



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR – INH

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

- INH Vision



INH/PC/151

Nov-Dec,2021

Modern day Saints... Holy souls for ever

Holy Mother Church begins the month of November commemorating the Feast of All Saints and remembering gratefully the souls of all who have gone before us. These feasts also leave us with a reminder and a reassurance. Reminder, because we are all created in the image of God and so we share in the holiness of God. Reassurance, because everything is not lost, even though we have drifted away from the Lord. Christ has saved once and for all. Yet we too are called to strive for our redemption by adhering to the values of Christ. Knowing the saints and their lives help us believe in ourselves that we too can achieve holiness in spite of our challenges and wayward lives.

As the phenomenon of social media ably demonstrates, there is nothing quite so interesting to people as the lives of other people. Instagram, Facebook, *et al* even make it possible for us to check what our favourite people are doing at any time of the day. Sometimes they are interesting because of their great beauty, otherwise because of eccentricities or, more cynically, because they are peculiarly stupid or socially unacceptable. Interest in other people also characterizes the literary tastes of the twenty-first century.

Long before we had social media, our interest in the lives of others was fulfilled in reading the lives of the saints. “Known as hagiography, this ancient genre of literature provided great detail on the miracles and personal lives of the most venerated people in the Catholic Church. Whilst social media allows celebrities to make or break a consumer product, these saints are still believed to decide the immortal fate of Catholic souls”. But not all saints conform to the stereotype of a quiet, pious individual: in this list we do find adulterers, prostitutes, demon-fighters, warriors... and so on.

That leaves us with a great sense of hope and comfort. Besides that we also know that many of our near and dear ones have led a very holy life, pleasing to the Lord. They are not recognized and proclaimed by the world or by the Church officially. But they are indeed saints in their own merit. We also know within our limits that many others need God’s mercy and our prayers. Let us remember them not only on the 2nd of this month but throughout the month of November and more. In a very special way we shall remember our confreres who have left us in recent times. May they enjoy God’s eternal bliss.

From the Leadership Team

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. T.S., India.

Phone: 040 – 27154741, 85,
E-mail: inhsvd@gmail.com
Website: www.inhsvd.in

Annual Retreat in INH

It was a unique experience for everyone who participated in the annual retreat this year at DWC, Vadipatti. First of its kind and more to follow, it was an inclusive retreat in the sense that the participants and the preachers were SVDs. The Biblical coordinators of the India Subzone had come up with this idea nearly two years ago as the universal Catholic Church was observing a Year of Word of God in 2019-20. The proposal mooted by **Fr. Wilson SVD**, the Sub-zonal Biblical Coordinator was accepted by the India Subzone Governing Body. All the provinces were supposed to have this retreat in 2020. Due to the unfortunate situation caused by the Pandemic, this could not be materialized. This year it is being actualized in all the provinces. **Frs. Wilson, Savarirayan, Lawrence Bose and Valerian Fernandes were the preachers.** All of them did a commendable job. They were ably assisted by some senior confreres during the mass and during the meditations. The Biblical Scholars had really planned it well and there was a flow of thought with relevant quotations and anecdotes on the theme “**Being rooted in the Word, Fruitful to the World, so shall you be my disciples**”. It was also mixed with a lot of personal sharing and experiences. The atmosphere and ambience was also good. The accommodation was conducive. The food provided was delicious and sumptuous. There was lot of care and concern in all aspects. Everyone who took part felt personally enriched and revived. Congratulations and thanks to Fr. Wilson, the director, Fr. Jesu, the treasurer and to Fr. Arockiasamy for all the logistical support and arrangements. We also thank the Biblical coordinators of all the provinces for this wonderful experience.



VADIMANAGAR AROCKIA ANNAI SHRINE Annual Feast – 2021

Due to the pandemic situation this year, Arockia Annai Shrine, Vadipatti celebrated the annual feast in a simple manner. It was started on 29th of August with hoisting of the flag of Arockia Annai by Rev. Fr. A. Antony Joseph SVD the Rector and Administrator of the Shrine and the Holy Mass was offered by Rev. Fr. C. Amalanathan SVD. Thereafter we had Novena Holy Masses on all the novena days. Of course, 8th of September was a blessing and graced filled day for many of us and especially for the parishioners and to the pilgrims. The triple feasts, namely the birthday of our Blessed Mother Mary, Birthday of Our Society and the birthday of the Miraculous Holy Spring (Yesuvin Arumarundhu)

were celebrated and solemnized by Rev. Fr. I .Santhuraja SVD the provincial superior of INH. Good number of Confreres concelebrated the holy mass, which was physically attended only the confreres and the religious of Vadipatti, but beamed live via YouTube channel to the pilgrims. We concluded the feast by lowering our Lady's flag and the thanksgiving mass was offered by Fr. Y. Arockiadoss SVD, the parish priest of Vadipatty. It was indeed a meaningful and simple celebration. We appreciate and thank all the fathers who are working in the shrine for their commitment and selfless services.



Feast of Our Lady of Good Health Church, Kottapattu.

The annual feast of Our Lady of Vailankanni at Kottapattu, Trichy was celebrated on 8th September following all the protocols of the Pandemic restrictions.

“We began our Novena from August 30, Monday at 6.15 Am with the flag hoisting by Fr.Lawrence Bose SVD, the Rector of St. Charles Seminary with the theme ‘Mother Mary, the fulfilment of the Word of God’. A theme was chosen every day and it was articulated well by the different preachers on the novena days The last day of our Novena and feast day mass was offered by Rev. Fr. Santhuraja INH provincial superior, on the theme ‘Mother Mary, the Healer of the World’. He gave us a thought-provoking message with melodious singing and powerful preaching. It was very meaningful.

Every year we celebrate the annual festival in a grand manner together with Parishioners. This year due to COVID -19, the Annual Feast was scaled down. Yet it was grand celebration of spiritual renewal for our Parishioners. Everyone in the parish, all the associations, religious both men and women extended their solidarity, support and cooperation well with parish priest to make the Parish Feast a meaningful celebration. We offered thanks giving Mass in honor of our Lady of Good Health for protecting us from this deadly virus during the feast and blessings us abundantly all through our life”.
Congratulations to **Fr. Paul Jayakumar** and to **Deacon Adaikalaraj**.



Blessing of the newly renovated Divine Word Centre, Chennai

‘Consolidation and Expansion’ has been the buzz word of the Provincial administration of the Province of India - Hyderabad. Holding fast to this vision the new face-lift of the Divine Word Centre in Chennai was blessed by Fr. Santhuraja, the Provincial Superior of INH, Fr. Lawrence Bose SVD, the Rector of St. Charles Seminary, Trichy, also the Provincial Councillor and Fr. Anthuvan Rozario SVD, the Provincial Procurator of INH.



On June 18, 1997, the Divine Word Centre study house for our graduate students was blessed by Most Rev. Aruldas James, the then Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore and was inaugurated by Fr. Dr. Augustine Kanjamala SVD, the then Provincial Superior of India South. Obviously, it is time to chime the silver bells and thank the almighty for His wonderful deeds.

The Chinese say it so well: “The best time to plant a tree was 25 years ago. But the second best time is today”. On September 11, 2021, Fr. Santhuraja SVD, the Provincial Superior after a concelebrated Eucharist with 12 priests blessed the newly renovated auditorium, Fr. Lawrence Bose SVD blessed and cut the ribbon of the newly designed dining room for staff and guests, and Fr. Anthuvan Rozario SVD blessed the newly constructed roof of the house. The programme ended with a short cultural programme accorded to Fr. Provincial Superior and his Team. We also officially inducted 21 students to first year graduation course. We are proud to say that till date hundreds of students have passed through this common formation house and have nostalgic memories toward their alma mater. This academic year we are blessed with 62 students specializing in different academic fields in the prestigious Loyola College, Chennai.

On behalf of the Provincial Administration we the staff and students of Divine Word Centre, Chennai cordially invite you to the thanksgiving celebrations of the Silver Jubilee on the second week of May 2022. We would be delighted to have you with us on that meaningful occasion to thank and praise God along with the pioneers of this Centre.

FORMATION BOARD MEETING

Our formation project is a large enterprise consisting of 20 communities, 604 formandi and 72 formators (the number of communities does not include the three formation houses for the diocesan seminarians which we administer and the number of formandi does not include the students in those entities). The Formation Board meeting is an annual exercise to take stock of the activities on the formation front. It provides an opportunity for the formators and the Provincial/Regional Superiors to sit together and to collectively reflect on the issues and concerns that formators face in their important task of forming the upcoming generations of our congregation's members.

The annual General Body meeting of the Sub-zonal Formation Board took place via Zoom on 16 - 17 September 2021. Except for a couple of confreres who were absent due to some personal inconveniences, all the expected participants took active part in the meeting spread over two days. Taking into consideration the limitations imposed by the virtual nature of the gathering, some of the regular features such as the half-day on-going formation session and the lengthy reporting were dispensed with. There were a fairly large number of items on the agenda and on nearly every point there was much discussion and debate. Although the usually strong “we-feeling” factor that accompanies the face-to-face version of the gathering was largely missing, the participants felt happy that they had a chance to share their opinions and concerns and felt reaffirmed in their call to be formators.

INTER-PROVINCIAL FORUM (IPF) MEETING

The annual meeting of the SVD India Sub-Zone Inter-Provincial Forum (IPF) was held through online flat-form on September 18, 2021. The meeting started with a meaningful opening prayer led by Fr. Victor Rodrigues, Vice Provincial, INE. Then Fr. Maxim Rodrigues, the chairperson of India Sub-Zone welcomed all the participants. In his inaugural address he reminded that it is the 90th year of SVD presence in India and our mission is growing geographically as we have already branched out to Bangladesh. He emphasized the importance of the gathering saying that IPF meeting has an animating value and appreciated Fr. Luvis Ronald Pereira for his effort in bringing us together.

Then Fr. Ronald presented a brief report of IPF with review of last year's recommendations. The successive three sessions were chaired by Fr. Joemon James, Provincial Superior, INC, Fr. Maxim Rodrigues, Regional superior of ING and Fr. Ignatius Santhuraja, the Provincial Superior of INH. Many important concerns and issues pertaining to the common mission such as maintaining inter-culturality as our identity, Global Prayer – Rosary, Workshops on NGO and Finance Management and Migration, Constituting a designing team to create and maintain websites, rejuvenating MER, Old age contribution on transfer of a confrere to another province and preparedness to face the challenges of the pandemic were deliberated at length. The proceedings of the IPF consultation meeting came to an end with a short evaluation. All the members were appreciative for the active participation of all the members. Fr. Anand Nagothu, Vice Provincial of INH proposed the vote of thanks and Fr. Luvis Ronald Pereira, mission secretary of India sub-zone appreciating everyone's active participation concluded the meeting.

SYNOD FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH



Synods have been an ordinary part of the life of the Church since the early centuries, with local Churches and dioceses convoking synods to discuss theological and pastoral issues relevant to the times.

Pope Francis has set in motion a two-year long 'Synodal Journey' for the Universal Church, which will unfold itself in three phases of consultations, at the diocesan, the continental and the universal levels, culminating in the XVI

Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, in October 2023, in Rome. The theme of the 2023 Synod is For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission.

The Holy Father has expressed his hope that this ecclesial endeavour will be a shared journey of listening, of reflection and of discernment, first at the diocesan level, then at the continental and lastly at the universal level.

The synod on synodality aims to ensure more 'diversity' within the internal life of the Church and that the views of the 'marginalized' are properly represented within the synodal dialogue, the purpose of which is to allow the Church to better listen to and articulate the 'sensus fidelium' or the consensus of the faithful, which the Church teaches as an authentic guarantor of the faith expressed by the Church. The synodal documents recognize various groups at risk of being marginalized, including the women, refugees, migrants, the poor, the elderly, people with disabilities, and encourages local Church leaders to ensure their full and active participation in the synodal process, together with Catholics who rarely or never practice their faith. Since the synodal journey is of crucial importance for the good of both the Universal and the Local Church, let us actively collaborate by praying regularly for the success of this momentous ecclesial event.

ARNOLD JANSSEN YOUTH (AJY) ANNUAL PRAYER MEETING 2021-22

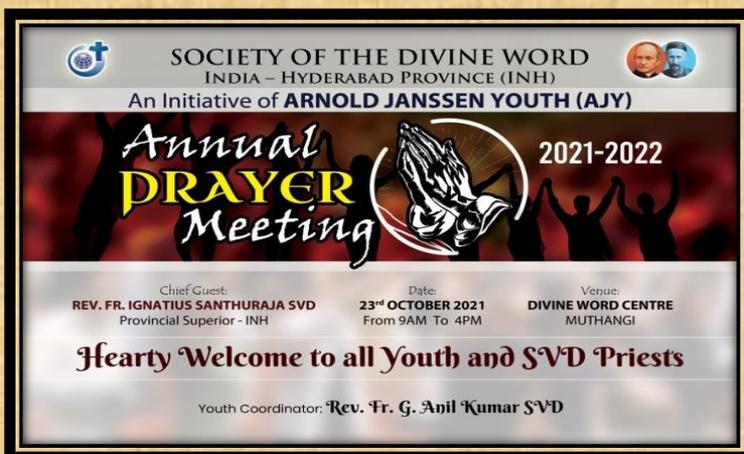
1 Timothy 4:12: "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity".

"Arnold Janssen Youth (AJY) organized an Annual Prayer Meeting 2021-22 in Divine Word Centre, Muthangi. Youth Director Fr. Anil Kumar SVD with the consultation of Parish priests and the youth leaders decided to have a day of prayer in a special way to energize youth in their spiritual life by having confessions, adoration and spiritual activities. As many youths were feeling and requesting the need for confessions, the annual prayer meeting was held in the retreat centre. All the parish priests were very much encouraging the youth by announcing the meet in their respective parishes. Rev. Fr. Santhuraja SVD, Provincial Superior of India-Hyderabad province was the chief guest and the main celebrant in the Holy Eucharist.

The day began with the Rosary and Praise & Worship. Fr. Sathish SVD led all the youth into adoration. During Adoration, Father beautifully inspired and encouraged youth to have confessions and begin a new life. Many of the youth had participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr. Bandanadam Joseph SVD, Fr. Jude Thomas SVD and Fr. Rajesh Reddy SVD were available for confessions. After the Adoration, we began the Holy Eucharist. Fr. Provincial celebrated the holy Eucharist in a meaningful way. Fr. Cyril doss SVD inspired the youth with his preaching on the theme, "**youth- you are the Gospel (good news)**". Youth were involved devoutly during holy Eucharist with the symbolic offertory, oath-taking ceremony of the youth leaders and bible procession and so on. The Holy Eucharist was telecast live, for those who could not attend the meeting.

All the youth leaders presented small tokens of love to all the priests present that day. Finally, Fr. Anil Kumar SVD, Youth Director thanked the provincial superior, all the parish priests, Muthangi Director, all priests, youth leaders and all those who helped for the event to be fruitful and successful.

The youth had sumptuous meals in the afternoon under the guidance of Fr. David SVD and Fr. Jyothi Raju. Ice breaking sessions began later for all the youth. All the youth were actively participating in the events and games. Fr. Alwin SVD, along with Fr. Eugene Manickam SVD, Fr. Samir SVD, Fr. Florence SVD, Fr. Anil SVD and Dn. Sagar Antony SVD organized and entertained all the youth with a few games and competitions. Finally, prizes were distributed to the winners and all the youth had evening tea and snacks and dispersed to their respective parishes”. Congratulations to the Youth Director Fr. Anil and to all the parish priests and collaborators.



Feast of Our Lady of Rosary Church, Miyapur

It was indeed a wonderful and grace filled evening. The Parish community of Our Lady of Rosary Church celebrated its annual Church feast on 24th of October 2021 at JMJ Sneha Sadan. Fr. Ravi, the parish priest reports: “The entire place was lit up with colourful lights. Rev. Fr. Santhu Raja, the Provincial Superior INH together with Fr. Ravikumar Reddy SVD, the Parish Priest received the Archbishop in the parish house and later Fr. Provincial accompanied the Archbishop from presbytery to the place of the festive celebration. There was a procession with the statue of the Holy Mother from the main road.

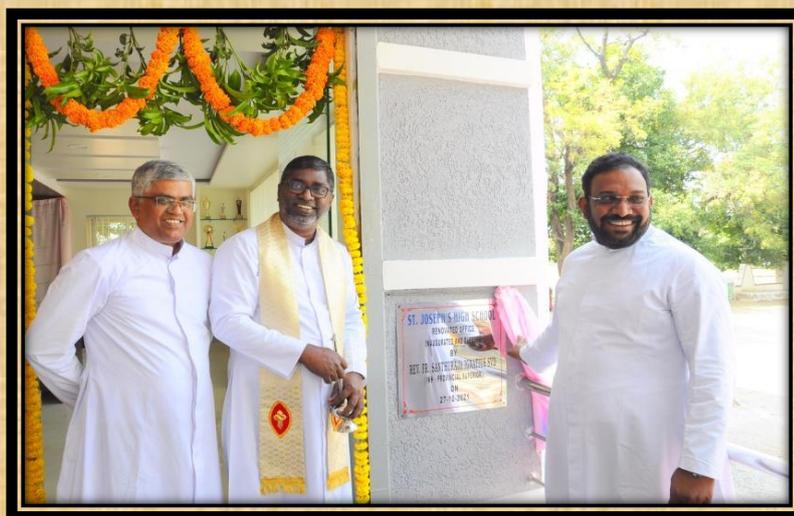
The parish faithful devoutly participated in the procession by reciting and praying the rosary. The concelebrated festive mass was presided over by His Grace Most. Rev. Poola Anthony, the Archbishop of Hyderabad. There were twenty priests and a deacon. The presence of many SVD priests was very encouraging. The Archbishop encouraged the parish faithful to recite the rosary daily. He also conferred the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation to thirty-one parish children. In his homily the Archbishop encouraged the children to grow strong in their faith and preserve the anointing. He asked the children to eagerly participate at the holy mass with expectant faith to receive Jesus in their hearts. The archbishop appreciated the children for their preparation to receive sacraments. The Archbishop and the Provincial were felicitated by the parish counsel. All the parishioners were served a sumptuous dinner. We thank God for all his blessings upon our parish". Congratulations to Fr. Ravi kumar Reddy, the religious, the parish elders and all the faithful for the wonderful collaboration and celebration.



Administrative Block blessed and inaugurated at St. Joseph's High School

The inaugural function of St. Joseph's High School's renovated office began at 12:35 p.m. in the afternoon. The guests were welcomed with a procession to the school and were presented bouquets by the principal. A few students performed a welcome dance. The MC read the profile of Fr. Santhuraja, the Provincial Superior.

The Chief Guest of the day, Fr. Santhuraja, the Provincial Superior inaugurated the renovated office by cutting the ribbon and breaking the coconut, followed by the other guests, representatives of teaching & non – teaching staffs and caretakers. There was a traditional lighting of the lamp by Fr. Santhuraja, the Provincial Superior, Fr. Anthony Swamy the Parish Priest, Fr. Joseph Babu, our Principal, Fr. Selvam the procurator and Mrs. Rajamma tr. Fr. Devadass, the District Superior unveiled the portraits of St. Arnold Jansen and St. Joseph Frienandemetz followed by Fr. Ambrose Beck, the Provincial Admonitor unveiled the school logo in the office. After the inauguration of the office, the Guest of the day Fr. Santhuraja the Provincial Superior addressed the school assembly and expressed his happiness and congratulated the efforts of the management, staff and students. Then Fr. Joseph Babu, our principal honoured Fr. Santhuraja, the Provincial Superior, and Mr. Marreddy the contractor and Mr. Koteshwar Rao, the architect with a shawl and concluded the function with a few words of gratitude.



“Arnold Bhavan Annexe” Blessed and Inaugurated

Arnold Bhavan Annexe was blessed and inaugurated by Most. Rev. Dr. Poola Anthony, the Archbishop of Hyderabad on 31st October. This is built in view of providing comfortable accommodation to our Conferrers, especially when we have common meetings and gatherings. It is also built in view of generating some income for the Province.



7 Years Journey TOWARDS ECOLOGICAL CHANGE

LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM

COMMITTING OURSELVES TO CREATE A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE, ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE, AND PROMOTE SYSTEMATIC CHANGE

MAKE AN ACTION PLAN with your community based on 4 pillars: PRAYER, EDUCATION, ACTION, ADVOCACY

SHARE YOUR GOOD INITIATIVES

DO AN EVALUATION OF YOUR EFFORTS

MAKE IT PUBLIC

1ST YEAR: OCTOBER 4, 2021 - OCTOBER 2022

"WE RESPOND TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH"

For more information;
SVD Curia :: Peace and Justice issues (svdcuria.org)
laudatosiplatform.org

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SVD – Laudato Si – Action Plan – Tool

Seven Years to heal relationships with God's Creation

Animated by our General Superior and the SVD Leadership team, we answer to Pope Francis' call to Laudato Si (LS). With profound care for each other and all creation, we want to build a better future together with all persons of good will. Our worldwide Society takes part in the "Laudato Si Action Platform" (<https://laudatosiplatform.org>). Within seven years, we seek the transformation of ourselves, as well as those communities with whom we work, following the seven Laudato Si Goals (2021-2028). These are:

1) Response to the cry of creation; 2) Response to the cry of the poor; 3) Ecological economics; 4) Adoption of ecological life styles; 5) Ecological education; 6) Ecological Spirituality; 7) Community engagement and participatory action.

Each year we focus on one of these goals. By doing so, we dedicate ourselves to a profound process of transformation. We try to achieve these goals through dedicated engagement in four areas, which we consider basic for this process:

PRAYER: Our personal prayer, our liturgical celebrations and services become explicit expression to the respective LS Goal.

EDUCATION: We educate ourselves about the ecological concerns and animate others to be sensitive to ecological issues.

ACTION: We do concrete actions for a sustainable lifestyle, promote eco-justice and fight against the climate change.

ADVOCACY: We take part in NGO-campaigns, manifestations or petitions that are related to the respective LS Goal.

“Our goal is not to amass information or to satisfy curiosity, but rather to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it.” (LS 19)

Every confrere is asked to commit to this process, as well as every community and every PRM. This tool will guide us through these seven special years of concerted effort against climate change. It helps to organize well our procedures, to identify clearly our objectives, to plan concrete steps and to evaluate the outcome.

It is of utmost importance that every confrere/community/PRM seeks for those measures, which promise to result in a maximum of output. Thus, our contribution as SVDs can be relevant and worth to our worldwide role as mission congregation.

The PRM Superiors are responsible to communicate this message to their members and JPIC Coordinators are responsible to animate the confreres. JPIC Coordinators will collect the results and submit them to the Generalate JPIC Coordinator in November every year.

**SVD-Laudato Si – Action Plan (SVD-LSAP)
7 Years to heal relationships with God’s Creation**

Year one: Response to the cry of the earth

Province/Region/Mission:.....

**Where -
community/Institution/Parish:.....**

October 4, 2021 to October 4, 2022	Who (Persons who are in charge; resource persons; persons who are involved)	Objective (Definition of a concrete goal planned to achieve)	Indicators (Measurable facts that indicate that the goal was achieved)	Plans (Detailed description of concrete steps that will be taken, with timetable, responsible persons, resources, etc.)	Evaluation (According to the indicators, to which extent the objective was achieved?)
PRAYER					
EDUCATION					
ACTION					
ADVOCACY					

My Programme

November

- 8 Provincial council Meeting at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad
- 9-12 INE Provincial Chapter, Jharsuguda
- 13 Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Fr. Peter Leo Fernando SVD (Kenya), in Chennai
- 24-25 INH First Assembly at DWC, Vadipatti
- 27 Installation of Archbishop Durairaj SVD, Bhopal

December

- 1-2, INH 2nd Assembly, Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad
- 3 **INH VIIth Provincial Chapter**
- 4 Provincial Council Meeting
- 8 Parish Annual Feast, Mederametla
- 12 Parish Annual Feast at Madha Nagar, Chennai
- 19 Blessing and Inauguration of St. Arnold's Praja Bhavan, DWC, Muthangi.
- 27-28 Youth Fest, St. Charles' Seminary, Trichy
- 29 Ordination of Deacon Adaikalaraj SVD in his home parish.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER

01-A. Jesuraj
02-Joseph A. Jr.
07-Arulandu Arockiasamy
11-Paulus Topno
12-M. Xavier
30-A. Selvam

DECEMBER

17-Wilson Sagayaraj
18-Blaise A.
22-Ambrose Beck
22-Amalanathan C.
23-Bala Prasad
24-Anil Kumar G.
30-Lawrence, D'souza



Fr. I. Santhuraja

Provincial Superior – INH