



## PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR – INH

*“In your light we see light, light leading to life”*



- INH Vision

INH/PC/120

Dec. – Jan., 2017

### DIVERSITY

“It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength”.  
—Maya Angelou

Being aware of the beauty and strength of diversity is not only powerful, but also help us to have deeper knowledge of God. I am sure that we have learned from and shared with people from the incredibly diverse cultures, backgrounds and ethnicity. Why? Because God created each of us, breathed life into us, gave us 23 pairs of unique chromosomes that make every person their own person, so that in every life there could be another life-changing opportunity to know the Creator MORE.

Sounds like a great reason to love and protect others with the same effort that we love and protect ourselves, our own family, and our own people. Because when we look at diversity as perfection, as the revealing of the image of God, then every different person becomes our person, our people, and our own.

The greater the diversity ... in all areas of our lives and relationships ... the greater the perfection.

Even when crisis rocks a nation, even when economic contexts hurt each other, even when nations fight against each other and even when we have no words to explain the grief humans feel when love isn't the language being spoken, even then, we can believe that embracing the difference in each other will lead to greater beauty, strength and knowledge of God. Even if there is a greater challenge, yet we can fire the censors and instead hire diversity and love, for each of us are so very different. I think this is the clue for us to value the diversity too.

It's up to us to be intentional about getting into places where we can get to know, love and be loved by those who are different than us. It's a process of giving and receiving. It's about being open to receive. Not only do we have to seek it out, but we have to be humble. If we're looking around and seeing mainly people who look like, act like and think like us, can we at least challenge ourselves to change something and find a way to be curious about the God who created all of us who is revealed even more in our differences?

For some of us, we've not had a lot of opportunity to experience diversity. But if you begin to look for it, truly go after it and hope to receive it, you will find it. And it will give you a glimpse of a part of God you would never be able to see otherwise.

“Diversity is the magic. It is the first manifestation, the first beginning of the differentiation of a thing and of simple identity. The greater the diversity, the greater the perfection” Thomas Berry.

I would like to express my gratitude to Fr. Ittoop for giving his time to animate us in various districts and units on the recommendation of the Visitation Protocol. I would like to thank all the confreres for your participation in this animation programme for the greater glory of God for He came to dwell amidst us with the message “Glory to God on High and Peace to all people”

**WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND BLESSED NEW YEAR**

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

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## PARISH ACTIVITIES

### Feast of St. Theresa's Church, Shencottah



. Our new mission at Shencottah celebrated the feast of its patron saint St. Theresa of Child Jesus with the hoisting of the flag by Rev. Fr. Antony Joseph on October 01, 2016 and followed by nine days of novena. On the flag hoisting day 32 of the parish youth formed as St. Arnold's youth group. During the novena days there was a car procession every day, Holy Mass and benediction in which a large number of faithful prayerfully participated. Rev. Fr. Chinnapan, VF and the parish priest of Thenkasi, celebrated the feast day mass on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The solemn celebration came to an end on October 10<sup>th</sup>, with the lowering of the flag by Rev. Fr.

Blaise, the parish priest. We thank Fr. Blaise for organising the first feast of the station in a solemn way with the good cooperation of the people after the station was entrusted to our care by the Bishop of Palayamkottai.

### Parish feast at Miyapur

On October 30, 2016 while the world outside was celebrating Diwali, the faithful comprising of the Parishioners, their relatives and friends along with the Clergy chose to spend the day celebrating the annual feast of Our Lady of Rosary Church, Miyapur. Big arches and banners welcomed everyone at the entrance and the entire premise was colourfully decorated. The feast was celebrated in an atmosphere of devotion and gaiety. The chief celebrant of the annual parish feast was Rev. Fr. Casmir D'Souza SVD, the Provincial Councilor and concelebrated by other priests from the missions. The parish choir members gave a spiritual treat to everyone's ears with their spirit lifting hymns in five different languages viz. English, Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu. Rev. Fr. Casmir emphasized the importance and necessity of reciting the rosary and recalled the many miracles and apparitions of our Lady. The whole celebration is a testimony to the prayerful preparations made by the council members of this parish. Over 600 people enjoyed the sumptuous fellowship meal served after mass which was well arranged. The floral decoration in the church was an attraction to everyone and people flocked to click selfies and family pictures with the floral backdrop. There was much laughter and joy in the air with people wishing each other Happy Feast. Overall the feast day celebrations made a memorable and a wonderful experience for all present. We thank Fr. Devadass for his dedicated service in the parish.





## FORMATION HOUSES

### Feast of St. Francis of Assisi & Celebration of Brotherhood Day in SVD brothers' Formation House, Alwal



On October 04, 2016, the Alwal community for brother formation celebrated the feast of their patron saint St. Francis of Assisi as Brotherhood Day. Many religious communities and lay people graced the occasion. The Holy Eucharist celebration started at 6 p.m. presided by Fr.Casmir D'Souza, provincial councillor, who in his homily shared the life of St. Francis of Assisi and wished that we could follow him through our exemplary life of poverty. After the Eucharist, the brothers of the community gave a cultural program and followed by fellowship meal. I express my sincere gratitude for the efforts put in by Bro. Paulus Topno, Fr.A.Siluvai and Fr.Kulandaisamy to form the brother candidates and for making the Event a memorable one.

### Family Feast at St. Charles' Seminary, Trichy

Family Feast experience is one of the sweetest memories in the life of every SVD. It gives us joy and excitement and a time to celebrate our lives. St. Charles' Seminary Trichy, celebrated the family feast 2016-17 from 29<sup>th</sup> October to 04<sup>th</sup> November. Fr. James Raj SVD, the Rector inaugurated it. The motto of the celebration was "Aspire to Inspire", with the two teams Rock Stars and Super Giants. Indoor and outdoor games, Quiz and many surprise items gave a better platform to the students to enjoy and exhibit their talents. Cultural evenings were filled with a lot of creativity and fun-filled stage programs. Healthy interactions within the group and between the groups were noticed and appreciated. A few games were conducted for the domestic staff in the campus and then there was a family meal together. The presence and participation of the confreres from the unit added extra flavor to the celebration. Fr.Karl Ritz SVD, the founder of the seminary was specially remembered and prayed for during the thanksgiving Eucharist on the feast day.



### Family Feast at Jyothi Nikethan, Narasaraopet



The much-awaited Family Feast was celebrated very grandly in Jyothi Nikethan, from 12-11-2016 to 14-11-2016 with the motto "*Buds to Bloom*". The community was divided into two groups – Penguins and Dolphins. All the community members were provided special family feast T-shirts. The Family Feast began with inaugural Mass celebrated by Fr. Ravikumar SVD, the Rector who stressed upon commitment, collaboration and togetherness to bloom in his message. It was a memorable time to celebrate God given talents, skills

and abilities. The activities were competitive and brought forth the best among the groups. All the seminarians were very enthusiastic and participated in all the games, items and programs actively. The evening stage items were noteworthy. The seminarians danced to different tunes and music, celebrating life and concluded the family feast with Holy Eucharist and fellowship meal. All the SVD confreres from Addanki district joined the community for the concluding mass and agape meal.



## JPIC ACTIVITIES OF THE PROVINCE

### 1. Medical Camp conducted on 04-11-2016



Malleshampally is a remote rural village in Doultabad Mandal of Siddipet district. A medical camp was organized by JPIC-INH in collaboration with DWSSS for the benefit of the poor, the old, new born, the grown up, women and the disabled who were unable to reach the hospital for their own health problems due to lack of transport facilities and unaffordability. A general health & medical camp was organized and many benefitted by that camp. Free medicines were distributed for their ailments. 274 eye tests were conducted during the camp and out of which 62

spectacles were distributed free of cost and the others were treated freely for various eye ailments. People came for medical consultations and returned to their homes with a sense of satisfaction.

### 2. Awareness shows on good health practices and hygiene:

Awareness camps on good health practices and hygiene were conducted by way of cultural shows from 14-11-2016 to 18-11-2016 for five days in five different remote and rural villages of Vardapur, Kasireddy palli, Karakapatla, Pamalapatty and Durmangudi in Siddipet district. Entire villagers attended the show and benefitted quite a lot. For such illiterate people giving awareness through cultural shows is a proven method which is very effective. They grasp the ideas easily and understand the concept very well. The cultural artists did a very good job by conveying the ideas on health awareness and hygiene in simple terminology and through their body language. They performed beautifully the street plays. We are confident and hopeful that our message has reached the people effectively and would bear lasting effects. DWSSS in collaboration with JPIC envisages bringing about health awareness and healthcare services to meet the needs of the marginalized community below the poverty line living in remote rural areas.



### 3. A Special Day for Special Children

14<sup>th</sup> November is celebrated as children's day all over India and for the children at Asha Jyothi it was something wonderful, great and indeed a memorable one!

The children's day was made a special day not only for the 35 special children but also another 60 home-based children. The greatest compliment to Arnold Children Home is, 'children live here are the happiest ones like any other normal child and celebrate every festival jubilantly by leading a contented and peaceful life!' certainly, children's day was most special day for them, eating sweets and chocolates, spending their time in singing and dancing, taking part in fancy dress and quiz competitions, indoor games and sports and winners were awarded with prizes. May God bless all of them.





## BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE



God speaks to those persons He has called to serve as pastors and ministers of His Word. The great reformer Martin Luther described this inward call as “God’s voice heard by faith.” John Newton, famous for writing "Amazing Grace," once remarked that “None but He who made the world can make a Minister of the Gospel.” Only God can call a true minister, and only He can grant the minister the gifts necessary for service. But the great promise of Scripture is that God does call ministers, and presents these servants as gifts

to the church. As the Apostles were called to take the Word to the ends of the earth, the confreres of Society of the Divine Word are called to proclaim and preach the Word thus transform the world. In order to conclude meaningfully the **Jubilee Year of Divine Mercy**, two biblical seminars were conducted by the province Biblical coordinator Fr. S. Valan SVD for the laity of our parishes. The first seminar was conducted in collaboration with Fr. Casmir D’Souza, the parish priest of St. Joseph’s Church, Patancheru on November 13, 2016 in Patancheru for the laity. Around 200 people participated with zeal and enthusiasm and benefited. The second seminar was conducted in collaboration with Fr. Arockia doss, the parish priest of Our Lady of Mercy Church, Sangareddy on November 27, 2016 in Sangareddy for the laity of our parishes in Sangareddy district. Around 250 people who were genuinely interested in the Word of God participated with eagerness and enthusiasm and benefitted greatly. These days of seminar were golden opportunities for the people to reflect on the biblical understanding of Divine Mercy and to respond to the call of Pope Francis to reflect and see how they can experience the Mercy of God and practice it in their daily lives. We thank Fr. Valan for organising the biblical seminars for the laity.

## YOUTH APOSTOLATE

### Report of Youth Ministry in Andhra & Telangana



Holy Father Francis says, "Offer your youthful energies and your talents to building a civilization of Christian love . . . commit yourself to the struggle for justice, solidarity, and peace" As a youth coordinator for Andhra and Telangana Fr. K. Anthoniswamy is regularly visiting Arnoldian youth in the SVD Parishes. The youth are very active and dedicated to the local parishes. He was very delighted to meet them at various parishes and address them on importance of youth participation in the parish activities and their role to make the Church more participative. The modern day hectic life style does make

impact on them. Therefore the youth need to be motivated to be more participative in Church activities as well. This is what Fr. Anthoniswamy is trying to concentrate as he visits the parishes and meets them. In this regard, He is planning to organize one day ‘SVD Parishes Youth Fellowship’ at Divine Word Centre, Muthangi on January 14, 2017. This youth fellowship will enable youth to interact with other parishes’ youth and strengthen their commitment to the local Church.





## EDUCATION APOSTOLATE

### ST. ARNOLD'S H. S., RAMACHANDRAPURAM

#### Annual Sports Day and Children's Day Celebrations



November 14, 2016 was a day of double celebration for St Arnold's High School, Ramachandrapuram as it celebrated the school annual sports day and children's day. Rev. Fr. Antony Joseph SVD, the provincial superior was the chief guest for the function and inaugurated the programme by hoisting the school flag and releasing the balloons. The district superior Fr. Sagayaraj SVD, Fr. Joy Joseph, Fr. Selvam SVD and Fr. Florence SVD also participated in the programme and encouraged the students by giving the mementos. Arnoldians were awarded with the mementos and

commendation certificates for their performance in the field of education, co-curricular activities, sports and games. A well organised cultural programme brought out the talents of the students. The Chief guest Rev. Fr. Antony Joseph SVD acknowledged and appreciated the services of St Arnold's high School in the life of the students of this vicinity and encouraged the students to grow in knowledge and wisdom.

#### Swach Bharat Awareness Programme

Swach Bharat awareness programme was conducted on November 05, 2016 at St Arnold's High School, Ramachandrapuram by Mr. Vijay Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner of GHMC, Health Officer Dr. Laxman Singh and Sanitary Supervisor. The deputy commissioner addressed the students about the importance of cleanliness in and around the campus and also at home. Health officer Dr. Laxman Singh shared, how the diseases spread through the open toilets and how it affects the health of the people due to lack of cleanliness. The Sanitary supervisor explained the importance of dustbins. He also emphasised that the students must pick up the chocolate wrappers and waste papers and throw them in the dust bins which are kept in the classrooms and around the school campus. The Swach Bharat pledge was taken by the staff and students and assured that they would keep the surroundings neat and tidy.



#### NCC Day Celebrations



The 68<sup>th</sup> NCC Day was celebrated on November 26, 2016 at St. Arnold's High School, Ramachandrapuram. The NCC cadets took the pledge in the presence of the principal Fr. R. Antony Samy SVD, ANO Mr. Samuel Alfred and Rajpaul P.E.T. Then, the NCC Cadets proceeded with the slogans of Cancer Awareness, World Aids day, World pollution Prevention day, Save energy Campaign, World Environment Day and National disaster reduction rally in the location of Lingampally, Chandhanagar, Kailash Nagar and Kanukuntta. There were altogether fifty NCC cadets who actively participated in the rally. We congratulate Fr.

R. Antony Samy for bringing NCC to St. Arnold's High School, R.C. Puram.



# LAY APOSTOLATE

## Arnold Association

It was an important day at Arnold Bhavan, our provincial house, as 37 Ex SVDs gathered together on November 27, 2016 and shared their beautiful memories and inspiring experiences that helped them to be what they are today. They are the members of Arnold Association which was formed in 2013. This gathering and once again brought all of them back and refreshed their memories belongingness to this Arnold Association. The day started



with an inspiring address by Fr. Kulandaisamy, informing the members of the importance of collaboration with SVDs in our missions. After that Fr. Lazar who started Arnold Association in 2013 once again explained the objectives of the association. Later in the noon Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Antony Joseph, Provincial Superior and he addressed them as SVD family members and invited them to collaborate in the missionary work. Fr. Ravi the Rector of Jyothi Niketan,

Narasaraopet preached an inspiring homily and extended invitation to Arnold Association members to help the society by promoting vocations. At the end of the day a Core Committee was formed to follow up the future plans and decided to visit the SVD missions four times in a year and collaborate with SVDs. The entire day was planned and executed very well and thanks to all the participant and specially to Fr. N. Anand who took the initiative to organise the meeting.

## Workshop on Accounting

There was two days workshop for all the Treasurers and Procurators of INH province on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 to explain the rules on FCRA, TDS and demands of the government on accounting. Explanation was also given to how to use Tally ERP 9. The sessions were shared by Mr. Goverdan Reddy the auditor and Fr. Davidraj SVD, Provincial Treasurer. There were twenty two confreres who actively participated in it.



## REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SVD INDIA SUB-ZONE FORMATION BOARD SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2016, ARNOLD BHAVAN, HYDERABAD, INDIA

The annual meeting of the SVD India Sub-Zone Formation Board was held at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad, on September 17-18, 2016. Thirty-seven (37) members, including four Provincials and the Regional of the SVD India Sub Zone, Fr. Maria Michael, ASPAC Zonal Coordinator, Fr. Tomy Perumprayil, Superior Delegate and Sr. Agnes SSpS, National Formation Secretary of the SSpS participated in the deliberations. The meeting began with the concelebrated Eucharist, presided over by Rev Fr. Paul Vattathara, the Chairperson of the Governing Board, India. The homilist, Fr. Ronald Pereira, the Provincial of INE, highlighted the importance of understanding the formees and accompanying them in their formative journey.

The morning session began with lighting of the lamp and enthronement of the Bible. Fr. Antony Joseph, the host Provincial (INH), welcomed the participants of the Formation Board. Fr. Xavier T, Chairman of the Board in his inaugural address, emphasized the need for a change within and to critically evaluate ourselves as formators periodically. Underlining the need for a 'paradigm shift' in our approach to the formees in all aspects, he explained in detail the need to move (a) from administrative mode to accompanying mode, (b) from blaming mode to believing mode, (c) from conformity mode to creativity



mode and, (d) disciplinary mode to dialogical mode (ABCD mode). He also argued for following innovative methods in vocation promotion, fostering the intercultural fabric of our formative staff at all levels, and increased exchange of personnel in the sub-zone.

The India Sub-Zone Formation Secretary Fr. Pushpa Anbu, presenting his annual report, highlighted the activities and functioning of the Secretariat. He urged the formators to be creative, to accompany the seminarians in their formative journey, to be witnesses, to create a conducive, formative / purposive climate in our formation houses and actively involve in all the community exercises. The Secretary then presented a consolidated report of all our seminaries, highlighting the activities, challenges, opportunities and future plans. The Heads of the formation houses presented the implementation report on the previous year's decisions of the Board.

The Board then took up for its discussion, a well worked out *agenda* which included, besides the regular exercises, some of the vital issues related to formation. The two-day meeting was well appreciated for its meticulous planning, systematic execution, active participation and friendly atmosphere. Finally the members expressed their deep sense of gratitude to all concerned for organizing the meeting effectively.

At the conclusion of the meeting of the Advisory Council, the Chairperson of the SVD Formation Board, India convened a meeting of the SVD Governing Board for Formation on September 18, 2016 to consider the proposals and issues that emerged from the meeting of the Advisory Council. All the members of the Governing Board for Formation, namely, the Provincial Superiors of INC, INE, INH, INM, the Regional Superior of ING and the India Sub-Zone Formation Secretary were present. After prayer, reflection and exchange of views, the Board arrived at the following recommendations:

1. Taking note of the encouraging and numerous responses to our vocation drive in the states of Odisha, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, we recommend that as many prospective and fitting candidates as possible be recruited to the Society. If the minor seminaries in a given province cannot accommodate all the new recruits, the possibility of sending some of them to other minor seminaries in the subzone shall be explored. However, such initiatives should take into consideration the initial orientation to the candidates at their place of origin, admissions to their Higher Secondary Studies at the place of destination, composition of formative staff at the receiving seminary etc.
2. We recommend that the Provinces / Region constitute a team of vocation promoters with a coordinator for the purpose of recruiting students to our Society. Apart from involving every member of the Society in the task of vocation promotion, our scholastics be effectively engaged for the purpose, especially during holidays.
3. It is heartening to see our formation houses increasingly becoming intercultural. In this spirit, we recommend that concerted efforts be made to make every component of all our seminaries truly intercultural.
4. We recommend that our seminarians at the collegiate level be permitted to use their mobile phones on Sundays, New Year, Easter, and Christmas. The local staff will determine and regulate the modalities of such usage.
5. Taking into consideration the rising cost of commodities, cloth allowance for our temporarily professed confreres shall be increased to Rs 2000.00 with effect from April 2017.
6. In order to introduce Deacons to the respective Province and its mission, and to accompany them during their diaconate ministry, we recommend that each Province / Region appoint its director for diaconate ministry.
7. We recommend that our deacons, before they pass out of the theologates, be given an orientation on the "Rubrics", preparation for their ordination ceremony, praying with the Divine Office, etc.
8. To promote proximity of the formees and formators with the poor, we recommend that the JPIC coordinators in collaboration with the staff of the seminaries and in tune with the prescriptions of the *SVD Formation Manual, India*, prepare an action plan and subsequent process of integration of such experiences. A mechanism for regular monitoring and evaluation of such program to be designed and executed.



9. We recommend that all our formation houses avail the assistance of the resource persons identified by the Genealate for conducting the workshops on interculturality. The heads of the formation houses will take responsibility for organizing such workshops.
10. We recommend that all our formation houses prepare a *Hand Book* of their academic and formative program, a soft copy of which may be sent to other formation houses in the subzone.
11. We recommend that from 2017, the program of the annual Formation Board meeting shall include a seminar for the participants on a theme relevant to formation. The first day shall be devoted to the seminar and the second day for the deliberations on the agenda.
12. We recommend that the good practice of evaluating the formators and resident professors by the provincial administration once in three years be continued. We also recommend continuing the tradition of taking consultative votes from the formation personnel for the office of the Heads of common houses of formation before the end of each triennium.

The next annual meeting of the SVD Formation Board, India will be held on **September 16-17, 2017, at Atma Darshan, Andheri (E), Mumbai.**

The Governing Body meeting came to an end with a proposal of vote of thanks and a thanksgiving prayer.

Fr. Xavier Thirukudumbam SVD  
Chairperson, SVD Formation Board

Fr. Pushpa Anbu SVD  
Secretary, SVD Formation Board

### Report of the Governing Body SVD India Sub-Zone Arnold Bhavan Hyderabad, September 20, 2016

The Governing Body of the SVD India Sub-Zone met on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad at 5 PM following the annual Inter-Provincial Planning Forum meeting held on 19-20 September, 2016. The meeting was chaired by the Chairperson of the Governing Body Fr. Paul Vattathara, SVD. All the members were present. The meeting began with a short prayer seeking God's guidance on the deliberations.

#### FORMATION

1. In line with the thinking of the Inter Provincial Planning Forum, the GB encourages the concerned minor seminaries and vocation promoters to involve the major seminarians in vocation promotion in their respective areas.
2. In order to accommodate more candidates in the early stages of formation from places like Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, the GB authorizes the Formation Secretary to look into the possibility of sending the candidates from INE for initial formation to the formation houses/minor seminaries in other Provinces wherever possible, within the existing facilities. The GB affirms such a move will enhance *interculturality* from an early stage of formation.
3. In order to foster vocations to the Society in responsive areas like Odisha, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh, the GB is open to the possibility of recruiting and accommodating candidates at the SVD College at Babudi in INE and the Jesuit College at Kunkuri.

#### AJS CONCERNS

4. The GB approved the proposal and schedule for two retreats and one workshop by AJS team from Steyl in the year 2017 as proposed by the AJS National Secretariat. The approved schedule is:
  - I Retreat : October 30 - November 05, 2017 - Atma Darshan, Mumbai*
  - II Retreat : November 08 - November 14, 2017 - Indore*
  - Workshop on*
  - AJS Spirituality: November 15-November 19, 2017 - Indore*



### **JPIC CONCERNS**

5. The GB reiterates its commitment to 'migration ministry' as an essential aspect of JPIC. It recommends that the existing structures within the sub zone provinces be strengthened and streamlined. It also opines that appointment of a full time coordinator for the ministry be left to the discretion of the concerned administration in the respective provinces/region.
6. The GB decided that MER coordinator and Vivat India Secretary will participate in the Inter Provincial Planning Forum as '*observers*'.
7. The GB authorizes the JPIC Coordinator Fr. Roy Chirappurath and Fr. Jeevan Kennedy to propose to the GB a common format for '*Action Plan for the sub zone*' incorporating all the characteristic dimensions by January 2017.

### **MISSION ANIMATION**

8. The GB emphasizes the need to make concerted efforts at mission animation in the formation houses and in the parishes under our care to revitalize our missionary efforts. The communication centers of the sub zone, in collaboration with the Coordinators are encouraged to do the documentation of the activities, sharing of success stories etc. by way of video clips, short movies and visuals.
9. The GB authorizes the province/region mission secretaries to coordinate the activities of the area coordinators in their respective places. The National Mission Secretary will likewise coordinate these activities on the sub zonal level.

### **RETIREMENT & TRANSFER**

10. The GB recommends that when a confrere in the sub zone takes an inter province transfer for retirement, besides the transfer of retirement benefits from the sending Province as per the policy of the Society (ref. GB 2015 no.7 dt. 20.09.2015), adequate financial provision be made for his maintenance at the receiving Province.
11. The GB decided to authorize the Superior Delegate to contact the confreres on overseas assignment to give their preference/option for a '*home Province*' in the eventuality of their return to the country *for retirement*. (ref. GB 2015 no.7 dt. 20.09.2015)
12. In the case of early returnees, the GB greatly appreciates if the Generalate would consult the Governing Body of the Sub-Zone prior to their assignment to the Indian Provinces/Region. (ref. GB 2013 no.2 dt. 19.09.2013)

### **GENERAL CONCERNS**

13. Taking serious note of the issue of substance abuse, the GB is in favour of formulating a policy for the sub zone on 'substance abuse & addiction to money laundering, health care schemes' etc. as a remedial & preventive measure, keeping in mind the psychological, emotional & therapeutic aspects of the person involved in an effort to assist the concerned person overcome the illness.
14. The GB decided to formulate & implement common policies for the sub zone on the following 9 areas:
  - a. Child Protection & Safeguard Policy
  - b. Gender Policy
  - c. Finance Policy
  - d. Human Resource Policy
  - e. Social Development Policy
  - f. Policy on Employees



- g. Organ Donation
- h. Substance/Drug Abuse Policy.
- i. Retirement Policy

It also decided to study the '*INM Manual on Province Policies*' in the Provinces/Region during the year. The matter will be taken up by the GB for a time bound action plan at the next GB meeting in March, 2017.

15. The GB authorizes the Formation Secretary to explore the possibility of University studies for confreres from other countries either as OTP or otherwise in order to promote the dimension of internationality of the Society in India within a year.
16. The GB decided that in line with the existing structure of appointment of national coordinators of Characteristic Dimensions, a '*national coordinator for education*' be appointed at the beginning of the next triennium. The '*national coordinator for education*' will be a member of the Inter Provincial Planning Forum to give adequate representation to this major ministry in the sub zone.
17. The GB approved the proposal of the MER Coordinator to have Province/Region mission secretaries as consulting members of MER.
18. The GB authorizes the Mission Secretary to coordinate the annual publication of the combined directories of the Provinces/Region both in digital & booklet form.
19. The GB decided to reprint the SVD INDIA DIRECTORY once in 5 years. The GB entrusts this responsibility to the National Mission Secretary.
20. The GB decided to update and reprint 'Tribute of Love' – the necrology of confreres once in 5 years. The Mission Secretary is authorized to do the needful.
21. The GB proposes that a committee duly constituted by it (pending the approval of this proposal) studies and evaluates the functioning and effectiveness of the Inter Provincial Planning Forum, if need be with external expertise during the next triennium.

Paul Vattathara SVD  
Chairperson, India Sub-Zone

Baptist D' Souza SVD  
Mission Secretary

## My Programme:

### December 2016

- 02 : Asha Jyothi, Pregnapur
- 08 to 09 : Blessing of Grotto, Vadipatti
- 17 : St. Ann's School day, BHEL
- 18 : Mass at Alwal – Family Apostolate
- 21 : Sports Day, St. Joseph's High School, Patancheru
- 26 to 27 : Youth day celebration, Trichy
- 29 : Priestly Ordination – Dn. Thumma Thomas Reddy SVD

### January 2017

- 01 : Blessing of Grotto, Muthangi
- 04 : Priestly Ordination Dn. Peter Kumar SVD
- 05 : Provincial Council Meeting at Arnold Bhavan
- 14 : Youth Seminar, Muthangi



Happy Birth Day to you

### December

17 – Wilson Sagayaraj  
18 – Blaise A.  
20 – Kulandaisamy  
22 – Ambrose Beck  
22 – Amalanathan C.  
23 – Bala Prasad  
30 – Lawrence D'souza

### January

05 – G. Prakash  
14 – M. Antony  
15 – G. Lazar  
15 – Y. Arockiadoss  
16 – A. Antonysamay  
18 – A. Arockiasamy



Fr. Antony Joseph SVD

Provincial Superior – INH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Antony Joseph SVD", written on a white rectangular background.



**WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
BLESSED NEW YEAR - 2017**