

**SG** *Gabrielite*  
News Bulletin

For Private Circulation Only

**VIRGIN MARY GOING  
TO THE WELL IN THE  
COMPANY OF HER DIVINE  
SON JESUS.**



# Contents

- 4 Casa Generalizia
- 6 Province of Bengaluru
- 8 Province of Hyderabad
- 9 Province of Delhi
- 10 Province of Ranchi
- 13 Province of North-East India
- 17 Province of France
- 19 Province of Thailand
- 20 Province of Brazzaville
- 23 Province of Senegal
- 28 Province of Kinshasa
- 30 Istituto Ca' Florens Istrana
- 32 Formation Houses
- 36 Partnership News
- 42 Martyrdom



# Editor's Note

“The law of Forced Efficiency says that "There is never enough time to do everything, but there is always enough time to do the most important thing.”

— Brian Tracy, Eat That Frog!

I am glad to pen down the Editorial for the 213<sup>th</sup> issue of the Gabrielite News Bulletin. This issue consists of news from 11 Provinces, the Generalate, Formation Houses, Istituto Ca' Florens Istrana, Montfortian Gabrielite Associates, etc.

Bro. Jean Marie Thior, the Secretary General, reports the visit of the Daughters of Wisdom and the Indian Brothers to Casa Generalizia. The Provinces of Bengaluru and Hyderabad report the Final Profession of the Brothers in their respective Provinces. The articles under Delhi and Ranchi Provinces share the activities of their institutions. The Province of North-East joyfully shares the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Province and extensively covers the visit of Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue, Assistant General. On page 17, Bro. Marcel Chapeleau reports the current status of the mission in Mauritius. He explains how the mission started by the Brothers is being carried forward by the Salesians and the laity. The activities of the Associates and the Novices are reported respectively in the sections of Partnership and Formation Houses. Bro. Mathew Kaumkal shares about the visit of the Superior General and Vicar General along with the activities of the Institute *Ca' Florens*.

I gratefully acknowledge the contributions of all the people involved in the publication of the GNB\_213. I thank Bro. Emmanuel P. J. for editing the English texts. We extend our sincere thanks to the translator, Bro. Marcel Chapeleau. My sincere thanks to Bro. Dionigi Taffarello for publishing news in the Partnership Section. A special word of thanks to Bro. Bernard Guesdon and Bro. Jean-Marie Thior for their constant support and guidance. We thank all the Provincial Superiors, Secretaries and News Reporters from the Provinces, who have contributed news items for the publication of the GNB.

Have a good reading!

Bro. Louis Anthonyamy, SG



For Latest News, kindly access our website [www.stgabrielinst.org](http://www.stgabrielinst.org)

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Mission, Services, Presence, Organization, and More. The 'News' section is active, displaying a list of articles with thumbnails and titles. The first article is 'International Meeting of the Associates of the Montfortian Family Saint...', followed by 'WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 LISBON, PORTUGAL' and 'Spiritual Renewal Session - French-Speaking Brothers from Africa'.

This column displays several Facebook posts from the 'FSG communications' page. The posts include: 'Visit of the Assistants General to the Province of Brazzaville', 'SEVEN BROTHERS WHO WERE KILLED IN BUTA, ZAIRE', 'PATRONAL FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION', and '#ARISEANDGO - LISBO 2023'.

This column shows more Facebook posts from 'FSG communications'. The posts include: 'Gabrielite News Bulletin - 211', 'Blessing and Inauguration of the Montfort International school, Jaffna, Sri Lanka', 'Gabrielite News Bulletin - 210', and 'Visit of Mgr Laurent Dabiré'.

June 2023



*Casa Generalizia*

## STAY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM AT THE GENERALATE

As part of the Year of Wisdom, Sr. Symphorose Rasoanarivosalama and six other Daughters of Wisdom visited the Generalate from 18 to 24 June 2023. Their stay was punctuated by intense visits to the tourist and religious sites of Rome and Assisi, and to the Generalate of the Montfortian Missionaries and their Community in Rue Merulana.

As a sign of gratitude for the hospitality offered to them, the Sisters presented the Community of the Generalate with a Statue of the Virgin Mary going to the well in the company of her divine Son Jesus. A well is a place where people live and meet. A well also means water, a vital element in daily life. This is undoubtedly a way for the Sisters to invite the Brothers to continue to drink from Jesus' source of living water in order to receive God's love and then be able to share it.



Bro. Jean-Marie Thior, SG



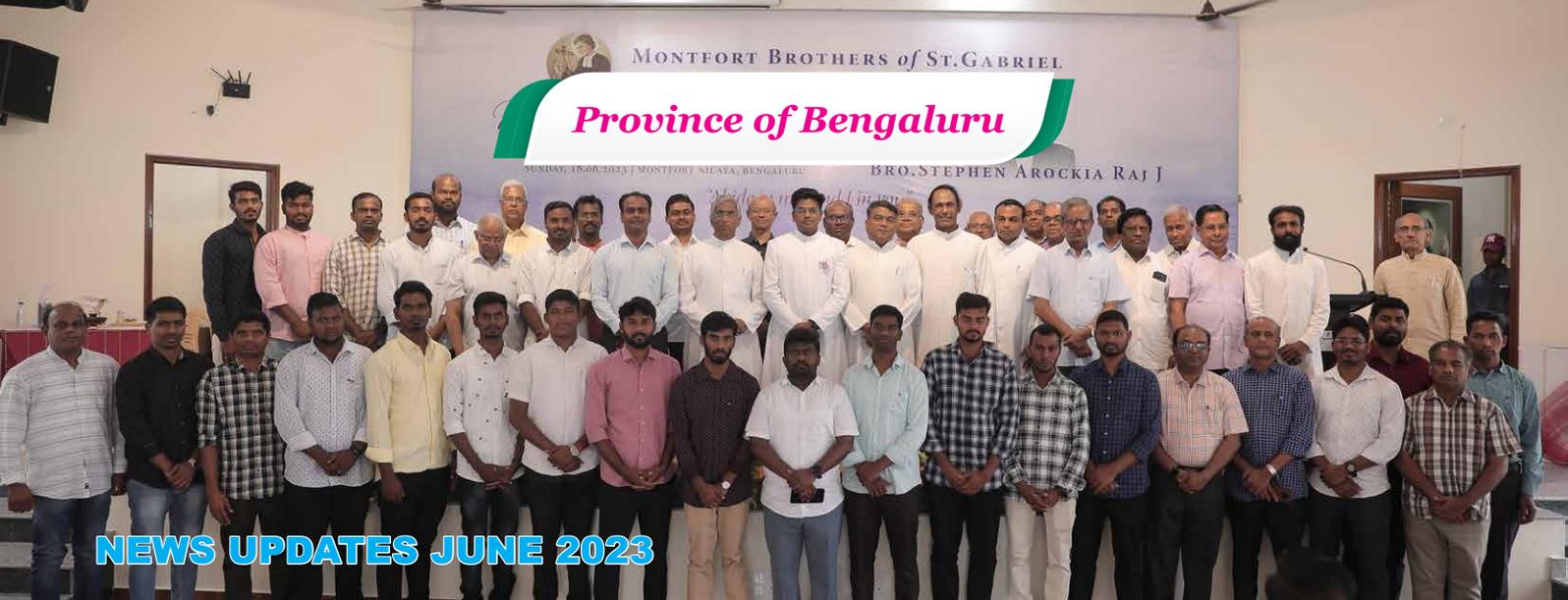
## INDIAN BROTHERS VISIT CASA GENERALIZIA

Brother Shine Alex, Provincial Superior of Hyderabad, Brother Thomas and Brother Yesu Prabhakar (INH) and Brother Prem (INP) visited the Brothers of the Generalate on Monday, July 17, 2023, and shared dinner with the Community. Although the visit was short, it was lived with a great deal of fraternity, simplicity and kindness. A digestive walk in the park brought the evening to an end.



Bro. Jean-Marie Thior, SG





### **School exam results**

Public exam results coming in from our various schools indicate that generally, all our students have fared well. The Principals/Headmasters and teaching staff in particular have worked hard and produced very good academic results. In all our schools, the whole year has been abuzz with activities, both curricular and co-curricular. Now that all the schools have reopened, the whole process has commenced once again and all have initiated a very good start in their respective institutions.

### **Visits by Brothers**

Bro. Britto from the Philippines came to India on 19 May 2023 for a two weeks stay. Bro. Sririchai from Thailand came for a short stay on 18 May 2023. He went on to Yercaud to meet the four Thai Brothers who were attending a preparatory course in view of their final profession. These Brothers came to the Provincial House in Bangalore on 24.5.2023 and spent a pleasant evening with us.

### **Young Philippines Missionary**

Monday 22.5.2023 was an important day here at the Provincial House. At 7 p.m., the Brothers of the Bangalore city communities gathered at the Provincialate to give a fitting send-off to Bro. Arun Arockiaraj who was due to leave for the Philippines as a missionary. In fact, he had just completed his theological studies at CRI Brothers' Institute, Bangalore. We had a very meaningful prayer service followed by dinner. Bro. Prince A. who is already working in the Philippines was present, too. The two of them travelled together to the mission land the following day. We wish Bro. Arun a very fruitful mission in the new land destined for him to work during the coming years.

### **Change of Guard**

Bro. Vijay Sebastian who was the Local Superior of the community and Principal of the school went on transfer to St. Joseph's Chengalpattu on 20 May 2023. We thank him for the meritorious service rendered during the past one year. Young and energetic, he did his best to contribute his maximum to the growth of the fledgling Wisdom Montfort School here. Thank you, Bro. Vijay, for your tireless work and for being a pleasant companion. Your smiling face and friendly gestures will always be remembered. God bless you abundantly!

Brothers M. P. Antony and K. K. Thomas have since taken over charges as Local Superior of the community and Principal of the school respectively.

### **Local Superiors and Bursars Meet**

The Local Superiors, Bursars and Principals of the Province attended the meeting organised for them on Saturday 17 June 2023 at the Provincial House. It was facilitated by Fr. Joseph Abraham CSSR. The theme of the day was 'Shepherd Leadership'.

### **Perpetual Profession**

Bro. Stephen Arockia Raj made his final vows at the Provincialate on Sunday 18 June 2023. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 11:15 a.m., presided over by Msgr. C. Francis, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Bangalore and Parish Priest of the well-known St. Anthony's Shrine at T. C. Palya, Bengaluru. A good number of Brothers from all over, besides close relatives of Bro. Stephen, as well as many priests and religious sisters were present.

### **Other News**

The central roof covering the open space in the middle of the Provincial House is now ready and fully in place, and operational, that is, the middle portion of

the roof can be moved to the sides by remote control to facilitate the free flow of fresh air. At the same time, a greater number of solar panels have been installed on the open terrace to generate electricity. Work on the chapel cum auditorium complex seems to be dragging on with some finishing touches still remaining to be completed.

Bro. M. P. Antony, SG



**First Vows:**

Six Novices of Hyderabad Province from Eachinkadu Novitiate, 1. B. Abhilash. 2. Chandan Meravi. 3. Manoj Kerketta. 4. Bala Bhanu. 5. Ritesh Digal. 6. Wilfred Ekka will made their First Vows on 22 April 2023 at Montfort School Chapel, Yercaud. We congratulate them and welcome them to the Province and thank their parents for dedicating their sons to the service of humanity and for the greater glory of God.



**Felicitations for the Finally Professed Brothers:**

On 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023 four of our Brothers took their Perpetual Profession at St. Gabriel’s High School, Kazipet. We are deeply honoured and greatly blessed to have our young Brothers. Bro. Jimi Raj Kanar, Bro. Binod Kerketta, Bro. Valanarasu.J and Bro. G. Anthony Reddy have responded to God’s call with an apostolic spirit and saying “Yes” to the Lord for Life and ever ready to say “Yes” to the will of God.

Bro. Jayabalan, SG



## ST. CHARLES' LWANGA SEC. SCHOOL, PORT MORESBY, PNG.



Greetings from Port Moresby! After the successful completion of term 1, we had a week-long Easter / Term break from 6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April. During the term break Bro. Benny paid a week-long visit to our community at Kiunga. Bros. Joy Mathew and Johnson paid a week-long visit to our mission centres in Fiji Islands which are administered by the Brothers from Yercaud Province. The school reopened on 17<sup>th</sup> April for term 2, 2023. We had our first national examination 2023 (Grade 10 Written Expression) held on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The feast of our school's patron saint (St. Charles Lwanga) was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. On this day we had Mass for the entire school and sharing of food with the staff and the students.



The parents were kind enough to sponsor food for the students, teachers and Board Members. The Teachers' Day was celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> May, on the feast of St. John Baptist de La Salle, the patron saint of the Catholic schools in PNG.

Our students were privileged to welcome Shri. Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India and other Prime Ministers from the South Pacific Island countries on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Our students did participate in the World Environment Day celebrations organized by National Capital District on 5<sup>th</sup> June. We will be completing term 2, 2023 on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Before that, we will have the end of term examination (from 15 - 20 June) and Sports Carnival on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June. The students will have two weeks of term break and teachers will have an In-service week and then one week break. The Construction of the parents' project 2023 (4 Staff residences) is underway. Construction works were delayed due to the effect of the cyclone in the South Pacific Ocean. We had a grand celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Bro. Mathias Minj on 10<sup>th</sup> June. Bro. Benny T. L. has well-adjusted with the culture and traditions of PNG. We would like to thank the Mother General of SMSM Sisters for agreeing to send two Sisters to collaborate with our mission in Port Moresby from January 2024.

Bro. Joy Mathew, SG

## MONTFORT, MANDLA

On 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023, we started the Summer Camp for children. Many children participated and enjoyed the games and other learnings. At the close of the Summer Camp, we had taken children to the nearby picnic spot (Ramnagar). The children liked the entire programme. On 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023, we had the Investiture Ceremony for the Primary students. It is newly introduced in our school here and the initiative is well accepted. The feast day of our Founder St. Louis de Montfort was celebrated with enthusiasm and vigour in the school. A special assembly was organized. In the evening the local Parish Priests and nuns were invited along with Montfort Associate Members. The celebration was meaningful with a special prayer and Eucharistic celebration. After the Summer Vacation, the teachers came to school on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June. A seminar was organized for teachers on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June on the



theme, 'Life Skills and Professional Development of Teachers'. The resource person was Bro. Shine Alex, the Provincial of Hyderabad Province. It was well appreciated by the teachers. On 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June a seminar was conducted by Mrs. Shiela Masih for the Primary teachers. Many teaching tips and ideas were shared with them to make the teaching and learning process more interesting for the children.

Bro. Sunil Aind, SG

### ST. ALOYSIUS' SCHOOL RANCHI



The month of April began with the Birthday celebration of Bro. Sylvester Bara on 5<sup>th</sup>. We had a beautiful prayer service in the evening conducted by Bro. John Paul. Being the season of Lent, Bro. Clement Kandulna's birthday was postponed and combined with Bro. Sylvester Bara. Brothers from Hazaribagh participated in the celebration. The Birthday of Bro. Alphonse celebrated at the sector level and was made memorable with a prayer service and a suitable fellowship meal.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023, we had the great joy of celebrating on a grand scale the receiving of the certificate of permanent affiliation for the college. Brothers from Ranchi region were invited to share the joy and happiness of the same

Bro. John Herman Ekka, SG

### MONTFORT SADAN, KOLKATA



Johnson. On this special day, we had a Holy Mass in the Community.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2023, the New Session started for classes II to class X. All the students began their new session with new goals and expectations. An orientation programme was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April for the newly admitted students in class XI. They were given some guidelines regarding school life and academic performance.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, an Investiture ceremony was held in the school. On this day students who were selected for leadership of various fields took an oath to play leadership roles in a responsible manner. They were given various responsibilities for the smooth functioning of the school. The Yellow House was



The 25<sup>th</sup> of April was another joyful occasion for the Community to celebrate the Birthday of Dear Bro.



awarded the Championship Cup for their overall performance during the Academic Year 2022-23.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of April, the Feastday of our founder St. Louis Marie de Montfort was celebrated in the community. On this day we had Holy Mass in the community. We also celebrated the feast day with students in the school. Students narrated the life history of St. Montfort during the Assembly. Many students drew inspiration after listening to the life history of St. Montfort.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of April, we had a feast day celebration with the teachers. Teachers organized special prayer service and conducted some games on this occasion.



Along with the feast day celebration, an Award Function was also organized for the school staff. On this day teachers and other staff were felicitated with mementos and citations for their hard work and commitment in various fields for the last 11 years in the school.

### Renewal of Vows of Junior Brothers

Six Junior Brothers renewed their Vows at Montfort Sadan, Kolkata. Bro. Jashwant, Bro. Bipin Beck, Bro. Bipin Barla, Bro. Nilam and Bro. Bijendra reached Kolkata on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May for the renewal programme. From 3<sup>rd</sup> of May renewal programme started. During these 4 days, the main spiritual guide was Fr. Tushar. He helped them in their spiritual journey during these 4 days. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May in the evening 6 of our Junior Brothers committed themselves to Christ and said ' Yes' to the Lord by renewing their vows at St. Montfort School Baruipur, Kolkata.



On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, we had an outing with Junior Brothers. On this day they visited many places in Kolkata.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, they went on a pilgrimage to Mother Mary's Shrine in Bandel. There they had a short prayer after which they came back to the community.

Bro. Avijit Lomga, SG

## MONTFORT BHAWAN, KONBIR NOATOLI



The Month of April was reasonably good. The occasional good showers kept the mercury down.

The major event was the celebration of Ambedkar Jayanti- Constitution Day. The three institutions of St. Joseph's compound gathered together in the auditorium to pay our respect to the great man Ambedkar. The head of the institutions paid floral honour to the Architect of the Indian constitution. It was followed by staff and students. We then took an

Oath of honour as per the spirit of the Constitution.

The MGA groups of Konbir Noatoli gathered at Montfort Niketan to prepare themselves to celebrate the Feast of St. Montfort Spiritually. The meeting began with a prayer based on Montfort. They decided to recite the Novena to Montfort daily to recapture his spirit. The members were given the short life history of Montfort – 'The Incredible Journey of Montfort with God'. They will study it to know the person of Montfort. We will continue to meet regularly to study it in the group to know him fully before we enter into action.

The Feast of Montfort was celebrated in a grand manner. We had combined Holy Mass for the Catholic students and staff of Montfort Bhawan and Montfort Niketan. After Holy Mass, the short and sweet cultural programmes lasted for one hour. The students of both institutions were given festal cake and ice cream. The staff were given lunch in honour of the Feast.

Bro. Jacob Panjikaran, SG



## ST. JOHN'S NAWATANR

The sudden demise of Bro. Cyril Chettiath, a pioneer Missionary of Chotanagpur shocked us the Brothers of Ranchi Province. Nawatanr community had offered a Holy Mass in honour of the repose of his soul and also for the consolation of his family members.

The great achievement of obtaining the land of St. John's School Nawatanr is exceptional. (Old playground) The land was measured by the Government Ameen. To witness this event many senior Brothers who worked hard in Nawatanr earlier were present. Catholic Sabha members and the Mukhiya too were present for the same. After the completion of the work, all the present members

were served meals. Now the ground is permanently in the name of the Society. Now the construction of the compound wall is in process. The Montfort feast was celebrated in a grand manner. All three departments' students and staff were involved in the celebration.

Hostel Mission:- Many students are seeking admission in the hostel mostly in the English Medium. All the newcomers are from rural backgrounds and they don't have any English background. English medium school has a new appearance now.

Bro. Sujit Majhi joined the community after his theological studies in Bangalore.

Bro. Calep Topno, SG



*Province of North-East India*

## SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE NORTH-EAST PROVINCE

The Province of North East India was inaugurated during a colourful function, on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1998, at Chabua, Assam.

Jubilees mark significant milestones which give us occasions for reflection and to show our gratefulness to God and everyone who contributed, in one way or another, to make us what we are today.

The Silver Jubilee year was inaugurated on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022 at Guwahati with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration to thank God for the providential care and the manifold blessings He has bestowed upon the Brothers and the people of Northeast India for the past 25 years.

It was a special holy year of grace and thanksgiving for the Brothers of our Province. A concelebrated Holy Eucharistic Celebration of thanksgiving followed by a grand function marked the Silver Jubilee of the Province of Northeast India which concluded on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

The gracious presence of Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, the Superior General, Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue, the Assistant General in charge of Formation and

Bro. Michael Mathew, General Bursar from the Central Administration, His Grace John Moolachira, Archbishop of Guwahati, Most Rev. Thomas Menampampil, Archbishop Emeritus, who was instrumental in expanding our mission to other parts of Northeast India by inviting us to start a school and an ITI at Chabua, Dibrugarh, Assam in 1985, made the occasion very special.

We are grateful to Bro. Irudayam, National Chairman, Provincial Superiors of Yercaud and Bengaluru, Bro. Johnson and Bro. George Padikara, Bros. Thomas Plathottam, Jose Thekkedam, B.A Kurian and M. K Devassy, the former Provincials of Northeast Province, Brothers who had come from other Provinces, Provincial Superiors of other congregations, the Brothers of our Province, Fathers, Sisters and friends of the Montfortian family who graced the occasion and made the ambience grand.

The cultural fiesta from our Montfort Institutions - Guwahati, Abhayapuri, Chabua, Baghty and Tura, treated our guests with the display of their harmonious movements and impressive cultural dance patterns of Northeast India and made the day a memorable one.



After months of planning, coordination and effort put in by the Silver Jubilee Committee and the Provincial Council, the Silver Jubilee Celebration of our Province was a resounding success according to the opinion of our special guests, associates, invitees and others who graced the occasion with their benign presence.

A sumptuous fellowship meal concluded the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Province of Northeast India.

Bro. Thomas Plathottam, SG



**VISIT OF BRO. JEAN PAUL MBENGUE, THE ASST. GENERAL, TO THE PROVINCE OF NORTH-EAST**

The Brothers of the Province of North-East India were happy and honoured with the visit of Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue, Assistant General, to the Province from 4<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.

In spite of the tight schedule, winding roads, long hours of journeys, the hilly terrain and other difficulties, he made it a point to visit all the Communities, Institutions and meet all the Brothers of the Province. He started his trip with the visit to the two communities



**Champaknagar**

**Agartala**

of Tripura, namely Agartala and Champaknagar. He was taken up with the grand welcome accorded to him with traditional Tripuri dances and a variety of entertainment programmes.

From Tripura, he flew to Guwahati and travelled by road for about three and half hours to reach Jonglapara, in the state of Meghalaya, where we have a school and a Juniorate. He was happy to interact with the students especially the candidates in the Juniorate. He



**Jonglapara**



**MCE, Tura**



**Abhayapuri**



**Chabua**

congratulated them for their daringness and invited them to grow in their call to religious life.

He was quite enthralled with the hilly terrain and held on tightly to the vehicle as he travelled on the winding roads by the side of the steep hills and valleys of Mizoram to visit our Mission Centres in Aizawl, Melriat, Kolasib and Chhingchhip. An experience, I am sure, he will never forget in his life.

At Tura, the next community in Meghalaya, he was quite fascinated with the mission of taking care of the Children with disabilities. While encouraging the trainees who were preparing to be teachers of the Children with visual and hearing impairment, he appreciated their resolve to cater to the educational needs of special children.

He also visited three communities of Abhayapuri, Guwahati and Chabua. At Abhayapuri, the Montfort family accorded him a warm welcome with a cultural programme while in Guwahati he invested the student leaders and emphasized to them the importance of leadership in today's world. At Chabua, a small town surrounded by tea gardens, he was the Chief Guest of the Annual Sports Meet of the school and gave away the prizes. He also took time to enjoy the flora and fauna, its tea gardens and admire its rich cultural heritage.



**Melriat**



**Aizawl**



**Kolasib**  
**15**



**Baghty**

After visiting Baghty, the only community in Nagaland, he took part in the Province’s Silver Jubilee celebrations on 27<sup>th</sup> May at Guwahati. He then visited Shillong, the Scotland of East, he made a trip to Cherapunji in Meghalaya, the place known for the highest rainfall in the world for many years.

During his visits to our institutions, he made it a point to interact with the Brothers, staff and spend time with students and got a first-hand experience of the impact of the Montfortian Mission and the life of the Brothers in this part of the world.

He was highly appreciative of the services rendered and the exemplary life of the Brothers of the Province



**Guwahati**



**Boluchugre**



**Chhingehip**

of North-East India. In his letter to the Province of North-East, he wrote, I quote, “At a time when the entire Congregation is preparing to hold its 33<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter on the theme ‘Montfortian Prophetic Presence in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’, I’m not afraid to say that the North-East Province itself is already a fine example of this. But it must not rest on its laurels”.

On behalf of the Brothers of North-East India, and on my own behalf, I thank Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue for being a source of encouragement and a sign of God’s blessings to the Brothers of the Province. We wish him all the best in his ministry and pray that God continues to use him as His instrument of Love and Brotherhood to everyone who comes across his life.



**An encounter with a wild elephant on the way to Jonglapara from Guwahati.**

Bro. Varghese Mandapathil, SG Provincial Superior

## Province of France



## CONTINUATION OF THE GABRIELITE MISSION IN MAURITIUS



“Today, we continue doing the same work as the Brothers!”

I visited Mauritius from 7 October to 30 November 2022. Here is a report of this fruitful trip to the beautiful island of Mauritius, which was my mission land. I was able to complete various administrative formalities. It was indeed the aim of my stay. I also attended meetings and visited people including Cardinal Piat.



The great educational work from which some thirty children benefit at the Foyer Père Laval is perpetuated by a group of 17 lay people with the full support of the Diocese.

I was very grateful to hear the testimonies praising the work done by Saint Gabriel Technical College, an institution founded in 1974. It is a living testimony and recognition of our Congregation, the Brothers of Saint Gabriel.

I was very greatly touched to hear Cardinal Piat listing all steps he had taken to provide practical support to the Middle School in its restructuring into a Higher School. I was grateful to the teachers who invited me to give a speech to the students. It was very moving to share with people and various local business leaders who salute the quality of the education provided by Saint Gabriel.

The reputation of this School is unanimous throughout the island. The history of the Technical College reflects a relationship of mutual trust between the inhabitants and the Brothers. This success story, which has defied so many challenges and changes, was gained thanks to the two local Cardinals, who were supported by the Management Board members. All those people played an important role in the development of the College from the very beginning. The 2 successive cardinals had the idea of inviting a congregation with competence in technical education.

At present, the college welcomes 250 students and comprises 13 classrooms, a library, a computer room, and 5 workshops.



Since 2018, a construction project is underway at the college. The foundation stone was laid on 25 September 2019 and work will start in 2023. The college will become the "Lycée Technique & Professionnel Saint-Gabriel - Don Bosco".

The financial support came from local businesses for over 47 years: the Rotary Club of Port-Louis, benefactors, the Salesian Fathers, and the Italian Episcopal Conference had helped. In November 2022, Cardinal Piat met with the President of the Italian Episcopal Conference to bring this project to fruition: "Lycée Saint-Gabriel - Don Bosco".

During my visit to the Technical College, I had the opportunity to talk to the Principal, Alain Bèche. Here is what he thinks about the mission: "The originality of the college is general education, professional and technical training, an improvement in French for the most disadvantaged young people, an education in human values to become honest and competent citizens working in our multicultural island. ... We continue the same work as the Brothers, with the same principles and values, and with a Salesian specificity.

I also had the opportunity to meet a group of Lecturers about the Turin Shroud that was set up in 2017 at the request of the Bishop, following the release of 2 books I wrote about the Turin Shroud. It so happened that last October this team had to give a visual presentation on the same theme. We then had a conference on « Using a scientific approach to recover the vital place of spirituality in our life. »

An hour before speaking I was informed that Dr Alexandra Henrion-Caude, Research Director, geneticist, and graduate from the USA, France, and Great Britain, would attend. She brought scientific complements. Then the unexpected happened: the group asked for another session to better understand

the consecration to Jesus by Mary according to Father de Montfort. They asked for the book of preparation for the consecration that I had written in 1999 at the request of the Bishop.

The work of the Saint-Gabriel College will continue with the Saint-Gabriel Don Bosco High School. This demonstrates the cohesion of the charisms of the educational mission inspired by our founders Montfort, Gabriel Deshayes, and Don Bosco. "All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines". 1Co 12:11



**Breaking News:** We have just learned that on May 24, the Government of Mauritius signed a financial memorandum of understanding with the Church regarding the Lycée St-Gabriel project.



Bro. Marcel Chapeleau, SG

## Province of Thailand



On April 28, the AU academic community celebrated the Feast of Montfort at St. Louis Marie De Montfort Chapel, Suvarnabhumi Campus. Bro. Amnuay was the main celebrant, together with eleven priests. Brothers, Sisters, administrators, staff, and personnel also participated in the celebrations, to thank God for having given us St. Louis Marie as our Founder. The Assumption University religious community flanked by the main celebrant and priests from four different countries



On May 20, 2023, at Assumption University, Suvarnabhumi Campus, Bro. Verayuth Boonpram, the newly appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs organized the AU Freshman Orientation in John Paul II Sports Center. The participating students are undergraduate students. In this new Academic Year 2023 there are 800 freshmen at AU. They listened to the speech on “AU Vision and Mission for AU Graduates by Bro. Rector Magnificus, followed by speech on “Effective Studies in AU” by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. There were also Faculty Orientations in the afternoon. All were prepared for the new Academic year, which started on June 6. We wish all students success in their studies and good performances in overall activities.

Bro. Achin Tengtrakul, SG



*Province of Brazzaville*

## VISIT OF THE BROTHERS ASSISTANTS GENERAL TO THE PROVINCE OF BRAZZAVILLE

In April 2023, our Province of Brazzaville had the privilege of receiving the visit of our three Assistants General, Brothers Pratap Reddy B. and James T. K., accompanied by Brother Jean-Paul Mbengue.

For more than 10 days, for the first time, the Brothers Assistants General visited the Province of Brazzaville, which extends to three countries: the Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville and Cameroon. With the exception of Bertoua in Cameroon, they were able to visit the Institutions and Communities of Bangui and Brazzaville. This visit to the Communities of the Province was an opportunity for them to discover fraternal life and the missions of the Brothers.

In Brazzaville, their visit began on Tuesday 11 April 2023, after Easter Monday. The delegation, accompanied by Brother Jean de Dieu Mandilou Moukouyou, Provincial Superior of the Province of Brazzaville, visited the Frère Hervé school at around 10 a.m., under a mild sun. The very warm welcome, with the rhythmic singing of the pupils, plunged the Brothers into radiant joy. After a walkabout, the Brothers met Brother Félix Moussompa, coordinator of the school, the staff and the Brothers who work there, before having a general discussion with the school's staff and pupils. The visit ended with a tour of some of the senior classes and a group photo.

In the evening, the Brothers went to the Makélékélé Community where some of the Brothers who work at

Frère Hervé live. Here too the atmosphere was good and the fraternal sharing was fruitful. Everything came to an end after dinner.

Then, on Wednesday 12 April, the Brothers Assistants General visited the *Institut des Jeunes Sourds de Brazzaville*, a mission of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel created in 1971 by Brother Marie André Nganga. The Brothers had discussions with Sister Clarisse Bassolo, Coordinator of the school, and the staff, as well as with Brother Guy Loufouma, Director of the Primary Section. After these meetings, they visited all the classrooms to get a feel of the facilities provided to the students. The Institute has 256 students of which 158 students in Primary School and 98 in Lower Secondary School. The institute also has a Pre-School Centre for 5 children.

On Wednesday afternoon, the Brothers of the Mougali community had the honour of receiving our visitors, with whom they exchanged views and shared a meal.

Thursday was devoted to a visit to the Archbishop, Monsignor Bienvenu Manamika, and to Brother Barthélemy Nkounkou, elderly Brother of the Province, who is under the care of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

On Friday morning, the Brothers visited Case Montfort, a special school with two sections: A Re-schooling section for children and young people aged between 8 and 15, and a Vocational Training Centre.

Case Montfort has several workshops. They visited the Mechanical, Electrical and Sewing Workshops, as well as the classrooms. At the end of the visit, they had a meeting with Brother Le Sage Miakamona, Coordinator, and the staff.

The guests visited the Postulancy on Friday afternoon. Their visit began with the garden and the farm. After this guided tour, they had a meeting with the Brothers of the postulancy. Brother Hubert Nakouzebi, who is in charge of the postulancy, introduced the other Brothers of the Community: Brother Christophe Mbani and Brother Landry Mafouassa.

Finally, on Saturday 15 April 2023, the Brothers Assistants General met with the collaborators, then exchanged views with the Brothers of the Provincial Council. This meeting was coordinated by Brother Jean de Dieu Mandilou Moukouyou, Provincial Superior. The Brothers Assistants gave their impressions and advice to the Provincial and

the Councillors. In addition, Brother Pratap Reddy, in his written message, congratulated the Provincial Administration for the initiatives taken to help the Brothers rediscover the religious values to which we have all committed ourselves.

In the afternoon, all the Brothers of the Province gathered at the Provincial House to share a fraternal meal with the Assistants General.

The visitors crossed the Congo River, which separates the two closest capitals in the world, on the morning of Sunday 16 April 2023, to travel to the Province of Kinshasa.

Bro. Hubert NAKOUZEBI, SG



## DONATION CEREMONY AT THE BRAZZAVILLE INSTITUTE FOR YOUNG DEAF PEOPLE

The *Association Comité Tiers Monde Sourds* has made a donation to the Brazzaville Institute for Young Deaf People. These donations, consisting of machines and other tools, were presented in the presence of Brother Hubert Nakouzebi, representative of the Brother Provincial.

The Brazzaville Institute for Young Deaf People, which has been in existence for 52 years, is a work of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel created by Brother

Marie André Nganga in 1971. It caters for hearing-impaired learners from Brazzaville in particular, and the Congo in general. Today, the Institute has 256 pupils, including 158 in primary school and 98 in secondary school.

On Wednesday 1 March 2023, the *Comité Tiers Monde Sourds Association*, one of the Institute's partners for the past 20 years, donated :

- Ten (10) electric sewing machines,
- One (1) carpentry machine,
- An audiometry room,
- Books for the library,
- Renovation of the kindergarten classrooms and the infirmary,

All this to improve learning conditions, contribute to the development of learners and make pupils' educational projects a reality.

The gesture was made to celebrate 20 years of partnership between the Brazzaville Institute for Young Deaf People and the Comité Tiers Monde association. Mr Mata Thysther, President of the Association *Comité Tiers Monde Sourds* and a former student of the Institute, led the delegation from France, which included Mr Pierre Labandes and Ms Méline Ngambomi.

Taking the floor, Sister Clarisse Bassolo, coordinator of the school, informed the guests of another donation, that of a library equipped by the association les JEUNES CADRES and a connected multimedia room, offered by the FOND pour l'accès et le service universel des communications électroniques. She also thanked everyone involved, saying: "Thank you very much for this outpouring of generosity towards our children with hearing disabilities". The ceremony ended with an aperitif hosted by the Association *Comité Tiers Monde Sourds*.

Bro. Hubert NAKOUZEBI, SG

## SAINT MONTFORT'S DAY 28 APRIL 2023



Every year, our works celebrate Saint Montfort's day as their patron saint.

This year, we took the initiative of celebrating it on Saturday 29 April 2023, with the three Brazzaville institutions together (Frère Hervé, Institut de jeunes sourds and Case Montfort).

It all began with a mass at *Notre Dame du Rosaire* parish, followed by a candle-lit procession of pupils to the Marian grotto in the parish.

After the mass, everything took place at Frère Hervé, starting with a conference for the associates led by Brother Félix Moussompa on the theme : "The status of inclusive education in our schools : the situation of deaf-mute children in the work of Father Gabriel Deshayes". After the conference, the associates attended the various games presented by the pupils of the Frère Hervé school before sharing a meal together in a very festive atmosphere. The Brothers and their associates were keen to continue the tradition.

Bro. Félix MOUSSOMPA, SG

VISIT OF THE ASSISTANTS GENERAL

For the first time, the Assistants General Bro. James and Bro. Pratap visited the communities, institutions and future locations in Senegal. As a prelude to the seminar on Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC) organised for the French-speaking Provinces, this visit took place from 30 April to 21 May 2023. Accompanied and interpreted by Brother Jean Marie THIOR, Secretary General, they toured Senegal to meet the Brothers and talk with them about their life and mission, in accordance with the schedule drawn up for this purpose. They visited the novitiate and communities in Thiès, the Laudato Sí project in Fandène, the field in Popenguine, the René Merceron Institution in Mbour and the field in Gandigal, the community in Fatick, and the communities in Dakar (Tivaouane Peul, Malika CTA, Provincial House). In addition to the Gabrielle works, they were able to stay at the monastery of Keur Moussa and visit some of the tourist sites of Senegal before leaving for the seminar.

At the end of their visit, the Brothers shared with us their impressions of the life of the Province. This visit to the communities of Senegal, with the exception of those of Burkina and Guinea Conakry, was an enriching experience that enabled them to appreciate the ambience of fraternal life. They were delighted to see that the Brothers are faithful to community prayers and Holy Mass. This supports the spiritual and fraternal life that is essential in consecrated life. With regard to the mission of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel in Senegal, they noted that it is very dynamic and deserves recognition. They congratulated the Provincial Superior and the Brothers for their generous commitment to the service of society and

the Church. They also noted that over the last ten years, the Province has made considerable progress, with the purchase of new land and new infrastructures to further the Brothers' educational mission. They also expressed their satisfaction with the new options taken for the Brothers' higher studies in law, civil engineering, renewable energies, etc.

They invited the members of the Provincial Administration to always keep in mind their duty to be models to inspire the Brothers and to remain generous in their various commitments. They advised the Province to keep in touch with organisations that could accompany the educational mission.

After these words of thanks, they offered a souvenir to the Province of Senegal, a banner on the Gabrielle foundations in the world, to be displayed somewhere in the provincial house.

The Provincial Superior thanked the two Assistants General for their words of congratulations, encouragement and advice. He also asked them to convey the warm thanks of the Province of Senegal to the Superior General and his General Council for the accompaniment, the various forms of support and their fraternal presence. He extended his gratitude to Brother Jean Marie Thior who facilitated the stay of the Assistants General by allowing them to be in contact with the realities of the communities established in Senegal.

It should be noted that due to lack of time, the Assistants General were unable to visit the communities in Guinea Conakry and Burkina Faso.



Cellar in Thiès



Polycopy



Field in Fandène



Popenguine site



Land in Gandigal



Malika School



Thiès Novitiate

## SEMINAR OF THE FRENCH-SPEAKING PROVINCES ON JPIC

**Dakar** du **15** au **17** Mai 2023

Séminaire Francophone sur Justice-Paix et Intégrité de la Création



**THEME**



**EDUCATEURS MONTFORTAINS, AVEC LES AUTRES, ENTRETENONS NOTRE MAISON COMMUNE.**



**Theme:** *"Montfortian educators, together with others, let us care for our common home".*

### 1- Opening ceremony

From 15 to 17 May 2023, a seminar for the French-speaking Provinces was held at the Maria Goretti Centre of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary in Dakar (Senegal), organised by the Central Administration of the Congregation. Participants included were from the provinces of Canada, Brazzaville, Kinshasa, Spain and Senegal; the Vice-Province of Madagascar and representatives of the Central Administration.

The first session of the seminar was devoted to the inaugural and welcoming ceremony, which began at 9 a.m. with prayer and in the presence of the local press. The opening prayer was led by Father Christophe Mendy, vicar of the Saint Joseph parish in Médina and representative of the parish priest, who was absent. In his prayer, he invoked the Holy Spirit on the participants and on the entire proceedings so that they would be fruitful. After the prayer, a round of introductions followed. We then heard presentations on the objectives and expectations of the seminar.

Taking the floor at the start, the Provincial Superior, Brother Etienne Souleymane KA, after having greeted and welcomed the participants, expressed his joy of having such an opportunity to reflect in a Montfortian way on how to respond to the Holy Father's invitation to "...act urgently to safeguard our common home". He then went on to highlight the Pope's seven objectives in Laudato Sí.

Finally, he thanked the authorities, the speakers and the Province's JPIC Commission, and wished them fruitful work in preserving our environment.

Augustin THIAW, Secretary General of the Episcopal Conference of Senegal, Mauritania, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau, spoke on behalf of the Bishops. After greeting the participants, he emphasised the relevance of the theme, which, for him, is of pressing concern, on the one hand, and on the other, sounds like a mission for the Montfortian family. He concluded with an invitation to a perfect synodal process for the security and well-being of our "common home".

Then it was the turn of the Assistant General in charge of the JPIC dossier, Brother James T. K. He situated the involvement of the Montfortian Brothers in the action of the Church. He also recalled the organisation

of the first seminar for the English-speaking Provinces in 2020. But because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the seminar was held online. We are now in the process of organising a seminar for the French-speaking Provinces, which will enable us to draw up an action plan that will be a Gabrielite response to ecological issues. He identified seven essential points from the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church to support our action:

- Life and dignity of the human person
- Appeal to the family and the community
- Rights and responsibilities
- Option for the poor and vulnerable ( Priority for disadvantaged areas)
- Dignity at work and workers' rights ( fair wages)
- Solidarity
- Caring for God's creation: we are called to protect the Earth by promoting the seven objectives of Laudato SI :

- 1- Respond to the cry of the earth
- 2- Responding to the cry of the poor
- 3- The ecological economy
- 4- Adopting simple lifestyles
- 5- Ecological education
- 6- Ecological spirituality
- 7- Community involvement and participatory action

After Brother James' speech, the Superior General sent a video message to the seminarians in which he expressed his closeness and fraternal concern to all the Brothers. He invited the Provinces to coordinate their efforts and to make the Brothers aware of JPIC issues.

For the last intervention of the ceremony, Brother Jean Marie THIOR, Secretary General, made a projection on the Gabrielite presence in the French-speaking world: firstly in French-speaking Africa and Madagascar and then in Europe to better situate the different establishments of the Brothers.

At the end of the various presentations, the participants took a family photo and shared a snack with the officials.

## 2- The themes of the sessions

The first theme was the socio-economic and ecclesial context in Africa and the world. It was presented by Dr Philippe Abraham TINE, President of Senegal's National Council of the Laity, and Professor and researcher at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar in the Department of Classical Literature.

The second theme was the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This theme was led by Ms Thérèse NDIAYE, a geographer and environmentalist who teaches at Ste Jeanne D'Arc Post Bac.

The third theme was Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Sí, presented by Abbé Alfred Waly SARR of the Dakar diocesan clergy and Professor of Moral Theology at the Libermann Major Seminary in Sébikotane.

A fourth theme on the three global crises threatening humanity was developed by Mr Henry Mathieu LO and Christian FAYE, both members of GAIA (Groupe d'Actions et d'Initiative pour un développement Alternatif). As a reminder, the three crises are: the climate crisis, multiform pollution and the accelerated erosion of biodiversity.

**At the level of the congregation, themes were presented by the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel:**

- Brother James, Assistant General and responsible for the Justice, Peace, Integrity and Creation Commission, spoke about the Institute's actions in favour of JPIC.

- Brother Pratap spoke to us about the Global Compact for Education

- Brother Varghese, responsible for the international JPIC commission, spoke to us about **Global crises: the context and Montfortian responses.**

## 3- Actions selected and to be promoted in the Provinces

The Provincial Superiors took the floor to share with the seminarists the actions chosen and to be popularised in their provinces to encourage initiatives in favour of JPIC.

**Province of Brazzaville:** Bring together coordinators from the 3 countries for training, and continue to regularise the situation of community personnel.

**Province of Kinshasa:** Extend the seminar to all the Brothers, popularise the directives on solidarity, forgiveness, peace and respect for the environment, read and become familiar with the Gabrielist guide and Laudato Si, visit minors in detention or in prison and help them to have a trial.

**Province of Spain:** listening to pupils and their families

**Vice Province of Madagascar:** Bringing the literacy and education programme with the NGO Saint Gabriel to the schools, defining a common educational project for all the Gabrielist educational institutions and including environmental protection, providing drinking water for the communities, pupils and neighbours, building toilets in certain areas, starting agricultural training with the existing centre.

**Province of Senegal:** training of resource persons in law, construction, renewable energy and agriculture to improve our educational offering, investment in the energy mix (solar energy during the day and electricity at night), and in educational farms to help manage school canteens.

**Province of Canada:** encouraging individual and pastoral actions with prisoners and ex-prisoners. From this round table, we can retain the following actions:

- Raising awareness, informing and training Brothers and collaborators in the cause of JPIC
- Taking care of children in prison
- Support for pupils and parents
- Regularisation of work contracts
- Literacy training
- Access to drinking water

## 4- Brother James' impressions

At the end of the seminar, Brother T. K. James gave his impressions of the organisation of the seminar. He expressed his pride in the Province of Senegal for the successful organisation of the JPIC seminar and particularly extended his gratitude and recognition to all those who had made every effort to ensure that the seminar was well organised, in particular the Provincial Superior and Brother Maurice Birane Diouf. He invited the Province of Senegal not to let the proceedings of the seminar go unheeded and to initiate activities to implement the decisions of the seminar. He hopes that the work of this seminar will be made known to everyone through the publication of articles in the Bulletin des Nouvelles Gabriélistes and the review JPIC. These decisions should be everyone's business, and the Brothers should be involved in living out the JPIC actions. He would like to see this seminar spread out to make the work more widely known and to give concrete expression to the seminar's call to launch something big for the French-speaking Provinces. Senegal has all the resources needed to host this JPIC project. He concluded by recalling the next international meeting of associates of the Montfortian family, which will be organised in St Laurent-sur-Sèvre, France.

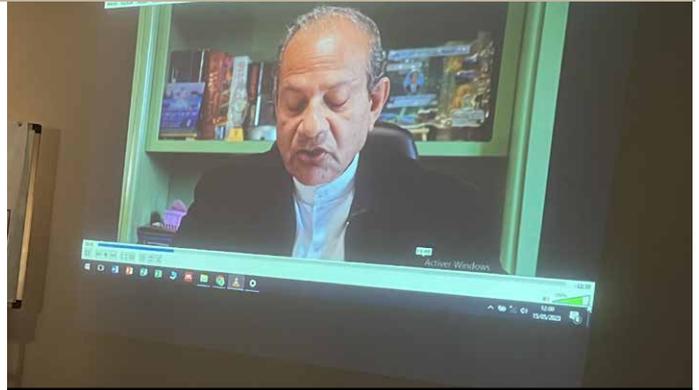
Bro. Patrice Mbengue, SG



OPENING CEREMONY



Provincial of Senegal



Superior General



Abbé Augustin THIAW, Secretary Bishops' Conference



Participants



Participants



Brother James T. K.



Brother Jean Marie THIOR



Family photo

**THE CANONICAL VISIT OF THE ASSISTANTS GENERAL TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**



The Montfortian Brothers of Saint Gabriel in general and the collaborators in particular had the immense joy of welcoming from Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, the three members of the Central Administration, in particular the Assistants General : Bro. Jean - Paul Mbengue, Bro. Pratap Reddy and Bro. T. K. James.

As is universally known, the canonical visit is not an inspection but rather a fraternal moment to listen, encourage and comfort the confreres and share with them the experience of the mission.



During their stay, the three Assistants General became deeply immersed in the realities of the Montfortian religious life in DR Congo through various activities: meetings with the authorities of the local Churches, moments of personal meetings with the confreres and in groups with the communities, with young people in formation, community adoration, celebration of the Eucharist, visits to the various apostolic sectors and different communities.

Visits to our schools were one of the priorities and important moments during which the Assistants General did not fail to slip in their words of satisfaction, thanks and encouragement to the confreres working there, and also to the staff working there.



The Assistants General were determined to meet each and every one of their confreres, in their own mission area. That's why neither the rain nor the heat, no matter how difficult the access conditions were could not hold them back. Among the memories of the village, the journey from Mantere (Bibwa) in the mud where our Land cruiser was stuck. It couldn't go forwards or backwards. It took several interventions to get it out of the mud. Despite all this, the trip went smoothly, with lots of smiles and joy. And that's where I understood the popular saying that "where there's love, there's a way".

Our visitors knew how to adapt to the reality of our place, regardless of their rank, they lowered themselves to the level of everyone and this facilitated an atmosphere of trust and open dialogue with the people. Their attention was not limited only to the Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel, but also to the



two other congregations of the Montfortian family (the Daughters of Wisdom and the Fathers of the Company of Mary).

The stay of our guests in our Province was a comfort to us. The Assistants General played the role of prophets in the New Testament: to obey the Holy Spirit, to be compassionate, to speak the truth and to accept the daily life of our Province.

All the Brothers and collaborators thank these three members of the Central Administration for this great moment spent in the Congo. Lord, thank you for the friendships that were made.



Bro. Rufin NDAMBU, SG



## ADOZIONI A DISTANZA

### The Visit of Superior General



We were blessed by the brotherly and joyful visit of Rev. Bro. John Kallarackal, Superior General, accompanied by Rev. Bro. Dionigi Taffarello, Vicar General, to our Community of Istrana. They stayed with us for three days taking part in all the community exercises and different meetings with us and with our collaborators. We had ample time to talk about the future of our community and the possibility of incorporating collaboration of catholic families and of getting two Brothers into our community. There was great interest to continue to promote the activity of the “adozioni a distanza” started by Bro. Mathew Kavumkal about 43 years back. We thank the Superiors for their visit and brotherly encouragement.

### Prayer Group Montfortano

The Prayer Group Regina della Pace had a day of pilgrimage to the Marian Sanctuary of Porzus in the Archdiocese of Udine on Sunday 2 June. There was wonderful participation from the members of the



group. Each family came with their own auto vehicle. All of us reached the Parish square of St. Andrea Church at Attimis. There we had our refreshments. From there we were guided by a member of the Sanctuary to reach the top of the hill where the sanctuary is located. At 11.00 a.m. we had the Holy mass celebrated by Don Giuseppe who is 87 years old. After the Mass, he explained to us all about the Sanctuary. After that, we had our lunch. Each family had brought one or more food items to be shared with others. It was a moment of real “Agape” of the early Christian community. In the evening all of us returned to our Institute where we had our evening meals together. All were happy and filled with the spirit of the Lord. Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, as spiritual animator and guide of the group was present with the group all the time.

### Groups of Scouts

The months of May and June were really the months of Scouts and their annual celebrations. Instituto of Ca' Florens with its vast internal and external space, is a centre adapted for the activities of the Scout and AGESCI. Nearly from every Parish, groups of Scouts come to our Institute for their annual external



activities. Scouts of Montebelluna with their parents, Scouts of Vedelago and Castefranco, Scouts of Quinto di Treviso, Scouts of the Olmi Parish and Scouts of Chirignago were the main groups that came to our Institute in one month.

### **Scuola Materna Appiani-APPIANI NURSERY SCHOOL OF TREVISO**

The concluding annual festival of the Appiani School of Treviso had their celebration in our Institute with teachers, students and parents. It was a wonderful organisation marvellously conducted and celebrated.

### **Scuola Materna di Istrana: NURSERY SCHOOL OF ISTRANA**

The nursery schools of Istrana also conducted their annual closing ceremony in our Institute along with teachers, students and parents. They had their lunch under the shade of the trees of the long avenue of our Institute. They enjoyed our hospitality. The Parish Priest Don Fabio also was present for some time.

### **Spiritual Monthly Retreat of the Benefactors**



Every month, the spiritual Retreat of the benefactors who help the children for their educational expenses, is organised by Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, is one of the events important in our Institute. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month is dedicated to the spiritual retreat of the benefactors. We close the retreat with the celebration of the Mass by Bro. Dionisio Santoro. After the Mass, we have lunch for all the participants at the retreat. The lunchtime is really very brotherly and jovial. Bro.

Mathew Kavumkal takes the opportunity to speak with one and all and share communications and give timely information.

### **A Tripple Events Celebration**

A friend called Angelo Crosato and his wife Maria Elvira celebrated three special events on a single special day. 45 anniversary of their marriage, 30 years of uninterrupted faithfulness in helping children through our organisation and two Baptisms of their grandchildren. One grandchild was the child of their daughter Federica. The other was the child of a girl who was helped through our organisation. She is a nurse at Valdobbadiene. She was helped by Angelo through our helping project. The Mass was celebrated in the Duomo of Santa Marisa Assunta of Valdobbadiene. The festal lunch was served in an Agritourism restaurant at Bigolino of Valdobbadiene. All the relatives of Angelo and Maria Elvira were present at the celebration. Bro. Mathew Kavumkal was the chief guest of honour.



### **The Patronal Feast of the Indian Community**

As the Indian Syro-Malabar Catholic Community is accompanied by Bro Mathew Kavumkal, the annual Patronal Feast, the Feast of S. Joseph was celebrated in our Institute solemnly with the participation of nearly every member of the Community. Delegations from the Jacobite Orthodox Community and from the Malankara Community participated in the Feast. At the conclusion of the spiritual celebrations, lunch was provided to each and every one present. After lunch, the Feast continued with a number of cultural activities by students and parents. It was really a great success.

<https://www.adozioniadistanza.net>

Bro. Mathew Kavumkal, SG

**L**oving and a fraternal greeting from Sitagarha Novitiate. All the twelve novices and the staff are fully busy creating a web of positive and transformative relationships, on the model of the essence of our triune God, based on unconditional and genuine love, radical acceptance, brotherly concern and a transformative accompaniment, under the guidance of Jesus our brother, powered by the Holy Spirit and deeply rooted in the charism of Our founder St. Louis Marie de Montfort, as a response to the signs of times today. The intense and high-degree heat waves have added a new dimension to our challenging formation mission.

### **St. Montfort's Feast Day:**



We celebrated the feast of our founder St. Montfort on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

The celebration was mainly centred around the grace-filled Eucharistic Celebration by Fr. Praveen, IMS. The special presence of the formation team of 14 Formation Houses in Sitagarha and Brothers from Dhawaiya and MTC communities and Domestic staff with their family members doubled the joy and multiplied the grace of the celebration. The mesmerizing, hope-evoking cultural evening, with a laser-like focus on the Life of St. Montfort, enacted through their drama, skit, mime, and dance, created a positive impact on the audience. All the participants congratulated the Novitiate Staff and novices. We concluded our program with a sumptuous fellowship meal.

### **A New Novice Master:**

The Novice Master Bro. K. M. Mathew reached the Novitiate on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The outgoing Novice Master welcomed Bro. K. M. Mathew and introduced him to the novices. The novices expressed their



welcome through a warm welcome song. In the context of a prayer service, the handing over process was done on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2023, in a simple yet very profound way, by handing over a statue of our lady of perpetual help to the new Novice Master by the outgoing Novice Master. Bro. K.M. Mathew began his formation mission for one year, through the very special intercession

of our Lady of Perpetual Help

### **Farewell of Bro. Arockiaraj:**

On the eve of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023, the outgoing Novice Master, Bro. Arockiaraj, the staff and novices, all the Brothers from Montfort Gabrielite Bhavan, (MGA), MTC Hazaribagh and Dhawaiya community came together to appreciate and acknowledge the great service of Bro. Arockiaraj to St. Gabriel's Novitiate, for the last three years. The highlight of the farewell program was a befitting prayer service on the theme, "Go, God is with you" (meaning goodbye). During the felicitation programme, all the novices shared the values like discipline, hard work, the impact of being very regular for the spiritual exercises, and many lessons which they learnt from the outgoing Novice Master. They were joyful while sharing their growth-promoting experiences under Bro Arockiaraj. With the expression of gratitude and wishing him all the BEST in his new mission the farewell programme came to an end. It was followed by a delicious fellowship meal. On 10<sup>th</sup> May Bro. Arockiaraj left the Novitiate and went to his new mission.

### **Completion of the Pond Work:**

The vegetable cultivation in the vegetable garden could not reach its maximum potency due to the insufficient water supply. To meet this need the construction of a pond near the football ground was in progress by the former Novice Masters and Novices, especially the contribution of Bro. Arockiaraj also has been very great and remarkable. It was an unfulfilled desire of Bro. Mathew K.M. to build an open well



in the pond near the football court since he was the Socius here. So, the construction of an open well in the pond was considered positive. The smart work in this regard was initiated as soon as Bro. Mathew K.M. began his formation mission on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2023. With timely financial help from the National Council, the construction of the pond with an open well in it has been completed on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023. We believe this humble effort will enable us to expand the horizon of our organic vegetable cultivation.

#### **Farewell of Bro. Fuldeep:**

Bro. Fuldeep Jojo has been the Administrator of this house for the past two years. He has made a great and wonderful contribution to our formation mission during his term of office. We bid farewell to Bro. Fuldeep Jojo on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The Brothers from neighbouring communities graced the occasion. The day was made special with a relevant prayer

service on the theme 'Thanksgiving', followed by the felicitation and a Thanksgiving song. The novices and staff expressed their gratitude and love to him. We concluded the program with a fellowship meal. We wish him an awakened mission experience with a greater positive impact in his new mission.

We enjoy various classes like 'Called to be a Brother of Christ and Brothers like Christ,' by Bro. Paulose Mekkunnel, SG, 'Our Rule of life, A powerful discipline to lead a life with Christ, our transformation companion' and other classes and various meaningful growth promoting activities. We, the novices continue to grow in our wisdom, discernment, and knowledge. Now, we the novices are encouraged to experience greater happiness in small things and are enabled to find God in all things.

Bro. K.M. Mathew, SG &  
Novices of Delhi Province



**D**ear readers of the Gabrielite News Bulletin Greetings from the Pre-novitiate, Aruludhayam.

We the 26 pre-novices from 7 Provinces of India, were warmly welcomed by our Director Bro. Binu Mathew.

**INAUGURATION:**



The new batch of the year 2023-2024 of pre-novices was officially inaugurated in the presence of three Provincials namely Bro. Irudhayam. M (The national chairman), Bro. George Padikara and Bro. Jonhson. The neighbouring school community Brothers namely Bro. Sahayaraj, Bro. M. K. Joseph, & Bro. K. V. Thomas were also present for the Inauguration Programme on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2023. The pre-novices were given study materials & prayer books during the inauguration programme. The inaugural prayer was organized by Bro. Binu Mathew. It was a fabulous and memorable day for us as we were blessed by the presence of the three Provincials and also the other

Brothers.

**CLASSES:**

After receiving the study materials, we were given the assignment to learn the prayers along with their meaning which is crucial for our spiritual growth. We are being taught English by our Director aiming at various parts of the grammar, vocabulary, right way of speaking English and usages of the phrase and clauses. As we are from various states of India and having different mother tongues, learning English is essential to communicate with each other. Bro. Jaya Prakash takes classes on spoken English. We thank the Brothers for the effort, they have put in to improve our language skills and prayer life.

Bro. Binu Nathew , SG





**BRO. SANJEEV ARMO, BRO. MICHEL MENDY & BRO. MARREDDY T. R.**



**BRO. MICHEL KIENTEGA & BRO. NICEPHORE TINE**



**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 LISBON, PORTUGAL**



**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 LISBON, PORTUGAL DATE: 01-08-2023**

The official commencement of World Youth Day was led by Cardinal D Manuel Clemente of Lisbon, setting the stage for an unforgettable experience. The magnitude of the crowd was astounding, with venues overflowing during the scheduled programs. Various musical bands performed at the main venue of WYD 2023, including one from India. The exuberant youth danced joyfully to the music, waving their nation's flags.

The grand Eucharistic celebration was, accompanied by marvellous singing and intercession prayers in different languages. The presence of numerous Bishops, priests, and religious figures was truly inspiring. Witnessing their encouragement and support for the youth to become ambassadors of joy and love left an indelible impression on our hearts. World

Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon continues to unfold as an exceptional spiritual journey, fostering connections and leaving us filled with hope and inspiration.

*An extract from Bro. Marreddy's report.*

Bro. Marreddy T.R. , SG



Partenariat

**PARTNERSHIP**



[www.partnershipsg.org](http://www.partnershipsg.org)



## Province Level MGA Meeting – Delhi

**“The wisdom I proclaim is God’s secret wisdom, which is hidden from mankind....” (1Cor2:7).**

The Province of Delhi organized a Province level MGA Meeting at Montfort Villa, Bhopal on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The main aim of the meeting was to develop awareness among the new members of the association. The meeting started with a prayer service conducted by Bro. Alok Minj which was followed by introduction of the members. The resource person for the meeting was Bro. Paulose Mekkunnel, SG who explicitly explained the Montfortian Spirituality and charism.

The meeting involved group discussions and sharing of the experiences regarding the MGA meetings of various schools in their respective places. Various challenges faced by the members were also put forward.

The MGA Charter was also explained properly. The mission and vision of MGA was elucidated. It was followed by interpretation of the membership.

The MGA members were made aware of the structure of Governance at various levels. A lot of emphasis was laid on the topic of family as a “Domestic Church” and through the witness of families, the Gospel can reach every place and every section of the society.

The meeting ended with a few decisions taken regarding the growth and development of MGA movement and some steps were discussed to make it a successful initiative.

A group photo was taken at the end of the meeting with the MGA members of different Montfort Schools.



## Multiple Meetings of Gabrielite Shared Mission – Province of Spain

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2023, the groups of the MCG and Montfortian Family-Madrid, together with the group of monitors of the St. Gabriel Camps, met at the St. Gabriel School in Madrid, reaching a total of 50 people.

Teacher Carmen Eugenia, in charge of the Pastoral area at San Gabriel School in Madrid, opened the meeting at 11 a.m. by giving a sincere and cordial welcome to all those present.

Brother Ángel Llana reminded everyone of the meaning of Shared Mission and its origin in the Institution of the Brothers of St. Gabriel and in all its centres and explained the importance of sharing the charism, spirituality and mission of the Brothers with the laity.

Throughout the years of running of the Gabrielite Shared Mission in the Province of Spain, from its beginnings until now, these meetings to share formation and ideals have been increasing because "You cannot share what you do not know".

Brother Ángel Llana, with the help of a PowerPoint, explained the religious experience and love of St. Louis for the Virgin Mary.

- In his early years in an eminently Christian family.
- In his years of formation at school and later at the seminary Saint Sulpice.
- In his life as an apostolic missionary.
- And finally, in his writings.

The life of Saint Louis and his works have made him one of the greatest promoters of love for our mother.

We enjoyed a short coffee break or just a relaxed chat with the companions of the Meeting.

After a short coffee break or just a relaxed chat, seven small groups were formed to discuss the theme: The experience of the Virgin Mary in my life.



Some of the questions we asked ourselves were: What is your devotion to Mary like? What have you learned about her in your adult life? Who has influenced your devotion to the Virgin? What places of devotion to Mary have you visited?

We then shared our reflections. Some of them were these:

Devotion to Mary should be like our dealing with our mother: trust in her, because she gives us security; love because she wants the best for us...

There are as many invocations of the Virgin Mary as there are villages in Spain, but we must not forget that under these different invocations lies the same person: the Mother of God and our Mother.

The importance of the family in instilling devotion to Mary.

Personal experiences were presented and finally Brother Ángel Llana, in addition to summarising what was presented by the groups, completed the content speaking of how we should apply this devotion in our daily lives. The spiritual experience of St. Louis should form part of our identity...:

Helping those most in need.

The way in which we show ourselves useful to a child, to an adolescent, to a young person?

Devotion to Mary, which began in us when we were children, must gradually abandon its childish image and grow in us as we grow in age, knowledge and experience.

We cannot be trees full of leaves, but without fruit: all the works and deeds we do must seek the welfare of others.

Mary is not the end of our journey. She must be our companion on the way to Christ.

The meeting ended by singing a song to San Luis composed by the teacher Carolina Sánchez and sung by the Infants' group of the school.

### MCG-Province of Spain







## Chronicle of a Joint Formation Meeting of Brothers and lay people Province of Spain

**O**n 26 and 27 March, the second meeting of the 2022-2023 course of Joint Formation of Brothers and lay people of the Province of Spain took place at the Casa de Espiritualidad de los Santos Ángeles in Saragossa.

Arriving from various places in Catalonia, Madrid and Aranda de Duero, the Saturday morning welcomed us with a marvellous light, very appropriate for the day we were celebrating: The Annunciation, our patronal feast.

In our opening prayer, we let ourselves be filled with the music and words of the song "Madame", from the musical "Bernadette de Lourdes", and we expressed our desire, like Mary, to be a gentle and warm place to welcome Jesus with joy.

We had again the speaker, Claretian Father Luis Alberto Gonzalo Diaz, Doctor in Theology from the Pontifical University of Salamanca, writer and director of the magazine "Vida Religiosa". First of all, we addressed the concerns that arose after the previous encounter, held in November, to then deal with the theme that occupied us that day: INTERCULTURALITY, SHARED MISSION, SYNODALITY and LEADERSHIP.

Some of the ideas that were expressed were these:

- Regarding interculturality, a basic principle at the moment, it was said that it was complicated because it is linked to feeling. Culture defines us, conditions us and educates us, and establishing a dialectic between cultures does not work, but we have to reach an encounter.

- As far as Shared Mission is concerned, we must bear in mind that it is a task for people with a vocation for mission. We must be very careful with life projects

without LIFE because they can result in projects that are not viable.

Shared Mission is a very artisanal task. No educational community is the same; although we live the same life, we are vitally different and this must be taken into account in a SM project.

- With synodality the concept of leadership changes. The Pope encourages a new leadership, a leadership that never tires of listening. Some may find it chaotic, but remember that God created out of chaos.

- Leadership and SM are underpinned by the theology of mission. For this, formation, reflection, discernment and emancipatory decision-making are essential. It is the Holy Spirit who demands these emancipatory decisions, not continuity. The paradigm shift is to stay with the community model of Jesus but adapted to this time.

- In terms of SM in synodality and interculturality, the formation has to be inter vocational (consecrated, priests, married lay people, single lay people) in order to live and be as we are each one in our own personal vocation. When we succeed in integrating all vocations, we will all be at ease.

- This formation has to be from freedom and for freedom. The principle of mission demands disengagement from concrete spaces and styles to give way to the necessary newness. The formation will lead us to understand what the charism consists of and thus to separate it from the school and the task we carry out. The diversity of gifts does not have to dynamite communion. We must distinguish charism from actions. Our differences do not stem from our personal qualifications but from a different call for each one of us.

- We must bear in mind that we must first create a climate of freedom for each one to make his or her own vocational process. This formation in the SM is not a teaching but is carried out through witnessing. And it is linked to Christ, who is freedom. It consists of discovering: What does God want? What does he need at this time?

On the afternoon of 25 March, we spent some time savouring the meaning of our patronal feast by situating it in history, as well as the name of the Congregation: Brothers of St. Gabriel. We analyzed the actions of the angel Gabriel in the three biblical episodes in which he appears and contrasted it with the mission of a brother of St. Gabriel as expressed in the Rule of Life. Finally, we saw how all this could challenge a Montfortian Gabrielite educator. Then we celebrated a very special Eucharist with a dramatized reading of the Annunciation.

Saturday morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> was dedicated to work on the theme "How to infect others to walk together". After a motivational video, we split into small groups around some questions, to later present and discuss them in assembly. Finally, we made a series of concrete proposals to study them and see how we can take transformative steps in our Shared Mission.

We all agree that these meetings of Brothers and lay people are not only pleasant and profitable but also help us to grow in self-knowledge and to advance together on the path of the Shared Mission.

### Shared Mission Formation Team



## THE 49 BROTHERS OF SAINT GABRIEL AND THEIR CHAPLIN

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



**Jesüs ROMO LARA**  
**Brother Rufino, 26 Years old**  
**Born in Madrigalejo del Monte**  
**(Burgos)**

Very attentive to details, an expert in sewing machines, he held no secrets in his labours that he carried out with the greatest care to the liking of the whole community

In addition he was the sacristan of the Formation House standing out for his order and dedication to the ornamentation of the chapel and in the organizing of the religious ceremonies.

He lived the Eucharist deeply and inspired faith and respect for all sacred things. With great sense of detail and solemnity he prepared the great celebrations of the Liturgical Year, the dominical tasks, the Eucharistic Blessings and the monthly retreats !

Not to mention the discipline and sense of responsibility with which he educated and prepared the junior altar boys. With the other fellow Brothers he was dedicated and a good companion. And always a smile of joy shone on his face, a joy that was contagious to all.

In the difficult times of 1936, when even the slightest danger neared, he was there to protect the Chaplain Father and to prevent that images of the Eucharist could be desecrated.

**Martyrdom:** Common narration

From Brother Rufino grant us, Lord, his humility and simplicity, his deep piety and his faith and respect towards the sacred things.



**Julio ROMO ARLANZÓN**  
**Brother Jacinto, 26 years old**  
**Born in Madrigalejo del Monte**  
**(Burgos)**

"Pious, he has completed his novitiate with seriousness; good character, sense of family, loves his vocation". He was entirely kindness and charity, work and good nature, with a great spirit of sacrifice. He served his military service in San Sebastián in the Zapadores Regiment mining engineers for one year.

Studies in London during two years when he was thinking of going to Thailand as a missionary, but had to return to Spain by request of the Superiors.

He gives himself to his studies without respite.

An excellent teacher, he had unlimited patience and an intelligence that accompanied a gentle character. He was attentive and respectful with others. All these qualities could have no other human and religious mystery than that of the most demanding gabrielite spontaneity.

He contributed to the fact that in Viladecans the community was joyful, hard working and simple. He was always like a perfumed flower that radiated a soft fragrance of kindness.

**Martyrdom:** Common narration

From Brother Jacinto grant us, Lord, his extraordinary goodness and kindness, his never ending patience and his respectful personality towards others.

# JESUS, THE MASTER IS HERE

When in talk with you my Lord  
My heart begins to be on fire  
I feel blessed and full of care  
All my quams and fears disappear.

When in walk with you my Lord  
I feel so thrilled as none before  
My being too move on to fore  
To relish the scene sense encore.

When in work with you my Lord  
My body pines to be of help  
Move away far from wordly wealth  
Walk in towards a subline shore.

When in prayer with you my Lord  
I start with you enwrapped in prayer  
I see you pray at morn and eve  
Delve in union with the father.

When in speech with you my Lord  
For things divine that exalt God  
My heart tells stories vibrant true  
It rests secure and peace accrue.

When in hope with you, My Lord  
I see the golden light as my lot  
I hear your voice at a known tomb,  
"I am Resurrection and Life."

Bro. Emmanuel P.J, SG

## PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS June 2023– July 2023

### BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

Bro. Stéphane GASZTOWTT  
Bro. Robert Baud  
Bro. Elie Baranger  
Bro. Yuju Francis

### COMPANY OF MARY

Fr. Valentino BOSCO  
Fr. Joseph GUILLOUZIC  
Fr. Raoul DESHAIES

### DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM

Sr. Marcelle de Saint André  
Sr. Madeleine Vaillancourt  
Sr. Jacqueline Servant  
Sr. Edtih de Jesus-Crucifie  
Sr. Suzanne MARC-CHAILLÉ  
Sr. Maria Pia dell'Immacolata



**Dear Readers,**

**Kindly send your News, Articles, Photos of happenings in your respective Provinces latest by 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023.**

**E- Mail to [sginfo@fsgroma.org](mailto:sginfo@fsgroma.org)**

**WhatsApp +91 9445800156**

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