

**INM-KMJ-CIR 57/11-2021    RELIGIOUS LIFE WITH A PURPOSE & PASSION    NOVEMBER 2021**

Dear Confreres,

Greetings to you in this month of November, dedicated to the Holy Souls. I have just concluded my meeting in Turin with the Rector Major and the Vicar. It was indeed an enriching experience having a one-to-one colloquy with them about our Province and our mission. Being in Rome, in Turin and in Valdocco, it is only natural that sentiments of Salesian spirituality fill you and one is renewed with the energy and fervour of Don Bosco himself. Therefore, in this Circular, I thought of reflecting with you on the rudiments of Religious Life and how each one of us, living our call as Salesians can sincerely make an in-depth soul-search exercise to take stock of the manner in which we have lived our Salesian life in the various communities and of our personal fidelity to our religious vocation as well.

### **Consecrated Life in the World Today**

What is the meaning of life? It's a question everyone has wondered about at some point in their life.



Is there even an answer? Each of us has somehow found our way into this world. But for what purpose or reason are we here? What's the point of it all? Is there inherent significance or value to the religious life and existence that we have responded to? The consecrated life is a gift which the Father has given to the Church and to each one of us by means of the Spirit so that, in faithfulness to the Gospel, the most

characteristic traits of the life of his Son Jesus, the Chaste, Poor and Obedient one (cf. **Mt. 8:20; Phil. 2:8**), and the unfathomable riches of His mystery (cf. **Eph. 3:8**), might be present in the world and might draw everyone toward the kingdom of God. Therefore, it is necessary to be aware of the reality and complexity of the topic we are reflecting upon: **Is our Religious Life worth living?** Having an answer to this question enables us to better understand ourselves and each other and to know what is truly valuable so that we can live our religious lives happily and contented, motivated and convinced of what we have freely chosen for ourselves. Nevertheless, it is not easy to furnish a complete description. **There is no such thing as consecrated life in the abstract; rather, it is expressed in diverse forms and institutes, incarnated in real persons—women and men—in diverse settings, situations, spiritualities and apostolates. Its members constitute an important group in the church, comparable to the Gospel leaven** (cf. **Lk. 13:21**). Though from a global perspective, numerically very small in number, this group is "a radiant sign of the kingdom of heaven" for the Church and for the world. Concentrated in it is a variety of forms of life, spiritual traditions and apostolic works bearing witness to the manifold grace of Christ, the presence of the Spirit and the power of the Gospel.

The Consecrated Life, though a minority in numbers, has a rich presence in the Church and in the world through its wealth of communities and groups. **It performs a genuine ministry in the praise of God and the salvation of the world in the celebration of the Eucharist, liturgical prayer, asceticism and contemplation.** It is active in evangelization and catechesis, in works of charity

...serving the victims of both old and new forms of poverty; in being close to the sick and marginalized, in the education of children and adolescents, in schools and universities, in the advancement of culture, in teaching the values of justice and peace, and in the means of social communications. Often the consecrated life is found in the front lines of the Church's Mission and dialogue with the world.

### **Challenges to Consecrated Life Today**

When we said “YES” to our religious calling, our initial fervour would have completely overwhelmed us with the charism and nature of our call. Our years of initial formation would have deepened our motivation and our desire to continue on our vocational journey. But down through the years of living our priestly and religious vocation, we come to realize that **profound cultural changes have corroded the authentic meaning of sexuality, the idea of the family and the value of virginity and celibacy.** If on the one hand, a healthy view of human sexuality has contributed to a better appreciation of the corporal and spiritual integrity of the human person, other trends have banalized the understanding of it and disrupted its balance. Fidelity to marriage and the commitment to celibacy for the sake of the kingdom of heaven are perhaps more difficult to assume today (cf. **Mt. 22:30**).



**A liberal economy without any corrective measures has led to the growing stratification in living conditions resulting in the abandonment of the weak and the poor,** of ethnic minorities, and of the sick and elderly, as often happens in the poorest of countries. If a culture with these characteristics threatens the soul of Christian life and the consecrated life itself, it offers those persons committed to the imitation of the poor Christ the opportunity to live the Gospel of the Beatitudes and alleviate the suffering of so many people whose failure to share in progress has left them at the fringes of society. How can a more credible witness of poverty in today's world be achieved?

**Today's insistence in culture on personal autonomy and on fulfilment, as understood by one's subjective conscience creates difficulties affecting obedience, the acceptance of traditions, the objective limitations created by law, sacrifice and the mortification of one's own will for the sake of the broader common good.** Frequently the very idea of solidarity is debased by the prevalence of an individualistic logic, thus presenting new problems threatening the meaning of obedience and leading to risks of individualism. At the same time, through turning from individualism, the situation poses the possibility of rediscovering the genuine meaning of obedience for love of the Lord and his kingdom in order to come together in communion and mission, with eyes fixed on Christ, the Son and obedient servant, and on Mary, the handmaid of the Lord, called to collaborate in the mystery of salvation.

**Today it is difficult for many people to make fundamental and lasting commitments.** There is also a crisis in the idea of vocation and of giving oneself in a lifelong manner. Some ask if it is possible to consider the possibility of a consecrated life made for a temporary period of commitment with a view to more mature choices, as can be found in other forms of religion or other cultures. **The choice of an absolute ideal, and an offering of self to God and the service of others, is a source of meaning which humanizes and is a gift of self to humanity.** For this reason, persons consecrated to a single ideal, which does not pass away, are living signs of those transcendent values for which a person lives and even dies. In our day there is no lack of persons who have followed Christ to the point of sacrificing their life, rendering through their martyrdom a sign which is the supreme proof of love.



**Many deplore the lack of balance between prayer and action and the serious risk of activism.** Others note that changes not in conformity with the church's discipline have been introduced into liturgical celebrations. Many formal structures of traditional observance which furnished support in the past have disappeared and have not been replaced by other values. For some people this has created the lack of a proper personal discipline necessary for confronting new situations. **Many have noted a spiritual vacuum and a loss of the striving toward transcendent values.** Some people hold that this is also due to questions raised in recent decades in the fields of exegesis, theology and morality, questions which are not harmoniously integrated in one's personal search and the option of faith.

**Material progress often leads to a society in which consumerism becomes an end in itself. Abandoning the transcendent dimension, it ends up in religious indifferentism, relativism and secularism.** Individualism and authoritarianism are always a strong temptation and are destructive of the life of fraternal communion. The excessive dependence on former times has sometimes been replaced not by a balanced participation but by independence under the stimulus of democratic ideas which are not appropriate to the life of the church and consecrated life. Therefore, given the precarious circumstances we are living our religious life, uncertainties and confusion will most definitely arise: Is our religious life worth living? Hence, **it is urgently necessary to regain the true meaning of consecrated life in the world which, despite an apparent scenario wherein its eschatological promises seem to be fast losing its appeal and mystery!**

### **BIBLICAL ASSISTANCE WHEN YOU FEEL DISCOURAGED OR DEMOTIVATED IN RELIGIOUS LIFE**

#### **King David**

In Psalms 42 verse 11, the Psalmist was conflicted and asked himself a pertinent question: *“Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise*



*him, my salvation and my God”.* (Psalms 42:11). From this Bible verse, we see that David's soul was discouraged and weary. But he didn't understand why. Hence the question. But we can infer that it was due to feelings of hopelessness because, in the end, he mentioned “hope in God”. His question is not the question of someone who thought it was normal for him to be discouraged. For him to have questioned his feelings, he was probably trying to find a resolution for his inner turmoil. So, he encouraged himself with these words; *“Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.”* (Psalms 42:11). If there is one thing we should emulate from David, it's his ability to encourage himself.

David never failed to encourage himself in the Lord whenever he was discouraged. And we all need to learn how to do that in our own daily lives.

#### **The Israelites**

But even much before David, perhaps one of the first Biblical examples of discouragement and disillusionment were the people of Israel themselves. Like us, they too were initially elated and overjoyed at the start of their liberation from Egypt. But then gradually, as the going got tough, they had constant thoughts of giving up and repeatedly berated Moses asking him why he brought them from Egypt to die in the wilderness. *When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us*



to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” **Exodus 14:10 – 12** Their feelings of hopelessness and confusion were palpable as they cried out. They had neither fight nor faith left; they were sorely discouraged. To them, giving up was the next best thing to do.

### Jonah

The next Biblical example of discouragement is Jonah. Jonah had suicidal thoughts. He was angry at what he had passed through that he asked God to take his life. *“Therefore now, O Lord, please take*



*my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” (Jonah 4:3).* In case you’re wondering what he passed through, he was swallowed up by a great fish and he fell into despair. Jonah was very descriptive with how he felt, he termed it distress and he painted a vivid picture of him being hurled into the depths of the sea. *In my distress, I called to the Lord, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry. You hurled me into the depths, into the very heart*

*of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. (Jonah 2: 2-3)*

### Other signs that indicate a gradual lack of demotivation in our Religious Life

- a. Seeking alternate ungodly means to an end can also be a sign of discouragement.
- b. **Genesis 16: 1-2** and **2 Kings 6:28**
- c. When all you do is drown yourself in sorrow in your room. **Psalms 6:6**
- d. When prayer becomes a burden and you can’t concentrate on relating with God. **Psalms 122:1**
- e. When you start withdrawing from God’s Presence and His people. **Genesis 3:8**

**The following Scriptural verses will remind us that only HE can lift us up when ever we fall or fail, provided we raise our voices and lift up our hands to HIM:**

**Psalm 34:17-19:** *When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.*

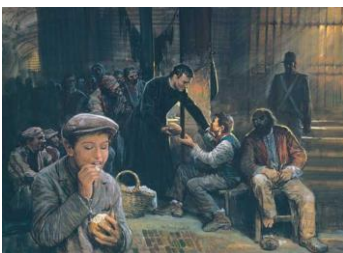
**Isaiah 41:10:** *Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

**Matthew 11:28:** *Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

**2 Corinthians 4:8-9:** *We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.*

### His Vision was his Mission

We all know very well the life story of our Father and Founder. We do know the numerous hardships and problems he endured in his life at home, before he joined the seminary as well as the constant



adversities that stared him in the face after his ordination. We may think that it was easy for him because he was a man of God and a living Saint in his time. Yes, all this is true. But he was human too! **And he could have easily given it up all had it not been for his strong conviction and motivation: his love for the young.** We have a lot to learn and imitate from the inspirational life and work of our dear Don Bosco!

In the 1840s the slums of Turin were overrun by the poverty that resulted inevitably from sweatshop factories with their hazardous machinery, child labour, and starvation wages. Walking through these slums, Don Bosco came face to face with his mission. His vision was clear. As he visited the



prisons with Father Cafasso, the conviction of his vocation seemed to shout within him: "These boys are not bad. Take care of them before they fall into crime--that is your task!" **With his heart full of trust in his Lady and his pockets empty, Don Bosco courageously took up the work.** From then on, it was only "**Give me souls-- the souls of young people.**"

In 1846 the first ray of hope broke through the clouds. **Don Bosco bought an empty plot and a dilapidated shed in an underdeveloped section of Turin called "Valdocco."** True, next door was a saloon and across the street a hotel of shady reputation--but what did it matter? The Oratory ground was sacred, for as he later learned in a "dream," it was the burial ground of the Martyrs of Turin. With a roof over his head, Don Bosco knew that his Lady had set the permanent basis of his work. The shed he dug deeper and converted into a chapel, with a tiny anteroom, and every Sunday 500 boys managed quite miraculously to squeeze into it for Mass. "The Oratory of St. Francis de Sales," he called it, because he admired the gentle holiness of this great Saint. **The location of the shed-chapel can still be seen today--the tiny nucleus of a worldwide organization that began in poverty with our Lady's blessing.**

**Don Bosco's times were unsuited to the founding of a new religious congregation.** Those already in existence were being torn down by a diabolical campaign of political radicals, self-styled free-



thinkers. **Yet it was precisely a liberal-minded politician who had closed convent doors who first suggested the idea of a new religious congregation to Don Bosco.** "Start a new order and have you suppress it in its cradle?" smiled the Saint. "No, your case is different. You work for the poor. Your schools really belong to the working classes. No one will resent what you do. Make sure your religious keep their status as citizens, and we won't touch you." And

so, still under his Lady's guidance, Don Bosco set about the task. His own boys were the best material. Little Michael Rua, who idolized him, tough Johnny Cagliero, hardworking Johnny Francesia, self-willed Paul Albera, and several others. They would be the pioneers in this experiment of a new religious congregation.

**"First tell the devil to rest, and then I'll rest too,"** Don Bosco used to say to those who urged him to let up in his activity. Indeed, rarely has the Church seen such a tireless apostle. **Trained to labour from his boyhood, he occupied himself with boys, constantly interesting himself in their activities.**

On Sundays, after a strenuous day with his Oratory, he often had to be carried home; more than once he fell asleep fully dressed, kneeling at his bedside. **For many years he slept only five hours a night, skipping a night each week. After a day of physical work, he would spend the quiet hours of the night penning letters to friends for aid, sending letters of comfort to those who begged for his prayers, and writing books on mathematics, literature, the Bible, and Church history for boys.**

He began a pamphlet series, the "Catholic Readings," and for some time wrote a pamphlet a month on Catholic faith and morals. Always at the call of the Church, he was a tireless confessor; he was a popular preacher and never refused an invitation to preach a mission or a retreat. Even when age began creeping up on him, he worked. More than once the people of Turin saw a boy leading him by the hand through the streets, dozing while he stumbled along. As an older man, he lost sight in one eye, and the other was impaired. His legs were swollen to painful proportions. **His back was curved by weakness, yet his mind was crystal clear. He never laid down the burden.**



Besides his youth activities, he interested himself in matters of Church and State, acting even as a mediator for the Pope. He spurred boys on to Catholic action; he favoured and worked for retreat movements, mission crusades, the catechetical

movement, and foreign missions. Though urged by his personal friend Pius IX to rest, he would answer, "**While I have time, I must work.**"

### **Conclusion:**

01. **We are called to be with HIM.** This means we should enjoy our prayer moments with the Lord everyday.
02. Don Bosco had a very clear purpose of Religious life. **His mission was salvation of souls.** He did this so beautifully by celebration of the Word of God and the Sacraments.
03. Make our liturgical moments as a **spiritual experience** and not just a spiritual obligation.
04. Our **spiritual energy must be radiated in the community** so that everyone feels the strength of the Lord.
05. This spiritual energy should **synergize our fraternity** in the whole community. This will help us to discern God's will in all our decisions.
06. The one responsible for any sector should communicate that he is doing the **mission of the community and not his own mission.**
07. Our convinced way of living our religious life will make us serene and happy which will communicate that we are glad to serve the Lord. Remember Don Bosco's words to Dominic Savio, "**Here sanctity consists in being cheerful**".
08. The vows of poverty, chastity and obedience should enable us to sanctify ourselves. This demands that **we remain faithful to them.**
09. The challenges we face in Religious life can be resolved only with the Lord in **prayer, spiritual direction** and above all **a meaningful confession.**
10. **A well lived religious life will make us good Christians on this earth and good citizens in heaven.**

## **NEWS FROM THE PROVINCE**

### **MID-TERM VERIFICATION MEETING OF PROVINCIALS**

As you are aware, I just returned from Rome after the "Mid-Term Verification Meeting of Provincials" which commenced on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at Valdocco, Turin and concluded on 28<sup>th</sup> noon. It was a very enriching experience for me. I certainly did have ample time to remember every confrere and community in my prayers during these days of reflection and animation.



Addressing words of welcome in his fatherly fashion to the twelve Provincials from around the globe, Fr. Angel Fernandez Artime, our dear Rector Major rightly termed Valdocco as a *home away from home* for every confrere. Inviting us to be detached from our respective Provinces for a while, he expressed his desire that this momentous gathering be a pilgrimage, relaxation, prayer and serene analysis of our service in the last three/four years. He appreciated us for the charismatic animation and governance of Provinces which entailed both fulfilment and challenges. He hoped that this verification will re-charge our spirits to give more. And indeed, it was so!

The Rector Major and the Vicar were present with us right from the start of the Verification and in all the sessions and activities. It was clear that they wanted to accompany the Leaders of Provinces as closely and as effectively as possible. Apart from our common practices of piety, we availed for ourselves animation sessions on Don Bosco's Spirituality in Dreams, Disciples of the Lord, Mary Did Everything, Salesian Priest and Salesian Co-adjutor, and Spiritual Adventure of Don Bosco, for which the resource persons were all drawn from our formation houses. Our rendiconto/colloquy times with the Rector Major and Fr. Stefano Martoglio, Vicar of the Rector Major were allotted in advance and adequate time was given for it. All the Provincials said that they did benefit much from the sharing that we did of our experiences as leaders. A guided tour of the Salesian historical places which were close by was organised every afternoon. Visits to Chieri, Becchi (Colle Don Bosco), Mornese and Nizza Monferrato lasted the whole day.

### **New Mother General for the FMAs**



**Rev. Sr. Chiara Cazzuola FMA** has been elected as the 11th Mother General of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians at the GC XXIV held at Rome. She hails from Campiglia Marittima, Italy. She was also the Moderator of the just concluded Chapter. Having vast experience in shouldering various responsibilities in the Congregation, we are sure she will lead the Institute towards actualising the dreams of Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello for the young people of today. On behalf of the Province, I wish Rev. Sr. Chiara Cazzuola all the best as she shoulders this immense service. We also congratulate Rev. Sr. Celine Jacob (INK) for being elected as the Visiting Councillor. We express our sentiments of gratitude to

**Rev. Sr. Yvonne Reungoat FMA**, the former Mother General for her selfless and inspiring service. May she continue to be blest with abundant blessings.

### **Conference on Youth & Climate**

Don Bosco Youth Ministry along with Poovulagin Nanbargal is pleased to invite you to a day of deliberations and strategic thinking to focus on various aspects of climate change in Tamil Nadu especially focussing on the need for building leadership among youth to take action bringing on board a wide range of stakeholders **on 13th November 2021 at St. Bede's School, Santhome, Chennai**. As we are invited by the Rector Major and the GC 28 to accompany the Youth towards sustainable future the Youth Ministry department, plans to hold a daylong event post Conference of Parties to increase the engagement of key constituencies and stakeholders in this conversation - especially youth, children and women. Panel discussions on key intersections of climate change with issues with the most visceral and direct impacts on the lives of people will be held - on health, food & agriculture, water and livelihoods.

Prominent experts have given their consent to participate in the event. Officials from the government of Tamil Nadu have also given their consent to participate. The main ethos of this conference is to provide exposure on climate change to the youth community and students, who will directly be experiencing its adverse effects in their lifetime. This conference will induce in them, the vision to mitigate climate change and thereby embedding responsibility in our future decision makers and active civic participants. So we sincerely invite students from your institution to take part in this conference and make use of the opportunity effectively.

I exhort all the communities to make use of this animation and bring the students and youth above 14 years to be animated and accompanied in this crucial and relevant theme. The teachers, parish youth and youth centre members too can participate in the seminar. Kindly send the numbers to

the Youth Ministry Delegate the numbers for coordination. I take this opportunity to thank St. Bede's community for their support and assistance for meaningful event.

### **M.A. Nagar Parish, Redhills**

The Provincial Council in its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021, discussed about the Archbishop's request for us Salesians to look after M.A. Nagar Parish in Redhills during this academic year. The Council felt that Fr. A.T. James could be the Parish Priest of M.A. Nagar and is appointed for this academic year.

### **INM Senior Salesians (75+) Meeting**

As we are slowly returning back to the new-normal in this pandemic situation and due to the fact that we were unable to gather together for the last 18 months, we thought it would be good to start our regular meetings once again. Hence, this year, the meeting of Senior Salesians (above 75 years of age) is scheduled from **19<sup>th</sup> November (Friday) evening to 20<sup>th</sup> November (Saturday) evening**. The Vice Provincial will personally send the details of this meeting to our beloved senior confreres.

### **INM Winter Vocation Camp**

The INM Vocation Team has decided to organize one day Salesian Vocation Camp in the month of December 2021. The details are given below:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Region</b>
<b>26.12.2021</b>	Sun	St. Bede's School, Chennai	Chennai
<b>29.12.2021</b>	Wed	Don Bosco Boys Home, Pondicherry	Pondy-Cuddalore
<b>30.12.2021</b>	Thu	Don Bosco School, Tirupattur	Vellore-Tirupattur
<b>02.01.2021</b>	Sun	Don Bosco School, Polur	Tiruvannamalai

The aim of this Winter Salesian Vocation Camp 2021 is to encourage boys from VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII to attend this one-day vocation camp. There will be a special Salesian vocation orientation programme in the month of January 2022 for College Students and working youngsters who are interested in Salesian religious life.

### **INM Salesian Family Day**

As per tradition, the Spirituality Days, on a thematic level, will serve to deepen the message of the Rector Major's Strenna for the New Year. The guideline, therefore, will be drawn on the basis of the motto already announced last July by the Rector Major - "**DO ALL THROUGH LOVE, NOTHING THROUGH CONSTRAINT**" - a theme drawn from the wisdom of St. Francis de Sales, the Genevan bishop who Pope Pius IX proclaimed as a Doctor of the Church. "In this way, we will approach the core of the spirituality of the saint who strongly inspired Don Bosco. This year is particularly significant because we observe the fourth centenary of the death of St. Francis de Sales (1622-2022). It will undoubtedly be a precious experience for the Salesian Family worldwide.

The Salesian Family Spirituality Days are, therefore, an initiative at the service of the Salesian Family. Its spiritual fruits will largely depend on the quality of the Provincial and Local level animation. While the Salesian Family Spirituality Days will be celebrated in January 2022 at world level, we as individual communities are asked to celebrate the same in the month of November on a convenient day adjoining the death anniversary of Bl. Mamma Margaret (**25<sup>th</sup> November**) in a fitting manner in the company of all the Salesian Family members of the local community. At the Province level, we will have the celebration of Salesian Spirituality Day on **12<sup>th</sup> December 2021** which will serve as a wonderful preparation for the world level Salesian spirituality days in January 2022. The animation materials will be sent you in English from the Salesian Family Delegate of the Province.



### **INM Missionary Days**

This year the Congregation invites us all to celebrate the Salesian Mission Day with the Motto: **One Father, One Family**. At the Province level, we are organizing the Salesian Mission Day in our Province from **26<sup>th</sup> November till 28<sup>th</sup> November in Don Bosco, Perambur**. Representatives from all our Formation houses, Volunteers from our Boardings and Hostels are invited to participate. The Vice Provincial will send you the program with the relevant details. Let these days indeed be a great opportunity to strengthen our missionary culture and become more collaborative to the missionary nature of our Congregation.

### **South Asia Formation Delegates Meet**

There will be an Online meeting for all the Youth Pastoral and Formation Delegates of the South Asian Region organized by the General Councillor for Youth Ministry and Formation from 5<sup>th</sup> till 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Fr. Don Bosco will represent INM in this meeting.

### **INM Province Level Preparation on the Synod Working Document for a Synodal Church**

In view of the upcoming Synod, the CCBI has requested all the Provinces to study and answer the Preparatory Document. The Process will start from this month and the communities will be notified soon in this regard.

### **Don Bosco Global Youth Film Festival 2021**

I would like to sincerely thank all the leaders and institutions who motivated the youth to produce and submit films, animations and music videos on the theme "Moved by Hope". DBGYFF is the first of its kind Global Salesian Film Festival with a world-class online platform offered for young filmmakers to express their talents and contribute to the positive well-being of this planet. I was informed that there was an overwhelming response throughout the world by way of participation. This festival is scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The screenings will take place simultaneously in almost 134 countries in multiple locations with forums and meet-ups, featuring new as well as established voices. I am glad that many of our institutions have signed up to screen the selected films during those two days. I urge all of you to make use of this opportunity to animate and infuse hope amidst the young and the general public whom we serve and at the same time project and brand the global image of Don Bosco network. Kindly extend your support and cooperation to Fr. Ernest Rosario and team who will be overseeing the general organization under the leadership of Fr. Vice Provincial.

### **Important Days in November**

- 05<sup>th</sup> - *Holy Mass for the deceased benefactors and members of the Salesian Family*
- 06<sup>th</sup> - *Rectors & Leaders Meet @ Citadel*
- 09<sup>th</sup> - *Provincial Council @ Citadel*
- 11<sup>th</sup> - *Day of the Salesian Missions*
- 13<sup>th</sup> - *Blessed Artemide Zatti / Youth Ministry – Climate Change Expo*
- 15<sup>th</sup> - *Blessed Maddalena Caterina Morano*
- 20<sup>th</sup> - *Meeting for SDBs above 75 Years*
- 25<sup>th</sup> - *Salesian Family Day - Mass for the deceased parents of Salesians.*

### **Diaconate Ministry**

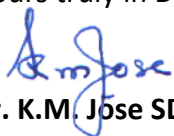
Fifteen of our Deacons have concluded their Annual Retreat this evening. They will be going to the following places for their Diaconate ministry until their Ordination. We wish them a very meaningful preparation and reflection as they insert themselves into their pastoral ministry. This year the INM Ordinations will be on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur.

D Antonysamy Albert Nelson	-	Lourdes Shrine, Perambur
D Charles Lio	-	SAGAI, Bagalur
D Christopher Arockia Vincent	-	MHC, Tirupattur
D Devadass Oswalt	-	Thirukazhukundram
D Jayasimmon G.L	-	M.A. Nagar
D Lourdu Anthony Raj	-	Pavunjur
D Kolas Periyamayagam	-	F.X. Broadway
D Balasingam Peter	-	Jolarpet
D Pushparaj Michaelraj	-	Basin Bridge
D Yesubalan Suresh	-	Sacred Heart Church, Polur
D George Joseph	-	Lourdes Shrine, Perambur
D Vinoth Thangasamy	-	Holy Spirit Church, Pondy
D Francis Amalavanan	-	Beatitudes, Vysarpady

### Conclusion

The month of November reminds us to be grateful for the gift of life and the hope of afterlife! Therefore, let us recall the contributions of all the deceased Salesians, Salesian Family Members, Benefactors, Parents and all those who were once with us in spreading the Salesian mission in this land. Let's gratefully remember them and thank the Lord for their life and service. We are sure they will continue to intercede and bless us from above. We shall also pray for them in a special way in this month.

Yours truly in Don Bosco,



**Fr. K.M. Jose SDB**  
INM Provincial

Date: 05.11.2021  
Place: Chennai - 600010

