

MISSIONARIES OF SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES VISAKHAPATNAM PROVINCE



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PC Lr. No. 34

October 2020

To be a Missionary... is to go beyond...



3. Mission de VIZAGAPATAM — Mgr Rosillon bénit la première pierre de l'église de Gnanapuram

Introduction:

My Dear Confreres,

Wish you a Happy Foundation Day. At the outbreak of the deadly pandemic Covid-19, our life and ministry have been challenged and it calls for a new way of life and ministry. Amidst the Global crisis, as we are remembering the arrival of first French missionaries in India, let us get in touch with the heart of the Founder, that is, his missionary zeal and enthusiasm in sending the missionaries. On 24th October we celebrate the Foundation day of the Congregation. The celebration of 175th anniversary of the arrival of MSFS in India is postponed to a later time. Yet Superior General has invited us to mark the occasion in a meaningful manner by planting six trees in each community, as an honour to our pioneering missionaries. Therefore, may I request you to oblige with the guidance given by the Superior General. I wish you all the best and abundant blessings of God.

Suggestions from Superior General:

Prayer of Consecration and Planting 6 trees on 24th October 2020.

1. PRAYER OF CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

During the mass, after the Liturgy of the Word and homily, we will consecrate our Congregation and ourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on October 24th. Let us intercede for the protection of Mother Mary for us at this difficult time.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

*Hail Mary, Mother of God, most blessed among women,
Glorious and Immaculate Virgin, you are the most favoured of God,
Ever faithful, humble, obedient and righteous.
You always glorified God Almighty in all you said and did.
You are truly a great Mother and Model for all
Those Who consecrate themselves to your divine Son,
Jesus Christ, our Saviour.*

*Mary, full of grace, as we, your beloved children,
The Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, consecrate ourselves to
your Immaculate Heart, implore your maternal care and protection,
Guide us in the most holy way that you walked;*

*Strengthen us to firmly follow the footsteps of Jesus,
Living faithfully the religious commitment we made to him.*

*Most gracious Virgin Mary, compassionate Mother,
You are the pearl protected, Immaculate in every sense.
We firmly believe in your so powerful intercession.
Help us always to keep our hearts pure and
holy from all sinful attachments
In our thoughts, words and deeds
And to be ever pleasing to God Almighty always and
everywhere, Amen.*

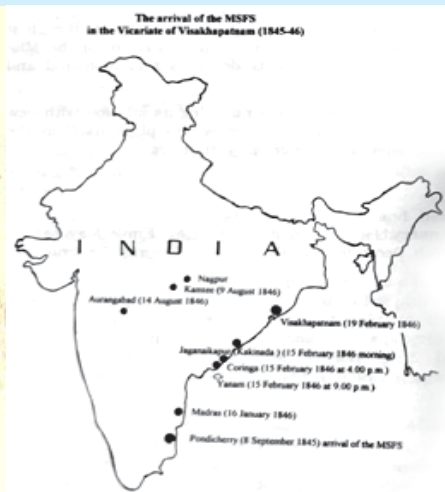
**O Immaculate heart of Mary!
Pray for us!**

I request all the Local Superiors and Formators in the formation houses to consecrate ourselves and the Congregation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

2. PLANTING SIX TREES ON OCTOBER 24, 2020

To mark the occasion of the arrival of the first group of 6 Missionaries from Annecy (**1. Fr. Jacques Martin, 2. Fr. Joseph Lavorl, 3. Fr. Jean Marie Tissot, 4. Jean Thevenet, 5. Bro. Pierre Carton, and 6. Bro. Sulpice Fontanel**), every Local Community is requested to plant 6 trees on October 24, 2020. I request the Local Superiors of each community to ensure that planting is done to mark the 175th anniversary of the arrival of the first group of missionaries.

The arrival of the first Missionaries of MSFS



March 16, 1845, for the Evangelization, the ecclesiastical authorities had decided to erect Visakhapatnam Vicariate from the existing Madras Vicariate and entrust it to a non-English Prelate. On 2nd May 1845 Fr. Peter Mermier, the Superior General of Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, with around 14 professed members in total, received an official communication entrusting Visakhapatnam Vicariate to MSFS, asking him to send six missionaries of his choice. The communication was the response to the request made earlier by Fr. Mermier who placed his little congregation at the service of the Church. The news was received with great joy. Fr. Mermier, though longed to venture himself, the responsibility of the two congregations he founded, he was needed to be in Annecy.



He chose six Confreres: 1. **Fr. Jacques Martin** who was the founder's long time companion. He was born in 1802 at La Cote – d'Arbroz and was ordained priest in 1832. He was a construction expert for the congregation and gave the plan of the Mother House, La Feuillette. He was the Mission Superior. 2. **Fr. Joseph Lavorel**, born at Cuvat in 1801, was ordained in 1827, was the diocesan priest of Annecy, while being the Bursar of the La Roche Seminary, he joined the Missioners in 1834. 3. **Fr. Jean Marie Tissot** born at Megeve in 1810, later became the second bishop of Visakhapatnam and instrumental in the development of the mission in Visakhapatnam town. 4. **Fr. Jean Thevenet** was the Benjamin of the team, born at Clermont in 1817, instrumental in the construction of many churches. 5. **Brother Pierre Carton**, born at Alex in 1805. He entered the Missionaries in 1841, the first lay brother of the congregation and the first teacher of St. Aloysius Anglo-Indian school, when Fr. Gailhot started the boys school. 6. **Brother Sulpice Fontanel**, born in Allinges in 1819, worked in Yanam, constructed the Convent and the school there. All of them would lay down their lives in the service of the church. Fr. Martin in Yanam, Fr. Lavorel in Kamptee, Fr. Tissot near Surada, Fr. Thevenet in Kamptee, Brother Sulphice in Samarlakota and Brother Pierre Carton in Visakhapatnam. From their sacrifices, the Vicariate of Visakhapatnam would flourish!

Coming back the communication received from Rome, they did not have much time to get ready to travel. They had to hurry up. In two separate farewells they were bid adieu by the Superior and the Confreres. On 12th May 1845 Frs. Martin and Lavorel and on 22nd May

Frs. Jean Marie Tissot and Thevenet and Brothers Pierre Carton and Sulphice Fontanel were given touching farewell, their venerable feet kissed by Fr. Mermier. Perhaps Fr. Martin and Fr. Lavorel had to leave Annecy before the others to meet the Superior of MEP Fathers in Paris to collect the travel grant arranged by Rome for their journey. On 28th May all the six confreres reached Bordeaux from where they embarked on to Visakhapatnam on 5th June, 1845. After 89 days of long voyage, they arrived in Pondicherry Via Mauritius on 7th Sept. They were warmly welcomed by Mgr. Bonnand, the Bishop of Pondicherry and they had to stay there for 4 long months due to various unforeseen reasons, though they were originally expected to stay a few days only.

Their journey to the destination was full of setbacks. The Bishop of Pondicherry was unwilling to send the priests who were according to the prior plan supported to assist the new missionaries to settle down in the new territory. Then, the Bishop of Madras who wanted Irish Missionaries and not the French Missionaries did not grant them the faculties needed for their ministry in Visakhapatnam that was entrusted to them for the Evangelization. They were stranded and lacked funds and support from the local ecclesiastical authorities. Amidst their trials and hard times, as reported by Fr. Martin, in a spirit of holy indifference, they used their time to learn the languages and prayers in Telugu and Tamil, preaching Retreats and Parish Missions. They lived these four months living the Rules better than ever as if they were in a Novitiate, they did a Retreat that helped them realize the union of hearts and work of grace among them (Letter of Fr. Martin to Fr. Mermier on 9.1.1846).

Propaganda Fide had intervened and soon the Bishop of Pondicherry yielded and made arrangements. But he selected a priest whom he wanted to be away from the diocese and thus Fr. Gailhot was appointed as the leader/ Pro-Vicar of the missionaries. On 5th of January 1846 Fr. Gailhot joined them enabling them to journey to Madras on 16th Jan. There the Bishop Fennelly received them and they stayed for 9 days. They embarked to Jagannaikapuram near Kakinada where they landed on 15th Feb. For the first time the MSFS celebrated their first Eucharistic Celebration in a small chapel there on the land of Telugus, and the mission allotted to them. Later they proceeded to Coringa, a journey of 3 or 4 hours. From Coringa around 5.00pm, they travelled on foot to Yanam with the luggage on their heads wading themselves through the marshy lands in the darkness and reached the small church at 9.00pm.

The next day, 17th Feb, they celebrated the Mass and Fr. Gailhot installed Fr. Martin Jacques as the Parish Priest of Yanam with the

Christians of Portuguese and other European nationalities. The first missionaries faced lot of difficulties as they were separated from their superior. The team returned to Coringa to resume their onward journey to Visakhapatnam. On 19th Feb 1846, the three MSFS priests (Fr. Lavorel, Fr. J.M. Tissot and Fr. Thevenet) and the two Brothers (Bro. Pierre Corton and Bro. Sulphice Fontanel) and the Pro-Vicar, Fr. Gailhot arrived in Visakhapatnam Harbour to the Joy of big crowd of Catholics, mostly Irish soldiers gathered to welcome them. They were brought on palanquins with plenty of fan fare and fireworks, all arranged by the happy Irish soldiers, to the only small Chapel in Visakhapatnam, later developed into the present Co-Cathedral.

They were welcomed by the incumbent Fr. Dom Joseph Xavier d'Attaide, a Goan Theatine priest. In those days, Visakhapatnam Catholics were being served by priests from the Goan diocese. Fr. D'Attaide was in charge of the vast mission for 16 long years basically serving the European and Tamil Christians. The local Telugu people could not be evangelized for the lack of language skill. He stayed at the small chapel of St. Anne,(present co-cathedral), in the property belonged to him. The Mission territory entrusted to the MSFS was huge, being the land between the Bay of Bengal on the East and Narmada on the West, Mahanadhi on the North to the Godavari on the South. Prior to the arrival of the MSFS, only four(4) priests served around 6000 Catholics scattered in the area. They were stationed one each at Jalnah and Visakhapatnam and two at Kamptee, near Nagpur. Without exception, all of them were settlements of the soldiers working in the British Army.

The newly arrived missionary team and the Pro-vicar were provided residence in a rented house hired by the Irish Soldiers in the present old town area in Visakhapatnam. Even before they could settle down, they received the shocking news of the death of Fr. Martin at Yanam. They were shocked and shattered. But they had to go on. Later Fr. Gailhot assigned Fr. Lavorel to Kamptee and Fr. Thevent to Jalnah on 14th May. Fr. Tissot, Bro. Pierre Carton and Bro. Sulphice remained in Visakhapatnam in the rented house till 1st June, 1846. Soon Fr. Gailhot purchased two small plots close to the beach and started school in one room and the other room was used as residence and Chapel. On 8th July, Fr. J. M. Tissot and Bro. Sulphice Fontanel were sent to Yanam to succeed Fr. Martin. Brother Pierre Carton remained in the house with Fr. Gailhot and taught Latin to the students.

The beginnings were tough and daunting! Yet they went on! They had to obey Fr. Gailhot, the Pro-Vicar who had his own schemes and plans, not necessarily that of the missionaries to whom the mission is entrusted.

They had no money and the funds promised did not arrive. They were stationed far from each other with no communication between them and seemingly abandoned in the tough mission. Though the situations were testing, the first six MSFS were indomitable in their spirit and unwavering in their faith and totally surrendered in their commitment. They held on and stayed on, giving a chance to God and His Gospel! God did miracles through them. What Fr. Martin said to Msgr. Bonnard, Vicar Apostolic of Pondicherry stands as a loud testimony their faith in Providence. When they reached Pondicherry, on 7th Sept, 1845, they had very little money left for further journey. The subsidies promised by Rome had not materialized. All their luggage consisted of six small suitcases which contained also a number of books. On seeing it Msgr. Bonnard, exclaimed: "Oh, you don't have enough." Fr. Martin replied: ***"Monsignor, poverty is a much more solid foundation than money."*** That is our legacy! A firm faith in the Providence and willingness for personal sacrifice!

Fr. Mariadas Sesetti msfs.

Reflections pertaining to "Cause of the Founder"

The life and ministry of the pioneers who landed in India and scores of others that followed them, first French and then native, attest to the enduring value of this method that Mermier designed and bequeathed to his sons.

The original missionaries reached Indian shores not as conquerors or tradesmen or as agents of colonial masters, but as humble pilgrims, eager to learn, and with no waste of time, but with a lively faith and indomitable courage, they introduced themselves into the new milieus and contexts, learning new languages and customs, painstakingly adjusting to the new climates, eating the food that was available, eager to identify with the people they ministered to. They strove to practice apostolic zeal like Paul and become all things to all: Fr. Seignuer in Surada, Orissa, learned the practices and customs of a Brahmin like the De Nobili of Jesuit fame and came to be known as 'Brahmin Swami', while Fr. Avrillon in Palakonda, proudly identified himself with the Dalits and Harijans and their ways of living to be called 'Paraiah Swami'. Fr. Seignuer wrote a Christian Bhagavatgita as he ministered to the upper castes of Orissa, while Fr. Jules Rey translated the New Testament into Odiya, apart from composing several hymns in Odiya and even a Missal. It was this same sense of apostolic discernment that empowered Bishop Charles Pelvat in Nagpur to accord permissions to Brahmabandab Udayyaya, the Bengali Brahmin Convert, to begin a Christian Ashram

in Jabalpur in 1889. The project would have revolutionized the Indianization efforts of the Indian church had it not been later scuttled and permission rescinded by Rome, owing to the pressure of the other European contemporaries of Pelvat.

It was once again this discernment energy that convinced Bishop Rossillon in Visakhapatnam, way back in 1927, in the face of stiff resistance from his European peers, yet with great foresight, campaigned for Indianizing the church in India, and undertook to welcome native vocations. The profound discernment that spurred Rossillon to venture into the uncharted terrains and accept vocations from St. Thomas Christian community in the down south proved to be prophetic beyond even his own imagination, blazing a new trail in evangelization, as is attested by the 20th century history and growth of the Indian church. His daring discernment unleashed the pent-up missionary zeal and dynamism of the St. Thomas Christians and opened the floodgates of vocations from the south. The subsequent evangelization of India led by the Indians and even that of the world is a folklore now, even frequently alluded to by Pope Francis, himself and the church must remain eternally grateful to Bishop Rossillon and the Fransalians. This same sense of discernment was also instrumental to the unique formation strategies that the Fransalians designed and followed in India, from the 'Mobile' Seminaries to the formal centers that they began later at Gobalpur, Visakhapatnam, and Nagpur. The method of formation adhered to at St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur, founded by the MSFS, even to the contemporary times, with its unique emphasis on pastoral formation, which I can testify to as an alumnus of St. Cahrles, pursuing my philosophical training there, vouches for this discernment. All the different ministries and apostolates that Fransalians have initiated or ventured into in differing times and locales, whether the enduring traditional ones of parish renewal, direct evangelization or the educational apostolates, or the innovative ones that have emerged according to the different contexts into which the Fransalians have moved, stand as a lasting testimony to the enduring value of the sacred patrimony that Fr. Mermier has left to us and with us.

In fine, as I conclude, I can say with full conviction that the sacred memory and patrimony that we have received from Fr. Mermier, with its constitutive core of contextual discernment, is no mean thing to be ashamed of in any way, but ought to inspire genuine pride in every Fransalian or a Missionary of St. Francis de Sales. The appreciation and esteem that it has received and continues to receive from a wide spectrum across the church, laity, priests and bishops as a whole,

should goad us to honor the same by renewing our commitment to live by the patrimony and ground breaking insights of Mermier, the founder and our inspiration. In this regard, a testimony of His Grace late Aruldas James, the former bishop of Chennai-Mylapore, would provide a fitting conclusion to our reflections. In the 1990s I had gone to meet His Grace along with our confreres late Fr. Alexander Kottam and late Fr. Joseph Britto Francis, to discuss the possibility of taking up parishes in the archdiocese and negotiate about a plot of land being offered to us on St. Thomas Mount, Chennai. He presented a few parishes which are hard to deal and you MSFS with your characteristic styles of gentle discernment and attention to the contexts, you can renew and redeem them". Those parishes are still with us. What more testimony do we need to take pride in our own original discernments and the sacred patrimony that we have inherited from Fr. Mermier? How shall we honor his memory in our own time and the times to come?

Let us get down to celebrate Fr. Mermier in our lives and communities. Then we will be not only living the ministry of the light on the lamp stand, but we will be the salt of the earth as well that still retains its saltiness and enrich every other spice and condiment in God's kitchen of grace and mercy.

Rev. Fr. Raphael Karekatt MSFS

Fransalian Associates :

This year is declared for the global MSFS Community as the Year of Fransalian Associates, with the single purpose of sharing the God-given gift of our Charism and Heritage, especially our Spirituality with our God-thirsty friends. Our simple spirituality as taught by St. Francis de sales and lived and cherished by our Founder and generations of our Confreres, is summed up in belonging to God without reserve and without measure and living that belongingness in the daily life amidst our joys and sorrows, burdens and comforts. The best gift we can give to our friends is what is dear and valuable to us. Our spirituality is that best gift.

From the analysis of the members of our existing groups of Fransalian Associates, we have the retired and working, student and professor, young and old, literate and illiterate; we have teachers, scientists, nurses, house wives, bank employees, daily wage earners and many other walks of life. All have the thirst for God and are eager and willing to work on themselves. They are searching for groups and ways that can initiate them and connect them to Godly living. Fransalian Associates is the answer! The Size does not matter. It need not be big.

Ten interested people are enough to begin with. The torch of the salesian spirituality in your hands is not given to die down with you. Pass it on! So start a group in your Parish and Institution! This is our request to you! Kindly keep us in contact!

Who can be an Associate:

- One who embraces the vision & Spirituality of MSFS while living their own specific state of life
- It is like a Third Order that many other Religious Orders have.
- Being an Associate is a Call; A Call within a Call; Addressed by God. A call to embrace Gospel more earnestly and seek greater depths of intimacy with God through living out Consecration.
- The Associates are “attuned to SFS Teachings”, specially the Universal Call to Holiness.
- They are affiliated to MSFS- Fransalian way of life.
- A Catholic, He/she be 18+ years- Priests/Sisters/Laity can be a Fransalian Associate.

Fr. Mariadas Sesetti msfs

THE CAUSE OF FR. PETER MARIE MERMIER, OUR FOUNDER

Dear confreres, Fr. Inna Reddy is appointed as the Vice-promoter for the cause of the founder from Visakhapatnam Province. So kindly extended co-operation to him for the cause of the Founder.

I am jotting these few lines seeking your kind co-operation in promoting the Cause of Fr. Peter Mermier, our Founder. Many initiatives have been taken so far by Chief promotor and Vice-Promoters for the cause of the founder and you have been wonderful in extending your support for this cause. I am also seeking the same support from you all as I am appointed now as the Vice-Promotor for the cause of the Founder from our province.

The general administration is very much relying on our province to find some solid witnesses who can witness the sanctity of Fr. Mermier and his blessings through the intercessory prayers of Fr. Mermier for the next process. Our province, being the mother province in India and number of years in evangelization, the vastness of its experience in spreading the Gospel through the missions, the involvement in conscientizing the people, the spread of devotion etc. has its edge to intensify our sincere efforts in order to find a way to gather witnesses for the cause of the founder.

However, we need to be aware of the following; in any beatification process, there can basically be two kinds of causes, namely, '**ancient cause**' and '**recent cause**'. The cause of the Fr. Mermier falls under the category of '**ancient cause**' as our Founder lived and died long ago, where it would require eye- witnesses. So it is not possible. In any cause the enquiry committee will look for the witnesses who would be able to testify for three things: 1. **Heroic Virtuous life of the person.** 2. **Reputation of the Sanctity,** and 3. **Intercessory power of the person.**

As the first one (Heroic Virtuous life of the person) falls under the category of the ancient cause, we need to focus on the rest; **Reputation of Sanctity of Fr. Mermier and Intercessory power of Fr. Mermier.**

What would the witness have to testify? 1. Reputation of Sanctity and 2. Intercessory power of the person. The questions that would be asked of the witnesses in the tribunal will be related to aspects concerning the reputation/fame of sanctity (what do you hear of the sanctity and holiness of the person and enthusiasm to say that he inspires me is enough?) and intercessory power of the person (have you received any graces and blessings?).

According to the law, as Fr. Mermier is our own founder, belonged to our religious institute, a significant number of the witnesses presented by the postulator must be from outside the institute. For instance if there are 12 witnesses, only one third can be from our institute, two third should be from outside the institute (lay persons).

My dear confreres, it is a joint venture by all of us to intensify the Cause of the Founder. I would like to suggest few things along with already what is being followed so far:

- a. Continuation of the Recitation of the prayer; Glorification of Fr. Mermier by all members (our confreres and lay people).
- b. Regular intercessory prayers through the powerful mediation of Fr. Mermier.
- c. Preaching a sermon on Fr. Mermier at least one Sunday in a month. (each parish is given 5 each books on Fr. Mermier written by Fr. Mariadas).
- d. Dedicating a day in a week to celebrate mass for Fr. Mermier.
- e. Reflecting on Fr. Mermier during the time of every day adoration and on Fridays in parishes.

- f. Encouraging specific groups like Vincent de Paul Society members, Maria Dalam members, Fransalian Associates, volunteers etc. to know more about life history and virtuous life of Fr. Mermier and arranging few talks on Fr. Mermier etc.

I also would like to address the faithful during a Sunday mass if u can allot me a day once everything is settled.

Confreres also are most welcome to suggest ideas to intensify the process.

Fr. Provincial has appointed the following confreres from each Apostolic Community as associate coordinators to work jointly (Fr. Stephen (Hyd.), Fr. P. Vijaya Kumar (Rayalaseema), Fr. Sagar (Nellore & Guntur), Fr. Guru Prasad (Vijayawada), Fr. Jolly (West & East Godavari) Fr. Kondala Joseph (Visakhapatnam), Fr. Joy (Kerala)).

Seeking your kind co-operation,

Fr. Inna Reddy MSFS

TALKS / INPUT SESSIONS / (WEBINARS)
FOR FIRST TIME PARISH PRIESTS & ASSISTANT PARISH PRIESTS
Under the auspices of Mission Forum

Covid-19 has forced us to invent and adapt new ways of learning, especially the way of E-learning. The Mission Forum of the Province came up with a few INPUT SESSIONS / TALKS ONLINE (WEBINARS) intended for the First Time Parish Priests and Assistant Parish Priests in order to help them launch into MISSIONS effectively and pool their talents together to place them at the service of the Church and the Congregation. These sessions are not just limited to Freshers (participation is obligatory) but also for those who are advanced in mission experience (although their participation is optional) as they (talks /sessions) refresh and update their pastoral ministry. The “google meet link” will be sent to all the participants at least before 2 days prior to the day of session and the same will be sent also to the Province whatsapp group so that all can avail the opportunity to participate in these sessions, as there is no end for learning. My sincere thanks to all the Resource Persons, who accepted willingly and now are preparing well their sessions out of love for our younger confreres. Hope to organize many more webinars in the next year with a few more topics. Your valuable suggestions are most welcome. The following is the current schedule of the Sessions:

Timing : 10 am – 11.00 am Via : Online (Google Meet)

- 1) 29-08-2020 (Saturday) - Transition from Seminary to Parish
(Fr. Sesetti Mariadas)

- 2) 09-09-2020 (Wednesday) - A Sharing of Overseas Pastoral Experience (Fr. Sandeep) & Interaction
- 3) 21-09-2020 (Wednesday) - Parish Priests and Assistant Parish Priests - General Canonical Aspects (Fr. Velangani)
- 4) 09-10-2020 (Friday) - A Sharing of Pastoral Experience (Fr. Jose Chirayath) & Interaction
- 5) 21-10-2020 (Wednesday) - CCBI Guidelines on Liturgy (Fr. Thomas Perumalil)
- 6) 09-11-2020 (Monday) - Importance of Homily in the Liturgy (Fr. Jolly)
- 7) 27-11-2020 (Friday) - Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council (Fr. Velangani)

Note: All are WELCOME to participate in these sessions to enrich your pastoral ministry.

Fr. Dola Velangani Rao
PCIC for Mission

Inauguration of a Chapel at Jayanthirampuram:



Approximately, 75 years ago Rev. Fr. Hendrix, a veteran missionary built a chapel in Jayanthirampuram. Over the years faithful have increased in number. But the old church was small and had leakages all over. Since 20 years the faithful at Jayanthirampuram were requesting for a new chapel. Their hope of having a new chapel is materialized by Very Rev. Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy who has sanctioned and supported. The ground work for the construction of the chapel was done by Rev. Fr. M. Vijayaraju the then parish priest. Since then, the construction work was supervised by Fr. Josi and Mr. K. Gabriel.

The newly built chapel is dedicated to sacred heart of Jesus. The chapel was blessed by Most. Rev. Dr. Ch. Bagyaiah D.D, the bishop of Guntur and was inaugurated by Very Rev. Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy, the Provincial superior on 27th August 2020. The joy of faithful at Jayanthirampuram knew no bound as their sacrifices and hard work became a reality.

Fr. Ch. Joshi MSFS

A brief report from Indonesia Mission

16th September 2020 marked an important day in the History of St Kornelius Parish, Pohon Bao as it celebrated the first Anniversary of its bifurcation as a Parish. On 16th September 2019, on the feast day of St Kornelius, His Excellency Bishop Fransiskus Kopong Kung, the Bishop of Larantuka, announced the formation of this new Parish. The Anniversary celebrations preceded by Triduum and procession with the Blessed Sacrament and the Portrait of St Kornelius in the streets and alleys of the parish. On 15th September, the Feast of our Heavenly Patroness, Mother of Compassion we all five MSFS confreres celebrated the Holy Mass and enlightened the parishioners on the importance of this feast in our congregation. It's on this day we started sending the quotes of St Francis de Sales in the local language. Thanks to the creative work done by our confreres Frs Praveen, Ravi and Anil.

On 16th September the Thanksgiving Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev Fr Gabriel da Silva the Vicar General concelebrated by all our confreres, other priests of the Diocese. Many parishioners and Religious sisters participated in this august celebration. After the Homily, Vicar General blessed the members of the Church building committee and also symbolically blessed the "Foundation Stone" which the Bishop will lay at a later time. After the Holy Mass there were few messages by the dignitaries. Fr. Ananda Prasad MSFS the Parish Priest highlighted various pastoral programs implemented and exhorted the people of God to give their time, talent and treasure to build up the faith and the new Church Building. The day was concluded with simple dinner for the priests, the religious and other invited guests.

Fr. M. Anand Prasad, MSFS



Silver Jubilee:

Rev. Fr. Anand Prasad Maddineni



Parents : Sebastinaiah and Alphonsamma
Date of Birth : 21-11-1969
Place of Birth : Thimmarayini Pahad
Primary School : St. Theresa's School, Thimmarayini Pahad
Secondary School : St. Gabriel's High School
Minor Seminary : Fransalian Vidyajyothi, Nidadavole
Novitiate : Salesianum, Visakhapatnam
First Profession : 16-07-1989
Philosophy : Suvidya College, Bangalore
Regency : Fransalian Vidyajyothi, Nidadavole
Theology : Fransalian Seminary, Pune
Final Profession : 16-07-1994
Priestly Ordination : 21-10-1996, at St. Peter's Church, Thimmarayinipahad

Appointments:

1996 – 1998 : Asst Parish Priest, Arogyamatha Church, Balepalli
1998 – 2001 : Asst Parish Priest, St. Lucia, West Indies
2001 – 2006 : Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph's Church, Jacksonville, USA
2006 – 2012 : Pastor, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Florida, USA
2012 – 2015 : Parish Priest, Holy Cross Church, Singhnagar
2015 – 2016 : Parish Priest, SFS Church, Bibinagar
2016 – 2019 : Parish Priest, Mother of Compassion Church, Medipally
2019 - : Mission Superior & P.P. Indonesia

Information:

- De Sales International Film and Media Academy (DeSIFMA)**, a unique international institution and a new initiative for media studies established by the MSFS as per the directive of General Chapter 2019, was inaugurated on 15th September 2020 at Chennai. Fr. J. Stephen is appointed as the Director of DeSIFMA, and Fr. Shibu Ezhanikat as Administrator of DeSIFMA, with General objective: a) to provide a media hub for the MSFS to disseminate Fransalian core values and spirituality of St. Francis de Sales, b) to equip those students having a desire and aptitude for film making with theoretical and practical knowledge, c) to provide them with a professional opportunity to realize their full potential and with

Specific Objective: a) To provide the youth with a career-oriented education and formation to excel in various media and film production fundamentals, b) To promote Fransalian core values through media, especially films, c) To equip interested students with screening, creative scriptwriting modules, directorial skills in film making, and cinematograph.

2. I am happy to inform you that Provincial Congress of East Africa has elected the following confreres as councillors: Fr. Sheejan Kallarackal, Fr. Robert Soosai Raj, Fr. Zachariah Burefero, Fr. Japhet Kirimi, Fr. Reji Pandanath is elected as Provincial Bursar. Congratulations and best wishes.
3. All India Inter – Province Debate 2020 was organized by St. Francis de Sales School, Delhi. B. Narhram Fathima, a student from SFS School, Gajuwaka won the Runner-up prize. Congratulations to the staff and students of SFS School, Gajuwaka.
4. There is an open invitation from Rev. Fr. Yves Carron, the Assistant Superior General to come forward to do pastoral ministry in Brazil Province. Those who are willing to go are requested to contact the provincial.
5. Sisters of the Holy Cross of Chavanor, have started a community in the Boarding Home, SFS Printing School campus. Sisters will be residing there for one year which can be renewed for another year.
6. Sunil Kumar Kunche has left the congregation for good. We wish him all the best in the future.
7. I request all the confreres to take care of your health. In case anyone is sick please inform Provincial or the local Superior.

Let us pray for the departed:

Rev. Fr. Martin Griffin, aged 83, Engaland Province, passed away on 18th August 2020.

Rev. Fr. Mathew Chavely, aged 71, East Africa Province, passed away on 5th September 2020.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Vadkumpadam, aged 74, Nagpur Province, passed away on 6th October 2020.

Rev. Fr. Kodigandala Julian, aged 57, Visakhapatnam Province, passed away on 9th October 2020.

Mrs. Mandagiri Susilamma, aged 85, the mother of Fr. Mandagiri Jojaiah passed away on 18th August 2020.

Mr. Kondaveeti Vijay Kumar (Raju) aged 51, the brother of Fr. Kondaveeti Thambi passed away on 23rd August 2020.

Mr. Avira Pullat, aged 107, father of Fr. Thomas Pullat passed away on 4th September 2020.

Mrs. Kamalamma, aged 75, the Grand Mother of Fr. K. Lourduraj passed away on 13th September 2020

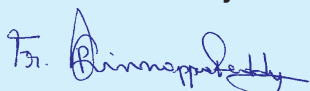
Mr. Pasala Julian, aged 55, the Father of Fr. Pasala Praveen passed away on 16th September 2020

Mr. Alex, aged 74, the eldest Brother of Fr. Simon Paicatt passed away on 25th September 2020.

Mr. George, aged 32, the Brother – in – Law of Fr. M. Praveen passed away on 25th September 2020.

Mrs. Thereseamma, aged 44, the Mother of Bro. Harish, passed away on 29th September 2020.

Yours fraternally in Christ,



Fr. P. Chinnappa Reddy msfs

Provincial Superior

SALESIAN THOUGHT

As the love of God is gentle, peaceful and tranquil the care which proceeds from it, though it is for the good of the world, is kind, gentle and considrate. - SFS

Loving Tribute to
Rev. Fr. Kodigandla Julian



*"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me." - Psalm 23: 4*

These words from the Psalms become true of the life of Fr. Julian, as we are faced once again with death in the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales. Words cannot express the deep sorrow over the sad and sudden death of our confrere.

Place of Birth	: Chinnamanayanikota, Ananthapur
Date of Birth	: 27 - 07 - 1963
Parents	: Mr. K. Showri and Mariyamma
Primary School	: Chinnamanayanikota
High School	: Anantapur
Minor Seminary	: Fransalian Vidyajyothi, Nidadavole
Novitiate	: Salesianum, Visakhapatnam
First Profession	: 15 - 12 - 1985
Philosophy	: Suvidya College, Bangalore
Theology	: Vinayalaya, Bangalore
Perpetual Profession	: 08 - 12 - 1991
Priestly Ordination	: 05 - 05 - 1994

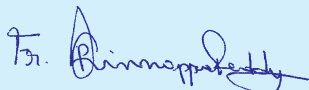
Appointments:

1994 - 1995	Asst Parish Priest	Tanuku
1995 - 1998	Parish Priest	Garla, Khammam
1998 - 2000	Parish Priest	Siluvagirinagar, Vijayawada
2000 - 2001	Parish Priest	Owk, Kurnool
2001 - 2006	Parish Priest	Kothapalli, Guntur
2006 - 2007	Procurator	SFS School, Korutla
2007 - 2008	Parish Priest	Rajhamundry
2008 - 2010	Parish Priest	Mandadi
2011 - 2015	Parish Priest	Elakathurthy
2015 - 2017	Parish Priest	Tanuku
2017 -	Parish Priest	Shabad, Hyderabad

On 09th October 2020, Rev. Fr. K. Julian passed away leaving behind a legacy of a true missionary of St. Francis de Sales. All through his life he was noted for his loving and caring attitude towards the people whom he ministered to. Today Fr. Julian is no more with us. Fr. Provincial along with a few confreres participated in the funeral rite of Fr. Julian. The mortal remains of Fr. Julian was laid to rest at C. N. Kota, Anantapur. I request all the confreres to pray for the departed soul of our beloved confrere. All the confreres are requested to fulfill the suffrages prescribed in the constitution of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales.

May his soul rest in Peace.

Yours fraternally in Christ,



Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy MSFS
Provincial Superior