



# PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR INH

“In your light we see light, light leading to life” – INH Vision



INH/PC/143

July – August, 2020

## A time to Introspect, time to regain, time to reconcile, time to reinvent

The buzzword today in the world is ‘Online’. Online shopping, online communications, online banking, online classes, online counselling, online Liturgy, online workshop... etc., etc. How long this will last is the uppermost question in everyone’s mind. A couple of months ago everyone thought that this period will last for a month or two. But slowly and steadily it is dawning in people’s mind that this situation is going to prolong for a longer period. Every day, the number of Positive cases is on the increase. The complete lockdown had its terrible impact on the economy though the spread of virus was under control. But with relaxations, it is on the rise virally and unimaginably.

**“Drive far from us the foe we dread”**. These words sound familiar to us. Our Founder, when he composed the ‘Veni Creator’, had this line to begin a stanza. He continues, **‘And grant us your true peace instead; So we led by your guidance still, may safely pass through every ill’**. We have sung number of times, understood the inner meaning. But to me it sounds more relevant and meaningful now, as we too are dreading an unseen foe. **Covid 19** is taking a heavy toll on the humanity. We need God’s guidance to safely pass through this time.

Recently we celebrated the nativity of John the Baptist, the forerunner to Christ. He has the singular distinction of celebrating his birthday besides Jesus and Mary. Very few references are there in the Bible on him, yet project a powerful personality. His life in the wilderness spoke volumes, his simple life, audacity to confront even the king, credibility with which he confronted the scribes and the Pharisees, call for radical life coupled with reprimand and reconciliation attracted the Jews who were deprived of hearing Yahweh’s voice or a prophet’s voice for almost four centuries. But he was clear about his role and identity. When confronted, he categorically said, “I am not the Messiah, I am not a prophet”. Had he wanted, he could have assumed the role of the Messiah. But he did not; rather he was clear on his role, One that cries in the wilderness, preparing the way for the Messiah. He recognized, identified, and bore witness to the Messiah and asked even his own disciples to follow Christ. His arrest and confinement in prison was unfortunate and fortunate. Unfortunate, because he could have prepared more people to the Lord. Fortunate, because it hastened and propelled Jesus into the forefront. Once Jesus came into the scene, he went into oblivion, rejoiced at the turn of events that he heard from his friends.

Priests and religious are forced to be in a state of oblivion, deprived of celebrating the holy mass, breaking the Word, administering the sacraments and other related activities. Let Jesus and the Spirit be in the forefront to guide, animate, and bless the faithful. May we follow the model and example of John the Baptist, leave the people to have direct encounter with the Lord and to grow in faith and spirit. Let this time also help us to introspect ourselves, regain the lost relationship and strengthen our bond with the Lord and with one another.

**From the Leadership Team**

SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD  
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## **Congratulations. We have a new Doctor**

**Fr. Sthanislaus Lawrence Bose**, successfully defended his doctoral thesis on 15-06-2020. It was once again an online defence. His doctoral thesis' title was, "Wealth and Discipleship in Luke. An Exegetical and Theological study of Lk.18/18-30." Fr. Bose scored 10 out of 10 and was awarded 'Summa Cum Laude'. We congratulate Fr. Bose for his hard work and commitment. He is at present busy with publication of the Thesis. Once he completes, he will return to India. Congratulations and hearty welcome Fr. Bose.

## ***Request from the Provincial Administration.***

*Dear Confreres, you are well aware of the spike in the spread and rise of the Covid-19 infection. The number is alarmingly rising. The government is doing its best. We earnestly request you to take personal care of your health. We hear already how some diocesan and religious priests are getting infected and suffering. As far as possible stay indoors, maintain social distance and avoid travelling. Everyone's health is important. Your personal health will ensure the community's health too. Fr. Superior General too has been making this fervent appeal to all the confreres. Thank you for your concern for other's health too.*

## **Personal Profile of Confreres**

We will soon despatch a two page profile sheet to be filled by every confrere. You can post it back on your own or hand it over to the community superior to be sent to the Provincial's office. We would like to record them in the archives for ready reference later. Kindly cooperate.

## **Annual Retreat**

We will have our annual retreat from **18-10-2020 to 23-10-2020** at Divine Word Centre, **Vadipatti**. This will be preached by our own SVD Scripture scholars. This will be coordinated by Fr. Wilson Sagayaraj, the National Biblical Coordinator. This decision was made by the SVD-India Sub zone Governing Body. We hope by then we will have normal life in the country. Otherwise we may have to revisit our decision.

## **INH- Missionary Meeting.**

The annual missionary meeting will not be held this year due to the prevailing situation.

## **District Elections:**

Confreres are still on their transfers especially the ones on inter-state. Probably in the second or third week of July, when every member of the district have arrived and settled, we can have the district elections. The outgoing District Superiors will be informed a little later (dates to conduct) and then they will contact the members in the district.

## **Health Updates:**

**Fr. David raj** is doing well after his operation. He is advised to undergo Chemotherapy and a package of radiation. He had first round of Chemotherapy for three consecutive days from 15 to 17. After that he is administered Tomotherapy (Radiation) every day. It will continue for a few days. After three weeks he will have another round of chemotherapy for three days and followed by tomotherapy. His treatment will last for six weeks. He is cheerful and going through the treatment bravely. Kindly continue to pray for his speedy and full recovery.

**Fr. Ashok Kumar** is discharged from Meenakshi Hospital at Madurai and is admitted at St. John's Hospital at Vadipatti. Fr. Arockiasamy, the Superior of the Old Age Home, feels that Fr. Ashok Kumar will be able to be in our house after three or four days. Keep him in your prayers.

## **Arnold Amaidhi Agam**

INH Province is happy to have been blessed with another community (42<sup>nd</sup> in the Province) at Vadipatti. Though the house was blessed in January, some works were delayed due to Lockdown. By June everything was set right and the senior fathers happily moved into the new house. **Fr. Arulandu Arockiasamy**, the first superior of the house is making all effort to make this home a comfortable one for the confreres. Fathers, from the neighbouring communities, have been a great support to the superior. We wish our senior confreres, who have served many years in the Society, good and peaceful time and enjoy their years gracefully.

**Arnold Bhavan Annexe building's** construction has begun in full swing. Due to Lockdown and plenty of rocks the work got delayed for a few months. It should be over in eighteen months.

**Construction at Jeedimetla** is nearing completion. We may be able to bless it next month and will be able to rent it out to generate income for the Province.

## **COVID-19 RELIEF WORK CONTINUES** **IN THE INH PROVINCE**

Though the lockdown in the state was partially relaxed, the poor and the migrant people continued to suffer greatly. Seeing the pathetic and painful conditions of these poor people, we decided to continue to reach out with some food grains such as rice and groceries. We were happy that we are able to reach-out to almost 680 migrant families who live in starvation in the areas of Mallapur, Habsiguda, Uppal and Ramanthapur in Hyderabad.

We did not limit our relief activities to Hyderabad alone; in fact, we were also very much concerned about the plight of the other poor migrants in the rural areas of Telangana too! Hence, we were able to reach out to another 540 families in Siddipet, Medak and

sSangareddy districts of rural Telangana. Congratulations to **Frs. Alwin** the DWSSS Director and **Sameer Barwa**, the Coordinator for migrants for their continual effort.

More than 70 poor families were distributed rice and groceries for a month at St. Theresa of child Jesus Parish at Shencottah. **Congrats to Fr. Blaise**, the Parish Priest for coordinating the distribution

Fr. Joseph Anthu, similarly distributed rice and groceries for Srilankan refugee Catholics who are in two camps at Anamalai Parish, Coimbatore. **Thanks to Fr. Anthu.**



### **A Helping Hand to the Migrants to Reach Home**

A total number of 127 migrant workers from Maharashtra were stranded in three villages of Telangana. It was brought to the notice of the JPIC Coordinator Fr. Alwin Macarenhas SVD by the confreres from INM Province. After getting more details, he was able to find them in Erraram village in Sangareddy District, Dacharam village in Siddipet District and Enkepalle Village in Medak District. They were supplied with rice, groceries and vegetables. Out of which 42 of them from Enkepalle village in Medak District left on foot to cross the Telangana boarder, while he was busy coordinating with the confreres from Mumbai Province to obtain necessary permissions for them to return to their native place in Raigad District of Maharashtra.

Thus, he decided to arrange transport for the other two groups to reach their native places. We thank the priests of the Missionaries of Compassion at Jogipet who were kind enough to provide their school bus to take 37 migrants from Erraram Village. Another DCM vehicle was arranged to take the last group of 48 migrants from Dacharam village in Siddipet District. Finally, all the 127 migrant workers have reached safely to their native places in Raigad.

We were really happy that we were able to give them a helping hand to reach their destinations safely. We express our gratitude to our confreres at Jogipet and Pregnapur for their timely help and cooperation. We do thank our Provincial Superior Rev. Fr. Santhuraja, for his kind cooperation and above all the encouragement which he had given in this matter. Our JPIC Coordinator, who is the key promoter in organizing this entire episode, was very successful in helping these stranded migrants to reach their homes happily with lot of satisfaction and gratitude! Congrats to Fr. Alwin.



## Appointment of Sub zone Coordinators

The Governing Board on Formation and the Governing Body of SVD India Sub-zone in its online meeting held on 25 May 2020 has made the following appointments for the Sub-Zonal Coordinators and Secretaries for the various Characteristic Dimensions and other dimensions of mission for the next triennium (2020-2023).

National Mission Secretary:	<b>Ronald Luvis Periera(INE)</b>
Formation Secretary:	<b>Thomas Malipurathu (INM)</b>
JPIC Coordinator:	<b>Rasal Xess (INE)</b>
Biblical Coordinator:	<b>Wilson Sagayaraj (INH)</b>
Communication Coordinator:	<b>Swamikannu Anthony Swami (INC)</b>
AJS Coordinator:	<b>John Lugun (INM)</b>
MER Coordinator:	<b>Kuzhikkattuthazhe Jose Jacob (ING)</b>
Education Secretary:	<b>Joyson Kurian (INM)</b>
Brother Coordinator:	<b>Kalaimani Paulraj (INC)</b>

<b>Province</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Preacher</b>
<b>INC</b>	27 Sept – 2 October, 2020	Fr. Warner D' Souza
<b>INE</b>	1. Arrival 18 October 2020 - evening Concluding on 23 October 2020  2. Arrival: 08 November 2020 Concluding: 13 November 2020	Fr. Gregory Pinto SVD  Biblical Scholars coordinated by the National Biblical Coordinator- India Sub-zone
<b>ING</b>	13 – 19 October, 2020	Emeritus Bp. S. Singaroyan of Salem Diocese
<b>INM</b>	23 – 28 November, 2020	Rev. Fr. Alvito Fernandes OCD

**Next Council Meeting: 08-07-2020**

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

### **July**

**03–Varkey V**  
**04–Thomas Akkara**  
**07–Suresh M.**  
**13–M.Peter Thomas**  
**20–Dominic Ekka**  
**22–Alwin M.**  
**27–S. David Raj**  
**30–James Raj Y.**

### **August**

**03–R. Antonysami**  
**09–Lawrence Bose**  
**10–Joseph Babu**  
**15–Paul Jeyakumar**  
**21–Thumma Thomas**  
**23–S. Jeyaraj**  
**30–Felix Roche**



**Fr. Santhuraja Ignatius SVD**  
**Provincial Superior – INH**