



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

INDIA MUMBAI PROVINCE (INM)



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ENLARGE THE SPACE OF YOUR TENT

The Synod General Secretariat in Rome has come out with the Working Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod on Synodality and in order to help the faithful to understand this stage, the Working Document has used an image from the book of Isaiah 54:2: “Enlarge the space of your tent”. The image of a tent envisions the church as “an expansive, but not homogeneous dwelling, capable of sheltering all, but open, letting in and out, and moving toward embracing the Father and all of humanity.”, and therefore, the challenge before us is to embrace this vision of a Church which is more inclusive, welcoming and creating not only symbolizes a more out to welcome all nationality and status but the people on their journey.



space for others. This image expansive Church stretched irrespective of colour, creed, also one that accompanies

Our journey of communion, began six years ago, when announced the election new INM provincial April 2017, the then leadership team and all the confreres in the province, graciously enlarged the tent and made space for us to continue the ministry of animation, coordination and administration, “exercised in the spirit of the Gospel with the aim of helping the Society and its members fulfil their original charism according to the Constitutions.” (HfS D1: 1.0) Now, after having completed our six years of leadership mission, we are called upon to let in and make space for another provincial leadership team so that they can move in and build on the foundation laid over the years and carry on the mission of service. The announcement of the new incumbents by the Superior General on 28th February 2023 has ushered in a youthful and dynamic team under the leadership of Fr. Tomy Perumprayil. So, with joyful and grateful disposition, we, the members of the present leadership team along with all the confreres and lay partners, extend our wholehearted congratulations to the new team as we pray, may the favour of the Holy Triune God, intercession of our saints - St. Arnold Janssen and St. Joseph Freinademetz and our prayers and cooperation may embolden them to actualize the vision of our province: “Rooted in the Love of the Father and Led by the Holy Spirit into the Mission of Christ.”

participation and mission the Fr. Superior General results and appointed the leadership team. On 2nd

We considered the ministry of leadership entrusted to us for the past six years as a privilege and responsibility entrusted to us by the Triune God to serve the Society of the Divine Word particularly the India Mumbai province in collaboration with our confreres. We began the journey believing that God has brought us into the tent for a while so that we can show His care and concern for the confreres and work

for the wholesome development of the province. The past six years have been incredible years of grace, divine providence, human commitment and dedicated service. These positive experiences and sentiments encouraged us and motivated us to carry out all the interactions, processes of decision making and leadership service keeping in mind the good of the confreres, the people we serve, the Society and the church at large.

Since graciousness was shown to us as we entered the tent and benevolence was our experience right from the outset, we could embark on the journey of leadership from a base of openness, truthfulness and common good in mind and as a result during the course of our ministry, we witnessed the depth of love, enthusiastic commitment and generous service in the province. These aspects made our going out and coming in and our journey of accompaniment comfortable, satisfying and life enhancing. We, the outgoing leadership team, have learnt many valuable lessons which have evangelized us and shaped us into better persons and better missionary disciples. We consider these as our divine blessings and fraternal rewards. We thank God for his abundant graces and we thank each one of you for your encouragement in words and often in silent nods, which became the nourishment for our team work and committed service.

Being in the tent of leadership and journeying with the Society, confreres, lay partners, dialogue partners and collaborators, we were able to understand what the Lord wants of us; and we wholeheartedly, worked to realize the priorities set by the General Chapter and Provincial Chapters. We made a conscious choice and unswerving commitment to a few of the priorities especially ensuring the well-being of all the confreres; fostering life-enhancing community life; facilitating team work and collaboration; planning and training of personnel, strengthening the mission among the marginalized especially the children, youth, tribals and the migrants; promotion and formation of lay partners; regularizing the Trust/Society and property related matters; and ushering the province towards self-reliance through proper financial management and planning diverse income generating projects. We are happy to note that the concluding observations in the Protocol of 2023 General Visitation recapitulate our presence and mission in the following way, “SVD presence in India Mumbai Province is a story full of dedication to people, commitment to research and education, ... the care for the poor and marginalized, the children and youth. The example of the confreres who preceded continues to be your inspiration and encouragement. Your presence and mission in India have contributed to the welfare of the people and is a sign of the Kingdom of God...”

Being in the tent of INM province, making space for new members, new ideas, fresh opportunities and journeying together with all the stake holders, we have gained many blessings in the past six years, and above all, we have the satisfaction of giving our best through the leadership ministry. Fr. S. M. Michael, Fr. Nicolau D’Costa and I joyfully make space to welcome the new leadership team. Fr. Tomy Thomas and Fr. Richard Quadros along the new entrants - Fr. Raja Ratna Reddy, Fr. Victor Sagayam and Fr. Anthony Menezes will continue their journey of service with renewed commitment. Since the life and mission ahead will be satisfying, and at the same time challenging, we pray for the guidance of the Spirit so that the new team may perceive the mission ahead from the perspective of God and his people and serve joyfully. We are grateful to each confrere in the INM province for giving us the opportunity to be of some service in the fulfilment of our common vision and mission. We wish all the confreres especially the new leadership team the very best as we pray, ‘may your light shine before others and may you be faithful and creative disciples of the Lord in a wounded world’.

- **INM Leadership Team**

INM PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP TEAM 2023-2026



Fr. Tomy Perumprayil
Provincial Superior

Fr. Richard Quadros
Vice Provincial

Fr. Raja Ratna Reddy
Admonitor

Fr. Victor Sagayam
Councillor

Fr. Anthony Menezes
Councillor

Dear Confreres,

Our Superior General, Fr. Paulus Budi Kleden in his letter dated 28 February 2023 has appointed the following confreres to the Provincial Leadership Team of the India Mumbai (INM) Province, for the triennium 2023-2026. We congratulate them and assure our wholehearted cooperation and prayers. May the love of Christ impel them to be Rooted in the Word and Committed to God's Mission.

The installation of the new Provincial Superior, Fr. Tomy Perumprayil and his council members – Fr. Richard Quadros, Fr. Raja Ratna Reddy, Fr. Victor Sagayam and Fr. Anthony Menezes will take place at Atma Darshan chapel, Andheri on Monday, 3rd April 2023 at 6.30 p.m. during the Holy Eucharist. We extend a cordial invitation to all the confreres to join in this solemn and grace-filled celebration and the fellowship meal thereafter.

NEW PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP TEAMS – INDIA SUB-ZONE

| Province/Region | INM | INC | INH | ING (Region) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Provincial/Regional Superior | Fr. Perumprayil, Tomy Thomas | Fr. Rathinam Maria Paulraj | Fr. Igantius Santhuraja | Fr. A., Jeevan Kennady |
| Vice Provincial/Regional Superior | Fr. Quadros, Richard | Fr. Kujur, Sanjay | Fr. Nagothu, Ananda Raju | Fr. Ezhuthupallickal, Manoj Anthony |
| Admonitor | Fr. Singareddy, Raja Ratna Reddy | Fr. Wakhla, John | Fr. Stanislaus, Lawrence Bose | Fr. D'Silva, Ivan |
| Councillor | Fr. Zackarias, Victor Sagayam | Fr. Khess, Clement | Fr. Yaram, Fathima Ravikumar Reddy | Fr. Lakra, Nabin Roshan |
| Councillor | Fr. Menezes, Anthony | Fr. Karakombil, Babu | Fr. Kutanimattahil, Pious Thomas | Fr. Miranda, Clemente |

We congratulate the New Provincial Leadership Teams of other SVD Provinces/Region and pray for God's abundant blessings on their leadership ministry.

WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE ST. THERESA'S CHURCH, BANDRA

“Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord” (Jeremiah 17:7).



In 1997, Pope St. John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on 2nd February. To mark this special day, the consecrated men and women belonging to Society of the Divine Word (SVD), Society of St. Paul (SSP), Daughters of St. Paul (DSP) and Carmelite Sisters of St. Theresa (CSST), all belonging to our parish, were invited for a concelebrated mass and fellowship meal. It was heartening to see 43 religious, along with the parishioners, walk into the church in procession with lit candles for the 7 p.m. Mass. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Donald D'Souza, SVD, the Provincial Treasurer, who in his homily emphasized the need to enlarge the place of our tent (Is 54:2) and be joyful religious, in order to be effective in our ministry and to bear witness to Christ in today's world. All the religious fervently renewed their commitment during the mass. Later, they enjoyed a fellowship meal in the parochial house. This rare gathering of such a large number of religious for the Eucharist inspired many parishioners. Thanks to Cheryl Anne and her choir, whose angelic singing made the liturgy solemn and meaningful.

RENEWAL PROGRAMME ORDINATION/FINAL VOWS BATCHES 1978 - 1985



A three days' renewal programme for the confreres of India Subzone, Ordination/Final Vows batches of 1978 to 1985 was organized at Arnold Bhavan, Hyderabad from 6 - 8 February 2023. Fr. Gratian Carlo, SJ was the resource person. Altogether there were 39 participants including twelve confreres from INM. The Renewal Programme began with the Inaugural Mass officiated by Fr. Ignatius Santhuraja, INH Provincial Superior. In his homily, he urged the confreres to become aware of the presence of God in their life journey and share their experiences with each other. The sessions commenced with the installation of the Bible, lighting of lamp and opening prayer by the organizer, Fr. Luis Ronald Pereira, Sub-zone Mission Secretary.

The three days' sessions were on the theme: “Psycho-spiritual maturity and integration.” The focus was ‘inward looking’ to make one's life more effective. Fr. Gratian in his presentation helped the participants to see the common assumptions, needs, attitudes and values that hinder one from achieving the goal of becoming like Christ. He explained the psychodynamics of every participant to make the participants aware of their needs and values. He stressed the importance of taking care of the dissonant needs and adapt oneself to the consonant or neutral needs for better functioning and fruitfulness in our lives. He also dealt with the topics such as - effective management of emotions, self-image, interpersonal relationships, influencing, empowering communication, care-fronting, etc. The renewal programme created a lot of awareness among the participants about their personal styles of functioning and made them realize some of the areas they need to change. The last session was dedicated for the sharing by the participants about their learnings/insights and steps towards improvement. Governing Body of India Sub-Zone was thanked for organizing the renewal programme. A special note of appreciation was expressed to the Mission Secretary of India Sub-Zone, Fr. Luis Ronald Pereira for planning and organizing the programme.

CHOTANAGPUR MIGRANTS' TRIP TO GOA ST. ARNOLD SPORTS CLUB, BANDRA



St. Arnold Sports Club consists of Chotanagpur migrants from Bandra (W) area. It was a long-awaited dream of the club members to go on a tour to Goa. The main aim of such a tour was to strengthen the group and also to have a network with the migrant activities in Goa. On Sunday, 12th February morning, forty-five members of the club arrived at SVD Seminary, Raia. All were warmly welcomed by the Rector, Fr. Joaquim and Br. Vincent. After the Sunday Mass the group left for Goa Darshan and visited the Big Foot Museum in Loutolim and Colva beach. In the afternoon, they had an interaction with the Chotanagpur migrants from Goa at the Raia seminary. Kudos to Fr. Michael Pereira, who organized a friendly football match between Chotanagpur Youth Group, Goa and St. Arnold's Sports Club, Bandra, which was won

by the Youth Group, Goa. The following day the group visited old Goa, mainly the churches such as Basilica of Bon Jesus and the Cathedral. Members spent time in prayer and sightseeing at beaches, markets, and Dona Paula beach. After the tour, the Raia community served a sumptuous dinner to the visitors. The St. Arnold Sports Club is grateful to Fr. Joaquim, Fr. Michael, and Br. Vincent for their hospitality. All the members having enjoyed the hospitality of our confreres and cherished their tour to Goa returned to Mumbai joyfully.

ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION ARNOLD NIVAS, KIREM



Arnold Nivas, a home for senior citizens, has been a ray of hope for the elderly for the past 9 years. More than 80 elderly people have benefitted from this institution. In the spirit of our founder, St. Arnold Janssen, we have been trying to witness to the love of God through our compassionate service to these elderly inmates; and confidently, we can affirm that the final years of these inmates here are happier and serene. At present, there are 20 inmates (both male & female). On the 18th of February, the annual day was celebrated to thank the Lord for the protection and the blessings received during the year. Due to Covid pandemic and the associated challenges, the annual day celebration could not be celebrated for the past 2 years, but this year God granted us the opportunity to celebrate the day together with the SVD confreres, priests and

religious from the Deanery and from the Diocese, family members and relatives of the inmates, neighbours and ward members, benefactors and well-wishers. The day was marked by the solemn Eucharistic celebration, officiated by the Dean Rev. Fr. Oswald Monteiro and concelebrated by 11 priests and a good number of faithful participating in it. In his homily, Fr. Oswald highlighted the role of a missionary, by saying that "A Missionary first of all experiences the intimacy with God by spending quality time with him, listening and learning from the master and saviour, and thus empowered, proceeds to become a good news through extending the same experience of being with the Lord to the people he

meets”. He highlighted the life of our founder and gratefully acknowledged the service SVDs render to the church through the missionary activities. The melodious hymns sung by the parish choir led by Mr. Clifford Leo D’Souza, enabled all to experience the divine presence.

After the Mass, there was a short entertainment programme, presented by our own domestic staff and a few of our neighbours and the inmates, guided and directed by our collaborative staff belonging to



Bethany congregation, Sr. Meena and Sr. Janet. As part of the preparation for the annual day celebration, competitions were organized for inmates and the domestic staff. Bethany Mangalore province Provincial Sr. Cicilia Mendonca distributed the prizes to the winners. All the other inmates and the workers were given gifts. Fr. Maxim, Rector of St. Peter’s Apostolic School, anchored the programme, Fr. Cyprian proposed the vote of thanks, Fr. Melvine

(Director) presented the report and expressed gratitude to all the donors and honoured them by giving the Mementos. Fr. Praveen assisted in prize distribution and Fr. Walter Mendonca (Senior) said grace before the festive meal. Having spiritually nourished, physically enthused and mentally relaxed, all relished the festive meal. Arnold Nivas staff and inmates are grateful to all, for the prayers and support. “May the Heart of Jesus, live in the Hearts of all”.

HINDUSTANI VOCAL SINGING COMPETITION GYAN ASHRAM MUSIC AND DANCE ACADEMY



Gyan Ashram Music and Dance Academy conducted Hindustani vocal singing competition on 12th February for the students of the academy. Mr. Dhurendra Amkar one of the teachers of Hindustani vocal classes steered the efforts towards coordinating the competition. Mrs. Mansi Salunkhe also a Hindustani vocal teacher assisted the efforts. It was first of its kind after the long Covid and the exam breaks. The competition was accompanied by live

instrumental music. There were 35 contestants ranging from the age of 6 to 72. In each age group category three winners were declared who would be awarded the prizes on 25th February 2023 on the annual day of Gyan Ashram. Fr. Johny Panamthanam SSP who completed Prabhakar in Hindustani Vocals from Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad and Mrs. Mamta Khadilkar, a disciple of Archana Kanhere, who completed Sangeet Visharad in Hindustani vocal were the judges for the competition. The event was concluded by vote of thanks by Fr. Anil T Paul SVD the academy head.

GYAN ASHRAM DAY 2023

Gyan Ashram celebrated on 2023 in St. School and Hall. This evening was theme: “The



Life” emphasizing one’s focus, desire, passion and purpose of life to become the best-version of oneself. The cultural programme began at 6.00 pm with a Prayer Song invoking the blessings of God. Fr. Ronald

Day 2023 was 25th February Arnold’s High Junior College cultural based on the Rhythm of

D'Silva SVD, the Director of Gyan Ashram welcomed the Chief Guest, Miss. Marscha Fernandes, a renowned dancer and choreographer and a winner of Jhalak Dikhla Jaa (Season 4) on Sony Entertainment Television. The Guest of Honour was Fr. Ciril D'Souza SVD. The legacy of Guru Gyan Prakash, the Founder of Gyan Ashram was celebrated superbly by performing variety of Indian and Western songs and dances based on the theme. In her address to the students Ms. Marischa, the Chief Guest, gave an inspiring message, encouraging the students to excel in the field of music and dance, to believe in God who accompanies them every moment of their life and to work hard in order to be successful in their lives.

The Annual Report highlighted the achievements of the year. Gyan Ashram Media Centre has produced Over 131 audio-visual programs during the year while 19 other projects are in progress currently. As many as 380 students across all the subjects are undertaking studies at Gyan Ashram Music and Dance Academy currently. In western music 22 students gave the digital grade exams in Electronic Keyboard during the year. And in Indian Music and Dance exams a total of 44 students registered for the exam. Trophies were awarded to students who displayed excellence and outstanding talent in Music and Dance. Fr. Anil T Paul SVD, the HOD of Gyan Ashram Music and Dance Academy thanked all for being part of the Gyan Ashram Annual Day 2023 and making it a memorable one. Mr. Mark Fernandes, one of the music teachers anchored this event wonderfully. The event ended with the National Anthem.

SCC RALLY THERESA'S CHURCH, BANDRA



St. Theresa's parish was fortunate to have His Grace Most Rev. Alex Thomas Kaliyanil, SVD, the archbishop of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe as the main celebrant and guest of honour at the SCC rally on 5th February 2023. A large number of parishioners were present for this community day. The Hindi community, accompanied by melodious singers and dholaks, performed a graceful entrance dance, bedecked in their colourful red and green

saris as the main celebrant along with many SVD priests entered the church in the procession. In his stirring homily, the archbishop challenged the parishioners to be the light of Christ and salt of the earth, stand up for their rights and guide, lead and change others, keeping integrity uppermost always. During the cultural program that followed at the school quadrangle, Archbishop Alex stressed on 'Ubuntu' meaning 'humanity', translated as "I am because we are"! He explained that in Africa, everything is done together as a community – celebrations are all organised collectively and caring and sharing is the order of the day. This was a wonderful way of facing the challenges of life together, and being there for each other, a way of life worthy of emulation!

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY SACRED HEART CHURCH, ANDHERI

It is said, 'A perfect marriage is just two imperfect people who refuse to give up on each other'. On second Sunday of February, World Marriage Day is observed annually in dioceses and parishes throughout the world and serves as an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. As an annual parish event, the eagerly awaited Couples' Mass, organized by the Missionary Families of Christ (MFC) and the Family Cell, was celebrated 5.30 pm. The theme for the day was 'Love Works' – to remind us that marital love, by its



nature, is one of self-giving, mirroring the self-giving love of Jesus. The Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Brian Moras SDB, the main celebrant, along with Fr. Callisto Gomes SVD as concelebrant. It was a picturesque view as the couples lined up and entered the church along with the celebrants. It was as if they were getting married all over again. The Liturgy of the Mass was touching as the couples were led into a meaningful penitential rite followed by

an inspiring and lively homily by Fr. Brian.

He emphasized the importance of having a G.L.O.V.E in our relationship wherein:

- **L** – Love for each other;
- **O** – Other - we should give importance to each other in our married life;
- **V** – Vices - which should be avoided and reduced at all costs;
- **E** – Enjoy your married life each and every day of your life.
- However, the most important and above all is **G** – the importance of GOD in one’s daily life. Without GOD couples cannot experience genuine love and attain holiness.



The offerings made during the Eucharistic celebration included a special souvenir- ‘A love story by Luke’, Bible, fruits and bread and wine. Couples were led into a time of renewal of their marriage covenant - wherein couples held each other’s hands and meaningfully renewed their marriage vows. The celebrants blessed the couples by sprinkling of holy water while the congregation prayed. The couples were taken back in time to their own wedding

day celebrations. A special prayer ‘Marriage for Life’ was solicited for the couples. After the final hymn, the couples were blessed individually by the priests and the souvenirs were distributed. Although, we have been to and sung for many couples’ Masses over the years, this one would be very close to us as this was the first Mass as a couple for us.

MARATHI BHASHA DIWAS CELEBRATION ST. ARNOLD’S HIGH SCHOOL & JR. COLLEGE, ANDHERI



True to the spirit of SVD Interculturality, St. Arnold’s High School & Jr. College Andheri (East), celebrated Marathi Bhasha Diwas (Marathi Language Day) on 27th February 2023 to commemorate the birth anniversary of eminent poet, popularly known as “Kusumagraj”. Marathi being the official language of the state of Maharashtra, the main focus of this celebration was to promote and sustain the richness of Marathi culture among the young generation.

The celebration was aimed at fostering the rich history and literature associated with it among the Marathi-speaking community. The celebration was graced by the Principal Rev. Fr. Jossie Fernandes, Treasurer Rev. Fr. Callisto Gomes and Primary Headmistress, Mrs. Maria Rodrigues. The celebration began by the welcoming of the dignitaries with Lazim folk dance. The students performed a cultural programme showcasing the various aspects of the culture of Maharashtra. We at St. Arnold’s believe that exposing students to multiple languages enhances their access to people and resources for better communication and fruitful experiences. Learning different languages facilitates the students to gain better understanding and respect of varied cultures, customs and traditions. Students enjoyed the

celebration a lot as they got an opportunity to showcase their talents at the event. The celebration was a resounding success by the efforts of the management, students and the faculty members. The programme ended with the Marathi Abhiman Geet.

PASSION FOR THE LORD'S MISSION



On 15th January 2023, Anupama Subodhanan and Susan Noronha, SVD Lay Partners from Mumbai, participated in the SVD Mission Day at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Ambassa, Tripura in the India Guwahati Region (ING). The parishioners from SVD parishes - Ambassa, Kamaranga, Ganganagar, and Khwmlung, joined in the Eucharistic celebration presided over by the Regional Superior, Fr. Maxim Rodrigues; Parish Priest, Fr. Ivan D'Silva and confreres. Later, we talked to the congregation about our experience and love for the mission as SVD Lay Partners. A new SVD lay partner group from Tripura will soon be functional in the ING Region. Connecting with the people and being able to witness the initiation of the first lay group gave us immense joy.

We visited a few SVD communities and experienced the passion and dedication to the mission. Despite limited resources and competition from other Christian groups, our confreres remain optimistic and determined to provide education and spiritual guidance to the people, particularly children. Janssen Minor Seminary, Tezpur, Assam is a community that buzzes with life. Young confreres and seminarians from many tribes, cultures, and belief systems, let ordinary people like us appreciate the wonderful energy vibrating around.

The journey in the company of Fr. Maxim Rodrigues by road to the remote SVD missions has etched a deep and grateful place in our memory. The confreres strive every day through the challenges they face, to make the Lord's Word and His Way a reality. They have small goals and work strenuously to achieve them. Divine Word school, Chayang Tajo is a five-hour drive from Seppa, Arunachal Pradesh, through a twisting hill track and across the lush green mountains. Fr. Clement Miranda, the Principal of the school says that the residents here easily walk a few kilometers up and down these steep slopes every day. Two hours' drive down the slope is the Divine Word school, Nari Camp. People in Chayang Tajo and Nari Camp are from the Nyishi and Puroik tribes. To be accepted by these communities, one must be one of them, and our confreres have adjusted to their way of living. There is no doubt that our founder discovered the living Heart of Jesus in every human being and that his missionaries may reach the most remote places to announce the good news of love and hope to people.

NATIONAL BIBLICAL CONFERENCE



Isaiah 54:2 reads, "Enlarge the Space of your Tent". With this verse in mind, the National Biblical Conference for Priests and Religious was organized by the India Subzone Biblical Coordinator at Divine Word Centre, Vadipatti, Tamil Nadu, on February 11 and 12, 2023 with the focus, 'Moving towards a Synodal Church in Indian context'. Sixty four men and women religious from 16 different congregations participated in the seminar with Fr. Mohandass, Fr.

Wilson, Fr. Joe Prabhu, Fr. David and Fr. Cyril Edward as participants from INM province. Bp. Antonysamy Peter Abir, the Chairman of CCBI Bible Commission and the Bishop of Sultanpet delivered

the keynote address on the topic – ‘Enlarge the Space of Your Tent’ in which he reiterated the need of the Church to grow in symphony, solidarity and synergy and explained that we can’t journey ahead without journeying together. This was further enhanced by His Grace Antony Pappusamy, the Archbishop of Madurai during his Presidential Address wherein he explained that by virtue of Baptism we are all equals but with functional differences.

The two day seminar was vivaciously organised wherein experts presented their papers on the following topics: 1. The Concerns and Expectation of the Participatory Bodies in Indian Church from the Synod on Synodality 2. Synodality: Biblical Perspectives and Implications 3. Synodal Church: Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue and Dissent 4. Synodality and the Challenges of Religious life in India: Lukan Appeals and Contemporary Viabilities 5. Synodal Spirituality: Solidarity, Inclusion and Participation 6. Women in Synodal Church: Ideal and Real Challenges and 7. St. Paul and Synodality – Practical implications. The academic knowledge and practicality of the resource persons made the topics very appealing to the participants and helped them to connect with their life be it their personal, spiritual or community life. The papers presented also questioned the way of life we religious are living and suggested the solutions to better it and ultimately make the Church Synodal in nature and practice. The sessions ended with some personal introspection with regard to the lessons learned and how to apply those in one’s life and use them to live as free persons. Overall, the seminar though very academic, was also very much pastorally oriented as it had insights for the religious to better themselves first and then better others, ultimately enhancing the nature of the Church as walking in the footstep of Christ led by the Holy Spirit.

MY PROGRAMMES

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|---------------|--|
| 08 March 2023 | Silver Jubilee celebration, Holy Family Church, Marcela, Goa |
| 18 March 2023 | LCF Lenten Recollection, St. Theresa’s Church, Bandra |
| 18 March 2023 | SVD Mission Sunday, St. Theresa’s Church, Bandra |
| 03 April 2023 | Joint Meeting of INM Leadership Teams, Atma Darshan, Andheri |
| 03 April 2023 | Installation of the INM Provincial Leadership Team, Atma Darshan chapel, Andheri |
| 12 April 2023 | Joint Meeting of Subzone Provincial/Regional Superiors, SVD House, Guwahati |

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

04-05 April 2023
Atma Darshan, Andheri

In the Divine Word



**Richard Mathias SVD
Provincial Superior - INM**

‘Rooted in the love of the Father and led by the Holy Spirit into the Mission of Christ’

- INM Vision Statement