



Ine Provincial Circular...
Society of the Divine Word
India East Province (INE)

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January 2022

Stepping into the Unknown... with Great Hope...

Dear Confreres,

As we begin to experience the freshness of New Year, we suddenly hear the hubbub of the Covid pandemic third wave. The world once again is alarmed and gripped by the clutches of Pandemic fear and anxiety. It is demanding us to strictly adhere to the Government's guidelines and prescribed rules (Use of mask, Social distance, Constant washing of hands, Use of sanitizer, and avoiding the crowd or any gathering) for the safety and security of our lives. We have learnt enough from the experiences and have the knowledge about how good we can take care of ourselves. Let us not repeat the mistakes and regret over it. I hope this time, we will have a better way of protecting ourselves to be safe.

We are in the New Year 2022, with full of hopes and aspiration. Our yearly planners are full with programs and activities. This planning is always helpful to achieve our set goals for the institutions. I remember the words of a great speaker and motivator, Shiv Khera, who in his book 'You can Win' writes **"It is always most difficult to excel in life, but easy to be average, that is the reason most of the people opt to be just an average"**. I am afraid most of our set plans and programs are set according to our convenience, that are easily achievable or attainable, that I fear, may be the reason for us to fail to excel in our lives. Can we then,

dare to be different than the other years to achieve excellence in our mission and for our institutions in this year? Along with this Pandemic, we also foresee other challenges and difficulties ahead of us which seems to be very abrupt, tough, and threatening the core of our survival and our ministries. Let us not lose our hearts, keep our hope high, remain firm and focused, by being positive in our approach to the daily event of lives and remain united together to make a difference in our mission places.

For the new year, few activities are already in our list- like our Pope's invitation to participate in Synod on Synodality of the Church. In many places this movement is already active and you are actively involved in it. The theme of the Synod is **"communion, participation, and mission"** and this refers to the involvement and participation of the whole People of God in the Life and mission of the Church. It will promote in the Church a **"Journeying together, listening to one another and sharing of People's life in common"** and I am sure the Church will experience change and transformation within. May I urge each of you to take a leading role in your respected parishes and in your localities in making it a reality.

Recently, we had a vibrant and a meaningful Chapter and Assembly with a beautiful theme **"I came so that they may have life"**

and have it abundantly' (Jn 10:10). To realize the Chapter theme, we have taken various recommendations and resolutions. Coming days, our effort will be to implement them in the course of time. **For this year**, we prioritize them:

1. Our whole effort to renew our Founder Arnold's Janssen spiritualities in our small communities.
2. We strive towards the formation of Arnold's lay Associates in our Province.
3. We make a concerted effort to make our Province financially self-reliant.
4. Our Main concern should be Faith formation of Youth, Children, and the Family ministry.

The Chapter decisions become more effective when we join hands together and work with total commitment for the growth and progress of the Mission. To bring abundance of life in the lives of the people, we need to make His life our life and His Mission our Mission.

In this month, we celebrate our Founder's Feast and the Feast of our first missionary to China- St. Joseph Freinademetz. These feasts remind us, the legacy of our founder's spirituality and his mission concept and the

firm dedication and commitment of our first missionary to China. As we are facing the most difficult time today in many ways, I am reminded of the chaotic situation in Germany when our Founder began our Congregation.

Due to the **Kulturkampf** declared by Bismarck, the Priests and the Nuns in Germany faced hard time. It was in that knotty time, Our Founder- St. Arnold Janssen wanted to begin the Missionary Congregation. Many discouraged him saying that it is not the appropriate time to begin something new. To them, he answered "**this is an opportune time, when everything is collapsing, something new has to be built.**"

He founded the Missionary Congregation, the Society of the Divine Word. We see how this has grown today, spreading to about 79 countries having 5977 members (includes 4688 Perpetual Vowed members and 929 Temporary vows members). Let this be an inspiration for us as we are facing the thorny situation in our time. Let all the challenge and difficult moments be a blessing in disguise for us so that we, with firm and renewed commitment, carry on His Mission. Let us embrace these unknown moments with great hope. Wishing you all a Grace filled festal wishes. God bless each one of us.

PROVINCIAL VISITATIONS

Provincial Visitations are an important means of exercising religious leadership, of promoting the religious-missionary life and activity of the members, the respective communities and thereby the Province as well, and of involving the members more deeply in achieving the goals of the Province. Therefore, the Provincial Council in its meeting held on January 10, 2022, decided to have the Provincial Visitation from January 20, 2022 – April 30, 2022 as follows:

Fr. Petrus Kullu	: Sundargarh District
Fr. Victor Rodrigues	: Rourkela District
Fr. Anuranjan Bilung	: Sambalpur District
Fr. Sunil Damor	: Bhubaneswar District
Fr. Bennychen Peter	: Jharsuguda District

Handbook for Superiors SVD D-20 Provincial Visitations 2.0 states, “the Provincial Visitation is an opportunity for the Provincial Superior in the midst of other administrative tasks:

1. To minister in a pastoral way to the needs of individual religious, to deal with their fears and anxieties, with their lack of hope and sense of discouragement or frustration, to enable them to have courage and confidence in who they are and in what they are doing as Divine Word Missionaries;
2. To help heal those confreres and communities which have been wounded or disoriented as a result of changes in the Church and in the world; both individuals and communities may need help if their worth and confidence is to be restored;
3. To renew the sense of spiritual purpose of both members and communities by animating them to accept in an ongoing way the unceasing call of God to a deep union with Christ.
4. To remind the members that they are called to serve the Church through our Society as committed religious by placing their gifts and talents at the disposal of the Society and the Church for the good of others.
5. To challenge both individual members and communities by raising questions that need to be raised, in light of our General Chapters and of the last General Visitation.
6. To look ahead creatively and cooperatively to the future of the Province: its future needs, its future concerns, and its future directions.”

I wish you all God’s blessing during the visitation. May our experiences try to promote abundance of life by entering into dialogue with ourselves, in community, and in mission.

N.B.: Before the Visitation, the following things are to be kept ready:

1. A short report about the place and about your ministry
2. Books of Accounts
3. House Diary
4. Land Documents Records
5. Pass Books/ Bank Balance
6. House Inventories
7. House Assets
8. Annual Planner

FINAL PROFESSION AND DIACONATE ORDINATION

January 2, 2022, the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord marked the day of great joy as three of our *fratres*: Frt. Rajesh Nandeti, Frt. Pradeep Mohata, and Frt. Shann Joseph Fernandes, professed their final commitment to the Lord in the Society of the Divine Word by professing to live for life chastity, poverty, and obedience. Rev. Fr. Petrus



Kullu SVD, the Provincial Superior, was the main celebrant. In his homily, he stressed on the importance of the theme, "Anointed to Love and Serve". He emphasized on the importance of God experience which will help us walk towards unknown journey like the three wise men. In these challenging times, we are called to have a deeper experience of God and to love and serve each other as Jesus did in his earthly ministry.



On January 3, 2022, Most Rev. John Barwa, SVD, the Archbishop of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, ordained these three *fratres* as Deacons and appreciated them for cooperating with the plan of God and setting apart their life for the mission of God during these difficult

times. He stressed not to lose heart in times of trouble but rather to stay strong amidst challenges and trials. He highlighted on daily Prayer and reading and reflecting on the Holy Bible as the source of strength which will help to counter any and every problems. The newly ordained deacons are called to continue God's mission and to dedicate their lives in service of humanity through selfless love. With these challenging words the deacons were invited to serve the Lord closely at the altar, to proclaim the Word, and to serve the people. The twin events were celebrated at Divya Jyoti Seminary, Sason with vigour and enthusiasm. The presence of the SVD *confreres*, priests, and religious from the vicinity, the parents and relatives of the candidates, the faithful, benefactors, and well-wishers from Sambalpur Parish was a source of blessing and joy.



CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO OUR NEW CONFRERES

Hearty congratulations to Fr. Parash Prasan Kujur, SVD, who was ordained a Priest by Most Rev. Kishore Kumar Kujur, the Bishop of Rourkela, on January 08, 2022, at Risen Christ Church, Kalunga, Rourkela. Fr. Parash, newly ordained Priest, is appointed to INE Province. We extend a warm welcome to the Province. We wish him all the very best and fruitful ministry in INE. We pray for God's abundant blessings upon his family members and all his well wishers.

Congratulations in advance to Dn. Joseph Praveen Madanu, SVD, who is going to be ordained as a priest by Most. Rev. Govindu Joji, the Emeritus Bishop of Nalgonda, on January 20, 2022 at Holy Spirit Church, Velvarthy, Nalgonda, Telangana. Dn. Praveen was in our Province at Phalsa Parish and did his diaconate ministry. God's blessings and special prayers to our deacon and his family members. We extend a warm welcome to the Province as a new Priest, as he arrives by the first week of February 2022.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFRERS

Fr. John Maliekal: Prayer Ministry, Janssen Bhavan
Fr. Thomas Ekka: Prayer Ministry, Janssen Bhavan

SSpS GENERAL CHAPTER - XV

The Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS) are holding their General Chapter- XV from January 13-31, 2022, at Rome with the theme, "Immersed in the Life of the Trinity, Transforming the World with Compassion". Sr. Maria Theresia, the Congregational Leader, has invited all the members of Arnoldus Family to journey together with them and to pray that they may discern and find the answers the Spirit offers to the world through them in this specific time.

OUR DEPARTED RELATIVES

- † Mr. Julius Minj, aged 78, father of Fr. Ashok Minj, died on 30.12.2021
 - † Mr. Elias Toppo, eldest brother of Fr. Peter Toppo, Died on 13.01.2022
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BIRTHDAYS OF OUR CONFRERES

January 2022			
Alexius Dungdung	01.01.1969	Prabhu Jeyaraj	14.01.1984
Kashmir Kujur	01.01.1977	Deepsan Dungdung(Frt)	21.01.1995
Sundar Tandi	03.01.1967	Lancy Gonsalves	22.01.1965
Dilip Tirkey	07.01.1970	Inocent Kerketta	28.01.1984
Anuranjan Dungdung	09.01.1972	Shann J. Fernandes (Frt)	29.01.1987
February 2022			
Thomas Korattiyil	02.02.1953	Joseph. K. J.	14.02.1953
Victor Rodrigues	08.02.1970	Muktlal Ekka*	15.02.1964
Ashley Fernandes	08.02.1978	M. Ajeesh P. Sahai (Dn)	16.02.1992
Sebastian Mattappallil	09.02.1954	Francis Kiro	20.02.1978
Remejus Soreng	11.02.1985	Thomas Ekka	22.02.1933
Oscar Lakra	12.02.1941	Medard Tirkey	23.02.1967
Maurice Lakra	12.02.1946	Paul Kandulna	24.02.1956

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL MISSION SECRETARY

Dear Fr. Provincials/Regional Superiors,

Cordial greetings to you and Happy New Year 2022!!!

Please inform confreres of your Province/Region belonging to the ordination batches 1986 to 1992 to attend the "**Renewal Programme**".

The dates for the ongoing renewal programme for ordination batches from 1986 to 1992 as follows:

The two days' workshop will be held on 28th February and 1st March 2022 at St. Arnold's Seva Sadan, Indore (SVD Provincial House, Indore)

Arrival - February 27, 2022

Departure - March 2, 2022

Fr. Gregory Pinto SVD has consented to be the resource person for this workshop.

Hope the Pandemic situation would improve and Omicron would not create further problems for our planned programme.

With kind regards,
Fr. Luvis Ronald Pereira, SVD
Mission Secretary, India Sub-Zone

MY PROGRAMME

- 15 January : Feast of our Founder, Shanti Bhavan
24-27 January : Visit to doctor and Meetings at Bhubaneswar and Puri
29 January : Feast of St. Joseph Freinademetz, Brother's Formation House, Joseph Bhavan, Jharsuguda
05-06 February : Council Meeting at St. Lawrence School, Tentoloi

Yours in the Divine Word

PKullu

Fr. Petrus Kullu, SVD
Provincial Superior, INE

"Sufferings and Crosses are a hard shell containing a Sweet Fruit "

-St. Arnold Janssen