

## SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD - SVD Central Indian Province INC



St. Arnold's Seva Sadan, P. B. 106, Indore - 452 001 (M. P.) INDIA

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St. Arnold Janssen and  
St. Joseph Freinademetz

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### TO THE FALLEN AND TO THE FREE

Every year on 15th August, the Indian Catholics observe and celebrate two great events- India's Independence and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The former is a political liberation; the latter is a complete liberation from all that binds us. Both the feasts refer to freedom- freedom from and freedom for.

St. John Paul II sees Mary's Fiat at the annunciation as just the beginning of a profound spiritual trek. He describes it as "the point of departure from which her whole journey towards God begins." It was her pilgrimage of faith. When Mary was confronted with God's call at pivotal moments in her life, she chose to remain open to the Lord's plan for her every step of the way, even though what lay ahead for her was not always clear. The logical culmination of Mary's Fiat is rewarded through assumption. The Assumption of Mary is a singular participation in her son's resurrection and an anticipation of our own resurrection. It offers a glimpse of what the Christian pilgrimage and prospect of heaven are all about. In the assumption of Mary we see the future of our life, the culmination of our life. By reason of the gift and role of her divine motherhood, Mary is united with her Son, the Redeemer. Like Mary, all those who are united with Jesus Christ in his life and in his salvific mission will also share in Christ's glory.



Today is a great day for India as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of Independence. We celebrate the 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. We celebrate the liberation of mind, flowering of humanism and birth of a free nation. We pay our homage to those unconquerable minds that illuminated the uttermost darkness. The freedom fighters were one of the freest spirits in our freedom fights, warbling their way through clouds and through sunshine. They guided us all through, with uncompromising vision and without losing their faith and guided us to the day's success. We will remember them whenever we need faith and courage.



*Wishing all  
happy Independence day*

Though we look ahead confidently with optimism, the signs of our times are very much disturbing and depressing. The shackles of social injustice, economic inequality and disparities on various grounds have kept us from realising our full potential. This Independence Day let each one of us resolve to be more vigilant and politically active to counter the false narratives and malicious propaganda that divide Indians. Unity and multiculturalism have been our core strength, and must remain so. As we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady and our Independence Day, let us take some time to reflect on our responsibility and evaluate our efforts taken for nation and society building.



## General Visitation

This is to remind you of the General visitation from November 1 to 21st 2022. Kindly start praying for the success of the General visitation from the Prayer card already given to you. Rev. Fr. Festin, Jude Raymond, General Consultor and Bro. Ferrada Montero Carlos Jose, the General JPIC coordinator have been assigned by the General administration to do the General visitation. We shall be having province assembly on November 21, along with the visitators.

## Province Jubilee celebration

Kindly be informed that the Golden and Silver jubilee of the ordination and first profession of the confreres will be held on October 8, 2022 at St. Arnold's Seva Sadan at 10 am

## Seminars and Workshop

India Central Province organized a Seminar for all the treasurers of the province for two days starting on 13th July. Thirtyfive confreres from different parts of the province attended the seminar and were enriched by it. The Seminar began at 8.30 a.m. The first talk was by Fr. Joemon the Provincial on Financial concerns of the province. At 10.45 a.m. Chartered Accountant Mr. Basant Jain shared his observations and advices on auditing and account keeping and related record maintenance. Our



income Tax consultant A.G. Shastri also gave inputs on 12A income Tax rules and its implications on Societies and its units. The afternoon session was utilized by Fr. Dominic Veigas the Provincial Procurator, giving clarifications on preparing budgets for schools, institutions, parishes and missions.

The second day sessions began again by Fr Dominic with inputs on FCRA requirements, internal auditing and financial policies of the society. Automobile engineer Mr. Ayush from Ashok Garage also shared some insights on maintenance of the vehicles. The Last talk was given by Mr. Prateek Gattani C.A. on GST compliances on Trust and Societies. The participants described the Seminar as a highly informative and useful exercise.



A two day Seminar cum Workshop was also organized for directors, superiors and parish priests of the province starting on 25th July. There were 36 participants who actively took part in it. First full day was spent under the guidance of the resource person Fr. Jacob Peenackaprambil CMI, who based his lectures and presentations on Interrelatedness of ministries from the perspective of Vision, mission and goals of Jesus and led the group to a result based

planning through group exercises. The day ended with the evaluation of the workshop which got a thumping applause.

On the second day Fr. Provincial gave a talk on the role of Superiors in animating the community based on the SVD constitutions and the hand book for the superiors. The second session was by the provincial procurator on financial policies and importance of keeping all the records in order in the changed strict policies of the Govt. The Seminar was concluded with lunch.



## The Statistics of the students in our Schools

School Name	Pre Primary	Primary I - VIII	Secondary IX - X	Higher Sec. XI - XII	Total	Christian Students
St. Arnold's School Lalaram Nagar	592	2547	552	414	4105	156
St. Arnold's School Vijaynagar	744	2242	494	402	3882	156
St. Arnold's School Palda	443	2233	347	140	3163	87
Mahatma Gandhi School Khurda	38	234	73	60	405	39
St. Arnolds Eng. Med. School Meghnagar	293	1270	185	98	1846	252
St. Stephen's School Dahod	536	2016	359	337	3248	84
Matruchhaya Adivasi Prathmikshala, Muvalia	20	299	106		425	101
St. Arnold's School Godhra (English)	453	1602	290	75	2420	34
"                    (Gujrathi)		99	193		292	03
St. Arnold's School Jhalod	217	261			478	68
St. Arnold's School Ambadochar	69	235	26		330	
Nirmala Niketan Jhadol	18	292	57		367	210
Assunta Bhavan Oгна	32	218			250	

### INC Planning commission meeting

The Province planning commission meeting was held on July 27, 2022 at St. Arnold's Seva Sadan, Indore. The meeting was convened by Fr. Michael Cherian, the chair-person of the planning commission. The planning commission members are, all the District superiors and provincial treasurer, coordinators of the characteristic dimensions and other ministries and Fr. Nicholas Martis, representative of former Provincials. The meeting was attended by most of the members. They deliberated and discussed on various aspects of the life and mission of INC Province and possible new initiatives the province can venture into.



## Province Educators meeting held



SVD INC Province educator's meeting was held on August 11, 2022 at St. Arnold's higher secondary School, Vijaynagar. All the confreres except one, who are involved with education participated in the meeting. After invoking the guidance of the spirit and welcome note by Fr. Muthu Selvam, the coordinator of education INC, the Provincial Superior addressed confreres. He shared that our schools should be institutions with a difference. The focus of the school should not only remain at the academic excellence, but also equally important holistic formation with a stress on value education. He shared the current socio-political scenario in the country and the role the educators have to

play to make students critical thinkers by organizing various activities in the school. He shared that our schools are wonderful platforms for Public contacts and to make our students catalysts of social transformation and change. He also gave some tips on leadership qualities. Fr. Prasad Kuzhively svd, the coordinator of Environment concerns of the Province, addressed the forum giving various suggestions which can be undertaken by the schools towards developing eco-friendly campuses. Followed by all the confreres shared their school's strengths and challenges before the confreres. The members also discussed on a few issues related to the education ministry.

## Seminar for India sub zone formators is being held

A seminar cum workshop for all the formators of India Sub-zone is being held in Snehalaya, Indore from August 13-14 and 16-17 in two batches. Fr. Joe Mathias SJ, a very experienced and qualified person is animating the SVD formators. Fr. Joemon James svd, the Provincial Superior offered the inaugural Eucharist. In his sermon he shared that the formators and formees need to be led by the spirit. The only criteria Jesus demanded from the Apostle Peter was whether he loved Jesus more than others. Loving Jesus is also loving His people. The first session began with a welcome note by Fr. Michael Cherian, the Director of Snehalaya. Fr. Joemon James svd, the



Provincial Superior, gave the inaugural address. He expressed his appreciation on behalf of the India Sub-zone governing board for the commitment and dedication of the formators in spite of difficulties they have to face. He addressed the forum quoting a German Proverb: 'The main thing is that, the main thing always remains the main thing'. The main thing in the religious missionary formation should be the love of God and love for the people. Religious call is a vocation to Love. Otherwise we will form efficient persons but not necessarily effective missionaries. Fr. Thomas Malipurathu SVD, the national formation secretary introduced the resource person. Fr. Jose Joseph, the program coordinator of Snehalaya coordinated the seminar proceedings. The first batch has 28 confreres attending the seminar.



## Blessing of the Presbytery at Madri

The inauguration and blessing of the newly constructed presbytery at Madri was held on August 6, 2022 at 5 pm. Rev. Bp. Devprasad Ganava SVD, blessed the building and Fr. John Wakhla, the vice Provincial inaugurated the building by cutting the ribbon along with Fr. Sanjay Kujur, Provincial Council member, Fr. Dominic Veigas, Provincial Treasurer, Fr. Norbert Herman, the District superior, Fr. Pascoal Tirkey, the Parish Priest and number of SVD Confreres, Sisters from neighboring communities. Madri mission was an initiative of the



Catholic Diocese of Udaipur. FSMA sisters began their community first and a priest from Udaipur used to visit weekends for Holy Mass. Invited by the Bishop of Udaipur, the SVD INC Province took up the mission appointing a resident priest in 1994. There after the mission has grown in leaps and bounds. Today the mission has a beautiful church, school, boys and girls hostels taken care by SVD and FSMA congregations. The confreres lived with minimum facilities in a tin roofed house for 28 years before they could get a comfortable presbytery. We thank the generous donors.

## Adieu to Fr. Thomas Thalachira

Fr. Thomas Thalachira SVD, a nonagenarian after having served the society and Province for 61 years is called to his eternal reward on August 1, 2022. Fr. Thomas is known for his hospitality, missionary spirit, love and concern for the poor and needy, untiring zeal for mission, commitment, obedience and for his love of the Society and people. Fr. Thomas did not want to die a retired man, he was just 5 months in St. Joseph's retirement home for medication. He was lucky to be called by God in a sitting position after receiving a refreshing bath in the morning. Mr. Karan, the care taker boy saw him making sign of the cross and then dropping his hands after entrusting his soul to the Lord. He was born on October 23, 1932 in a traditional religious Catholic family of late Mr. Varkey Joseph and late Mrs. Elizabeth Joseph at Mailacomp, in the diocese of Kothamangalam, Kerala. He has two brothers and two sisters. Having completed his High School studies, he joined the Society of the Divine Word and came to St. Thomas Seminary, Mhow in 1952. From here, he moved for his Latin and philosophical studies to Catholic Ashram Palda. He continued his novitiate here in Palda 1954 and took his first vows on May 31, 1956. He along with his classmates went to Papal Seminary in Pune and took his final vows at Divine Word Seminary on March 19, 1961. He was ordained a priest together with his classmates on October 3, 1961 in the Papal Seminary Chapel, Pune by His Eminence Cardinal Valerian Gracias.



Father began his priestly life as assistant parish priest in Jhabua and later in Bhagor. Followed by he was in-charge of St. Thomas boys' hostel, Khandwa for 5 years. He served as parish priest of Jhabua Dhani, Sonkatch, Udainagar, Mhow, Pithempur, Vijaynagar, Betma and Khurda. As an administrator he served the Province as Provincial Council member, Vice Provincial and Provincial Superior. As for formator, Father served twice as rector of St. Thomas Seminary and later twice as the spiritual director at Mhow, spiritual director of catholic ashram khurda and Vidyodaya till march 2022. For short periods he also rendered his services in Prerana sadan, Kankaria and Snehalya

He was a zealous religious missionary priest of par excellence, never tired of serving the people with joy. May his departed soul rest in peace.



## Adivasi day celebrated at Jhalod

Vishv Adivasi Divas was celebrated in Catholic church Hostel, Jhalod. Gujarat. In presence of SVD fathers and sisters and hostel children and staff members.



## Youth day celebrated

On the occasion of International Youth Day, SAMMAN organized a Bicycle Rally for about 3 hours with the theme “Substance Abuse Awareness” in which about 35 youth and all the staff of SAMMAN Participated. The rally was inaugurated by Fr. Augustine PA SVD and Fr. Maria Michel the PRO of Bhopal Archdiocese. The Participants were thrilled, seen shouting slogans and making the public aware about the Substance abuse and its consequences.



## Skill development program begins at Samman Bhopal

Inauguration of 1st batch of Skill Training program for Taxi Drivers in collaboration with DB Tech was held today at SAMMAN- Bhopal. Fr. Augustine PA, Rector of SVD Vidya Bhavan, Mr. Sadanand, Regional Coordinator for DB Tech, Fr. James Director of SAMMAN, SAMMAN Staff, trainers and trainees of the new batch were present. The program began with lighting of lamp followed by prayer dance. Director of SAMMAN welcomed all guests and the trainees. The chief guest of the event, Fr. Augustine PA encouraged the trainees that they got a wonderful opportunity to learn and develop the skills. Mr. Sadanand gave concise details and significance of this Training. There are 35 students enrolled in the 1st batch.

## Award for Janvikas, Indore

Janvikas Society Indore has been awarded with “Best NGO Leadership Award” from Madhya Pradesh Leadership Awards organized by the World CSR Day in the presence of an august



gathering on 20th July 2022 at Indore Marriott Hotel, Indore. The Madhya Pradesh Leadership Awards recognizes Leaders/Organisations who have contributed value & made a change as a strategic tool for sustainable growth in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The award was presented to Janvikas Society Indore in the presence of Dr. Arun Arora (Ex-President and CEO, The Economic Times), Professor Indira Parikh (President - Antardisha, India's Iconic HR Leader), Dr. C. M. Dwivedi, Dr. Saugata Mitra (Managing Director, National Dairy Development Board Dairy Services), Dr. R L Bhatia (Founder, World CSR Day and World Sustainability), Dr. Sanjay Muthal (CEO, Kontempore Leadership Solutions & Services) for all the initiatives, Janvikas Society has undertaken in the Community Development.



## Workshop on ENDING CHILD TRAFFICKING & CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE in Indore

AAS - Organization (City and Bus Childline Indore), PAHAL (An organization for social change) and Janvikas Society Indore in collaboration with Kailash Satyarthi Foundation organized a workshop on “Ending Child Trafficking and Sexual Abuse in Indore” on 28 th July. The program was held at Indore School of Social Work. Cabinet Minister Usha Thakur, Women and Child Development Department Joint Director Sandhya Vyas, Child Welfare Committee President Ms.Pallavi were the chief guests in the program.

## Confirmation at Bhuja mission (Daiya-Ambassa)



The sacrament of Confirmation was conferred to 50 candidates, young and old by Most Rev. Bishop Devprasad Ganawa at Holy Rosary Catholic Church Bujha, Rajasthan on 24th July. In the sermon Bishop emphasized the importance of Holy Spirit and Sacraments at different levels of our life. It was very encouraging to see people from far of villages participating in the ceremony by taking so much effort to reach the church in-spite of heavy rain. Daiya Ambassa mission situated in Bhuja is a vibrant mission parish. Along with the pastoral activities, a number of people-based social services are rendered to the people of all walks of life.

## Dwarka Nagar St. Anthony's Church and Divya Vani Bhopal

31st July 2022 was an important Sunday for St. Anthony's Church Dwarka Nagar as the members celebrated a twin-event. They celebrated the International Environment Day in the parish and later in the afternoon visited Maria Bhavan Hospice where the Benedictine Sisters care for 37 abandoned women.



Later in the afternoon, a few members of the Matha Maria Samiti, accompanied by Fr. Rayan went to Maria Bhavan in Misrod to visit the abandoned women of all caste and creed. They participated in their suffering by listening to them, singing and dancing with them. One of the members sponsored footwear for all the women and evening meal to the abandoned men taken care of by the Archdiocese of Bhopal.

On 7th August, Seventeen Children of St. Anthony's Parish-Dwarka Nagar who are scheduled to receive the sacraments of the First Holy Communion and Confirmation gathered together in Divya Vani. The Centre sponsored a day's training for the children and parents. There were Forty members. The day began with the Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Rayan SVD. After the Eucharistic celebration and refreshments, the children were assigned to two Teachers who taught Catechism. From 15.00 to 16.00 Hrs, Fr. Rayan addressed the children and their parents on the various issues such as Family Prayers, Devotions to Eucharist, Our Blessed Mother, Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Sacraments of the Church. The children and parents left for their homes after tea and snacks with gratitude to God for the eventful day they had at Divya Vani.



## Felicitation of New Priests

Fr. Jobin George Thanolil and Fr. Deepak Wilson D'Souza, the new priests assigned to INC Province offered their first mass in the Seva Sadan Chapel, Indore on July 13, 2022. Approximately 50 confreres participated in the concelebrated Holy Mass. Fr. Joemon James, the Provincial Superior, introduced them to the confreres and congratulated them on behalf of the confreres of INC province. They were felicitated after the Holy Mass with a shawl, bouquet and a small gift.



## Welcome to Alister Clifphen Gomes

Deacon Alister Clifphen Gomes is the latest arrival to our province as he is appointed to INC. He has already started his ministry at Jhadol Parish.

## Retreats this year !

- INC** 02 - 07 October at St. Arnold's Seva Sadan, Indore by Fr. Cyril Doss SVD  
10 - 15 October at St. Joseph's Home, Palda by Fr. Cyril Doss SVD
- INM** 27 Nov. to 02 Dec. 2022 at Atma Darshan by Fr. Alvito Fernandes OCD  
22 - 27 January 2023 at Divine Call Centre, Mulki. By Fr. Alvito Fernandes OCD
- INE** 02 - 07 October at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda  
09 - 14 October at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda
- ING** 10 - 15 October at SVD House, Guwahati by Fr. Robert Athickal SJ
- INH** 02 - 07 October at Arnold Bhavan, Habsiguda by Fr. Antony Menezes SVD
- October 23 - 28** : Eco-spirituality retreat/workshop open to all sisters, brothers & priests by Fr. Athickal S.J. At Seva Sadan. Contact Fr. Prasad Kuzhivelil for details.

## Appointments and transfers

Fr. Lawrence Fernandes : Assigned to St. Joseph's home, Indore  
Fr. Deepak Sulya : Appointed to Sadbhavana, Delhi

## My Program

- August 20 : Meeting of hostel in-charges  
August 24 : Provincial Council meeting  
August 27,28 : Classes to young CMC sisters  
September 1-5 : Visit to Panchmahals and Udaipur  
September 7 : SVD SSpS recollection  
September 8 : Feast day mass at Holy Spirit Church Palda  
September 13 : Provincial Council meeting  
September 14 - 23 : Formation and Inter provincial forum meetings in Jharsuguda  
September 24-25 : Meeting of assistant Parish Priests, assistant directors and superiors

