



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR

INDIA MUMBAI PROVINCE (INM)



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FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

June – July 2023

NEW BEGINNINGS AND FRESH STARTS

New beginnings and fresh opportunity to embark on. They bring a sense of chance to redefine. Whether it's starting a different place, ending a simply deciding to make beginnings can be transformative. One of the of new beginnings is the We have the chance to mistakes, regrets, and limitations, and approach life with a fresh perspective. It's a chance to learn from our previous experiences, grow from them, and apply the wisdom we've gained. New beginnings also inspire a sense of excitement and anticipation. They ignite a spark within us and awaken our motivation to pursue our dreams and aspirations. With a fresh start, we can set new goals, envision a brighter future, and take the necessary steps to achieve them. It's an opportunity to discover untapped potential within ourselves, community/institution.



starts offer us the a new chapter in our lives. hope, renewal, and the ourselves and our goals. new job, moving to a toxic relationship, or positive changes, new empowering and most remarkable aspects clean slate they provide. leave behind past

However, new beginnings can also be accompanied by feelings of uncertainty and fear of the unknown. Stepping out of our comfort zone and venturing into unfamiliar territory can be intimidating. We may encounter challenges and setbacks along the way, but it's important to remember that these obstacles are part of the journey. They provide valuable lessons, strengthen our resilience, and ultimately contribute to our personal development. Another important aspect of a new beginning is seeking support from others. No one can achieve individual/community/institutional goals alone, and having a support system can make all the difference. An African proverb says "if you want to walk fast then walk alone and if you want to walk far then walk together." We, in our SVD communities/institutions are "NOT A ONE-MAN TEAM" but learn to work with confreres, staff members and collaborators. Having someone to share our mission/journey with, and hold accountable can make a world of difference in achieving goals.

It is vital to identify the goals and aspirations for the institution/centre/community. What do you want to achieve both as individuals/community/institution? Setting goals and creating a plan of action is crucial for making progress towards a new beginning. It's important to be realistic about what can be achieved in a certain timeframe, but also to challenge to strive for growth and improvement. Also, it's essential to

approach the process with compassion (for self and others) and patience. Change takes time, and it's okay to stumble or make mistakes along the way. What matters is our ability to adapt, learn from our experiences, and keep moving forward. Surrounding ourselves with supportive individuals who believe in our potential can also make a significant difference in our journey. Ultimately, new beginnings and fresh starts are opportunities for reinvention and growth. They allow us to shed old patterns, embrace change, and create a life that aligns more closely with our authentic selves. So, embrace the possibilities, trust in your abilities, and embark on this new chapter with courage and optimism. Appreciate the good works of the ones who have taken care of the centres and handed over for your care. Your fresh start holds tremendous potential for a brighter future for the province, church and the society at large.

May the Lord journey with us as we start afresh this academic year and bless our endeavours

- INM Leadership Team

MANGAON: LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE NEW SCHOOL



A new leap in the chapters of the SVD Mission in the district of Raigad, Maharashtra commenced by laying the foundation stone for Saint Arnold's Central School, Mangaon on 29th May 2023. The ceremony was graced by Most Rev. Alwyn De Silva, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Bombay, Rev. Fr. Tomy Perumprayil SVD, the INM Provincial, SVD confreres, priests and nuns of Raigad deanery and parishioners of St. Arnold Parish, Mangaon. In his message to the august gathering, Bishop Alwyn De Silva appreciated the SVDs for their tireless availability to the mission and the new venture in the form of a school for quality education. Fr. Tomy Perumprayil SVD, while addressing the gathering reiterated the commitment made by the past INM Chapters to start a CBSE school for the betterment of the people in and around Mangaon with a special reference to tribal children and their educational empowerment. Fr. Richard Quadros, SVD, the local mission animator

presented a short history of the purchase of land and the building construction per se. The function ended with a sumptuous meal prepared by the Cannosian Sisters who are collaborating with the SVDs in Mangaon mission ventures.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR, NAVEEN REBELLO



Fr. Naveen Rebello SVD brilliantly defended his doctoral dissertation on Monday, May 8, 2023 at the Pontifical Biblical Institute (famously called the "Biblicum"), Rome – the Roman Catholic Church's premier institute of

biblical studies. His defense was attended by more than hundred SVD confreres, priests, religious men and women, friends, students and members of the academic community at the Aula Paulina, Biblicum. Fr. Naveen wrote his dissertation titled, "Recognizing the Messiah: A Study of Antithetical Anagnorisis in the Gospel of Matthew" in which he explored the use of ancient literacy device of "recognition" that was employed by the evangelist Matthew in various encounter scenes of divine-human interactions in

order to communicate a unique *revelatory epistemology*. He prepared the doctoral dissertation under the guidance of Prof. Henry Pattarumadathil SJ, an expert in the Gospel of Matthew and a professor of New Testament exegesis as well as the Dean of the Biblicum. Besides him, the doctoral commission consisted of Prof. Michel Kamanzi SJ, the world-renowned Prof. Ronald D. Witherup PSS, Prof. Paolo Costa and was presided over by Prof. Fr. Michael Kolarcik SJ, the Rector of the Biblicum. The board of examiners commended the high-quality exegetical work undertaken by Fr. Naveen and appreciated his ability to analyze the Greek texts of the Gospel of Matthew and many other Hebrew texts critically and logically and offering an illuminating synthesis of the research conclusions. Following the excellent presentation of thesis by Fr. Naveen for 25 minutes, there was an engaging question and answer session that lasted for one and a half hour during which he demonstrated his excellent knowledge of the ancient classical (Greco-Roman) and the biblical literature particularly the Gospel of Matthew. For his brilliance both in the high quality of written work and the clarity and scholarship of public defense, Fr. Naveen was awarded *Summa cum Laude*, the highest honors at the Biblicum. In fact, he became the 26th Indian to earn a doctorate in the Sacred Scripture (SSD) successfully and has the distinction of being the first Indian to obtain the honors of *Summa cum Laude*. From the religious congregation of SVD (the Society of the Divine Word) to which he belongs, Fr. Naveen is the first Indian SVD, the second Asian and the tenth SVD globally to obtain an SSD as his immediate predecessor Fr. Ludger Feldkämper, SVD from Germany did it 46 years ago in 1977.

YOUTH CAMP FOR MIGRANT YOUTH IN GOA



Youth are the future of our nation. When we train the youth to be responsible citizens we built a healthy society. Keeping this in mind A two days camp was organized for the Chotanagpur Youth group Goa at SVD Seminary, Raia by Arnold Seva

Kendra (ASK, Goa) Raia. The Camp began by invoking God's name and by lighting the lamp and this was followed by some action songs by Fr. Michael Pereira, SVD. On the first day, the program was conducted in collaboration with the Human Touch organization where the sessions were conducted on leadership, motivation, Personality Development, group activities, etc. This was followed by a hike on the mountain and later the time was spent in silence and Prayer, this was followed by the campfire where the youth were allowed to display their talents, and the day ended with a value-based movie called "The Spirit". The next day began with a short meditation on the nature at SVD Rubber plantation. The day was full of group activities, sessions on Values of life, quiz, and fun where the youth were divided into four groups, and activities were organized in the group. The camp was focused on the development and motivation of the youth to become future leaders. "These Two days were the wonderful days where we learned the things for our life", said Mary Soreng. "This was the first time that we had such an opportunity to be together as Chotanagpur Youth and we need to have many more such activities where we come together and learn new things." expressed Pricilla Kiro, the President of the Youth group. Fr. Michael Pereira, SVD who was the brain behind the camp thanked all the people who helped to make this camp possible.

5TH SUMMER CAMP OF ALKA



The 5th summer camp of ALKA 2023 began on 2nd May at 9 pm with a short prayer service organized by the Staff of ALKA and declared open by Fr. Robin Dias the parish priest of St. Francis Xavier church, Giriz. 282 children have taken part in this summer camp. Among these children, 80 have taken part in learning musical instruments namely Keyboard and Guitar. This summer camp consisted of Music, Dance, Acting, Public Speaking, Drawing, Painting, Personality Development, Yoga, Meditation, a Health workshop, and all types of entertaining activities. The main focus of the summer camp was to train the children to build up good characters along with music and dance. During this camp, we organized a few talks on personality development, public speaking, and character building by Fr. John SVD, Fr. Nickson SVD, Fr. Salate SVD, Fr. Mahimai SVD, and Ms. Deepa. We also organized a health workshop for our children. We called our famous doctors

namely Sr. Mary Chettiyar, Sr. Saroj and Sr. Slokshana from Cardinal Gracious Hospital and St. Annes Cancer Institute who gave some health tips to our children. We had also a magic show by the famous magician Mr. Umesh from Delight party entertainment group from Nallasopara and a short film by Fr. Prashant. The drawing workshop was conducted by Sir. Amit and Fr. Nickson. Character-building action songs by our SVD Brothers and Fr. Mahimai Sundar are very much appreciated. We had a lot of fun games conducted by Mr. Santhosh, Teachers Deepa, Candice, Aloma, and our SVD Brothers. We had different types of dances namely classical, western, and folk taught by Mr. Vinod and Mr. Amit, the famous dancer, and choreographer of Vasai Land. The main focus of the evening summer music camp – was to train the children how to read music. We have Fr. Salate and Sir Vincent who all specialized in keyboards and Sir Joseph who specialized in Guitar. They all worked hard to train them. Rev. Msgr. Francis Correa and Ms. Larissa Almeida, the famous singer from Vasai was the Guest of the day. Both of them addressed our Students and emphasized the importance of practice, ie, riyaz in all forms of art, be it singing or dancing. Kudos to all the Participants, teachers, and staff.

DDW PUNE - VISIT TO BAILHONGAL, BELGAUM MISSION



Five members from DDW Pune visited the mission station at Bailhongal, Belgaum from 1st May to 5th May 2023. Fr. Richard D'Almeida, SVD was kind enough to take us to various mission centers. One of the villages we visited was at Mekalmardi, where we witnessed

the missionary work of Fr. Richard who started a unit of forty women from different faiths, engaged in making beautiful and strong laundry bags, handbags, and carpets using jute, leather, and metal. These bags are sold and also exported to Spain, which fetches the women a fair wage for their livelihood. We experienced hard work and self-confidence, especially the women. We also visited the Aragopa village where we met thirteen all-



women self-help groups initiated by Fr. Richard, SVD. Every group met once a month and collected Rs. 100, which is used for their livelihood. Some women also took a loan from the bank and started small businesses making a large number of chapatis using a chapati-making machine and catering for local orders. In another village, we also visited self-help groups that were functioning in the same manner. In this village around 50 children attended tuition classes in the evenings. However, this year the classes were discontinued, as they could not afford Rs. 2000 per month salary for the Tuition Master. We have volunteered to help the village so that the children could avail the classes for the entire year. Fr. Richard also took us to the Carmel Vidya Vikas Kendra Bailhongal School where handicapped children study. We could not meet the children as they were on holiday; nevertheless, we sponsored lunch for the children, which Fr. Richard will arrange when school reopens. We also visited Vidya Mandir Primary School, Madanbhavi where children were enjoying their summer club. We spent some time with the children and had fun with them. We also visited sick people in the villages. We thank Fr. Richard and Fr. Leo Alex, SVD for spending their valuable time with us to visit the villages. It was a very enriching mission experience for all of us. God bless our SVD fathers. May the heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all – St. Arnold Janssen.

SCHOOLS AND JUNIOR COLLEGE RESULTS

We congratulate our confreres, collaborators and the students who worked assiduously and secured excellent results in all our educational institutions. We appreciate the efforts of our confreres and encourage them to sustain their commitment to provide quality value based education keeping in mind the good of our students and their parents and society at large.

Institution		Appeared	Pass	Percentage
St. Arnold's High School, Andheri	10 th STD	252	251	99.60%
St. Arnold's Junior College, Andheri	Commerce	156	156	100%
	Science	114	104	91%
St. Theresa's High School, Bandra	10 th STD	201	182	90.54%
St. Arnold's Central School, Mysore	10 th STD	85	85	100%
St. Arnold's Central School, Pune	10 th STD	162	162	100%
	12 th STD	155	140	90.32%
St. Arnold's Central School, Aduvassery	10 th STD	30	30	100%
Sarva Seva Sangh, Pune (Street Children)	10 th STD	01	01	100%
	12 th STD	05	05	100%
Sarva Seva Sangh, Pune (HIV/ AIDS affected Children) 10 th STD	10 th STD	32	29	90.61%
	12 th STD	39	30	76%

INDIA SUB-ZONAL COORDINATORS 2023 - 2026

INDIA SUB-ZONAL COORDINATORS			
01	National Mission Secretary	Fr. Luvis Ronald Pereira	INE
02	Superior Delegate	Fr. Felix Lobo	INM
03	National JPIC Coordinator	Fr. Rasal Xess	INE
04	National AJS Coordinator	Fr. Gregory Arockiam	INM
05	Benefactors' Department	Fr. Abraham Olickal	INM
06	National Biblical Coordinator	Fr. Valan S.	INH
07	National Brothers' Coordinator	Br. Kishore Tigga	INC
08	National Formation Secretary/ EIP/ OTP Director	Fr. Savari Rayan A.	INC
09	National Communication Coordinator	Fr. Anthony Swamy Swamikannu	INC
10	National Education Coordinator	Fr. Muthu Selvam	INC
11	National Coordinator for Mission Education & Research (MER)	Fr. Jose Kuzhikkattuthazhe	ING
12	Convener of Provinces & Regional Treasures	Fr. Donald Dsouza	INM
13	Vivat Executive Secretary	Fr. Babu Karakombil	INC

RECONSTITUTED INM FINANCE COMMITTEE 2023 – 2026

01	Fr. Donald Dsouza
02	Fr. Johney Vattamala
03	Fr. Joyson Kurian
04	Fr. Maxim Pinto
05	Fr. John Singarayar

COUNCILLORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Tomy Thomas	Personnel, Animation and Planning
Richard Quadros	Education & JPIC Ministries
Raja Ratna Reddy	Finance & Development

Victor Sagayam	Four CDs – Mission, Biblical, JPIC, Communication Specialized Apostolates & Pastoral Ministry
Anthony Menezes	Formation and On-going Formation
General Job Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Mutual support, counsel and prayer for the confreres and ministries ✚ Animation of confreres and ministries through visits and meetings ✚ Planning, monitoring and evaluation of ministries ✚ Motivating the confreres to prepare and execute the Ministry and Province Action Plans ✚ Sharing with the confreres the Vision and Mission of the Society/Province and encouraging them to develop their particular goals in the light of the SVD Constitutions, General Chapter Directives and Provincial Chapter Directives in the context of the Indian cultural and social realities according to the signs of the times. ✚ Presenting the suggestions and reports of ministries to the Provincial Council

ONGOING FORMATION PROGRAM

Ongoing Formation Program for the Ordination/ Final vows batches from 2006 – 2016 is scheduled at the SVD Provincial House, Indore from 25 – 26 August 2023.

Arrival : 24 August 2023

Program : 25 – 26 August 2023

Outing : 27 August 2023

Departure : 28 August 2023

Resource Person : Fr. Gregory Pinto SVD

Organizer : Fr. Ronald Pereira SVD, Mission Secretary, India Subzone

We highly encourage all the confreres belonging to these batches to attend this ongoing program. Kindly register your names with Fr. Ronald Pereira SVD, Mission Secretary, India Subzone at the earliest.

PROVINCE RETREATS

This year we have organized two retreats: 19 to 24 November 2023 at Atma Darshan, and 22-27 February 2024 at Prarthana Niketan, Kaduthuruthy. As both the retreats will begin in the evening, and hence the participants are requested to reach the respective places well in advance. The retreats will end with lunch on the final day and you can plan your return accordingly. First retreat will be preached by Fr. Cyril Doss SVD and the second retreat will be preached by Fr Daniel Poovannathil. Every confrere is expected to make the annual retreat, and hence, kindly plan and register with our office well in advance.

At the conclusion of the first retreat, on 24 November, we shall have the province level jubilee celebrations of our confreres of their ordinations/vows in the evening. All those who are attending the first retreat are requested to participate in the jubilee celebration and plan your departure on the following morning, 25 November 2023. All the jubilarians and the confreres are cordially invited to participate in the Eucharistic celebration and the fellowship meal.

APPOINTMENT: INM MISSION SECRETARY

Through a letter dated 18 April 2023 our Superior General, Fr. Paulus Budi Kleden, has reappointed Fr. Kuriakose Jolly Mudakkampurathu the Mission Secretary of the province for the 2023-2026 triennium. We congratulate Fr. Jolly on his appointment and pray for God's abundant blessings on him so that he may discharge his three-fold responsibilities of fostering mission awareness, taking particular interest of the missionaries and raising funds for the mission with utmost care and determined effort.

REMINDERS

CHAPTER DIRECTIVES

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS/MEETINGS

To evolve ourselves into emotionally and spiritually nourishing communities, confreres in the community gather at least once a day for prayer, meals or recreation (INM Chapter 2003, Recommendation # 2).

Superiors organize monthly community/staff meetings with an agenda and document the decisions (INM Chapter 2009, Recommendation # 3).

CLARIFICATION OF ROLES

The Chapter recommends that in the beginning of each academic year, to create an atmosphere of life-giving relationships and team work, the community meets together and considers clarification of roles. The Chapter also recommends that the Provincial, in the course of his regular visits to the communities facilitates community building exercise and resolves conflicts, if any." (INM Chapter 2018, Recommendation # 1)

SHARING OF INFORMATION

"In order to enhance the community life, the Chapter proposes that the members of the community share the vital and necessary information about their absence and whereabouts to their superior/community members" (Const. 308.2: Out of a sense of community and according to local regulations, one should have permission or inform the superior before leaving the house.) (INM Chapter 2018, Guideline # 6)

Keeping in mind the adverse consequences, the Chapter recommends that the confreres exercise discretion with regard to sharing the internal matters of our communities and the province with outsiders, and exercise prudence and caution. (INM Chapter 2018, Recommendation # 3)

PREPARATION OF ACTION PLAN

Recommendation No. 4 (INM Chapter 2009) states that in the beginning of the academic year each community prepares an Action Plan with an inbuilt mechanism for its execution, which is reviewed periodically, documented and reported to the Provincial Superior. Hence, I request the Superiors to call for a meeting and re-visit the Vision and Mission and prepare the Action Plan for the community/institute. As you prepare the Action Plan kindly remember to pay due importance to all the four characteristic dimensions of our mission: Biblical Apostolate, Communication, Mission Animation and JPIC.

YEAR PLAN 2023 - 2024 (TENTATIVE)

DATE	EVENTS
11 June 2023	Mission Cross, Divine Word Seminary, Pune
17 June – 02 July 2023	Workshop for the New Provincials, Rome
08 – 09 July	Provincial/ Regional Treasurers Meeting, SVD Provincial House, Bandra
11 – 12 July 2023	Provincial Council Meeting, SVD Provincial House, Bandra
17 – 18 August 2023	Provincial Council Meeting, SVD Provincial House, Bandra
15 – 19 September 2023	Formation Board Meeting, IPF Meeting & VIVAT India Board Meeting – India Subzone, Provincial House, Hyderabad
24 September 2023	Provincial Council Meeting, SVD Provincial House, Bandra
10 October 2023	Last date for submitting March distribution Budget Proposals
22 October 2023	World Mission Sunday
20 – 21 October 2023	Provincial Council Meeting, Ishvani Kendra, Pune
19 – 24 November 2023	First Province Annual Retreat, Atma Darshan, Andheri
20 November 2023	INE Province Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Jharsuguda
25 November 2023	Atma Darshan - Silver Jubilee Celebrations, Andheri
26 – 27 November 2023	Provincial Council Meeting, SVD Provincial House, Bandra
02 January 2024	Final Vows, Divine Word Seminary, Pune
03 January 2024	Diaconate Ordination, Divine Word Seminary, Pune

06 – 07 January 2024	Provincial Council Meeting, Vasai
29 – 30 January 2024	First Province Assembly, Mulki
05 – 06 February 2024	Second Province Assembly, Atma Darshan, Andheri
07 February 2024	Passing Assembly Proposals
08 February 2024	INM Province Chapter, Atma Darshan, Andheri
22 – 27 February 2024	Second Province Annual Retreat, Kaduthuruthy (22 February 2024 Arrival for the Retreat)
02 – 03 March 2024	Provincial Council Meeting, Pune
10 March 2023	Last date for submitting September distribution Budget Proposals

MY PROGRAMMES

10 June 2023	Addressing the Newly Ordained SVD Priests, Divine Word Seminary, Pune
11 June 2023	Mission Cross, Divine Word Seminary, Pune
12 June 2023	Inaugural Mass for the Overseas Training Programme, Ishvani Kendra, Pune
16 June – 08 July 2023	Workshop for the New Provincials, Rome
26 - 28 July 2023	Meeting the Third Year Theologians, Divine Word Seminary, Pune

Note: I will be participating in the Workshop for New Provincial/Regional/Mission Superiors at Nemi, Rome from 16 June to 08 July, 2023. In my absence Fr. Richard Quadros will be the Acting Provincial. Kindly approach him for all your needs and concerns

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

11 – 12 July 2023
SVD Provincial House, Bandra

In the Divine Word



**Tomy Thomas 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