

MISSIONARIES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

South-East India Province



MSFS Provincialate
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KIM / 04

June

2017

My Dear Confreres,

Greetings of peace and joy to all of you my dear confreres! We have just begun a new academic year of 2017-2018. At the outset, I place on record my appreciation for all our fathers, who are in the educational apostolate for achieving very good results in 10th and 12th public exams in our schools. It is your hard work, the hard work of the staff and the students that has brought such a result. I also record my appreciation for the staff and students.

As always, the new academic year is filled with high intensive expectations and promises. I am sure you have the capacity and ability to fulfill the same. Let this academic year be a period of knowledge and discoveries, as well as new challenges. Let this academic year bring wholesome growth, including academic excellence and discipline.

I also place on record my appreciation to all our fathers, serving in the parishes, institutions and centres for your success in the last year. I wish you all another great year of 2017-2018 in our apostolate and ministries.

Dear fathers, I exhort you to be exemplary, creative, responsible, passionate and inspiring to the staff, students, parents, parishioners and the general public. Let us radiate the spirit and spirituality of our patron and our venerable founder in all that we do.

Let God continue to bless all of us throughout this academic year

STATEMENT OF THE 4TH ORDINARY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS

We, the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales of South – East India province, assembled at the MSFS provincial house at Kunnathur, Pudukkottai Dt to reflect, discuss and deliberate upon the theme: “Rooted in Salesian Spirituality and committed to the Mermerian Mission, we strive together to reflect Christ in our Apostolate,” and after an honest and sincere reflection and deliberation, make unanimously the following statement:

Religious life: We resolve to live together in the community as brothers, following the evangelical counsels inspired by the person-oriented spirituality of St. Francis de Sales as the essential aspect of our MSFS identity, strengthening the apostolic communities, expressing fraternal love, concern and support for each other, and avoiding all gossips, and overcoming all barriers.

Mission Apostolate: Following the missionary aspiration of our Founder Fr. Peter Mermier, who said, “*I want mission*” as our missionary hallmark, we resolve to revitalize our missionary commitments by stabilizing our mission centers at home in India, exploring the possibilities of frontier missions and preparing the confreres for venturing into such missionary endeavors, and in carrying out the work of evangelization through innovative methods.

The Apostolate of education: Since evangelization of the youth through education is one of our foundational apostolates, we resolve to pursue with greater commitment our educational apostolate and strive to inculcate human values in the students with renewed vigor to face the challenges in life with confidence and optimism and be committed to work for the social empowerment of the poor and the weaker sections of the society.

Fransalian Formation: As religious formation is the formation of persons’ growth in wholeness, we resolve to create a healthy atmosphere in the formation houses for the young confreres to learn, grow and discern God’s call, to motivate them in becoming committed missionaries, following in the footsteps of St. Francis de Sales and of our Founder Fr. Peter Mermier.

Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministry: We proclaim Jesus Christ and announce his Gospel of hope to the poor and care for those neglected in the society. This is one of our core ministries. So we resolve to promote and popularize our Salesian spirituality and encourage our confreres to develop their special talents in order to better serve and lead the people to experience Jesus in their lives.

Apostolate of Stewardship: “To all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away”, said Jesus (Lk 19:26). Responsibility and accountability are the basic characteristics of a true Fransalian. Hence, we resolve to uphold the values of honesty and accountability in dealing with money matters and

in taking care of the temporal goods of the province, motivating and guiding the members to follow the principles of frankness, transparency and truthfulness.

Thus we march forward in our journey of faith renewal 'rooted in Salesian Spirituality and committed to Mermerian Mission.' We strive together to reflect Christ in our Apostolates.

ACTION PLAN OF THE 4TH ORDINARY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS

I COMMUNITY ORIENTED RELIGIOUS LIFE

- a) Top priority would be ascribed to prayer life without any compromise.
- b) Half an hour of adoration would be made mandatory in our daily timetable.
- c) Recollections would be incorporated into the regular apostolic community meetings reports of which would be made available to the provincial's office.
- d) Shared responsibility and mutual appreciation would be strengthened and effected in all our centres.
- e) Fraternal correction would be earnestly welcomed and received with docility and humility.
- f) A uniform system of pocket money would be introduced and followed in all our centres.

II MISSION WITH MERMIER'S VISION

- a) Within next three years missions in developing countries would be taken up with a clear vision and proper planning.
- b) Efforts would be made to raise corpus fund towards securing self sufficiency for parishes wherever it is feasible.
- c) Mermier's day would be celebrated in every centre as part of our effort to spread devotion to the servant of God Fr. Peter Marie Mermier.
- d) All congregational feasts would be celebrated in all our centres.
- e) Basic necessities of every centre would be attended to.
- f) Preparation of parish budget, monitored by provincial administration would be made compulsory.
- g) The spiritual and pastoral aspects of our missions could be given priority, especially through mission preaching, conducting of bible study classes etc.,

III A CONTEXTUALIZED FORMATION

- a) Trained councillors would be made available at all stages of formation including at the minor seminary.

- b) MSFS literature would be made accessible to the confreres and the same would be taught to them without fail.
- c) Care would be taken to appoint well qualified and well equipped confreres as members of the staff.
- d) Outreach programmes which provide sufficient social awareness and knowledge of daily occurrences would be organized.
- e) Newly ordained priests would be given sufficient and adequate accompaniment through the conduct of update programmes, seminars, live-in programmes etc., at least for the first three years.
- f) Every conferrer would be given ample opportunities for attending ongoing formation in or outside the province.
- g) One day seminar would be organized for the newly assigned parish priests to introduce them into the new roles they assume.
- h) Computer courses would be started in the minor seminary itself.

IV TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

- a) Measures would be taken to bring about uniformity in fee concession in all our schools and to introduce SFS scholarship in our parishes.
- b) Uniformity of administrative system would be implemented within a stipulated time frame.
- c) The strict adherence to the roles of correspondent, principal and procurator would be insisted upon. The policy of 2+2+2 system would be made the norm of appointment to the staff of the school for our confreres.
- d) Effective steps would be taken to follow budget system and centralization of resources in our schools.
- e) The matter of modernization and standardization of all our schools would be seriously thought of.
- f) The confreres would be given opportunities for scholarly studies in their field of interest.
- g) The association of “the friends of Fransalians” would be emphasized and encouraged in all our schools.

V INNOVATIVE MINISTRY FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

- a) A full time project co-ordinator would be appointed at the earliest.
- b) The justice and peace forum would be re-vitalized.
- c) The existing innovative ministries would be strengthened and stabilized and more confreres would be set apart for specialization for innovative ministries.
- d) All our centres would be updated to the expected government standard.
- e) The possibility and feasibility of entering into new innovative ministries would be explored.
- f) The establishment of a prayer and spirituality centre would be initiated and accomplished.

- g) Serious efforts should be made to start a Tamil magazine.
- h) The adoption of insurance and creation of medical corpus fund towards the medical expenses of our confreres would be made compulsory.

VI STEWARDSHIP WITH TRANSPARENCY

- a) A property in charge would be appointed to take care of all our properties.
- b) Purchasing of any new land would be entrusted to a permanent committee created for the above said purpose.
- c) All constructions undertaken in our province would be done only with the prior approval of provincial administration.
- d) The policy of multiple quotations together with proper plan would be insisted upon before execution of any construction.
- e) The provincial on his canonical visits would scrutinize the records and accounts of the parishes and the communities.
- f) The procurator would make periodical visits to all the places where new construction is in progress and would report his findings to the provincial administration.
- g) The budgeting system would be strictly followed in all centres including the provincial house.
- h) Adequate and proper training would be imparted to all confreres for making budget.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW PROVINCIALS

1. Rev. Fr. Mathew Thazhathukunnel MSFS - New Provincial Superior - East Africa Province
2. Rev. Fr. Thomson Michael Aerathedathu MSFS - Provincial Superior for second term - Brazil Province
3. Rev. Fr. Jayaseelan Selvaraj MSFS - New Provincial Superior – Pune Province

THE NEW PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION OF NORTH-EAST INDIA PROVINCE

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Fr Philip Thomas Kizhakumpurath | - | Admonitor Cum PCIC of Mission |
| 2. Fr George Vettukattil | - | PCIC of Formation |
| 3. Fr George Poovathunkal | - | PCIC of Education |
| 4. Fr Saji Puthiyakulangara | - | PCIC of Social & Innovative Ministries |
| 5. Fr Santhosh Chavaranal | - | Provincial Bursar. |

In the name of South-East India Province, I wish the newly appointed Provincials and the Provincial Curia all the best and invoke on each of them God's abundant blessings.

THE NEW PRIESTS' DAY AT PROVINCIALATE



It was a matter of immense joy and blessings to the entire congregation of Msfs especially to the South- East India province, as seven more buds have bloomed into priests in its garden. The Provincialate community on Saturday 20th May, 2017 had organized New priests' day, in which 7 of our newly ordained Priests namely, Frs. Jaya Kumar, S. Arockiam, L. John Peter, M. Joseph Anish Kumar, S. Ashir Johnson, S. Antony Raj, & A. Jerome took part. As our patron St. Francis De sales says "Eucharist is the Sun of all our spiritual activities", the day began with Holy Eucharist presided over by Fr. Jaya Kumar. Fr. L. John Peter introduced theme of the mass. Fr. S. Arockiam gave a thoughtful homily and towards the end Fr. S. Antony Raj thanked everyone present for the celebration. As a token of love & appreciation, we cut cake in honor of the New priests in the morning and with fellowship meal in the afternoon, the celebration came to an end.



In the name of the whole Province, We wish God's choicest blessings in their priestly life and ministry and assure them of our continued prayerful support. May the good Lord guide them all throughout their lifetime!!!

Dn. Benzer

SCHOLASTIC MEET -APRIL 21-23, 2017

We came together as brothers. We prayed, experienced, and enriched each other through our sharing as brothers. This was our experience of the Scholastic meeting this year. Fr. Santhiyagu, the councillor in charge of formation, had arranged three days of program. The event was organized in SFS minor seminary at Pudukkottai from 21st to 23rd of April. Thirteen of us attended the meeting. On the first day, Fr. Soosai Raj, Msfs presented an inspiring and thought provoking insights on the art of pastoral leadership. As future leaders getting formed to be pastors of people, we are reminded how we must be available, responsible and committed with a life of faith and witness in order to lead the people in following the way of Jesus. In the afternoon session, Rev. Dr. A. Santhiyagu, Msfs offered us practical suggestions and ideas to be effective leaders in our ministry.

On the second day during the morning session, Fr. Rajasekar, Msfs enlightened us on the topic of life psychology for today, particularly on the importance and relevance of emotional intelligence. In the afternoon, Fr. Edmand, Msfs presented a simple and yet a powerful talk on the significance of monasticism and on the spirituality of the desert fathers of the church. The final day was spent as a day of pilgrimage to “Ooriyur, the sacred place of St. John de Britto’s martyrdom and a short visit to Rameshwaram. As a whole, the entire meeting was very fruitful, enlightening and refreshing. All of us enjoyed the whole program, especially our brotherly fellowship and ministerial sharing.

Dn. Benzer

PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS OF OUR SCHOOLS: 2016 – 2017

School	Class	No of Students	Pass	Fail	Percentage	First Mark
<i>Pudukkottai</i>	10 th	203	203	-	100%	495
	12 th	111	111	-	100%	1171
<i>Vaniyambadi</i>	10 th	114	113	1	99%	493
	12 th	55	54	1	99%	1173
<i>Alangayam</i>	10 th	101	101	-	100%	496
	12 th	50	50	-	100%	1170
<i>Virudhunagar</i>	10 th	91	90	1	99%	497
	12 th	37	37	-	100%	1162
Kelambakkam	10 th	20	20	-	100%	493

Congratulations to all the confreres for your stupendous results!

PROMOTION OF THE SCHOLASTICS – 2017

The following Scholastics have been promoted to the next stage of their Formation:

To the Order of Diaconate & Fourth Year Theology

1. Bro. D. Nelson (Also to Diaconate)
2. Bro. B. Philominraj (Also to Diaconate)

To Renewal of Vows & Third Year Theology

1. S. Anantha Prabu
2. A. Motcha Richard

To Renewal of Vows & Second Year Theology / MPh

1. D. Emmanuel Sathish
2. J. Arul Justin
3. J. Jeni Vimal Naveen
4. J. Michael Arulananda Raja
5. S. Desas

To Renewal of Vows & First Year Theology

1. A. Infant Jesus - Tejas, Bengaluru
2. K. Nirmal Kumar - Tejas, Bengaluru

To Renewal of Vows & Regency

1. Bro. S. Jerald MSFS Provincialate, Nagamangalam
2. Bro. R. Anbu Stalin SFS Industrial School, Chathiram, Pudukkottai
3. Bro. A. Michael Raja SFS Minor Seminary, Pudukkottai
4. Bro. A. Mahimai Arockia Raj Kolli Hills, Namakkal
5. Bro. S. Maria Arockiam Christ the King Farm, Vayalagam, Pudukkottai
6. Bro. S. Pradeep Jerald SFS School, Vaniyambadi
7. Bro. Level Winner Africa
8. Bro. Arockia Marshal (Break)

To Renewal of Vows & Third Year Philosophy

1. A. David Amalanathan
2. A. Arun Raj
3. M. Adaikala Arul Raj
4. P. Aspel Kishok
5. S. Vimal Raj
6. P. Suntharasekar (Promoted only for the renewal of Vows.)

To Renewal of Vows & Second Year Philosophy

1. Arockia Renold Anand
2. A. Edward Francis
3. A. John Britto
4. A. Sesu Prabhakaran

5. D. Carmel Raj
6. D. Mathew Jutto
7. M. Selvam Augustine
8. R. Renold Regen
9. Joseph Jayaraj
10. V. Ajin

To First Profession & First Year Philosophy

1. Arockia Charles Benny
2. Peter Clements
3. D. Santhosh Kumar
4. Joseph Manicka Raj
5. Dhony Diamond Raj
6. Methew Devoda
7. Edwin Scharl

To Novitiate

1. Thomas Ambrose
2. Praveen Amirtham
3. Arul Vijaya Bhaskar
4. J. Stephen Raj
5. A. Johnson
6. Justin Richard
7. Antony Yesu Raj
8. A. Michael
9. Selva Prakash
10. Pavith Praveen
11. Antony Arockia Vinodh

TRANSFERS & APPOINTMENTS: 2017 – 2018

Lists – III

Name	Designation	Place
Fr. A. Christu Raj	Director of Youths	
Fr. A. Chinnasamy Yesuraj	Asst. Parish Priest	North East
Fr. A. William Joe Xavier	Asst. Parish Priest	Madras Archdiocese
Fr. K. Dominic Savio	Asst. Parish Priest	Kadayal
Fr. M. Anish Kumar	Asst. Parish Priest	Dindigul Diocese
Fr. S. Arockiam	Asst. Parish Priest	Madurai Archdiocese
Fr. L. John Peter	Asst. Parish Priest	Kodungal
Fr. S. Ashir Johnson	Asst. Parish Priest	Kanankadu
Fr. S. Antony Raj (Jr)	Asst. Parish Priest	Othaiyal
Fr. D. Jaya Kumar	Asst. Parish Priest	Ammapatti
Fr. A. Jerome	Asst. Parish Priest	Sivagangai Diocese

INFORMATION FROM REV. DR. A. SANTHIYAGU MSFS, THE DIRECTOR OF SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

Dear Brothers, please mark the following dates and get prepared to participate in the programs.

Schedule for On-going Formation based on the Action plan of our provincial congress

1. *Ensure that newly ordained priests are accompanied with updates, seminars, live in program for the minimum of three years*

July 19, evening to 20, 2017 evening

– one day orientation seminar for the **new priests**
Place: Provincial house, Trichy

2. *Ensure that one day seminar for the new parish priests (priests of three years) is held every year*

August 16 evening to 17, 2017 evening

–one day seminar for **three years of priests** (place will be informed later)

3. *Ensure that the literatures of MSFS Congregation are made available and taught to the confreres*

November 29, 2017 (first week of Advent)

Advent Day of reflection (Salesian perspective) for **all the confreres**
Place: Provincial house, Trichy

WELCOME BACK

- **Fr. C. John Britto**, who has been doing his pastoral ministry in USA for the last 10 years, comes back to the Province on 25th July, 2017.

We extend him a hearty welcome.

ON HOME HOLIDAYS FROM ABROAD

Fr. S. Joseph (Germany)	-	From 03 rd May to 02 nd June, 2017
Fr. M. Victor (Germany)	-	From 18 th May to 15 th June, 2017
Fr. A. Arockiam (Germany)	-	From 25 th May to 10 th June, 2017
Fr. M. Rayappan John Britto (Germany)	-	From 04 th July to 07 th August, 2017

We wish them a good time with their dear and near ones.

LET US PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

*May I request those who have not fulfilled the suffrages to do the same at the earliest.
(Const. No.118; General Directory No.98)*

- **Mr. Arockiasamy**, aged 53, the Father of Bro. David Amalanathan, expired on 1st May, 2017.
- **Mr. Rayappan**, aged 57, the Father of Bro. Ronald Regan, expired on 13th May, 2017

May their souls rest in peace!

MY PROGRAMME

June

1. 2nd - Church Blessing, Arasadipatti
2. 5th - Meeting the Bishop of Tanjore
3. 7th - Opening the new academic year at CBSC school, Trichy
4. 13th to 14th - PIF Meetings, Suvidya College, Bangalore
5. 15th - Meeting the Bishop of Vellore
6. 17th to 18th - Council meeting
7. 20th - Meeting the Bishop of Coimbatore
8. 21st - Seminar on family laws, Coimbatore
9. 25th - Animation of Provincial Curia by Rev. Fr. Agnelo Fernandes
10. 27th - Seminar on Minority Rights , St. Paul's Seminary, Trichy

Yours Fraternally in Christ,
Rev. Fr. K. Ignacimuthu, Msfs
Provincial Superior

SALESIAN THOUGHT

Through devotion, your family cares become more peaceful, mutual love between husband and wife becomes more sincere, the service we owe to the prince more faithful, and our work, no matter what it is, becomes more pleasant and agreeable.

- Saint Francis de Sales

