



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR- INH

"In Your light we see light, light leading to life"

- INH Vision



INH/PC/102

December - 2013

The Joy of Sharing...

We are getting ready to celebrate joyfully the birth of Jesus, our Liberator. The abounding joy in our hearts and the spring of hope in our vicinity during this festive time epitomizes the exclusive energy generated at Christmas. The carols, the Santa Claus, the Christmas tree, the stars on the rooftops and the colourful decorations are the external symbols of that fresh air which engulfs all of us during this grace-laden season. If we want to inherit this joy of Christmas internally for good we need to express this joy. The opt way of expressing this joy can be only through sharing. When we share our joy multiplies. Therefore, the celebration of Christmas invites us to share what we have in order to inhale the Christmas joy.



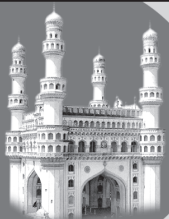
Christmas is the time not only of receiving gifts but also giving gifts. It is a time to let loose our tender and more benign side so that we blossom into experiencing life in a better way. It is a time to show that we are not just greedy, selfish, narrow minded, hard hearted persons but we are also other oriented, broad minded and caring persons who can transcend our handicap of creed, language and culture to make a better living for one another. Of late, our Pope has become a phenomenon worldwide. He says that, every christian and every religious, be true to vocation, glow with joy. This can happen if only we are in the habit of sharing what we have in whatever ways we can.

This habit of sharing does not come to us overnight. We need to grow into this. Today, people are thirsting for those listening ears to pour out their sinking heartbreaks. People are craving for those kind hearts to help them in their miseries. People are longing for those touches of warmth to give them wholistic healing. People are yearning for someone who can share their heart, who can share their might and who can share their time. In short, today the world needs people whose preoccupation is 'the other' constructively. And Christmas shows us the way of doing this and leads us to imbibe this spirit in order to infuse joy in the world.

During this season of Christmas, therefore, let us share what we can with those in need. let us be reminded that "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully" (2 Cor 9:6). As Mother Teresa said, "This is the meaning of true love - to give until it hurts." Only when we share with others, we will make space for others to share with us. So, during this Christmas, besides fulfilling our hectic pastoral duties and other responsibilities, let us take time to share our gifts with those who are less privileged and spread this message to the people around us. Wishing you all one such,

Grace filled

Happy Christmas and Grace Filled New Year 2014



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

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DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SVD INDIA GOVERNING BODY ARNOLD SEVA SADAN, INDORE

1. Report of the SRI LANKA MISSION study team:

Having taken note of the various opinions expressed by the members at the Forum meeting, the Governing Body expressed its apprehension about extending our mission to Sri Lanka.

2. Early Returnees:

The Governing Body recommends that in the case of confreres assigned to over seas missions wishing to return back to the country, they be assigned to Province/Region in India other than the Province of their origin.

3. Lay associates in the Province/Region:

The Governing Body appreciates and endorses the new initiatives being taken in different Provinces to organize and form lay associate groups.

4. Word India:

The Governing Body recommends that all confreres take keen interest to promote and popularize 'Word India' magazine and also contribute news and articles on our mission activities and initiatives.

5. SVD INDIA PORTAL:

- A. The Governing Body endorses the proposal to set up a SVD INDIA PORTAL for interlinking of our Provinces and for ensuring the safety of our data.
- B. The Governing Body authorizes the National Communication Coordinator to do a time bound feasibility study on setting up this portal, including cost and its usability and submit the report to the Governing Body before the next Forum meeting.

6. ARNOLD JANSSEN SPIRITUALITY:

- A. The Governing Body recommends that each community/parish and Province/Region take steps towards a meaningful celebration of the 10th anniversary of the canonization of our founder and St. Joseph Freinademetz during the year 2013 -14.
- B. The Governing Body recommends that efforts be made to display appropriately visible signs of our Saints in our houses/institutions and public places.

7. JPIC ACTIVITIES:

- A. The Governing Body recommends that JPIC Committee be constituted in each Province/Region and the JPIC coordinator be made an ex-officio member of the Province/Region planning commission.
- B. The Governing Body recommends that Province/Region JPIC Coordinator be authorized to coordinate the individual JPIC initiatives of the confreres in their respective Province/Region.
- C. The Governing Body recommends that VIVAT INTERNATIONAL India Office be established at SADBHAVANA in New Delhi for better networking and advocacy.

8. BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE:

The Governing Body authorizes the National Biblical Coordinator to initiate measures for dubbing CHRISTAYAAN film into other Indian languages.

9. MISSION:

The Governing Body expresses concern over the decline in missionary spirit among the young confreres and opines that serious attention be paid in the formation houses for creating interest and fostering commitment for mission among the formandi.

ASPAC Triennial Gathering of Characteristic Dimension Coordinators
Mission, Bible, JPIC and Communication
(November 4-9, 2013, Nong Bua Lampu, Thailand)

Forty Three SVD confreres from 21 SVD provinces representing the sub-zones of the ASPAC gathered in Nongbualamphu, Thailand from 4-9 November 2013 to reflect, share, plan and celebrate our service to realise better our ministries as Coordinators of the Biblical Apostolate, JPIC, Communications and Mission Animation. This coming together was enriched by the gracious presence of the ASPAC EXCOM and by the sharing of the General Secretaries and Coordinators of the above four Characteristic Dimensions through their international vision regarding the place of our ministries as based from the direction of the 17th SVD General Chapter; and by the experiences, good practices, dreams and passion of Province Coordinators of the various Characteristic Dimensions.

The purpose of this meeting was to share the activities which are going on in the sub zonal and province level of the four characteristic dimensions of our SVD ministries; to learn from the activities of other coordinators; and to evolve an Action Plan for the future.

The importance of the SVD mission in the ASPAC Zone is clear from the fact that the Asia-Pacific is home to 60% of the world's population; and is home to major religions like Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Christianity. 49.9% of the total membership of the Society of the Divine Word comes from the ASPAC Zone. About 59.4% of the current membership of the Society comes from this Zone. The ASPAC Zone is faced with various challenges like fundamentalism, globalisation and the culture of patriarchy. In today's context, the main concerns of the Zone are (1) Mission Animation (2) Care of the Missionaries (3) Mission Funds (4) Implementation of the Roscommon Consensus, and (5) Migrant Ministry.

In the society, we have 1569 confreres working in the Parish Ministry. Among them 592 confreres are in the ASPAC Zone in 358 parishes in 2013. Apart from this, 90 confreres are working at 57 Mission Stations in the Zone. There is a growing participation of lay people in the SVD Ministries. They share in the SVD Charism and collaborate with the SVD mission work. There is more and more realization that if we want to be effective in our mission in the zone we need "to be baptised in the Jordan of Asian religiosity and to be crucified in the Calvary of Asian poverty." Mission secretaries of the Provinces must facilitate in this process. The Biblical Ministry in the Zone need to be tuned to our life context and people's needs. We need to be the facilitators of the Word of God. Thus our orientations and focus has to shift from Bible centred to more of Word centred. We have forgotten over the years the ground reality. It is not the Text to the Life situations but Life to the Text. Bible ministry has to engage in the social analysis of people to apply the Word of God to the situations of people's struggles and seeking for meaning to life. Our apostolate should help people to discover the seeds of God's Word spread everywhere. Bible Coordinators have to be the real facilitators of this process.

The main concerns of the JPIC ministry in the ASPAC Zone are a) Promotion of the Culture of Life; b) Empowerment of Indigenous and Ethnic Communities and migrants; c) Reconciliation and Peace Building; d) Social Justice and Poverty Eradication; and e) Integrity of Creation. We need to focus on the "Putting the Last first", i.e. Inter Gentes Mission. For this we need to collaborate with Lay partners. In order to make this ministry very effective we need a team work and collaboration with Coordinators of Mission, Bible and Communication.

All through human history, human beings have been in communication with each other. But today, this communication has become very complex. But it can be an effective means of evangelization. The world today literally lives in the digital world. Therefore the church cannot shy away from the digital world but enter into it to use it positively for her mission. The need for an ongoing programme in communication ministry was stressed.

The highlight of this meeting was after exchanging ideas from the four characteristic dimensions, the coordinators of Mission, Bible, JPIC and Communication evolved an Action Plan for their respective Provinces/Regions for the future.

The participants of this meeting felt that the ASPAC four SVD Characteristic Dimensions was such a very good and fruitful event which should be continued in the years to come. The participants were overjoyed by the hospitality of the Australian Province through Fr. Timothy Norton and his team. It was a wonderful experience to meet so many SVDs from different parts of the Zone. Fr. James raj, the National Biblical Coordinator represented our Province.

The IX National Youth Convention at Jalandhar

The IX National Youth Convention was held in the Trinity College Campus, Jalandhar, Punjab from 8th to 12th October, 2013. It was magnanimous to witness 1800 youth actively participated in it. His eminence Cardinal Telesphore Toppo offered the inaugural mass and invited the youth to witness risen Jesus without fear. He invited youth to take up value based leadership. ICYM chairman Archbishop Leo Cornelio SVD welcomed all the delegates and invited them to participate meaningfully in the convention. The theme of the convention was “Transformed by Faith; Transforming the world”. With its four thrusts namely; Networking, Employability, Gender Parity and Caring for the earth. Fr. M. Vijay Bhaskar SVD, the Youth Coordinator of INH Province and three youth members from Medak region participated in it.

Blessing and Inauguration of SVD Oli illam at Oothu



SVD Oli Illam, the SVD Light House at Oothu on Kodaikanal Hills was lighted up, blessed and inaugurated on 1st November, 2013 on the feast of All Saints at 11.00 a.m. by Rev. Fr. A. Jesu SVD, the Provincial Superior of INH Province. The occasion was solemnized with solemn liturgical celebration. Good number of SVD confreres, priests and religious of Kodaikanal hills, Bathalagundu, Vadipatti, Trichy and Chennai were present to light up the day. During the felicitation function it was pointed out that SVD is the second men congregation in Kodaikanal hills after the Society of Jesus. After the sumptuous meal, all of them went with the light of Joy in their hearts. We Congratulate Bro. Francis Sammanasu and Fr. Siluvai for their hard work in constructing the Oli Illam and for the good arrangements.

BLESSING & INAUGURATION AT RAIGIR

Blessing and Inauguration of the new extension block of Vidya Jyothi School was organized on 14th November, 2013 on the occasion of the Children's day. The District Superior Fr. M. Xavier welcomed the dignitaries and explained the importance of the occasion. As per the Indian traditional custom, in a



befitting and significant way, the Blessing and Inauguration of the building and the Stage ceremony was done by lighting the lamp and breaking the coconuts. The new building was blessed and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. A. Jesu SVD, the Provincial Superior. Rev. Fr. Anthony Joseph, the DWES Secretary cut the ribbon and inaugurated the New Stage and Fr. Lazar, the Mission Secretary blessed it. The children performed a good cultural programme. Fr. A. Jesu, the Provincial Superior while delivering his messages mentioned that he is very much impressed with the development and the services of Vidya Jyothi to the rural children and wished the students to have vision for life and become good citizens of the country. Hearty congratulations to Frs. Foustin, Dominic and Frt. Mobin for their commitment and hard work.

WORLD AIDS DAY & INAUGURATION OF THE GIRLS' WING AT ASHA JYOTHI



“World Aids day cum Girls Wing Inauguration” was organized by Asha Jyothi at Pregnapur on 2nd December 2013 by undertaking a massive rally, consisting of several HIV patients from the district, Asha Jyothi staff and the Arnold children along with the common people of the area, with the slogans at the top of their voice across the streets of Pregnapur to strive for “Getting to Zero”, i.e. Zero new infection, Zero discrimination and Zero AIDS related deaths’ to mark the occasion of the ‘World Aids Day’ - 2013 theme.

After the rally, all assembled at the venue while the dignitaries, special invitees, doctors and the

government officials along with the Chief Guest Rev. Fr. A. Jesu SVD, Provincial Superior and Mr. T. Narsa Reddy, Gajwel MLA gathered in front of the newly constructed Girls wing for the blessing and inauguration. Rev. Fr. A. Jesu blessed the new wing while Sri T. Narsa Reddy MLA along with Mrs. & Mr. Peter Pinto from Mumbai inaugurated it by cutting the ribbon solemnly.

The dignitaries were welcomed to the dais by Rev. Fr. Felix Roche and the function began with the lighting of the lamp. Rev. Fr. Alwin Mascarenhas SVD, the Director of Asha Jyothi, in his annual report highlighted all the programs carried out by Asha Jyothi and its achievements. During the program all the dignitaries and the associated members of Asha Jyothi were honored. The MLA in his address promised all his support to Asha Jyothi. Rev. Fr. Jesu in his speech thanked and praised all the staff of Asha Jyothi for the commendable services done to humanity and promised his support in all the activities. The function was made lively by various cultural programmes and dances by Arnold Children. The programme ended up with the fellowship meal for all.

LAMBADA MISSION



Fr. Antonysamy's dream to work among the Lambadi people sprouted in his heart while working in Mottakontur, a quarter century ago. Inspired by St. Thomas the Apostle, St. John De Britto and Sts. Arnold & Freinademetz, he began to visit the thandas (Lambadi settlements) from Janagoan parish. Being with Lambadi people, he arranged meetings of Lambadi farmers with the agricultural scientists to teach them modern methods in agriculture. He drilled bore wells in many thandas to help them to get drinking water in their own thandas. He built water tanks. He organized women self help groups and men self help groups. He is also educating their children. And above all, he gives Christian Faith Formation to Lambadi people and he is quite busy with the ministry of evangelization, preaching the gospel to those who have not heard. After 14 years of hard work, we have a wonderful Lambada Mission today. On 2nd June 2011, Madhapuram was bifurcated from Kadevendi parish

and erected as a new parish, and Fr. Antonysamy was appointed the first Parish Priest.



Hearty Congratulations to Fr. Antonysamy as two more catholic communities with two new churches are added to our Lambadi mission in Madapuram Parish. St. Antony of Paduva church in Gudigunda Thanda and St. Joseph Freinademetz church in Bukkiya Thanda are the two new churches blessed by Most Rev. Udumala Bala, the bishop of Warangal and inaugurated by Fr. A. Jesu SVD, the Provincial Superior on 26th and 27th of November respectively. The vibrant new Christian communities in both the places, the beautifully built churches, lovely singing in Lambadi dialect, the water tank and bore wells for the public use... etc are the visible signs of the wonderful evangelization ministry of Fr. Antonysamy.

Bishop Udumala Bala was moved by what he saw and experienced in his two days stay at Madapuram Lambada Mission and he added, "I must get more Divine Word Missionaries for the ministry of evangelization in my Diocese."

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 Campus, Andheri

FOUNDER'S DAY

Blessing and Inauguration of Arnold Nilayam (svd residence) & the Parish Feast of R. C. Puram parish and the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Canonization of our saints Arnold Janssen and Joseph Freinademetz will be celebrated on January 15, 2014 at St. John's Church Ramachandrapuram, Hyderabad. I cordially invite all of you to participate in the celebration as one family.

CONGRATULATIONS

Hearty Congratulations to Fr. A. Selvam SVD, for successfully completing his Licentiate in Communication with high first class. I wholeheartedly welcome him back to the Province.

Hearty congratulations to Fr. Thomas Montiero SVD for successfully completing the NET (National Eligibility Test) Examination.

SIMPLE ABSENCE

Fr. Kingston SVD has taken 'Simple Absence' for personal reasons. The period of simple absence is maximum three months.

RIP

Fr. Roy karamullil Joseph SVD (INM)
Mrs. Rose Mary, the Sister in Law of Fr. Soosai SVD,

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

Birthdays

January	
G. Prakash	- 05
M. Antony	- 14
G. Lazar	- 15
Y. Arockiadoss	- 15
A. Antonysamy	- 16
A. Arockiasamy	- 18

February	
Ravi kumar Reddy	- 04
Joseph Michael	- 07
Cyril Doss	- 09
Casmir D' Souza	- 11
Pushpa Raj	- 14
C. Irudayaraj	- 15
Satish Kumar	- 17
S. Devadoss	- 21
Joseph Anthu	- 23
Arul James	- 25
Thomas K'kattayil	- 26

MY PROGRAMME

December 09 - 10	- Visit, Thanjavur, T.N.
December 11-12	- Divine Word Centre, Chennai
December 15	- Blessing of SVD House, MIG - St. John's Parish, R.C. Puram
December 27 - 28	- Ordination, Salem, T.N.
January 04, 2014	- Provincial council meeting, Arnold Bhavan
January 09	- Ordination of 3 SVD Deacons, Rentachintala
January 15	- Blessing of Arnold Nilayam, R. C. Puram
February 20	- Ordination of Dn. Peter Thomas, Narasaraopet
February 22 -28	- Retreat, Chennai

The next Provincial Council meeting will be held on January 04, 2014, at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad

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

Jesus 17
Fr. A. Jesu SVD
Provincial Superior - INH