



# PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR - 179

INDIA - MUMBAI PROVINCE (INM)

**NOVEMBER – 2022**

**SVD Provincial House, 510, 32<sup>nd</sup> Road, Bandra (W), Mumbai - 400 050**

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Dear Confreres,

As we are approaching the end of the present triennium, it is time to initiate the process of choosing the new leadership team of our province. We begin the process through a personal as well as a communal reflection and discernment. So, first of all, let us submit the entire membership of our province to the Triune God who alone can guide us in the right direction and show us the right way forward. Secondly, let us reflect on the kind of leadership team our province needs at this time. Further, as recommended by our earlier Chapters, the LCF Coordinators are requested to organize appropriate discernment process in the LCFs in the coming weeks so as to animate the confreres to make informed choices. For your personal and communal reflection you may use the material sent along with this circular.

As agreed upon in the SVD India Sub-zone Governing Board and as decided in the Provincial Council, we have synchronized election schedule in the sub-zone, and accordingly, the dates for the election of Provincial Leadership Team have been arranged. The election process will commence on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and conclude by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

## **ELECTION OF THE INM PROVINCIAL AND COUNCILLORS**

### **1. ELECTION METHOD**

We have opted for METHOD III-A for electing the Provincial and Councillors with the following specifications:

1. The list of candidates for the Provincial to be THREE
2. The list of candidates for Councillors to be EIGHT
3. NAMES of candidates to be mentioned according to the points
4. Voting for the Provincial and Councillors to be simultaneous

### **2. FIRST PHASE: NOMINATION**

- The confreres entitled to vote send UNSIGNED informative vote to the Provincial Superior.
- Every voter should list the names of one to three candidates in the order of his choice for the office of the Provincial Superior, but four names in the case of the councillors.
- The Provincial Superior with the consent of his council draws up the list of candidates for the Superior and Councillors from among those who have received the most votes and sends the list to the electors.
- Should a candidate for serious reasons not wish to stand for election, the Provincial Superior examines the reasons and decides, after consulting his Councillors, when this is at all possible, whether or not the name of this candidate should be put on the list.
- Should it occur during the evaluation that two or more candidates tie for the last place on the list, each with the same number of votes, then in the case of vote for Superior, the name of the eldest among them is to be proposed; but when the vote is for Councillors,

then the names of all who have tied are to be proposed, even if, in this case the number of candidates decided on by the Provincial Chapter should be exceeded.

### **POINTS SYSTEM:**

The Provincial Council in its meeting held on 21-22 September 2022 at Shanti Bhavan, Jharsuguda, decided to retain the same points system (as in the past) for the nomination of Provincial and Councillors:

- **For the Provincial:**
  - Choose THREE candidates in the order of preference:
  - First Preference = **3 Points**; Second Preference = **2 Points**; Third Preference = **1 Point**
- **For the Councillors:**
  - Choose FOUR candidates. Each vote gets **one point** each.

Since the candidates for Superior are also reckoned as candidates for councillor in the case of simultaneous nomination, it is pointless to put the same name down twice on the voting sheet. Should this, however, occur, the person's name should be counted only once. (*Handbook for Superiors*, Appendix X 2, no.39)

### **KINDLY NOTE:**

- The informative vote must be **UNSIGNED**
- You can send it directly to the Provincial Office, or each community can put them together and send in a separate envelop.
- It is recommended that you send your votes by 'speed post' or 'courier'.

Last date to reach the vote to the Provincial Office is **December 10, 2022**

### **3. SECOND PHASE: ELECTION**

- Basing your choice on the candidates' list, the confreres shall send their **SIGNED** votes to the Superior General.
- On this ballot a preference for the Vice-Superior may be indicated from among the candidates for the Provincial Council.

### **KINDLY NOTE:**

- The vote must be **SIGNED**
- You can send your vote directly to the Generalate or send it to the Provincial Office by **January 20, 2023**; the provincial office will put them together and send them to the Generalate before the due date.
- Last date to reach the vote to the Generalate is **January 31, 2023**

### **AN OVER-VIEW OF THE ELECTION PROCESS**

- ❖ Date for sending the First Round Ballot Paper to the confreres: November 10, 2022
- ❖ Last date to reach the informative vote to the Province Office: December 10, 2022
- ❖ Counting of the First Round Votes: December 12, 2022
- ❖ Date for sending the Second Round Ballot Paper to the confreres: December 15, 2022
- ❖ Vote may be sent directly to the Superior General or through the Province Office
- ❖ Through the Province Office: January 20, 2023
- ❖ Directly to the Superior General: January 31, 2023

Thanking you for your active involvement!

Yours in the Divine Word,



Richard Mathias SVD  
Provincial Superior, INM

