



Thomas the Doubter to Thomas the Model Believer

A Persian Proverb goes this way, “Doubt is the key to Knowledge”. Needless to say, doubt precedes knowledge. Importing this idea into our Christian understanding, it would not be out of place to say that doubt precedes faith. In fact, faith that has not first wrestled with doubt may not be faith at all. This we see in the person of St. Thomas, the Apostle, whose doubt wrestled with his faith, leading to his profession of faith in Christ: “My Lord and my God”; and this has come to serve as the basis of our faith. Thanks to the necessary doubt of St. Thomas!

Thomas doubted, but he decided to move from doubt to faith, from scepticism to trust, and from fear to the courage of giving up his life in martyrdom for what he had come to believe.

When Thomas surrendered and confessed, My Lord and My God, we get the corresponding beatitude which Jesus proclaims (*Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe*). This is addressed to us who, following a journey of faith, in an attitude of complete abandonment, arrive at the risen Christ. Living by faith is not easy. Yet, it is the very foundation for living as a disciple. Thomas the doubter became the Thomas the model believer, an example for each one of us.

St John Maria Vianney was a man with a vision. Jesus Christ was the centre and purpose of his life. We all know of his heroic ministry to the people of Ars. His passion for souls exemplified in the confessional, sometimes up to 16 hours a day; His love for the priesthood, the Mass and the Sacraments, his devotion to the sick, spiritual direction, charitable works, and many others pastoral duties.

We love to hear Benedict XVI tell us that “the teaching which continues to be handed on from St John-Mary Vianney to us is that, at the foundation of his pastoral commitment, the priest must have an intimate personal union with Christ, which he must cultivate and allow to grow day by day. It is only if he is in love with Christ that the priest can teach others about this union, this intimate friendship with the Divine Master, that he can touch the heart of people and open them up to the merciful love of the Lord. It is only in this way, therefore, that he will be able to hand on the enthusiasm and spiritual vitality to the communities with which the Lord entrusts him.”

In July and August, we will be remembering these two great saints. Both have exemplified life of witness. They lived a contrasting life but bearing witness to the same Lord and God, by their very life and mission. Let these saints inspire us in the coming months.

From the Leadership Team

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HISTORICAL AND MEMORABLE VISIT OF FR. SUPERIOR GENERAL

The much awaited visit of Fr. Superior General took place in INH from 6th to 16th of May. Very Rev. Fr. Paulus Budi Kledan, the Superior General of our Congregation arrived Hyderabad on May 5th evening. Prior to that he had completed his visit to INC and INE, braving the Indian summer. He visited good number of places in all districts and units, met practically all the confreres individually and in the Districts, celebrated Eucharist, interacted with the lay collaborators in our institutions and parishes, humbly accepted our hospitality and celebrations, participated and added grace to two of our Jubilees in Chennai and Trichy, cherished the love and affection of our confreres and went back with grateful memories.

In a special letter to the administration Fr. General writes, “It has been almost a month since I came back from my visit to your province. Due to my limited time, I could not visit all the places of the confreres. And yet, the well planned program allowed me to meet confreres from all the districts. And it was commendable from Fr. Santhuraj, that all confreres were encouraged and given the possibility to talk individually with me. These meetings (individual and as district), as well as the encounter with the people whom you serve (in the schools, hostels, social service centers, parishes and retreat centers), are for me very enriching and inspiring. They also help me to learn about the joys and challenges the confreres are facing in their life and mission as members of the Society”.

“20 years ago, the INH province was created when the then INS was divided into two provinces: INM and INH. In these 20 years, a lot has been done to develop the mission and sustain the religious life of the confreres. Confreres are involved in diverse ministries: Parish. Education (schools and hostels), centre for social services and retreat centres. The schools are still in the process of recovery after two years of lock down due to Covid 19 pandemic. The centres for social service are rendering important service to the marginalized ones: the lepers, the girls and boys affected with HIV-AIDS, the refugees (from Srilanka). I commend you for all these missionary activities.

The province is hosting four formation houses. This year we celebrate the silver jubilee of the Divine Word Centre (SVD Seminary) Chennai and 60 years of Saint Charles Seminary, Trichy. The celebrations were well organized, with the attendance of a good number of confreres and our lay partners. Formation is a very important contribution of the province to the whole Society. In the name of the Society, I want to thank you and all the confreres of the province for this ministry. At the same time, I want to encourage you to continue identifying and preparing confreres to work as formators. Ensure that the formation houses are well staffed with members of different cultural backgrounds. A matter of concern is the dwindling number of the students in the minor seminaries. Therefore, the province had made a priority to enhance the vocation promotion”.

We thank you Fr. General for venturing and braving the heat of summer in India. Your visit, simplicity and encouraging words have strengthened our resolve to recommit ourselves wholeheartedly to the mission and ministry. On behalf of the INH province I thank you for your time, energy, affection and concern as a fellow confrere and as the Superior General of the Society. Your visit will remain historical and memorable.



19TH GENERAL CHAPTER: THEME AND GUIDE FOR COMMUNAL REFLECTION

The theme for the 19th General Chapter has been announced on 27th January 2022.

“Your Light Must Shine Before Others” (Mt.5-16)

Faithful and Creative Disciples in a Wounded World

“Understanding the context of the World today and the 150th anniversary of the Society of the Divine Word, the objective of this General Chapter is to enhance our growing in authentic discipleship by strengthening our identity, being creative in our ways of proclamation and witnessing to Christ in a wounded world”.

The theme and the guide for communal reflections have already been sent to you in the form of soft copy as well as hard copy. Confreres need to come together in July and spend quality time discussing and reflecting over the theme and the subsequent questions that are given in the guide materials. I request the district superiors and the Unit leaders to convene a meeting and deliberate. Kindly send us the report in both forms (soft and hard) latest by 25th of July. A team will collate and prepare the same for further discussion during the missionary meeting. I request you to spend time on this important endeavor of the Society.

MISSIONARY MEETING AND FELICITATING THE CARDINAL ELECT AT ARNOLD BHAVAN

The annual missionary meeting will be held on **August 9th at Arnold Bhavan**. The meeting will begin at 9AM and will end by 4 PM. At 6 PM we will have Cardinal elect, His eminence **Dr. Poola Anthony**, the Archbishop of Hyderabad with us to celebrate the Eucharist. At the end of the Mass we will felicitate him and have dinner with him. Formally we will also inaugurate the celebrations of 50 years of SVD Presence in A. P. and Telangana. I request all the confreres to remain till dinner to felicitate the Cardinal Elect. Those who come from far can plan their return journey next day. Hearty welcome.

SCHOOLS AFTER THE PANDEMIC

The most affected institutions in our province during the pandemic were the Schools. Schools in Telangana and Tamilnadu have begun in all earnestness. The Schools in A. P. begin from 4th July. Our Principals and the School staff are putting all their focus and energy to revive and redeem the life and mission of our schools. All our schools are getting good number of new admissions. Hopefully everything will be back to normal in a couple of months. The additional constructions of toilets, labs and class rooms are nearing completion both in Patancheru and R. C. Puram. The new block construction of KG and Administration in R. C. Puram has also begun in May after a long struggle to get the necessary permissions from the GHMC.

The results at a glance:

	Appeared	Passed	Percentage
St. Arnold's High School, Medarametla	136	132	97%
St. Joseph's High School, Addanki	30	29	97%
St. Arnold's Matric. High School, Trichy	37	37	100%

The result in Telangana is not yet out.

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF ST. CHARLES' APOSTOLIC SCHOOL, TRICHY

“Six decades of vocational commitment deserves a grateful acclamation; 60 years of dedicated service to the Word in the world merits a meaningful celebration. With God’s blessings and support of many of our confreres, friends and benefactors, the diamond jubilee of St. Charles’ Apostolic School, Trichy was celebrated on May 12, 2022 in a joyful and meaningful way. His Grace A. Durai Raj SVD, the Archbishop of Bhopal, Most Rev. Arockiaraj, the Bishop of Trichy, Rev. Fr. Budi Kleden, the SVD Superior General, Fr. I. Santhuraja SVD, the Provincial Superior of INH Province, Provincial Superiors of INM, INC, INE and ING and many of the sons of St. Charles, friends, lay partners and benefactors graced the occasion with their esteemed presence.

His Grace Durai Raj SVD, the main celebrant of the diamond jubilee Holy Eucharist, thanked God for the showers of blessing this institution received during the past 60 years of service to God and the Church. Rev. Fr. Budi Kleden in his homily highlighted that this jubilee is a moment of Joy for what God has given to the SVD through this seminary. He also reminded that this celebration is an occasion to recall and embrace the spirit of sacrifice with which Fr. Karl Ritz and the pioneering missionaries worked to fulfill the task that was entrusted to them. Finally, he reiterated that this landmark event invites us to become people who have a heart open to embrace the world in line with the internationality and interculturality of SVD. The Holy Mass was followed by a colorful cultural program where the dignitaries were felicitated and the confreres who contributed to the growth of this institution were honored. The celebration ended with a festive meal.

Indeed, the Diamond Jubilee of St. Charles’ Apostolic school, Trichy is an important milestone in its history and a proud moment for all those who are associated with it. The meaningful celebration in the presence of many dignitaries, confreres and friends was indeed a fitting way of expressing our gratitude to God for the abundant blessings received throughout the past 60 years. It was also a meaningful way of recognizing the tremendous contribution of Fr. Karl Ritz SVD who founded this seminary 60 years ago and the many confreres who put on the mantle of taking his legacy forward through their commitment, hard work and sacrifice. We wish that this celebration brings greater renewal and commitment to take the great legacy of this institution forward. May this seminary continue to achieve greater success, reach bigger milestones and contribute more to the SVD worldwide mission, which was the dream of Fr. Karl Ritz SVD, the founder of this seminary”.

INH Provincial administration congratulates Fr. Rector, staff and students of St. Charles Seminary for the wonderful jubilee celebrations. May it grow and turn to Platinum and centenary..





Divine Word Centre, SVD – Seminary in Chennai celebrates its Silver Jubilee

The Philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer once observed: “Most people take the limits of their vision to be the limits of the world. A few do not. Join them” A profound point to be pondered at this juncture when the Divine Word Centre celebrated its Silver Jubilee to thank God for his innumerable mercies. Our Founder St. Arnold Janssen did not set a limit to our vision and mission to the world. The Divine Word Centre at Chennai joined him with the chorus of: *Remember – Rejoice and Renew* for the Jubilee celebration.

The Divine Word Centre's clock started ticking on June 18, 1997 when this common graduation centre for the SVD scholastics was set up by the Society of the Divine Word. This study house was blessed by Most. Rev. Dr. Aruldas James, the then Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore Diocese, and was inaugurated by the then provincial superior of India-South Province (INS) Fr. Augustine Kanjamala SVD, Fr. Ashok Kumar SVD was the first Rector of this common formation house. We are proud to note over 500 students have passed through the portals of this seminary till date.

On Tuesday, May 10, 2022 the community of the Divine Word Centre joined His Grace, Most. Rev. Alangaram Durairaj SVD, the Archbishop of Bhopal Archdiocese, His Excellency Most. Rev. A. Neethinathan, the Bishop of Chengalpattu Diocese, Fr. Paulus Budi Kleden SVD, the Superior General of the Society of the Divine Word to celebrate the thanksgiving Eucharist in the premises of the Divine Word Centre. Led by Fr. I. Santhuraja SVD, the Provincial Superior of India-Hyderabad Province, the Provincials and Regional of India sub-zone with the religious and array of well-wishers of the seminary, after having blessed the newly erected grotto of St. Arnold Janssen and St. Joseph Freinademetz marched towards the altar with the symbolic cultural and pluralistic oeuvre of our Indian continent by our brothers. The jubilee celebration was further highlighted by the presence of Fr. L. Stanislaus, SVD, the General Mission Secretary, Fr. Pushpa Anbu SVD the General Formation Secretary, Fr. Thomas Malipurathu SVD, the India Sub-Zonal Formation Secretary. To mark this historical turn of the seminary; Rev. Fr. Superior General released the memorable Souvenir depicting the momentous development of the Seminary. Bishop Neethinathan released the Jubilee special, a reflective book titled, *Ennangal Uyarattum (May your thoughts ascend higher)*, a Tamil book by Fr. G. Lazar. SVD.

'25-years' is not a long time in the history of an institution but the Divine Word Centre, Chennai has stitched a place for itself in the fabric of formation for global mission by the Society of the Divine Word. Only a small percentage of the 500 youth who have come out of DWC contributed to this effort, but this is only a harbinger of greater things to come.

Divine Word Centre thanks Fr. I. Santhuraja SVD, the Provincial Superior and his council for their wholehearted support. flanked by other Major Superiors of our Indian SVD circle. We express our heartfelt sincere word of appreciation to all our Indian SVD Provincials and Regional Superiors. A simple melody of thanks goes to all the lovely confreres for their prayers and valuable presence during the celebrations.

Time in its flight has taken us along with the ideals of our founder St. Arnold Janssen firmly rooted in the spirit and strengthened to meet the challenges ahead, enriching the content of the formation programme of this house. Thanks one and all.





The Provincial administration congratulates and thanks Fr. Rector, staff and students for the beautiful celebration on 10th May this year. May it grow more to turn gold and diamond.
Diamond Jubilee at St. Charles Seminary, Trichy

FORMATORS' WORKSHOP

As already announced, a national workshop for all our formators are arranged in two batches in August (12-13, 16-17). All our formators are expected to attend a workshop according to the convenience of your Formation house. The workshop is held at Snehalaya, Indore coordinated by Fr. Thomas Malipurathu, the National Formation Secretary.

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 Formations Secretary, INDIA

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IPF MEETINGS AT JHARSUGUDA

IPF meeting will be held on 19-20. All those who are to attend these meetings kindly plan your journeys as per your schedule.(Arrival on 18th and departure on 21st)

PROVINCE ANNUAL RETREAT

As announced earlier, our Province annual retreat will be held from 3rd to 7th of October at Arnold Bhavan. Fr. Tony Menezes SVD, the Director of Atma Dharshan has kindly consented to Preach the retreat. The retreat begins on 2nd evening and ends on 7th evening. Confreres in our province are expected to attend annual retreat in the province at least once in two years. Of course all are expected to make an annual retreat every year according to our constitutions.

Retreats in other Provinces

INC Oct. 2-7, 10-15 Fr. Cyril doss SVD

INM Nov.27 -02nd Dec. 2022, 22January-27 2023(Fr. Alvito Fernandes OCD)

Transfers and Appointments.

Fr. Robert Fernandes:	HM and Correspondent, St. Mary's PSM High School, Sadashivepet
Fr. Vijay Basker:	HM and Correspondent, St. Joseph's High School. Parish Priest, Holy Family Church, Addanki
Fr. Arockiadoss:	District Superior, Guntur District
Fr. Florence Minz:	Admonitor, Sangareddy District.

My Programme

July 01- visit to Addanki

July 02- Rudrasamudhram

Evening-Inaugural Mass at Jyothi Niketan, Narasaraopet.

03-Medarametla

10- Inaugural Mass at St. Charles Seminary, Trichy

21- Visit to Jogipet

22- Visit to Nizampet

23-DWES General Body and Governing Body Meetings

26- St. Ann's Feast, BHEL

31- Parish Feast, St. Alphonsa's Church, MIG

August 02- Meeting with the Archbishop of Madurai

3-5 Visit to DWS, Pune, Subzone Provincial's Meet

9- Missionary Meeting, Felicitating the Cardinal Elect.

10- Provincial Council Meeting along with the Coordinators of CDs

14-16, Visit to DWC, Chennai, St. Xavier's Church, Madhanagar.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY

03- Varkey V.

07- Suresh Madhavaram

13- Peter Thomas

16- Arul Stephen

20- Dominic Ekka

22- Mascarenhas Alwin

27- S. David Raj

30- James Raj Y.

AUGUST

03- R. Antonysamy

09- Lawrence Boss

10- Joseph Babu

15- Paul Jeyakumar

21- Thumma Thomas

23- S. Jeyaraj

30- Felix Roche

Happy Birthday

Sending you best wishes for
success, health, and good fortune
today and in the year to come.



Fr. I. Santhuraja

Provincial Superior – INH