



Provincial Circular...

Society of the Divine Word
India East Province (INE)

Shanti Bhavan, Cox Colony, Jharsuguda, Odisha -768 203

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Ci-22-05

June 2022

Effect of Home Visit

Dear confreres, the annual affair of a visit to our hometown during the summer season (or according to our convenience) is drawing to a close and most of the confreres are back at their work place. The annual break from the regular routine work is necessary; and the best way is to spend it in the midst and company of our near and dear ones, who have shaped and formed us to be what we are today. For this, we owe our beloved parents, blood relatives and friends a debt and gratitude. The annual home visit helps us to be in touch with our roots or origin. Since we have joined the religious congregation; our home today serves as a resort. Yes, more than a resort every visit becomes a moment of grace and blessing during our brief stay. The bond of love is deepened, the sharing and caring is strengthened, joy of being together is nurtured, and the fond memories of the yesteryears are relived. Joy and happiness well up in our hearts. At this moment the words of Jesus come to my mind "Remain in my Love. Being with me you will bear much fruit but apart from me you can do nothing" (Jn 15:5). Jesus emphasizes the importance of 'Being united'. It is the same either with the spiritual life or with the family life. We are so much linked with the family that apart from each other normal living seems to be impossible. Without having connection with the family, religious life would definitely become futile or barren. Often, a question comes to my mind: 'Would I be an effective religious missionary Priest without being close to the family members?'. It is impossible because my early life, my faith, my vocation, and my primary education, everything that I own today are inherited from the family. Above all, there is a deep-seated emotional bond of Love with it. Being a missionary, we are physically away from home but we keep each other very close to our Hearts. In fact, I feel, Family is the foundation of our religious life. Therefore, it is important that we keep visiting our homes once in a while to re-strengthen our emotional bond and renew our relationship. We are blessed by the members of the family to be a blessing to the world.

Dear friends, in a wider sense whole world in our home as in Hindu scripture- Maha Upanishad speaks of "*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*" meaning world is one family, in fact mother earth is our home. Being a member of the Society of the Divine Word, we feel all the more that whole world is our home due to our International character. The community where, we live now, is not our natural home but built, due to the common vision and mission of the Society. It is the outcome of faith in risen Christ and our response to His call. We live together and share our lives and ministries in common. Therefore, community living is very important for us. So let us create a homely atmosphere where everyone is recognized, loved, cared, respected, wanted, and experiences inner freedom to live and work in God's vineyard. After a month-long holiday, as we have returned to our second home to resume our routine work, let us begin it with new vigor and enthusiasm. I wish all the best, good luck and God's blessing upon each one of you.

Missionaries are always on move as per the need of the Society. Few of you have got new assignments and moved out to the new places. I take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to each one of you for accepting the new assignments and wish God's abundant blessings upon each one of you. For all those who are continuing with the same jobs my appreciation and encouragement to do the jobs with new enthusiasm and vigor. **May the Triune God help us in our mission endeavors.**

Gratitude and Encouragement...

The General Council in its meeting held on February 08, 2022, considered the transfer of Fr. Alexius Dungdung from INE to GER in view of his service at the Anthropos Institute. The Superior General through his letter dated February 11, 2022, (INE/lb-220256) transferred Fr. Alexius Dungdung to Germany (GER) Province.

Fr. Alexius had done all the necessary arrangements and reached St. Augustine, Germany, safely on June 10, 2022. The Provincial Council and the INE Province thank him for his selfless services that he rendered to our province. We wish him all the best for his new appointment and pray for God's showers of blessing on his editorial work.

Hearty Welcome

Fr. Sebastian Mangalathil, SVD, is transferred back to our province after his eight years of service in INC Province. We wish him pleasant stay with us as he is appointed as Moderator and Studies In-charge at Vidya Jyoti, Lungai.

Renewal of Vows

After having attended the retreat, the fratres of Divya Jyoti SVD Seminary, Sason, renewed their vows on June 18, 2022. Ten of the fratres after having firmly resolved to follow the Lord said "Yes" and renewed their vows for one more year. The solemn Holy Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Petrus Kullu, SVD, Provincial Superior, INE, and by the staff of Divya Jyothi Seminary. This family celebration ended with a good fellowship meal.



Laicization Granted

Fr. Felix Oliveira, SVD, has applied for Laicization (dispensation from sacred celibacy and from the obligations connected to Sacred Ordination) on June 05, 2021. The Provincial Council began the process and submitted the documents to SVD Generalate. From there the documents were forwarded to the Congregation for the Clergy, Vatican, Rome. The Superior General through his letter dated April 29, 2022 (INE/lh – 220934) conveyed the information received from the Holy See:

The Holy Father FRANCIS, on the 22 day of April, in the year 2022, after having received the report of the Congregation for the Clergy, has given his consent to the request made and granted dispensation from sacred celibacy and from the obligations connected to Sacred Ordination to Fr. Felix Oliveira.

(The dispensation letter containing the provisions, is handed over to Felix Oliveira)

The SVD Generalate Team and the INE Province along with the Provincial Council, extend sincere thanks to Felix Oliveira for his contribution to the Society of the Divine Word and to our province, during the years that he was with us. We wish him all the best for his new state of life.

Appointments and Transfers

Fr. Parash Prasan Kujur-	Asst. Parish Priest, Bezda, Hostel In-charge at Dibyo Bani Niketan, Bezda
Fr. Thomas R A-	Resident member at SVD House and music teacher, St. Paul's School, Hamirpur

New Praeses at Shanti Bhavan

Fr. Valentine Surin, SVD, has taken-charge as the *Praeses* (House Superior) of Shanti Bhavan on June 15, 2022. This is to inform you that any communication hereafter is to be done with Fr. Valentine. Kindly note his phone numbers and email id.

Phone numbers: 9437684459 (Whatsapp number)
8456922553
Email id: frsurin@gmail.com

Upcoming events in July

1. Parish Pastoral Seminar on July 13-14, 2022

The SVD Parish Pastoral Seminar is scheduled to be on July 13-14, 2022 at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda. All the Priests involved in the Parish Pastoral Ministry are requested to attend this two days Seminar. (Arrival on July 12)

2. Province Recollections on July 15 & 17, 2022

The Province recollections are scheduled to be on July 15 & 17, 2022 at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda. All the *confreres* are requested to participate on any one of the days according to your convenience. (Arrival 8:30am, Talks 9:00am -1:00pm)

3. Joint meeting: Area Coordinator, District Superiors, and Provincial Council on July 16, 2022

The Joint Meeting of the Area coordinators, District Superiors, and Provincial Council Members is scheduled on July 16, 2022 at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda. (Arrival 8:30am, Session 9:00am -12:30pm)

4. Young Confreres Gathering (0-5 years Ordination) on July 26-27, 2022

All the young confreres belonging to the ordination batches 2018-2022 are requested to attend this gathering without fail. It is conducted at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda. (Arrival on July 25, Sessions on 26 &27)

For the above mentioned programs kindly inform Fr. Valentine Surin, SVD, *Praeses*, Shanti Bhavan, about your arrival and stay at Shanti Bhavan.

Kindly note: All the parish priests and area coordinators kindly prepare a short report about your ministry for the presentation during the seminars.

New District Superior and the Councillors

The following Confrere is appointed District Superior (due to the transfer and new appointment):

District	Dist. Superior	Vice Dist. Superior	Admonitor
Jharsuguda	Fr. Christopher, G. John	Fr. Christopher, Kerketta	Bro. Oscar, Tete

May God's abundant blessing and enlightenment rain down on the new district council team and every success in their endeavors. To the outgoing District Superior, a sincere thanks for all that he had contributed to the growth of the province by his collaboration.

Birthdays of our Confreres

June 2022			
John Barwa (Abp)	01.06.1955	Herman Minj	19.06.1967
Marianayagam	01.06.1961	Bulu Birender Kujur	26.06.1978
Alphonse Bilung (Bp)	05.06.1933	Peter Vattakeril	26.06.1940
Lawrence Lakra	07.06.1950	George Karedan	26.06.1951
P. Justin Jayaraj	10.06.1977	Kurian T.K.	27.06.1947
Naveen Prashanth Pinto	15.06.1983	Paul Moras	29.06.1948
Francis Soreng	16.06.1948	Joseph Kerketta*	29.06.1932
July 2022			
Lancy Rodrigues	05.07.1955	Joseph Sarpirasadam	16.07.1967
Jay Prakash Kullu*	06.07.1967	David Charls (EIP)	17.07.1997
Sunil Kujur (Frt)	07.07.1992	Nirmal Lawrence	21.07.1975
Suman Dungkung	09.07.1967	Christopher Kerketta	25.07.1972
Parash Prasan Kujur	11.07.1990	Clement Kerketta	29.07.1975
Joseph Mannampampil	14.07.1943	Tejkumar Lugun	31.07.1965

Our Departed Relative

+ Mr. K. C. Thomas, eldest brother-in-law, of Fr. Kurian Arimattam, died on May 26, 2022

Obituary of Fr. Julius Ekka, SVD

(27.03.1931 - 21.06.2022)



Julius Lakra was born on March 27, 1931 to Late Mr. Carolus Lakra and Mrs. Mariam Kujur at Hethbahal-Laing Colony, in Kesramal, Parish. He was blessed with five elder brothers and two younger sisters. He hailed from a very pious and devoted family. He did his primary schooling at Kesramal from 1944-1949. In 1953 he completed his secondary education at Hamirpur. He nurtured a great desire to become a priest since his early days. After high school, he joined the Society of the Divine Word in 1953 at Catholic Ashram, Palda, Indore.

Along with the juniorate course in Palda, he also did his Pre-Degree course from 1953-1955. He did his novitiate from 1956-1958 at Catholic Ashram, Khurda. He made his First Vows in 1958. From 1958-1964 he did his Philosophical and Theological Studies at Pontifical Athenaeum, Poona. He made his final vows in 1964 and was ordained a priest in the same year on November 26.

Fr. Julius was assigned to the then Sambalpur Mission (now INE Province). He arrived in the Mission in 1965.

His assignments in the Mission:

1965: Teacher, New Orissa High School, Gaibira

1969: Secretary, Jhunmur High School

**1972: Director, Brother Formation House and
In-Charge, Quasi Parish, Bagdehi
(1974-1975 Nemi Course, Rome)**

1979: Assistant Parish Priest, Kantapali

1981: Assistant Parish Priest, Birmitrapur

1984: Parish Priest, Phalsa

1989: Parish Priest, Kiralega

1994: Parish Priest, Quasi Parish, Hemgir

2002: Assistant Parish Priest, Saunamara

2008: Retired to Janssen Bhavan, Jharsuguda

Simplicity was the hallmark of his priestly life. His dealings were cordial; one never heard him shout at or scold the people. He was a committed missionary. He seldom took holidays to visit his family members. He was always ready to take up any assignment.

Fr. Julius was economically very conscious and was careful about the proper use of money and materials. He reached out to poor students who needed help for their education. He also helped the sick people in their time of need. In every mission he was, he tried various means (like raising chicken and goats) to achieve self-sufficiency.

Fr Julius was a man of prayer. He would never neglect his prayer life. He was regular in celebrating Holy Eucharist, praying the breviary, rosary, attending recollections and retreats. He was a great devotee of Mother Mary. To whichever parish he was assigned, he made sure to build a grotto if there wasn't one. Even as a retired priest at Janssen Bhavan, he spent lot of his time praying the rosary.

Fr. Julius maintained rather good health most of his life. In the course of last four years or so, he was mostly consigned to his bed, due to the loss of sight and feeble legs. During the early hours of June 21, 2022, he quietly slipped into eternal life. In the death of Fr. Julius, the Province has lost its second oldest member who died at the age of 91 (the first being late Fr. James Arackal who died at the age of 93).

The funeral services were held on June 22, 2022 at St. Arnold's Church, Jharsuguda and his mortal remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Shanti Bhavan.

May he Rest in Peace!

MY PROGRAMME

June

25 : Bestowal of the Mission Cross, Divya Jyoti SVD Seminary, Sason

July

2-3 : Provincial Council Meeting, Tentoloi
13-14 : Parish Pastoral Seminar, Jharsuguda
15 : First Province Recollection, Jharsuguda
16 : Joint Meeting, Jharsuguda
17 : Second Province Recollection, Jharsuguda
26-27 : Young Confreres Gathering, Jharsuguda

Yours in the Divine Word

PKullu

Fr. Petrus Kullu, SVD
Provincial Superior, INE

**Keep joyful courage and do not hesitate if the cross that you carry seems sometimes to be raw, hard, and too heavy and has sharp edges. Everthing will end, but the eternal reward for it will never end.
-St. Arnold Janssen**

News from the Generalate

The following is the Nemi Course Schedule for the year 2023-2024 at the *Centro Ad Gentes* in Nemi:

DATES	COURSE	FOR WHOM?	Application Deadline
13 February to 14 May 2023	SSpS -SVD JOINT TERTIATE RENEWAL COURSE IN SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE Venue: Begins in Nemi and ends in Steyl (includes Oies).	Confreres: 40 to 65 years of age, a minimum of 10 years after Perpetual Vows (Const. 519.1)	13 August 2022
3 August to 24 November 2023	SVD TERTIATE RENEWAL COURSE IN ENGLISH Venue: Begins in Steyl and ends in Nemi (includes Oies)	Confreres: 40 to 65 years of age, a minimum of 10 years after Perpetual Vows (Const. 519.1)	01 February 2023
10 October to 25 November 2023	SVD THIRD AGE COURSE IN SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE Venue: Begins in Steyl and ends in Nemi (includes Oies)	Senior Confreres: Over 65 years of age in goodhealth	10 April 2023
4 July to 31 August 2023	DEI VERBUM COURSE IN ENGLISH Venue: Nemi	SVD confreres, Diocesan priests, Religious and lay persons (both men and women), Age: under 60 Actively involved in Bible Apostolate	10 February 2023
1 March to 31 May 2024	SVD TERTIATE RENEWAL COURSE IN BAHASA-INDONESIA Venue: Begins in Nemi and ends at Steyl (includes Oies)	Confreres: 40 to 65 years of age, a minimum of 10 years after Perpetual Vows (Const.519.1). Those up to 72 years of age (in good health) are also eligible	31 August 2023
6 August to 28 November 2024	SVD TERTIATE RENEWAL COURSE IN ENGLISH Venue: Begins in Steyl and ends in Nemi (includes Oies)	Confreres: 40 to 65 years of age, a minimum of 10 years after Perpetual Vows (Const. 519.1)	31 January 2024

Confreres interested to attend the Nemi Course, kindly send a request letter to the Provincial's Office.

News from the National Formation Secretary

Dear Confreres,

We are just about to begin the new academic year. At this time I would like to remind you of the two important programmes involving the formators lined up for the first half of the academic year. I am sending this reminder in view of giving you sufficient time to make your travel arrangements and booking your Journey tickets.

1) Formators'Seminar

First Batch: 12-13 August (arrival on 11th, departure from 14th)

Second Batch: 16-17 August (arrival on 15th, departure from 18th)

Venue: Snehalaya Convention Centre, Indore

Please make up your mind as to which slot you will choose and let me know in advance through email or phone/Whatsapp (94200 80715). As you may have been informed by your Provincial/Regional Superior, it is mandatory for all formators to participate in this event.

2) Formation Board Meeting (General Body)

Date: 16-17 September 2022 (arrival on 15th, departure 18th)

Venue: Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda

Please remember that we are going to have this opportunity for a face-to-face meeting after a gap of two years. Please make sure that all members of the Formation Board (Rectors/Praeses of all formation communities) are present for the meeting. Kindly make your travel arrangements early enough.

Thanking you and with every good wish, I remain.

-Fr. Thomas Malipurathu, SVD
National Fromation Secretary, INDIA
9420080715
malipurathu@gmail.com