

MISSIONARIES OF SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES VISAKHAPATNAM PROVINCE



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Introduction:

My dear Confreres,

During the month of October we have participated in the Extraordinary Missionary Month and organized a number of programmes and missionary activities. We had a day of seminar as a province on our missionary enterprise, conducted bible quiz in parish level, apostolic community level and Province level. The various programmes in the missions help us to reflect on our life as missionary and evaluate it in the light of the charism of our missionary congregation and rededicated our life with renewed missionary spirit. At this point of reflection, I would like to reflect with you what Fr. George Stephen has written in his book titled "the heart has a reason". He enumerates a number of missionary activities performed by various individuals and groups. The basic principles of these activities are, "Look, Feel, Act". These three words have become the basis of any missionary activity.

Two things define us. Our patience when we have nothing and our attitude when we have everything. No one is esteemed before God for having lived long – but only for having lived well. For nothing is small in the service of God. It is said that in religious life, peeling the potato and building up the cathedral is same in the sight of God. Our ministry has to be directed towards making us better human persons and train the people of God to be human in the world of today. For St. Francis de Sales has said, "to be nothing, if not human". To be human implies that we possess the virtues of St. Francis de Sales that is gentleness, availability, joyful optimism in our ministry. It is to treat others with compassion and love.

Congregation Matters

Cause of Fr. Mermier:

Rev. Fr. Yves Carron MSFS, the Assistant General in his letter to all the Vice-Promoters of the Cause of Fr. Mermier, dated 24th October 2019, states that they had a tribunal hearing session in Annecy on 19th October 2019 in the presence of Fr. Thomas K.

The theological censor (Fr. Maie-Joseph Huguenin) has submitted his 49 pages report and given his disposition. The first report was given by a Redemptorist priest a few year back.

The historical commission (comprising of Sr. Odile – one of our Holy Cross sisters of Chavanod and Mr. Bouchet the Archivist) also has submitted their report and their disposition.

We have heard two witnesses during the tribunal session (Mrs. Joelle Mermier – the fourth generation niece and Marie-Valerie Gow, a parishioner of Chaumont, birthplace of Fr. Mermier).

The process would not be complete, unless we have heard the witness from across wherever the MSFS is spread. We definitely need at least 20 witnesses from India (of which 4/5 of them could be our own confreres) and at least a few of them from Africa. What they need to share in the tribunal is at least: i. a basic knowledge of Fr. Mermier, ii. His reputation of sanctity and virtuous life, iii. His intercessory power.

Fr. Yves Carron

Cause of the Founder Team Meeting in Guwahati

"Venerable Fr. Peter Mermier's personal holiness deserves to be an inspiration for many faithful and so his glorification process needs to speed up..." is the unanimous voice of the seven Vice-Promoters who gathered for a day's Cause of the Founder Team (CFT) meeting at MSFS Provincialate in Guwahati, Assam on 15th November, 2019. In the meeting, the Assistant General's letter that was addressed to the body was discussed. Fr. Francis Poovelil MSFS, Guwahati Province, shared his reflections in two Conferences, "The Prophetic Visionary in Fr. Peter Mermier" and "Fr. Mermier: Moulded and groomed by the Holy Spirit." Fr. Assistant General has exhorted all the Confreres, through CFT, to intensify the prayer for the glorification of the Founder. In this regard, it is good to take stock of the position of the cause. It is informed that the two theological Censors Reports and the Historical Commission Reports and their dispositions in the were submitted in the Tribunal

hearing session held at the Pastoral Center in Annecy , France. The tribunal also heard a few witnesses from Annecy. Now to further, the Cause requires more witnesses. The process will not be complete without the witnesses from India where MSFS is present. Witnesses need not be people who have received favours or miracles. They do not need to have deep knowledge of Fr. Mermier. If they have well and good. Witnesses need to share in the tribunal at least: 1. Basic know of Fr. Mermier; 2. His reputation of Sanctity and virtuous life; 3. His intercessory power. Based on these criteria, it is proposed to gather as many witnesses as possible by 10th of February, 2020. A few of our Confreres need to be also the witnesses. Only with the gathering of the witnesses, the next tribunal hearing session will be possible. After that session only the Documents for the perusal can be submitted to the Holy See to begin the Roman phase.

The Cause of the Founder Team strongly suggested the following measures:

- It is the filial duty of MSFS to involve in this process through prayer.
- Establish/strengthen the ground support network systems like Fransalian Associates and Friends of Fransalians and work through them to gather the witnesses.
- Encourage our Confreres in the Parishes to preach on the sanctity of Fr. Mermier and identify the potential witnesses.
- Engage SPA & PMP members and other confreres to support the Parish Priests in additional round of preaching on the Cause of the Founder.

Reported by **Fr. Mariadas Sesetti msfs.**

News from the Province

Provincial's Visit to Indonesia Mission

On Sunday September 15th feast of mother of compassion, the patroness of our congregation, Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy MSFS our beloved Provincial landed in Larantuka at 4.30 pm local time. It was a moment of great joy for all of us to receive and welcome our provincial to our newest mission overseas. At 6 pm we the pioneers of the mission together with Fr. Provincial met with the bishop of Larantuka, Msgr. Fransiskus Kopong Kung. His Excellency warmly welcomed the provincial and expressed his deep gratitude to the Provincial and the congregation for having accepted his invitation to start the MSFS mission in his diocese.

On 16th September the feast of St. Cornelius the bishop has officially bifurcated the sub-station of *Pohon Bao* as a Parish, from the Cathedral under the patronage of St. Cornelius. This news was released by Bishop in his letter to the Vicar General, the Deans and the Parish Priest of Cathedral Parish, Mary Queen of Holy Rosary, Larantuka. On this day the bishop together with the Provincial and the MSFS confreres visited the location of the proposed new church of St. Cornelius , *Pohon Bao*. Adjacent to the land Bishop also purchased a decent House which is under renovation to be the new future Home of MSFS.



On 17th September Provincial together with Frs. Anand and Bhaskar met with the Bishop and Vicar General and the Bursar of the diocese. During this meeting the Provincial presented the agreement/ contract regarding our life, mission and vision of the Province in the Diocese of Larantuka. The Bishop and the committee joyfully welcomed the agreement.



On 19th September, the bishop, provincial and the MSFS confreres travelled by boat (one hour) to another island called Laembata, to our second mission PADA, in the diocese. Pada presently the substation of Waikomo parish run by the SVD missionaries. Bishop is in the process of bifurcating Pada from Waikomo and erects it as a parish under the patronage of

St. Francis De Sales. At present a new church is under construction in Pada mission. Bishop also started the construction of a temporary house for our confreres to serve in the mission. A permanent home near Bukit Doa (Prayer Hill) is promised by the Bhupathi (Mayor of Lambata Island)

On Sunday 22nd September we the Fransalians together with Fr. Provincial celebrated the Holy Mass at St. Ignatius Parish Waibalun, where Fr. Anand is residing now to learn the language. Fr. Anand celebrated the mass and preached the homily in Local language. This parish is served by the SVD missionaries. The present Superior General of SVD, Rev. Fr. Budy Kleden SVD, hails from this parish. It was indeed a festive occasion for the parishioners to see the missionaries from India to Indonesia.



On 24th September, after having spent 9 days with us in Indonesia, Fr. Provincial left for PNG. The visit of our beloved Provincial has boosted our energy, enthusiasm of the missionary spirit. We hope and pray that this will further strengthen and enhance our mission work in Indonesia.

Inauguration of St. Cornelius Parish, Pohan Bao, Larantuka

The much awaited moment of joy and celebration has arrived for the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales in Indonesia. It is indeed a historical event in the annals of the Congregation. On Saturday 26th October 2019 at 4 pm our confreres together with his Excellency Msgr. Fransiskus Kopong Kung, Vicar General Rev. Fr. Gabriel DaSilva, the bursar Rev. Fr. Jakobus, Rev. Fr. Thomas the diocesan Education in charge and the other priests were welcomed in procession amidst drums, trumpets music and dance by the school children of Pohan Bao, while so many other children and parishioners stood on the both sides of the road waving hands singling royal reception and warm welcome. It was a scene to behold! At the entrance of the parish of Pohan Bao a huge door-post was erected with closed doors. It was a local custom and tradition that the Bishop push opens the door amidst the loud drum beat to mark "the inauguration of a new parish" in the diocese. This was followed by a local tribal dance with swords, spears and shields by the people in their tribal attire. We were taken in Procession to the new House of the MSFS and the location for the future new parish church.

After a brief moment of refreshments there was a prayer session, invoking the Holy Spirit on the new parish and the faithful. This was



followed by the meeting with the parishioners and the local leaders. A detailed report was read by the Parish Priest of Cathedral, Rev Fr. Henrique explaining the statistics, the boundaries and the BCC (KBG) of the new Parish. The team from the Pastoral Centre of the diocese presented the action plan of the diocesan synod 2019. There was a sharing session during which the faithful asked many clarifications about the new parish. The day was concluded with sumptuous dinner.

On Sunday 27th October at 5 pm there was a Solemn Concelebrated Pontifical High Mass, presided over by his Lordship Msgr. Fransiskus. Many priests, religious and the faithful from all over the town of Larantuka, participated in this Holy Mass. In his homily the bishop expressed his joy and happiness at the formation of the new parish and exhorted the faithful to be committed to the Lord Jesus as people of God; Church independent and missionary. He also welcomed and introduced the MSFS to the people gathered. After the Homily Fr. Ananda Prasad was called upon before the alter to take the oath of promise to be the Pastor Paroki (parish priest) and Fr. Praveen Mathew to be the co-pastor.



After the mass there were messages by various dignitaries like the Bhupati (Mayor), Pastor Paroki Cathedral, Parish council presidents

from both cathedral and Pohan Bao. During his message in Local language Fr. Anand expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Provincial, to His Excellency the bishop of Larantuka, for having invited the MSFS to his diocese. He also thanked all the parishioners of Pohan Bao and promised the humble services of the MSFS in the new parish. Fr. Anand also conveyed the greetings, good wishes and the blessings of the Superior General of MSFS and the Provincial of Visakhapatnam on this august occasion of the inauguration of the new parish St. Cornelius, Pohan Bao. This was concluded by the blessing from the bishop and the festive agape meal. There was dance, music and celebration by the parishioners until midnight.



It is our ardent hope and prayer that the Mission in Indonesia be strengthened and our services bear fruit for the local church, for congregation and the Church Universal.

Love Jesus, Live Jesus, Give Jesus

Team Indonesia:

Fr. Ravi, Fr. Praveen, Fr. Anil, Fr. Bhaskar and Fr. Anand

Report of Fr. Provincial's Visit to Papua New Guinea (25th September to 6th October)

After visiting our confreres working in Indonesia our dear father provincial visited the confreres working in Papua New Guinea. Frs. Sandeep and Jose went to Jayapura (Indonesia) to receive him on 25th of September. Some of the parishioners were present along with MSI sisters to welcome Fr. Provincial at Dasi Parish in Vanimo town. Our confreres Fr. Sandeep Reddy and Fr. Joseph Vettukattil and Fr. Jose had a preliminary meeting with Fr. Provincial and evaluated the present situation of our fathers working here. The next day Fr. Provincial met Most Rev. Francis Meli the bishop of Vanimo Diocese. In the meeting the bishop expressed his

willingness to entrust to MSFS missionaries the parish of Dasi in the town so that MSFS missionaries can form a community and to take up different tasks in the diocese of Vanimo. He is also willing to give a bush parish to be looked after. He gave green signal to modify or construct a convenient house with all needed facilities for a community living. The expense of the building will be shared by the diocese and the congregation.



On 28th we had another meeting with all our confreres (Fr. Prabhat Bastiray came back on 27th Sept from Port Moresby after a symposium). Fr. Provincial suggested that our congregation in PNG must be registered and to open a bank account. He also recommended that we can propose a plan for a convenient

house at Dasi. In the meeting the draft for the agreement with the diocese was discussed. On 29th Fr. Provincial, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Prabhat went to Ossima parish to celebrated the feast of St. Michael where Fr. Sandeep is the parish priest. On 30th we celebrated our Founder's Day along with priests working in the town. On 1st Provincial celebrated Holy Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Major Seminary where Fr. Prabhat is the rector. On 2nd of October Fr. Provincial and Fr. Jose left for the diocese of Lae to meet Most Rev. Rozario Menezes, the bishop of Lae diocese who likes to invite MSFS priests to work in his diocese. We were welcomed by Rev. Fr. Vinod at Lae Airport. Bishop Rozario welcomed us with a great joy in the Bishop's house. On 3rd October Bishop Rozario took us to two parishes namely Bulolo and Wau. The parishes are situated 103 and 129 kilometers away from Lae city. Bulolo is a district head quarter. PNG product limited has developed those areas. At Bulolo there is a parish church, convent, primary school etc.

From there we travelled 26 Kms to reach Wau, another parish. There is new Catholic Church, primary school etc. some people and treachers and children gathered to welcome us. on 4th October we came back to Vanimo. In Lae the bishop, priests, sisters and the people seem to be hospitable and happy.

The PNG-Indonesia boarder had been closed due to political unrest for some days because of which Fr. Provincial could not travel on scheduled date. On 6th October we managed to get Fr. Provincial's passport sealed and arranged for his safe travel to Jayapura from where he took his flight to India on 7th October. All our confreres enjoyed and cherished the most valuable time spent with Fr. Chinnappa in PNG. We thank God for those days provincial's visit which revived our Fransalian life style. Thank you dear Fr. Chinnappa for your kind visit to the confreres working in PNG. We appreciate your adjustment and putting up with the inconvenience. Thank you for the advise, exhortation and encouragement given to us in group and also individually. We assure that we will try our best to follow the directives given to us.

A New Parish in Sydney

The long-awaited dream of having a parish for the MSFS in Australia has come true. Fr Gerry Gleeson, the Vicar General of the archdiocese, was kind enough to negotiate with us in finding a place for MSFS. Finally, the archbishop has decided to entrust with us the twinned parishes of St Christopher's, Panania and St Patrick's, Revesby Heights, and appointed Fr. Sales as the Parish Priest and Fr Bhaskar as the Assistant from 6 December 2019. From the archdiocesan newsletter we understand that these parishes are entrusted to the Fransalian Congregation for an initial period of six years. This is the first time that Fr. Sales is appointed as Parish Priest, and as it is his custom, the archbishop will be installing me with an appropriate rite.

St Christopher's Church, Panania, is located about 23 kilometres inner south-west of the Sydney CBD, with an average attendance of about 15,00 in the weekend. St Patrick's Church, Revesby Heights is a smaller in size with an average attendance of 300 in the weekend, and these two parishes are only 2km from each other. I will send you more details of the parishes with our new address as soon as possible.

Fr. Francis Sales MSFS

Formation Forum Meeting



Formation forum meeting with general secretary Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu was conducted on 6th November, 19 at SFS study house Janampet. Rev. Fr. Manoj Pathippallil welcomed all the members of the forum. In his welcome address he highlighted the importance of being a formator. Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy the provincial superior highly appreciated the works of formators in his inaugural address and thanked them for their commitment and sacrifice.

Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu the resource person of the day spoke at length on the theme "Formation for Transformation". Formation is a process that calls for transformation of both the formees and the formators. As the general trend today we find among the formees is that they are short of a proper faith formation, they are inclined to undergo the formation programme with ulterior motives. Hence formation should be considered as a hopeful, adventurous, painful and a spiritual journey especially on the part of the formators.

Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu exhorted the formators to love their work and take responsibility for the best formation. Formators who take their work lightly, commits a crime as it affects the future of the candidate and the congregation at large. "Nishkama-Karma" should be the guiding principle for the formators as the fruit of their labour is given by God himself.

Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu also explained the main goals of the formation. They are:

- A. Value formation
- B. Intellectual formation
- C. Heart formation
- D. Wisdom formation
- E. Pastoral formation.

At the outset of the second session Rev. Fr. Jolly Chakkalackal invited Rectors and delegates of various Formation Houses to present the reports of the respective houses and opened the session for group discussion and various clarifications. A detailed report from MSFS minor seminary Vadakkenchery was presented by Rev. Fr. Vijay Peter wherein he highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of having orientation program at Vadakkenchery, Kerala. Rev. Fr. P.J Mathew rector of Fransaliam Vidyajyothi, Nidadavole said formation program and college studies of brothers are going on very smoothly and they are immensely benefiting from the junior college. Report from Novitiate presented by Rev. Fr. Thomas Perumalil gave a brief description about the entire year novitiate program. Rev. Fr. Jolly, the rector of SFS Study House underlined the three basic goals of the study house as Human formation, Spiritual formation, and Apostolic and Missionary formation.

Fr. Manoj Pathippallil thanked all the participants and had a special word of thanks to the local community who made the best possible arrangements for the meeting. He also particularly thanked Fr. Kondala Joseph for all his support towards the Vocation Promotion.

The meeting ended with the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu.

After the photo session a grand meal was served by the Janampeta community, marking the last items of the day before everyone dispersed to their own respective places.

Fr. Manoj MSFS

Education Forum Meeting with General Councillor



Education Forum Meeting of the Province was held on 3rd November, 2019 at Stella Maris. This meeting was primarily convened for the purpose of Animation of Province' forum by the General administration. Rev. Fr. Jacob Karamakuzhyil, General Secretary for education was present to animate the meeting. The meeting began at 9:00am with a prefixed agenda. Fr. Provincial extended a warm welcome to Fr. Jacob. Some of the important aspects of animation are: Creating catholic culture and ambience in our schools, display of verses and Quotes from St. Francis de sales, Establish a culture of excellence and competence in our educational institutions, Maximum utilisation of infrastructure for the less privileged outside the school hours, increase of scholarship and concession given to the poor children, Greater Social awareness programs in schools, Constitution of crisis management teams and redressal forums, Formation of Alumni associations, Student wing of Friends of Fransalians, Modus Operandi for School Evaluation etc.. All the Principals submitted reports on various activities of respective schools. There was also discussion on some of important matters of current education system in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The meeting was concluded with Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Jacob Karamakuzhyil. All the members of the Education Forum attended the meeting. Special Thanks to Fr. Jacob for his animation.

Fr. Sandeep Reddy MSFS

**MISSION FORUM MEETING WITH
REV. FR. JOHNSON KALLIDUKIL
GENERAL COUNCILLOR INCHARGE OF MISSION**



The Meeting of the Mission Forum of Visakhapatnam Province was organized on Friday, 8th November, 2019 at Stella Maris, M.S.F.S. Provincialate, Visakhapatnam. Rev. Fr. Johnson Kallidukil, the General Councilor In- charge of Mission headed the meeting in the gracious presence of Very Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy, the Provincial Superior and Rev. Fr. Dola Velangani Rao, Provincial Councilor incharge of the Mission. There were 32 members of the Mission Forum present for the meeting. The meeting began at 9 am with a short prayer led by Rev. Fr. Kondala Joseph followed by felicitation to the General Councilor by the Provincial Superior. Rev. Fr. Johnson, at the very beginning of the First Session, conveyed to the Forum the prayerful greetings and wishes from Very Rev. Fr. Abraham Vettuvellil, our Superior General and Rev. Fr. Agnelo Fernandes, the former General Councilor incharge of Mission.

Rev. Fr. Johnson continued his talk with a story titled 'Car Care'. The content of the story is that the passion and the spirit of the Founder of the Company were not kept up by the succeeding generations. Later on the company had the soul-searching session and realized about the deviation and then kept up the intentions of the Founder thereafter. The moral of the story is that we need to keep up the spirit of our Founder and the spirituality of our Patron in all our Missionary endeavors.

This session was followed by the Report Session in which every parish priest gave a brief report of his parish. The contents of this Report are - 1. Self-Introduction 2. Statistics of the Mission 3. Strengths of the Mission 4. Challenges in the Mission 5. Future Orientations for the growth of the Mission. This session was followed by Group Discussion in which the parishes under same Apostolic Community discussed together and

presented the Reports. The contents of this discussion were based on four aspects, namely - 1. Ways and Means to maintain a healthy relationship with other Religious for the benefit of the Mission, 2. Ways and Means for Cooperation and Collaboration with the Diocesan Administrative Organs for the benefit of the Mission 3. Ways and Means for active Collaboration among the MSFS parishes of the same Apostolic Community for the benefit of the Mission 4. Ways and Means to maintain Cautious and Prudent relationship with Public Officials for the benefit of the Mission.



It was followed by General Announcements and Submission of Parish Pastoral Plan. Vote of thanks was given by Fr. Ch. Rajesh. Concelebrated Holy Eucharistic was presided over by Jubilarians (Rev. Fr. S. Ignatius as the Main Celebrant and Fr. Mekala Sebastian as the concelebrant at the altar) and the homily was preached by the General Councillor. There was a group photo at the end of the Holy Eucharist. Parish Finance Register was prepared and distributed to all the Parish Priests a copy each. The meeting ended with lunch at 3 pm.

Reported by
Frs. B. Vijay Kumar & D. Velangani Rao

SAIM Province Forum Meet with General Secretary

SAIM Visakhapatnam PCIC meeting with General Secretary, Rev. Fr. J. Stephen was held at Stella Maris on 12th November 2019. In all 15 Confreres participated. Fr. K.V. S. Prasad opened the meeting with the invocation of God and welcomed Rev. Fr. Provincial and Rev. Fr. J. Stephen, the dignitaries of the day. "Social Ministries, challenging though fulfilling, are the need of the hour" observed Fr. Provincial who made the opening remarks and appreciated the commitment of the confreres to their apostolate. Rev. Fr. J. Stephen, animated the Sessions in the light of the recent General Chapter's spirit and Action Plan. He invited



the members to share on their individual and community ministries through their Institutions and members reported on their ministries and the challenges. Fr. Mariadas Sesetti, the Councilor in charge of the SAIM presented a brief statistical report of the SAIM Visakhapatnam outreach programs that benefit 25816 beneficiaries throughout the province and that it is made possible by the availability and services of 48 confreres. The assembly led by the General Secretary, discussed, deliberated and proposed to make aware our Seminarians at all levels SAIM to inculcate a culture of social involvement and to publish an annual pictorial report to accord a visibility to our ministries in the Province. Fr. Jaddu Joseph proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Fr. Mariadas Sesetti msfs

Introduction to New Testament:

We, the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales under the animation of Rev. Fr. Sesetti Mariadas Msfs, the Councillor incharge of Innovative Ministries have conducted The New Testament Introductory classes from 4th June till 6th of November 2019 at ROSS HILL, Visakhapatnam. Around 50 Candidates attended not only from the city of Vizag but also from far away places of the Arch diocese of Visakhapatnam.

Every Wednesday from 5 p.m to 7 p.m. we have conducted the classes covering the entire New Testament. The participants have shown keen interest in the Scripture and they were empowered and encouraged and enlightened better in the knowledge of Scripture because the ignorance of Scripture is the ignorance of Christ Himself as St. Jerome said.

Many Msfs Confreres were very helpful in conducting the classes. The Hill Chapel Director Rev Fr. Velangani and the entire Staff of the Shrine



are very much involved in this praise worthy endeavour of the Visskhapatnam Province.

The Candidates have highly appreciated the classes. At the Completion of the classes the CONVOCATION CEREMONY was held on 10th of November 2019. It was a well arranged programme by the Ross hill shrine. The Eucharistic Celebration and the Convocation Ceremony were presided over by Very Rev Fr. Chinnappa Reddy MSFS, Provincial Superior of Vizag. Many people of God participated in the Holy Eucharist and enjoyed beautiful homily by Rev Fr. S. Mariadas.

The Convocation Ceremony was conducted in an A.C. Hall. Rev Fr. Provincial in his short message explained the importance of the WORD OF GOD based on 2Tim.3:16_17 which tells us that we should thoroughly be equipped for every good work inspired, breathed, rebuked corrected by the Scripture.

Rev Fr. Provincial and Mariadas Msfs have presented the Candidates who have completed the Course with the beautiful CERTIFICATES AND CONGRATULATED THEM...Together with the Certificates the Candidates were given the book written by our Heavenly Patron St. Francis De Sales INTRODUCTION TO DEVOUT LIFE. Fr. Mariadas briefed about the book and the possibility of taking it later on for deeper study. The Candidates expressed their satisfaction and gratitude to each of the Fathers who took classes for them and appreciated their efforts whole heartedly.

The entire programme was highly successful due to the Blessings of Almighty Father and the prayerful support of our beloved Archbishop of Vizag Most Rev Dr. Mallavarapu Prakash garu. Thanks to His Grace. Besides we are THANKFUL to our Provincial Superior for his constant

support and loving presence. Thanks to Rev Fr. S. Mariadas who animated the entire Programme well.

We express our thanks to Hill Chapel Community and the Director Rev Fr. Vekangani for all the facilities provided. Thanks to one and all for your cooperation and collaboration which made the Bible study Classes successful and fruitful.

Rev Fr. Sesetti Mariadas MSFS

Councillor in-charge of Innovative Ministries, Vizag.

**Annual Feast Day Celebrations of
Mother of Compassion Church at Medipally, Hyderabad
on 15th September, 2019.**



The Mother of Compassion Church at Medipally, Hyderabad celebrated its 11th Annual Feast day On 15th of September 2019. In view of the feast day Celebrations we have conducted prior to the Feast various items such as Bible Quiz, Singing, Drawing Competitions and Elocution covering all the age groups and fostering greater unity among the parishioners. The parish Youth Executive members and Brothers from St. John's Seminary who come regularly for Sunday Ministry are very helpful in conducting these items.

Just 3 days before the Feast we had a TRIDUUM as a part of our intense preparation for the Feast conducted by PARISH MISSION PRECHING TEAM, MSFS, Vizag. On the last day of the Triduum we had a procession manifesting our special Veneration towards the Mother of Compassion the patroness of the parish.

On the Feast day we have a grand Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. Thumma Mariadas Reddy msfs, the Former Asst. Superior

General, Rome. In his homily he emphasized the meaning of suffering in the life of Mother of Sorrows for the sake of the other and the need of being Compassionate. Besides the main celebrant there were 11 priests present and prayed for the parish. 7 candidates received the First Holy Communion. A few religious sisters and Brothers have attended. The entire Parish together with their relatives in large numbers participated in the Holy Mass. The entire Feast day Celebrations were one of great rejoicing due to the cooperation of the MSFS Community Members, Rev. Frs. George Alapatt and Devaraj.

The Support and hard work of the parish council members, the involvement of the Sacred Heart sisters and St. John's seminary brothers, contributions of the parishioners, the dedication of the Youth, the commitment of the choir group and the Legion of Mary, the Continuous help of Mr. M. Mariadas in over all arrangements are praiseworthy. The Musicians electricians Mr. Antony who did illumination work, painters, photographers, domestic staff, catering people, drivers and ayas etc played their loving role in the greater success of the Feast. Special thanks to Divyavani Staff for their concern and Mr. B. Anand Reddy and Family for Sponsoring the Divyavani shot feast day programme. Another important and relevant item of the Feast is the installation of the Statue of the St. FRANCIS DE SALES, the Heavenly Patron of MSFS Congregation at the top of the Church Sponsored by Mr. BSNL Joseph and Family particularly meaningful as we are going to celebrate the next month as the Extraordinary Missionary Month, St. Francis De Sales himself being an extraordinary example of a Missionary....this Feast comes to an end with the FELLOWSHIP DAY Next Sunday in which we offer Thanksgiving Mass, have fraternal meal together as one Parish Family, enjoy the variety entertainment, distribution of prizes to the winners of all Competitions. And Finally inviting specially all the NEW COMERS who have joined this parish after the last Feast day celebrations. We praise and thank God for this beautiful opportunity of Fraternal Annual Celebration of the Feast of Mother of Compassion.

Thank you.

Fr. Francis Stephen Msfs

Workshop on Extraordinary Missionary Month, SFS School, Seethammadhara



Extraordinary Missionary Month, declared by Pope Francis in view of the centenary celebration of the Apostolic letter *Maximum Illud*; a document written by Pope Benedict XV, on the church's mission to bring to the world the salvation of Jesus Christ, was

celebrated meaningfully by MSFS Vizag province on 24th October, 2019 at SFS School, Seethammadhara.



The theme "Baptized and Sent": the Church of Christ on the Mission in the World, was systematically pealed by Rt. Rev. Dr. Mallavarapu Prakash, Archbishop of Vizag and Fr. Jacob Parapally, msfs, who animated the day's workshop with his theological reflections. About 160 religious and clergy from Vizag city area participated for the same. 24th October 2019 was an important day for MSFS Congregation as it is the 181st Foundation day of the MSFS Congregation. Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy, Provincial Superior, highlighted the importance of Foundation day and welcomed the gathering. The committee members: Fr. Mariadas Sesetty, Fr. Velangini Dola, Fr. Inna Reddy, Fr. Ravi kumar, Fr. Anand Prakash, and Fr. Vijay kumar looked into the arrangements and proceedings of the meeting.

Fr. Inna Reddy, msfs

Christian Teachers at Recollection



"It is a day of refreshment to our Spirits," commented one of the 96 participants in the Day of Recollection for the Teachers of all our MSFS Schools in the City of Visakhapatnam. In spite of the pouring rain on 10th September, the first of its kind, the day was well attended and animated by Fr. Rayappa TOR from St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mathurwada. He invited the teachers to be generous in love and sacrifice to touch the young spirits of the students entrusted to our care. He also reminded that the teaching job is not a profession but a vocation and called for greater commitment to oneself, others and God. The high light of the day was the Praise and Worship followed by the Eucharistic Celebration officiated by Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy, the Provincial Superior of the MSFS, Visakhapatnam and joined by the Principals of the participating Schools. Lunch was served before the participants dispersed at 1.30pm. All have appreciated the initiative of St. Aloysius Anglo-Indian High School.

Fr. Mariadas Sesetti msfs.

ONGOING FORMATION SEMINAR

A seminar for the priests who completed five to fifteen years of priesthood was conducted on 11th and 12th of October at Stella Maris, Visakhapatnam. Rev. Fr. Amar S.J and Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu MSFS were the resource persons.

Rev. Fr. Manoj in his introductory talk spoke about the importance and need for the ongoing formation. Various documents of the church, like, Optatam Totius, Perfectae Caritatis, Presbyterorum Ordinis etc. were quoted to bring to light the mind of the church regarding ongoing formation. He also presented a compendium of the sixth chapter (which

speaks about ongoing formation) of Pastores Dabo Vobis (I Shall Give You Shepherds) an apostolic exhortation, by Pope John Paul II, concerning the formation of priests.



Rev. Fr. Amar S.J continued with various sessions enlightening the participants about the socio, economic, and political scenario of India and in particular of Andhra Pradesh, where we are called to render our service. He dealt in depth with the following topics: The internal challenges faced by the religious life, ecological issues facing the country today and the influence of the social media on the society.

Some of the internal challenges faced by the religious life today are: Individualism, Casteism, degradation in moral values, mediocrity, careerism, groupism, financial irregularity and demographic deficiency. The church is also under spiritual and moral crisis due to financial scandals, sexual scandals, and rampant spiritual business in the form of novenas, feasts and consumerist values creeping in to the church.

In the recent past we have witnessed many life threatening ecological issues in the country like deluge in different parts of the country especially in Kerala and Assam, Okhi disaster in Kerala and Tamil Nadu flood and drought in AP and Maharashtra, farmers strike in TN and UP, Pollution at all levels and unseasonal climate changes.

Influence of social media on the society is more than ever. IT revolution and its consequences have adversely affected Dalits, Adivasis, Fisherman, Women, Children, Minorities, Professional caste groups and Craftsmen. Digital dictatorship and post - truth have taken away the ordinary man's power to make decisions. He asked the participants how much are we informed about these and how do we stand for the voiceless in the society?

Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu looked at the ongoing formation from a Salesian perspective. He emphasized that Life is the greatest formator and each one of us is responsible for our own formation. According to him, now there is more importance for on ongoing formation than before because of the rapid changes in all spheres of life and society. Quoting from the constitution he said, MSFS Const. No.159 reminds us of the need to update ourselves to remain relevant in the society.

Keywords of ongoing formation and the advantages of ongoing formation were the two topics that were discussed during the first session on the second day. He enlightened the participants as how to be a good Christian and an effective religious. To be a good Christian one needs three loves namely, Love of God, Love of neighbor and Love of oneself. In the same way to be effective religious in the world three loves we need, Love for life as a gift of God, Love for one's vocation and Love for one's Congregation.

During the second talk he explained Christian meaning of spirituality, characteristics of spirituality, and some significant elements of the spirituality of St. Francis De Sales.

The program was concluded with a holly mass officiated by Rev. Fr. Suresh Babu the General counselor for formation and concelebrated by all the participants. Rev. Fr. Joseph Thambi proposed vote of thanks and the program was concluded with a sumptuous lunch.

Fr. Manoj MSFS

BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF THE NEW HOLY CROSS R.C. CHURCH , CROSS LAKE , MANITOBA, CANADA

It was a proud moment for the Canada mission as the dream of a new Church come true. The foundation stone was laid on September 6, 2018 and inaugurated on September 14, 2019 by Most Rev. Murray Chatlain, Archbishop of Keewatin Le pas , in the presence of James Fiori OMI, VG . The blueprint and church key was entrusted to Archbishop by Rev .Fr. Guru Prasad Mendem , Msfs in the presence of everyone present , then the archbishop invited the pastor of the parish Father Guru Prasad to open the new church doors and Archbishop welcomed all the priests, sisters and the faithful to enter into the new church. Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Archbishop Murray Chatlain and joined by couple of priests and sisters, from the nearby places and very good number of Catholics from the parish and surrounding



communities. It was a blissful moment and this moment was continued with a fellowship meal. It was indeed a great day for the people of Holy Cross R. C. church , Cross Lake, as they really worked hard to raise the fund for 15 years and now their dream has come true. At this juncture, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our MSFS conferrers in Canada for their support. I also thank sincerely our dear Rev. Father Chinnappa Reddy MSFS, provincial superior and his Councillors for their encouragement and prayers.

HISTORY , ABOUT CROSS LAKE COMMUNITY WHERE I WORK AS A PASTOR

- Cross lake is an Indian Reservation in the Province of Manitoba in Canada.
- Located approximately 520 air kms north of Winnipeg along the shore of the Nelson River
- Population about 8,639 members who reside on Reserve & off reserve , this includes the Metis Reservation.
- The leadership of Pimicikamak (community) consists of One Chief and eight Councillors and Metis Non-Treaty consists of Mayor and four Council
- The common language is Cree , but English is mainly spoken by youth
- We have six denominations

- There is no hospital on the reserve , they have a clinic in which five doctors fly in from Winnipeg to work their Monday to Friday . There are nurses that are stationed at clinic to provide care . They are treated or the patient flown out to Winnipeg hospital which is 520 air kms.
- All families are supported by the government of Canada
 - 1) Social assistance for unemployment
 - 2) Child tax benefit for children under 18 years of age
 - 3) Old age security for the elders 65 & up
 - 4) Employment insurance for the people that don't work anymore
 - 5) Goods and services Tax for adults 19 years & up , every 3 months.

From the above report, it is clear that it is a rural area and it is a mission station. But it is a great joy here to work. I feel happy to spread the Gospel and work for the Kingdom of God. I request your prayers for the parish and for the mission.

Fr. Guruprasad Mendem. MSFS

Congratulations and Best wishes to Fr. Guruprasad

Jubilee Celebrations at Ibrahimpatnam



It's a great joy for the parishioners of the Sahayamatha, Ibrahimpatnam as we celebrated the silver jubilee of the parish and also of Rev. Fr. Mandagiri Jojaiah, M.S.F.S, the parish priest. Celebrations began with the procession from the presbytery giving a grand welcome to His Excellency Most Rev. Bp. Thelagathoti Joseph Rajarao, Bishop of Vijayawada Diocese.



Holy Eucharist was celebrated by His Excellency Most Rev. Bp. Thelagathoti Joseph Rajarao and concelebrated by Jubilarian Rev. Fr. Mandagiri Jojaiah, M.S.F.S, and Rev. Fr. Pentareddy Chinnappa Reddy, Provincial Superior of M.S.F.S Andhra province and many other priests from the Diocese and Religious communities. In His homily Bp. exhorted the faithful to base their lives on precepts and commandments of the church by which we become true Catholics of the church. He also reminded the priests and religious to grow in Holiness. A special blessing was given to Rev. Fr. Mandagiri Jojaiah by Bishop on his Jubilee year at the end of the Holy Mass. During the Holy Mass Rev. Fr. Jojaiah thanked Bishop and all those who are gathered for the celebration. He specially thanked sisters of St. Anne's for their relentless service to the parish. After the Holy Mass there was felicitation for the Jubilarian by His Excellency Most Rev. Bp. Thelagathoti Joseph Rajarao. Parish also felicitated the Bishop and all the priests who worked in the parish. The fellowship meal was served to all the faithful at the end of the celebrations. We thank God for His abundant blessings on the parish. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who helped us to celebrate this Jubilee in a fruitful way.

Rev. Fr. Mandagiri Jojaiah, MSFS

RENOVATION OF ST. ALOYSIUS HIGH SCHOOL CHAPEL

On 29th of October 2019 the newly renovated Chapel at St. Aloysius High School, Visakhapatnam was inaugurated with the celebration of Holy Eucharist by Rev. Fr. Dola Velangani Rao, the director of Ross Hill in the presence of our confreres from Hill Chapel community as well as sisters from Fort Catholic school and Brigatine communities. It was in the month of June the renovation works began in the chapel under the efficient leadership of Rev. Fr Sesetti Mariadas, the superior and principal of St. Aloysius High School. It is indeed a great moment for all of us as our Chapel got renovated giving us a conducive atmosphere for prayer. After the mass Rev. Fr. Velangani and all those present wholeheartedly appreciated the tireless work rendered by the community members in materializing the renovation works. At this juncture we raise our hearts in gratitude to God and one another for guiding us all these days of work.

Fr. Sesetti Mariadas, MSFS

Blessing and Inauguration of the New K. G. Block in SFS School, Pamidi



16th November 2019 was a golden letter day for SFS School, Pamidi. On that day at 9 a.m. Very Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy, Provincial Superior of MSFS Visakhapatnam Province blessed and inaugurated during the school assembly in the presence of all the students and teachers the newly constructed seven rooms to accommodate the K. G. class children. It was a long standing request from the parents to build class rooms with R.C.C. roof instead of the asbestos shed. In his message Rev. Fr. Provincial emphasized the management's commitment to quality education with proper infrastructure. He exhorted the students to follow the 3 D's : Decision, Dedication and Determination in all their endeavors.

Fr. Kishore Babu MSFS

Blessing and Inauguration of MSFS COMPLEX at MSFS House, Anantapuram



On 16th November 2019, MSFS COMPLEX, at LRG, Anantapuram, was blessed and inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy, provincial Superior of Visakhapatnam province in the presence of Local

Apostolic Community, MSFS Hostel boys and a good number of Catholics from the parish. Fr. Provincial appreciated and thanked the Local community, Fr. P. Raja Reddy, Fr. P. Vijay Kumar, Fr. V. Solomon Raju for their magnificent efforts in making the complex. He also thanked the Engineer, Contractor and all other workers.

It was indeed a day of rejoicing for the province. We are very glad to express our heartfelt gratitude to Rev. Fr. Provincial and his administration for their cooperation and continued support.

Reported by **Fr. V. Solomon Raju MSFS**

Visitation of the Assistant Superior General

22nd Nov 2019 to 3rd Dec 2019

Date	Place	4.30 to 5.00 p.m	5.00 to 5.45 p.m.	5.45 to 7.15 p.m	7.30 p.m
21 st	Arival in Vizag 5.15 p.m.	Laying Foundation Stone at 7 p.m.			
22 nd	Mass at Stella Maris at 6.30 p.m.	Key not address for SAIM at 9 a.m. Leaving to Hyderabad at 1 p.m.			
23 rd	Hyderabad (Secunderabad)	Adoration	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass
24 th	Leaving to Anantapur				
25 th	Anantapur, (LRG School)	Adoration	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass
26 th	Guntur & Nellore, (Parchur)	Adoration	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass
27 th	Vijayawada & Khammam (Nunna)	Adoration	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass
28 th	E & W Godavari, (Eluru)	Adoration	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass
29 th	Visakhapatnam	Free			
30 th	Leaving to Kerala				
	Kerala	Adoration	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass
1 st Dec.	Leaving to Visakhapatnam	2.00 to 2.30 p.m.	2.45 to 4.00 p.m	4. 15 p.m.	
2 nd Dec.	Visakhapatnam (Seethammadhara)	Local Superior's Meeting	Apostolic Community Meeting	Mass	
3 rd	Visakhapatnam	Meeting With Provincial and Councilors at 9. 30 a.m Morning Mass at Ross Hill at 6 a. m.			

Information:

1. The second Annual Retreat is scheduled to be from 10th February (10 a.m.) to 14th February (1 p.m) 2020. Those who have not participated are requested to attend it without fail.
2. Rev. Fr. Thumma Mariadas Reddy has published a book titled "Discipleship". Congratulations!!!
3. Fr. Subash is on holidays in India. We wish him happy holidays.
4. As the feast of the Immaculate Conception at Ross Hill falls on a Sunday, I request all the conferers who are in the institutions to come and help at Ross Hill.

Let us pray for the departed:

Rev. Fr. Wilson Kottam, aged 51, belonging to South West Province passed away on 7th November 2019.

Fr. Micky D'Souza, aged 84, belonging to Nagpur Province passed away on 21st November 2019.

Fr. Mathew Kalatungal, aged 70, belonging to South West India Province passed away on 22nd November 2019.

Mrs. Elikutty, aged 82, sister of Fr. Joseph Padanthanmakkal passed away on 2nd October 2019.

Mrs. Annamma Job, aged 87, sister in law of Fr. K. P. Mathew passed away on 6th October 2019.

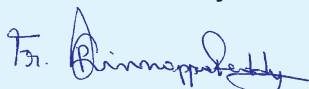
Mrs. Gade Innashamma, aged 94, the grandmother of Fr. Gade Kishore Reddy passed away on 14th October 2019.

Mr. Abraham, aged 69, uncle of Fr. Dhanaraj passed away on 18th October 2019.

Mrs. Mariamma, aged 70, mother of Fr. P. Krudayaraj passed away on 19th October 2019.

Mr. Velangani Varaprasad, aged 50, the brother in law of Fr. Sagar Santhosh passed away on 18th November 2019.

Yours fraternally in Christ,



Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy msfs

Provincial Superior

SALESIAN THOUGHT

Perfection consists not in doing extraordinary things but ordinary things extraordinarily well. - SFS