared their annual report of their respective institute. The report consisted of the success stories, challenges faced, proposals and suggestions for future ministry. After this, Fr. Nicholas the Provincial Bursar presented for the members a Summary of financial status for the

academic year 2017-2018. He then went on to give a few financial guidelines for the effective functioning of our ministry. Finally Fr. Amirtha Rajan, the Councilor in charge shared little information and proposed the vote of thanks.

*Fr. X. George Navin*

### **Mission Forum**

The Third Mission Forum Meeting of South East India Province was held on 27th June 2018 in the Msfs Provincialate, Nagamangalam, The meeting was attended by eighteen members. The meeting began at 9.40 am with a half an hour Eucharistic Adoration. After that, Fr. Kanikkai Nathan, the Convener and the Councillor in charge of the Mission Forum extended a cordial welcome to the Provincial and all the members.

As the meeting began, Fathers were sharing about different activities of the parish mission, initiatives and difficulties in our mission stations like building of churches, Presbyteries, Visiting Families, Introducing a Parish Software, Prison Ministry, Bible Classes conducted to people with scholars, Tuition Centres, Self Help Groups, Learning of Sign Languages, Celebration of Parish Feasts with Confirmations, Fransalian Readings given to people, Educational Help given to people and so on. Deliberations and decisions for the betterment of the mission in the province were taken in these areas.

Some of the important discussions and clarifications were also sorted out regarding the election of the councillor in charge of a particular forum from the same forum itself; the canonization process of Fr. Peter Mary Mermier and its process to be taken over sooner; need for erecting SFS Statues in our mission stations. the Malawi Mission in its breadth and width; Co-Ordination of the Youth Ministry with the help of Fr. Christu Raj the province's youth animator; making use of the Mission Preaching Team in our parishes and celebration of Fransalian Sunday and Mission Sangamam.

At the end of the discussions, Fr. Provincial asked everyone to attend the upcoming annual retreat without fail and introduced also the new "Mermier Merit Award", which would be distributed to the 12<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> class students who had scored 1st, 2nd, and 3rd to encourage them. Fr. Nicholas, the Bursar instructed the forum about the need to do the accounting, based on the new GST rules. Finally with a prayer led by Fr. Stephen Xavier, the secretary of the mission forum, the meeting came to an end by noon with the midday meal.

*Fr. D. Jaya Kumar*

### **Formation Forum**

“Our vocation, to be Beautiful, must be full of thought for others...@”

- Saint Mother Teresa

With the purpose of adding more beauty to the formation, we convoked the first formation meeting of this academic year on 29<sup>th</sup>, June, 2018. The meeting was held in the presence of Rev. Fr. Provincial, Provincial Councilor for Formation and Provincial Bursar. At the very outset, we followed the enduring tradition to take time to pause, turn around to look at the fruitful year gone by, achieving both the expected and unexpected, while setting various milestones and then synergizing ourselves to move ahead to face the challenges in the present academic year, with a positive attitude. The main concerns of the meeting are:



- ❖ The Graded Formation, which is at the infancy stage in all the minor seminaries of our congregation. It was reported that there is both positive and negative vibration of the Graded Formation that we began in this year.
- ❖ The minor seminary staffs took the forum to have a glance at the Higher Secondary School Program. This topic was widely discussed and it was said that the Brothers are at present registered in the SFS Matric Hr. Sec. School, Vaniyambadi for their higher secondary education.
- ❖ Some plans were drawn for the ongoing formation of the priests. The programs will be animated for all our priests at different times, starting from September with the packages of one to five years of priests, six to ten years of priests and ten and above.
- ❖ In brief, Provincial Bursar presented the current financial status of the province.

With a grateful heart for each others' presence and with a word of appreciation for the selfless and dedicated service of everyone, we concluded the meeting by praising the name of the Trinity.

“God calls you to make definitive choices, and He has a plan for each of you; to discover that plan and to respond to your vocation is to move toward personal fulfillment.”

Pope Francis

*Fr. D. Sheen*

### **Triple Celebrations at SFS Minor Seminary – Pudukkottai**



Installation of New Superior, Admission of 17 Brothers to Postulancy and Blessing of New Staff Room, were the three joyful events that SFS Minor Seminary celebrated on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Added to these triple celebrations, was the joyful welcoming of Fr. Provincial by the staff and the students, as it was his maiden official visit to the Seminary this academic year. The ceremonies of the installation of Fr. Kanikkai Nathan as the new superior and the admission of the students into the period of Postulancy were incorporated into the Holy Eucharist, solemnized by Fr. Ignacimuthu, the Provincial Superior. Soon after the Eucharistic celebration, the New Staff room was blessed by Fr. Nicholas, the Provincial Bursar. Fr. Provincial also had a meeting with the Staff, during which he greeted the new staff and emphasized on the importance of a solid and holistic formation. Some of the aspects that he discussed with us are – need for quality formation, need for stricter screening of the students before being sent to the next stage of

formation, regular spiritual direction to the students, need for periodical staff meetings, accompanied formation, etc.

Indeed the day was great. The rector, the staff & the students of Minor Seminary were happy and grateful to Fr. Provincial for his visit. And a word of thanks goes to Fr. Nicholas for his presence and continued support.

*Fr. D. Jaya Kumar*

### **Congratulations**

Fr. A. Christu Raj has completed his doctorate on the theme Social Media and Youth in Sociology, Periyar University, Salem, Tamilnadu. As he is Fransalian Youth Ministry director of the South East India Province, he is available for the seminars for the students, teachers and professors. He will take seminars for catechism children and for the youth in the parishes. He is also willing to animate retreats in your places.

*Dear Fr. A. Christuraj, in the name of our province, I congratulate you for the successful completion of your doctoral studies.*

### **Month of July**

#### **Birthdays of Our Confreres**

Fr. R. Mathias	02	Fr. S. Vanathaiyan	13
Fr. S. Antony (Sr)	03	Fr. S. Joseph Henry	14
Fr. C. Rajasekar	03	Fr. S. Antony Raj (Jr)	22
Fr. S. Eldin	13	Fr. M. John Fernandez	11

*We wish them Happy Birthday and God's Abundant Blessings upon them*

### **Let Us Remember and Pray For the Dead**

#### **Msf's Obituary – July**

01	Bro. Pierre Perret Fr. Jean Claude Roch		Bro. Carmiile Chevillard Bro. Maurice Rouiller
02	Fr. Sixte Fagiano Fr. Pierre Montagnoux	13	Fr. Philippe Gaidon Bro. Claudius Chaumontet
03	Fr. Francois Giguet Fr. Francis Fogden Fr. Francis Favre	14 15	Fr. Joseph Gros Fr. Maurice Clavel Fr. Jacques Bernard
04	Fr. Marc Garin Fr. Marcel Dodens	16 17	Fr. Louis Favre Bro. Victor Montmasson
06	Bro. Jean Marie Semellaz	18	Fr. Jean Baptiste Gonthier
07	Fr. Jean Nicholas Decompoix	19	Fr. Azarias D'mello
09	Fr. Francois Mabboux		Fr. Fredrick Monteiro
10	Fr. Amedee Delalex Fr. Camiile Oberson	20 21	Fr. Rene Forel Fr. Julien Valliez
12	Bro. Willy Birgel		Fr. Edmond Deage

	Fr. Abraham Kottoor	27	Fr. Eugene Birraux
22	Fr. Jean Marie Rime		Fr. Joseph Peillex
	Fr. Vincent Fernandes	28	Fr. Eugene Ailloud
	Fr. Claude Bourgeois	29	Bro. Sylvester Pakium
23	Bro. Jean Marcet	30	Bro. Victor Simon
	Mgr. Charles Pelvat		Bro. Rudolf Mich
	Fr. Sebastian Plackithottil		
24	Fr. Joseph Palluel		

*Let Us Continue to Pray for the Deceased Members of Our Congregation*

### **Let Us Pray For the Departed**

- **Mr. George**, the Uncle of Fr. C. Berin, aged 63, expired on 04<sup>th</sup> July, 2018.
- **Lilly Roseline**, the daughter of Fr. Johnson Jeyabal's Brother, aged 26, expired on 07<sup>th</sup> July, 2018.
- **Mrs. Amalorpavam**, the Grandmother of Fr. D. Britto, aged 98, expired on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2018.

*May I request those who have not fulfilled the suffrages to do the same at the earliest. (Const. No.118; General Directory No.98)*

*May their soul rest in peace!*

### **My Programme**

#### **July 2018**

28 <sup>th</sup> July	:	Superiors meeting, Msfs Provincialate, Trichy
28 <sup>th</sup> July	:	Core Committees meeting, Msfs Provincialate, Trichy
31 <sup>st</sup> July	:	Meeting with Mr. Nadim K. Ammann, Project Officer, archdiocese of Cologne, Germany

#### **August 2018**

3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> August	:	CRI meeting, Tindivanam
14 <sup>th</sup> August	:	Parish Feast, St. Mary's Church, Mariapuram
15 <sup>th</sup> August	:	Independence Day, SFS CBSC School, Trichy
16 <sup>th</sup> August	:	Provincial Council meeting, Msfs Provincialate, Trichy
19 <sup>th</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> August	:	Congregational retreat, Vidivelli, Krishnagiri.
25 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> August	:	Peace & Justice Training Seminar, Msfs Provincialate, Trichy

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

## THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION AND MEDITATION

### 1. Bible Quote

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand”.

- **Isaiah 41:10**

### 2. Salesian Thought

“Retire at various times into the solitude of your own heart, even while outwardly engaged in discussions or transactions with others, and talk to God.”

- **Saint Francis de Sales**

### 3. Straight from the heart of fr. Peter Marie Mermier

“I am going to tell you that you are at life’s high noon where it is practically never dark and there’s no rest, no recreation. It’s the time which St. Paul calls the time of salvation: it’s a crowded time destined to fill the emptiness of time past and to produce those great efforts which make ready for the end”.

### 4. A Thought From Great Poet Thiruvalluvar

**Thirukkural:** வேண்டுதல் வேண்டாமை இலானடி சேர்ந்தார்க்கு  
யாண்டும் இடும்பை இல

**விளக்கம்:** விருப்பு வெறுப்பு இல்லாத கடவுளின் திருவடிகளை பொருந்தி  
நினைக்கின்றவர்க்கு எப்போதும் எவ்விடத்திலும் துன்பம் இல்லை

**Couplet:** His foot, 'Whom want affects not, irks not grief,' who gain  
Shall not, through every time, of any woes complain

**Explanation:** To those who meditate the feet of Him who is void of desire or aversion, evil  
shall never come

**Transliteration:** VaeNduthal VaeNdaamai ilaanati saerndhaarkku  
YaaNtum idumpai ila