



Gabrielite

News Bulletin

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(19th Council of the Institute)



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EDITOR'S NOTE

“If one really has a feeling of contribution, one will no longer have any need for recognition from others. Because one will already have the real awareness that “I am of use to someone,” without needing to go out of one’s way to be acknowledged by others. In other words, a person who is obsessed with the desire for recognition does not have any community feeling yet, and has not managed to engage in self-acceptance, confidence in others, or contribution to others.”

The above quote is from the book *The Courage to Be Disliked* by Ichiro Kishimi. It is written under the title **Community Feeling**. It goes on to say how a child or an elderly person is not able to contribute as much as an adult in terms of physical work but they do contribute to the community or family through their presence. The joy they bring to the family, and the wisdom they offer to the young are also contributions. All of us are equal but not the same.

This 211th issue of the GNB brings to you the contribution of many individuals and groups to the Society under one umbrella **Brothers of St. Gabriel**. In this issue, we have news and articles from 11 Provinces, 2 Formation Houses in India, and 6 Reports in the Partnership Section.

On Page 4 you will find the Closing Message of Rev. Brother Superior General on the 19th Council of the Institute which took place at Montfort Nilaya, Bengaluru, from 12th to 24th February 2023. The News from the Provinces covers various activities of the institutions, Spiritual Animations of the Brothers and Celebrations of the important events in the Provinces. The Province of Thailand shares the joy of welcoming 6 young Brothers. News under the Trichy Province covers the Blessing and Inauguration of the Montfort International School in Jaffna. On Page 14 you will find the report about the Junior Brothers Seminar held at MSI in Hyderabad in which 70 young Brothers participated. Province of North-East India shares about the celebrations held in the institutions on the 350th Birth Anniversary of St. Louis Marie de Montfort. The news from the Formation Houses in India shares their experiences and the events that took place in recent months in their respective places of formation. On Page 42 we have a special article on The World Youth Day 2023 by Bro. Marreddy T. R, which explains about the origin and the journey of the youth movement till today.

I gratefully acknowledge the people involved in the publication of the GNB_211. I thank Bro. Emmanuel P. J. for editing the English texts. We extend our sincere thanks to the translators, Bro. Marcel Chapeleau and Bro. Michel Mendy. My sincere thanks to Bro. Dionigi Taffarello for publishing news in the Partnership Section. A special word of thanks to Bro. James T. K and Bro. Jean-Marie Thior. We thank all the Provincials, Secretaries and News Reporters from the Provinces, who have contributed news items for the publication of the GNB.

Have a good reading!

Bro. Louis Anthonysamy, SG



19TH COUNCIL OF THE INSTITUTE MONTFORT NILAYA, BENGALURU CLOSING MESSAGE – 24.02.2023

Introduction:

Good afternoon to you all. As we come to the end of the 2 weeks we have lived together as brothers, as leaders of the different entities of our Congregation, participating in the 19th Council of the Institute, I feel confident to call it an “unqualified success”, on more counts than one. As our Constitutions rightly put it, “The Council of the Institute has for mission to provide, through concerted action, the common good and unity of the Institute”. As we look back at the days we have lived together as members of the 19th Council of the Institute, it was evident that there was a sense of unity and charity among the 30 participants, despite the fact that we were coming from the different continents, born and brought up in different cultures, belonging to varied age groups and embracing different philosophies of life, and that the Provincial of Brazzaville was constrained to join us online. I am sure that all the participants will be able to affirm, in one voice, that the 2 weeks we have spent together as leaders of the Congregation, was truly an occasion to strengthen our bond as members of one large family, living out our fraternity and common brotherhood, and making a realistic appraisal of our life and mission. I have no hesitation in saying that everyone who witnessed our life here during these days would spontaneously acclaim, “See how they love one another”! It was indeed very encouraging to see the Brothers interacting with one another in a spirit of mutual respect, and listening to one another non-judgmentally, during the participation in the discussions and reflections, both in the groups and in the General Assembly.

Words of Appreciation:

If we can call the 19th Council of the Institute an “unqualified success”, it is thanks to the hard work and collaborative efforts of different individuals and groups. On behalf of the whole Congregation, I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to all those who have contributed in one way or another

towards the planning, preparation and the successful completion of these sessions.

In the first place, I raise my heart in thanksgiving to God for accompanying us throughout the whole process and making it possible for us all, except the Provincial Superior of Brazzaville, to be present at the venue, without any hassles. Secondly, I wish to express my sincere thanks to each member of the Central Administration for his significant contribution towards the success of this Council of the Institute. In the same breath, I must express my sincere thanks to the National Council of India, which wholeheartedly came forward to host this Council of the Institute. Similarly, our thanks go to the Provincial Administration of Bengaluru Province and the Provincial House Community, for extending full and generous co-operation right from the beginning. Everyone was impressed by the warm welcome, rich hospitality, tasteful decorations and the attractive ambience, not to speak about the tasty food, with sufficient choices. Congratulations to the Catering Services! Though a formal vote of thanks will be proposed mentioning individual names, during the Closing Ceremony, I wish to make a special mention of Bro. Irudayam, the National Chairman, Bro. George Padikara, the Provincial Superior of Bengaluru, Bro. John Britto, the National Secretary, who were involved in the planning and preparation for months together. Bros. Vijay, Justin, Antony, K. K. Thomas and Jenny, Sr. Daisy, Mr. Joseph, and Mrs. Regina, the Administrative Staff of the Provincial House, were like guardian angels. Whenever we needed them, they were there in all simplicity and true fraternal love and care.

Similarly, we had our 2 interpreters, Brothers Remy Ndong and Michel Mendy, who carried out their tasks with an appreciable degree of competence and commitment. Even when some of the participants had the temptation to doze off, they were there fully alert, being effective channels of communication. Seeing all the presentations in 2 languages, you can imagine

what lot of documents had to be translated into English or French. Most of the translations were done by Brothers George Le Vern and Marcel Chapeleau. I wish to say a big thanks to each one of them for their valuable services. We owe our special appreciation to Bro. Jean-Marie Thior, the Secretary General, who coordinated the whole process. I also wish to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the participants to thank our Secretaries, Brothers John Britto and Jean-Marie Ndour, who were carrying out their works with quiet efficiency, putting into practice the difficult art of listening, without speaking, and serving with a smile always. And so were our technical experts, Bros. Dionigi Taffarello and Michael Mathew, and Mr. John, who were always alert, keeping their eyes and ears always open, and acting promptly.

It was a real blessing that the presence of Bro. Ignatius (INT) and priests from the neighboring Religious Congregations to celebrate the Eucharist during all the days of the 19th Council of the Institute. I must acknowledge that the opportunities we had to visit our Brothers in the different communities and the members of the Montfortian Family did help us strengthen the bond of relationship among the Brothers and with the Montfortian Family.

Though Fr. David Glenday, the Facilitator for our 33rd General Chapter could not be present with us during the sessions here in Bengaluru, we are glad that he could participate through Zoom, when we had the crucial discussion on the strategies to be followed in arriving at the Instrumentum Laboris and how it could be used to elicit responses from the individual Brothers, the Communities, our Associates and our stakeholders in our ministries. You will agree with me that our Chapter Preparatory Committee Members have been on their toes ever since their arrival, and have put together an excellent schema. On behalf of the Congregation, I wish to say in advance a big thanks to Bros. Jaico, Etienne, Irudayam, Jimmy and René, for their valuable share of contributions towards the smooth and efficient conduct of the next General Chapter. My sincere thanks and congratulations also go to all the Moderators of the 19th Council of the Institute, first of all to the 4 Assistants General, Bros. Dionigi, Jean-Paul, Pratap and James, and more especially to Brs. André, Etienne, Irudayam and Varghese Mandapathil, the elected ones. It will be no exaggeration if I say that they all discharged their responsibilities with a touch of professionalism! In the same breath, I wish to appreciate the good work done by the 4 Moderators and the Secretaries of the Groups, which facilitated the discussions in the

groups and in the General Assemblies.

You will agree with me that the volume of work carried out by the International Commission and the 2 Sub-Commissions for the Revision of the Rule of Life and Constitutions, has been truly commendable, that too with Covid-19 playing spoil sport, stealing away 2 precious years. On behalf of all the participants of the 19th Council of the Institute I offer my sincere congratulations to the Convenor of the International Commission and the other members.

Finally, I wish to place on record my appreciation to all the leaders of the entities for the realistic presentations of your entities, and for your active and dignified participation in the discussions in the Groups and in the General Assembly, always keeping “the common good and unity of the Institute” (C 185). I was happy to see the spirit of camaraderie and brotherhood prevailing throughout the sessions, treating everyone with love and respect, despite the difference of language and the attendant problems!

Time of Grace:

It is needless for me to reiterate that the time we spent together in Bengaluru, was truly a time of grace. The presence of the Archbishop Peter Machado of Bengaluru, at the opening ceremony of the 19th Council of the Institute on 12th evening, with the representative presence of men and women religious, gave an ecclesial colour to our sessions here. As he gently reminded us during his homily, we are all expected to be consecrated persons who always do a little more especially to the poor, the disadvantaged and the vulnerable.

The presence of Rt. Rev, Arul Selvam Rayappan, Bishop of Salem, speaking on “Synodality in the Church and Religious Community” was indeed very enlightening and energizing. The simple ways he explained the three elements of Communion, Participation and Mission, in the context of our life as consecrated persons, and our life in the Religious Communities, carrying out our mission according to the charism of our Congregation, were truly inspiring. His clarion call to imitate Mother Mary in speaking of the world to Jesus, and speaking of Jesus to the world, still keeps ringing in our ears.

In dealing with the topic “Psycho-spiritual aspects of Religious Life”, Rev. Fr. M. C. Abraham, posed several thought-provoking questions, like whether our spiritual software is configured to unleash the

God-given potential, and whether our perception, interpretation of the different events in our lives can result in a change in our attitudes, feelings and behaviour resulting in creation of a better world order.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Raja Rao of Vijayawada diocese gave a graphic description of the grim realities that face us in India in particular on the socio-economic and political scenario, and how these realities can be a challenge to us to live our lives as consecrated persons and to carry out our varied ministries in the Church. At the same time, he also gently reminded us that living our Montfortian Prophetic dimension following the salient elements of the Montfortian Spirituality can be an antidote against these challenges.

The Administrative software of the Congregation that was presented to us during the session is typical example of how determination and diligence of Bro. Michael Mathew, the General Bursar, and Mrs. Ramya Soundrarajan, the CEO of iRoots Software company, have made the apparently impossible, possible. I have no doubt that this new feature of a common Administrative Software will bring in greater order in our system, besides saving a lot on our time and energy on doing routine administrative tasks.

Planning for the Future:

As we listened to the reports of the different entities, we realized that we had several reasons to thank God for, as a Congregation. But at the same time, we became acutely aware “that we Brothers are influenced by the dominant counter values of our culture which ensnare us in the dynamics of consumerism, superficiality, individualism and greed” (31 GC 7), and that the lack of religious spirit, lack of fraternal life in the communities, groupism based on different affiliations, craving for power, positions and possessions, etc., continue to be a constant threat of the witness dimension of our consecrated life as individuals and as communities.

During the evaluation of our life and mission as consecrated persons, especially in the backdrop of the Message and Orientations of the 32nd General Chapter and the proposals of the 18th Council of the Institute, we became more and more convinced that “we the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, must face a serious process of spiritual renewal that will help us, as persons and as communities, to reduce the gap between our documents and our life, in order to live a spirituality that is visible, credible and prophetic” (31 GC 11).

As I mentioned during the Inaugural Message the two principal objectives of our 19th Council of the Institute are to make an assessment of the journey we have undertaken since our 32nd General Chapter and to plan for the coming 33rd General Chapter. Let us pray and hope that the entry door we have identified for our next General Chapter, “Montfortian Prophetic Presence in the 21st century” will propel us to personal conversion, make our communities true witnesses of the evangelical values, help us put into practice the elements of good governance with greater transparency and accountability at all levels, make our mission truly Montfortian in character, and help us address the different challenges we face today in our Congregation, by being prophetic leaders of the 21st century, causing changes within and around.

During our discussions and reflections, we were repeatedly reminded, “The Provincial Superior bears the main responsibility for the Province, in the service of the apostolic religious life of the Brothers” (C 135). Therefore, let us go back to our entities with renewed enthusiasm and determination to play our role as animators and administrators more effectively. There is no doubt that there will always be lots of challenges, but as Martin Luther King beautifully put it, “If you can’t fly, then run, if you can’t run, then walk, if you can’t walk then crawl; but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward”.

Conclusion:

Before I conclude, let me once again thank each one of you for your contribution towards the success of the 19th Council of the Institute. The Convenor and the members of the Chapter Preparatory Committee have given us sufficient food for our reflections. The Committee has reminded us that we are not expected to be just prophets, but prophetic leaders, who cause changes all around through their prophetic action. As our Rule of Life powerfully reminds us “You become a special presence of Christ: your life shows forth the absolute priority of your choice of God, even at the heart of your professional undertakings. What you believe, what you live, you cannot but proclaim it: you preach the good news” (RL 59).

The message you carry to the Brothers, Associates and Collaborators from this Council of the Institute should inspire everyone concerned to live a life of greater authenticity, committing themselves to the cause of participating in the Church’s mission of evangelization, witnessing and human promotion. As Bro. Jaico reminded us the other day, quoting from

Zig Zigler, “What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals”. It will not be out of place for me to repeat what I quoted at the end of the ADC Report and what the Chapter Preparatory Committee reminded us, in the context of the theme of the upcoming 33rd General Chapter: “I am counting on you “to wake up the world”, since the distinctive sign of consecrated life is prophecy. As I told the Superiors General: ‘Radical evangelical living is not only for religious: it is demanded of everyone. But religious follow the Lord in a special way, in a prophetic way’. This is the priority that is needed right now: ‘to be prophets who witness to how Jesus lived on this earth... a religious must never abandon prophecy” (Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis to all Consecrated Persons, II, 2).

In keeping with the theme of the Closing Prayer Service this afternoon, “You are sent forth as leaders of Montfortian Mission”. My sincere thanks in advance to Bros. Irudayam and Herman, for preparing the Prayer Session, with a dance by the students of Wisdom Montfort. As you return to your entities, please convey our greetings to all the Brothers in your entities.

Wish you all a meaningful preparation for the 33rd General Chapter. Thank you and God bless.

Bro. John Kallarackal
Superior General





60TH DIAMOND JUBILEE

On Friday, November 25, 2022. Bro. Sakda Sakonthawat, the Director of ACT and the School Administrators organized the ACT 60th Diamond Jubilee of the school. This institution was founded in 1961. Mr. Tanjai Suwannathat, alumnus of AC Bangkok offered a piece of land, 9 Hectares to Bro. John Mary, the then Provincial to start another school on the other side of the Chao Phraya River. The Brother built a wooden one-storey building comprising of 15 classrooms.

On May 17th, 1961 ACT started with 123 students and 5 teachers. Now there are over 5000 students and 28

buildings for classes, modern equipment for students to acquire more advanced knowledge and books in the library. On the 60th Diamond Jubilee celebration, Rev. Archbishop of Tharae-Nongsaeng, Anthony Weradet Chaiseri, the main celebrant with a few priests offered the thanksgiving Mass, together with Brothers, Alumni, Parents, teachers, and students attended the celebration. After the celebration, the Archbishop blessed the 3-storey Learning Space to provide new ways for students to acquire and search for new advanced knowledge in their own interest happily. The day ended with a Chinese lunch.

VISITING THE SOCIAL CENTER AT OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

On Saturday, December 17, faculty members, personnel and students of Assumption University visited the St. Martin Social Center at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Ban Mai, Pak kret, Nonthaburi. This social centre is under the care of P.I.M.E. (Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions Priests). We brought Christmas and New Year gifts for over one hundred children who are housed there. Twenty volunteers take care of them.

Those who participated in this visit were very impressed by the self-sacrifices of the Volunteers' lives to take care of these unfortunate children, aged between five and fifteen years, day and night all through the year. Sometimes the Volunteers went out to visit sick patients outside the centre. It is hoped that all understand the love of God and that God will never forsake them.



Handing over a gesture of appreciation in support of the P.I.M.E Priests and their work



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

On December, Sunday 25, 2022, Bro. Dechachai Sripicharn, our Provincial Superior organized the get-together for our Brothers at Assumption College Bangkok to fulfil the 20th Provincial Chapter, which specifies “Celebrate important events to get the members of the Province together to strengthen the Fraternal life in the Province...”. The day started with half-a-day Recollection and thanksgiving Mass, followed by lunch, Christmas and New Year blessing and encouraging words from Rev. Bro. Provincial Superior and gifts distribution to all Brothers. During

the Recollection, Bro. Amnuay gave us some points to meditate, it is on: “We should be happy in our second family, our second home by showing gratitude, forgiving one another, being open and showing unconditional love among members”. All were happy and left the party to their different communities or to visit parents and friends and to have their yearly holidays, and do as Bro. Amnuay suggested for the year to come.



STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY OF THE BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL IN THAILAND

It is our pleasure to give good news from our Province to inform you that on Sunday, February 5, at De Montfort Novitiate, Chiang Mai, there was the First year Profession of six Brothers. This means, that the Province has a strength of 76 Brothers now. Rev Bishop Francis Xavier Vira, the Bishop of Chiang Mai presided over the Holy Mass, Bro. Provincial accepted the vows pronounced by the newly professed Brothers. Many Priests and Brothers

were present during the ceremony as were parents and friends. We pray for the young Brothers to persevere in their vocations till the end.

Bro. Achin Tengtrakul, SG



Province of Trichy

A PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH CHURCH, VADIPATTI

Dear Readers,

“Individually we can all do small things. Together with great love, we can do something wonderful.”

– Mother Teresa

It is a custom for the past few years in the Province of Trichy for the Brothers to go on a Pilgrimage to a nearby Shrine from Trichy. Such a gathering brings Brothers together and strengthens their spiritual and fraternal bond.

This year too, 63 Brothers of the Province along with our Superior General went on a Pilgrimage to our Lady of Good Health Church, Vadipatti, located 146 kms from Trichy on 28th January 2023 by bus.

All along the way, praying Rosary, singing Marian Hymns and placing each other’s petitions at the feet of our Lady were of pious experience. Once in the church, Brothers participated in a special mass to mark the 350th Birthday of our Founder, St. Montfort along with the faithful. During the mass, Brothers



renewed their consecration with the lighted candle. It was a real moment of Grace for the Brothers and the Province.

Such a mass gathering of Brothers in one place professed a great witnessing value and made-known our charism and spirituality to the public. Brothers’ presence in Vadipatti took St. Montfort and his teaching far and wide.

Bro. George Fernandez, SG



BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF THE MONTFORT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, JAFFNA, SRILANKA.

On 31st January 2023, on the 350th Birth Anniversary of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, the first Montfortian school in Srilanka was inaugurated by Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, the Superior General of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel. Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin Bernard Gnanapragasam the Bishop of Jaffna Diocese was the Guest of Honour who blessed the school. Bro. Irudhaym, the Provincial Superior of the Province of Trichy was present for the event along with the other Provincials of the Indian Provinces. Government officials from the district of Jaffna, good many Religious and Priests were present for the event. The Inaugural Program was organized

under the guidance of Bro. Mariapragasam, the Principal of the School.

The Foundation stone for the school was laid in 2019 and the construction works were started. The school started functioning from 2022 onwards, and as of now, the school has 150 students. 3 Brothers from India, 5 Sisters from St. Joseph's of Cluny Congregation and 5 teachers are working in the school. The school is the first of its kind in the Jaffna diocese.

Bro. Mariapragasam, SG



Province of Ranchi

MONTFORT NIKETAN, KONBIR NOATOLI

Warm greetings from Montfort Niketan! The Month of December was spent in preparation for the Christmas gathering and welcoming the new year.

Montfort Sr. Sec. School Girls Kho-kho team represented Gumla district in the 16th Junior State Kho-Kho Championship organized by West Singhbhum District Kho-Kho Association from 9th to 11th December 2022 in Chakardharpur, West Singhbhum.



On 21st of December a Christmas gathering was organized with a prayer service and a beautiful cultural programme in the Montfort Hostel. The next day we had Christmas celebration in the school. The BDO of Basia block was the Chief Guest for the celebration. All the hostellers went home for Christmas on 22nd after the gathering.

National Mathematics Day was celebrated on 17th of December organizing quiz and speech competitions to mark the birth anniversary of legendary Indian Mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan.

Bro. Xavier Tete, SG

MONTFORT SADAN, KOLKATA



On 20th December Christmas celebration was held for the students. We had organized some cultural programme on that day. Students had prepared a variety of cultural programmes to celebrate Christmas. The Students really enjoyed the Christmas celebrations.

On 22nd December we had school exhibition and a fête in the School. It was really a big gathering, as well as it was the most beautiful opportunity for the students where they brought out their hidden talents. Students really worked hard day in and day out to prepare their projects. Parents were happy about the overall performance of their children. Students were enthusiastic and had great zeal to take part in all the



games and win the prizes.

A Sports Day for the special children (deaf and dumb) was conducted with great enthusiasm. All the children participated in the programme and many won prizes.

On 23rd December we had Christmas gathering with school staff. On that joyous day the Teachers organized some games and after which we had prayer service conducted by Teachers then we ended that blissful day with a delicious lunch.

On 25th December the Chief Minister of West Bengal had sent her personal Christmas wishes to the Principal and staff of St. Montfort's Sr. Sec. School through the Station House Officer of the local Police Station.

Bro. Avijit Lomga, SG



MONTFORT BHAWAN, KONBIR-NOATOLI



St. Joseph's senior group students participated in the 'KHELO JHARKHAND' sports events, Master Moses of Class X, brought good tidings to the school. He grabbed the Gold medal in High jump in the state event clearing 1.66 mts.



The month of December was full of Christmas Gatherings. We had the Konbir CRI Group celebrating it at Don Bosco's school- Jamtoli- Kolebira. The Konbir-Noatoli Deanery level recollection and Christmas gathering, All Church's Christmas Gathering was held at Kamdera- GEL Church ground and St. Joseph's School campus had a combined Christmas Celebration of three institutions. The teachers and other staff members were given season's gifts as a token of gratitude. The students were given a piece of cake to mark the season.

Bro. Jacob Panjikaran, SG



THE JUNIOR BROTHERS SEMINAR

The Junior Brothers seminar held at MSI in Hyderabad was a meaningful experience for the 70 Brothers who participated. The three-day integration program provided an opportunity for the Junior Brothers to share their life experiences and bond as brothers through various activities. The presence of the major superiors and Formation Committee members was a very inspiring accompaniment to Junior Brothers. Bro. Shine Alex, the local Provincial

welcomed and felicitated the major superiors and the formation committee members. The culture of appreciation and respect can contribute to a positive and supportive learning environment for the Junior Brothers. The Junior Brothers seminar was a valuable experience for all involved, providing an opportunity for personal and collective growth and development through various activities.



THE ALL-INDIA ASSOCIATION OF MONTFORT SCHOOLS (AIAMS)



of their birthdays at St. Paul's, Hyderabad. Those meaningful prayers and palatial agape relinquished the fraternal sharing and love.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING



The All-India Association of Montfort Schools (AIAMS) Principal's Conference was held on November 23-29 in Goa, India. This year's conference focused on the theme of "Changing Course: Transforming Education," which highlights the importance of adapting to new and innovative ways of teaching and learning. The conference was well organized by Bro. Shine Alex, the Chairman of AIAMS, and Bro. Prem, the Director of Montfort ITI, Goa, who have put in a lot of hard work and effort to ensure that the event was a success. The presence of the Superior General Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, has been a great source of encouragement. Lots of ideas and information on fast-changing trends in education were discussed. This important event made educators stay up-to-date on the latest innovations and teaching methods, for the best possible education for their students.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



The Brothers from twin cities gathered to extend their fraternal greetings to Rev. Bro. John Kallerkal and Bro. KM Joseph, former assistant General, on the occasion

The Alumni Association meeting held on January 7th, 2023 in Gannavaram was successful in bringing together alumni from different schools. The theme "**Grow Strength to Strength, Grace to Grace and Light to Light**" was inspiring to have resonated with the members. The Provincial Superior Bro. Shine Alex and Bro. Santhosh Kumar, the Principal of St. John's, coordinated the event well, which contributed to its conquest. The event aimed to build a sense of community and connection among alumni of our schools. Alumni associations can be valuable resources for networking, mentoring, and professional development. The event provided an opportunity for alumni to reminisce about their childhood memories and reconnect with their teachers. This can be a great way to strengthen relationships and build a sense of camaraderie among the alumni.

Bro. Jayabalan, SG



COORDINATORS AND HEADMISTRESSES SEMINAR

All our schools' Headmistresses/Coordinators (total 36) had a seminar on 10th & 11th December 2022 at Montfort Villa, Patel Nagar, Bhopal. Day one began with Morning Prayer and the introduction of the resource person, Bro. Paul Raj, SG. He started the day by showing a video highlighting the life of St. Louis de Montfort. Later on, he shared the topic like Montfortian Spirituality, Montfortian Education in our Schools, and the Use of social media. His sessions lasted up to five in the evening, were full of interaction and learning. The same evening, we had Dr. Joseph Emmanuel, CBSE Academic Director, and Mr. Kishore Choudhary, Controller of Exam, CBSE, to speak to us. They briefed us about the change that are taking place in recent years and a lot of tips to handle school students in the present times. After the evening prayer and dinner all the members were divided into different groups to present some creative recreational activity. It was indeed a relaxing time of the day where all came together.

The second day started with Holy Mass at 6.30 am. 1st session started at 8.30 am with the topic, "Guiding Teachers and Students after Covid'19" by Dr. Ali A. Hussain, a psychologist. During his two hours of session, he enriched the group with the tips to handle children and teachers in today's scenario. Thereafter, Rev. Bro. Provincial took over the session on Innovation and New Practices in Different Schools, Role of Individual Follow-up, Difficulties and Challenges of Coordinators & Headmasters and the Practical Solutions. The programme was highly appreciated by the participants.

Bro. V. J. Mani, SG





MGA MEETING : NOVEMBER, 2022

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people." (Col 3:23)

The members of MGA of Montfort Inter College, Lucknow held a meeting on 30th November, 2022 in the Chapel of the Brothers. The meeting started with a prayer followed by according a warm welcome to Mr. Alfred Massey, the new member. All the members were present except two. Bro. Jinu Abraham, the Principal was present for the meeting.

Bro. T. T. Mathew introduced and welcomed Bro. George Pottakaran, the Coordinator of MGA, Delhi province amongst us. The prayer meeting continued with hymns praising and thanking God. It was followed by Bible reading and reflection on the verses.



Then Bro. George Pottakaran was invited to address the gathering. He explained the rules and regulations of the MGA movement by explaining the MGA Charter.

He emphasized on the importance of the work of ministry which should be done together for spreading the message of the Gospel. He explained to us the

future agendas and plans of the MGA. He reminded the members regarding their daily family prayer routine.



After the session, Rosary was conducted by the members and which was followed by the final blessing.



Refreshments were also arranged for the associates. Everyone enjoyed the evening by sharing the refreshments, interacting with each other and sharing their experiences which strengthened their fellowship.

They have decided to have the next MGA meeting in the month of April 2023 before the feast of St. Louis de Montfort.

Ms. Ashna Paulose

Province of Bengaluru



BLESSING & OPENING OF MONTFORT COUNSELLING & EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (MCES)

On the occasion of the 350th Birth Anniversary of St. Montfort our Founder, the newly established Montfort Counselling & Educational Services (MCES) located at 16/19, GST Road, Pallavaram, Chennai-43 was officially Blessed and Opened. Fr. A. Raj SDB, a member of the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) Blessed the Building and Bro. Joseph Louis - Diamond Jubilarian and Local Superior - Inaugurated the facility in front of more than 30 guests. Guest of Honour for the occasion was Colonel James from the Army Camp at Pallavaram.

MCES will provide multiple Services such as (1) Face to face counselling; (2) Online counselling;

(3) Seminars for students of Std VIII to XII on topics such as Mobile Phone Addiction; (4) Professional Development Seminars for Teachers of English Medium Schools etc. The resource person in-charge of MCES is Bro. P.J. George Ph.D.

Bro. P. J. George, SG



Shine, Jesus, shine
fill this land with the
Father's glory



St Thomas Mount Montfort School's 21st Annual Day followed by Prize Distribution for all General Proficiency Awardees, Board Exam Toppers

Chennai, 6th February 2023: The 21st Annual Day began with a lot of grandeur. Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal our Superior General from Rome was the Chief Guest, Bro. Irudhyam, Provincial Superior of Trichy, Bro. George Padikara Provincial Superior of Bengaluru and Mrs Geraldine Britto our retiring staff were the Guests of Honour.

The Guard of Honour welcomed the Guests and were taken to the auditorium with full honours by the NCC Cadets and School Band along with Bro. Stephen Xavier the Principal & Correspondent and Bro. Sebastian the Vice Principal. The programme began with a welcome address followed by the Lighting of the Lamp by the guests. The Welcome cum Prayer dance was performed by the students.

Bro Stephen Xavier, the Principal formally welcomed and thanked the guests, parents, Staff and students who were involved in the plan, preparation and success of the programme. He proudly announced that around 900 students participated in the event and more than 100 students received awards.

The Guests were introduced and felicitated. Mrs Britto our retiring staff was felicitated for her 14 years of Selfless Service at Montfort, followed by Prize

distribution for all the General Proficiency Awardees, Board Exam toppers in 2021 – 2022 along with the State Qualifiers in Sports and National level prize winners in Drawing.

A detailed Annual Report of this academic year was presented by the students. The Cultural Programme was a variety show with Dance, Singing, Drama, Oration and Instrumental. The Chief Guest, the Guests of Honour, all other guests and parents were highly impressed and congratulated the Principal, Vice Principal, Staff & Students for their meticulous planning and preparation and excellent performance. The day was indeed a remarkable one and yet another milestone in the history of Montfort, St. Thomas Mount.

Bro. Sebastian Antonysamy, SG



Province of North-East India

Celebrations - 350th Birth Anniversary of St. Montfort

The Sesquicentennial Birth Anniversary of St. Montfort was a great event in the schools run by the Province of Northeast India. A man who was born 350 years ago in far away France is a great hero for thousands of young men and women in India. The event was celebrated with great enthusiasm in our schools and the students had the opportunity to learn more about the life of St. Montfort and the mission of the Montfort Brothers. The campuses and the school buildings were beautifully decorated for the occasion. The imposing statues of St. Montfort occupy the pride of place in every Institution.

The Anniversary provided an occasion for the students to participate in different competitions and expand their knowledge about the saint. PowerPoint Presentations, Skits, Speeches, a variety of Dances

and various competitions like Elocution, Quiz and Drawing, organized by our institutions, highlighting the life of St. Montfort, marked the occasion.



The rendition of the song ‘Glory to thee Montfort...’ in unison by the students during the celebrations, made the halls in our institutions reverberate with their sweet voices and ushered in the spirit of belongingness to the Montfortian Family and the spirit of pride in everyone’s heart.

The Principals, while imprinting a picture of the saintly life of St. Montfort in the minds of the Montfortians gathered in the halls, urged them to make St. Montfort as their role model so that they could make a difference in the lives of others with whom they come in contact during the course of their lives as did the saintly priest.



IN MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED DEPARTED BROTHERS JOSEPH JOHN & JOY ALEX



Late Bro. Joseph John (1940 – 1996) has completed 25 years in the abode of God. In order to celebrate his life, Montfort School, Champaknagar in Tripura state started an Inter-School football tournament for the girls. The first edition of the tournament brought together 13 schools from different parts of the state.

To commemorate the life of the Late Bro. Joy Alex (1962 - 2013) who has passed from the Land of the living, Montfort School, Champaknagar, has been organizing the Bro. Joy Alex Memorial Boys Interschool Volleyball Tournament, for many years. It is a yearly feature which has turned into a prestigious tournament and has been attracting quite a number of schools from far and near. The competition has always been fierce, displaying high standards of the game.

The tournament was inaugurated by Mr. C. K. Jamatia, the CEO of the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC). A total of 17 schools participated in the events attracting a huge number of spectators who cheered and motivated their respective teams ushering in a competitive and festive mood. The Chief Guest appreciated the role played by our school in promoting the Holistic Education of the Tribal Community of Tripura.

The final of the Volleyball Tournament was an all Montfort School, Champaknagar affair. In the fiercely competitive final Montfort 'A' Team was able to surpass the Montfort 'B' Team's effort and bagged the coveted Bro. Joy Alex Memorial Inter-school Boys Volleyball Trophy.



In spite of the spirited performance of our Girls football team in the finals, the Khumpuii Academy girls stood up to the challenge and won the inaugural Bro. Joseph John Memorial Inter-school Girls Football Championship.

Reported by Mr. Alex

Province of Yercaud

MONTFORT SCHOOL, ICSE, YERCAUD



Christmas Prelude :



On 10th December, our school had its Christmas prelude presided by Fr. David Adaikalam from Holy Cross Novitiate of Yercaud. The programme highlighted the birth of Jesus through a skit and prayer by the school choir. The programme was concluded by the Principal presenting all the students with a Christmas gift.

Pongal Celebration:



The senior students from grades 9 to 12, returned on the 2nd of January 2023 after rejuvenating themselves in the winter vacation. On the 12th of January, Pongal was celebrated in our school with the students and parents. Traditional dances were performed by the

students and games were played by all. Sweet Pongal was cooked in mud pots and served to all along with sugarcane which made the festival a complete one.



State Level Mont Quiz:



The State Level Mont Quiz for the year 2022-23 for the junior category was conducted among 11 schools from different places. Nivesh Mohan and Jagadesh of Grade VIII won 1st place and were honoured with certificates and cash awards.

Exhibition :



On the 21st of January, an exhibition on Arts and Social Science was conducted. The Arts comprised of different types of paintings like Indian Tribal art, impressionism, cubism, etc... and different items used, like charcoal, soft pastels, mixed media, etc...



The social science exhibition came up with models of different monuments of India made to perfection along side the traditional equipments used and our age-old grains, sweets and savouries.

Republic Day:



February 2023

On the 26th January, our school celebrated the 74th Republic Day of our country. It started off with the unfurling of the National flag by Bro. Francis and it was followed by speech, dance, skit and a quiz, expressing the patriotism the children and the staff had for our country.

St. Montfort's Birthday :



On the 31st of January, St. Montfort's Birthday was celebrated, which actually had its preceding for 9 days ahead with Novena prayers in the Chapel. The eventful day was celebrated with a Holy Mass, the occasion highlighting the life and services of St. Montfort to humankind.



Bro. George I, SG

Province of France



350TH JUBILEE OF THE BIRTHDAY OF ST. MONTFORT

MONTFORT-SUR-MEU, SUNDAY, 29, JAN 2023

It was such a good initiative of the Montfort Missionaries of the Montfortian Hospitality Center, and the Parishioners of Montfort-Sur-Meu to celebrate Montfort's 350th anniversary of the birthday of Louis-Marie Grignion. On the early morning of Jan 29th, 2023, the village of Montfort-sur-Meu was flooded by a procession of vehicles and buses transporting members of the Montfortain family (Brothers, Fathers, and Sisters), members of the Montfortian Hospitality, friends from the region and from other regions of France. What a joy to gather here coming from various horizons! What a surprise and pride for the inhabitants of Montfort to welcome us in their Parish, in their village, the birthplace of Louis-

Marie!

The Parish Church Saint-Louis-Marie en Broceliande was quite full despite the cold temperature... A procession of women and men from various groups: Daughters of Wisdom, Brothers of Saint-Gabriel, Members of the Montfortian Hospitality, Parishioners, Priests, and the members of the new Fraternity of Montfortian Deacons, holding banners and relics of Saint Montfort, was aligning in a long queue, and entering the church singing « *Jubilez, criez de joie, Acclamez le Dieu trois fois Saint !* ». "Rejoice and shout joyfully, Praise the Holy Lord", a song that gave the right tune of such a blessed day.



During the celebration, the congregation echoed Father de Montfort's words, spiritual accents, aspirations, gestures, and prayers through readings, comments, and reflections, canticles. The outstanding homily given by Mgr d'Ornellas, Archbishop of Rennes also helped the audience to remember the great Missionary, Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort. Further than a homily, the reflections given by Mgr. d'Ornellas recalled Montfort's preaching style. He helped us reflect and meditate on the unconditional Love of God for Humankind and for each of us. The unnumbered quotations of Father de Montfort cited during the homily could make us think that Father de Montfort, himself was present among us attending the celebration!

The Montfortian Family represented in our assembly was perfectly in tune with the preaching of the Archbishop. At the end of the homily, the whole congregation took time to pray and meditate on the Love of God which is indissociable from the love which every missionary must transmit like Father de Montfort, who served the Poor and accomplished the mission he had received from Pope Clement XI. "Live your Baptism and be missionaries of the Gospel through the Love of God that makes you live" could summarise in a few words the beautiful exhortation that we heard.

At 3.00 p.m. the pilgrims of the day were offered an original festive time with the proposal of songs from parts of hymns by Father de Montfort, set to music by Father Willy and interpreted by an orchestra from Pontchâteau. An hour of happiness due to the beauty and variety of the songs.



Let us hope that from heaven we will receive the abundant graces needed and new strength to continue the mission of Father de Montfort. Thank you to all those who made this day a beautiful success!

PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF F. JEAN FRIANT ON OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS, (IMA)

What happened in Angers on Saturday 14th January 2023?

The Catholic University of the West in Angers (UCO) wanted to mark the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Applied Mathematics (IMA). The Rector of the University Mr. Laurent Péridy, himself former Director of the Institute, participated in the celebration.

I was the first. At the closing gala, in a restaurant at Terra Botanica, there were more than 250 of us, mostly former students and former and current teachers. But one notable absence was that of Brother Michel Morfin, confined to his room due to health problems. Brother Michel was a member of the team that launched the IMA, and the class of 2006 will even take the name "Michel Morfin".

How did you come to open, create/found such an institute?

It was in February 1965 that I became an assistant in mathematics at the Faculty of Sciences of the UCO. There were about ten of us Brothers teaching in this Catholic university: in literature, languages, law and maths. My research director, Mr. Benzécry, embarked me on a new field, namely the mathematical structures of languages which involved mathematical linguistics. The IMA was in its infancy without me suspecting it. On 24 June 1966, I defended my doctoral thesis at the University of Paris VI, "Pierre et Marie Curie". I now had to undertake the State Doctorate.



From left to right: Pierre Chauvet, Director of the IMA, Bro. Jean Friant, Mr. Laurent Péridy, Rector of the UCO.

1968 A very exciting, year in Canada!

I was to benefit from a very favourable circumstance. A Canadian laboratory of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Montreal, working on English-French translation with the help of computers, hired me as a mathematician. I was accommodated at the provincial house of the province of Montreal, which was then located on Canterbury Avenue, near the University of Montreal. I lived there in the community with a Brother of Saint Gabriel who worked in the same research centre as a linguist. It was Bro. Adélarde Faubert, whom I would meet again in Rome as secretary and translator at the Generalate. Canada was a dream place for me, because if during the week I worked hard, the weekends were regularly spent in the middle of nature, at Camp Marcel. It was a fantastic year for me in many ways!

The return to Angers

Having discovered many theorems, I returned to Angers at the beginning of 1969. I found a very different university from the one I had left in February, marked by the events of May 68. And very quickly I found myself elected, at the age of 30, to be in charge of the Sciences. From then on, I had to deal with administrative activities for which I had not been prepared, and this delayed the writing of my doctoral thesis. I will defend it in June 1971, still at Paris-VI.

A crisis at the Catholic University

First of all, there was the problem of awarding diplomas. It was also the time when the city of Angers wanted to have its own state university. The "Catho" was seen as an obstacle to this creation. It was in this context of survival that the Catholic university set up, at the beginning of the 1970 academic year, 4 university institutes, including the Institute of Applied Mathematics (I.M.A). Roger Texier, who hold a Doctorate in Philosophy, will be in charge of the Teacher Training Institute. In 1977, Brother Michel Taillé became a Pillard of the Institute of Languages after serving 12 years in Rome as Vicar General of Brother Romain Landry. I was joined

by three young laymen plus Brother Michel Morfin who had started teaching mathematics at the university in 1966



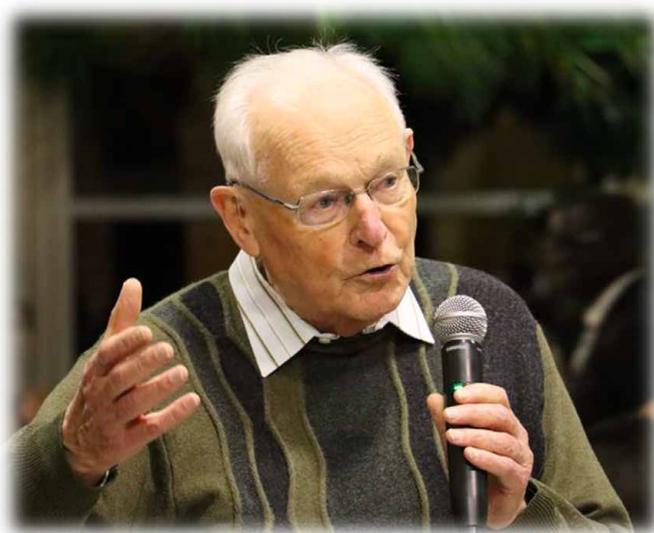
On 14 January 2023, F. Jean Friant receiving the "Best Founder" Award

What happened to you in 1977?

At Easter 1977, I was requested by Brother Jean Bulteau, Superior General, to become Provincial of the Province of Nantes, one of the three French Provinces at that time. I had no intention of leaving the IMA prematurely. It cost me a lot. I gave my answer only after three days spent in an abbey for discernment. Seen now, I feel that this departure was beneficial both for me and for the IMA. For me, I was not abandoning the IMA completely. Indeed, having been appointed for a limited term, I was planning to return to the "Catho" after six years. So I continued to give in-service training sessions in companies on behalf of the IMA. I continued these courses until 1988 when I was appointed Superior General. I then stopped my work for the IMA for good. And here I am at the head of another Institute, which has little to do with a maths Institute!

Why an Institute of Applied Mathematics?

Until that time, mathematics was essentially applied to the physical sciences. With the appearance of the first computers and new branches of mathematics, we were convinced that there would be more and more opportunities for mathematical analysts, equipped with the computer tool, in many sectors of the social sciences and humanities: banks, large companies, and elsewhere. To date, the institute has trained 1,248 graduates who, in 5 years, have prepared their MIASHS (Mathematics and Computer Science Applied to the Humanities and Social Sciences) Masters. 90% find a job in less than two months.



Province of Senegal

FORMATION SESSION ON ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONEL MANAGEMENT

Institution René Merceron, Mbour 7 January 2023



After a long period of suspension, the empowerment courses on Administration and Personnel management destined for the Brothers resumed. Initiated last year by the province, these formation courses provided by CREDA (Centre for Research and Studies for Development in Africa) are to be continued this year.

The latest seminar was held in Mbour on 7 January, and was based on three activities:

- 1- Explanation of the ACTES method of file management,
- 2- Strategies for involving stakeholders (in the development of the structure),
- 3- Sharing workshop on involvement strategies.

1- This first activity focused on organization and files

management. This method consists of arranging files in a methodical way, according to the A.C.T.E.S. approach.

The letter **A** represents the drawer containing current files, i.e., the files to be dealt with today, which are arranged from the most urgent to the least urgent. This drawer will be empty at the end of the day because all the files are processed or stored in a Follow-up drawer.

This drawer consists of Mail files (Arrival / Departure) for the **C**. The email will be processed and the conclusions stored in the Transmit drawer.

The letter **T** represents the file drawer to be forwarded (services/persons). The processed letters are forwarded to the right person.

The **E** stands for the drawer for files to be eliminated. Make sure that files that are no longer needed are removed. This is the drawer for files to be followed up for the **S**. At the end of the day, this drawer will receive the files that have not yet been processed, from the most urgent to the least urgent.

2- The second session of formation focused on sectors of management activity. An interactive workshop on involvement strategies was held, and heads of mission were chosen.





GROUPE SCOLAIRE SAINT-PIERRE: FARWELL CEREMONY, AND HOMAGE TO THE BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL

It was in 1961, that Mgr Lefèvre entrusted the Brothers of Saint Gabriel in Senegal with the Educational Ministry and management of Saint Pierre Primary School founded in 1953 by the Spiritan Fathers.



After sixty-one (61) years of presence in this school, the Brothers expressed their wish to withdraw for new missions. Since the academic year 2022-2023, a team of Parish Priests has been sent to continue the education mission started by the Brothers.

A Farwell ceremony honoring the Brothers of Saint Gabriel was held on Saturday 11 February. The ceremony began with a mass presided over by Mgr. Benjamin NDIAYE Archbishop of Dakar. In his opening and welcoming address, Father Etienne Diana DIOUF, the newly appointed Principal of the Institution, explained the sense of such an event which is a recognition of the immense work of the Brothers. Father Etienne valued the great work of the Brothers and, on behalf of the diocese, greeted the excellent service rendered to the children and the youth during so many years.

The ceremony was also an opportunity to encourage the Brothers in their future mission. Finally, the Principal magnified the course and the succession of the Brothers that ran the school during their 61 years of mission. He paid tribute to two figures that shaped the history of the Brothers in the Institution: Brother Joseph GAUCHA in 1961 and Brother Joseph Saloum TINE in 2022;

At the end of the Mass, the Secretary General of the Parents' Association, the Staff delegate, and the Diocesan Director of Education in Dakar took turns to thank the Brothers.

On behalf of the Provincial Superior, absent because of the Council of the Institute, Brother Patrice thanked the Diocese for their confidence and collaboration. He also asked for forgiveness for all the shortcomings and finally prayed and wished the new team every success and a fruitful mission.

Souvenirs of gratitude were presented to the Brothers of Saint Gabriel.



ADOZIONI A DISTANZA

BEGINNING OF THE NEW YEAR 2023



The New year 2023 started with two holy Masses celebrated in our Chapel by Bro Dionisio Santoro. The first one at 8 a.m. was for those friends who reside near to our Institute. The second one was for a group of three families and a few singles who are benefactors of adoption at a distance and who wanted to share their presence and their lunch with us Brothers of Ca' Florens. They had prepared a very good new year lunch in their homes and brought it to our Institute. Before lunch, holy Mass was celebrated for them by Bro. Dionisio Santoro. They remained with us the whole day. The children enjoyed the day with the Mass, lunch and various indoor and outdoor games. All these are our spiritual children belonging to the group of Adoption at a distance and to the Prayer Group "Regina della Pace" animated by Bro. Mathew Kavumkal. It was a marvellous first day of the New Year 2023.



SPIRITUAL RETREAT OF THE BENEFACTORS



One day spiritual Retreat of the Benefactors of Adoption at a distance.

On every 3rd Sunday of the month, we organise a day of spiritual retreat. In January, we had it on Sunday 15 January. It started at 9.30 and at 12 we had the celebration of the Holy Mass celebrated by Bro. Dionisio Santoro. The spiritual animators with their instruments and appropriate songs helped the participants to pray, meditate and to adore the Blessed Sacrament.



PREPARATION FOR THE CONSECRATION TO JESUS CHRIST, INCARNATE WISDOM



animation during the Mass. Bro. Dionisio Santoro celebrated the Mass. His homily on Montfort was well appreciated.

After the Mass a sumptuous refreshment was served to all the participants. Not only that we served, but nearly every participant brought on more refreshment items to be shared with others. It was an occasion for many to share their spiritual and social experiences with others. The presence of such a large group of people was really a proof of the efficacy of our apostolate among the people. We thank God for it.

For 20 years, the Prayer Group “*Regina della Pace*” guided by Bro. Mathew organises three month’s preparation for the Consecration to Jesus Christ, Incarnate Wisdom through the hands of Mary, mother of Jesus, following the teachings of St. Louis Mary Grignion de Montfort. The Consecration is fixed for the 25 March 2023 on the Feast of the Annunciation. In January two prayer meetings were conducted for the preparation. In February, already one meeting was organised. Even those who are already consecrated participate at the meetings in order to renew the Consecration. The faith and Marian Spirituality of these faithful – all are benefactors – are to be admired. We thank God for sending to us these faithful for His glory.



350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MONTFORT

Our community, even though we are two, organised a day of celebration in honour of our Founder’s 350th Birth anniversary. With the available social Media, we circulated a message requesting the presence and collaboration of our friends and benefactors and the result was wonderful. More than hundred people turned up for the celebration. The hall fixed for the celebration of the Mass was full. The liturgical group consisting of benefactors have given really good

Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, SG



THE VISIT OF THE PROVINCIAL OF NORTH EAST PROVINCE:



On December 18, 2022 the indelible and most cherishing day wherein Bro. Varghese Mandapathil the Provincial Superior of North East arrived with his ardent desire to see and to meet the young pre-novices. Classes on, **“To change, Emotional maturity and Self-confidence”** were taken which helped us a lot in learning and knowing the world around us. The classes were well appreciated by all concerned. A small but lovely cultural programme was organized in his honour along with a special prayer service.

THE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME:

The most crucial and cherished days of the pre-novices commenced from 26th to 30th December in which 50 different games had been organized and we were given chance to explore our potential in games under the guidance of Bro. Director and Bro. Socius. We enjoyed these 5 days of Christmas vacation.

February 2023

PONGAL CELEBRATION:



It had been like a dream for us to explore (or) to have these experiences of learning and knowing the culture of our beloved country. We had, a small but sweet and rich in knowledge, Pongal celebration on 16th January by attending the heart-touching prayer, drawing Rangoli, cooking the Pongal, playing traditional as well as recreational games and having a special lunch consisting of numerous vegetable dishes.

THE THIRD BOOK REVIEW:

One month of preparation for the book review in PPT culminated on the 23rd of January, 2023. Though it had been the first time for all the pre-novices to portray our book review presentation in PPT, the result was incredible. All of us did very well using our innovative ideas, methodology, and knowledge. We were given an opportunity to learn from each other and to explore our potential.

Andrew (Pre-Novice)



ST. GABRIEL'S NOVITIATE, SITAGARHA



BEGINNING THE CANONICAL YEAR

Dear Brothers, warm and prayerful greetings from 12 novices and 3 staff of St. Gabriel's novitiate, Sitagarha. We would like to share with you some of the important occurrences of St. Gabriel's Novitiate, Sitagarha. Wish you a happy reading.

BIDDING GOODBYE TO TERTIANS:

Novices and staff went to the Jesuit SSC Tertianship Block on 13th Dec. 2022 to bid goodbye and to thank all the tertians who taught us, who celebrated the daily Mass in our chapel, who heard the confession and shared their life with us during their 6 months stay in Sitagarha and gave them all a small gift each.

VISIT OF DELHI PROVINCIAL:

Bro. Thampy Alex reached the Novitiate along with Bro. Regis on 14th Dec. 2022. He met all the novices of Delhi Province and the staff of the Novitiate individually. We organized special prayer, cultural programme and dinner. Religious men and women from neighbouring communities were invited for the occasion.

CAMPUS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION:

We celebrated the campus, Christmas in the SSC Basketball court on 17th December 2022. We gave an 8 minutes skit on the title 'Christmas in the 21st century which was well appreciated'. The entire programme lasted for 3 hours and 30 minutes. All the formation houses gave a cultural item and brought a homemade snack to share with all. There were more



CAMPUS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

than 200 formees and formators who took an active part in the celebration.

CHRISTMAS AND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN KANABANDH:

We went to Kanabandh to celebrate Christmas and the Golden Jubilee of Bro. Abraham on 18th December 2022. We performed a dance and sang a song. Socius felicitated Bro. Abraham. We spent the whole day there being with the students, teachers and parents.

CHRISTMAS SEMINAR:

Novices and staff attended one day Christmas seminar on the history, tradition and scripture of Jesus in SSC delivered by Fr. Mike SJ for all the novices on 20th December 2022. All the novices and formators of the Sitagarha campus attended this session and benefited a lot from it.

CHANGE OF PROGRAMME:

We had the change of programme from 21st of

December, 2022 to 3rd January 2023. We were divided into 3 groups to decorate the whole house and to prepare some sweets. The change of programme was full of recreational, spiritual, intellectual and physical activities. All of us were able to relax and refresh ourselves to begin the second semester zealously.

CHRISTU JAYANTHI:

We celebrated the birth of Christ with our Brothers from our neighbouring communities with prayer, exchanges of gifts, cutting of a cake, tasting of rice beer, a good meal and lots of music and dance. Everyone had a wonderful time.

CAROL SINGING:

All the formees and formators of the Sitagarha campus were divided into two groups to go around the formation houses singing Christmas carols on 26th and 27th December 2022. It was a lovely opportunity to meet all the formees of Sitagarha and to share our Christmas joy with them. Parishioners of Sitagarha came to the novitiate singing carols on 11th December 2022.

BASKETBALL MATCH:

We played a friendly basketball match with the SSC Juniors on 27th December 2022 as part of the change of programme. SSC Juniors were in a better position to win the match. We enjoyed the hospitality of Jesuits.

WALKING AND COOKING PICNIC:

We had a walking picnic to Lara River on 28th December 2022. We cooked our lunch in the picnic spot at the banks of the river. There were many people along the river having a similar experience. We returned to the novitiate by 4.30 p.m. on foot.

ONE-DAY RECOLLECTION:

We had a day of recollection on 31st December 2022 and on the same day we received the sacrament of reconciliation as well. We had the adoration 3 times during the day. We attended the vigil Mass at night in the parish. We also sang and danced with the parishioners just after the Mass. We too celebrated the New Year on the same night by cutting a cake and sharing homemade snacks.

PICNIC TO CANARI HILLS:

We went on a picnic to Canari hills and lakes in Hazaribagh on 1st January 2023 and on our way back we went to MTC to have lunch. It was nice to celebrate the new year with the people and the Brothers of the Montfort school community, Hazaribagh.

VISIT OF PUNE PROVINCIAL:



Pune and Ranchi Provincials came on a 2-day visit to the novitiate on 2nd January 2023. The Provincial of Ranchi addressed the novices and the Provincial of Pune met all the novices and the Brothers individually. Both of them left the novitiate for MTC on the evening of 3rd January.

VISIT OF SINGAPOREANS:



Bro. Dominic SG and Fr. Ambrose OP from Singapore came and stayed in the novitiate for 3 days from 6th to 9th January 2023. They were given traditional welcome on their arrival. Both of them addressed the novices and shared their lived experiences with them. They also visited all the neighbouring communities of Brothers, Sisters and Fathers. They left for Ranchi on 9th January. We were all happy to share our life with them.

2ND BOOK REVIEW:

The 12 Novices successfully completed their second book review presentations on 11th January. All of them presented quite creatively the brief summary of the book in PPT format. All of them invariably explained the concepts well.

PONGAL FESTIVITY:

Gabriel's House and novices and sisters of CIC celebrated together Pongal in the basketball court. We celebrated the harvest festival in the traditional ways possible by making rangoli, preparing pongal, praying together as a community, sharing and distributing the



pongol with the neighbouring communities, playing good old traditional games and relishing the prepared meal in a typical Tamil style. All of us had a wonderful time.

74th REPUBLIC DAY:



We celebrated the republic day on 26th January in a grand way. Fr. Kamal SJ was the chief guest. We had the march-past, mime, dance and a speech. The novices played a friendly basketball match and watched a patriotic movie in the evening.

5 DAYS RETREAT:

Novices attended the 5 days of psycho-spiritual retreat preached by Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, the Provincial of North-east India. The retreat was held from 28th January to 1st February. The retreat preacher also met all the novices twice personally. We have received lots of practical tips to live as good and holy novices in the novitiate.

BEGINNING THE CANONICAL YEAR:

We the 12 novices entered the canonical year of the novitiate on 2nd February. We began the ceremony with a half an hour of adoration followed by the ceremony proper in which Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, Provincial of North East admitted us in the canonical year of the Novitiate. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by many priests who came from the nearby communities. There were many brothers and sisters who took part in it as well. The novices were given a light blue *kurta*, a black pant, NRSV Bible and a neck

chain each to mark the importance of the canonical year. All the guests who came prayed for us and congratulated us for our willingness to live as full-fledged novices.

VISIT OF BRO. T. K. JAMES:



Bro. T. K. James, the Assistant General came on 2 days visit to the novitiate and was given a typical Jharkhand's traditional welcome on 8th February. He gave a talk to the novices and met all the staff. We gave a well-organized welcome ceremony to our guest in the evening in which many Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and our helpers from nearby communities participated. We really appreciated his talk and his way of dealing and relating with us.

SAROJ XESS (Novice)



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The training seminar for the Montfortian Gabrielite Associates of Yercaud Province

The training seminar for the Montfortian Gabrielite Associates of Yercaud Province was held on 13th December at St. Louis Villa, Yercaud. Around 35 associates along with their Spiritual directors were present. The focus was on total consecration to Jesus through Mary and Montfortian Spirituality in our life. All the arrangements were made by Bro. Johnson S., the Provincial and Bro. Johnson Arulraj the convenor of the MGA commission.





PROVINCE OF BENGALURU
Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount, Chennai.



MGA – Feast Celebration of our Lady of the Rosary

"The Rosary is the most powerful weapon to touch the Heart of Jesus, our Redeemer, who loves his Mother" - St. Louis de Montfort

On Friday, 28th October, the Members of MGA, St Thomas Mount celebrated the Feast of our Lady of the Holy Rosary.

At 4.00 p.m. the MGA members of Montfort ITI animated the Holy Rosary offering up special intentions and Marian Hymns after each decade. The Litany of the Rosary was recited after which Fr. Lazer SVD, celebrated the Holy Mass.



Associate Promise after the Communion with lighted candles, symbolising their intent to burn like the candle and spread the light of hope and peace.



During the homily Fr. Lazer highlighted the personality of St. Montfort and how the Papacy during his time were greatly influenced by his writings, furthermore how we must also do everything keeping 'God Alone' as our motto and even our small deeds and actions must be for the greater Glory of God.

The MGA members renewed their baptismal vows soon after the homily and also renewed the Montfortian

After the final blessing the members of MGA along with the Brothers came in procession to venerate Mary our Mother of God with a Rose while the choir sang the Marian Hymn, 'O Queen of the Holy Rosary'.



The celebration ended with a group photo and High Tea.

May St. Montfort continue to inspire us to grow closer along with the Virgin Mother and touch the Heart of Jesus, our Redeemer.



Meeting of AGMONT associates in the Province of Spain

On the 1st of October a meeting of AGMONT took place in our country house (Can Xic), in the middle of nature. This meeting replaced the one that should have been held in June as the end of the 2022-23 school year.

Due to the pandemic, the associates had not been able to meet for two years. It was only on the occasion of the feast of Saint Louis Marie de Montfort, at the end of April 2022, that some associates were able to attend the conference that the Grignion de Montfort Society has the custom of organizing on the occasion of our Founder's feast day.

The members were certainly looking forward to a day of conviviality, exchanging hugs and experiences. Although the attendance was quite large, there were some absences, some due to age or illness and others for personal reasons. We all deeply regretted it.

The morning was spent taking part in various activities and games, such as petanque, cards, parcheesi, etc. Others took advantage of the morning to go for a walk in the beautiful nature, as it was a wonderful day.



Lunch, perfectly prepared by the organisers of the meeting, was an important moment of conviviality, to continue sharing experiences. The after-dinner conversation was also significantly long and enjoyable.

The afternoon was quieter. However, the conversation did not let up until the time of the Eucharist, which we celebrated in the open air, in an unbeatable setting. Before the celebration of the Holy Mass, Mrs Raquel Torres, one of the organisers and head of the Association, handed out to those present, especially





to the new members, an information sheet about what the Association is and what it means in terms of collaboration in the activities carried out by the Association. He insisted, above all, on personal commitment.

Brother Faustino Besa, who finished his mandate as Provincial on 30th

June, then introduced Brothers Robert Stanislas, from the Republic of Congo (Africa), and Marreddy Thirumalareddy, from Hyderabad (India), who had recently arrived from their respective countries, to form part of the International Community, located in the residence of Saint Gabriel School in Sant Adrià de Besòs. Brother Genaro Fresno, the new Provincial of Spain, also took the opportunity to introduce himself, to welcome the two brothers who had recently joined the International Community and to thank them for their fraternal willingness to leave their countries and come to our country on evangelical mission. He also took the opportunity to thank Brother Faustino for the services carried out in the Province of Spain during his two terms as Provincial. Bro. Genaro ended his speech by inviting those present to pray a decade of the Rosary, following one of the methods promoted by St. Louis Marie de Montfort and asking our good Mother for her protection for the new school year that has just begun.



After the speeches, the Eucharist began, officiated by Brother Faustino, which was considered a heartfelt farewell, since he has been assigned to the community of La Aguilera. In his homily he was able to get the participants to express what the Word of God had suggested to them. The celebration developed in the silence, peace and tranquillity that such an event requires.

Before saying goodbye, the organisers were kind enough to invite us to some sweets, accompanied by genuine cava from *Sant Sadurni de Noya*. It was the perfect finale to a meeting that everyone had been looking forward to for so long. Hugs and good wishes for the new school year flowed profusely. We toasted to our friendship and made an appointment for the next meeting which will take place at the end of October.





Meeting of Associates of Gabrielite Shared Mission PROVINCE OF SPAIN

*Happy one and a thousand times in this life, the
one to whom the Holy Spirit reveals Mary's secret
so that he may know it!*
SM 20

On Saturday, 22 October this year, at 10 a.m., the group of associates of the Gabrielite Shared Mission of Catalonia met in the premises of the Provincial Curia (Barcelona).

After the opening prayer, the General Coordinator of MCG, Gemma Justo Medrano, presented the theme: The experience of Mary in Montfort... and in you (PART I).

The session required first looking at how the Church presents Mary. We then watched three clips from the film “The Chosen” which resulted in some rich reflections on Mary. In the second part, we reflected on some of the contents of “The Secret of Mary” by reading a few quotations from this book by St. Louis Marie de Montfort. At the end, the associates shared a time of prayer to Mary and placed in her hands our hopes and dreams for this year.





TOGETHER WE ARE +

Meeting of AGMONT associates in the Province of Spain



On the evening of 22 October, the AGMONT group of associates, after two years and seven months of hiatus due to the pandemic, was able to meet in person in the theatre of the San Gabriel Sant Adrià school in Barcelona.

It was a day of special joy because there was much to celebrate. First and foremost, the meeting in this new normality; then, the whole journey made by this group since 1998, the date of the closing of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the canonization of our founder, Saint Louis Marie de Montfort, until today, with the aim of continuing to project our future with enthusiasm; and finally, the arrival of Brothers Robert Stanislas Bantsimba and Marreddy Thirumalareddy to the international community recently created in Sant Adrià de Besòs, Barcelona.

After this look at the past, Brother Alejandro Martínez Aguilar, one of the leaders of the group from the beginning, and María Jesús Ramos Rubio, coordinator of the Formation Team for the Gabrielite Shared Mission, presented the different movements of

associates which have arisen in each and every one of the provinces in which the Brothers are present, their origins, the activities they carry out and the priority they give to the Consecration to Jesus through the hands of Mary.

Afterwards, Brother José María Vicario presided over the Eucharist, which has always been a vital point of this group of associates of the Province of Spain.

After sharing supper, we all left strengthened and happy on knowing that we are many groups who share the charism, spirituality and mission of the Brothers of St. Gabriel on the five continents. Because TOGETHER, Brothers and Lay people from all over the world, **WE ARE +** in the proclamation of the Kingdom of God from the Montfortian-Gabrielite perspective and in the construction of a fraternal world, more just and solidarity.



Meeting of the Associates of the Province of Spain

On Saturday 28 January, the associates of the Province of Spain met in Barcelona and Madrid to celebrate the meeting they had planned on the theme of Mary.

At 10:30 a.m., in the premises of the Provincial House of Barcelona, the group of the Gabrielite Shared Mission of Catalonia met to focus on the development of the personality of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, from the point of view of his Marian devotion, in his childhood and youth until his ordination as a priest, and later, in his time as an apostolic missionary. The exhibition presented the "external practices" that St. Louis proposed to us to please and glorify God and that he put into practice in his missionary activity. External practices which, as he insisted, must always correspond to "internal practices".

After a snack, we watched the episodes of Jesus lost in the Temple and the wedding at Cana. We reflected on the attitude of Mary, who not only accepted to be the mother of Jesus, but who, by her yes, also accepted the divine identity and saving mission of her son.

In the afternoon, at 5 p.m., the group AGMONT met, also in the Provincial House, to work on the same theme. They first analysed the relationship between Mary and Jesus through five episodes of the Gospel, and then established Mary's relationship with us. Finally, they also looked at the theme: Who was Mary for Father de Montfort? After the Eucharist, they had a relaxed dinner together.

For their part, the group of Montfort Family associates from Madrid and La Aguilera met with the group of MCG associates from Madrid at the school in Madrid at 10:5 a.m. They were joined by several collaborators from the school and by two other associates online from Jaén. After the opening prayer, Brother Ángel Llana presented the figure of Mary as it is presented by the Church:

- Mary Mother of God... co-creator (engenders God in History)
- Virgin Mary... free (God is the only reason for her human existence)
- Mary Immaculate... co-redemptrix (Mary is the example of what we can assume with God's grace)
- Mary Assumed... assumes her identity (reevaluation of the unity between body and spirit)

After the presentation, an episode of the series *The Chosen* was shown in which Mary talks with the disciples while Jesus heals the sick Samaritans. During the break, participants chatted and enjoyed good coffee and sweets. Then groups were formed to discuss a series of questions about our relationship with Mary. This first part of the meeting ended with a prayer to Our Lady. After lunch, the group visited the parish of Santa Maria del Silencio, which has been working, since 2012, with a group of people with sensory disabilities, deaf and dumb. The parish priest explained the history of the parish and the role they currently play in it.

A Saturday entirely dedicated to the memory and honour of Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, as well as to the memory of the personal experience of St. Louis in his devotion to the Virgin Mary, which gave rise to his Marian doctrine that has meant so much to the Church and to us all.

MCG Training Team



#ARISEANDGO

-LISBO 2023

The World Youth Day - 2023



The World Youth Day (WYD) begins from 1st to 6th of August 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. The theme for this WYD is the Bible verse “Mary arose and went with haste” (Lk 1:39). The Youth (of all faiths) between the ages 15 to 35 are invited to be part of this massive event. Pope Francis himself closely monitors overall preparations. The Preparation Committee had a general audience with Pope in the first week of January 2023. WYD will be a special event in which Youth will be exposed to the teachings of Jesus Christ and be empowered to live in the way of Christ. The Youth will be able to connect to the universal Church and be part of a global movement of faith. WYD will be a time for the youth to come together, share their faith, and ideas, and create a platform for fellowship and understanding.

This event will include various activities such as catechesis, Mass, talks, workshops, and various cultural activities. It will also provide opportunities to meet with Pope Francis and other senior Church leaders. This will be a platform to promote ecumenical dialogue between the youth of different religions. The Youth will be encouraged to come together in a spirit of understanding and respect, to share their views. WYD will inspire the youth to create a better world and build bridges of understanding, and peace in order to become true instruments of the Gospel.

How it all began:

The concept of WYD was influenced by the summer camps of youth in Poland in 1960s. Over time bishops were guided to schedule “Youth days” in their dioceses on the Palm Sunday of every year (currently on the feast of Christ the king). Late Pope Saint John Paul II in the year 1984 invited the youth from around the world to St. Peter's square, Rome for the international Jubilee of the Youth. He was overwhelmed to witness the presence of three lakhs of youth at that event. During this event, Pope John Paul II handed the wooden cross to be carried throughout the world as the symbol of infinite Love for humankind. The following year (1985), Pope invited the youth from around the world to Rome to participate in the “United Nations International year of the youth” and here he officially instituted **The World Youth Day on 20th Dec 1985**. Since then, a total of 15 WYDs described below were celebrated.

S.No	Year	Place	Theme
1	1986	Rome, Italy	Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you. 1Pt 3:15
2	1987	Buenos Aires, Argentina	We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves. 1Jn 4:16
3	1989	Santiago de Compostela, Spain	I am the way, the truth, and the life. Jn 14:6
4	1991	Czestochowa, Poland	You have received a spirit of sonship. Rom 8:15
5	1993	Denver, USA	I came that they might have life, and have it to the full. Jn 10:10
6	1995	Manila, Philippines	As the Father sent me, so am I sending you. Jn 20:21
7	1997	Paris, France	Teacher, where are you staying? Come and see. Jn 1:38-39
8	2000	Rome, Italy	Jubilee – The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Jn 1:14
9	2002	Toronto, Canada	You are the salt of the earth; You are the light of the world. Mt 5:13-14
10	2005	Cologne, Germany	We have come to worship him. Mt 2:2
11	2008	Sydney, Australia	You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses. Acts 1, 8
12	2011	Madrid, Spain	Rooted and built up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith. Col 2:7
13	2013	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Go and Make Disciples of All Nations. Mt 28:19
14	2016	Kraków, Poland	Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Mt 5:7
15	2019	Panama City, Panamá	I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. Lk 1:38
16	2023	Lisbon, Portugal	Mary arose and went with haste. Lk 1:39

Popes and WYDs: Since the time of its inception WYDs are very close to the hearts of Popes. Their very presence at every WYDs is something to be noted. The youth encounter Pope to imprint the message in their hearts.

Saint John Paul II: He, The founder of WYDs is regarded as the Pope of the youth. From being, a chaplain to the university students at *Kraków* inviting them to the weekend programs like Mass, conferences, hiking, and sharing their lives, he never missed a chance to spend time with the youth as a priest. He gained confidence in the youth because he took them seriously. He was an extensive traveller who considered travelling as a pilgrimage. He visited 129 countries more than any other Pope in history. He enjoyed being with the people.



Pope Benedict XVI: He presided over three WYDs and they were very special to him. “The World Youth Days are truly part of the most beautiful memories of my entire pontificate. Cologne, Sydney, and Madrid are three milestones I will never forget. I was simply happy to be able to participate, to be accepted, and to be able to help others,” said Pope Emeritus in the book *The Latest Conversations with Peter Seewald*. The body of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI was being mourned with the same red chasuble he wore during the final Mass of The World Youth Day, Sydney 2008. His body was buried with the same red chasuble. “The fire of God’s love may descend upon your hearts and fill them, in order to unite you ever more closely to the Lord and his Church and to send you out, as a new generation of apostles, to lead the world to Christ” – Pope Benedict XVI at WYD, Sydney.

Pope Francis: Pope Francis’ great affection for the young is clearly visible in his initiative in conducting a synod on Young People, Faith, and Vocational discernment. Subsequently, the first-ever Vatican document on young people – the apostolic exhortation *Christus Vivit*, or “Christ Lives” (CV). Three important themes are 1. Jesus was a young person. 2. We are called to return to the source of youth. 3 Be a saint. Pope Francis says in the opening paragraph that it is meant to remind you of certain convictions born of our faith, and at the same time to encourage you to grow in holiness and in commitment to your personal vocation” (CV 3).



Logo: The logo for this WYD is designed by a young female Portuguese designer of 24 years old namely Beatriz Roque Antunes. Her Logo won the contest among many other logos around the world. The colours (green, red, and yellow) evoke the Portuguese flag. The elements in the logo are: 1. Cross 2. Path 3. Rosary and 4. Mary.

Symbols of WYD: *The pilgrim cross:* a 3.8 meter wooden cross was handed to the youth by Saint John Paul II in the year 1984 to be carried around the world. It has already travelled to almost 90 countries and 5 continents. It has been a symbol of hope and a sign of faith. Since 2003 *The icon of Our Lady Salus Populi Romani* also accompanies the cross. The 1.20-meter tall and 80-centimeter wide Icon was added by Saint John Paul II to signify the presence of Mother Mary among the youth. Prior to an apostolic journey, Pope Francis prays before this original icon which is housed in the Basilica of Santa Maria Major in Rome.

The official theme song: The theme song is about the ‘yes’ of Mary and about her rush to meet her cousin Elizabeth. It is entitled “Há Pressa no Ar”. Written by a priest and musician of Portugal. It was released in Portuguese, Spanish, English, Italian, and French.



Conclusion:

Pope John Paul II, left a legacy for the youth in his institution of The World Youth Day. Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis faithfully continued to carry on this legacy, demonstrating the hope of the pontiff for the youth of the world by inviting them and commissioning them to be faithful living witnesses as Christ's disciples. Pope Francis reinforced that *"the secret to staying young"* is precisely in these two verbs - get up and leave. Addressing young people, he asked that *"do not stop thinking about yourselves, wasting your lives in search of comfort or the latest fashion, but "hit the road, get out of your fears to extend a hand to those who are in need."*

"Today we need young people who are truly transgressors. Nonconformists. May they not be slaves to cell phones, but change the world like Mary, bringing Jesus to others, taking care of others, building fraternal communities with others, realizing dreams of peace, said the Pope.

God created us to be fully alive.

Source:

1. <https://www.wikipedia.org/>
2. <https://worldyouthday.com/>
3. <https://www.lisboa2023.org/>
4. <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/>
5. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>
6. **Christus vivit is a post-synodal apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis**

Bro. Marreddy, SG



THE 49 BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL AND THEIR CHAPLIN

MARTYRS OF THE RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION DURING THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR IN 1936



Elías ALEJOS GARCÍA
Brother Diego, 32 years old
Born in Redecilla del Campo
(Burgos)

He enrolled having already turned 17, and having little instruction due to which he had to make great efforts to catch up. He felt a great love for his vocation. He worked hard to correct his often overly lively character.

He served his military service in Burgos and in the Hospital of Pamplona. There he met a pious woman who helped him a great deal to dodge the dangers of life in the barracks.

He could not spend much time in the Scholasticate, and soon the Director, Brother Perboyre, required that he begin performing manual tasks. He was always pious, and willing to be useful to his Community. He was particularly gifted in predicting the actions of others.

He was very well informed of all that went on in the large Formation House of Can Valls through his position as doorman and telephone operator. He was also in charge of the community's footwear. In other words he was somewhat the Community's public relations.

He had a very pronounced gabrielite personality in the midst of his multiple occupations. It fell on him to warn to the whole Community, up to three times, of the impending danger that neared with the anarchists of the F.A.I., and in particular on the 7th of November when the convent was brutally assaulted by the control patrols.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Diego grant us, Lord, his love to "Saint Gabriel", his complete availability and his spirit of service.



Emilio REVILLA SANCHO
Brother Pedro Claver, 20 years old
Born in Montuenga
(Burgos)

A good and quite sociable character. " Serious, pious, dedicated, and of a good spirit".

"Of a somewhat shy character he is fearful of affronting certain difficulties and he complains easily about minor miseries". On the other hand he appears to be very happy and loves his vocation. He has worked within the limitations of the resources available to him and he is pious.

A Brother of good character and always willing to obey. He would often go to the chapel during times of recess. This young Brother, 20 years old, offered his sacrifice to the Lord by working with great dedication in humble jobs within the clothing area, the laundry and the vegetable garden, where his cultivation of carnations for foreign sale really stood out.

His great dedication was to doing the small things well and then to go unnoticed as though he had done nothing special. Very attentive and energetic he was the model of order in all his jobs. Therefore it is of no surprise that he was greatly loved within the community.

The Superiors left behind the best testimony of him by presenting him as a model of a religious person, gentle and pious. He was one of the pillars of that monastic religious life, full of virtues and merits.

Martyrdom: Common narration

From Brother Pedro Claver grant us, Lord, his active spirit, his love to order and his interest in working well on the small things as well as his discretion.

OH! LORD JESUS BLESS

Oh! Lord Jesus Bless:
The light of my mind
The love of my heart
The sight of my eyes
Oh! Bless, Bless the breath of my life.

Oh! Lord Jesus Bless:
The steps of my feet
The course of my flit
The strength of my fleet
Oh! Bless, Bless the breath of my life.

Oh! Lord Jesus Bless:
The urge of my being
The surge of my life
The need of my faith
Oh! Bless, Bless the breath of my life.

Oh! Lord Jesus Bless:
The health loss and pain
The mind that's in grief
Often sans relief
Oh! Bless, Bless the breath of my life.

Oh! Lord Jesus Bless:
The gains of my toil
The truth of my tale
The bits of my turmoil
Oh! Bless, Bless the breath of my life.

Bro. Emmanuel P. J.

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS December 2022 - February 2023

BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

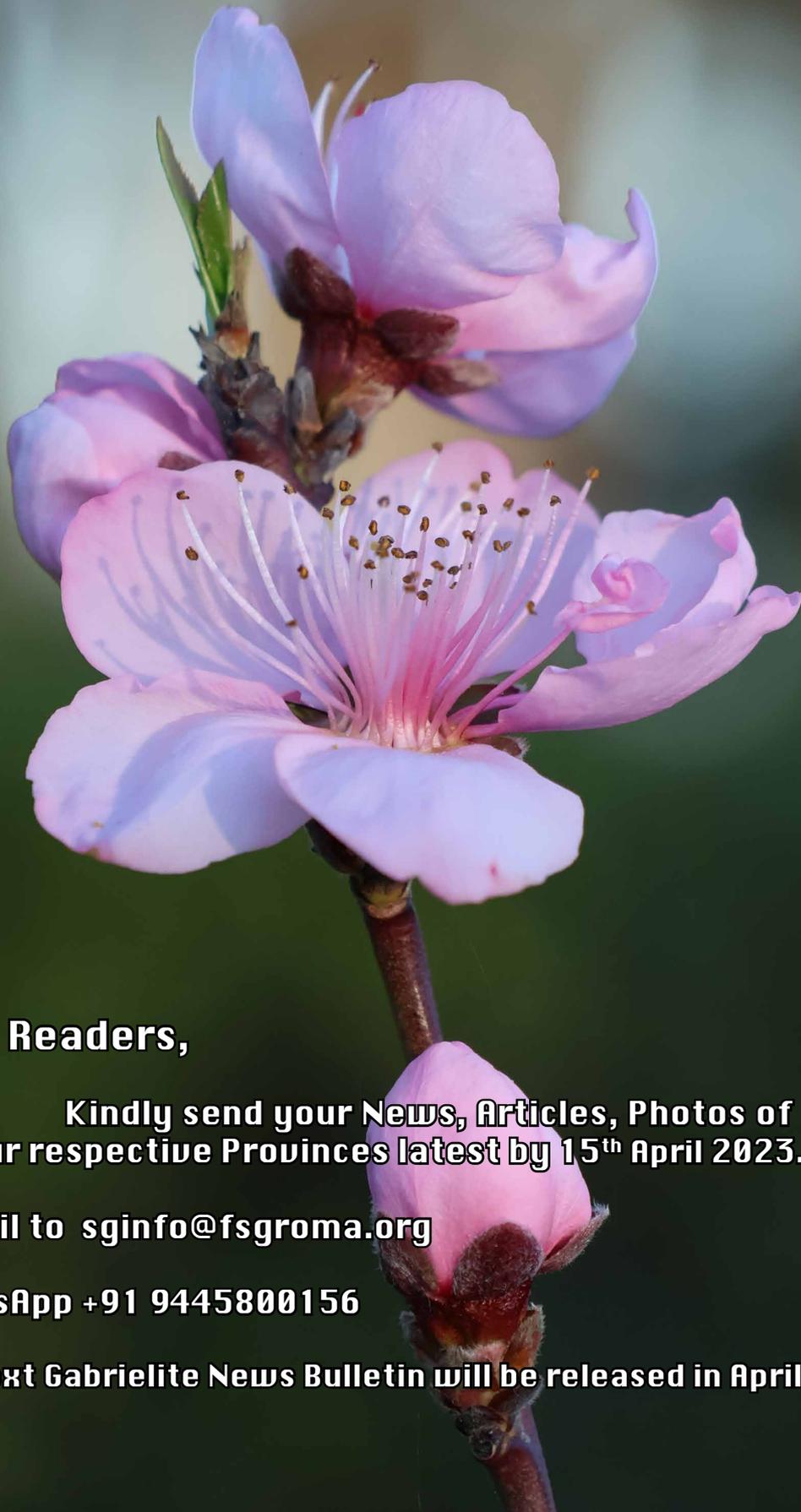
Bro. Jozef Leurs
Bro. Rocco BIANCHI

COMPANY OF MARY

Fr. Maurice PIQUARD
Fr. Franjo HAASE
Fr. Pierre-Marie GUIOT

DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM

Sr. Thérèse Normandeau
Sr. Marie-Henri du Christ
Sr. Federica dell'Immacolata
Sr. Agathe Leclair
Sr. Elvira della Sapienza
Sr. Madeleine Giraudeau
Sr. Marie-Paul de Saint Joseph
Sr. Theresa McAnelly
Sr. Germaine Caron
Sr. Rosaleen Dunne
Sr. Josephina J.M. Geerts
Sr. Margaret Suntjens
Sr. Margaret Suntjens
Sr. Marina Palazzi



Dear Readers,

**Kindly send your News, Articles, Photos of happenings
in your respective Provinces latest by 15th April 2023.**

E- Mail to sginfo@fsgroma.org

WhatsApp +91 9445800156

The next Gabrielite News Bulletin will be released in April, 2023.