



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR- INH

"In Your light we see light, Light leading to Life"

- INH Vision



INH/PC/101

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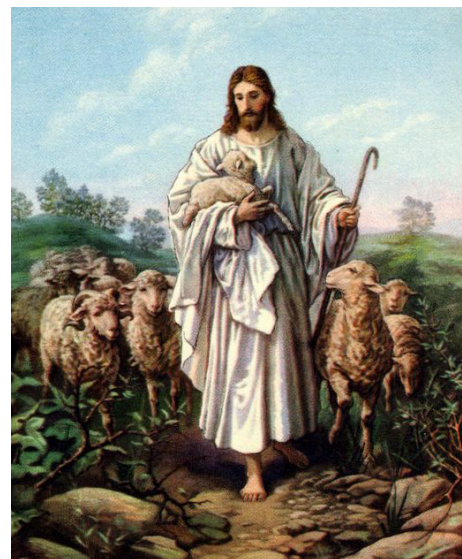
Religious Leadership

As colours to flowers, so the leaders are to any nation. A leader augments the face value of a nation. A Leader, by the strength of his/her character, contributes immensely to the kind of brand, a nation acquires. The kind of leaders, a country produces, have a far reaching consequence on the kind of image a country assumes on the global scenario. This is true of religious leaders too. The moment we think of religions like Christianity, Islam, and Hinduism, our minds and hearts are infused with the persons of Lord Jesus, Prophet Mohammed and Lord Ram. But, what distinguishes a religious leader from the leader of a nation is the source of their power. While the leaders of nations predominantly derive their authority from the 'chair' they occupy, the religious leaders derive their authority from the kind of 'God Experience' they have.

This is evident from the life of our ultimate leader Jesus Christ. He derived his authority neither by his birth as a Jew, nor from his social status as the carpenter's son, nor by his power to work miracles, nor by his ability to simplify and interpret the scriptures. His authority emerges from his experience of God and from his life in the Spirit. This authority is explicated by his continual reliving of this experience and by being rooted in God through prayer, and by carrying out his vision of the Kingdom through his words and deeds. Therefore, Jesus' leadership emerges from his experience of God, nurtured by prayer and expressed by his vision oriented mission.

We find a similar pattern of exercising leadership in the most fruitful leaders of the Church too, whether Popes, the heads of religious congregations or the simple lay faithful, one of the best example being our present Pope Francis himself. The rapidly changing world may demand from us, religious missionaries, innovative methods of mission and painstaking missionary endeavours. In spite of this, what can give meaning, identity and credibility to all our activities is the continuity with our original charism, although its expression may be completely anew. Therefore the religious leadership today should evolve also from the pattern of leadership emerging from the life of Jesus to love, share and serve. The religious leaders should be visionaries, rooted in God through prayer and in the best of the religious traditions of a particular Society.

We are also getting set to initiate the process of electing our new leadership team soon. At this important juncture, may this idea of leadership emerging from the life of Jesus and from the life of great leaders of the church inspire us. No doubt, being a religious leader is a great challenge today, especially in our world driven by consumerist values, corporate slogans and divisive ideologies. Therefore, it is a strenuous task before us to elect someone to lead us, for we are to a greater extent will be known and represented by our leaders. May the Holy Spirit illumine our minds and hearts as we get close to this momentous task of the Province. May saints Arnold and Joseph Freinademetz intercede for all of us.



SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD
INDIA - HYDERABAD (INH)
Provincial Superior

ARNOLD BHAVAN
H.No. 1-8-11/1/A
Ravindra Nagar Colony, Street No. 8,
Habsiguda, Hyderabad - 500 007.
A.P., India.

Phone : 040-27154741, 85, E-mail : inhsvd@gmail.com



Reminders, Recommendations and Resolutions of SVD Formation Board annual meeting held at Arnold Seva Sadan, Indore on September 16 & 17, 2013,

1. Conscious and concerted efforts must be made to foster a dialogical atmosphere in all our formation houses. Such efforts must include, (a) adopting an inclusive approach that is consultative and honors the legitimate competency in the decision making process, (b) promoting collective responsibility, and (c) appropriating an accommodative attitude even to the extent of sacrificing one's views and interests for the greater good of the community.
2. Generally we don't recruit to our Society candidates who failed in one or the other subjects in their 10th or 12th examination. However, exceptions may be made to the very deserving candidates with the approval of the House Council and the concerned Provincial/Regional Superior.
3. Vocations to religious life in India are decreasing at a quicker pace than expected. At this juncture we are blessed with promising responses to our vocation drive in North-East India. As formation is our common concern, we need to support our Janssen Minor Seminary at Tezpur, Assam (ING). Because of financial and other constraints the work of vocation promotion should not be stopped.
4. As a policy our formees shall not possess personal mobile phones until they complete Novitiate.
5. The Post Graduate studies of our fratres in philosophy at SVD Vidya Bhavan, Bhopal shall be temporarily suspended from 2013-14. For, the Bharkattulla University, Bhopal, where they pursue their MA, has switched over to semester system, which interferes with the curriculum of our Philosophate. However, the group that has already begun the MA course will complete it.
6. The Board recommends that every SVD formator in India undergoes refresher or renewal program once in three years.
7. A day or two may be set apart every year for all the formators of a Province / Region to come together for prayer, collective reflection, sharing and building up team work among them.
8. Extravagant spending on ordination ceremonies is a counter witness to the very spirit of ordination; therefore, the Board recommends that our ordinands exercise moderation in their ordination expenditure.
9. Consistent and coordinated efforts are to be made to organize the ex-SVDs and involve them as partners in our mission engagements.
10. The staff members of our minor seminaries will strive to promote regular contact with the families of our formees and confreres in their area and invite them to the seminary once a year for interaction, sharing of concerns and prayer. This will strengthen our vocation drive and stimulate their participation in our missionary cause.
11. First Year Philosophers of SVD Vidya Bhavan, Bhopal shall be given an opportunity to have a mission exposure in the INE Province so as to enable them to acquire experiential knowledge about the mission situation there. The modalities of such exposure shall be worked out by the Rectors of SVD Vidya Bhavan and Divya Jyoti, Sason.
12. Diaconate / Pastoral ministry is an essential component of our formation program. It is the responsibility of the concerned confreres including the Provincial / Regional under whose territory a Deacon is assigned for his Diaconate / Pastoral ministry to ensure that it is carried out in compliance with the canonical requirement and missionary commitment.
13. Being aware of the developments in the recent years in Europe as reflected in the 'Roscommon Consensus' and having sensitized our formation program and the Overseas Orientation Program already to some extent to the challenges arising out of the changing scenario of the Church in Europe and the Americas, we endeavour to:
 - a) Instill in the minds of our formees a greater awareness of the new understanding of the mission as prophetic dialogue through classes, conferences, seminars, exposures, etc.
 - b) Equip them with required skills and missionary spirit to deal with difficult situations.
 - c) Exercise extra care in identifying and assigning young confreres for overseas mission assignments
 - d) Cultivate in them innovative spirit and intercultural competence.
 - e) Avail the assistance of the General Mission Secretary, as he resides in India, to animate our Scholastics at Bhopal, Pune and Sason.
 - f) Place greater emphasis on these issues at the Overseas Orientation Program offered at Ishvani Kendra, Pune.These efforts must be revitalized with a well organized and accompanied 'entry program' for those assigned overseas by the receiving Country / Province.

The Seventh National Assembly of SVD Brothers in India: Statement and Action Plans

August 23 – 24, 2013, Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad

We, 30 Brothers of the Society of the Divine Word in India along with 4 Provincials, the Regional, General Mission Secretary and the National Formation Secretary, gathered for the 7th National Assembly of Indian SVD Brothers held at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad from August 23 to 24, 2013, deliberated on the theme, “Mission and Today's Challenges”, present the following statement:

Having understood the significance of Vocation to Brotherhood as a special gift in the Church and in the Society of the Divine Word and the sharing the concern over the declining of vocations to Brotherhood, we renew and resolve to give priority to our prayer life and become visible signs of the Reign of God through our commitment to Religious Missionary life. We strive to become reflectors of Christ through our exemplary life. In this regard, we propose to undertake the following priorities and Action Plans for the next triennium, 2013 to 2016.

1. Making visible the efficacious presence of Brothers.
2. Vigorous promotion of vocation to Brotherhood.
3. Revitalising the Brotherhood formation programme.

Action Plans:

1. Making visible the efficacious presence of Brothers.
 - A. Highlighting the contributions of Brothers through electronic and print media.
 - B. Brothers assuming roles in pastoral and evangelical ministries and activities.
 - C. Leading a life that is inspirational and exemplary to the people, particularly to the youth.
 - D. Constituting communities of Brothers and witnessing to the values of the Kingdom.
2. Vigorous promotion of vocation to Brotherhood.
 - A. Every Brother confrere will assist the Vocation Promoter in vocation drive through his active involvement in recruiting vocation to Brotherhood from his village, parish, from his kith and kins, and places of his ministry.
 - B. We will strive to become models and visible signs through our commitment to our apostolates, especially in preaching retreats, proclamation of the Word of God, recollections and seminars, and making ourselves known to the youth.
 - C. We shall utilize the limited financial resources effectively for the cause of vocation promotion.
 - D. We will adapt innovative ways of attracting vocations to Brotherhood.
 - E. We shall focus on Family and Youth ministry to promote vocations.
 - F. We shall effectively involve our temporary professed Brothers and candidates to Brotherhood in the task of recruiting of vocations to Brotherhood.
 - G. Wherever needed, especially when there is non-availability of Brothers for vocation promotion, we shall avail the assistance of clerical confreres in the promotion of vocation to Brotherhood.
3. Revitalizing the Brotherhood formation programme
 - A. We staff our formation houses with trained formators. We would show generosity and illingness to get trained and work as Brother formators.
 - B. We work as a team consisting of at least two Brothers in our Brother Formation houses.
 - C. We would accompany our formees during their formative journey and guide them in the time of difficulties and discernment. We shall make this as our priority and make ourselves totally available for this task.
 - D. We guide our junior brothers by example and encourage them to choose their professional training according to their ability, interest and the need of the Society.
 - E. Every one of us strives to do our best and become inspirational for the youth in our own area of work and specialization.

With the approval of the higher authorities in the Society we would implement the above mentioned Action Plan and evaluate our performance in this regard at the end of the triennium. The National Brother Formation Coordinator will oversee the implementation and evaluation of the Action Plan. The report of the evaluation shall be presented at the eighth Brothers' National Assembly.

Annual Feast at Arockia Annai shrine, Vadipatti



Arockia Annai shrine, Vadipatti celebrated its Annual Feast on 08th September 2013. Thousands of people participated with great faith. Indeed the novena days were the days of blessings for us all. The flag was hoisted and High Mass was celebrated on the 29th August by Most. Rev. Dr. Peter Fernando, the Archbishop of Madurai. On the 7th September, the solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rev.Fr. Jesu SVD, the Provincial Superior and thousands of faithful participated in the Holy Mass and the Eucharistic Adoration. On the 8th September, the festive High Mass was celebrated by Rev.Fr. Joseph Selva Raj, the Vicar General of Madurai Archdiocese. While breaking the Word, he highlighted the importance of Mother Mary for our Christian faith formation.

Arogya Matha Feast at Zaheerabad



Arogya Matha Church, Zaheerabad celebrated the birthday of our Blessed Mother Mary in a grand manner on September 09, 2013. All the faithful took active participation in celebrating the feast. The new statue of Mother Mary was blessed by Fr. Luke, the District Superior. It was a moment of joy to receive the blessings and graces from Mother

Mary. The solemn concelebrated thanksgiving Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Bali Reddy SVD the Provincial Councilor, and Fr. Anil Kumar Mennakanti SVD preached an inspiring homily to have deep devotion towards Mother Mary. A Good number of priests were present for the feast. The celebrations were concluded with the fellowship meal.

St. Mary's Students bring laurels to the School at Zaheerabad.



St. Mary's School students shined in mandal sports & games competitions organized by the Mandal Educational Department on August 30th and 31st. and constituency level on the 2nd of September at Bagaredy stadium, Zaheerabad. Our school boys Jagadish VII class Secured first in 200 mtrs running race, Ravinder VIII class Secured first Place in shot-put, Rajasekhar VIII class got second in 400 mtrs running race and Chandrasekhar got third place in 100 mtrs running race. Our students also bagged first prize in kho-kho juniors. They were well appreciated by the organizers and the PET masters of the other schools for their good behavior and for their performance with sportive spirit.

Blessing and Inauguration of St. Arnold Socio Educational Centre - Singampunary



The new social work centre named after our Founder St. Arnold Janssen at singampunary was blessed and inaugurated by Rev Fr. Jesu SVD, the Provincial Superior on August 30, 2013. Good number of priests, religious and laity graced the occasion. The tuition and teacher training students performed a colorful and meaningful cultural dance and an awareness programme. The programme concluded with a fellowship meal.

A day of Recollection in Preparation for the New Administrative Team for our Province

In view of the forthcoming election for the New Provincial Administrative Team, we need to have a process of discernment to choose the new team for INH Province. The 17th General Chapter gives us a clear guidance for preparation. To avoid the danger of national or ethnic concerns unduly influencing our choices of leaders, every Province will develop a process for elections characterized by prayerful discernment for the choice of candidates that transcends ethnic or national loyalties and affinities (In Dialogue with the Word No. 11 – Sept, 2012. No. 35). Hence, the Provincial Administration requests the District Superiors to organize a day of Recollection for the confreres in the month of November 2013, to reflect together on the theme 'LEADERSHIP'.

Our Founder on Leadership

"A good superior must have much patience, kindness, wisdom and courage. Patience, to remain gentle even when insulted and troubled by others. Kindness, to think well of others in all circumstances and do your best to love your detractor and win him to your side again. Wisdom, to speak out or hold your tongue according to the circumstances. Courage, to maintain and defend the proper principles. Neither in the world nor in religious life are there any who are fully trained for their position. But it is the duty of a superior to educate himself for his office and likewise his subjects who are entrusted to him."

"He (Arnold) did not agree, however, that superiors should give into pressure"

"Our Society urgently needs good superiors. Keep unshakably to the right principles. But your

firmness should be softened with generosity and the sharpness of your judgement tempered with charity. In this way the members will respect and love you. And when you have captured the hearts of your subjects they will be easy to manage. When subjects appear awkward, dissatisfied, stubborn, and disrespectful it is all the more necessary to put up with the injustice, without bitterness or hate. Boisterous characters will be subdued when the superiors bear their bad behavior with patience and offer up the pain they endure for their change of heart. In this way the grace of self-knowledge can be assured."

As we begin the process of discernment to elect a new Leadership team to our Province, these excerpts from different letters of our Founder St. Arnold Janssen may help us.

AJS Team, INH Province

Mission Renewal Programme at Arnold Bhavan

A Mission Renewal Programme is going to be held for the finally professed members of our Society from the year 2000 to 2012 by the National Mission Secretary Fr. Baptist D'Souza SVD. I encourage the confreres in our Province to attend and benefit from the renewal programme.

Venue: Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad

Date: November 3 – 5, 2013

National Seminar on Intercultural living in the SVD

National seminar on Intercultural living in the SVD is going to be held in the month of February to all the members in the SVD India sub Zone by the National Mission Secretary. Rev. Fr. Robert Kisala, the Vice General of the Society will be the chief resource person for the seminar.

Date : Feb: 7- 9 (Arrival on 6 Feb, 2014)

Venue : Arnold Seva Sadan, SVD Provincial House, Indore

Date : Feb: 14 - 16 (Arrival on 13 Feb, 2014)

Venue : Atma Darshan, Gyan Ashram Camp, Andheri

Diaconate Ministry

A warm welcome to our deacons to have a fruitful and cherishing diaconate ministry in INH Province. With the consent of the Council, I am glad to assign them to the following Parishes:

Dn. Peter Thomas (ARS)	-	Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Janagaon
Dn. Rajashekar Reddy K (AUS)	-	Divine Word Centre, Muthangi
Dn. Gregory Reddy D (OES)	-	St. Joseph's Church, Patancheru
Dn. Rajashekar Reddy B (AUS, Thailand)	-	Our Lady of Mercy Church, Sangareddy
Dn. Eugene M (MEX)	-	Our Lady of Good Health Church, Kottapattu
Dn. Pushparaj (INH)	-	Infant Jesus Church, Thallacheru, Guntur
		Language Studies

Pray for the Deceased

Mr. Remesh Bilung, the father of Fr. Vineeth Kumar Bilung SVD, passed away on September 23, 2013.

Our heartfelt condolences to our confrere and the bereaved family members.

Prayer Request

Fr. Amalanathan SVD needs our special prayers for his speedy recovery

Mrs. Aliya, 89 the mother of Fr. Varghese Chalamana requests for our prayers for her good health

New Mobile No: Fr. Lawrence Bose – 09488832058

Dn. Pushparaj - 08790192596

Birthdays

November

Joseph A. (Jr.)	-	02
Paulus Topno	-	11
M. Xavier	-	12
A. Selvam	-	30



December

Sunil Soreng (EIP)	-	07
Wilson Sagayaraj	-	17
Blaise A.	-	18
M. Anil Kumar	-	18
Kulandaisamy	-	20
Ambrose Beck	-	22
Amalanathan C.	-	22
Bala Prasad	-	23
Lawrence, D'souza	-	30



MY PROGRAMME

November 01	-	Blessing of SVD Residence, Oothu – Kodaikanal
November 03-05	-	Ongoing Formation, Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad
November 14	-	Blessing of Extension Block, Raigir
November 17-22	-	Retreat, St. Ann's, Bolarum, Hyderabad
November 27 - 29	-	Divine Word Centre, Chennai
November 30 & Dec. 01	-	Provincial Chapter of SSpS (INS), Bangalore
December 02	-	Blessing of Extension Block, Pregnapur
December 06	-	Annual Day, Ramagundam
December 08	-	Jubilee Celebrations of SSpS, Valigonda

The next Provincial Council meeting will be held on November 7&8, 2013 at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad.

"May the heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all !"

Jan. 17

Fr. A. Jesu SVD

Provincial Superior - INH